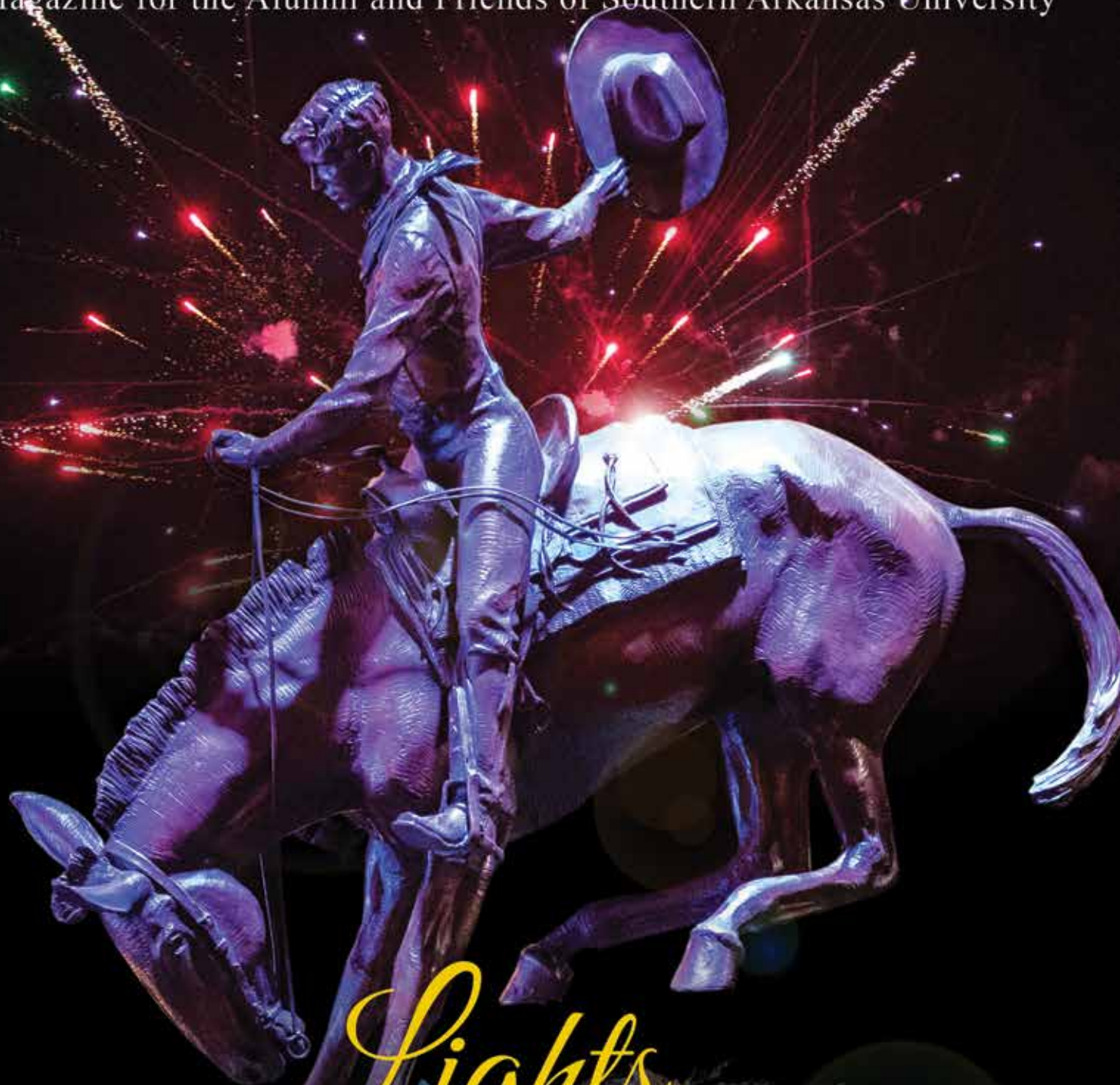


# The Stater

A Magazine for the Alumni and Friends of Southern Arkansas University



*Lights*  
**LOVE AND LOYALTY**

## Securing Our Future Through *Love* and *Loyalty*

During the years before our University's founding, the site where SAU is located was referred to as "Aggie Hill." On that same hill, 110 years ago, the first brick buildings of what was then called the Third District Agricultural School (an agricultural high school) began being constructed.

So much "life" has happened on this same hill for over a century. Young lives have been inspired by their teachers, their coaches, and by the staff members they have encountered. People have fallen in love here, they have found their purpose here, and individuals have shared their challenges and their joys here for so many years.

We cannot forget the legacies of those who came before us beginning with the Third District Agricultural School, to Magnolia A & M, to Southern State College, and finally Southern Arkansas University. We certainly stand on the shoulders of the women and men who worked to make our University the place it is today. At the same time, we must continually set and reset the vision for the future.

Our University today is very different than the one founded on "Aggie Hill" in 1909, but at the same time, it is surprisingly similar in its mission. We are no longer a regional university but a global campus with students from 41 states and 35 countries. We are no longer an agricultural high school but a university with over 80 academic programs and, hopefully, a soon-to-be doctoral program. But yet, we are so similar to that time over a century ago where we molded, mentored and inspired young lives to meet the challenges of the world.

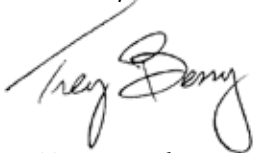
The next ten years will be a defining time for SAU. Indeed, higher education across the United States will be experiencing a drastic shift on many levels. There are many new and varied challenges ahead. How we meet those challenges during the next decade will determine SAU's path for more than that decade.

What will we do to meet these challenges in a rapidly changing higher education landscape? Well, primarily, we cannot sit still! We must remain a forward thinking and innovative university in what is sure to be a highly competitive environment. The public launch of the Love and Loyalty Campaign, the largest fund raising effort in our history, will be one very important way we hope to meet the needs of our University and its mission. We have already experienced the dedication of so many people who have given of their time, their talents, and their resources during the silent phase of the campaign. For that, we are so incredibly grateful.

And, as we move forward with this campaign and with the other academic and student life programs our incredible faculty and staff are putting in place, we often ask, "What will they say about us all one hundred and ten years from now?"

Hopefully, they will say that at this time the alumni, friends, faculty and staff of SAU came together and secured the future of our beloved University. Hopefully, they will say that we honored the heritage of our past, but built a vision for the future—and that we did it with our love and our loyalty.

Sincerely,



Trey Berry, Ph.D.  
President

## Upcoming Events

.....

**March 7**

Education Fair

**March 12**

SAU Career Fair

**March 14**

Making Magnolia Blossom

**March 23-27**

Spring Break

**April 7**

SAU Giving Day

**May 7**

Distinguished Alumni Awards

**May 8**

Spring Commencement

**May 27**

First Summer Session Begins

**June 22-25**

Mulerider Kids College

**June 30**

Second Summer Session Begins

**July 6-8**

Mulerider Teen College

**July 24**

10th Annual Rip Powell  
Invitational Golf Tournament

**July 31**

Summer Commencement

**October 17**

SAU Homecoming



## Want to receive *The Stater* in your inbox or your mailbox?

Visit [www.SAUmag.edu/subscribe](http://www.SAUmag.edu/subscribe) to share your preference of receiving future issues of *The Stater* electronically or by mail.

Also, use this link to unsubscribe or manage additional preferences.





## Campus News

Building a HOME.....	4-5
Cover Story: Lights, Love, and Loyalty Campaign.....	6-7
Igniting the Light.....	8-9
Agricultural Mechanics Teaching Laboratory .....	10
ABET Accreditation .....	11
Around Campus Photos .....	12-13
College Briefs .....	14-15

## Athletic News

Celebrating People: Tanner Hudson.....	16
Sports Hall of Fame.....	17

## Division of Advancement

### Foundation/Development

Annual "Rip" Powell Golf Tournament.....	18
Endowment Opportunities .....	19
William C. Nolan Public Affairs Internship Endowment.....	20

### Alumni

Alumni Travel Program .....	21
Alumni Events Photos .....	22-23
40 Years of Gathering .....	24-25
Global Impact.....	26
Class News.....	27-31

## The Stater

Winter 2020

The Stater is published twice a year by the University Communications and Marketing office as a service to the alumni and friends of Southern Arkansas University.

**Submissions** Please send any story ideas and/or photographs to [stater@saumag.edu](mailto:stater@saumag.edu).

### University Communications and Marketing

Phone: (870) 235-4028 Fax: (870) 235-5030

### STAFF

**Director of Communications** Caleigh Moyer  
**Art Director** Bryce Harman  
**Manager of Web Communications** Josh Jenkins  
**Communications Assistant** Dan Marsh  
**Communications Assistant** Jessica Williamson  
**Univ. Photographer/Videographer** Matthew Wilkins  
**Online Marketing Coordinator** Su-Ann Tan  
**Administrative Specialist** Derek Hall

### SAU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Chair** Mr. Lawrence E. Bearden  
**Vice-Chair** Mr. Monty Harrington  
**Secretary** Mr. Therral Story  
**Member** Mr. Gary Golden

### SAU ADMINISTRATION

**President** Dr. Trey Berry  
**Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs**  
 Dr. David J. Lanoue  
**Vice President for Student Affairs** Dr. Donna Allen  
**Vice President for Administration and General Counsel** Roger Giles  
**Vice President for Finance** Shawana Reed  
**Vice President for Advancement** Josh Kee  
**Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Services**  
 Sarah Jennings  
**Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning** Dr. Jennifer Rowsam

### NUMBERS TO KNOW

Admissions ..... (870) 235-4040  
 Advancement ..... (870) 235-4078  
 Communications and Marketing ..... (870) 235-4028  
 Financial Aid ..... (870) 235-4023  
 Switchboard..... (870) 235-4000



Photos by Matthew Wilkins



100 East University  
 Magnolia, Arkansas 71753

[www.SAumag.edu](http://www.SAumag.edu)

# Building a HOME

SAU has expanded its residential facilities to accommodate explosive enrollment. Ready internet access is one of the amenities meeting the needs of today's students, but campus life has changed in many other ways over the decades.





Photo by Su-Ann Tan

Miki Takei, right, enjoys games with his fellow student residents. SAU has greatly expanded and improved its residential facilities, which offer new safety and privacy features.

Dwight Bowlin, a former member of the SAU Alumni Association Board, graduated in 1974 with a BS in Biology. He recalls a simpler time in which technology played less of a role in students' lives.

"We socialized more on a face-to-face basis," Bowlin said. "All this instant communication today would have sounded like science fiction then."

Bowlin served as a resident director in Talley Hall. "There were no fraternities, so living in a dorm was like being in a fraternal organization," he said. "We never locked our doors."

Talley had the kind of mystique that made everyone want in, he said. "I would say we were mischievous – or instigators!" he laughed.

Linda Harris Barnes, a 1972 graduate majoring in sociology, agreed that life on campus in those days was drastically different. "So much has changed," she said. "I am blown away by the new facilities."

She is impressed by the way new residence halls emphasize privacy. "We shared a community bathroom that served the whole wing and you just had to manage your time to shower at a decent hour. Today there are private bathrooms with doors that lock!"

Barnes said kitchen and tutoring areas as well as access to computers are some of the helpful improvements. She remembers a "mini-kitchen" on each dorm floor and no tutoring area.

Students coming to SAU now are conditioned to technology. "I think about going to the library when I was a student. To do research, you had to pull volumes down from the shelves. Students today don't know what that is! It is so important that we provide these technological tools."

