

# GEM

of the hills

UNIVERSITY  
INAUGURATES  
TWO-TIME  
GRADUATE  
AS 13<sup>TH</sup>  
PRESIDENT



4



12



24



26

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COUNCIL FOR ADVANCEMENT  
AND SUPPORT OF EDUCATION  
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2019

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a *message* from **THE PRESIDENT**

**DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,**

Greetings from the Friendliest Campus in the South! As a two-time Jacksonville State alumnus and former president of the national Alumni Association, I am proud to serve as 13th president of our alma mater.

It's an exciting time on campus. Despite the challenges of the past few years – which included responding to a global pandemic just two years after a natural disaster – JSU remains strong. This fall, we expect to enroll the largest class of freshmen in university history and will open the doors to the new Merrill Hall, home of the College of Business and Industry.

Over the next two years, we look forward to restoring and renovating Wallace Hall, transforming the former Jacksonville Hospital into a state-of-the-art nursing education center, expanding JSU Stadium to add much-needed housing and a new dining hall, and opening the new Randy Owen Center for the Performing Arts.

Please come see for yourself why JSU is still the “Gem of the Hills” at Homecoming on Oct. 9, when the Gamecocks will face off against Stephen F. Austin as members of the new ASUN Conference. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,



Dr. Don C.  
Killingsworth, Jr.  
(’99/’01)  
President



a *message* from **THE ALUMNI DIRECTOR**

**GREETINGS, GAMECOCKS!**

Our future alumni are back on campus and excitement is in the air as the temperatures begin to cool and the sounds of the Marching Southerners' afternoon practices remind us it is always great to be a Gamecock!

Homecoming is right around the corner, October 8-10, and we hope you will be able to join us for a weekend full of activities. As always, we have some outstanding Alumni of the Year award winners this year (read about their successes on pages 18 and 19). Stay up-to-date with all the Homecoming festivities at [www.jsu.edu/homecoming](http://www.jsu.edu/homecoming).

Thank you for all you continue to do to assist in our enrollment efforts. If you haven't already, join our Alumni Recruitment Team at [www.jsu.edu/alumni/get-involved](http://www.jsu.edu/alumni/get-involved). We, as alumni, are the best recruiters for JSU. With your help, we can continue to assist enrollment management efforts and welcome generations to come into our alumni family.

We hope to start our full travel program back in 2023. If you are interested in travelling with us, please email me at [kogle@jsu.edu](mailto:kogle@jsu.edu). We would love to have you join our Cocky Travelers group.

As always, we love to hear from you. Keep us informed on all the amazing things that are happening in your life and we will continue to keep you updated on all the amazing things happening with our alma mater.

Go Gamecocks!  
Blow Southerners!



Kaci Ogle, '95/'04  
Director of  
Alumni Relations



**ON THE  
COVER**

# UNIVERSITY INAUGURATES TWO-TIME GRADUATE AS 13<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT

**H**UNDREDS OF FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, ALUMNI AND FRIENDS FROM THROUGHOUT ALABAMA - INCLUDING THE GOVERNOR - CONVERGED IN PETE MATHEWS COLISEUM ON APRIL 9 TO CELEBRATE THE INVESTITURE OF THE UNIVERSITY'S 13TH PRESIDENT, DR. DON C. KILLINGSWORTH, JR. THE TWO-TIME GRADUATE WAS NAMED PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY ON JUNE 23, 2020, HAVING SERVED IN THE INTERIM ROLE SINCE OCTOBER 2019.



"With every challenge that presented itself during his tenure as acting president, Don rose to the occasion, many times being three steps ahead in how to approach each matter," said Randy Jones, JSU board chair. "His caliber, overall expertise and what he's accomplished have far surpassed our expectations."

Due to the global pandemic, the university was forced to delay the inauguration ceremony for President Killingsworth until April 9, 2021. Among the dignitaries in attendance at the inauguration was Gov. Kay Ivey, who was awarded an honorary doctorate from the university during the ceremony.

"For almost two decades, Dr. Killingsworth has been a fierce

university with a bachelor's degree in geography in 1999 and a master's degree in counseling in 2001, the former Student Government Association president worked for more than a year as a consultant for American College Testing, Inc., the provider of the ACT college entrance exam.

He returned to his alma mater in 2002 to support student success as coordinator of Academic Advisement. Soon after, he was named director of Government Relations by former university president and personal mentor Dr. William Meehan. He was later promoted to chief external affairs officer. He received his doctorate in higher education administration

Dr. Killingsworth is active in the community, serving on the Calhoun County Area Chamber and Visitors Center Board of Directors. He also serves on the City of Jacksonville Industrial Development Board and President's Council of the ASUN Conference. He is a member of Jacksonville First United Methodist Church and Jacksonville Exchange Club. He is committed to strengthening the university's relationship with the community.

"We love our region of this great state and stand ready to assist in growing tourism, stimulating the economy, creating jobs, providing workers, and retaining our graduates in this great state," he said.

## ONE UNIVERSITY. ONE FAMILY. ONE LEGACY.

advocate for Jacksonville State University in our state's capital," Gov. Ivey said. "Throughout Dr. Killingsworth's tenure with JSU, he has shown time and time again that he can always be relied on to do what is in the best interest of this university and its students."

Other special guests included the JSU Board of Trustees, state and local officials including State Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey, past and current university leaders including retired President Bill Meehan, and delegates from 17 peer colleges and universities. The theme was "One University. One Family. One Legacy."

Dr. Killingsworth has dedicated most of his professional career to JSU. Upon graduating from the

from the University of Alabama in 2016.

Throughout his career at JSU, Dr. Killingsworth has been passionate about Student Success, and as president, he aims to make it a central goal for the university.

"For this next chapter of university history – the time we have together to make our impact on JSU – let's double down on our reputation as a student-centered institution and make student success and eliminating barriers to access our top priorities," Killingsworth said during his inaugural address. "From the moment students arrive at JSU, they should be surrounded by a campus community that supports them through every step of their college journey – from enrollment to graduation."

A native of Alexander City, Ala., Dr. Killingsworth is married to JSU alumna Kristi Killingsworth. They have two children: a five-year-old daughter, Collins, and a two-year-old son, Jack. The family enjoys living on campus in the President's House with their dog, Oliver.

Read President Killingsworth's full inaugural address at [www.jsu.edu/inauguration](http://www.jsu.edu/inauguration).



1. President Don Killingsworth and his mentor, President Emeritus Bill Meehan, pose with their First Ladies, Kristi and Beth, at the inauguration reception following the ceremony.
2. Local children enjoyed Family Fun Day on the lawn of the President's House as part of the Inauguration Week festivities.
3. Students held a day of service in the community in honor of the inauguration.
4. Gamecocks of all ages participated in a Color Run and Egg Hunt over Easter weekend, leading up to the inauguration.
5. President Killingsworth reminisces with his Delta Chi fraternity brothers at the Inaugural Dinner.
6. Students enjoyed a barbecue at the President's House with the First Family during Inauguration Week.
7. Dr. Don C. Killingsworth, Jr., is officially invested as JSU's 13th president.
8. JSU faculty and staff enjoyed their own mixer with the President and First Lady – coffee and doughnuts – as part of the week of activities.
9. Guests were delighted that the President and First Lady brought their children to the Inauguration Dinner.

# THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET



**DR. DON C. KILLINGSWORTH, JR. ('99/'01)**  
*President*



**DR. CHRISTIE SHELTON ('96, '02)**  
*Provost and Senior Vice President  
for Academic Affairs*



**JAMES BRIGHAM**  
*Senior Vice President for  
Finance and Administration*



**TERRY CASEY ('93, '94)**  
*Vice President for  
Student Affairs*



**LEIGHA CAUTHEN ('03)**  
*Director of Government  
Relations*



**GREG HARLEY ('88)**  
*University Counsel*



**VINSON HOUSTON ('96, '00)**  
*Vice President for  
Information Technology*



**DR. EMILY MESSER ('05, '07)**  
*Vice President for Enrollment  
Management and Acting  
Vice President for University  
Advancement*



**GREG SEITZ**  
*Director of Athletics*



**PICTURED ABOVE:** Marc and Mary Angle (center) cut the ribbon at Angle Hall, joined by President Killingsworth, the Board of Trustees, and (far right) Dr. Emily Messer, acting vice president for advancement and vice president for enrollment management.

## University Dedicates **ANGLE HALL**

The university re-dedicated its main administration building in April. Now known as Angle Hall, the 90-year-old campus icon is named in honor of alumni and benefactors Marc and Mary Angle.

"The Angle family has been strong supporters of JSU – not just in their gifts, but in their dedication, their continued involvement and their service," President Don Killingsworth said during the ceremony. "They came from working class families, worked hard to achieve the success they enjoy today, but have never forgotten where they came from."

