

MOMENTS

GC

GEORGETOWN COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE SPRING 2026

GAME CHANGERS

ATHLETIC ALUMS MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE



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A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROSEMARY ALLEN

Dear Alumni and Friends,

First of all—congratulations to the Class of 2026!

In this issue, you will find stories that show why we have such pride in their accomplishments.

Our cover story celebrates how participation in Tiger sports has been part of the educational foundation of so many of our alumni. You will see stories of past student-athletes whose success impacts their communities and the world. For example, **Brandon Lawson '13**, Football, is a Senior Oncology Sales Executive in Louisville.

Carolyn Schnurr '06, Volleyball, serves as a Judge Advocate in the U.S. Navy in Singapore. **Shea Henry '18**, Tennis, leads robotics and automation engineering at Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati. Read about these alumni and others making a positive impact.

I am excited to announce that Georgetown College is partnering with Teach Kentucky, an AmeriCorps affiliate, to offer graduate students a tuition-free Masters degree in our highly-regarded graduate program in Education.

Two more GC alums returned to campus to share their expertise. I'm honored to introduce **Warren Nash '81** as Vice President for Advancement and **Betty Bone '00** as Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing. Welcome home!

We hosted the first two rounds of the Men's and Women's NAIA National Basketball Tournament in our newly renovated Davis-Reid Alumni Gym. The women's team went on to a solid tournament run, defeating the tournament's overall number 1 seed and reaching the quarterfinals for the first time since 2012. Read more about this and our National Championship Cheer team in the Athletics section.

Spring art events engaged the entire campus, featuring a student fashion show, fine art exhibit, play, and concert. In addition, you'll read a first-person narrative from **Trey Arnett '26** describing his trip to Belize with biology faculty **Dr. Rick Kopp**, in which they encounter the rainforests, a coral reef, and a one-eyed tiger.

All of these stories demonstrate how Georgetown College cultivates passion and ignites purpose in the hearts of our graduates. I'm encouraged by the Class of 2026 and can't wait to see them featured in future issues of GC Moments Magazine.

With Gratitude,

President Dr. Rosemary Allen

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Provost and Executive Vice President

Board of Trustees Elects **FIVE NEW ALUMNI MEMBERS**

By Betty Bone '00, Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing

The Board of Trustees has elected five alumni to begin their terms in 2026. New members include **Dave Adkisson '73, Dave Baker '82, Christin Wood Calaway '99, Harold Dean Jessie '83, and Robert L. Mills '67**. The Board of Trustees is led by **Board Chair J. Guthrie True '81**.

President Allen says of the new trustees, "I am thrilled to have the support of two returning trustees, both of whom are former Board Chairs. Our three completely new members are bringing a wonderful range of experience to the Board. Their fresh insights and perspectives will be extremely valuable and are much appreciated."



Dave Adkisson '73 earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Georgetown College and completed a master's in ethics at Harvard University. He served as Mayor of Owensboro, Kentucky, and led efforts to create Owensboro's River Park Performing Arts Center and to develop a 15-mile linear park, later named in his honor. He is a former President and CEO of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and a co-founder of Leadership Kentucky. Adkisson lives in Lexington, Kentucky.



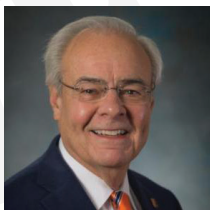
Dave Baker '82 earned his bachelor's degree in political science from Georgetown College. Over his 40+ years at WKYT in Lexington, he has served as a sports anchor, reporter, and account executive, and now serves as Special Projects Coordinator. He is also one of the hosts of Everyday Kentucky and the daily "Afternoon Buzz" on WKYT+. Baker was inducted into the Kentucky Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2022. Baker lives in Frankfort, Kentucky.



Christin Wood Calaway '99 earned her bachelor's degree in accounting, summa cum laude, from Georgetown College. She is a Certified Public Accountant with over 25 years of experience in accounting and finance. She is Vice President of Finance and Accounting at Procter & Gamble and currently serves as Vice Chair of the Financial Reporting Committee for the Institute of Management Accountants. Calaway lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Harold Dean Jessie '83 earned his bachelor's degree in business administration/economics from Georgetown College. He has 40 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, retiring as a Senior Executive at Eli Lilly. He is currently a Senior Mental Health Account Specialist and serves in the regional training department at Bristol Myers Squibb. Jessie lives in Georgetown, Kentucky.



Robert L. Mills '67 earned his bachelor's degree in history and English, summa cum laude, from Georgetown College. He later completed a Master's in history at Indiana University, an MBA in finance at the University of Cincinnati, and a banking degree at Rutgers. He served as president of the Georgetown College Alumni Association and is a member of the Georgetown College Hall of Fame. He spent 40 years in executive roles at US Bank and PNC Financial Group. Mills lives in Owenton, Kentucky.

Georgetown College Board of Trustees

J. Guthrie True '81, Board Chair - Frankfort, KY

Tracey Pate Clark '94, Vice Chair – Hopkinsville, KY

Michelle Celsor Pedigo '90, Past Chair – Austin, KY

Dave Adkisson '73 – Lexington, KY

Dave Baker '82 – Frankfort, KY

Mark Birdwhistell '77 – Richmond, KY

Dr. John Blackburn – Georgetown, KY

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Sharon Marshall Clifton – Naples, FL

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Vickie Yates Glisson '76 – Louisville, KY

Harold Dean Jessie '83 – Georgetown, KY

David Lee '67 – Frankfort, KY

Missy Childers Matthews '93 – Whitesburg, KY

Robert L. Mills '67 – Owenton, KY

Susan Elliott Moss '77 – Louisville, KY

Frank Penn '68 – Lexington, KY

Dustin Stacy '99 – Lexington, KY

Dr. Shelley Bundy Stanko '97 – London, KY

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Guthrie Zaring '87 – Louisville, KY

Trustees Emeriti:

Randy Fox '60 – Louisville, KY

Earl Goode '62 – Indianapolis, IN

David Knox '64 – Georgetown, KY

OUR MISSION

Georgetown College's mission is to provide a welcoming and challenging educational community, rooted in Christian love and service, that prepares students to make a positive difference in the world.

FOUNDERS' DAY CONVOCATION



Provost Jonathan Sands Wise presents the Curry Award for Faculty Excellence to Professor of English Dr. Carrie Cook



President Rosemary Allen and Keynote Speaker Andi Johnson '03

By Betty Bone '00, Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing

On Tuesday, February 10, 2026, President Rosemary Allen welcomed students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the College to the annual Founders' Day Convocation at the John L. Hill Chapel. The event celebrates Georgetown College's history and offers an opportunity to reflect on its mission.

Each Founders' Day, Georgetown announces the Curry Award for Faculty Excellence. The award is named in honor of **Dr. Ralph Curry and Dr. Gwen Curry '54** and is presented each year to a faculty member who demonstrates service to the faculty, excellence in scholarship, and dedication to students.

This year's recipient was **Dr. Carrie Cook**. Cook earned her B.A. from Kentucky State University, her M.A. from Eastern Kentucky University, and her Ph.D. from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She serves as Professor of English, Director of GC Writing Center, helps lead the Adult Online Education Program, and is a member of the College's General Education Taskforce.

When describing Cook, Provost Dr. Jonathan Sands Wise said, "Carrie is always willing to jump in for any task - if it will help the College or her students or colleagues, she is there. Willingly, with a smile, and with dedication, energy, graciousness, and skill. She does as much as anyone on campus, in the hours she teaches and the administrative burden she carries (and that's saying something for this faculty), AND, as one alum noted, she does it all with a 'smile and a laugh that cannot help but be infectious.'"

Andi Johnson '03, a recent Georgetown College Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, headlined this year's Founders' Day event. Johnson currently serves as the Chief Policy Officer and Director of Regional Engagement for Commerce Lexington, Inc. and was also a member of the College's 2003 championship basketball team.

For those unfamiliar with the 2002-03 women's basketball team, it was a squad "defined by resilience in the face of adversity. By the time January arrived, and conference play began, we had five healthy players and one manager dressing in uniform," remarked Johnson. Despite the odds, the Tigers went on to a 22-12 record, capturing the Mid-South Conference regular-season title, winning the conference tournament, and earning a berth in the NAIA National Tournament.

In her address, Johnson spoke about the impact of overcoming a season marked by adversity; it fostered a deeper understanding of resilience and community and solidified the belief that we are all "better together." She highlighted each member of the team and their individual strengths, noting: "The blending of unique strengths along with a shared grit made us a good team. We accepted changing circumstances and adjusted our roles. We worked hard and stayed committed to the goal. We did the little things right, and those little things became big things in close games. We also trusted each other, a trust grounded in mutual respect. And finally, we were resilient because we didn't walk the road alone; we were supported by coaches, family members, friends, the campus, and so many special people connected to Georgetown College. It all mattered."



Scan to watch the 2026 Founders' Day celebration

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

The Board Approved Three Faculty for Tenure and One Faculty for Full Professor



Dr. Christopher Powell



Dr. Meredith Eckstein



Dr. Tiffany Schuster



Dr. Karla Francioni

Dr. Christopher Powell joined GC in 2019. He was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Powell is the Director of Choirs and teaches a variety of music courses. He is frequently invited to serve as a clinician for honor choirs and as a judge for KMEA choral events. He is the author of several compositions and papers, including *Retention and Burnout in Music Education: Perspectives of New, Experienced, and Former K-12 Music Educators*, and his doctoral thesis, *A Comparison of Informal Choral Singing Experiences*.

Dr. Meredith Eckstein joined GC in 2020. She was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Eckstein is a faculty member in the Biology Department, where she teaches Genetics and Cell Biology. In May 2026, she will lead a study abroad trip to Belize, teaching Tropical Biology. Eckstein is the Coordinator of the GC Science Honors program. She presented work on Fragile X Syndrome at the Kentucky Academy of Science meeting. She also serves on the Elkhorn Crossing School BioMedical Advisory Board and mentors through the University of Kentucky Women in Medicine and Science.

Dr. Tiffany Schuster joined GC in 2020. She was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Schuster teaches a variety of classes in the Business Department, primarily in Accounting and Finance. She recently published an article in *The Journal of Leadership, Accountability, and Ethics* titled *Lack of Auditor Professional Skepticism*. She also presented at a recent conference on Fostering Student Engagement Through Learning in Virtual Classrooms.

Dr. Karla Francioni was granted promotion to full professor. Francioni joined GC in 2014. She is the chair of the Kinesiology and Health Studies (KHS) Department and a certified Athletic Trainer. She teaches a variety of therapeutic and patient care classes in the KHS department. She is the Co-Director of the Health Scholars and the Program Coordinator for the Pre-Physical Therapy program. She helped lead students on a Spring Break medical mission trip to Costa Rica the past two years.

PUBLICATIONS:

Frank Billingsley, Hayden Davis '21, Hana Dixon '25, and Nicole Ghirlanda '25 published the chapter, *The U.S. and the Evolution of Globalization with Climate Change Implications in Prioritizing Environmental Sustainability in Local Industrial Systems* in the Spring of 2026 with IGI Global Publications.

Frank Billingsley published the chapter, *The Promise and Peril of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare: A Critical Analysis in Strengthening E-Collaboration in Healthcare Through AI* in the spring of 2026 with IGI Global Publications.



Dr. Tracy Livingston, Associate Provost and Professor of Biology, has been selected for the Lilly Network Leadership Institute, a two-year program that includes five conferences and a personal mentor. Launched by the Lilly Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities, the institute is an innovative program designed to foster wisdom, responsibility, and faith in today's world. It brings together new administrators to explore perspectives, practices, and principles that help them navigate the day-to-day challenges and opportunities of leadership.

Livingston was one of 27 applicants to make the cut for 13 spots. Applicants must be in their first two years as an administrator, hold at least 49% of their role as an administrator, and demonstrate how their work encompasses the entire institution rather than a specific discipline or sector.



Anissa Radford, Dean of Academic Success, was selected to participate in the NetVUE Vocation Across Campus staff seminar June 22 to 26 in Memphis, TN. Radford has dedicated more than two decades to fostering environments where college students can thrive academically and personally.

Bryan Langlands, Dean of Students and Campus Minister, was selected to participate in the NETVUE Institutional Leadership Seminar from June 15 to 19 in Louisville, KY. Langlands is passionate about student well-being and student success. He has served, educated, and mentored students at Georgetown College for the past twenty years.



Presenting the Class of 2026!

FOUNDED IN 1829, GEORGETOWN COLLEGE ENTERS ITS 197TH YEAR, CELEBRATING 294 UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS.

By Bethany H. Langdon '93, Senior Vice President for Communications and Marketing, Special Advisor to the President

At the Senior Picnic on Thursday, May 14, **Dr. Abraham Prades** began the senior celebration with the Faculty Charge, encouraging students to listen to others, be someone people trust, and contribute to the world in a meaningful way.

At the John L. Hill Chapel on Friday, May 15, at 7 p.m., students, faculty, staff, and families gathered for Baccalaureate, a time of worship and encouragement led by **Rev. Dr. Kevin Gardner-Sinclair**, Senior Pastor of Broadway Baptist Church in Louisville. Senior Portia Witten received the Norman and Martha Yocum Lytle Christian Service Award.

Dr. De Kai gave the commencement address on Saturday, May 16 at 10 a.m. in Davis-Reid Alumni Gym. De Kai is the author of the award-winning book *Raising AI*, and recently founded the Empathetic AI Institute. He is a pioneering AI professor who built the web's first global AI translator by inventing radical new language models, laying the groundwork for tools like Google Translate and Bing Translator.

De Kai was honored by the Association for Computational Linguistics as a Founding Fellow for his decades of breakthroughs, which lie at the intersection of language, AI, cognition, and ethics. De Kai is at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Hong Kong) and the International Computer Science Institute (Berkeley), served on Google's inaugural AI ethics advisory council, and is Independent Director at the AI ethics think tank The Future Society.