Bowlin remarked that technology has made it less difficult to be sociable. "If you wanted to see a girl, you had to go to Harrod Hall, check

in and wait, and they would eventually send someone up to say, 'Hey, there's someone here who wants to see you,'" he remembered. "We only had pay phones, so there was practically no communication. You'd see someone you wanted to date and it would take weeks to figure out her name."

Bowlin served on the Alumni Board over 18 years and was involved in the development of the new residence halls on the north end of campus. "We knew that if we didn't have a place for incoming students to stay, they would choose to go elsewhere," he said of the decision to create Arkansas, Columbia and Magnolia halls.

Living arrangements on campus today are more luxurious than in the early 1970s. "We were not allowed microwave ovens or refrigerators," he said. "We were not wired for technology."

However, improved electronic communications might mean less interpersonal communication. "People are hungry to know other people," Bowlin said. "I remember joining every club I could just to meet people."

Barnes stressed the importance of residing on campus. "The dormitories transitioned us from living in a family environment to living on our own," she said. "They taught us responsibility."

Living on campus made it easier for students to get to classes or work. "I felt more a part of the campus. I got involved in the Student Senate, the College Activity Board, and dorm leadership," Barnes reflected.

Sandra Martin, dean of housing at SAU, said residential facilities are geared now toward enhancing quality of life.

Since 2016, SAU has constructed 530 new bed spaces to meet explosive demand. Columbia and Magnolia halls opened in 2016; Burns-Harsh and Eichenberger halls followed

in 2017, and Arkansas Hall opened in fall 2019. The University also added 75 new beds by acquiring the Mulerider Pointe apartments in 2018. There are 1,983 students living on campus this year, the highest number in SAU's history. The campus boasts 18 residential facilities, only two of which are not coed. Talbot is for men only and Bussey is for women only.

Many living facilities at SAU are home to Living Learning Communities (LLC). Bussey, for example, is the Health and Fitness LLC, while Burns-Harsh (which houses beginning freshmen) is the Leadership College LLC. This allows students with similar interests to be more comfortable living on campus.

"In the past, a dorm was a place to sleep," Martin said. "Today we offer activities aimed at educating students. They're able to build relationships, familiarize themselves with the campus, and engage more easily in what's going on."

Residential halls are fully wired for the internet and offer classroom space for such classes as Freshman Seminar. They even contain kitchen areas so that students can learn basic life skills.

"We try to teach basic independent living," Martin said. "We tell parents that we hold students' hands as they transition from home to the real world."

"Parents want their children to be comfortable," Martin said. "They want to know they have access to quality facilities. We try to create a feeling of home."

Older buildings such as Bussey, Talbot and Talley have been remodeled over the years to offer students a better experience at a lower cost.

"I realize how much the support of the faculty and staff at SAU helped me develop the skills needed in life and career," Barnes said. "I owe so much to Southern Arkansas University."



# LOVE AND LOYALTY

A Campaign Launch for Southern Arkansas University

The excitement of trapshooting and disc golf, the wizardry of 3D printing and the dazzle of rockets at liftoff greeted alumni and friends on Friday, December 6, as Southern Arkansas University opened the public phase of the Love and Loyalty Campaign.

Love and Loyalty is SAU's most ambitious fundraising initiative, aiming to raise \$22 million in five years. It seeks to secure the future for SAU, strengthening the University's commitment to affordability and innovation. A celebration of SAU's achievements as well as its extraordinary potential was held on Saturday, December 7, on the Campus Mall. Dr. Trey Berry, president, welcomed distinguished guests to the "hallowed ground" of SAU, urging them to look ahead to future generations.

A full slate of interactive activities on Friday highlighted the technology and quality of instruction available campus-wide. Nursing simulations were held in the Wharton Nursing Building, the Theatre Department gave an encore presentation of *Little Women*, and students shared the advantages of internship opportunities. Alumni and friends also toured the new President's Home with SAU's First Lady, Dr. Katherine Berry.

At the Norvell-Cook Engineering Center, alumni were treated to student demonstrations of 3D printing and participated in a rocket launch. Shuttles transported guests to the new Farmers Bank & Trust Trapshooting Facility on Laney Farm, where Coach Steve Crowell and members of the Trap Team provided hands-on instruction. Guests exulted as they pulled the trigger on their shotguns, getting a taste of one of SAU's most exciting new programs.

One of the campus's more unique features, the Disc Golf Course, got a workout as visitors were invited to tee off with members of the 2019 Championship Disc Golf Team. Another innovative program was spotlighted when guests received instruction in gaming technology in the new Gaming Lab in the Reynolds Center rotunda. Faculty and students were on hand to answer questions and guide guests through the technical aspects of this popular and cutting-edge program.

Representatives of SAU Housing took visitors through the new Columbia Hall, where alumni remarked on the comfort, safety and privacy features available to student residents. In the W.T. Watson Gymnasium, Athletic Training students demonstrated their skills, and in the Mulerider Activity Center, research posters exhibited scholarly talents across an array of disciplines.

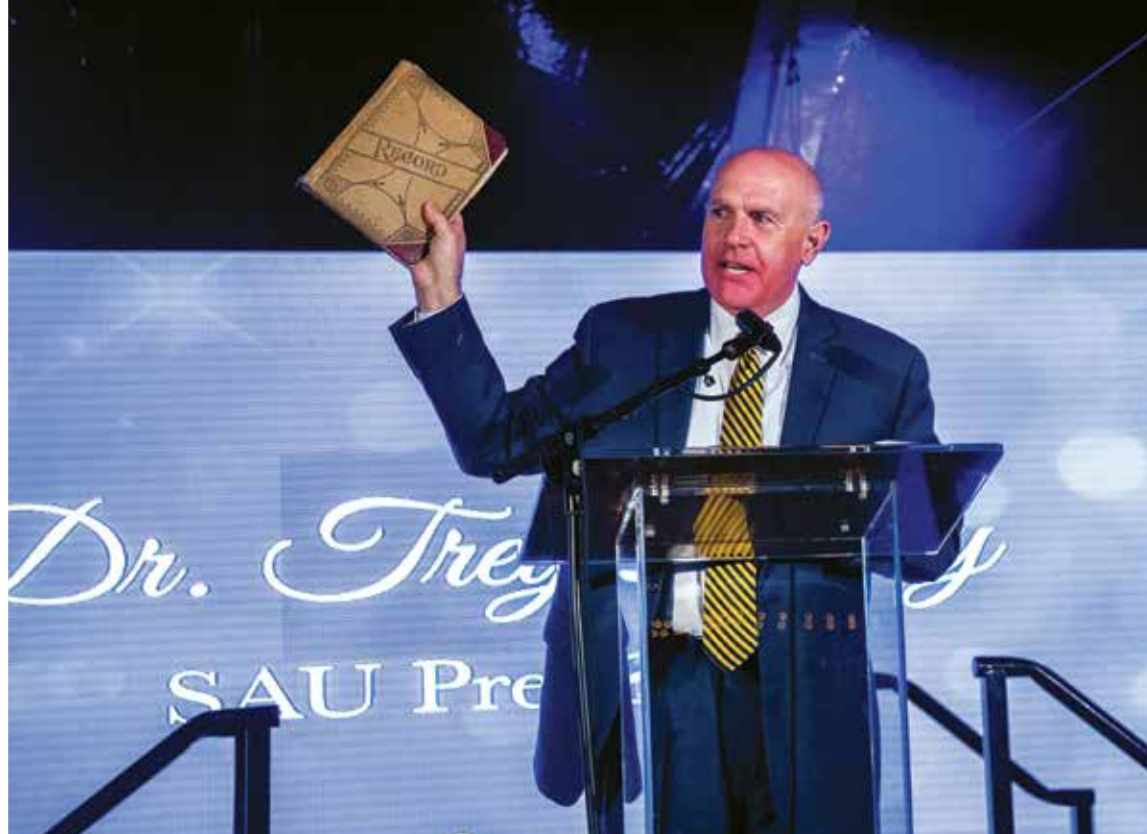
Education major Jalen Holland was among the students who shared their internship experiences during a presentation at Foundation Hall. He earned an eight-week internship as a teacher's assistant through the New York City Department of Education, bonding with a diverse group of students.















## *Igniting the Light*

Saturday, December 7, on the Campus Mall, the importance of philanthropy was driven home by speakers focusing on their personal experiences at SAU. They shared humorous memories emphasizing the quality of education they received.

Beth Galway, a 1984 alumna and an officer of the SAU Alumni Association Board of Directors, asked those gathered to think about the impact of SAU on all their lives. In applying for a position with Price-Waterhouse upon graduating from SAU, Galway said she wondered how her education would “stack up” against competitors from across the country. “It did really well,” she said. “I’ve never felt like I didn’t get the best education possible.”

Joan Dempsey, a 1981 alumna, said she always loved reminding her colleagues in Washington, D.C., that she was “the product of 18 years in the Arkansas public school system. These institutions defined my professional worth and reinforced the values I learned at home. I owe an enormous debt to the faculty and staff here.”

She announced a new endowment in the name of her father, James Riddle ('61).

Theatre major Eboni Edwards shared her experiences on SAU-sponsored trips to New York City, where she and her fellow students got to experience life in the “real world” of professional theatre. “No matter the career plan, scholarships are the path to career success,” she said. “They help us prepare for the next step in life and expand our education beyond the classroom.”

Ron LeMay, a 1967 graduate of Southern State College, serves as co-chair of the campaign. He spoke about the importance of securing the advantages he had as a student. “The work of philanthropy is significant,” LeMay said. “Through giving, we transform organizations, and our giving transforms us. Together, we are able to accomplish so much.” To highlight the value of giving, LeMay announced that in three years, the Leadership Phase of the Love and Loyalty Campaign has raised more than \$18 million. “I hope you will join me in giving to this campaign,” he said.

Ron Harrell, a 1956 alumnus of Southern State, was joined at the podium by a group of children representing future Muleriders. He reminded the audience that they are not only the future of SAU, but that of the country.

Dr. Abdel Bachri, dean of the College of Science and Engineering, related numerous student success stories he has witnessed firsthand since joining SAU in 2007. “It’s all about the students,” he enthused. “Our supporters are stepping up to provide the tools necessary for students to pursue rewarding careers.”

Raising aloft the minutes of the first Board of Trustees meeting in 1909, Dr. Trey Berry said SAU’s successes result from those who came before. “For 110 years, generations of lives have been changed by interactions on this campus -- this hallowed ground,” he said. “What will they say about all of us 110 years from now?”

To learn more about the Love and Loyalty Campaign  
and how you can join this effort, please visit  
**<https://sauloveandloyalty.com>**.





College of Science and Engineering

# Agricultural Mechanics Teaching Laboratory



Photo by Matthew Wilkins

Dr. Trent Wells, assistant professor of agricultural education (right), directs Keshun Solomon (from left), Zane Rogers and Kaytlyn Crowder in cutting steel in SAU's new Ag Shop.

The Department of Agriculture at Southern Arkansas University has opened a new shop that will expand programs and services to students.

The 6,250 square-foot metal Farm Bureau Agricultural Mechanics Teaching Laboratory is located behind the Agriculture Center and was set up by the Fall 2019 agricultural mechanics course students. Dr. Trent Wells, assistant professor of agricultural education, teaches courses in agricultural power (electricity and small engines); agricultural structures; agricultural metals, and methods of teaching agricultural mechanics.