Growing up in the Anniston area, the high school sweethearts came to campus together as first-generation college students. They were both active in multiple student groups. Mr. Angle served as president of the Student Government Association, was a member of Kappa Alpha Order Fraternity and was on the 1980 baseball team. Mrs. Angle was a Marching Ballerina.

Mr. Angle earned a bachelor's in finance from the university in 1982. After JSU, he received an MBA from Samford University and embarked on a successful

career in banking. He currently serves Regions Bank as commercial banking district director for both Texas and Louisiana. He was honored as Alumnus of the Year in 2016 and is a longtime member of the JSU Foundation Board. Mrs. Angle received a bachelor's in early childhood education in 1988 and spent many years as an elementary school teacher in school systems in Jacksonville, Fla.; Atlanta, Ga.; Birmingham, Ala.; and Dallas, Tex.

The couple now resides in Plano, Tex. and share one daughter, Darby, who graduated from JSU in December with a bachelor's in sport management and recreation. She participated in the Miss Alabama Pageant in 2019 as Miss JSU and – like her mother – was a Marching Ballerina throughout college. She was also a member of Alpha Xi Delta Sorority.

"If I had the opportunity to attend any university in the country, I would still choose JSU," said Mr. Angle while serving as JSU's commencement speaker in December 2020. "Jacksonville State University made me the man that I am today." 



## Gov. Kay Ivey Awarded *Honorary Doctorate*

The JSU Board of Trustees conferred an Honorary Doctorate of Letters upon Gov. Kay Ivey for her accomplishments on behalf of the citizens of Alabama on April 9 as part of the Presidential Inauguration.

President Don Killingsworth praised the governor's leadership transitioning from her predecessor, as well as her dedication to the state throughout the pandemic, during a press conference following the ceremony. "Her overall body of work shows that her passion for higher education has always been there, and we appreciate all that she has done," he said. 



## JSU Launches State's First Investigator Academy for Law Enforcement

Alabama law enforcement personnel now have access to better training in investigations following the establishment of the Alabama Investigator Academy. A partnership between the Center for Best Practices in Law Enforcement at JSU and the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission (APOSTC), the program is the first of its kind in the state and only the second in the nation.

"I am pleased to support the new Alabama Investigator Academy and look forward to its contributions toward enhancing the effectiveness of criminal investigations and prosecutions within our state," said Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall, who visited the academy on its first day of classes at JSU's Fort McClellan campus in Anniston on Feb. 23.

The state certified academy provides law enforcement participants 80 hours of specialized training in investigations, covering topics such as crime scene procedures, death investigation, interviewing techniques, criminal law procedures, case file preparation and courtroom testimony. The curriculum is taught by national experts in the field, led by faculty from the JSU Department of Criminal Justice and Forensic Investigation. 📞

## New Student Success Center

To better support students with their studies, the university has established a new Student Success Center – centralizing services and programs such as tutoring and academic support, peer-assisted study sessions, success courses, services for students with disabilities, testing services, student-athlete development and support, and student orientation. The main hub for the center is on the bottom three floors of Houston Cole Library, with additional sites in Stone Center, Ayers Hall and Martin Hall. Its mission, according to Dr. Tim King, vice provost of the new Division for Student Success, is to serve students "where they are" academically while empowering and supporting lifelong learning. Learn more at [jsu.edu/studentsuccess](https://jsu.edu/studentsuccess). 📞

## University Offers Corporate Scholarships to Local Chamber Members

JSU has partnered with the Calhoun County Area Chamber and Visitors Center and the Gadsden/Etowah County Chamber to offer corporate tuition scholarships for chamber members.

Beginning in Fall 2021, the university will offer a 20 percent corporate tuition scholarship per semester to full-time and part-time workers employed by member organizations of the Calhoun County and Gadsden/Etowah County chambers. Application fees are also waived, providing an additional \$35 in savings. The scholarship cannot be combined with

other university-funded scholarships and discounts, but employees are encouraged to meet with their employer to discuss corporate matching programs.

For more information on the scholarship program, visit [www.jsu.edu/partnerships](https://www.jsu.edu/partnerships). Companies and organizations interested in creating corporate partnerships with JSU can learn more at [www.jsu.edu/partnerships/become-partner.html](https://www.jsu.edu/partnerships/become-partner.html). 📞



# WOODRUFF

## First to Receive **All Three Degrees** from JSU

Royce Woodruff's career has been defined by knowing the right moment to turn on the TV news. Call it fate, destiny or coincidence. Either way, those who know him have learned to call him something else – Doctor.

In May 2018, he was awarded a doctoral degree in emergency management from JSU, becoming the first student to earn all three degrees – bachelor's, master's and doctorate – from the university.

Woodruff arrived on campus from his home in Gainesville, Ga. in 1990. The moment his father dropped him off at Weatherly Hall, he knew he belonged.

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**“From day one, JSU felt like home,” he said. “JSU totally lives up to that motto of ‘Friendliest Campus in the South.’ I honestly can’t remember ever having a bad day.”**

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“From day one, JSU felt like home,” he said. “JSU totally lives up to that motto of ‘Friendliest Campus in the South.’ I honestly can’t remember ever having a bad day.”

Woodruff graduated in 1994 with a degree in sociology. He was living in Atlanta, working in IT, when he turned on the news on Sept. 11, 2001, and watched live as the hijacked planes crashed into the World Trade Center. Were it not for his wife and kids, he would have joined the Army. Instead, he decided to go back to JSU to get his master's degree in emergency management. “I felt like I needed to give back,” he said.

The timing was perfect, as JSU had just launched its MPA program in emergency management. Because the courses were offered online, he was able to study and work at the same time. He graduated in July 2004. By August, he was working with FEMA, assisting with cleanup in Florida, which had been devastated by a series of hurricanes.

Woodruff specializes in disaster recovery, assisting communities with rebuilding. “It’s great coming into a situation where people and things are broken and helping fix that,” he said. “I know the things we do are going to last a lifetime.”

In 2010, JSU became the first university in the Southeast and one of only four in the nation to offer a Doctorate in Emergency Management. He enrolled, but before he became Dr. Woodruff, he was going to have to put his education to use in the last place he imagined.

On March 19, 2018, he was working with Innovative Emergency Management, a private consulting firm, assisting with the Hurricane Harvey recovery in Texas, when he turned on the TV and saw the morning news coverage of the EF-3 tornado that had hit his alma mater.

“I totally freaked out,” he said. “It felt like someone had just broken into my home. I couldn’t believe what I was seeing and hearing. I wanted to take all the knowledge and tools that I’d gotten from my

experiences and use those to help JSU.”

As luck would have it, JSU actually hired IEM to help with its recovery, allowing him to personally supervise what can only be considered a rebirth.

“When it’s all over, JSU is going to come out of all of this better and stronger,” he said in 2019. “It will be state-of-the-art in every way possible, which will help to attract better faculty and even more students. It will truly transform the campus.”

Woodruff was awarded his doctorate from JSU at the May 2018 ceremony – when the entire graduating class gathered in JSU Stadium for the first commencement since the tornado. After graduating, he donated \$500 towards an annual scholarship for the emergency management doctoral program. He continues to stay involved as president of an alumni chapter of Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

While he’s proud of being the first alumnus to receive all three

degrees from JSU, with the addition of a second doctorate on campus – the Doctor of Nursing Practice – and a Doctorate of Education in the works, Dr. Woodruff knows he won’t be the last to accomplish this feat.

“Oh, there will be others,” he said. 🙌

## Drew Linn Appointed to Board of Trustees

Gov. Kay Ivey recently appointed Drew Linn of Tuscaloosa to the JSU Board of Trustees. He represents the 7th Congressional District, filling a seat left vacant by Thomas Dedrick, Sr., who served a 12-year term on the board.

Native to Jefferson County, Linn graduated from Birmingham’s West End High School before enrolling at JSU. He earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the university in 1970 and began building and acquiring dealerships representing International Truck and Engine Corporation, Idealease and IC Bus. He is CEO of Southland Transportation Group, which has locations in Tuscaloosa, Montgomery, Homewood, Birmingham and Huntsville as well as associate dealerships in Pine Hill and Vernon.

Linn is a member and former chair of the Alabama Trucking Association, which awarded him the H. Chester Webb Distinguished Service Award. He has also served on several Dealer Advisory Boards for Navistar. He has received numerous trucking industry honors, including IC Southeast Bus Dealer of the Year, International Dealer of the Year, International Circle of Excellence and American Truck Dealer of the Year.

In addition to his new appointment to the JSU Board of Trustees, Linn has a long history of lending his business acumen in service to Alabama’s colleges and universities. He served on the Alabama Commission for Higher Education (ACHE) from 2006 to 2015, spending his last year on the board as its chairman. He is also a member and former chair of the Foundation Board at



Shelton State Community College and previously served on the University of Alabama’s Center for Transportation’s Advisory Board.