De Kai expressed deep gratitude to Georgetown College for giving his late father, theoretical physicist and university president **Dr. Chia-Wei Woo**, the liberal arts education that set him on a storied career dedicated to education, peace, and humanitarianism. He fiercely championed the liberal arts ideals that have rippled through to De Kai's own work. Woo graduated from Georgetown College in 1956, received an honorary doctoral degree from GC in 1995, and was inducted into the GC Hall of Fame in 2024.



Jade Bivens '26, this year's President's Award Recipient

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Commencement Speaker Dr. De Kai



Rev. Dr. Bryan Langlands, Rev. Dr. Kevin Gardner-Sinclair, and President Allen



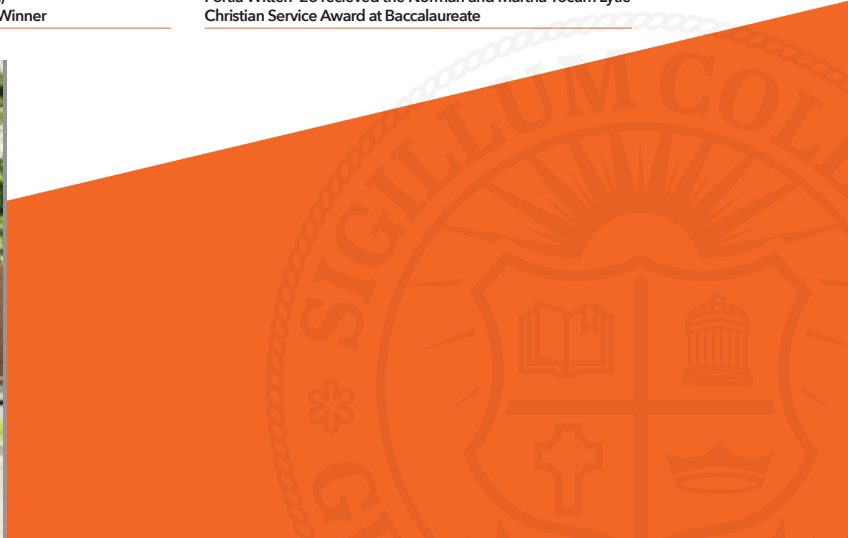
Dr. Jonathan Sands Wise with Dr. Tom Cooper, 2026 Cawthorne Award Winner



Dr. Christa Roney '10 with Sherri Racki, 2026 Graduate Dean's Honor Award Winner



Portia Witten '26 recieved the Norman and Martha Yocum Lytle Christian Service Award at Baccalaureate





71 GRADUATE STUDENTS

223 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

8 COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE U.S.

17 STATES INCLUDING KENTUCKY

66 KENTUCKY COUNTIES



The Class of 2026 selected **Rita Cerdeira Guerra Gonçalves** to give the Senior Address. She majored in biomedical sciences with a minor in psychology. Originally from Porto, Portugal, she was a member of the Women's Volleyball Team as well as Tri-Beta and Gamma Sigma Epsilon Honor Societies. Cerdeira plans to pursue a Doctor of Medicine degree and become a neurosurgeon.

This year's President's Award, selected by Rosemary Allen, was presented to Jada 'Jade' Bivens. **President Allen shared, "I have never seen anyone with such an extraordinary combination of creative vision and the grit to turn vision into reality, exemplified by her formation of the Style Society and the launching of the 'Rework the Runway' fashion show in the spring of her sophomore year. Working with and empowering others, she built this into a GC tradition that has the power to endure."** Bivens is an Oxford and Bishop Scholar, majoring in psychology. She is from Louisville, Kentucky.

Haylee Stansbury, a double major in mathematics and secondary education with a minor in communications and media studies, is from Nicholasville, Kentucky, and was a member of the Softball Team and Kappa Delta sorority. She will teach mathematics at West Jessamine High School after graduation. Stansbury presented the senior class gift, which totaled \$4652.11.

James Graham Brown Professor of Business Administration and Economics **Dr. Tom Cooper** received the Don and Chris Kerr Cawthorne Award for Excellence in Teaching. Cooper was recognized for his twenty-seven years on the faculty and for being an exceptionally approachable and extraordinarily skilled educator.

Georgetown College awarded 223 undergraduate degrees and 71 graduate degrees. Our newest alumni are ready to embarked on a future course of impact and meaning.

CONGRATULATIONS TIGERS!



Watch the Baccalaureate Service and the Commencement Ceremony



View Photos on Flickr



COLLIER/DANFORD THOMAS MEMORIAL LECTURES



Dr. Robert P. Jones with
Dr. Roger Ward

CHRISTIANITY, NATIONALISM, DEMOCRACY, AND AMERICA'S IDENTITY CRISIS

By Betty Bone '00, Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing

Dr. Robert P. Jones is the president and founder of the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) and a New York Times bestselling author. He holds a Ph.D. in religion from Emory University as well as a M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he studied alongside our very own **Dr. Roger Ward**, Professor of Philosophy. He also has a B.S. in computing science and mathematics from Mississippi College.

Before the Collier/Danford Thomas Lecture, Jones sat down with campus members to discuss his Baptist upbringing, the theme of his book *White Too Long*, his career path, racism, and the historical and current role Christianity plays in American politics. Jones has examined his family history and found that the histories of racism and religion were explicitly linked. His conversation touched on the founding of GC, the need to reconcile with the land we are on, and the foundations of the Southern Baptist Church and its tradition. He challenged those present not just to understand our history but to call out its wrongs. By challenging our pasts and understanding our roots, we begin to understand the current political moment.

At the Collier/Danford Thomas Lecture, Jones spoke about the Doctrine of Discovery, an assertion by 15th-century church leaders and the theme of *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy*.

Jones then presented a range of studies produced by PRRI related to the current demographics in the U.S., political parties, types of Christians, non-Christians, political violence, immigration, and support for authoritarianism. These studies showcase the changing demographic from a majority white country to a majority non-white country, where Christian nationalism and extremism are fighting to keep values that are concurrent with the founding of the country but contrary to the fundamental idea of democracy.

Jones' lecture ended with a call to action that everyone, especially Christians, should speak out against violence against immigrants and black and brown individuals.



BOOKS BY ROBERT P. JONES:

Backslide: Reclaiming a Faith and a Nation after the Christian Turn Against Democracy, *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Path to a Shared American Future*; *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity, and The End of White Christian America*.

SPRING 2026 LECTURERS

Dr. Meghan Knapp Professor of Chemistry Cawthorne Lecture

The Chemistry of Color: From Food to Fireworks and Why The Invisible Man is Blind

Dr. Robert P. Jones Collier/Danford Thomas Memorial Lectures

Christianity, Nationalism, Democracy, and America's Identity Crisis

Dr. Andrew Root George Walker Redding Lecture

Why are We so Exhausted:
The Church in an Accelerated Age

Dr. Tom Cooper James Graham Brown Professor of Business Administration and Economics

Last Chapel of the School Year
Looking Back to Look Forward

The speaker for the last chapel lecture is selected based on nominations from students, faculty, and staff.



GEORGETOWN
COLLEGE

NEW PARTNERSHIP CREATES A NEW PATH FOR TEACHERS IN KENTUCKY

Starting in the summer of 2026, GC will offer a Master's degree in education in partnership with Teach Kentucky. Through this program, students have the opportunity to earn their degree at no cost for tuition. This offering is made possible by a partnership with Teach Kentucky, an AmeriCorps affiliate, focused on launching education careers in Kentucky.

This program is open to any college graduate, regardless of major, with a GPA of 2.75 or higher. Students who participate in this program can begin teaching immediately through Kentucky's Option 6 certification program while completing their degree.

When discussing the program, **Sara DeVane**, Director of Graduate Admissions and Advising for Teacher Education, said: "We will support students through a summer cohort-building experience, guide students through the hiring and job placement process,

working hand in hand with school districts to place GC students in open, unfilled positions, and provide practical job training and support that increase teacher job retention, all while giving the students exceptional pedagogical education."

Rowan Claypool, founder and CEO of Teach Kentucky, shared this about the new partnership: "Teach Kentucky is thrilled to partner with Georgetown College, which breaks new ground for us, having served Louisville for 24 years. Now we get to share our impact across the Commonwealth. This will allow us to finally achieve the mission in our name and be fully Teach Kentucky. Many thanks to GC for their vision, which will help rural Kentucky enhance its public education systems. We're proud to be part of the team."

BAKER CLASSROOM DEDICATION



On April 24, 2026, a classroom in the basement of John L. Hill Chapel was dedicated to **Robert Baker and Deborah Easley Baker**, with the College's appreciation of a generous gift from Mira Ball, Lexington, KY. **The Bakers graduated together from Georgetown College in 1975**, were married after their sophomore year, and lived in Warrendale, the College's married-student housing.

Bob majored in communication and religion and received the Outstanding Religion Major Award. He traveled with the Forensic Team and was a member of the President's House Association. He earned a Master of Divinity and a PhD from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Deborah sang in the A Cappella Choir, served as First Lady of the President's House Association, was on the Homecoming Court, and received the Outstanding Elementary Education Major Award. She earned both a B.A. and a M.A. in Elementary Education from Georgetown.

Deborah was a reading teacher and literacy coach for 30 years. Bob served as a minister in four Kentucky Baptist churches during his 47-year ministerial career, including 27 years at Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington. He was a member of the GC Board of Trustees for more than 20 years, including four years as Board Chair.

Deborah Baker shared, "We don't know at the time when we experience things the impact they will have on the rest of our lives. At GC, I had three such experiences.

1. The religion courses I took with **Dr. Joe Lewis and Dr. Vernon Mallow**.
2. Being in the A Cappella Choir.
3. My elementary education degree."

Rev. Dr. Baker explained, "Georgetown College provided me with an excellent liberal arts education in a Christian context. There were two college professors whom I consider to be two of the most influential people in my entire life: **Professor Margaret Greynolds and Dr. Joe Lewis**. Dr. Lewis officiated at our wedding and preached the sermon at my ordination."





MANGROVES, DOLPHINS, AND A ONE-EYED TIGER



PICTURE 1

Trey Arnett '26
Belize Site Manager
Brittany Collins (EKU)
Kwyncee Crager
Kimberly Crager

PICTURE 2

Abby Moss '26

PICTURE 3

Will Wilson
Trey Arnett
Jessica Rauch (Murray State)
Abby Moss '26
Brittany Collins (EKU)
Emily Morrow (EKU)
Keymia Herve (KSU)
Natalie Kopp
Kimberly Crager
Kwyncee Crager

PICTURE 4

Brittany Collins (EKU)
Kwyncee Crager
Kimberly Crager
Keymia Herve (KSU)
Trey Arnett '26
Abby Moss '26
Jessica Rauch (Murray State)
Will Wilson
Emily Morrow (EKU)
Kara Arvin (CCSA Admin)
Natalie Kopp
Dr. Rick Kopp

PICTURE 5

Emily Morrow (EKU)
Jessica Rauch (Murray State)
Abby Moss '26
Brittany Collins (EKU)
Trey Arnett '26
Will Wilson
Kwyncee Crager

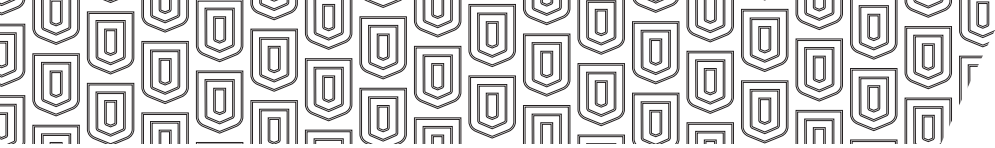
By Trey Arnett '26, biology major and chemistry minor

My name is **Trey Arnett**. I am a biology major with a minor in chemistry. I graduated in May 2026, and I am from Frankfort, Kentucky. Growing up, I was a huge animal and ecology nerd, so when I got the opportunity to go to Belize, I knew I had to jump on it. I learned a lot while in Belize. It's one thing to see these ecosystems thriving in a documentary or on TV. Seeing them in person is a whole new experience. It helps you realize just how important some of these biomes and ecosystems are to our world and how we would not be able to live as we do without them. We got to see the rainforest, local villages, large river ecosystems, mangroves, and even the largest coral reef in the Northern Hemisphere. We swam with dolphins, turtles, and sharks, saw monkeys at ancient ruins, saw a tiger with one eye in a rehabilitation center, and even caught iguanas with locals. We did so many activities that many people would consider bucket-list items.

The professors made the work enjoyable, and I looked forward to doing all my assignments. The classroom settings were diverse and hands-on. We could be talking about a mangrove tree and then walk out back to see one up close. I went with one of my favorite professors, Dr. Kopp. He is so knowledgeable about ecology and how the interactions work in these complex ecosystems. The CCSA trip staff were so kind, and we even got close with them over our time there.

There was only one other student I knew prior to the trip, but after 2 weeks, we all got very familiar with each other, which made it an amazing experience. I met so many new people from different backgrounds, and everyone had a huge love for biology. The food was amazing, some of the best fruit I have ever had, and most of it was hand-picked and prepared. It truly is a good cultural experience because life in Belize is so different from what we are used to in America. One of the best bits of knowledge I walked away with is that everyone is a cog in this big machine known as life. Everyone is doing their part to keep the world spinning, and by everyone, I mean humans, animals, plants, you name it. I'll never take this giant rock we live on for granted, and I'll always be able to appreciate the beauty of anywhere I go, thanks to Belize.