In recognition of its gift of \$100,000 to the construction of the new poultry facility, the University will name the Agricultural Mechanics Teaching Laboratory in honor of

Farm Bureau Insurance.

Several events are planned to be held in the shop. The Arkansas FFA Southern District Agricultural Mechanics Career Development Event will be facilitated by agricultural mechanics students and hosted in the facility each spring semester. Other competitive events for high school agricultural education students are in the planning stages. Professional development workshops for high school agricultural education teachers will be conducted in the shop each summer. During the Summer 2020 semester, workshops in small gas engines and metal fabrication will be taught in the facility by Dr. Wells.

"This facility is an important investment in the agricultural workforce for the state and this part

of the country," said Dr. Wells. "It is modern and includes some of the latest mechanical system technologies used in agricultural education settings."

The ultimate intention is to create "hands-on, minds-on" teaching and learning opportunities for students by facilitating the growth and development of critical thinking skills in the context of agricultural mechanics. "If students are to solve the problems of tomorrow, they must be engaged in the preparation process today," said Dr. Wells.

SAU's agriculture program reflects the complexity of the industry that provides food to the world. It seeks to construct, integrate, expand and disperse knowledge to all students in a positive and safe learning environment.



# Engineered for success



Engineering  
Accreditation  
Commission

The Engineering and Physics Department at Southern Arkansas University has achieved a coveted distinction by earning accreditation from Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, signaling not only excellence in instruction but an educational experience that is second-to-none in Arkansas.

"We have one of the most affordable, accredited engineering programs in the country," said Dr. Trey Berry, SAU president. "Our program meets the standards that produce graduates who are ready to enter critical technical fields."

ABET is the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied and natural science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology. This distinction means SAU engineering graduates will be able to pursue employment anywhere in the world. The accreditation is good for six years.

"We knew that our engineering program is strong," said Dr. Abdel Bachri, dean of the College of Science and Engineering and former chair of the Engineering and Physics Department. "ABET accreditation is an affirmation that is important for students and industry to know as well."

The degree program was established to address local industries' need for a more educated workforce, and the strong desire for "homegrown" engineers to stay in Arkansas, raise their families here and contribute to economic development in SAU's service area.

"There are no other accredited engineering programs south of Little Rock," said Dr. Bachri. "There has been a vast underrepresentation of trained engineers in a part of the state that badly needs them."

The program was designed to address regional workforce needs by providing students with the fundamental and technical skills students need to enter the engineering profession and pursue their licensure.

"We are confident our graduates are some of the best-prepared," Dr. Bachri said. "A rigorous STEM curriculum, the internship requirement, the quality of capstone design projects and the required, hands-on training in the machine shop make our students more attractive."

The three-year accreditation process ensured the program covered the right materials and included a plan for continuous improvement. "It took a tremendous effort from everyone," said Dr. Sam Heintz, chair of the Department of Engineering and Physics.

Accreditation promotes the professional practice of licensure and registration. "Graduation from an ABET-accredited program is a minimum qualification for licensure," Heintz said. "Our graduates will have better employment opportunities and can expect rewarding careers."

This is a boom period for SAU engineering majors, with most graduates finding jobs or entering graduate school. Albemarle, Aerojet Rocketdyne, Amfuel, Esterline, Lockheed Martin, Spectra Technologies, and Lanxess are some of the industries within the Golden Triangle that are hiring.







Photo by **Matthew Wilkins**

Students in Dr. David Sanson's animal science class display chicks they raised as part of their coursework. SAU plans to launch its new Poultry Science program in 2020.



Photo by **Matthew Wilkins**

The SAU Rodeo program enjoyed another successful year.



Photo by **Matthew Wilkins**

The gates are open to the new Farmers Bank & Trust Trap Shooting Range located on the SAU Laney Farm. Trap Shooting Coach, Steve Crowell, expects to see 40 team members on the team next year.

# around campus



Photo by **Matthew Wilkins**

The SAU Theatre Department received rave reviews from their production of *Little Women*.





Photo by **Katie Graham**

Students enjoy the Beginning Freshman Steak Dinner at Story Arena.



Photo by **Matthew Wilkins**

The addition of the SAU Gaming Hub provides the 13 competitive eSports teams a state-of-the-art practice facility.



Photo by **Caleigh Moyer**

SAU set records in 2019 for undergraduate and on-campus enrollment. Undergraduate enrollment rose to an all-time high of 3,584. This fall semester, SAU reached the highest freshman retention rate it has achieved in over 20 years. SAU also has the largest senior class than ever before with an 11% increase.



Photo by **Matthew Wilkins**

Dr. Avery Rose, adjunct professor in engineering, delivers a lecture to SAU engineering students. Dr. Rose works in Albemarle's Research & Technology Division.



Photo by **Matthew Wilkins**

President's Ambassadors sign cards on National Philanthropy Day thanking donors for their generosity in 2019.



Photo by **Kennedy Coker**

Nearly 100 gallons of chili and numerous desserts were contributed from the 60 teams that competed at the annual chili cook off.





## College of Education



Education majors at Southern Arkansas University hold blue and gold shovels to break ground for the new Education Building Monday, November 25, 2019.

- Ground was broken for the new Education Building between Wharton Nursing and Blanchard Hall. The one-story building will put all College of Education programs together under one roof for the first time. It will feature state-of-the-art teaching tools. The addition of the building reflects the growth seen in the college's enrollment.
- SAU preservice teachers collaborated with professors and peers at the annual POP Showcase Conference to present the latest research in various educational fields to their classmates among the underclassmen in the College of Education. This experience models professionalism and provides candidates the opportunity to hone their skills in possibly becoming teacher leaders in the future. Katy Nix '18, graduate of the College of Education, was the guest speaker.
- The elementary and middle school preservice teachers help promote excitement about the discovery of science and promote awareness of pursuing STEM careers. The preservice teachers plan, prepare, and carry out the various STEM activities while interacting with students, parents, and teachers in order to recognize the significance of community communication in a child's education.
- SAU's Aquatic Center received one of two grants funded simultaneously this year by the Blue & You Foundation for a Healthier Arkansas. The grant of \$19,696 will purchase water exercise gear, fitness equipment and hydro exercise products to benefit users of the University's

indoor pool. The Blue & You Foundation awards grants annually to non-profit or governmental programs that have a positive effect on the health of Arkansans.

- SAU's preservice candidates helped host the annual Teaching-Learning Fair on the SAU campus. Eighty fourth-grade students from Camden Fairview Intermediate School benefited from six focus area lessons presented by SAU students.

## College of Liberal and Performing Arts

- With the significant growth in the Game Animation Design program, SAU has approved a new Game Design minor that will allow students from other majors to gain knowledge and skills in gaming. They can then apply this knowledge to their own majors.



Michael Britt, left, director of percussion, J.P. Wilson, director of bands, and David D. Torres, director of athletic bands/trumpet and horn, break ground with symbolic blue and gold shovels for the expansion of the Oliver Band Hall.

- Ground was broken for the expansion of the rehearsal room in the Oliver Band Hall. The physical expansion of the building reflects the explosive growth in enrollment that both the Mulerider Band and SAU have experienced. The band this year is 160 members strong. Plans call for the rehearsal hall to be increased from 3,264 square feet to 6,632 square feet.
- SAU has been selected by the Arkansas Humanities Council to serve as a host site for Voices and Votes: Democracy in America, an exhibit from the Smithsonian Institute's Museum on Main Street program. The exhibit will be located at Beyond the Campus from April 18 to May 20.

- The Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS) organized a collection drive during October for national Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The donations benefited three domestic violence shelters where SAU social work interns are currently placed. A total of 1220 paper goods, personal care items, and canned goods were collected and distributed to shelters in Magnolia, Camden, and Texarkana.
- Seven game development students and one graduate attended the Pixel Pop Indie Game Festival in St. Louis, MO. Students began working on a game through Game Development Club last spring and submitted it to the festival in June. Their game, Return of Curiosity, was accepted, and they showcased their game during the two-day festival. Return of Curiosity was also presented at the Little Rock Tech Fest along with Depths of Madness, Hover for Hire and Altum- all games designed by SAU students.
- This year's annual Creative Writing Festival took place on Nov. 8. The festival offers workshops taught by the SAU English faculty and provides writing competitions for 7-12 graders with an opportunity to win cash prizes and scholarships. The grand prize winner from the 10-12 grade category is awarded the \$1,000 Kathleen Mallory Scholarship in Creative Writing. The awards are made possible through SAU Foundation's *Gerald F. and Betty F. Scott Youth Writing Festival Endowment* which was established by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fincher.

- Dr. Krista Nelson presented on the topic of "Mental Health and Nursing: Assessment and Identification of Behavioral Abnormality within Patient Populations" in Valencia, Spain. She presented on the topic of detecting abnormality in the mental health of patients, discussing the four D's of detecting abnormality: deviance, dysfunctionality, distress, and danger.

## College of Science and Engineering

- Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Arkansas, Inc. donated \$100,000 to the new poultry science facility. Farm Bureau Insurance



made the gift to the SAU Foundation in support of the new poultry house adjacent to the Agriculture Center. SAU will name the Agricultural Mechanics Teaching Laboratory in honor of Farm Bureau Insurance. Inside the First Financial Bank Poultry Facility, Farm Bureau will also be recognized in the naming of the Broiler/Breeder Room.

- SAU's Department of Nursing will enhance its instruction and simulation center thanks to one of two grants awarded simultaneously by the Blue & You Foundation for a Healthier Arkansas. A grant totaling \$149,339 was awarded to a proposal entitled, "Tip of the Iceberg: Patient Safety, Opioids and Drug Diversion among Health Professionals." This grant will enhance the SAU Nursing Science and Simulation Center through the addition of an automated medication dispensing system, iPad technology and faculty training on mental health issues. Dr. Karen Landry, chair of the Nursing Department, is grant author and project director.
- Graduates of the B.S. in Nursing program (pre-licensure track) finished the 2018-2019 academic year ranked third in Arkansas for its first-time NCLEX pass rate, as reported by the State Board of Nursing. SAU nursing graduates achieved a 96.9 percent pass rate on their first attempt, the highest percentage in the history of the BSN program.



Dr. Barbara Rutter '13, left, and Dr. Abdel Bachri, right, at Dr. Rutter's presentation to engineering students about her research in explosives.

- Dr. Barbara Rutter '13 visited SAU to talk to engineering students about her specialty: making explosions. Rutter earned her BS in engineering-

physics from SAU and her master's and PhD in explosives engineering from Missouri University of Science & Technology (MST) in Rolla, Missouri. Her PhD research focused on the shock physics of blast-induced traumatic brain injury, where she related the "invisible" brain injury to observable blast injuries.

- Three SAU math students, Kristopher Johnson, Aziztutu Murugan and Austin Simms, placed first in the International Collegiate Programming Contest. The competition included teams from the University of Arkansas, University of Central Arkansas, Hendrix College, Harding University, Ouachita Baptist University, and the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith. Dr. Hong Cheng, associate professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, served as the team coach.
- SAU dedicated a portion of Laney Farm to the new Sensitive Scientific Study Area, where field research and other educational activities will be conducted by the Biology Department. Scientists will use the Study Area to do field research vital to SAU. The area features many different habitats including a hay field, a stream-fed pond, woods and wetlands, all suitable for scientific purposes.