In the community, Linn serves on the Board of Directors for West Alabama Bank & Trust and is a past member of the West Alabama Regional Commission. He has been a member of the Tuscaloosa Chamber of Commerce since 1978, which named him Business Man of the Year in 1997. He has also enjoyed participating in the City of Tuscaloosa’s Adopt-a-School Program since its inception.

He and his wife, Tresa Joy Noles, reside in Tuscaloosa and have two children and three grandchildren. 🙌



# New *Randy Owen* Center to Serve as Beacon for Cultural Arts

**R**ANDY OWEN HAS INFLUENCED AND INSPIRED GENERATIONS OF MUSICIANS AS LEAD SINGER OF ONE OF COUNTRY MUSIC'S MOST ICONIC BANDS, ALABAMA. TO HONOR THE LEGACY OF THIS OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS, JSU RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PLANS TO BUILD THE RANDY OWEN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS ON CAMPUS.

"JSU has long been recognized as a birthplace for outstanding musicians and performers, chief among them Mr. Randy Owen," said Dr. Don Killingsworth, JSU president. "The addition of this world-class facility, along with a recently renovated and modernized Mason Hall, will take JSU to the next level — rivaling any performing arts program in the nation."

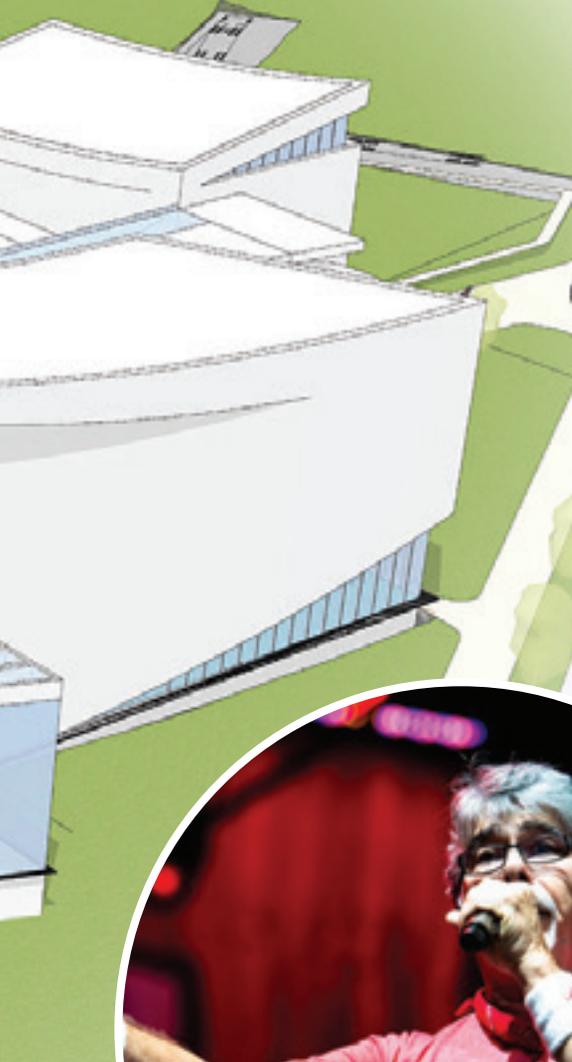
Owen graduated from JSU in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in

English, having spent his weekends and down time between classes pursuing his music career alongside his cousins in a band named after their home state. In 1980, Alabama was signed to RCA Records, and the rest is music history.

Alabama released 21 gold, platinum and multiplatinum albums, as well as 42 number-one singles, before announcing retirement in 2002. The band has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, was named the Academy

of Country Music's Artist of the Decade in 1989, the Recording Industry Association of America's Country Group of the Century in 1999, and was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2005.

The new Randy Owen Center for the Performing Arts, or ROC, will immortalize the alumnus and current member of the Board of Trustees while strengthening JSU's mission of providing distinctive educational, cultural and social



more important is the thought of seeing kids – and adults – utilizing the ROC in so many beneficial ways. Our family’s hope is that the ROC serves as a foundation of inspiration to others, regardless of where they come from, giving them courage to follow their dreams and leading them where they want to go in life.”

While building designs are still being finalized, the ROC will include a 1,000-seat music hall and large rehearsal spaces, providing JSU performers with an appropriate venue worthy of their talents. The

rehearsal spaces will include an indoor rehearsal room for the Marching Southerners, which has outgrown its space in Mason Hall.

“Just the thought of our students being able

to perform in the new ROC is a dream come true,” said Dr. Andy Nevala, Director of Jazz Studies at JSU. “We will now have a world-class facility that will inspire our JSU community to experience, appreciate and embrace the transformational power of the performing arts. The ROC will reaffirm JSU’s place as a leader in Alabama and our region, creating a welcoming place to foster the growth and appreciation of diverse cultural experiences.”

experiences for students. The facility will serve as a professional venue for music and theatre students’ performances.

“This is such an exciting and humbling experience, to see such an impactful facility being named in honor of Randy: a husband, dad, granddad and true artist and humanitarian who has given so much to the world,” said Kelly Owen, his wife of more than 40 years and honorary chair of the building committee. “And even

Students are also excited about the new center.

The ROC will provide JSU the opportunity to host regional and state music and theatre competitions. It will also offer a local venue for performances by touring theatre and musical productions and concerts by professional musicians.

The building will be erected next to JSU’s Houston Cole Library, on the site of College Apartments, across Roebuck Waters Street from the Alumni Lawn. The state-of-the-art facility will be highly visible on Pelham Road, just across the street from Angle Hall. The groundbreaking is projected to take place by early 2022, with construction completion expected by Fall 2023.

Gov. Kay Ivey has allocated \$15 million from the state’s Public School and College Authority for the project. The university is leading a \$30-million national fundraising campaign to complete construction. Several naming opportunities are available in the building. For more information, contact University Development at [256-782-5605](tel:256-782-5605). 



## identical TRIPLETS GRADUATE FROM JSU

Graduating from college is bittersweet. For Karla, Kayla and Kristi Riley, those emotions were tripled at commencement in May. The rare identical triplets are now going their separate ways for the first time in 24 years.

Raised in Center Point, Ala., they enrolled at JSU in 2016 after graduating from Gardendale High School. But while they look the same, the Rileys hunger for individuality, which was reflected in their academic pursuits. Kayla, the firstborn, earned an art degree and plans to become a graphic designer. Kristi, possibly the middle triplet (things got confusing in the delivery room), received a bachelor's in forensic investigation with a minor in psychology. She wants to work as a forensic psychologist, interviewing and interrogating those involved in criminal investigations. Karla, who has earned a biology degree, intends to become a hematologist.

While their duplicity confused faculty, staff and students in the beginning, it didn't take long for the Rileys to find their place on campus. Each said they enjoyed their own departmental families, where they were able to learn and grow outside one another's shadow. "This gave us our individuality," said Kayla. "Each department was our home. That's what I am going to miss most."



## INTERNATIONAL HOUSE CELEBRATES 75 YEARS

as Jacksonville State's  
Window on the World

In October, the Jones International House Program will celebrate a huge milestone for a program which began in 1946 with four exchange students from France, and today boasts over 2,000 alumni from six continents around the world. Today, this cultural and educational program provides a home for 40 students, pairing an American with an international roommate for up to four semesters on campus.

"Know One Another and You Will Love One Another" is not only the program's motto, but serves as a conduit for promoting global peace between nations, languages and cultures around the world. 🌍

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For more information on the program and the 75th reunion celebration, visit [www.jsu.edu/ihopreunion](http://www.jsu.edu/ihopreunion)

save the date for  
**HOMECOMING**  
**2021**

October 8-10

**friday, october 8**

- Class of 1970 & 1971  
50<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration
- ROTC Alumni Banquet

**saturday, october 9**

- President Open House, 9-10 a.m.
- Homecoming Parade, 10:30 a.m.
- JSU vs. Stephen F. Austin, 3 p.m.
- Alumni of the Year Award Winners/  
Homecoming Queen and King  
Recognition

**sunday, october 10**

- U.N. Day Tea, 2 p.m.

WITH ALUMNI

For more details on Homecoming,  
visit [www.jsu.edu/homecoming](http://www.jsu.edu/homecoming)





A SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN FOR JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY.™

In 2020, Jacksonville State University established the Bridge the Gap Scholarship program to assist students with a financial need, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past year, the Bridge the Gap Scholarship program has helped over 100 students remain enrolled at JSU.

When Bridge the Gap Scholarship recipient, TiYanna Saunders was asked to reflect on the scholarship she received, she said, “This scholarship has provided me motivation to excel at Jacksonville State University.” Jamiah Davis said, “The Bridge the Gap Scholarship has impacted me in the most helpful way possible, and I will be forever grateful for the donations made by alumni and friends investing in our future.” Adalis Brown said, “This scholarship has made it so evident that JSU cares for their students. With this scholarship, I am able to meet my needs as a student to become successful after leaving Jacksonville State University.”