My best advice for someone thinking about going is to just do it. I was so hesitant to go because I would be without service for a lot of my time there, it would be hot, and it's expensive. However, this experience is one I will never forget, and I would love to go back someday. There is nothing that compares to learning hands-on and seeing what you are learning in person. If you have any sort of interest in biology and love to see animals in the wild or observe ecosystems firsthand, there is no better experience than this one.



ACADEMIC HONORS DAY



Every academic year, faculty, staff, and friends gather in the John L. Hill Chapel to honor the excellence of GC students. It is truly the culmination of months of hard work, dedication, and grit. The event featured departmental awards presented by faculty, as well as the Dean's Honor Award.

Before bestowing these awards, Dr. Jonathan Sands Wise said, **"If you ever need to feel better about our student body, about the education that we provide at Georgetown College, or even about the state and future of the world, I recommend that you ask the faculty of this institution for recommendations for the Academic Dean's Award. We are graduating some amazing students and wonderful people this year."**

The Dean's Honor Award was presented to **Seniors Lauren Hayslett, Tracy Mandl, and Savannah Shepard**. Lauren Hayslett is a Distinguished Scholar from Harrodsburg, KY who majored in environmental studies and minored in political science and is off to West Virginia to begin field research in preparation for her M.S. program in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences at the University of Kentucky. Savannah Shepard is from Georgetown, KY, and majored in biomedical science, double minoring in psychology and Spanish. Shepard is another example of an involved, well-rounded, and incredibly impressive GC graduate. This fall, she is going directly into an MD/PhD program at the University of Kentucky. The third recipient was Tracy Mandl, of Richmond, KY, who double majored in religion and communication and media studies and minored in instructional design.

After all the awards were presented, Dr. Sands Wise had this to say: **"Perhaps you have noted some themes here as I've discussed these students: exceptional in academics, all were defined not by grades but by grace, not by worldly success but by curiosity and commitment. All are living out their callings as students and scholars and people devoted to justice, love, and responsibility."**



Scan to watch the 2026 Academic Honors Day Celebration

OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADERS



Every year, faculty and staff nominate seniors who demonstrate outstanding leadership, rooted in community, compassion, courage, respect, and integrity. This year's nominees and winners all exhibit those characteristics. The seven senior nominees included: **Abby Moss, Joana Gomez, Hagen Wilkerson, Allie Hill, Katie Poe, Gehrig Slunaker, and Portia Witten.**

The Dean of Students and Campus Minister Bryan Langlands announced the nominees and winners. The first winner was Senior **Joana Gomez**. One of her nominators wrote, "I have seen so much leadership courage from Joana. It takes boldness and determination to start a new student organization, but this student has those qualities, somewhat quietly, but in droves. I have witnessed her resiliency as she has overcome significant challenges that would deter other students from persevering."

The second winner was Senior **Gehrig Slunaker**. One of his nominators wrote, "What sets Gehrig apart is not only his leadership within the football program but also his influence across campus. He builds strong, genuine relationships and leads with integrity, humility, and purpose. He is someone others naturally gravitate toward, and his presence makes a lasting difference in the Georgetown College community."

SCIENCE HONORS STUDENT SHINES AT GC AND BEYOND!

By Valerie Zila Guzmán Laguade '26, Biomedical Sciences Major

My name is **Valerie Zila Guzmán Laguad**, and I was born and raised in Valencia, Venezuela. I graduated in May from Georgetown College and majored in biomedical sciences with a minor in psychology.

I have been part of the Science Honors Program since my freshman year, and through this program, I was given the opportunity to conduct summer research at the University of Kentucky (UK) and develop a project that became my honors thesis. My research focused on the protein Plasminogen Activator Inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) and how its deficiency may augment cardiac fibrosis in hypertensive mice. This ten-week summer project was part of a larger manuscript led by my mentors, Alex Pettey, a fourth-year UK, PhD student and Dr. Alan Daugherty, Gill Foundation Chair in Preventive Cardiology at UK.

During my time in the lab, I was trained in organ dissection, histological tissue staining, image processing, data quantification, and statistical analysis. Through this work, we obtained significant results demonstrating that hypertension augments cardiac fibrosis in PAI-1-deficient mice. These findings encourage future research to better understand how PAI-1 may play a protective role in the heart against fibrosis and hemorrhage.

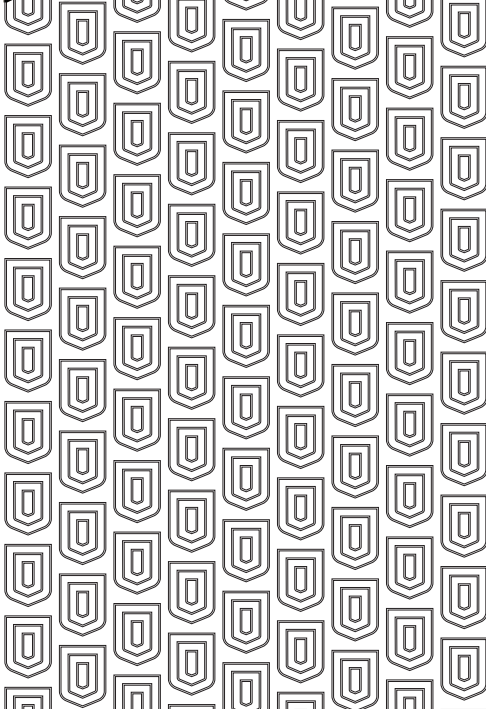
My experience at Georgetown College has been exciting, challenging, rewarding, and everything in between. The education I have received here has shaped me in ways that extend beyond the classroom. I truly cannot thank just one professor because the truth is that every single professor I have had has impacted my life and career in various meaningful ways. While I spent countless days and nights in Asher Science Center learning biology, chemistry, physics, the lessons I gained were not solely academic. My professors taught me patience, resilience, curiosity, and, most importantly, to stay true to myself. These are lessons I will carry with me throughout every step of my future journey.

Looking back, I realize that my freshman year was a time of planting seeds, and now, as I prepare to graduate, I have had the privilege of seeing those seeds flourish through years of hard work, perseverance, and growth. One of the most rewarding parts of my senior year has been the opportunity to present my research at several conferences during the 2025–2026 academic year.

I first attended the 27th UK Cardiovascular Research Day, where I was honored to receive first place for Outstanding Undergraduate Poster Presentation. I also had the opportunity to travel to Altoona, Pennsylvania, with the Georgetown College Chemistry Honors Society to present my research. The Science Honors Program allowed me to give a podium presentation at the annual Kentucky Academy of Science conference, and I was later selected to present my poster at the American Heart Association annual conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. I concluded my conference presentations at the Sarnoff Cardiovascular Research Foundation annual conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

These experiences were truly extraordinary and allowed me to grow tremendously, both academically and personally. Each conference challenged me in different ways, and let me engage with accomplished researchers, and helped me gain confidence in my abilities as an aspiring scientist.

As I reflect on my time at Georgetown College, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude for every opportunity, challenge, lesson, and person who has shaped my journey. Georgetown has prepared me exceptionally well for the next steps in my career, and I am proud of everything I have accomplished here. If I could do it all over again, I would not change a single thing.



FINE ARTS

TAKE CENTER STAGE

By Annie Juarez '28, studying religion and international business and culture

Georgetown College's spring arts season offered students, alumni, and community members a celebration of creativity through visual art, theatre, fashion, and music. **From the [PRESSED] Senior Art Exhibit to The Maskrafters' ambitious production of 45 Plays for 45 Presidents, the Rework the Runway Fashion Show, and finally, Funky Broadway!** a GC Band and Choral Concert, these events reflected the talent, collaboration, and passion that continue to shape the campus arts community.

The Senior Art Exhibit, titled [PRESSED], featured work from graduating and participating student artists, including **Seniors Samantha Cabrera, Gwynneth Diehl, Natalie Duncan, Savannah Good, Cat Hastings, Ira Langdon, Jenna Tipton, Emilee VanZandt, and Faith Wisecup.** Through photography, installation, and mixed media, the exhibit explored themes of identity, memory, connection, and resilience.

Samantha Cabrera '26 examined the relationship between memory and absence, particularly within immigrant communities affected by displacement and deportation. Through photography and collected materials, Cabrera explored how spaces and objects continue to hold traces of those who are no longer present. "I believe that art can hold what words sometimes cannot," Cabrera explained in her artist statement. Her work invited viewers to reflect on loss, resilience, and the invisible emotional impacts carried within ordinary spaces.

Another featured artist, **Savannah Good '26**, explored interconnectedness through her piece *As Above, So Below*. Inspired by the Hermetic principle of correspondence, Good compared the flowing movement of bird murmuration and schools of fish to illustrate humanity's connection to the larger universe. "We are all humming together," she wrote, encouraging viewers to find comfort in shared existence and common experience.

While the gallery spaces encouraged reflection, The Maskrafters and the Department of Performing Arts brought energy and humor to the stage with their production of *45 Plays for 45 Presidents*. Directed by **Dr. Ed Smith '88**, the fast-paced production featured student actors portraying presidents throughout American history in a collaborative theatrical experience that required months of preparation from the cast and crew.

Cast member **Kaylee Walters '28** described the production as "a big team collaboration," with performers taking on multiple roles throughout the show. Walters helped portray several presidents, including Woodrow Wilson and Bill Clinton, both of whom became audience favorites during performances. Reflecting on the experience, Walters explained that the production involved nearly daily rehearsals beginning in January, along with additional time spent preparing the stage. According to Walters, seeing the audience respond positively to the performances made the all the hard work worthwhile.

Walters also emphasized the sense of community fostered through the theatre program. "It's a great way to meet people and explore creativity," she said, adding that the cast and crew formed friendships that will last beyond graduation.

The Rework the Runway Fashion Show is in its third year at GC, organized by the GC Style Society, led by Senior **Jade Bivens '26**. After recently returning from studying at Oxford University, where she explored similar artistic and cultural experiences, Bivens helped bring new inspiration to the showcase. Rework the Runway Fashion Show highlighted students' design talents while giving model participants an opportunity to collaborate across disciplines and express themselves artistically.

Funky Broadway! the GC Band and Choir concert in John L. Hill Chapel showcased the GC Contemporary Band Ensemble playing funk and jazz classics featuring improvised solos. The GC Chorale performed musical theater tunes from the 1930s to recent Broadway hits.

The arts are a vital component of the Georgetown College campus culture. Through visual art, theatrical performance, fashion, and music, students engaged audiences in conversations surrounding identity, memory, collaboration, and human connection while also showcasing the interdisciplinary creativity fostered within the College community. Beyond entertainment, these events contribute to the institution's intellectual and cultural life by creating spaces for dialogue, artistic expression, and collective participation. **The Senior Art Exhibit, 45 Plays for 45 Presidents, Fashion Show, and Spring Concert reflected Georgetown College's commitment to supporting student creativity and cultivating meaningful community engagement through the arts.**

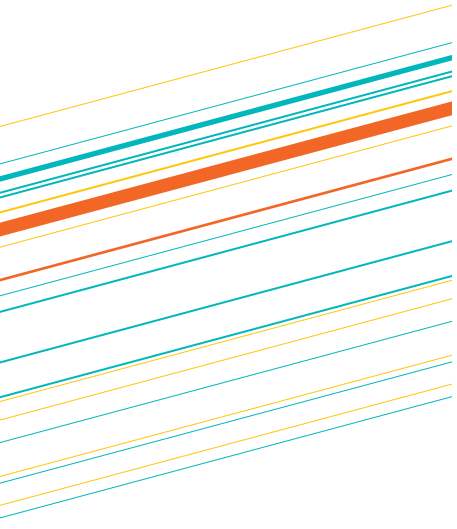


Senior Ira Langdon '26 laser-etched and hand-linked more than 300 transparent tiles, inviting attendees to select three to arrange and form their own works of art. The result was dozens of new mini-artworks being shown off around the gallery. "It's great to see people wrestling with how to arrange their chosen images. Hopefully, it gives them insight and appreciation for those of us who do that every day," said Langdon.

Langdon pictured with Business Major Grace Porter '27



45 PLAYS FOR 45 PRESIDENTS





REWORK THE RUNWAY FASHION SHOW





SONGFEST

Songfest is a decades-long tradition at GC and one of the hallmarks of student engagement presented by the Georgetown Activities Council. This year's competition was held in February. The theme, Reality TV, and our amazing student organizations did not disappoint. The skits included homages to America's Got Talent, The Bachelor, Family Feud, and many more reality TV series. With multiple versions of President Rosemary Allen making appearances in both fraternity and sorority skits, the laughter could be heard outside John L. Hill Chapel.

When asked about playing President Allen, **Hagen Wilkerson '26** said, **"It is such an honor to embody such a huge character. It is so difficult to live up to the hype. I don't know if I've done it, but I did get approval from Dr. Allen. It's a blast to go up there and represent our school and play with the crowd. It's very fulfilling. I love Dr. Allen's reaction; she'll come up to me and call me Rosemary. People around campus will call me Rosemary for a few weeks after Songfest. I'm glad people enjoy it that much."** Wilkerson is a member and former President of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity.

Reflecting on Songfest, Phi Mu member, **Ava Calloway '27** said, "Songfest is an experience I know I will always look back on fondly. I will never forget the late-night practices with my sisters and watching all the organizations perform together for the first time. Being on stage in front of hundreds of people was something I never imagined, but the Georgetown community fosters a positive, encouraging atmosphere. This special Georgetown tradition is one I am incredibly grateful to have been a part of, and I can't wait to see what the future holds!"

THE SONGFEST 2026 WINNERS WERE:

Most Original / Overall Winner: Lambda Chi Alpha

Most GC Spirit: Sigma Kappa

Most out of the Box: Phi Kappa Tau

Most Comical: Pi Kappa Alpha

Best Choreography: Kappa Delta



HAGEN WILKERSON '26 AS
PRESIDENT ROSEMARY ALLEN



View Photos
on Flickr



NAVARRO NANPUYA



NAIA NATIONAL CHAMPION

By Andrew Preston, Sports Information Director

Navarro Nanpuya '27 completed his dominant run through the 184-pound bracket, becoming Georgetown College's first-ever individual champion and All-American at the NAIA National Wrestling Championships in the Heartland Credit Union Arena in Park City, Kansas.