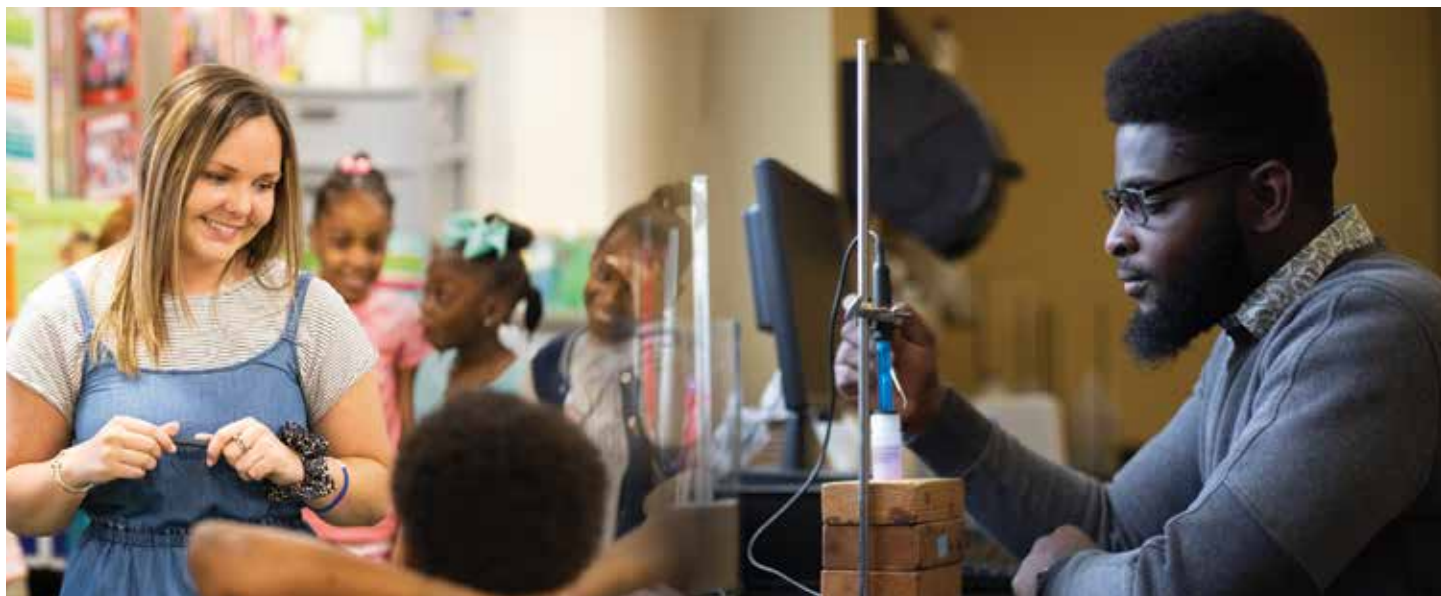
## Rankin College of Business

- The RCB inducted its inaugural Hall of Fame class members: the late Mr. Louis Blanchard, Dr. Ron J. Ponder, and Peoples Bank. Sponsored by the Business Advisory Council, the Hall of Fame recognizes outstanding business leaders and organizations for professional success, community service, and dedication to SAU and the RCB. Dr. Sronce, dean of the RCB, believes recognizing these extraordinary inductees will inspire students, faculty, and the business community.
- Wesley Price and Dr. Jennifer Logan presented a research project, "Is Industrial Diversity Good for Regional Growth?" at the ACTEB conference at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Sept. 26, 2019.



Je'len Berry, current student, participates in a mock interview at the annual Backpack to Briefcase program.

- The Backpack to Briefcase initiative continues to grow in popularity. The initiative, sponsored by MurphyUSA, was held September 30 through October 4, and more than 450 students attended. There were 14 sessions with 39 presenters who discussed a variety of topics useful to RCB students. "The program is one more way that we work to ensure our students are ready for career success," said Dr. Sronce.
- Jeffrey Weiss, author of *Relationship Investing - Stock Market Therapy for Your Money*, gave the Executive-in-Residence Forum in November. The Forum was co-sponsored by the RCB and Farmers Bank & Trust Wealth Management. Weiss is an author, television personality and former chief technical analyst for Lehman Brothers, PaineWebber Inc., UBS/PaineWebber and UBS. He was invited to deliver the Forum by Dr. David Rankin and Todd Smith, executive vice president of wealth management at FB&T.
- Megan Whitehead, instructor of finance, completed the Price-Babson Symposium for Entrepreneurship Educators. Now she is putting those lessons to work in a class that includes hands-on learning and focuses on creativity and innovation.
- Swearing-in ceremonies are not the norm at the RCB; however, Judge Talley made a special trip to campus for Dr. Shane Warrick, who was appointed by Gov. Hutchinson to the State Board of Public Accountancy in October. Warrick will serve until 2024.





## Celebrating People

# Tanner Hudson makes an impact



Contributed Photo

Former Southern Arkansas Football All-American Tanner Hudson carries the ball as a Tampa Bay Buccaneer against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The football life of former Southern Arkansas Football All-American Tanner Hudson took a big step forward this past fall as the athletic tight end earned his way onto the 53-man roster of the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers. An undrafted free agent signed by the Bucs in 2018, Hudson spent a majority of that season on Tampa Bay's practice squad before being promoted to the main roster for the final two games of the regular season.

However, in the 2019 preseason, Hudson emerged as a potential roster mainstay after an impressive four-game stretch which saw #88 catch 19 passes for 245 yards and three touchdowns on 28 targets. The touchdown total led all NFL pass catchers, while his receptions and yards ranked second in the league during that time.

In early September, the Buccaneers announced that Hudson was a part of the team's initial 53-man roster and on October 27, the Big Sandy, Tennessee, native was activated for the first time in his career which came before a Week 8 matchup against the Titans in his home state of Tennessee. The following week, Hudson recorded his first career reception as he hauled in a 12-yard pass early in the fourth quarter in a road game against the Seattle Seahawks.

A two-time All-American as a Mulerider, Hudson caught 143 passes for 2,152 yards and 25 touchdowns. His receiving touchdowns rank third all-time in program history, while his totals in yards and receptions rank fourth and fifth, respectively.

In each of his final three seasons in Magnolia, the athletic tight end recorded at least 40 receptions for over 600 yards with at least six touchdown grabs. He culminated his collegiate career by being named Offensive MVP of the National Bowl game after leading all players in receptions (7) and receiving yards (117), while also catching two touchdown passes. In October of 2019, Hudson was named to the National Bowl's All-Decade Team.





New inductees into the SAU Sports Hall of Fame were honored in 2019. They are pictured, left to right: Ted Waller '70, Ken Sibley '68, Belinda Williams-Lewis '97, Steven Ogden '97, Justin Durmon '02, Rosemary Spigner-Cloud '78, the late Cleo House Sr. '86 (honor accepted by brother, Jerry Smith), and Billy Dawson '91.

# SAU Sports Hall of Fame

Director of Athletic Communications, Jacob Pumphrey



Photo by Matthew Wilkins

Harold Jameson, left, '54, and Billy Dawson, '91, confer at the SAU Sports Hall of Fame Banquet.



Photo by Matthew Wilkins

Belinda Williams-Lewis '97 and her family members celebrate her induction into the Mulerider Sports Hall of Fame (Volleyball).

On October 18 inside the Grand Hall of the Donald W. Reynolds Campus and Community Center, nine new members of the 17th class of the SAU Sports Hall of Fame were officially inducted as part of the university's annual homecoming festivities. As always, it was a star-studded group that included eight former Mulerider student-athletes, one of which was inducted as an Alumni Achievement recipient, and a Meritorious Service inductee.

The Modern Era inductees included Charlie Dawson (Baseball), Justin Durmon (Baseball), Steven Ogden (Men's Track & Field) and Belinda Williams-Lewis (Volleyball). Representing the Golden Era were Billy Dawson (Baseball), the late Cleo House Sr. (Football) and Rosemary (Spigner) Cloud (Women's Basketball).

Between the seven former student-athletes inducted, the group combined to claim 16 all-conference honors in their careers as well as eight all-region nods, while six were named as an all-american during their time in Magnolia. Additionally, the seven players won a collective 13 championships and two players, Cleo House Sr. and Charlie Dawson, went on to play professionally in their respective sports.

Ted Waller (Men's Basketball), a former student-athlete under the legendary W.T. Watson, was recognized as the Alumni Achievement recipient, an honor in just its second year and one bestowed upon a former student-athlete that has had a great, meaningful impact in athletics away from SAU. Waller coached high school basketball for 25 years and guided his teams in Village and Magnolia to a combined four state championships, while also averaging over 20 wins per year and amassing a winning percentage of 75%. He currently assists the SAU Men's Basketball team as a volunteer assistant coach.

Ken Sibley was honored as the Meritorious Service recipient for his multiple decades of work as the original "Voice of the Muleriders" broadcasting Mulerider Football and Basketball and in the promotion of Mulerider Athletics on the radio as KVMA Station Manager. Additionally, Sibley spent over 30 years as a member of the Mulerider Club in which a majority of his time was served in a leadership capacity.

Full biographies of the newest class of SAU Sports Hall of Famers can be found online at [www.MuleriderAthletics.com/hof.aspx](http://www.MuleriderAthletics.com/hof.aspx).



# Golf tournament idea proves to be hole in one



Contributed Photo

From left, Coach Steve Browning, SAU athletics director, Dr. Trey Berry, president of SAU, Coach Bill Koeppele, head coach for Mulerider Football, and Mike Waters, president, Bancorp South of Magnolia, proudly display a check for \$32,000 in proceeds earned in the 2019 Rip Powell Invitational Golf Tournament.

## Projects funded by the Rip Powell Invitational



Football Scoreboard



Football Turf



Football Locker Room

Ten years ago, a group of former Mulerider football players looked for a way to honor former Head Coach Raymond "Rip" Powell. Their idea was to name the Mulerider field in his honor, a decision that has resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars being raised to benefit the team.

"The idea of naming the field Rip Powell Field came up," said Mike Waters, SAU alumnus and former player under Coach Powell, "and we went to Dr. David Rankin with our idea. He was all onboard." To raise funds for the project, several former Mulerider football players, including Waters, came up with the idea of having a golf tournament.

In just three years, the Rip Powell Invitational Golf Tournament accomplished its fundraising goal, and the field was named in his honor.

"Due to the homecoming/family reunion-type atmosphere the Invitational creates, all the participants wanted to keep on playing," Waters said. They have continued to do so since the Invitational began in 2009.

"All of us enjoy playing, but it's more about socializing and getting to see your former teammates again," said Waters.

Over the years, thanks to the generous support of friends and sponsors, the Rip Powell Invitational has raised \$223,000 for Mulerider football. Presented annually by Mustard Seed Wealth Management, the Invitational this year raised \$32,000. The funds have provided new equipment, locker room renovations, and the new football scoreboard, among numerous other enhancements.

"Knowing that we are helping benefit the program is something we enjoy being part of," said Waters. "It is one of my favorite events of the year and I can't wait to mark my calendar for that date."

Powell was selected to SAU's inaugural Sports Hall of Fame class in 2003. He played football and was a four-year starting lineman for the Muleriders from 1949 through 1952 for the late Elmer Smith. The Muleriders won Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference (AIC) championships in 1951 with a 9-1 overall record and in 1952 with a 10-1 record. Their two losses were to NCAA Division I teams.