Even in a typical year, students may find there is a gap between available funding and the realistic cost of a quality education. The Bridge the Gap Scholarship program is intended to help meet those financial needs to ensure students can remain enrolled without interruption. The program is fully funded by generous donations from alumni and friends of the university. By making a donation, you become a part of a student’s success story at JSU. 📞

To contribute to the Bridge the Gap Campaign:  
Text **GAPJSU** to **71777**, or visit [www.jsu.edu/givejsu](http://www.jsu.edu/givejsu).

Make checks payable to the JSU Foundation and mail to:

**JSU Foundation**  
Attn: Bridge the Gap Campaign  
700 Pelham Road N  
Jacksonville, AL 36265



## JSU ANNUAL PHONE-A-THON WILL START BACK SOON!

During the fall and spring each semester, JSU students will be calling you soon to ask for your support of our programs and scholarships. You determine where you want your donation to go! Every donation, no matter the amount, makes a difference for our students. So when you see Jacksonville State University or 256.782.XXXX on your caller ID, you will know it is us trying to reach you.

Connect With Us!



/JSUALUMNIASSOCIATION



/JSUALUMNI



/JSU\_Alumni

## RED TIE AUCTION EVENT

The Office of Alumni Relations and the JSU Annual Fund hosted JSU's Red Tie Online Auction in place of the fourth annual Red Tie Dinner and Auction on February 19, 2021. Safety concerns and COVID restrictions prevented guests from participating in person, so the entire event was hosted online over the weekend. The JSU Red Tie Online Auction generated over \$54,000 for the JSU Annual Fund, benefiting specific schools and programs across campus.

The Red Tie Online Auction was held in conjunction with JSU's annual Day of Giving, held each year on February 22, representing the date of the university's founding in 1883. The 2021 Day of Giving Campaign generated over \$133,000 for the schools, programs and scholarships across campus through the JSU Foundation. Also, the online auction featured candles poured exclusively for the Red Tie event. A limited number are available for purchase at [www.jsu.edu/givejsu](http://www.jsu.edu/givejsu), benefiting the 1883 Fund for Greatest Needs.

The fifth annual Red Tie Dinner and Auction is scheduled for Friday, January 28, 2022, in Leone Cole Auditorium. An elite group of JSU supporters will kick off a new year of annual fundraising while recognizing loyal annual donors. The formal event features dinner, silent and live auctions, and entertainment. The guest list for this invitation-only event includes leadership level annual donors, university leadership, deans, directors, trustees, and members of the JSU Foundation Board and the JSU Annual Fund Board.

The Annual Fund is the cornerstone of philanthropy at JSU. Through various means, the JSU Annual Fund solicits gifts annually from alumni, friends, corporations, foundations, and government entities to support and enhance the various schools and programs of the university. The Office of Alumni Relations encourages all those who support JSU with annual gifts to consider maintaining and increasing leadership-level giving to secure your invitation to next year's Red Tie event. 🍷

### ALUMNI DIRECTORY PROJECT IS UNDERWAY!

The JSU Alumni Association has partnered with Publishing Concepts, Inc. to produce another alumni directory. This fall and spring, you may receive information in the mail, email, or by phone regarding the project with an opportunity to purchase one. You will be able to search for fellow alums by region, grad year, career fields and more. The last directory was published in 2009. There are multiple optional directory packages to choose from.

For questions about this project, contact the alumni office at [256.782.5404](tel:256.782.5404) or [alumni@jsu.edu](mailto:alumni@jsu.edu).



# ALUMNI

## of the Year

AWARD WINNERS WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT HALFTIME DURING THE  
HOMECOMING GAME ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

### ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR MR. JOHN MANN '67

Mr. Mann earned a BS in math and physics from JSU in 1967 with continuing education through his employer at IBM Executive Education at Harvard. He is a unique individual who has aspired and focused on family, work and play his entire life. In his 55 years, he is highly skilled in business development, sales, strategy, and management, where he continued his journey as an executive with corporations conducting business in over 30 countries and has held board positions. He attributes his success to a strong moral compass coupled with a passion for continuing to learn, tireless energy, management skills, teamwork; passion to be the best; developing win-win relationships, creative strategies, flexibility, and providing excellent customer service. His first 26 years were at IBM where he grew and held senior positions living in seven locations. Initially he worked with NASA manned/unmanned Satellite Programs. Later, he was appointed as Executive for IBM Literacy Programs after



heading the Legal Industry. In 2010, he retired from Cisco/ Scientific-Atlanta, where he served as Vice President, Client Executive where he spearheaded the company efforts with AT&T for new technology development (video, voice, data, and wireless services). He serves on the JSU Foundation Board. He and his wife, Marie, established a JSU Science and Athletics Scholarship Fund. He is also an accomplished tennis player, snow skier, golfer, and in martial arts. His motto is: "Life is a journey: learn to fly your own airplane-it is you that is responsible for your life". John and Marie reside in Atlanta, Ga having two children, Naomi Mann (Atlanta) and Heather Humphrey (Breckenridge, Co).



### ALUMNA OF THE YEAR MRS. JEANEEN JOHNSTON TUCKER '81

Mrs. Tucker earned a BS in education from JSU in 1981. She continued her education at the University of South Carolina, earning an M.Ed. and Educational Specialist degree. Mrs. Tucker began her teaching career as a Special Education Teacher in 1981 in Atlanta. As her career progressed she moved into School Counseling, followed by Asst. Administrator, Asst. Principal and then Principal of Round Top Elementary, Richland District Two. Mrs. Tucker retired in June of this year, ending a 40-year career in

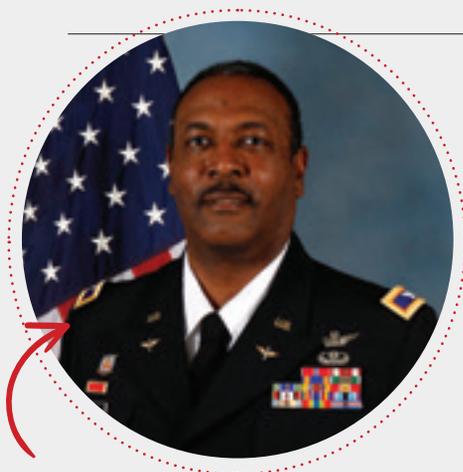
education. Among her many awards and recognitions, she was most recently selected as the recipient of the South Carolina Association of School Administrators Lifetime Achievement Award, and honored as the South Carolina Council of Exceptional Children, Principal of the Year, both in 2020. She has continuously served her school and community in an exemplary manner. Among other positions, she serves as a member of the Elementary Executive Committee of the SC Association of School Administrators, a long standing member of Rotary International, a certified Trauma practitioner, and an AdvancED (Cognia) Accreditation visitor. Mrs. Tucker is a life member of the JSU National Alumni Association and resides in Columbia, SC.



**YOUNG ALUM OF THE YEAR  
MR. DALTON GOODE '17**

Mr. Goode earned a BA double major in economics and political science from JSU in 2017. He continued his education at Northwestern University, earning an MA in public policy and administration in 2019. Mr. Goode is a community advocate and business owner with a strong drive to make

a positive impact. He currently serves as co-owner and general manager of Cutter's Pizzeria. Since 2019, the company has contributed over \$15,000 worth of free and non-profit food for families, organizations, and schools and has expanded to a second location. Mr. Goode also serves as the founder, chair, and executive director of the Emerging Citizen Initiative, a 501c3 nonprofit focused on youth civic engagement. The goal of ECI is to increase civic engagement and community leadership among youth populations. ECI reached over 100,000 18-25 year olds with a voter turnout drive in the organization's first civic engagement project. Mr. Goode, known to friends as "Cutter," resides in Anniston, AL.



**MILITARY ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR  
COL. DAVID CRENSHAW '91**

Col. Crenshaw is a 1991 graduate of JSU, earning a BA in Communications and receiving his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Alabama Army National Guard. His military career started as an enlisted Tactical Helicopter repairer in the 20th

Special Forces Group Support Company. He currently serves as the Branch Chief of Safety for the Alabama Army National Guard as well as an Aviation Support Facility Commander. Col. Crenshaw's military education includes, but is not limited to, the US Army Airborne School, Aviation Captain's Career Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School and the Intermediate Level Education Course. Col Crenshaw also holds Instructor and Test pilot ratings in the CH-47 and UH-72 aircraft. He completed the US Army War College's Distance Education Program and holds Master of Science degrees in Information Technology Management from Grantham University and Strategic

Studies from the US Army War College.