Wrestling the No. 1 seed and 2025 national runner-up Tyson Beauperthuy, Nanpuya was unfazed. Nanpuya got the match's first takedown just over a minute into the first round before an escape granted Beauperthuy a point with about 30 seconds remaining in the period.

The second period saw Beauperthuy, who entered the championship match an undefeated 27-0, come out more aggressive with Nanpuya standing up to the challenge. Nanpuya recorded a second takeover with 48 seconds remaining to lead 6-1.

The third period saw Nanpuya get a quick escape to add a point and his final takedown of the evening at the 1:38 mark to build out the insurmountable 10-1 advantage. Beauperthuy added an escape with 35 seconds remaining, but Nanpuya went on to win 11-2, becoming Georgetown College's first-ever National Finalist, National Champion, and All-American.

On Friday night, Nanpuya took down No. 3-seeded Tre Morrisette in the semifinals via a 9-5 decision to reach the finals after dismantling the No. 2 seed Kendall Norfleet in the quarterfinals.

For his undefeated run, Nanpuya won Most Outstanding Wrestler of the tournament.

HOW HE DID IT!

- 184: No. 7 Navarro Nanpuya def. Zahquel Davis (Brewton-Parker) (Fall 3:31)
- 184: No. 7 Navarro Nanpuya def. **No. 10** August Batson (Southeastern) (MD 11-1)
- 184: No. 7 Navarro Nanpuya def. **No. 2** Kendall Norfleet (Life) (SV 4-3)
- 184: No. 7 Navarro Nanpuya def. **No. 3** Tre Morrisette (Life) (Dec 9-5)
- 184: No. 7 Navarro Nanpuya def. **No. 1** Tyson Beauperthuy (Doane) (MD 11-2)

Navarro Nanpuya Named NAIA National Tournament Most Outstanding Wrestler & Mid-South Conference Men's Wrestler of the Year

Georgetown College men's wrestling junior Navarro Nanpuya was named the 2025-26 Mid-South Conference Men's Wrestler of the Year, conference officials announced.

The conference's top honor comes on the heels of Nanpuya capturing the 184-pound NAIA National Championship. He capped the national title run with an 11-2 win over Doane's Tyson Beauperthuy in the championship match.

Nanpuya finished the national tournament with a 5-0 record, including beating the top three seeds en route to being named **the NAIA National Tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler**. He was dominant in the national championships, outpointing the competition 47-12 across the five matches.

He completes his season with a 19-1 overall record, including winning the national and the Mid-South Conference titles for his weight class.

Nanpuya becomes Georgetown's first-ever national champion and NAIA All-American in the Tigers' first season of competition.



ABIGAIL MOSS

FINALIST FOR ITA SALLY RIDE STEM AWARD

By Andrew Preston, Sports Information Director

Georgetown College tennis senior **Abigail Moss '26** was recently selected as a finalist for the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Sally Ride Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) award.

First introduced in 2022, the ITA Sally Ride STEM Award is named after the first American woman to soar into space, Dr. Sally Ride, who captured the nation's imagination as a symbol of the ability of women to shatter barriers.

For Moss, a biochemistry major from Hopkinsville, Kentucky, the ITA Sally Ride STEM award was never even on her radar.

"Honestly, it took me by surprise," Moss said. "My coach told me to apply and see what happened. I was hesitant and did not think I would make it this far, but it goes to show you that working hard in school and athletics pays off and you have to make the most of the opportunities that are presented to you."

Head coach Michael Cunningham also expressed how unique an opportunity this is for Moss.

"It's such a niche award," head coach Michael Cunningham said. "You have to be female, play tennis, and you have to be very good in a STEM field, so it's a very targeted award and a great honor for Abby to be named a finalist."

Cunningham shared that 25 applications were submitted to the ITA and Moss's became one of four of the over 17,000 tennis players across all divisions of collegiate tennis to be selected.

"Going to college I did not plan to play (tennis)," Moss said. "My dad went to Georgetown and played football and I never thought I would play at the collegiate level. I am so proud of the growth over my time at Georgetown and where I've gotten to today."

Moss graduated from Hopkinsville High School in 2022 and decided to pursue tennis after arriving at Georgetown and is thankful for the friendships and connections it has given her.

"My best friends are my teammates," Moss said. "Coming to Georgetown allowed me to get involved in so many different things which I am thankful for. The Georgetown community has helped foster such a positive experience for me, and I am thankful for all the people who have helped me flourish."

Moss is Georgetown College's second student to apply for this prestigious award. Maci Ferguson applied during the 2022 season but was not selected as a finalist.

"Abby came in and was not a decorated tennis player, but worked year-round for four years and became an accomplished tennis player," Cunningham said. "It goes to show you if you put the time and effort in both the classroom and the tennis court, you can achieve things you did not think were possible."

Moss intends to go to medical school at the University of Louisville upon graduation.

SALLY RIDE STEM AWARD

As endowed by Sally Ride's life partner, Tam O'Shaughnessy, the award honors a female student-athlete who has exhibited zeal, dedication, and perseverance in her tennis training and competition, STEM studies, and long-term goals.

The recipient will receive a grant of \$8,000 to pursue her dreams and may use it in any way she wishes. Additionally, the ITA will donate \$2,000 to the women's tennis program of the institution from which the award winner graduated.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Graduated from a four-year American college or university.
- Lettered for at least two years on the school's varsity tennis team.
- Applicants must submit an essay outlining the role tennis and higher education have played in their life, the lessons learned, the role and impact of a STEM education, and a description of the candidate's plans for graduate study, including hopes and dreams to be pursued.
- Letters of support from the candidate's varsity tennis coach and a college STEM professor.
- Finalists may be asked to submit a letter of support from the college/university president.





CHEER WINS UCA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Georgetown College cheer team began its 2026 season at UCA College Nationals in January and came home as National Champions for the first time in school history.

After finishing the semifinals with a second-place ranking narrowly behind Coastal Alabama Community College, the Tigers rallied and dominated the finals with a score of 89.66.

Scores from the first round of competition provide rankings going into the final round. However, scores reset each day.

The Tigers were able to make the jump to first in the final round and claim the championship of the Open Small Coed Game Day Division.

"Moving into the final round of competition, we knew we had to put our best performance on the mat to make the jump to first," **Head Coach Joanie Lake** said. "We worked hard to make changes from feedback given on the scoresheet in semi-finals, and our athletes left their hearts on the mat. Our finals performance really showed our athletes' passion and love for their sport as well as their institution."

Of the 31 athletes on the mat, the Tigers have six graduating seniors who played a vital role in the championship win.

Senior Isaac Harder '26 reflected on winning the national championship. **"Hearing our name called for the national champion title was something so surreal," Harder said. "It was the moment we knew all the hard work paid off and that a collection of judges saw our passion and determination to win. I am so proud of my team, and my coaches. It is all just a reflection of how hard our program works."**

DAVIS-REID ALUMNI GYM 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Our beloved Davis-Reid Alumni Gym, the oldest in Kentucky where collegiate athletics are played, was showcased in all its luster on Saturday, January 31. The celebration highlighted 100 years, a stunning 3.7 million dollar renovation, and our gratitude to the alumni and friends who donated to make it possible. Renovations include a new hardwood floor, bleachers, ceiling, lighting, heating and cooling systems, scoreboards, and bathroom facilities, among many other updates. GC Alum **Dave Baker '82** was the emcee at a ceremony celebrating the anniversary and our generous donors who made the renovation happen.

“Georgetown College is a school that we have a long-term partnership with, and this project interested us in the value it presented in saving a historic building,” shared John Lindberg, President, Austin E. Knowlton Foundation.

The Alumni Gym was built in 1925 and dedicated in 1926, after the student body advocated for a larger gym with greater floor space. Just as in 1925, student need was at the forefront of the most recent renovation.

“From the beginning, the project’s focus was on enhancing the athletic facilities to better serve students, faculty, and the community,” said Sally Wiatrowski, the College’s Vice President for Business Operations. “With our funders’ generous support, we have created a top-tier facility that promotes health, wellness, and athletic excellence,” she added. “The renovations will greatly benefit the entire College community and contribute to the long-term growth and success of our athletic programs.”

“Georgetown College is important to the state of Kentucky. This project came together easily and was managed well by the school. We believe the money was well spent because higher education builds communities and that’s important to the Brown Foundation,” explained Harry Richart, Board Secretary, James A. and Martha R. Brown Foundation.

Donors highlighted on Saturday include:

The James A. and Martha R. Brown Charitable Foundation, The Austin E. Knowlton Foundation, Robert N. Wilson '62, Kenneth Davis '71 and Rita Renfro Davis '71, Alfred R. Blevins '80 and Granetta Bingham Blevins '80, David Lee '67 and Anne Barnett Lee '67, Judy Young Elrod '82 and Rick Elrod '82, William Rosson '74, Phillip Gerald Greer, Barrett Fuller, Richard Fuller '91 and Melodie Marquess Fuller '91, David Jacobs, Shawn Rich '94 and Karen Griffith Rich '93, and Mike Calhoun '71.

The celebration was bookended by two outstanding basketball games. Our GC women’s team played an exceptional game with a 73-70 win over No. 3 Bethel. Our 17th ranked men’s team followed up with a big win over the No. 10 Wildcats with a 100-62 score.



Click the QR code, call 502.863.8007, or email alumni@georgetowncollege.edu to purchase a piece of the historic gym floor where so many Tigers have shown their stripes.



GC HOSTS MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Georgetown College was selected to host rounds one and two of the 2026 NAIA Men's and Women's Basketball National Championships. The renovation of the Davis-Reid Alumni Gym made GC the ideal host and created the perfect atmosphere for all teams to shine.

Both the GC Men's and Women's basketball teams advanced to the Round of 16. The women's team moved on to the quarterfinals for the first time in 14 years.

The men's team finished the regular season 22-6, ranked No. 14 in the final top 25 poll. They finished the season ranked third in Rating Percentage Index (RPI). This marks the team's 45th appearance since the NAIA men's basketball tournament's inception in 1937.

The women's team finished the regular season 21-7. The Lady Tigers closed the season ranked 14th in the RPI. This marks the team's 20th appearance since the NAIA women's basketball tournament's inception in 1981.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL BEST RUN IN 14 YEARS

By Andrew Preston, Sports Information Director

THE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SEASON WAS ONE FOR THE AGES. ADVANCING TO THE NAIA QUARTERFINALS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 14 YEARS AND ONLY THE FIFTH TIME IN PROGRAM HISTORY, THE TIGERS BOASTED AN OVERALL RECORD OF 25-9.

Georgetown sprinted out to the best start in **Head Coach Jeff Nickel's** five-year tenure by winning its first 13 games. The Tigers finished the fall semester with a 15-1 mark before starting the Mid-South Conference (MSC) league schedule. From there, consistently presented with ranked opponents, the Tigers delivered four straight wins to close the regular season.

After knocking off fourth-seeded Campbellsville for the second time in a week, the Tigers fell to top-seeded Bethel University in the semifinals of the MSC Tournament. But Georgetown's resume spoke for itself as the Tigers learned the next day that they would be playing in Davis-Reid Alumni Gym to host the first and second rounds of the NAIA tournament.

FIRST ROUND:

No. 5 Georgetown vs
No. 12 Taylor University

The Tigers stormed to a quick 12-0 lead, aided by seven points from **Senior Kayra Freeman**, who finished the game with a team-high 24 points and four steals to help the Tigers advance 83-58.

SECOND ROUND:

No. 5 Georgetown vs
No. 4 Loyola University-New Orleans

In the second round, GC faced a seasoned squad, but the Tigers hit seven of their first eight shots and quickly held a 17-10 lead. Relying heavily on their 3-point shooting, GC led by eight at halftime. Two minutes into the fourth, the Tigers surrendered an 8-0 run and were facing a six-point hole before slowly chipping away at the Wolfpack's lead. Tied at 69-69, Georgetown bolted to a 10-0 run to close out, 81-72. **Sophomore Daisy Gale** poured in 24 points and finished off a double-double with 10 rebounds to help the Tigers advance.

ROUND OF 16:

No. 5 Georgetown vs
No. 1 Freed-Hardeman

The Tigers needed overtime to defeat the overall number one seed Freed-Hardeman (FHU) Lions in the round of 16. Leaning on Daisy Gale once more, the guard scored the opening eight points as the Tigers hit five of their first 10 shots to command a six-point lead. While FHU rallied to a 31-28 lead at halftime, the Tigers found themselves down by as many as nine in the third quarter before going into the fourth,

down by six. The final five minutes saw the Tigers roar back with a 10-0 run for a one-point lead with just under two minutes to play. The game finished regulation tied at 60. Sharpshooting from seniors **Anna Long** and Kayra Freeman guided the Tigers in the extra period before a dagger 3-pointer from **MSC Freshman of the Year Daysha Reid** put things out of reach with just over a minute to play. Georgetown went on to win 74-68 and advance to the quarterfinals.

The last time the Tigers advanced this far was during their 2012 run to the Fab Four. GC also advanced to the quarterfinals in 1993, 2001, and 2005.

QUARTERFINALS:

No. 5 Georgetown vs
No. 3 Dakota State

Georgetown made its first four baskets, jumping to a quick 10-0 lead before a counter run by the Dakota State Trojans tied things at 14. The Tigers faced a nine-point deficit at halftime. Georgetown came out ready to fight in the third, as senior Anna Long's 3-pointer closed the quarter on a high note, making it a 66-63 game entering the fourth. The Tigers kept things close as a Daisy Gale jumper made it a one-point game with just 5:30 to go. The next possession brought a steal from Long, who gave the Tigers the lead 72-71 before the Trojans went on an 11-0 run. Georgetown ultimately fell 85-79.