In 1963, he returned to Southern Arkansas to serve from 1963 through 1979 as football and track and field coach. He was named head football coach in 1969, a position he held through the 1978 season. He compiled a 62-38-2 record over his 10 seasons for a winning percentage of .618, still the second best in SAU history for coaches with at least three years of tenure. His 62 wins are surpassed only by current coach Bill Koeppele's 65, and Auburn Smith's 63, which came over a 15-year period. Powell's 1972 team finished with an 8-2 record and won the AIC championship.

After resigning as football coach at SAU in 1979, Powell served the University as an instructor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation until his retirement in 1990.

Powell was inducted into the Arkansas Track and Field Hall of Fame in 2002.

Make plans to join us for the  
**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Rip Powell Invitational**  
on Friday, July 24th. To learn more about sponsorship  
opportunities or to participate in this year's tournament, visit  
[www.saudevelopment.com/rippowell](http://www.saudevelopment.com/rippowell).





Make a Decision *Today*  
**to Create a**  
*Better Tomorrow*

Create a better tomorrow by including SAU Foundation in your will today. You can direct your gift to any college, any department, or any program. You can create exceptional opportunities for SAU students through funding a scholarship endowment or direct your gift to support Mulerider Athletics.

Your gift will help prepare our next generation of leaders, thinkers, and doers and inspire answers to tomorrow's biggest challenges.

Become a member of the Legacy Society by including SAU Foundation in your will. To learn more, visit [www.saufoundation.org](http://www.saufoundation.org) or call (870) 235-4078.





**Cody Burkhams '14**



**Gabrielle Davis '18**

The William C. Nolan Public Affairs Internship Endowment makes it possible for Southern Arkansas University students to obtain firsthand knowledge of the political and legislative processes in Washington, D.C. It provides internships with the U.S. Congress for students from SAU's Department of History, Political Science and Geography.

Gabrielle Davis, a political science major from Magnolia, was a recipient of the internship in summer 2016. Cody Burkhams, a senior political science major and history major from Hope, received his internship in the summer of 2013. They attest to the endowment's positive impact on their budding careers.

"Interning on Capitol Hill was an invaluable experience," Davis said. "As a first-generation college graduate, I would not have been afforded the opportunity to participate without the scholarship."

Burkhams, who was the program's first recipient, interned with Rep. Rick Crawford from the First Congressional District. He was excited for the chance to work with Crawford's staff and experience life in the nation's capital.

"D.C. is expensive and the Nolan Endowment helped me pursue a goal and a dream," Burkhams said. "I am thankful to Mr. Nolan, the SAU Foundation and to all who contribute to this fund."

Davis was able to work side-by-side with legislative assistants to strengthen her research and communication skills. "I made personal contact with constituents from all over the Fourth Congressional District, represented by Congressman Bruce Westerman, and helped further their interest in policy."

She was exposed to "the heart of politics" and given the chance to network by appearing alongside Congressman Westerman at caucuses. "My experience was close and personal, one that I will carry with me for my lifetime."

Davis said that she is forever indebted to the program. "I'd like to express my sincere gratitude for the devotion to paving a successful political

path for myself and other political science/history majors," she said. Through the Nolan Endowment, SAU has demonstrated its commitment to the careers of past, present and future interns.

The Nolan Endowment was started by Mr. William C. Nolan more than 20 years ago. A U.S. Air Force veteran of the Second World War and the Korean War, Professor Nolan taught political

science at Southern State College and SAU for 25 years, beginning in 1962. He also served as the chairman of the social science division. He held degrees from Western New Mexico University and the University of New Mexico, with additional graduate work at New York University and the University of Mississippi. He retired from SAU in 1987.

"The endowment is one of the most important programs in our department," said Dr. Paul Babbitt, associate professor of political science. "It provides financial support for students who have earned prestigious internships with members of Congress, helping to pay for travel and housing while in Washington, D.C."

"It's a fantastic opportunity for our students to witness and participate in the political process on the national level," said Dr. Helmut Langerbein, dean of the College of Liberal and Performing Arts.

**"My experience was close and personal, one that I will carry with me for my lifetime."**

*Gabrielle Davis '18*



# SAU Alumni *and Friends* **TRAVEL** *Program*

## Islands of New England Trip



**Pictured Above:** Amy Freedman '95, Barbara Freedman, Cathy Cameron '72, Donna Dyson '77, Max Dyson '79, Dr. Katherine Berry, Dr. Trey Berry, Dr. Paula Boaz '74, Anita Cameron '75, Laura Winning '83

## Iceland: Land of Fire & Ice June 3-11, 2020

For current pricing, please call the  
Alumni Office at (870) 235-4079.



## Spectacular South Africa June 2021

More details coming soon!  
To sign up for updates, visit  
[www.saualumni.com/africa](http://www.saualumni.com/africa)





# Homecoming 2019 Alumni Events



Contributed Photo



Contributed Photo

## Golden Rider Brunch



Contributed Photo

The Class of 1969 celebrated their 50-year class reunion at the Golden Rider Brunch held at the SAU Alumni Center.

## Choir Reunion



Contributed Photo

Choir alumni posed with former Director of Choral Activities, Dr. Allen Clements, after singing at homecoming. Pictured from left to right: Zach (Seaton) Stout '11 '14, Xavier Johnson '09, Katy Wright '09, Jessica (Stovall) Pettigrew '09, Dr. Allen Clements, Valerie (Brown) Arnold O.D. '11, Daniel Clark '09, Jonathan Rickert '11, & Julie (Hillidge) Alexander '04

## Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta

**Above and Left:** Members of Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta gathered in the Greek Theatre during Homecoming 2019 to celebrate their contributions to the SAU community. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. was founded on Jan. 9, 1914, in Washington, D.C. The fraternity has grown an international membership of over 150,000 men, promoting brotherhood, scholarship and service. Zeta Phi Beta, founded on Jan. 16, 1920, has chartered hundreds of chapters worldwide, inspiring thousands of women to advance its philanthropic purposes.

## Black Student Association Reunion



Contributed Photo

Ivan Hudson, Jessica (Lawson) Hudson '06



Contributed Photo

Keeyah Flanigan '19, Qua Arnold '18, Khadijah McCauley '18, and Aerial Harper '14 '15

## BCM Reunion



Contributed Photo

Left to Right: Molly Ann, Nancy Patterson '85, Sarah (Whitten) Hersey '85, Mark Lewis '84



Contributed Photo

Left to Right: Carol (Lemon) Landreth '85, Jeff Harrington '86, Mark Lewis '84, Mike Hawkins '84, Sarah (Whitten) Hersey '85, Angela Hawkins, Robert Gunnels '86



Contributed Photo

Left to Right: Mickey Moss '86, Sarah (Caudle) Moss '85, Carol (Lemon) Landreth '85, Angela Hawkins, Mike Hawkins '84, Andrew Cozart '87, Sarah (Whitten) Hersey '85, Robert Gunnels '86, Penny Powell Haire, Mark Lewis '84, Kelly Merrell, Russ Sherrill '86, Nancy Patterson '85

## Mulegating



Contributed Photo

Ken Sibley '68, Carol (Cooper) Sibley '68, Lisa (Hardin) Siegel '79, Janet (Johnson) Rowe '80, Donna (Dover) Dyson '77 '95, Debbie (Dodson) White '77



# Mulerider Alumni Night at the Ballpark

Mulerider alumni gathered for a fun night at the ballpark in Springdale as they cheered on the Naturals and enjoyed networking with fellow Muleriders in northwest Arkansas.

To stay up-to-date with SAU Alumni Association events, visit  
[www.sau alumni.com/events](http://www.sau alumni.com/events).



(Above) Left to Right: Marcus Solomon '09, Sarah Madelyn Jones '14 '16, Kara Foster '13 (Right)  
Left to Right: Sophia (McKinney) Head '18, Lucas Head '17, Taylor (McNeel) Wiseman '18, Justin Wiseman '16

Contributed Photos



Left to Right: India, Augusta, Fiona, and Blythe Eggleston, Sarah (Eggleston) Jennings '97, Amy Freedman '95



Left to Right: Taylor Rowland, Mitch Rowland '16 '17, Suzanne (Camp) Nicholas '85, Nick Nicholas

Give where it matters to you,  
show your

# LOVE AND LOYALTY



#SAUGivingDay

Giving Day Call Center:  
(870) 235-GIVE (4483)

APRIL

7



[saudevelopment.com/givingday](http://saudevelopment.com/givingday)





# The Annual Campout

## 40 Years of Gathering

Golf, weddings, kids, karaoke, beaches, water skiing, and Bourbon Street are some of the precious memories a tight-knit group of SAU alumni have built together over the decades.

The annual gathering, known as Campout, is a ritual for as many as 10 couples, all but three of whom were sweethearts at SAU. The couples have 16 children and 10 grandchildren, and have been married on average 35 years. They have attended weddings and funerals and shared millions of memories. The common thread for all is SAU and the state of Arkansas.

Campout's members are Steve '80 and Joann Kirkpatrick White '81; Bob '80 Dejonge and Tricia Parmely Dejonge '81; Dave '80 and Denise Hester Henley; James '80 and Rene Barnes Cozart; Alex '80 and Sherri McGregor; Lynn '79 Hopper and Ruth Ellen Kirkpatrick '79; Jim '74 and Polly Morgan, and Steve '78 Winfrey and Darrelyn Burrows '80. Since 1980, they have "camped out" together in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas, with other trips made to Florida, Alabama, and, in 2013, Alaska.

"We have been very blessed by our Campout group and the great bond between us," said Steve White, who was part of the original group of Sigma Pi fraternity brothers who started the annual outing in 1980 at Lake Greeson.





After graduating, White and four friends decided to “do their own thing” separate from the fraternity. “We invited several other friends to join us,” he said. “We had begun playing golf and we wanted to be able to play during our outing.”

To work in golfing, the group decided to camp at Lake DeGray in 1981. “We would camp Friday through Sunday and play golf on Saturday,” White said. “We didn’t realize it would evolve into a ‘sacred’ summer weekend.”

The following year, 10 couples wanted to meet in Tyler, Texas, at Lake Tyler. Again, the group would camp, cook, catch up, and play golf on Saturday. The third year, the annual Campout group gathered near Alexandria, Louisiana. “We chose sites that were central to everybody,” White said.

By the early 1980s, there were several children in attendance. “We would meet and discuss the next year’s ideas, and we voted and decided the kids were great but it was hard on the girls to enjoy the weekend with all the care the kids needed,” White said.

The group voted to always meet in Hot Springs, Arkansas, “and now stay in condos ... kid free! We did this for several years,” White said.

Hot Springs gatherings included water and jet skiing as well as a golfing trophy and bragging rights. However, the group decided to expand its travel to Gulf Shores, Alabama, so the kids could get to know each other. “We stayed a little longer so we could get in all the golf, beach, shopping, and, of course, eating at great restaurants,” White said.

The group eventually returned to Hot Springs. Golf became the focal point for the guys. “We wanted that trophy!” White said. “We always had a ceremony on Saturday night to award the winner his prize.”

With “age” becoming a factor, renting a party barge was the new norm

for the lake. “The girls were really good about letting us have our fun,” White said.

In addition to Hot Springs, the group gathered annually in Heber Springs, Eureka Springs and Perdido Key, Florida. “Hot Springs was still home base between the big trips,” White said.

In 2012, and retirement in the near future for many group members, Campout began to go to “other really nice places, more frequently,” White said. They rented an eight-bedroom chalet in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and had fun times in the mountains and playing golf. Most members of the group were able to take an Alaskan cruise one summer, and they met the following summer in Vicksburg, Mississippi, at an historic bed-and-breakfast. “We did a big weekend in New Orleans and stayed downtown close to Bourbon Street, which included a great round of golf at the TPC Louisiana,” White said. “Recently, we went to Fort Morgan, Alabama, and stayed at The Beach Club Resort, which has a great golf course.”