Col Crenshaw's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal with 1 Bronze Service Star, Veterans Service Medal of Alabama with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Special Service Medal of Alabama, the Army Parachute Badge, and the Master Army Aviator Badge, among others.

Col Crenshaw and his wife, the former Traci Lynn Nichols, have been married for 23 years and have one son, Drew. The family resides in Pelham, AL.

# Cocky Traveler's

## ARE READY TO GO!

Interested in traveling with  
fellow Gamecocks?  
Join us for these incredible trips:

**MACKINAC ISLAND**  
Featuring the Grand Hotel and the  
Tulip Time Festival  
May 2-10, 2022 (9 days, 13 meals included)

Highlights include: Chicago, Millennium  
Park, Holland's Tulip Time Festival, Charlevoix  
Mushroom Houses, Mackinac Island, Grand Hotel,  
Frankenmuth, Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield  
Village

Deposits due on or before **October 26, 2021** and  
final payment is due by **March 3, 2022**.

**SPECTACULAR SCANDINAVIA**  
July 21-August 3, 2022  
(14 days, 20 meals included)

Highlights include: Copenhagen, Farm Visit, Manor  
House Stay, Stockholm, Choice on Tour, Oslo, Fram  
Museum, Stave Church, Flam Railway, Sognefjord,  
Briksdal Glacier, Geirangerfjord Cruise, Bergen

Contact the **Alumni Office** for more  
information on payment dates.

**GREECE TOUR**  
11-Day tour of Greek Islands or  
14-Day tour of Greece and Islands

Looking into for **2023**, let us know if you are  
interested.

To sign up to be on our **Cocky Traveler's**  
list to receive information on future trips or  
find out cost and availability on these trips,  
email [kogle@jsu.edu](mailto:kogle@jsu.edu).



Photo by University of Georgia

## Trailblazing JSU Alumnus Elected to the National Academy of Sciences

Dr. Gregory H. Robinson ('80) has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences, a private, non-profit society of distinguished scholars. Established by an Act of Congress signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, the academy is charged with providing independent, objective advice to the nation on matters related to science and technology. Election to the National Academy of Sciences is one of the highest honors a scientist can achieve.

Robinson joined the faculty of the University of Georgia in 1995 and presently holds the title of UGA Foundation Distinguished Professor of Chemistry. He obtained his B.S. in chemistry from JSU in 1980, and after receiving his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Alabama in 1984, he spent the first decade of his career at Clemson University. According to UGA, Robinson and his team "have advanced humanity's fundamental understanding of the structure, bonding and reactivity of elements such as aluminum, silicon, phosphorus and sulfur."

Native to Alexandria, Ala., Robinson came to JSU on a football scholarship, collecting numerous gridiron accolades including All-Gulf South Conference Honors, Gulf South Conference Defensive Player of the Year and UPI All American Honorable Mention. He was elected as a member of the JSU All Century Team in 2003 and the Calhoun County Sports Hall of Fame in 2016. Learn more about Dr. Robinson on his lab's website, [www.gregoryhrobinson.com](http://www.gregoryhrobinson.com). 

# Gamecocks Returning to **ASUN CONFERENCE**

JSU will bring its conference affiliation closer to home by joining the ASUN Conference, beginning with the 2021-22 athletics season.

The Gamecocks will rejoin the ASUN – the league that was its first Division I conference home – after an 18-year stay in the Ohio Valley Conference that produced some of the most decorated years in JSU's storied history. The ASUN announced in January it will be expanding to include JSU, Eastern Kentucky and Central Arkansas, bringing the league's membership to 12 teams.

"This is an exciting day for JSU, for our student-athletes, for our alumni and for our fans," President Don Killingsworth said following the announcement. "When the opportunity to discuss renewing our relationship with the ASUN Conference was presented to us, it was one we definitely were eager to explore, and we could not be more thrilled that it worked out the way it has and that JSU will rejoin the conference that was so instrumental in our move to Division I over 25 years ago."

The ASUN also announced its plans to add FCS football to the league's list of sponsored sports for the first time in the conference's 43-year history.

The addition of football gives the league something it

didn't have when JSU left to join the OVC in 2003,

allowing the Gamecocks to play football in the same conference as its other sports. It will make the ASUN the 15th NCAA Division I conference to sponsor FCS Football.

"Last fall, the ASUN Conference reached out to us to gauge Jacksonville State's interest in returning to the league that was our first conference home when we moved to Division I in 1995," said JSU Athletics Director Greg Seitz. "When learning of the ASUN's plan to start football and the vision of Commissioner Ted Gumbart and the ASUN President's Council to build the premiere football conference in the FCS from the ground up, that was an opportunity that we as a university and athletics department wanted to be a part of."

With the addition of Central Arkansas, Eastern Kentucky and Jacksonville State, the ASUN Conference expands its geographic footprint to seven states – Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia – and now features 12 of nation's top 80 media markets and seven of the top 50.

Additionally, the move to the ASUN is one that will allow the Gamecocks a better geographic fit than in the OVC, where JSU is more than 200 miles south of its closest competitor. JSU's new conference home features three schools closer than the nearest in the OVC, including Kennesaw State, which is just 85 miles from JSU's campus. Also in the league is one of the Gamecocks' oldest rivals – the University of North Alabama, located less than 150 miles north in Florence.

"Giving Jacksonville State a regional presence in the heart of our alumni and fan base, along with the ASUN's plan to create a new football league, were very important factors in us engaging in discussions with the league," President Don Killingsworth said. "We cannot wait to see what the future holds for Jacksonville State in our new conference home." 🏈



# GAMECOCK FOOTBALL

## preview

### GAMECOCK FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2021

Home games are in red

**09.01** 

UAB  
 CRAMTON BOWL,  
 MONTGOMERY, ALA.  
 NATIONALLY TELEVISED  
 ON ESPN

**09.11** 

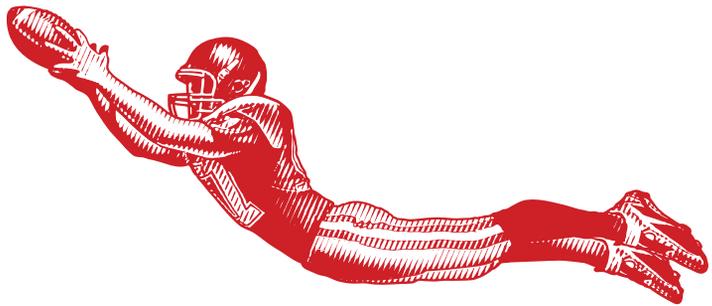
AT FLORIDA STATE  
 NATIONALLY TELEVISED ON  
 THE ACC NETWORK

**09.18**

NORTH ALABAMA



BAND DAY



**09.25**

UT MARTIN 



PREVIEW DAY

**10.02**

AT KENNESAW STATE



JSU Football will continue what Sports Illustrated has referred to as an “unheard of” schedule that historians believe is “a first in the college ranks” this fall - attempting more than 20 games in less than a calendar year and more than 25 in 13 months. The magazine could add “hardest working” to the list, as the Gamecocks tied The Citadel in playing the most regular season games stretched across Fall 2020 and Spring 2021.

The Gamecocks won their ninth and final Ohio Valley Conference championship in April and reached the quarterfinals of the FCS playoffs for the first time since 2015. This fall, they will leave the OVC, and hopefully the pandemic, behind them.

They are making the move to the ASUN Conference in time for the 2022 football season and will compete in the AQ7 with Eastern Kentucky, Central Arkansas, Sam Houston, Stephen F. Austin, Lamar and Abilene Christian during the transition in Fall 2021.

The 2021 season will kick off on Sept. 1, when the Gamecocks face off against the UAB Blazers for the first time since 2005 in the Montgomery Kickoff at Cramton Bowl. The nationally televised matchup on ESPN will also reunite Coach John Grass with his predecessor, Coach Bill Clark, under whom he served as offensive coordinator before Clark became head coach at UAB and Grass was promoted to the top job at JSU.

10.09

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN

HOMECOMING



10.23

AT SAM HOUSTON



10.30

CENTRAL ARKANSAS



HALL OF FAME WEEKEND & PREVIEW DAY

11.06

ABILENE CHRISTIAN



SOUTHERNERS REUNION

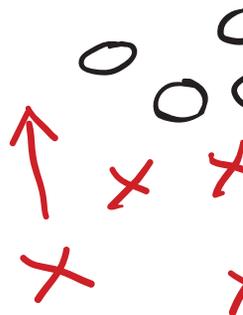
11.13

AT LAMAR



11.20

AT EASTERN KENTUCKY



TICKETS are available for purchase online at JSUGamecockSports.com or by calling the ticket office at 256-782-8499.

# A "CYMBAL" OF KINDNESS

Steve Callaway played the cymbals with JSU's Marching Southerners from 1966 to 1970.