After the tournament, Daisy Gale was named an NAIA Second Team All-American, the seventh all-time such honoree in school history.

Coach Jeff Nickel on the season, "We had the right kids on the floor, and in the toughest moments of adversity, they thrived. This group was so connected and communicated so well on and off the court; they played with a belief that they could win every game. This was most evident in the quarter final game against Dakota State, who had roughly 3,000 fans and had us down 19 in the 3rd quarter. Our ladies had the grit and toughness to battle back and take the lead, with under 5:00 minutes to go in the 4th quarter. They were tough, resilient, and believed in each other."

J.P. RADER NAMED WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH



"I'm excited to introduce J.P. Rader as the seventh head coach of Women's Volleyball," said **Vice President for Athletics Chris Oliver**. "Coach Rader brings a wealth of experience, both as a successful collegiate head coach and during his time at the high school and club level internationally and domestically. His tenure as head coach at Asbury saw the program reach an exceptional level of performance. He has an appreciation of the Tiger Women's Volleyball competitiveness during that same timeframe, as well as a strong vision for how we can work to achieve that level once again. I look forward to welcoming J.P. Rader to Georgetown College as we strive to develop our student-athletes on and off the court."

Rader makes his way to Georgetown after his most recent collegiate head coaching role, which saw him serve seven seasons at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky, from 2009 to 2016.

"I am extremely excited and humbled to be selected as the next head coach of Women's Volleyball at Georgetown," Rader said. "Georgetown has an outstanding tradition of excellence in Women's Volleyball that will be the foundation we build on as we move the program forward. I am excited to have the opportunity to get to know the players and work with them as we prepare for the upcoming season."

Before coaching at Asbury, Rader lived in Seoul, South Korea, where he served as Athletic Director and Head Girls' Volleyball Coach at Seoul Foreign School from 1989 to 2008. From 2016 to 2019, he served as Secondary School Principal at Gyeonggi Suwon International School in Suwon, South Korea, and from 2016 to 2019 as Head of School at International Community School in Singapore.

GC ADDS DANCE PROGRAM; PEYTON BLANTON '15 NAMED HEAD COACH



Georgetown College Athletics announced the addition of Competitive Dance as the 25th varsity sport. Peyton Blanton, a 2015 Georgetown College graduate, has been hired as the program's head coach, and the program will begin in the 2026-27 academic year.

Chris Oliver discussed the latest addition to the Tiger lineup, saying, "As we have continued to explore opportunities for strategic growth, it became evident that launching a Competitive Dance program makes a lot of sense. This addition extends the GC mission to a new group of female student-athletes who can help build an elite program while earning a life-changing education."

Oliver continued, "The timing of this initiative aligned with the identification of Peyton Blanton as Head Coach. She has a great vision for what our program can become, and she is very well-connected in the dance community throughout Kentucky. Coach Blanton will be a great asset for us as we lean on her experience to launch the Tiger Dance program."

Head Coach Peyton Blanton added her thoughts. "Attending Georgetown College was one of the best decisions of my life. It gave me an incredible education, surrounded me with a culture I truly loved, and shaped me into who I am today. I'm honored and grateful for the opportunity to return and start a Competitive Dance program. Here's to building something special and starting a winning tradition of Dance at GC!"

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

5 Mid-South Conference Player of the Week Winners

DAISY GALE

Named to First Team

Named NAIA Second Team All-American

DAYSHA REID

Offensive Player of the Week

Mid-South Conference Freshman of the Year

Named to Second Team

KAYRA FREEMAN

Named to Second Team

MEN'S BASKETBALL

8 Mid-South Conference Player of the Week Winners

DARIEN LEWIS AND ISAIAH MASON

Named to First Team

RASHAD BISHOP

NAIA Defensive Player of the Week

ADEN NYEKAN

Named to Second Team

MEN'S WRESTLING

2 Mid-South Conference Player of the Week Winners

3 Tigers Crowned MSC Champions

8 Placers at MSC Tournament

NAVARRO NANPUYA, MARCUS JAMES, AND LUKE COX

Named to First Team

WYATT PAYNE

Named to Third Team

Kyle Homet won Assistant coach of the Year

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

3 River States Conference Player of the Week Winners

MICHAL BAK AND ADAM SZEWINSKI

Named to First Team

ANDREW MAYHEW

Named to Third Team

LUIS VIVUS

Named NAIA Defender of the Week

Named to Third Team

KRISTJAN UNIT

Named to Second Team

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

2 Appalachian Conference Player of the Week Winners

MADISON DIAZ

NAIA Defensive Player of the Week

HAILEY VOSS

IWLCA Offensive Player of the Week

WOMEN'S WRESTLING

JES'ONIA BAREFIELD

Made it to the NAIA National Championship

TRACK & FIELD

3 Mid-South Conference Player of the Week Winners

SOFTBALL

1 Mid-South Conference Player of the Week

BASEBALL

1 Mid-South Conference Player of the Week

GAME CHANGERS

ATHLETIC ALUMS MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE

SHOW UP AND SAY YES!

JOANNA LANE '02



By Brandy (Ritter) Osborne '99, Training Analyst, JP Morgan Chase

Joanna Lane '02 came to Georgetown College from Circleville, OH, in the fall of 1998, seeking a place of meaning. What she found was a home that would challenge her, and offer her the grace to grow, learn, and develop leadership skills that would carry her to her life's callings.

During the mid to late 1990s, Georgetown College's softball program faced significant challenges, including the lack of a dedicated playing field and a full-time coach, which led to limited on-field success. Lane saw these challenges as opportunities; she knew that the team needed leaders and advocates. As a sophomore, she showed up and said "yes" to the challenge. After being mentored by leaders like **Amy Weitzel '99** during her first year on campus, Lane became the team captain in year two, a role she held for the remainder of her time at Georgetown. She, along with her teammates, went to the athletic department's administration to advocate for improved resources and support for the program.



By her junior year, change came in the form of **Coach Mark Montgomery**, who set new standards for everything from training to game play. Expectations went through the roof, and the results were clear. Georgetown College's softball team went on to win the Mid-South Conference tournament in 2001 and 2002, and the regular season championship in 2002. Lane also saw the dedication of the Tiger Softball Complex in her senior year, playing the first games on the field for which she and her teammates had advocated so hard. **The accolades on the field were proud moments, but she says what she learned was how to navigate leadership communication with those in higher positions and to build a team around more than oneself. She learned the value of "effecting change through taking ownership of what you want."**

Her leadership on the field carried over into her history and education majors and into her roles in Phi Mu and the GC Student Government Association. She was recognized for her leadership as the Panhellenic Council Sorority Female Athlete of the Year, and in 2018, she was inducted into the GC Athletic Hall of Fame alongside the 2001 team.

After graduating in 2002, Lane pursued a Master's degree in sports management at Florida State University, where she served as a graduate assistant to Dr. JoAnne Graf, one of the winningest softball coaches in NCAA Division I history. Dr. Graf's mentorship helped her find her next mission—coaching NCAA Division I Softball. Lane coached for the next 15 years at Northern Illinois University, South Dakota State University, and Central Michigan University. As an assistant coach at Central Michigan University, Joanna began her doctoral work in Educational Leadership, earning her EdD in 2018.

Though Lane loved coaching and mentoring student-athletes, she had noticed a significant gap in support for coaches. As Vice President of the National Fastpitch Coaches Association, she saw that coaches needed resources to excel, to better navigate personnel issues, and "how to keep the athletes and administrations happy." After years of being mentored by some of the most elite leaders in the game, she felt a calling to help other coaches, believing that building support for coaches was a direct path to helping student-athletes become stronger leaders and better people. She said the best coaches are truly educators at heart, helping those in their care build resilience and leadership.

As she recognized this need, a door opened to her calling, and she again decided to show up and say "yes!" In 2016, Lane became the Senior Director of Education and Program Development for the National Fastpitch Coaches Association. There, Lane leads discussions and helps guide the sport at the national level, with over 7,000 members in the association. Her work includes collaborating with the NCAA and coaches on rule changes, including those for the national championships. Lane also serves as an analyst for select televised games on the ACC and SEC networks.

Joanna said that her family and values led her to GC, but her time here gave her the space to be brave, try hard things, and learn unexpected skills. These attributes strengthened her ability to find opportunities she could never have imagined as a college student and to follow her purpose.

She credits **Dr. Rosmary Allen** as one of her biggest influences as a student, saying Dr. Allen set high expectations, never wavered in support, and promised to "proofread for the rest of your life." Lane said that even in that first week of English 111, she saw Dr. Allen walk the walk every day, showing the GC mission in a living way.

Lane loves returning to campus for alumni events, saying that even 20 years later, Georgetown still feels like home.



GAME CHANGERS

ATHLETIC ALUMS MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE



TENACITY COMPOUNDS!

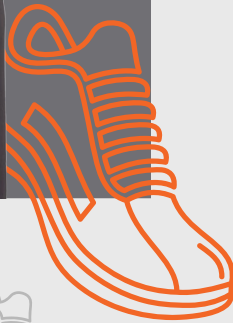
MICHAEL NEWCOMER '05

By Betty Bone '00, Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing

Talent acquisition might seem very different from a career in biophysics; however, both require intense problem-solving skills.

Michael Newcomer, a 2005 GC grad, built his career by trusting his instincts, staying open to new opportunities, and forming strong personal relationships. He is now the CEO at Riviera Partners, a private equity-backed global executive recruiting firm focusing on technology, engineering, product, and design leadership.

Newcomer was recruited to play soccer at several universities and colleges. However, GC felt like the right size and atmosphere. At the start of his GC career, Newcomer planned to major in biology and head to medical school, like his brother. However, those plans quickly shifted; his ability to adapt and find his place runs as a thread through his life.



At Georgetown, Newcomer played soccer his freshman year and was the first freshman that year to score a goal. The moment is seared into his memory because no one could believe that at 5 feet 7 inches, his first goal would be a header into the net. His soccer career ended after his freshman year. Newcomer, not one to sit on the sidelines, reached out to the cross country/track and field team to join sophomore year. It was a strange choice for someone who had never participated in cross country before. However, by his senior year, he was running first and second for the team.

“When I walked into Coach Abe Padilla’s office as a sophomore and asked to join cross country, I’d never run a cross-country race in my life – I’d done a 5K, and that was about it. He didn’t promise me anything – he just handed me a pair of shoes and a training schedule. What he taught me, without ever saying it out loud, is that tenacity compounds. You show up, you put in the work, and the results take care of themselves.”

His professors guided his career path early on, with **Dr. Mark Christensen**, Professor Emeritus of Biology, telling his mother during Family Weekend that he should major in chemistry instead of biology. After earning his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Newcomer went on to receive his MS and PhD in Biophysics from Yale University.

“Dr. Christensen saw something in my problem-solving that I hadn’t yet seen in myself. Switching from biology to chemistry after a conversation at Family Weekend felt like a small course correction at the time – in hindsight, it was the decision that put me on the path to Yale, to biophysics, and ultimately to the intersection of technology and talent where I’ve spent my career. The best professors don’t just answer the questions you bring them; they ask better ones than you knew to ask yourself.”

While at Yale, Newcomer decided he no longer wanted to pursue academia, the path he had initially chosen, and his reason for attending graduate school. He completed his PhD but had no clear plan for what to do afterward. So, he did what few people do: he started not just one, but two businesses.

The first business was an extension of the tutoring he did while at Yale: Bulldog Tutors, which he successfully managed. Newcomer sold the business in 2021. The second business was Elm Talent Group. At Elm Talent Group, he and his partner expanded the business to over 20 employees across three locations: New York, London, and New Haven. His background in biochemistry uniquely qualified him to understand the technological needs of firms, which has shaped his career.

A self-described problem solver, Newcomer approached talent acquisition through a technology lens but has become a leader who believes the human element will always be essential to great companies. **“The future of business centers on the intersection where humans work with technology to improve efficiency,” said Newcomer, “This task efficiency will push employees to develop their emotional intelligence, making them even more valuable to their employers.” In fact, Newcomer believes that AI will eventually create more jobs.**

Looking back at his time at GC, Newcomer said that being a team member and a captain requires the same skills as being a CEO, defining and articulating a clear vision, prioritizing goals, and giving employees the tools and time they need to achieve their individual goals.



LEADING WITH CARE



MANDI BOYKIN MCCOY '11

By Mindy Hamlin '91, Hamlin Communications

Over the past few decades, the role of the pharmacist has evolved. No one demonstrates this change more than **Mandi (Boykin) McCoy '11**. A PharmD, she is part of a growing segment of pharmacists who provide direct patient care and comprehensive medication management.

Based in Morrisville, North Carolina, McCoy, a Licensed Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner (CPP), is a pharmacy coordinator for UNC Health, the state's largest academic health system.

"When many people think of a pharmacist, they imagine a traditional retail pharmacist, not realizing that we have the knowledge base and skillset not only to dispense medications but also to help treat, monitor, and improve an individual's health," explained McCoy.

As a CPP, McCoy is approved by the North Carolina Pharmacy and Medical Boards to collaborate with physicians and other health professionals to coordinate and improve patient outcomes.

"My team and I work under collaborative practice agreements with physicians," McCoy said. "We have the authority to prescribe and manage medications for certain conditions, monitor patient health, and assist them between appointments to help them reach their goals."

McCoy and her team also provide virtual population health support for UNC Health's patients.

"Sometimes we get referrals from doctors, and sometimes we identify higher-risk patients who can benefit from more one-on-one interaction," said McCoy. "We schedule 30-to-60-minute targeted visits in which we go through a patient's medications and home readings. From here, we make informed decisions about next steps, which we communicate to the patient's provider."