Last summer, the group returned to Hot Springs. “Everyone came, and we even had one of our first-year attendees come back after 38 years,” White said. “We missed him and we reminisced about our SAU days.”

Great memories include their kids all getting to know each other, karaoke in Eureka Springs (singing “Soul Man” like some members did in the SAU Talent Show), and attending Ashley White’s wedding in 2015.

“The SAU memories are precious to us all, especially as they get bigger and better each year,” White said.

As for the 40th Campout? The group is planning to gather in Colorado and New Mexico for cool temperatures, majestic scenery, plenty of golf and shopping ... no kids allowed.



From left, Steve '80 and Joann White '81 and James and Rena Cozart '80 gather for Homecoming at SAU.





# Global Impact

**"Though I am more than 7,900 miles away, I am still a very passionate Mulerider!"**

-Jacinda Passmore '18

A lifelong passion for travel and a heartfelt desire to teach inspired Southern Arkansas University alumna Jacinda Passmore '18 to reach out to students in China, where she has been teaching since Thanksgiving of 2018. Her hard work and dedication – as well as skills she gained as an Agricultural Education major at SAU – helped her win a nationwide teaching competition in China that took three months to complete and culminated in a journey to Beijing.

Her journey began by responding to College of Education travel fliers she had seen on the SAU campus prior to graduating in the spring of 2018.

"They were advertising a trip to China, and I thought, 'this could be my graduation gift to myself.' The tour was through Education First, and I had wanted to go on a tour with this company since I was in high school."

While on the trip, Passmore learned of the company's teaching opportunities in China, Indonesia, and Russia – opportunities that matched her plans of using her bachelor's in Agricultural Education to teach agriculture in the classroom.

She then applied to the Education First teaching program. "I applied to work for the company in China. Only five days after applying, I landed a job there as an ESL teacher."

She participated in the SINA competition for teachers of English, math, music, science, and swimming. The contest took three months to complete and featured three rounds, with the final round taking her to Beijing.

The contest began with five Education First teachers from Fuzhou entering. "We had to make a short video that showed off our teaching styles and philosophy," Passmore said. "I wholeheartedly believed there was no chance I would make it to the next round."

The first round included 19 days of voting and took three weeks to complete. "I had 527 social votes, the lowest number of votes of all the thousands of competitors who entered," she said. "I still thank everyone for their support. My odds weren't looking so good."

However, her score on her video was sufficient to pull her up in the ranks, and she advanced. "In round two, there was no voting, only judges who viewed a second video we created," she said. "Only two people from Fuzhou made it to this round – a local teacher from my school, and myself."

The third round in Beijing was three days long, with about 127 competitors. She and her co-teacher from Fuzhou had four minutes to teach a mini-lesson on a topic of their choice.

In addition to an individual teaching section there was also a team-teaching session. Passmore and her co-teacher had eight minutes in which to teach a mini-lesson.

"While I was in Beijing, I met so many amazing teachers, literally the best teachers in China, and learned so much from them," she said. "I learned new classroom management techniques and new games to utilize in the classroom to spice up my normal routine."

She was the first SINA winner from the Fuzhou region. "It was a fun yet stressful experience," she said. "I never thought I would be teaching in China, I always saw myself teaching agriculture in a high school in Arkansas."

Passmore said that of all the Education First foreign teachers in Fuzhou, "I am the only one certified and the only one who actually studied education in a university setting. I often train and

mentor new teachers. Though I am certified to work with high school-age students, I typically work with elementary-age kids here in Fuzhou."

Her education at SAU has played a vital role in her life as an educator in China. She understands child development, uses different approaches and methodologies to educate multiple students, and is able to communicate with parents on academic steps for their children.

"It's great knowing that my time and service with SAU is helping train and prepare new teachers and educating students in another country," Passmore said. "Though I am more than 7,900 miles away, I am still a very passionate Mulerider!"



Jacinda Passmore



## 1940-1949



**Ray Burns '42** was recently selected as the September 2019 Hero of the Month at KDVR Fox 31 News out of Denver.

## 1960-1969



**Sharon Brian '68** was recently awarded Kiwanian of the Year for the Kiwanis Club of Allen, TX.



**Paula Metcalf '69** recently retired from the Magnolia School District after almost 50 years of teaching.

## 1970-1979



**Mike Weingarten '71** travels to Wisconsin from NJ every summer to spend a relaxing week of walleye and bass fishing with his friend, John Hatch '72, who has a place on a popular lake in NW WI. We

always have fun reminiscing about the good times we had 50 years ago at SSC.



**Danny Bullock '72** recently celebrated 50 years of being in the ministry.



**Sarah Fricks '72** published a book, "Sarah's Scrapbook," about the history of First United Methodist Church in Texarkana, Ark. The book is available in both paperback and hardback.



**Gary Hines '76** is set to retire after the 2019-2020 school year from Emerson-Taylor-Bradley where he has served as Superintendent for the last 21 years.

## 1980-1989



**Lepaine Sharp McHenry '81** recently accepted a new position as Dean of the College of Natural, Behavioral, and Health Sciences at Simmons University in Boston, MA.



**Bonnie Hardwell '83** was recently named the new President of the Columbia County Library Board of Directors.

**Jeffery H. White '83** was recently recognized by Marquis Who's Who Top Lawyers for dedication, achievements, and leadership in the field of family, real

estate, wills-trusts, and probate law. Jeffery is currently a Private Attorney at R. Paul Elliott, Attorney at Law, P.C. in Canton, TX.



**George Merrill '85** was recently promoted as the new Texarkana Market President for BancorpSouth.



**Ken Kelley '88** was inducted into the Arkansas EMS Hall of Fame on May 22, 2019. Ken is the President/CEO of ProMed Ambulance, Inc.



**AR State Representative, Sonia Barker '89**, recently received the Distinguished Legislator Award at The Arkansas Municipal League's 85th Annual Convention.

**Peg Cole '89** was named SouthArk Community College's Faculty Member of the Year. She is with the Division of Health Sciences.



**Don McDonald '89** was recently recognized on the 2019 Forbes "Best-in-State Wealth Advisors" list. Don is a Financial Advisor for Merrill Lynch Wealth Management in Fort Smith, Ark.

## 1990-1999



**Sharon Gathright '90** was recently elected to the Board of Directors of Peoples Bank and Golden Oaks Bancshares, Inc. Sharon currently works as the Senior Vice President of Operations at Peoples Bank in Magnolia.



**Michael Stout '92** was recently named to the Arkansas Activities Association & Arkansas High School Coaches Association Boys Track Coach of the Year. Stout's teams have earned 5A State Championships in 2019, 2018, 2014, 2013, 2012 as well as many runners-up through the years.



**Melissa Goodson '93** was recently honored as part of the 2019 Great 100 Nurses Foundation list. Melissa works for the Magnolia Regional Medical Center and was recognized for her concern for humanity, her contributions to the profession of nursing, and her mentoring of others.



**Dawn Rhodes '93** was recently hired as the new Dance Coach at Har-Ber High School in Springdale, Ark.



**Dr. Sterling Claypoole '94** was recently named SouthArk Community College's Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year. He is a Professor of Psychology at SouthArk.



**Luther Allgood '95** recently published a book "Transition, Deathbed's Compelling Evidence of Life After Death." His book is available in bookstores and digital format.



**Shane Patrick '95** was recently hired as the new Director of Operations for the Pea Ridge School District.



**Melody Ceccarelli '96** was recently named as the Claiborne Memorial Medical Center 2019 Nurse of the Year.



**Mike Phillips '96** and his wife Becky just celebrated 3 years as Owners/Operators of Fit Body Gym-Personal Training in Aubrey, TX.



**Coach Kyle Slayton '96** and the Nashville Scrappers won the 4A State Baseball Tournament for the third year in a row.



**Monica Baker '97** was recently selected to receive the Ralph Hatley Silver M Award by The University of Memphis M Club.



**Chad Turner '97** was recently honored with the Lifestar award for being one of the top ten agents with Shelter Insurance recognized for life insurance sales.



**Tim Anderson '98** recently started a new position as the National Director of Learning for Life/Exploring (affiliate of the Boy Scouts of America).



**Jennifer Pierce '98** was recently named to The Best Lawyers in America 2020 list. The Best Lawyers in America is the oldest and most respected

peer review publication in the legal profession.



**Roy Backus '99** was recently named the new Head Boys Basketball Coach at Horatio High School.

## 2000-2009



**Hayley Barnett '00** was recently named Director of Finance for Caddo Parish, LA government.



**Reverend Eric Burton '01** is the new Reverend for Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



**Serena McGinley '01** was recently named the Sheridan School District Teacher of the Year. Serena is currently a fifth grade science teacher at Sheridan Intermediate School.



**Mike Santelices '01** was recently named the new head football coach at Lakeside High School in Sibley, LA.



**Ellie Baker '02** was recently named Director of Economic Development for the Magnolia-Columbia County Chamber of Commerce.



**Brent McHenry '02** has accepted a position at Ray and Associates Real Estate as a real estate agent.



**Aaron Smith '02**, and his business, S&S Construction, was recently named the Business of the Week for the Magnolia Chamber of Commerce. S&S Construction is locally owned by Aaron and Leah Smith, and his parents, Gary and Lynn Smith.



**Della Miller '03** recently passed the School Leadership Licensure Assessment and graduated from the University of Arkansas with a master's degree in Educational Leadership.



**April Turner '03** was recently named as the new principal at Warren Dupree Elementary School.





**Josh Hayes '04** was recently named Wilkerson & Associate's new vice president. The Arkansas-based company is one of the largest U.S. national jewelry liquidators by volume.



**Genese Lavalais '04** was recently named the new Director for Athletics Academic Support/Life Skills at Hampton University in Hampton, VA.



**Dean Oliver '04** was recently named on Forbes' Next-Gen Best In State Wealth Advisors list. Dean is the First Vice President-Investments of Wells Fargo Advisors in Hot Springs, Ark.



**Ross Sims '04** was recently named the new principal at Eudora Elementary School.



**Jennifer Myrick-Stegall '04** was recently named Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Member at the University of Arkansas at Hope-Texarkana.



**Todd Marshall '05, '07** recently accepted a new position as Pleasant Grove High School principal.



**Richard Reeves '05** was recently named the new Vice President of Community Health for the SHARE Foundation. He will oversee operations and the integration of services between HealthWorks Fitness Center, Interfaith Clinic and Community Wellness.



**Candi Bailey '06, '12** recently accepted a new job as the 9th grade head volleyball coach and Physical Education teacher at Central Junior High School in Springdale, Ark.



**Dr. Brian Baird '06** recently started a new job with the Cabot Emergency Hospital in Emergency Medicine.



**Brandon Foshee '06** was recently named to the Arkansas Business' 2019 40 Under 40 list. Brandon is currently the President/CEO of his own business, Faussee Innovations.



**Chad Poindexter '06** was recently hired as the new Agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Taylor High School.



**Jessica Brown '06 '08** was recently named the 2019 Arkansas History Teacher of the Year. Jessica is a Social Studies teacher at Parkers Chapel High School. Jessica was also recognized by Gov.

Asa Hutchinson for her completion of the Declaration of Learning program. Her students at Parkers Chapel High School made a documentary about the internment of Japanese-American citizens in Arkansas during World War II for the program.