"The three years I spent with the Southerners were the best years of my life," Callaway said from his home in Moody, Ala. "I still remember those times and the friends that I made. We weren't like a family — we were a family."

Family takes care of its own — a lesson Callaway was reminded of in Nov. 2016 when he returned to campus as part of the Marching Southerners' 60th-anniversary celebration. Though he didn't pick up the cymbals for old times' sake, he brought his then 7-year-old grandson with him on the field.

"I wanted him to feel what it was like to be on the field with the Southerners," Callaway said. "Something I missed."

After the halftime performance, when everyone was leaving the field, Callaway — whose diabetes affects his feet and balance — fell behind the rushing crowd. He struggled to

hold on to his grandson with one hand while using his cane with the other.

"This young man saw what was happening and came back to help," said Callaway. "He stayed with me — for about 40 yards or so — until we were out of everybody's way."

It was a moment that left a lasting impression on him.

"He just showed a lot of family care," Callaway said. "That's what the Southerners are: a family. He showed that little bit of thoughtfulness. It was just too perfect — he played the cymbals just like I did."

Callaway's son, Kevin, who is an adjunct nursing professor at JSU, happened to be filming the performance and was able to contact the student who helped his father off the field.

Nathaniel Jacob Whitfield wants everyone to know that he wasn't the only one who noticed Callaway's struggles.

"It was a collective effort,"

says Whitfield, who attended JSU from 2013 to 2016. "Too often, people don't stop and take the time just to be nice, to help others. It shouldn't be that big a deal to be kind to someone who needs it."

But it was a big deal to Steve Callaway. Whitfield reminded Callaway of something that legendary JSU band director David L. Walters used to say: "Be kind to each other. It's really important."

It was with the echo of those words in his mind and Whitfield's gesture still on his heart that Callaway established the Steve Callaway Endowed Scholarship Fund. The \$25,000



**"THAT'S WHAT THE  
SOUTHERNERS ARE:  
A FAMILY..."**

scholarship is designated for an active member of the Marching Southerners Percussion Line, with preference given to a cymbalist.

Endowments don't take effect for three years after they are established in order to gain interest from the initial investment. That's why Callaway decided to donate an additional \$3,000, thus allowing the scholarship to start accepting candidates early.

"We aren't promised tomorrow," Callaway said. "I wanted to actually witness the students getting the help, to shake their hands."

Callaway credits the Southerners for inspiring him to pursue a college education. Growing up, he enjoyed history and English classes in school but merely survived math and science. Being a Southerner kept him focused in college. "The Southerners were my anchor," he said. "I refused to lose my spot just because I was lazy in other areas."

He attended JSU from 1966 to 1970, leaving for a teaching job before graduating. He later returned — both to Jacksonville, where he worked for the police department, and to JSU, where he got his degree in law enforcement. Now, thanks to his endowment, future generations of cymbal players will come to know what it means to be a Marching Southerner.

"I'm proud I'm able to give a little something back," Callaway said. "I've been very lucky." 🙌



## Gamecock Represents Team USA in the Olympics

The JSU Rifle program has added an Olympian to its roster of former student-athletes. James Hall – who earned a bachelor's degree in computer integrated manufacturing systems in 2006 – earned a spot on Team USA to compete in the sport of air pistol at the Summer Games in Tokyo.

Hall was a member of the JSU Rifle Team from 2003-2006, leading the Gamecocks to a NCAA Smallbore National Championship. He received elite honors as an NRA All-American all four years and was named the Conference Smallbore and Air Rifle Most Valuable Player in 2005 and 2006.

He is the second former JSU athlete to compete in the Olympics, after golfer Danny Willett, who competed for his native UK in 2016's Rio Games, placing 37th in the world. Nursing alumna Janet Cherobon-Bawcom ran the 10,000-meter for the USA Track and Field team at the 2021 London Olympics, finishing 12th.

"Being on the rifle team during those years was some of the best memories that I have," Hall said. "We had some really good teams while I was there and it was some dynamic teams. I feel very blessed that I had an opportunity at JSU and the opportunities that rifle gave me."

Hall placed tenth in two separate events at the Olympics: the 10-meter Air Pistol and the Mixed Team 10-meter Air Pistol competitions. He serves as director of development for the Scholastic Action Shooting Program and resides in Missouri with his wife and children.



*"From the first day, JSU felt like home"*  
*-Dr. Courtney Newsome*



## A COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS

honors alumni reflect on how the program influenced their success

When the letter from JSU first arrived at her home in Waycross, Ga., Courtney Crosby was excited, if a bit confused. "I didn't really know what it was," she said. "At first, I was a little suspicious just because it seemed almost too good to be true."

It was 2009, and she was among the first eight students to receive JSU's prestigious Elite Honors scholarship. Now known

as JSU Honors, the top scholarship program for incoming freshmen is awarded to exceptional high school seniors. It covers all necessities for four years, including 16 hours of tuition each semester, the general university fee, books, housing and a meal plan.

While the JSU Honors scholarship is awarded to an elite group of incoming freshmen, the university's Honors Program is

open to all top-performing students. Through the program, a student's academic drive is allowed the freedom to explore interests both inside the classroom and beyond.

"Really, it's for students who want to excel academically and want to be in classes with other students with the same high goals," said Dr. Lori Owens, program director. "Honors, by definition, is interdisciplinary. It's our goal to

have a variety of majors, and by doing that, we're building an honors community. It's not just about taking honors classes. We want these students to grow together intellectually and socially."

Members can take classes out of sheer curiosity. For example, with an Honors contract, students can substitute one class for another if it incorporates well into their overall academic experience. It was just this type of academic exploration that David Rickless used for future benefit. The Anniston native graduated from JSU's Honors Program in 2016 with a degree in geography. When he first came to JSU, he planned on studying environmental science. He soon discovered an affinity for research and geography.

"I was still trying to figure out what I wanted to do with my life," said Rickless. "I was never the type of person who had a solid five-year plan. My mentors and advisors were very tolerant of that and let me take courses just because I was curious."

After graduating from JSU, Rickless received a master's degree in geography from the University of Georgia. While at UGA, he won a fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where he's been ever since. Working for the government contracting firm Perspecta, he uses his geography background to improve public health by focusing mainly on environmental health projects.

For Birmingham native Latrice Green, who graduated in the spring of 2017, the Honors Program

allowed her to discover a passion for education policy.

"I wanted a broader understanding of education and other public interests in America," said Green, who is currently pursuing a master's degree in public administration at UAB. "I began reading, visiting with professors, and even speaking at state and national conferences on the topic of diversity in schools and what we can do to meet the needs of all of our students."

In addition to her graduate studies, Green is the assistant band director at Pinson Valley High School in Pinson, Ala., just north of Birmingham, where she initiated a middle and high school percussion ensemble and organizes performances and field trips, including the Bands of America Grand National Championships in Indiana.

And Courtney Crosby is now known as Dr. Courtney Newsome – having married fellow JSU Honors scholarship recipient Andrew Newsome and earned a medical degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She practices emergency medicine at Gadsden Regional Medical Center. "From the first day, JSU felt like home," she said.

The small classes and other activities associated with the Honors Program – including special advisement, career planning, mentorship, guest lectures, service opportunities and study abroad adventures – instill a sense of belonging and inclusion among students. The program is a

community from the start, which is good for incoming freshman who might not otherwise know anyone on campus.

"There was a diversity of people and backgrounds, but it was cool to already have your group right there," Rickless said. "People who already had the mindset that we were going to succeed. It was nice to meet people you already had a lot in common with."

And, after the diplomas are hung on the walls and life's steady grind sets in, it's the relationships that Honors graduates remember most.

"We were all very close – obviously, we married each other," Dr. Newsome said, with a laugh. "We were all in each other's weddings and we're all still in contact with each other. We spent so much time together, and our personalities were so similar. Those bonds will always be there."

Learn more about the Honors Program at [www.jsu.edu/honors-program](http://www.jsu.edu/honors-program). 

 **ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE, JSU HONORS ALUMNI ARE PHOTOGRAPHED, CLOCKWISE:** Andrew and Dr. Courtney Newsome, who met in the Honors Program, with their children; David Rickless; and Latrice Green.

# ALUMnotes

## BIRTHS

### 2010-2020

**1** Maci Allison ('16) and her husband Coltin Allison ('18) announce the birth of their daughter, Piper Allison, on November 24, 2020. Maci was a graduate of the College of Education and a member of Phi Delta Kappa. Coltin was a graduate of Occupational Safety and Health Management and a member of the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity.

**2** Sabrina Martin Dothard ('18) and her husband, Joseph Graves Dothard ('18), welcomed the arrival of their first child, Elizabeth "Libby" Cole, on August 24, 2020. Mrs. Dothard served as president of the Student Alabama Education Association and was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and the Student Alumni Association. Mr. Dothard was president of Kappa Alpha. Both were Freshman Forum mentors, Gamecock Orientation (GO!) leaders and JSU Ambassadors.