McCoy's favorite part of the job, she said, is using her knowledge to help patients meet their health goals by managing and monitoring their medications for chronic conditions, including diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and weight management.

"It's really rewarding to empower people and to see them become more confident and empower themselves," she explained. "I currently help some of my patients with weight management using injectable weight loss drugs. To see the change that the medications have made in their lives, how much more confident they are, and how they are able to build healthy lifestyle habits, is amazing to be a part of."

"Pharmacists are a valuable resource, and there are many ways pharmacists benefit patients," she said. "Our ultimate goal is to help patients become the healthiest version of themselves through lifestyle and medication management."

McCoy graduated from high school in Ironton, Ohio, as a track and field star and the state division champion in the 100-meter dash. While Georgetown College recruited her, she decided to run track at a D-1 school and committed to the much larger University of Cincinnati. By her sophomore year, she realized she needed a smaller college environment that fostered teamwork and student-professor relationships.

"There are 30,000-plus people on the Cincinnati campus; Georgetown has a total of around 1,200," she pointed out. "Georgetown was more like my hometown, and it offered me more hands-on experiences, more engagement, and more attentiveness to me as a student and an athlete."

At GC, she joined the women's basketball team and continued her studies that would lead to a career in pharmacy.

In track, McCoy participated in individual events. One of the things that attracted her to GC was the opportunity to play basketball and be part of a team. It was also on the team that she learned to adapt her style and approach to the team she was playing with and to her teammates' needs and strengths. She uses these skills every day in her career as a pharmacist.

"I learned in basketball to ask myself, 'How do I motivate this person and how do I approach them to meet them where they are,'" she said.

In the classroom, McCoy also found the one-on-one interaction she sought with her professors.

"Georgetown was a good fit for me," she recalled. "I felt that the professors embraced the students more than I had experienced before. I was one in ten instead of one in a thousand. For example, if I wasn't in a class, the professor could text me."

Her senior year, McCoy received the Dean's Honor Award for academic excellence and began applying to pharmacy school with the help of her **Associate Professor Jean Kiernan**, who she had for nutrition and science courses.

"I tore my ACL going into my senior season that summer, and Dr. Kiernan was just super supportive and accommodating," she recounted. "She and Georgetown really set me up for success by preparing me for and helping me get accepted into pharmacy school."

It was at Georgetown, she says, that she became herself, someone who enjoys being on a team and working closely with others.

"Playing basketball, I was part of a team, unlike in track, which can be more of an individual sport," she said. "That's what I thought I also wanted in a career as a pharmacist. At GC, I realized that I do better and am a better leader when I am part of a team."



SERVICE BEFORE SELF

**MATT
DENEEN '90**



By Bethany Hornback Langdon '93,
Senior Vice President for Communications and Marketing, Special Advisor to the President

Since 2023, **Matt Deneen '90** has served as a Kentucky Senator representing District 10. But, one could say his path to serving the Commonwealth began as a basketball standout at Elizabethtown High School, where he was recruited by Georgetown College in the fall of 1986.

Deneen remembers visiting many colleges during the athletic recruiting process, and Georgetown was the perfect fit with a beautiful campus that felt like home right away. **"At Georgetown, of course, I learned the skills necessary to become an educator, but more importantly, the value of relationships. Putting the service of others before self was instilled in me through my experience at Georgetown College,"** explains Deneen. **"Every Georgetown College graduate is wealthy in terms of relationships."**

Dr. Jim Heizer, in the history department, was a big influence on Deneen. "There were many times when I had to miss an exam or final due to athletic travel. The professors were there for the students. I remember taking a final exam at the professor's kitchen table. The faculty and staff made sure not only were your academic needs being met, but also your social and personal needs," shared Deneen.

GC men's basketball has more wins than any other NAIA team and, in the 1990s, was always in a position to challenge for a national championship. **Coach Jim Reid and Happy Osborne** helped to develop players and assist them in pursuing their dreams. During Deneen's four years at GC, the team made two NAIA tournament final-four appearances. Deneen went overseas

to play professionally in Australia with the Hobart Hornets in Tasmania. Deneen recalls about GC, "It was not a basketball team; the whole campus was a team, it was a team of Georgetown College, whether students play tennis, football, baseball, softball, or any sport, we were on the same team, cheering for each other."

"When you come to Georgetown College as a student-athlete, you must compete; you must step up your game. The coaches teach you the importance of preparation, working in the off-season, and understanding that, as a student-athlete at GC, you are representing more than yourself. At GC, you come to understand that more important than the wins on the court or the field are the lifetime of wins that teach you to deal with adversity, the value of commitment, and the importance of dedicating yourself to a cause bigger than yourself," states Deneen.

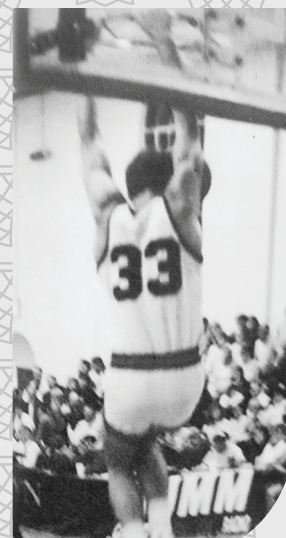
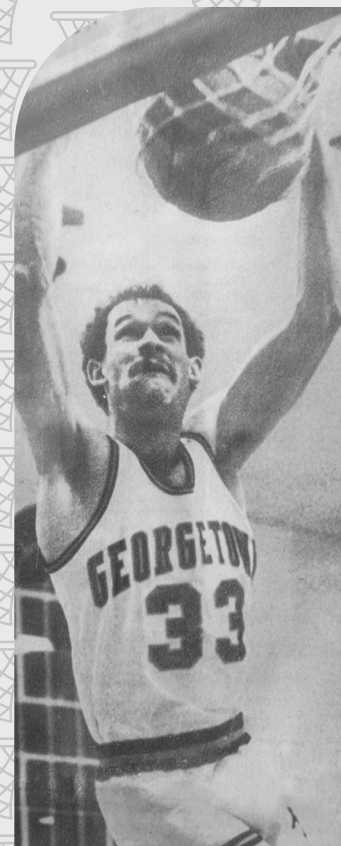
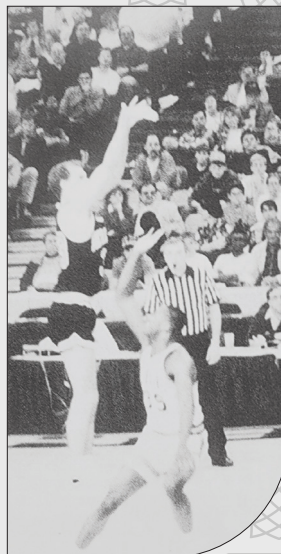
On the importance of coaching, Deneen shared, "Jim Reid was a masterful coach. I never doubted that he was putting you as a player and the team in a position for success. He took all the obstacles into account. He had a calmness and confidence about him when the game was on the line that translated to you as a player and as a person. Be confident in your skills and preparation, and you will be successful."

Deneen earned an MA in education from Western Kentucky University and enjoyed a twenty-nine-year career in Kentucky education. He started out as a middle and high school social studies teacher, then became a principal and administrator, while coaching basketball along the way. Finishing his educational career while leading an alternative school was among Deneen's educational highlights. What Deneen enjoys most about being a retired educator is the encounters he has with former students who, in turn, introduce him to their children, recalling time spent in Mr. Deneen's classroom.

Deneen served two terms on the Elizabethtown City Council before being elected to the State Senate in 2023, where he chairs the Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee, co-chairs the Education Assessment & Accountability Review Subcommittee, and serves on the Judiciary, Agriculture, and Families & Children Committees. In addition, Deneen has served on numerous nonprofit boards and civic organizations in Elizabethtown, including the Trail Town Advisory Board, Airport Board, and Greenspace Committee.

Deneen studied education and business while at GC and was a member of Kappa Alpha Order. **Tanya (Rush) Deneen '90**, a major in accounting, was a Kappa Delta, and is currently Chief Risk Officer at The Cecilian Bank. They have two daughters: Katelyn, a 2023 GC graduate and public school teacher, and Julie, who works at the Kentucky State Police Crime Lab. Tiger Pride runs deep in the Deneen family.

Deneen recalls a unique experience in his first year as a senator, where he was invited to speak at a forum for college presidents hosted by the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities. As Deneen stood at the podium and looked out among the attendees to see President Rosemary Allen listening to him speak, he knew his Georgetown College education had served him well.



FROM CURIOSITY TO CAREER

SHAE HENRY KIMBELL '18



By Mindy Hamlin '91, Hamlin Communications

In elementary school, **Shae (Henry) Kimbell '18** knew she wanted to pursue a career out of making things.

"I always wanted to know how things, like machines, worked the way they do," Kimbell explained. "When I was 10, I made drawings of how I was going to build my own gumball machine. I always had that curiosity about how to make things."

After graduating from Georgetown with a B.S. in both computational science and engineering arts, she earned an electrical engineering degree from the University of Kentucky. She is married to **Lee Kimbell '18** who studied biology at GC. Kimbell turned her curiosity into a career in robotics, automation, and packaging engineering with Procter & Gamble (P&G), headquartered in Cincinnati.

"P&G is unique," Kimbell pointed out. "Its products are in 85-90% of U.S. households, and most of these products are made in the U.S. My job is to innovate, refine, and improve the automation process, so product quality remains high and affordable."

According to P&G's website, the company manufactures 90% of its products in the U.S., including popular brands like Bounty, Cascade, Dawn, Old Spice, Secret, and Tide.

In Kimbell's early roles at the company, she was part of the team that designed and implemented advanced automation, robotics, and control systems to streamline production and improve warehousing and display making processes. Her work included designing a custom robotic end-of-arm tool to automate a repetitive part of the display-making process and overseeing its implementation.

"I designed a custom robotic end-of-arm tool," Kimbell said. "I took this idea from a paper drawing to a prototype to a full design. That project has been a career highlight for me because I saw the project from beginning to end and was able to create efficiencies in the warehouse by adding automation to a previously fully manual process."

Recently, Kimbell took on a new role at the company as Senior Manager and Packing Engineer. Her first project was developing automation improvements for one of the company's newest inventions. The new product, Tide Evo, is part of P&G's line of detergents and demonstrates the company's commitment to manufacturing and packaging environmentally friendly products.

"What is exciting about the Tide Evo project is that the product is early in its life cycle," Kimbell explained. "As engineers look at the product from manufacturing to packaging design, we can ask questions such as 'How do we manufacture it faster and with better quality?'" At P&G, Kimbell has found a company where she can indulge her creator instincts.

"I like what I do," Kimbell said. "I like that I am given the opportunity not only to identify a problem, but I am also given the tools and authority to solve it."

ENGINEERING AND THE LIBERAL ARTS

Kimbell credits the liberal arts education she earned at Georgetown and the opportunity to play on the College's tennis team for giving her a well-rounded education that prepared her for the engineering courses at UK and her professional career.

"I don't see many people in my field who come from a liberal arts background," Kimbell explained. "This background is important in my job because it allows me to step back and

analyze a problem from different perspectives. At GC, you are not just in the physics lab; you are also required to take writing, language, and arts courses."

As a high school senior, Kimbell knew what she wanted from her college experience.

"I went to a high school that was overcrowded and knew I wanted a smaller school where the professors would know me," she said. "I also wanted to play tennis in college, so that narrowed it down a bit."

Her decision was made when tennis coaches Michael and Jessica Cunningham recruited her to Georgetown. The school's computational science program, which includes an engineering pathway, also helped Kimbell make her decision.

TENNIS LESSONS

Kimbell credits the tennis team and coaches for teaching her the importance of perseverance and teamwork.

"Being a student athlete taught me how to approach the world and show up even when things are hard," Kimbell added. "Resiliency is something I built on the tennis court."

The coaches also taught Kimbell and the team what it meant to be a good teammate.

"We celebrated each other's achievements," she remembered.

"Tennis can be an isolating, solo sport; it was encouraging to have your teammates cheering you on. Many of my teammates are still encouraging one another."

Reflecting on her time at Georgetown and its impact on her career, Kimbell underscores the importance of skills only a liberal arts education can provide.

"As an engineer, the technical skills are really important, but we need more engineers who can communicate well and see the big picture," Kimbell emphasized. "Those are tools you get from a liberal arts education. A technical education is very important and very hard, but the other benefits you receive at a school like Georgetown make you a standout."



A LASTING LEGACY

BRANDON LAWSON '13

By Betty Bone '00, Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing



Brandon Lawson '13, a Georgetown native, built a successful career in accounting and sales. His grit, determination, and perseverance began with his family and carried over to the football field. Now those characteristics are helping him build a legacy of giving.

Lawson transferred from the University of Kentucky in his sophomore year to play football under **Coach Bill Cronin**. While at UK, he would visit his friend **Joey Valdez '11**, who was playing at GC. They played together from middle school through high school. Valdez encouraged him to meet with Coach Cronin, which led to Lawson's transfer.

As the first in his family to attend college, Lawson owes a lot to his parents and grandparents for laying the foundation that "put me in the position to have the opportunity to go to school. They taught me a strong work ethic and the value of sacrifice. All of that led to where I am now. I didn't do this on my own; my community poured into me."

That work ethic translated to the practice field at GC, where Lawson found a brotherhood and an energy that drove him. Together, they worked to get better with every practice. "Getting ready for the playoffs junior year, we were practicing, and I was talking a lot, really getting into the offense's head. If I did something well, they were going to hear about it. We were doing 7 on 7 and 1 on 1s with the receivers—a receiver called me out, it was the last play, and I broke it up, and the defense went crazy. It was just one of those high-energy moments. At the end of the day, the team got better," shared Lawson.