**William Gentry '07** recently accepted a new position as the Ag teacher at Ashdown High School.



**Cassidy Smith '07** was recently selected as the 2019 Magnolia School District Teacher of the Year.



**Nicolas Williams '07 '11** was recently named Teacher of the Year at Horace Mann Arts and Science Magnet Middle School. Nicolas is currently a Career Professional Educator with the Little Rock School District.



**Brandon Austin '08** recently started a new job as Head Baseball Coach for Bearden High School.



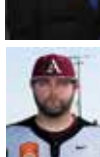
**Haley Burrow '08 '12** recently accepted a new position with Presence in Saint Petersburg, FL.



**Greg Harrison '08** recently accepted a new position with Ameriprise Financial as a Financial Advisor.



**Aimee Bryant '09** was recently promoted to Program Planner at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics.



**Joseph "Dane" Peavy '09** head baseball coach at DeRidder, Louisiana, was recently named the 2019 Coach of the Year. Earlier this year, Peavy was inducted into the Arkansas American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame in Little Rock. During his coaching career, he has received many accolades,

including winning the American Legion World Series in 2016. Peavy also won four state championships (2010, 2011, 2013, 2016) as the head coach of the Texarkana Razorbacks American Legion team. He plans to start an American Legion baseball program in his new home.



**Ashley Talley '09** recently received the MINDBODY Visionary Award for the 2nd year in a row. This award is given to businesses who earned an average monthly revenue in the top 25% of all MINDBODY and Booker customers. Ashley is the owner of Serenity Day Spa in Magnolia.



#### 2010-2019

**Cory Davis '10** recently accepted a new position as the Clinical Operations Manager in the Hematology/Oncology Infusion Center at Arkansas Children's Hospital.



**Juanita Harris '10 '13** recently founded Teachers Support Teachers. Teachers Support Teachers is a Benefit Corporation in good standing with the Arkansas Secretary of

State's Office. A Benefit Corporation is a for profit entity that functions like a non profit. TST's mission is to live out their vision of "Encouraging the Hearts that Shape the Minds." They seek to do this by providing one opportunity per month for self care. They will serve teachers as well as those who spend 85% of their instructional day with students



**Lizbeth Herrera '10** recently graduated with her Masters of Nursing Science (MNSc-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner) Degree from UAMS.

**Sherry Howard '10 '13** was named SouthArk Community College's Outstanding Professional Staff Member of the Year. She was the Associate Vice President for Workforce and Advancement for SouthArk., but recently accepted a new position as the Director of the Longview University Center at the University of Texas-Tyler.



**Joseph Milam '10** recently started a new position as the Field Sales Manager with Kinetic by Windstream in Little Rock, Ark.



**Abby Alphin '11** was recently hired as the new Counseling Services Coordinator for LifeTouch Hospice.



**Stephanie Cooper '11** recently celebrated five years with Peoples Bank where she is currently a Collection Specialist.



**Keith Everett '11** was recently selected as the 2018 G. Thomas Baumgardner Students' Choice Award recipient. The award recognizes outstanding college faculty through a student vote to the SouthArk faculty who is selected as the most helpful, supportive, and responsive to students' needs. Students praised him as "an instructor who is always encouraging and goes above and beyond to help you in any way possible. He is patient and shows he wants the best for us. I am so thankful." Everett received a \$500 check to be used for faculty academic support in their teaching labs and classrooms.



**Kallie Wright-Epperson '11** recently accepted a new position with Bodcaw Bank in Magnolia.



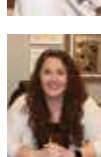
**Amanda Brown '12 '17** recently started a new job as School Counselor at Washington Middle School in El Dorado, Ark.



**Clarissa Sanders '12, '13** recently received her CPA Certificate at a ceremony held in the Arkansas State Capitol.



**David Stuart '12** recently retired as the Band Director after 20 years with the Magnolia High School Band.



**Ashley Tillett '12** recently passed the Texas State Licensing exam and is now a Licensed Master Social Worker. Ashley graduated from SAU with her Bachelor of Social Work in 2012. She got her master's degree from University of Texas in Arlington this past December. Ashley has been working for MRC Cornerstone in Texarkana for the past 6 years.



**Joshua Wright '12** recently started a new position as Management Lecturer with the University of Arkansas.



**Bryan Bolt '13** recently opened his own Shelter Insurance agency in Texarkana, Arkansas. It is located at 4010 Jefferson Ave., Texarkana, Ark.





**Morgan Colson '13** recently accepted her first APRN job at Sona Dermatology and Med Spa in Little Rock. Morgan graduated from the University of South Alabama with her Masters of Science in Nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner last December.



**James Culpepper '13** recently accepted a new position as the Head Softball Coach at Elkins High School in Elkins, Ark.



**Whitley Hill '13** was recently hired as an APRN for Access Medical Clinic of Arkansas.



**Kaci Wallace '13** was recently promoted to Senior Financial Aid Officer and VA Certifying Official for Linden Management.



**Kaylee Wise '13** was recently hired as the new Marketing Director for GBMC & Associates.



**Michael Cao '14 '18** recently started a new position as Senior Guest Advisor at GameStop.



**Grant Dooley '14** recently celebrated a 5-year work anniversary with Walmart, where he serves as a Buyer in the Home Office in Bentonville, Ark.



**Chelsa King '14** recently started a new job as an Outreach Specialist for Austin Community College.



**Emily Markle '14** recently started a new job with Lippian Family Dentistry in General, Cosmetic, and Restorative Dentistry.



**Rashna Oston '14** recently started a new position as a Program Eligibility Specialist with the Arkansas Department of Human Services.



**Mylee Shields '14** recently started a new position as 2nd grade teacher at Range Elementary in Mesquite, TX.



**James Stone '14** started a new position as high school science teacher at Ouachita High School in Donaldson, AR.



**Darius Strickland '14 '16** started a new job as Assistant Director of Facilities, Operations, and Events at Georgia Tech in Atlanta. Strickland previously served as the Assistant Director of Athletics for Facilities and Game Operations for Mulerider Athletics.



**Laura Trotter '14 '19** was recently named the new High School Counselor for the Hampton School District.



**Mitchell Bradford '15** is currently finishing up his MA TESOL dissertation at the University of Nottingham in Ningbo, China, where he is set to graduate in November. He is currently teaching English and Spanish in China while also doing teacher training. After graduation, he will start a new job at Shanghai University as an ESL instructor.



**Jessica Clark '15** recently started a new job at the University of Arkansas - Pulaski Technical College as the Biology Adjunct Instructor.



**Rebecca Jeffus '15** recently graduated from Harding University College of Pharmacy.



**Logan Owens '15** was recently named Union County Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.



**Allen Plunk '15** was recently accepted to Wharton Business School at the University of Pennsylvania - MBA program in Finance, the number one business school in the nation.



**Bryce Bennett '16** recently started a new position as Marketing Media Buyer at Sagora Senior Living in Fort Worth Texas.



**Kristen Cribb '16, '18** recently received her certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional with emphasis on Business Credit Analysis (EDFP-BCA) from the National Development Council (NDC). Kristen

is currently a business consultant with SAU-Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center.



**Amanda Etherington '16 '19** was recently named the Tennessee Lottery Educator of the Week. Amanda is currently a second grade teacher at Donelson Elementary in Arlington, TN.



**Kedrick Jones '16,** was recently recognized as Teacher of the Year in Texarkana. Kedrick is a 5th grade Science Teacher at TISD - Westlawn Elementary.



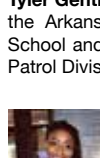
**Krystin Kennedy '16** passed the Arkansas Bar Exam and has accepted a position as a Benton County Deputy Prosecutor.



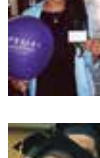
**Ashlie Maness '16** recently started a new position as Dental Hygienist at House Family Dentistry in Haughton, LA.



**Austin Crank '17** recently started a new job as Access Coordinator II at UAMS - University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.



**Tyler Gentry '17** recently graduated from the Arkansas State Police 2018 Troop School and will be assigned to Highway Patrol Division, Troop F, Drew County.



**Mia Hyman '17** was recently promoted to Marketing & Events Coordinator for Table 28 and The Burgundy Hotel, Tapestry Collection by Hilton in Little Rock, Arkansas.



**Texas Long '17** recently started a new job as the 4th and 5th grade math teacher and elementary robotics head coach.



**Elgin Moore '17 '19** was recently named the new Civics Teacher and Varsity Football Coach, Defensive Backs, at Lakeside High School in Sibley, LA.



**Caleigh Moyer '17 '19,** was recently promoted to Director of the Communications and Marketing Department at Southern Arkansas University.



**Nicole Rutherford '17** recently started a new position at Bauxite School District - Pine Haven Elementary as a 5th grade teacher.



**Jaella Talley '17** was recently promoted to Accounting and Operations Officer at Peoples Bank.



**Deon Williams '17** was recently promoted to Cruise Director for Carnival Cruise Lines. Deon is the Cruise Director of the Carnival Sensation.



**Sunni Wise '17** has joined the Arkansas Agriculture Education and FFA State Staff as the Arkansas FFA Executive Secretary and Eastern District Supervisor.



**Don Unamba '17** was recently named a top 50 player in the CFL.



**Gabrielle Davis '18** recently started a new job at the Harris County District Attorney's Office in Houston, TX.



**Esther Etim '18** is competing in the Most Beautiful Girl in Nigeria pageant as Miss Akwa-Ibom. She also announced her first debut single "Ima (Love)" under the name Stonia which is available on most streaming platforms.



**Bryce Fincher '18** was recently accepted into the Master's in Genetic Counseling program at UAMS in Little Rock, Ark.



**Reagan Grubbs '18** was recently named the new Miss North Central Arkansas and her sister, **Ryann Grubbs '19,** was recently named the new Miss Ozark Mountain. They are BOTH Miss Arkansas 2020 bound next summer!



**Jessica Lee '18** recently started a new job as 4th Grade Teacher at Apollo Elementary School in Bossier City, LA.



**Ariel Little '18** recently started a new position in Drivers Services with the Arkansas Department of Finance & Administration in Little Rock, Ark.



**Jessica Miller '18** recently started a new position as Blue Cross Blue Shield Biller in Patient Financial Services at Howard Memorial Hospital in Nashville, Ark.





**Tre Moore '18** recently graduated from the Arkansas State Police 2018 Troop School and will be assigned to Highway Patrol Division, Troop F, Cleveland County.



**Macy Moseley '18** was recently hired as the new Coordinator of Community Education at SAU. Macy will be managing the retail store (SAU Beyond The Campus), coordinating

Community Education Classes, and handling rental reservations for SAU Beyond the Campus.



**Matthew Pierce '18** started a new position as Sales Specialist at Global AG Components in Jonesboro, Arkansas.



**Kenneth "Malachi" Pointer '18** was recently named the new defensive line coach and ISS supervisor at Dumas High School.



**Zachary Silvers '18** recently started a new position as Control System Engineer at DSM in Freeport, TX.



**Taylor Wiseman '18** recently won the 2019 Arkansas Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet for Arkansas Farm Bureau.



**Lisa Antoon '19** recently accepted a new position as the Community Education and Administrative Specialist with the Workforce and Continuing Education Department of South Arkansas Community College.



**David Clark III '19** was recently hired to coach football, facilitate Virtual Arkansas, teach 7th and 8th grade tools and PE for Bearden High School.