Haley Hendrix Lashus ('11) and her husband, David "DJ" Lashus ('13), announce the birth of their son, Baker James, on May 1, 2020. Mrs. Lashus was a JSU Ambassador and a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. Mr. Lashus played

football and was a member of Delta Chi.

Amanda Wheeler Pierson ('16) and her husband, Nathaniel Pierson ('16/'18), announce the birth of their son, John Wayne, on November 11, 2020. Mr. Pierson was a member of the Honors Program.

**3** Beth Milam Sewell ('14) and her husband, Paul, welcomed the arrival of their first child, Daniel Max, on March 18, 2021. Mrs. Sewell was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha, was crowned Miss JSU 2012 and was part of the Cocky mascot program from 2010 to 2013. She currently works for JSU as an outdoor and environmental educator at the Little River Canyon Center.

## WEDDINGS

### 2010-2020

Brian Bailey ('17) wed Brittany Correll ('15) on March 28, 2020. Mrs. Bailey was a member of Phi Mu at JSU, while Mr. Bailey played football and was a member of Kappa Sigma. He is employed by the U.S. Army while she teaches in the Lee County School System.

**4** Roxanne Grace Bailey ('17, '20) and Shaun David Stancil ('03) were

wed on September 12, 2020 in Snead, Ala. They met as staff members on campus, where he serves as a senior systems analyst for Information Technology and she works as coordinator of recruitment communication and technology for Admissions.

Gena Baker ('16) married Colton Robinson on April 6, 2020. As a student, she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and the Marching Ballerinas. After earning a doctorate in audiology from Auburn University in May 2020, she became a pediatric audiologist at Children's Rehabilitation Service in Huntsville, Ala.

**5** Lindsey Birchfield ('19) and Brent Dunn ('16) were married at Mallard Oaks Farm in Talladega on October 24, 2020. The couple met as members of the Marching Southerners - him on the snare line and her in the Ballerinas. She is an intensive care nurse for Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center. He now works in construction as a framer after completing six years of service in the U.S. Marine Corps in February.

Syerra Elisabeth Dobson ('18) and Jonathan Cade Stinnett ('19) were married on April 3, 2021. While at JSU, she was

head of the Marching Ballerinas, and he played football.

**6** Keaton Brooks Glass ('17, '21) married Jessica Ann Lankford on November 14, 2020. As a student, he was a Freshman Forum member and mentor, JSU Ambassador and a Gamecock Orientation (GO!) leader and coordinator. He now serves as director of the First-Year and Second-Year Experience program at JSU. Mrs. Glass is a Registered Nurse pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at JSU with a Family Nurse Practitioner concentration.

**7** Samaria Mayo ('17) wed Pierre Davis on February 20, 2021 in Helen, Ga. At JSU, she was a Gamecock Orientation (GO!) leader and a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and the Student Activities Council. She serves as an emergency room nurse at Northside Hospital in Duluth, Ga.

**8** Tyler Gerard Lightsey Scozzaro ('17, '18) married Taylor Ashlyn Sloan ('17) on April 10, 2021. Mr. Scozzaro, who played on the Gamecock football team, is now teaching health and coaching offensive line for the football team at Thompson High School



1. Piper Allison
2. Elizabeth "Libby" Cole Dothard
3. Daniel Max Sewell
4. Roxanne Grace Bailey ('17, '20) and Shaun David Stancil ('03)
5. Lindsey Birchfield ('19) and Brent Dunn ('16)
6. Keaton Brooks Glass ('17, '21) and Jessica Ann Lankford
7. Samaria Mayo ('17) and Pierre Davis
8. Tyler Gerard Lightsey Scozzaro ('17, '18) and Taylor Ashlyn Sloan ('17)

in Alabaster, Ala. Mrs. Scozzaro, who played on the Gamecock softball team, is Public Information Officer for the City of Oxford, Ala.

Hanspeter Strauch, 4/8/18, Tennis and International House

Dr. Grace Agee McWhorter, 03/03/21, Faculty

Dr. Claudia McDade, 10/13/20, Learning Services

Joe Wayne Turner, 4/12/20, Football

Elaine Mendenhall, 8/23/20, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Virginia Yocum, ('62), 6/10/21, Family and Consumer Sciences