At the beginning of his senior year, Lawson injured his knee. After rehabbing to pursue a professional football career, he had a life-changing conversation with Coach Cronin. Cronin said, "You are super intelligent. You can chase this for the next five years and maybe end up on a team, or you can get a jump start on your career and use your brain instead of your body to make money." For Lawson, it was "the most upsetting, humbling, best advice I have ever received. I am forever grateful that he had the courage to tell me that to my face."

Lawson walked out of that meeting with a new mindset and goal. His first stop was to **GC President William Crouch**, who helped him get an internship at Toyota. Then he visited the GC Center for Calling and Career, where Center Director **Holly James '87** helped him obtain multiple internships, build a LinkedIn profile when the platform was brand new, and position himself to be competitive for an entry-level position. Lawson can't recommend the Center for Calling and Career enough to students, "Holly guided me, shepherded me in the right direction that led to my first full-time position after graduation," said Lawson.

After graduation, Lawson went to California, where he worked as an accountant before moving into pharmaceutical sales. He earned his MBA from the University of Southern California. He then entered technology sales, working for IBM and its entire portfolio. His work in the technology industry was financially rewarding, but it also came at a cost to his family with extensive travel required. Lawson took a leap of faith and chose family over money, leaving IBM without his next position lined up.

The network Lawson started building while at Georgetown led to a position at Eisai, a Japanese-based human health care company. As an oncology sales professional specializing in renal cell carcinoma and hepatocellular carcinoma medications, he now has more time for his family and an impactful career.

In sales, Lawson's ability to dig in and ask why sets him apart. To be the best, he continues to educate himself about the products he sells and the needs of his clients. Knowing 'the why' helps him tailor the best solutions for clients.

Lawson and his employer, Eisai, share a philanthropic ethos. The company prioritizes giving back and recently, Lawson and his team volunteered at Gilda's Club, named for Comedian Gilda Radner, the nonprofit provides support for people impacted by cancer.

Lawson's belief in giving back led him to create an endowed scholarship at GC. The Brandon Lawson Scholarship provides support for books and meals to prevent financial barriers that could prevent a student from graduating. The scholarship is small at the moment, but his goal is to grow the endowment to eventually cover full tuition for multiple students each year.

Along with his scholarship, Lawson believes that "the true value of a place is the people who are there. And it's the relationships you build with people that will essentially give your life character and value."

This belief in people is also where he sees his future. He believes he is "built to run a business" and to lead people. His investment in his own education and career, and his mindset of "being big on not giving people a reason to say 'No'" mean that when an opportunity presents itself, he'll be ready.

If you would like to help Lawson's scholarship endowment grow, visit gogc.me/give and simply type Brandon Lawson Scholarship in the support field, or mail a check to 400 East College Street, Georgetown, KY 40324. Lawson is the first Black GC alum to establish an endowed scholarship at GC, establishing a lasting legacy at his alma mater.

ALIGNMENT WITH VALUES

**CAROLYN
SCHNURR '06**



By Bethany Hornback Langdon '93, Senior Vice President for Communications and Marketing, Special Advisor to the President

Carolyn Schnurr, a Judge Advocate with the U.S. Navy's Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAGC), graduated from Georgetown College in 2006. She received her juris doctorate from the University of Maine School of Law.

A native of Louisville, KY, and a Mercy Academy graduate, Schnurr was hoping for a volleyball scholarship when she met **Coach Donna Hawkins** at a volleyball showcase, saying, "She and her husband Bert definitely charmed a number of us. She was such a wonderful and dynamic coach who naturally made each of us feel valued." Because of Coach Hawkins, Schnurr came to Georgetown, in part to pursue a collegiate volleyball career as an outside hitter. But the beauty of the College campus sealed the deal for Schnurr.

Her clear sense of what she wanted to achieve on the court didn't necessarily translate into knowing what she wanted to study at GC. After reading the catalog descriptions for both English and Philosophy, she chose to double-major. **"I wanted to read everything. I just fell in love with it so much. I had always loved reading, but my professors brought the words to life in terms of depth and meaning in a way I had never experienced before,"** explained Schnurr.





An ethics class taught by **Dr. Brad Hadaway** led Schnurr to further explore the written word, evaluate her own values, and commit to the idea of a service-based career. After an environmental ethics class her junior year, **Dr. Norman Wirzba** spoke to Schnurr about her future, saying, "You know, Carolyn, you like to read, write, research, and make an argument about what you're studying. Have you considered law school?" Schnurr began researching just that, ultimately deciding on the University of Maine to focus on environmental law. More than anything, her time at Georgetown developed Schnurr's desire for a service-based career.

"My professors seemed to have endless time for us to drop in and ask big questions," says Schnurr. "In particular, I will forever be indebted to my mentors, **Dr. Hadaway, Dr. Wirzba, and President Allen**. Dr. Hadaway really nurtured the idea of a purpose-driven life. He helped me find a direction that aligned with my values and my desire to make a difference in the world. Dr. Wirzba's guidance enabled me to take that personal ethic and identify a career path that would enable me to put those convictions into practice. President Allen's enthusiasm for literature is infectious. Her classes not only drove me to become a better critical thinker and writer, but it was through her classes that some of my strongest friendships were formed - friendships that endure as some of my closest to this day."

If faculty and academics challenged and pushed Schnurr to grow as an individual, volleyball challenged her to be the best teammate she could be. In remembering her first experiences at GC, she recalled, **"I showed up for preseason my freshman year, arriving at Knight Hall -- with no air conditioning -- in August. I met my new teammates the first night, and then the next morning we were up early to go for a run in the pitch black. It was a shock to the system and an adrenaline rush. It really struck us then that we were all in this together."** She continues, **"The nature of volleyball means that every one of the positions is equally important. The team nature teaches you the concepts of collective goals, shared interests, and a common direction, which are hard to replicate. You have to be willing to take feedback and develop emotional maturity."** In joining the U.S. Navy, Schnurr found the environment second nature; given her athletic background, the military's team atmosphere felt familiar.

After law school, Schnurr worked in policy and legislative advocacy roles in Washington, D.C. for the Humane Society of the United States and the Association for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. But her love for the study of the written word drew her back to law. The question of where and how to do it in a way that embraces service became the focus. On a holiday trip home, the idea of the JAGC began to percolate. Whether prosecuting crimes, advocating for a client's legal rights, assisting with service members' personal legal matters, or advising commanders as part of their operational decision-making process, Schnurr found all the practice areas of the JAGC meaningful. As to why she chose the Navy specifically, she explains, "I picked the Navy essentially because I love the water. The idea of being an attorney who served at sea was wildly exciting to me. Additionally, there were opportunities in the Navy, if selected, to pursue advanced degrees in certain subject areas, including environmental law."

Today, Schnurr is a Staff Judge Advocate stationed in Singapore. As a staff judge advocate, she serves as legal counsel to naval commanders, advising them on legal equities as they make complex and critical decisions. She provides commanders with guidance on existing law, regulations, and rules to ensure they have the information they need to achieve the best possible decisions and outcomes.



If she has a takeaway for current and future Georgetown College students, it is to "be open-minded about what your future may look like." After graduating

from Georgetown, Schnurr crisscrossed the United States, attended law school in Maine, and, through an internship at a California wild horse sanctuary, found her way into advocacy in the nonprofit animal welfare sector in Washington, D.C. Now in the U.S. Navy, where her assignments change every few years, Schnurr continues to experience new opportunities for a life full of learning and giving back. There wasn't one path to a fulfilling career.

IN JANUARY 2026, TWO ALUMNI RETURNED TO GC TO FILL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS



Warren O. Nash, III '81, assumed the role of Vice President for Advancement, where he leads fundraising to drive the College's financial growth. He works closely with new hire and Major Gifts Officer Carl Goodmonson, Senior Major Gifts Officer Mike Calhoun '71, Director of Donor Relations Tammy Owens, and Alumni Relations and Annual Fund Director Kelley Arnold '01. His background at the University of Kentucky Von Allmen Center for Entrepreneurship and the Gatton College of Business and Economics included working with students, entrepreneurs, and researchers on market identification, business modeling, team recruitment, and revenue planning. Nash also served as deputy commissioner for the Department of Commercialization and as deputy commissioner of the Department for Financial Incentives within the Cabinet for Economic Development. He holds a B.A. in American Studies from Georgetown College and a J.D. from Northern Kentucky University-Salmon P. Chase College of Law. While at GC, Warren was a member of the President's House Association and actively involved in the Student Government Association.

Betty Bone '00 was hired as Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing. She brings more than 20 years of consumer-packaging design experience for brands such as Tide, Febreze, and Always. Her portfolio includes a wide range of corporate identity designs, including the 2018 rebrand for Georgetown College. She has worked with Bethany H. Langdon '93, Senior Vice President for Communications and Marketing and Special Advisor to the President, as a consultant for the past four years, designing the GC Moments Magazines, helping create the new tagline, "Cultivating Passion, Igniting Purpose," and designing for numerous GC initiatives. In addition to her design expertise, she spent the last ten years as a tenured Associate Professor of Graphic Design at Thomas More University. She holds a B.A. in art from Georgetown College and an M.F.A in graphic design from Savannah College of Art and Design. While at GC, Betty was a member of Phi Mu, a catcher for the softball team, a writer for The Georgetownian, and a student assistant coach for the women's basketball team.

"I'm excited to be back at Georgetown College and to assist the institution in its growth and future development plans. In the past few months, I've traveled across Kentucky, meeting GC alums. The shared connection we all have creates the most enjoyable meetings and camaraderie. I look forward to getting to know as many alumni as I can. Because once a Tiger, always a Tiger."

"I am honored to work with the College full-time. I've been inspired by the communications and marketing team's work over the past four years. I believe design, marketing, and communications play a key role in shaping all aspects of the collegiate experience. Each audience engages with language and design in unique ways. My goal is to cut through the clutter to drive engagement higher for GC."

CELEBRATING ALUMNI MOMENTS



Bob Lykins '62 and Craig Wallace '86 were elected to the Kappa Alpha Court of Honor during an April 2026 ceremony.

Burney Jenkins '76 will be one of two officials inducted into National High School Officials Hall of Fame 2026 class. The ceremony will take place this summer and is hosted by the National Federation of State High School Associations. During his officiating career, Jenkins has called six Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) State Football Championships, three as referee, five KHSAA State Basketball Finals, and five State Baseball Final Four Tournaments, in addition to countless college contests and a National Football League game in 2001. Jenkins also happens to be the Mayor of Georgetown, Kentucky, one of the fastest-growing cities in the Commonwealth.



Karen Goins Arch '80 wears her original Phi Mu jersey. She and her Phi Mu sisters have been getting together every year for more than 30 years to celebrate their friendship, relive the Georgetown moments that formed them into the people they are, and, of course, have fun.



Chris Sanders '81 received the inaugural Wood Axton Racial Justice & Reconciliation Award from Simmons College of Louisville, Kentucky.



Doug Hendrix '82 was elected Mayor of Statesville, North Carolina. Mayor Hendrix, serving his first term, brings four decades of experience in banking, management, and community leadership.



Wayne Vaught '89 was appointed Interim President of Utah Valley University (UVU). Vaught served as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at UVU.



Larry Aubrey '90 began a new role as Chief Information Officer at Thermosafe, a global provider of temperature-assurance packaging.



After 29 years with Stanley Black & Decker, including her final role as VP of Business Transformation, **Traci Knechtges '92** retired and started a new chapter. She has launched TLK Ventures, consulting and notary services, and Sit. Stay. Snuggle., a pet-care business rooted in trust, compassion, and peace of mind.



Mark Lester '92 recently accepted a Senior Vice President role at Huntington National Bank.



Stephen D. Laxton '93, Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President, has been promoted to President and Chief Operating Officer at Nucor, North America's largest steel manufacturer and recycler. Laxton began his career with Nucor in 2003 as General Manager of Business Development and was promoted to Vice President in 2014. He served as Nucor's CFO and Executive Vice President since 2022.



Knox Thames '96 was appointed as the inaugural Executive Director of the Everett Center for Global Religious Freedom. An initiative of Dallas Baptist University, the center will have a presence in Texas and in Washington, DC, where Knox will remain. With religious persecution on the rise globally, the center exists to inspire and equip students, churches, and policymakers to advance religious freedom for all.



Dr. Sallee Jones '97 reached an incredible milestone at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, completing 1,000 robotic-assisted surgeries using the da Vinci Surgical System. Along with the many hours in the OR, reaching 1,000 cases also represents tens of thousands of hours spent behind the scenes in education, preparation, execution, and patient care.



Kourtney Shewmaker '03 was named Pharmacist of the Year by the Kentucky Society of Health-System Pharmacists. The award given to a pharmacist who demonstrates outstanding leadership, service, and contributions to the profession. The award also recognizes Shewmaker's commitment to improved patient care.



The Arkansas Center for Health Improvement, a nonpartisan, independent health policy center, announced the promotion of **Joshua Cook '00** to Director of External Relations. Cook oversees communications and engagement efforts,

including media outreach, publications, video production, podcasts, social media, and external events.



Tyler Campbell '04 assumed the role of Director of State Government Affairs at Charter Communications. He is looking forward to this next step and the opportunities it brings within the broadband industry.



Brian Landis '01 was recently named the head football coach for Louisville's Saint Xavier Tigers. He previously coached for GC, UK, ECU, Frederick Douglass High School (KY), GSU and Alpharetta High School (GA). While a student-athlete at Georgetown, he captained the Tigers to the 2000 NAIA title game and was named the Defensive Player of the Game.



Enelio Moreno '04 story from a kid growing up in Colombia to a standout Georgetown College basketball player was recently featured on WKYT. Moreno's sons, Michael and Malachi, have also found success on the court for Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Kentucky, respectively.