**Ryann Grubbs '19** recently accepted a new position at Bentonville High School as an Agriculture Teacher.



**Jay'Len Johnson '19** was recently accepted into the Masters of Science Criminal Justice program at the University of Arkansas Little Rock.



**Clay Lavigne '19** was recently hired as a Graduate Assistant (Strength and Conditioning Coach) at Alabama's Troy University.



**Kelsie Madison '19** was recently hired as a Pricebook Coordinator at Murphy USA's Home Office in El Dorado, AR.



**Morgan Taylor '19** recently started a new job as the County Extension Agent at the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture - Extension.

## Little Muleriders®

**Dillon and Dr. Chaille (Hollensworth) Bates '05** announce the birth of their daughter, Ava Laine Bates, born on July 26, 2019.



**TC '13 '18 and Charli French '15** announce the birth of their son, Zeke William French, born on July 18, 2018. He weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz. and was 20 inches long.



**Blake '10 '13 and Jessica (Anderson) Fulenwider '11 '13** announce the birth of their daughter, Madelynn Grace Fulenwider, born on August 15, 2019. She weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20 inches long.



**Nick and Belyn (Fowler) Graves '10** announce the birth of their son, Ian Thomas Graves, born on May 31, 2019. He weighed 8 lbs. 13 oz. and was 19.5 inches long.



**Chase '12 and Brooke (Watson) Helm '13** announce the birth of their son, Aiden Garrett Helm, born on July 10, 2019. He weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. and was 20 and 3/4 inches long.



**Miguel and Lizbeth (Herrera) Ramos '10** announce the birth of their son, Axel Miguel Ramos, born on June 28, 2019. He weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz. and was 19.5 inches long.



**Garrett '17 and Cassidy (Oglesby) Russell '19** announce the birth of their son, Easton Jay Russell, born July 20, 2019. He weighed 8 lbs. 7 oz. and was 21 inches long.



**Zachary '17 and Jessica (Wallace) Talley '17** announce the birth of their son, Barrett Eames Talley, born July 3, 2019. He weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and was 18.5 inches long.

## Weddings



**Reagan '19 and Colleen (Burrus) Bell '18** were married on July 13, 2019.



**Kory '19 and Alyssa (English) Callaway (Current Student)** were married on May 25, 2019.

**Braden and Lesley (Butler) Echols '09** were married on May 4, 2019.

**Thomas '18 and Sarah (Moore) Gerrald '18** were married on June 22, 2019.



**William '15 and Shatavia (Weaver) Hill '16** were married on July 30, 2019.

**Lane '17 and Kelsey (Key) Hughes '17** were married on June 8, 2019.



**Reyson '16 and Talia (Burton) Jett '16** were married on June 29, 2019.



**Gabriel '15 and Ashley (Quintana) Joslyn '16** were married on May 26, 2019.



**Wayne and Petronia (Dixon) Kelly '07** were married on September 7, 2019.



**Truitt '14 and Keehly (Wise) Key '17** were married on October 12, 2019.



**Blake '16 and Danielle (Burford) Major '16** were married on October 5, 2019.



**Parker and Ashton (Herring) McCrary '16** were married on May 11, 2019.



**Levi and Kristi (Huitt) McDuff '97** were married on July 5, 2019.



**Jason '04 and Haley (Dubroc) Neill** were married on June 21, 2019.

**Kyle '19 and Macye (Graham) Plunk '19** were married on July 20, 2019.





**Mason '16 and Jessica (Arnold) Powers '15** were married on July 27, 2019.



**Collin '15 and Allie (Spruell) Roberts '17** were married on June 22, 2019.



**Justin '16 and Megan (DeLoach) Rowland '14** were married on March 23, 2019.



**Doug '12 and Mylee (Scarborough) Shields '14** were married on June 1, 2019.

**Aaron '17 and Alyssa (Hamilton) Wynn '18** were married on May 11, 2019.



**William "Seth" '13 and Cooper (Fisher) Wyrick** were married on May 26, 2019.

## In Memory of

### 1930-1939

**Lida Ray Vann '38**  
May 25, 2019

### 1940-1949

**Nelle Thomason '40**  
December 12, 2019

**Charlie Wilson '40**  
February 25, 2019  
**Larce Holder '41**  
June 17, 2019  
**Lyman Dumas Maloch '41**  
October 27, 2019  
**Oleta Shepard '43**  
August 12, 2019  
**Wanda Donald '44**  
May 18, 2019  
**Ola Dale Edmond '44**  
June 4, 2019  
**Burnice Towns McWilliams '44**  
May 16, 2019  
**Cathryn Hanson '45**  
May 10, 2019  
**Harold Irvin Tucker '46**  
July 15, 2019  
**Seth Victor Heath '47**  
September 25, 2019  
**Wanda Lene Herrold '47**  
February 9, 2019  
**Mary McEachern '47**  
October 23, 2019  
**Orville Brakebill '48**  
May 15, 2019  
**Johnny Ford '48**  
March 12, 2019  
**Eulos Hale**  
September 4, 2019  
**Golda Mae Lynn '48**  
September 26, 2019  
**Mary Evelyn Sikes '48**  
April 18, 2019  
**Raymond John Touns '48**  
June 6, 2019  
**Otis Walker '48**  
January 13, 2019  
**James Blewster '49**  
April 6, 2019  
**Vivian Arlene Davis '49**  
June 12, 2019  
**Charles Harley Price '49**  
June 1, 2019  
**Robert T. Rosenbaum '49**  
June 24, 2019  
**Virginia Wood '49**  
June 18, 2019

### 1950-1959

**Avis Moses '50**  
September 22, 2019  
**Bobby Fowler '51**  
June 16, 2019  
**Robert W. "Bill" Sanders '51**  
May 12, 2019  
**Janet Raney '52**  
August 31, 2009  
**Mamie Jo Taylor '53**  
September 18, 2019  
**Grady Hillman Cathey '54**  
May 12, 2019  
**Kenneth Lavelle Cobbs '54**  
September 20, 2019  
**Hilton Leroy Bell '55**  
January 28, 2019  
**Rex Warren Dodson '55**  
August 8, 2019  
**Bobby Ronald Grayson '55**  
June 10, 2019  
**John Medford Tissue '55**  
July 4, 2019  
**Wenert Orr Trich '55**  
June 15, 2019  
**Gerald Kinard '56**  
May 10, 2019

**Nell Abernathy Lorenz '56**  
February 11, 2019  
**Betty Reed '56**  
August 24, 2019  
**Virginia McMahan '57**  
August 9, 2019  
**John Edward Beasley '58**  
November 5, 2019  
**James Lynwood Pagan '58**  
October 27, 2019  
**Donald L. Powell '58**  
March 23, 2019  
**Jimmy Keith Rankin '58**  
May 5, 2019  
**Lillian Robertson '58**  
August 30, 2019  
**Jesse Wood '58**  
July 12, 2019  
**Wallace G. Darden '59**  
September 16, 2019  
**Jerry Kendall '59**  
August 31, 2019  
**Vencil Lee Riggan '59**  
October 28, 2019

### 1960-1969

**John Beasley '61**  
October 7, 2019  
**Charles G. Colquitt, III '61**  
July 16, 2019  
**Travis Cannon '62**  
August 22, 2019  
**Dennis Clark '63**  
June 17, 2019  
**Charles Glass '63**  
September 4, 2019  
**Bill M. McJunkins '64**  
July 14, 2019  
**Jack Potts '64**  
May 31, 2019  
**Thomas Bowles '65**  
September 2, 2019  
**John Gaston '65**  
September 12, 2019  
**William Porter Johnston, Sr. '65**  
June 13, 2019  
**Dorothy Hanson '67**  
June 11, 2019  
**Fred A. Hawkins '67**  
July 26, 2019  
**Willie E. Hawthorne '67**  
July 14, 2019  
**Dan Joe Wise '67**  
May 16, 2019  
**Larry Hicks '68**  
February 15, 2019  
**Victoria Holmes '68**  
August 14, 2019  
**Richard D. Stratton '68**  
July 16, 2019  
**David Bryant '69**  
April 28, 2019  
**Kenneth Clifton '69**  
November 25, 2019  
**John C Lowery '69**  
January 22, 2019

### 1970-1979

**Toby Crumpler '70**  
August 17, 2019  
**Craig Andrew Palculict '70**  
October 28, 2019  
**Jack Dougan '72**  
February 6, 2019  
**William Stroope '72**  
June 13, 2019

**Sarah Moore Evans '74**  
March 6, 2019  
**Reba McDuffie '74**  
June 20, 2019  
**Marion Slack '74**  
October 19, 2019  
**Betty Lou Ingram '75**  
July 22, 2019  
**Vera Jones '75**  
September 16, 2019  
**Ken Koen '75**  
April 29, 2019  
**Sandra Faye Mason '75**  
August 9, 2019  
**Jeffery Cook '77**  
October 28, 2019  
**Joe Reaves '77**  
January 31, 2019  
**Mary Ann Hale '79**  
June 7, 2019

### 1980-1989

**Gloria Johnson '80**  
October 4, 2019  
**Charles Harris '81**  
September 29, 2019  
**Kathleen Marie Smith-Rabalais '82**  
July 6, 2019  
**Jeff G. Alexander '83**  
May 20, 2019  
**Bryan Sibley Attaway '86**  
April 23, 2019  
**Ronald Wayne Keene '86**  
August 1, 2019  
**Danny Nix '86**  
October 7, 2019

### 1990-1999

**Bethany Kay Sanders '90**  
July 29, 2019  
**John Adkins '94**  
June 13, 2019

### 2000-2009

**Lanie D. Barton '03**  
May 8, 2019  
**Tishia Ford Davis '05**  
January 21, 2019  
**Farhan Baig '07**  
October 12, 2019  
**Jessica Baig '10**  
October 12, 2019  
**Antonio "Tony" McDonald '10**  
September 29, 2019  
**Bashav Bohara '16**  
2019

### Staff, Faculty, & Friends

**Larry Clowers**  
June 27, 2019  
**James Collier**  
October 7, 2019  
**Robert James Kehres**  
July 11, 2019  
**Ronald (Ron) Lewis**  
May 15, 2019  
**Don Ray McMahan**  
May 28, 2019  
**James Rasmussen**  
September 12, 2019  
**Lewis "Knox" White**  
September 26, 2019



Connect with other Muleriders®

Please send any "Class News," "Weddings," "Anniversaries," "Little Muleriders," or "In Memory Of..." items to [stater@saumag.edu](mailto:stater@saumag.edu) or use the form at [www.saustater.com/alumni-class-update/](http://www.saustater.com/alumni-class-update/).





*The SAU Stater*  
Southern Arkansas University  
MSC 9416  
Magnolia, AR 71753

**Return Service Requested**

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 1357  
LITTLE ROCK, AR



## *Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner*

May 7, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.  
Reynolds Center, Grand Hall

**Distinguished Young Alumni** - Cody Burkham '14  
**Distinguished Young Alumni** - Dr. Kristofer Freeland '03  
**Distinguished Young Alumni** - Dr. Genese Lavalais '04

**Distinguished Alumni** - Jim Andrews '86  
**Distinguished Alumni** - Allan Robbins '86  
**Distinguished Alumni** - Gwendolyn Rowland '86

**Distinguished Golden Mulerider** - Dr. Gayle White '63

**Lifetime Achievement Award** - Edna Cook-Norvell '38

For ticket information, visit [www.sau alumni.com/alumnidinner](http://www.sau alumni.com/alumnidinner).