Cynthia Crabtree '06, a Neonatologist for Norton Children's Hospital, was elected by the Organization of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Program Directors to serve a three-year term as the Council of Pediatric Subspecialties Representative for Neonatology.



Stewart Day '03 was named Chief Financial Officer of Purecars, an automotive customer data and marketing platform.



Devon (Norat) Lee '06 accepted the position of Director of Customer Service at Rocketlane. The company is a purpose-built customer onboarding and PSA platform that accelerates time-to-value and improves project profitability and predictability.



Davonna Saier '06 served as the keynote speaker at the Kentucky Public Library Association's 2026 Conference.

Rev. Ashley Tackett-Evans '00 was appointed United Methodist District Superintendent for the North District. Tackett-Evans is also the pastor of Scottsville First United Methodist Church.

Aaron Roberts '08 accepted the position of Executive Advisor for Policy to the Kentucky Auditor of Public Accounts Allison Ball.



Alex Perry '22 recently joined Harrison Memorial Hospital Primary Care as PA-C. Perry recently completed her Master of Physician Assistant Studies at the University of Kentucky.



Grace Heady '23 graduated from Madisonville Community College with an Associate of Applied Science. She is Physical Therapy Assistant at Faherty Physical Therapy.



Tom Wechman '08 was named Teacher of the Year at Georgetown Middle School in Georgetown, Kentucky. Wechman teaches 8th grade social studies. He is the Social Studies Department Chair and serves as a mentor to other teachers.



Cole Kelly '23 and **Hannah Winn-Hazelwood '24** recently got engaged.



The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment named **Heather Norman-Burgdolf '11** as Assistant Extension Director for the University of Kentucky Family and Consumer Sciences Extension.



Jonathan Alverson '24 & **Kayleen Coburn '24** were married in an outdoor ceremony at Ashford Acres Inn on April 11, 2026.



Kenneth Spears '15 was named one of Fort Worth Inc's Top 40 under 40 for 2026. Fort Worth is the 10th-largest city in the U.S., with more than 1 million residents. Spears was selected for his contributions as Assistant General Counsel at Bell Flight.



Officer **Katelyn Cook '24** graduated from the Department of Criminal Justice Training in Richmond, Kentucky. Cook is currently an officer with the Georgetown Police Department.



Joabe Barbosa '22 and current GC student James Barbosa have broken a Guinness World Record for the 'fastest time to go to every Chicago subway station', completing the full system and achieving this feat in 8h 58m 55s.



Lily Schubert '24 graduated from Emory University School of Nursing with a Master's in Nursing. She also started a job as a pediatric hematology/oncology nurse at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.



Bella Griffie '22 graduated from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law and began working at Sweat & Griffie Law Firm as an Associate Attorney.



Camryn Schmidt '24 completed her Master of Business Administration from Lindsey Wilson University.



Allie Shaffer '24 recently became a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, located in Richmond, Kentucky.

Kylee West '24 joined Penske in Cincinnati as an Operations Coordinator. She works with **Chad Powell '92** who celebrated 30 years with Penske in 2026.

Katlyn Calhoun '25 started a position as a Marketing & Communications Representative at Commonwealth Credit Union. Calhoun supports marketing efforts through photography, graphic design, and community engagement.

Jordan Hasenbalg '25 was awarded the Janet D. Steiger Fellowship through the American Bar Association Section of Antitrust Law. She will be spending the summer working with the Kentucky Attorney General's Office in the Consumer Protection Division

Communication and Media Studies graduate **Eddy Nfor '26** joined the newsroom of The State Journal in Frankfort, Kentucky.

CLASSES NOTES

STAY IN TOUCH!



We want to know about your weddings, vacations, promotions, and more! Scan the QR code to submit a class note.

GET YOUR FREE COPY OF THE 2026 INSCAPE MAGAZINE

Stop by The Alumni House or email alumni@georgetowncollege.edu. Most students published in this year's issue also presented work at the Sigma Tau Delta national convention in New Orleans, where the poetry of **Joana Colorado Gomez '26** won a Hispanic Heritage Award.



IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI 1940s

Jean (Weber) Christian '48
Dec-18-2025 | London, KY

ALUMNI 1950s

Ronald Deering '51
Mar-04-2026 | Louisville, KY

Ernest Cruse '55
Dec-22-2025 | Lexington, KY

Bobby Terrell '56
Jan-12-2026 | Troy, OH

Thomas Hughes '56
Mar-08-2026 | Hillsboro, OH

Donald Humphrey '57
Dec-12-2025 | Weslaco, TX

Eula (Jones) Parks '57
Dec-27-2025 | Lexington, KY

Lila (Gay) Cruse '57
Jan-09-2026 | Lexington, KY

Ann (Perkins) McFadden '57
Apr-10-2026 | Lexington, KY

Ina White '57
Apr-14-2026 | Burke, VA

Eddie Brown '58
Jul-09-2025 | Florence, KY

Jack Willett '58
Oct-31-2025 | Georgetown, KY

Terry Otten '59
Aug-08-2025 | Dublin, OH

James Stansbury '59
Aug-26-2025 | Louisa, KY

Irene (Webster) Orem '59
Nov-10-2025 | Monroe, OH

W. T. Roberts '59
Mar-09-2026 | Jeffersonville, IN

Nick Baker '59
Mar-13-2026 | Louisville, KY

ALUMNI 1960's

Mary (Slaton) Suddarth '61
Apr-21-2026 | Mount Vernon, IL

Pat (Mullins) Collins '61
May-04-2026 | Cumming, GA

Frances (Patrick) Clark '63
Jan-23-2026 | Hermitage, TN

Carolyn (Head) Hood '63
Jan-26-2026 | Louisville, KY

Diana DeWitt '64
Nov-12-2025 | Campbellsville, KY

Jeanene (Nichols) Cocanougher '65
Dec-10-2025 | Louisville, KY

Weldon Harris '65
Jan-08-2026 | Longwood, FL

Charles Noble '65
Mar-03-2026 | Gilbert, AZ

Joyce (Huddleston) Davis '65
Mar-07-2026 | Georgetown, KY

Donald Allen '67
Aug-27-2020 | Shelbyville, KY

Linda (Schneider) Rhea '67
Nov-21-2025 | Louisville, KY

Loretta (Daugherty) Hitchcock '67
Dec-03-2025 | Hudson, FL

Ann (Kelly) Collins '67
Apr-19-2026 | Louisville, KY

Marilyn (Pinson) Walton '68
Dec-29-2025 | Nacogdoches, TX

Terry (Mitcham) Mosier '69
Dec-09-2025 | Kissimmee, FL

Mary (Hendricks) Shortridge '69
Feb-02-2026 | Georgetown, KY

Don Price '69
Mar-03-2026 | Hoschton, GA

ALUMNI 1970's

Aaron Buchanan '70
Sep-28-2021 | Belen, NM

Patsy (Rose) Evans '70
Jun-04-2024 | Gulf Shores, AL

Barbara (Potter) Arnold '71
Apr-05-2026 | Danville, KY

Cozette (Thomason) Hanks '71
Apr-22-2026 | Lawrenceburg, KY

Martha Snyder '75
Jan-16-2026 | Evanston, WY

Deborah (Cook) Herd '75
Jan-27-2026 | Lexington, KY

Melinda (Hauselman) Smith '77
Jan-08-2026 | New Albany, IN

George Kell '78
Feb-09-2026 | Fairfield, OH

ALUMNI 1980's

Brenda Ann (Clement) Wilson '80
Dec-09-2025 | Lexington, KY

Tony Watkins '81
May-08-2026 | Benton, KY

Finley Cisco '82
Feb-28-2026 | Clay City, KY

Leann (Hoskins) Warford '83
Mar-22-2026 | Lawrenceburg, KY

Leslie (Patterson) Clifford '84
Apr-27-2026 | Cynthiana, KY

Thomas Noe '86
Feb-12-2026 | Summersville, KY

ALUMNI 1990's

Monica (Mullins) Becherer '91
Feb-07-2026 | Elizabethtown, KY

Chad Kelley '96
Jul-08-2024 | Lexington, KY

Paul Greenwell '96
Mar-03-2026 | Elizabethtown, KY

Travis Sims '97
Jul-31-2021 | Carlisle, KY

ALUMNI 2000's

Jeremy Shoulta '06
Apr-12-2026 | Gainesville, GA

ALUMNI OF GRADUATE SCHOOL

James Conkwright '69
Oct-13-2025 | Marietta, GA

Jack Cline '70
Nov-27-2025 | Versailles, KY

Linda (Allnutt) Purvis '87
Feb-03-2026 | Eminence, KY

Carolyn (Riddell) Eason '89
Apr-04-2026 | Paris, KY

Brenda Holmes '90
Apr-04-2026 | Lexington, KY

Donna Levi '98
Nov-21-2025 | Cynthiana, KY

Julie (Ganahl) Mullins '00
Mar-23-2026 | Lexington, KY

FORMER STUDENTS

Doris (Russell) Fendley '47
Feb-10-2026 | Georgetown, KY

Jo (Wall) Boyles '48
Dec-07-2023 | Louisville, KY

Roberta (Carter) Wainscott '49
Mar-26-2026 | Saint Johns, FL

Orminta (Smith) Birch '50
Feb-06-2026 | Florence, SC

Lawson Cox '51
Feb-11-2026 | Sylvester, GA

Phyllis (Norris) Terrell '55
Jun-22-2025 | Corbin, KY

Corky Withrow '56
Apr-22-2026 | Owensboro, KY

Nolan Simon '64
Jan-24-2026 | Raleigh, NC

Jan (Pullen) Barnes '65
Dec-06-2025 | Frankfort, KY

James Roettger '70
Aug-21-2025 | Summerville, SC

Dan Stone '73
Nov-15-2025 | Sturgis, KY

Keith Schofield '83
Nov-22-2025 | Lakewood, OH

Robert Stith '92
Mar-24-2026 | Georgetown, KY

FORMER TRUSTEES, FACULTY, STAFF, AND FRIENDS

Ginny Sisk
Feb-06-2026 | Lexington, KY

Tracy Devers
Feb-08-2026 | Georgetown, KY



You may not remember every class you took, but you remember that one person. The faculty or staff member who challenged you, believed in you, and helped shape who you are today.

Because of them, you became you. GC invites you to say thank you in a meaningful and lasting way.

Make a gift to the Georgetown Fund in honor of a faculty, coach, or staff member – past or present - who made a profound impact on your time as a Tiger.

Trees symbolize growth, strength, and lasting impact. As a special tribute, two individuals will be recognized through campus tree dedications.

MOST HONORED - awarded to the faculty or staff member recognized by the greatest number of alumni donors.

GREATEST IMPACT - awarded to the individual whose honorees generate the highest gift amount.



Scan or visit gogc.me/give to join us in celebrating the people who helped you grow and ensure their impact continues for generations of Georgetown students.

COMMEMORATING A TRADITION OF GENEROSITY

At Georgetown College, giving is more than a transaction. Your gift reflects a deep and lasting commitment to the mission of educating and shaping future leaders. Our donor recognition societies celebrate the generosity of alumni and friends whose support makes a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. Whether through lifetime contributions or annual gifts, each level represents a vital role in strengthening Georgetown College for generations to come.

LIFETIME GIVING SOCIETIES

These distinguished groups recognize cumulative lifetime contributions to Georgetown College.

Founders Society
\$5,000,000 and above

1829 Society
\$1,000,000 to \$4,999,999

Highbaugh Society
\$500,000 to \$999,999

Elijah Craig Society
\$250,000 to \$499,999

Giddings Circle
\$100,000 to \$249,999

Belle of the Blue Circle
\$50,000 to \$99,999

ANNUAL GIVING SOCIETIES

These societies honor donors for their generosity within a single fiscal year, July 1 through June 30.

Chapel Society
\$25,000 and above

Trustee's Circle
\$10,000 to \$24,999

President's Club
\$1,000 to \$9,999

Tiger Pride
\$500 to \$999

Love & Loyalty
\$1 to \$499

BECAUSE OF YOU...

GC STUDENTS IGNITE THEIR PURPOSE!



Corbin Willoughby '26

Hometown: Georgetown, Kentucky

GC Involvement: Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity, Pre-Law Program of Distinction

Plans after GC: My years at Georgetown College have been some of the most meaningful of my life, and I'm thankful for the community that helped prepare me for law school at the University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law.



Isaac Harder '26

Hometown: Harrodsburg, KY

GC Involvement: Georgetown College Competitive Cheerleading team, Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, SGA, Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society

Plans after GC: I plan on returning to work as an Admissions Counselor here at Georgetown College starting in July!



Haylee Stansbury '26

Hometown: Nicholasville, KY

GC Involvement: Softball, Kappa Delta, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Aspiring Educators, Panhellenic Council

Plans after GC: After graduation I will be teaching high school math at West Jessamine High School in Nicholasville, Kentucky.



GC GIVES 2026

Because of the incredible generosity of our Georgetown College community, this year's GC Gives challenges were a success. Every gift, no matter the size, helped create real momentum for our students. Thank you to everyone who gave back and made this achievement possible.

Together, you made 1,115 gifts and unlocked more than \$200,000 in matching funds to support the College.



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WELCOME HOME TIGERS

HOME COMING

October 23-25, 2026

The **TIGERS** take on Bethel
Saturday, October 24, 1:30 PM

2026 HOMECOMING WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

- Distinguished Alumni Dinner
- Golden Tigers Celebrating the Class of 1976
- Diversity Brunch
- Fraternity and Sorority Brunches
- Reconnect at the Faculty and Staff Tent in the Quad
- Stadium Tailgating
- Men's and Women's Alumni Basketball Game

Scan for the latest
information on
Homecoming 2026