Sandra E. Tyson, 10/13/20, Southerners

Dr. George Miller, 3/29/17, Vice President of Business Affairs

### **1940–1949**

Margit Leath Valentine, 6/20, Southerners

Suzanne Muller, 4/16/20, Director of Disability Support Services

Mary Cobb Baker ('47), 4/7/20

## **OBITUARIES**

### **YEAR UNKNOWN OR DID NOT GRADUATE**

Alan Wayne Broom, 2/12/21, Southerners

Wiley Echols Bryant, 12/24/20, Football

Adrian A. Chandler, 5/31/20

Whitney Jan Collins, 5/1/20, Tennis

William Michael Coppage, 1/1/21, Southerners

Quillion Douthit Jr., 1/4/21

Heather Bedford Epps, 7/2/20, Ballerinas

Savanna Carson Lynch, 10/18/20, Southerners

Jane Murphy McGatha, 5/20/20

Robert F. McLeod, 2/7/21, Football

Sandra Kendall Nicholson, 10/26/20

Charles "Chuck" Robinson, 2/2/21, Football

Carl Roger Ross, 5/18/20

Genevieve Arouseu Strauch, 9/12/19, International House

### **JSU EMPLOYEES**

Carolyn West Andrews ('61), 1/25/21, Bursar's Office

Dr. Benjamin "Benjie" Blair ('89/'92), 10/20/20, Biology

William "Pete" Brooks, 6/28/20, Bus Driver

Dr. Wayne H. Claeren, 9/4/20, Drama

John H. Cleverdon, 1/15/21, Art

Louis C. Culver ('76), 1/26/21, English

Elaine Estes, 1/11/20, Building Services

Ida Mae Fox, 3/4/21

Glenn Graham ('60), 1/19/21, Statistics/Economics

Dr. Neva Griffin, 7/19/20, Graduate Studies

Peggy Key, 10/4/20, Food Court

Terry M. Marbut, 10/13/20, Technology/Engineering Dept. Head

Jim McArthur, 11/16/20, Physical Plant

Julia E. Murray, 1/10/21, English

Sarah Moersch Porterfield ('05/'07), English

Marion Rollins, 3/15/20, Biology

Dan C. Sparks, 9/4/20, Music

Hope Trantham, 03/21/21, Learning Resource Center

Les Waltman, 1/27/21, History

Gwen Westbrook, 7/2/20, Placement

Dr. Mary Whitt ('59/'61), 8/5/20, English

Dr. Jim Winn, 4/10/21, Adjunct Professor

Bette Andrews Wood, 2/23/21

Dr. Louise Clark, 8/20/21, Business and Provost's Office

Dr. William Carr, 11/21/20, Graduate Studies

Chris Marker, ('96/'15), 3/9/21, Applied Engineering

Kathryn Casey Vanderford ('47), 4/8/20

Robert V. Ozment ('48), 5/27/20

Locklyn Hubbard Redmond ('48), 5/29/20

Anne Jones Hare ('49) Raymond E. Ringer ('49), 8/3/20

### **1950–1959**

Leah Layman Casey ('50), 5/17/20

Bobby Gray Martin ('50), 6/30/20

Helen Gilliland Spurlock ('50), 5/26/20

Nannie Angel Stephenson ('50), 8/25/20

Coach Jim Chafin ('51), 6/27/20

Walter C. Higginbotham ('51), 11/27/20

Mary Elton Landrum ('51), 6/11/20

Roy C. Smith ('51), 7/19/20

Ann Lloyd Williams ('51), 03/31/21	DeLeath Rives ('57), 6/23/20	<b>1960–1969</b>	Claude “Tommy” Fite (‘64), 9/23/20
LTC Bob Dobson ('52), 8/15/20	Taylor M. Smith ('57), 12/20	John Paul Cornutt ('60), 2/28/21	Leon Michael Howard (‘64), 11/10/20
Fay Read Kelley ('52), 9/4/20	Thomas Alva Walls (‘57/‘58), 10/24/20	Lloyd L. Griffitt ('60), 3/5/19	Warren Michael Oliver (‘64), 8/2/20
Ruth Kirby Sanders ('52), 1/30/21	Millard V. Young Jr. ('57), 7/20/20	Tomiko Sato Smyth (‘60), 11/9/20	Paul R. Peoples ('64), 7/10/20
Mary Charles Derryberry (‘53), 10/4/20	Helen Elaine Cobia ('58), 8/13/20	James “Bob” Taylor (‘60), 11/26/20	Harold Spencer Potter (‘64), 11/7/20
Betty Lackey Milam (‘53), 12/16/20	Lena Kate Hodges DeGaris ('58), 1/4/21	Margaret Eason Kirkland Bowden ('61), 12/1/20	Joy Ann McCullars Smith (‘64), 9/24/20
David “Ray” Crawford (‘54), 6/15/18	James H. Fike ('58), 9/25/20	Suzanne Barton Jackson (‘61), 2/5/21	Glenn Virgil Wadsworth (‘64), 12/22/20
Jim C. Thigpen ('54), 12/22/20	Nelda Jo Burroughs Johnson ('58), 7/14/20	Barbara Smith Klein (‘61/‘66), 5/11/20	Allen Preston Woodfin (‘64), 11/22/17
Milton Earl Acton ('55), 4/1/20	Jonola “Totsye” Jones Mayfield ('58), 12/9/20	James Hampton Taylor (‘61), 5/2/20	James Andrew Bryson (‘65), 5/19/20
Evelyn Adair Barnett (‘55), 11/14/20	Billy W. McCarty ('58), 1/9/20	Betty Chaffin Turner (‘61/‘83), 5/13/20	Coach Bobby Joe Johnson ('65), 11/30/20
Edward L. Bass ('55), 4/11/20	William Boyd Stimpson (‘58), 8/21/20	Gareth Horton Bryant (‘62), 03/11/21	Lee Fuller Rash ('65), 7/13/20
Jack Grizzard ('55), 4/10/21	Henry Inzer Terry ('58), 5/20/20	Shirley Joyce Hail Doss (‘62), 10/7/20	James Woodall Rodgers II ('65), 8/9/20
Lionel L. Layden ('55), 2/1/21	Ellis H. Whitt ('58), 10/11/20	Marie C. Haygood (‘62/‘72), 11/6/20	Betty Roberson Thomas (‘65), 12/31/20
Wilma Hyatt Miller (‘55/‘81), 03/27/21	Peter H. Wood ('58), 11/20/19	Betty Griffin Moore Easley ('63), 2/19/16	Louie Ed Henderson (‘66), 7/13/20
Jerry Young Pullen ('55), 4/19/20	Lewis H. Worth ('58), 10/19/20	Charles David Pauley (‘63/‘75), 5/27/20	Jim H. Lowery ('66), 11/24/20
Earl “Bill” Aldrup ('56), 7/6/20	Nancy Reaves Hammett (‘59/‘77), 3/21/20	Barney Lee Powell ('63), 5/29/20	Judith Pritchett Sauer (‘66), 1/1/21
Dr. Tom J. Freeman ('56), 3/31/20	James T. Persons ('59), 6/16/20	Jerry Edward Roberts (‘63), 12/29/20	Vida Lee Jones Cassell (‘67), 4/11/21
Johann F. Struth ('56), 2/1/17	Wilson J. Sherrell ('59), 6/14/20	Bonnie Roberts Turpin (‘63), 4/24/20	Mary Neal Cline ('67), 7/22/20
James Bryan Yates ('56), 12/5/18	John DeForest Watson (‘59), 9/12/20	Barbara Strawn Wescott (‘63), 11/23/20	Harold Eugene Hodges (‘67), 6/4/20
Welton Birdwell ('57), 11/4/20	Herman J. Williams ('59), 1/27/21	Dale Wilson Dison ('64), 11/15/20	Dora Young Mattox ('67), 9/13/20

James F. Nowland ('67),  
12/27/19

Robert Otis "Bob" Smith  
( '67), 3/4/20

Peggy McCord Williams  
( '67/'76), 5/28/20

Charles "Gene" Johnson  
( '68), 4/10/21

Barbara Nelson Ulrich  
( '68), 5/8/20

Stephen "Steve" C.  
Walkley ( '68), 11/28/20

Jerry Wayne Bowen  
( '69), 1/9/21

Anne F. Butler ( '69/'85),  
8/4/20

Sunna Ingeborg Becker  
Denny ( '69), 8/27/20

Michael Lee Pritchett  
( '69), 6/8/19

Cathy Bogart Rentschler  
( '69), 5/22/20

Barbara Crook-Curry  
Story ( '69), 10/20/20

Judy Beason Taylor  
( '69/'74), 8/19/20

Margie Street Turley  
( '69/'81), 12/23/20

### **1970–1979**

Max Wayne Chambers  
( '70), 12/17/20

James "Jimbo"  
Culverhouse ( '70),  
1/18/21

Gary Lee Luther ( '70),  
2/15/21

Anna "Beth" Powers  
Taylor Norman ( '70),  
3/6/21

Vera Sue Downer  
Reagan ( '70), 2/6/2019

Paula Joy Spruiell ( '70)  
12/6/19

Terrell Jack Tinney  
( '70/'72), 5/12/20

Edna White Walker ( '70),  
11/12/19

Bernard Lee Barber  
( '71/'83), 5/10/20

Bonnie Lynd Funderburg  
( '71/'72), 6/18/20

Braxton Bentley Harris  
Sr. ( '71/'73), 3/25/21

Martha Read McCarley  
( '71), 7/25/20

Linda Ann "Cindy"  
Richey Ray ( '71),  
8/26/20

Richard Larry Smith  
( '71), 8/16/19

Steven Jay Stricklin ( '71),  
1/1/2021

Sarah Naomi Wallis ( '71),  
9/23/20

Homer D. Willoughby III  
( '71), 12/6/2020

Leland Gary Dennis  
( '72), 3/16/21

Joy Richard Ebaugh  
( '72), Dec 2020

James Terry "TK" Kemp  
( '72), 8/22/20

Carole Gore Nichols  
( '72), 3/19/21

Marsha Ann Westberry  
( '72), 3/6/21

Judith Chaffin Beason  
( '73), 12/6/20

Theodore H. "Ted" Cook  
( '73), 12/31/20

Martha Gail Joiner ( '73),  
2/4/21

William B. Newby III  
( '73), 1/8/20

Larry Joe Rayfield ( '73),  
12/11/20

Homer Selton Smith  
( '73/'85), 3/20/20

Deborah Diane Turner  
( '73), Apr 2020

Thomas Andrew  
Underwood ( '73/'77),  
1/22/21

Jimmy Wilson Vest ( '73),  
4/25/20

Walter Westbrook  
( '73/'77), 1/20/21

MSGT William "Bill"  
Townsend ( '74), 3/19/21

LTC Freida J. Williams  
( '74), 9/23/20

Larry Dean Amerson  
( '75), 12/3/20

Robert Nelson Ellis ( '75),  
5/31/19

Charles Richard  
Fordham ( '75), 4/16/20

Annie Lee Wesley Heath  
( '75), 11/12/20

Lenora S. Lassiter ( '75),  
7/20/20

John T. Ritondo  
( '75/'76), 11/10/20

James "Mike" Sheffield  
( '75), 12/3/20

Cathy Auffant Balderas  
( '76), 6/9/20

Thomas P. Canning III  
( '76/'78), 4/7/20

Shirley Ann Stephens  
Hunt ( '76), 12/31/20

Jimmy Randall Lakey  
( '76), 12/13/20

Joseph Edward Mundy  
( '76), 1/9/21

Rickey Wayne Nixon  
( '76), 9/18/20

John "Jack" Page III  
( '76), 12/14/20

Ed Whatley  
( '76/'78/'85), 1/7/21

Marlin O'Dell Arrington  
( '77), 2/22/20

Tina Marie Richards  
Jones ( '77), 2/9/21

Hazel J. Mayo  
Ogunduyile ( '77),  
9/16/20

Shirley Vasser Brown  
( '78), 8/10/20

## **SHARE YOUR NEWS**

Submit information concerning a wedding, birth announcement, new job or promotion, an obituary notice, awards or other recognition.

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 **MAIL** JSU ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE  
700 PELHAM ROAD NORTH  
JACKSONVILLE, AL 36265

Karen Sue Weekley Hoss ('78), 8/20	Julian E. Kelley ('82), 11/27/2020	Dr. Ola Mae Roberson Scott Curry ('90), 4/14/21	Kathryn Veazey Garner ('01), 12/5/19
Barbara Morgan Lawler ('78), 2/6/21	Emma Sue Waddell Pierce ('82), 11/7/18	Betty Jean Bailey Haynes ('90), 12/5/20	James Michael Edwards ('02), 1/15/21
Joseph Charles Passmore ('78), 8/7/20	Valinda Diane "Vinny" Teague ('82/'86), 1/14/21	Keith Echols Madison ('90), 6/11/20	Monica Headrick Phillips ('02), 11/16/07
Mary Bishop Bailey ('79), 8/25/19	Morris James ('83), 9/24/20	Yvonne Sorel Bolton Land ('91), 7/25/20	Kimberly McComb ('03), 12/13/20
Donald C. Bryant ('79), 5/30/20	Bridgett Andrews Smith ('83), 11/25/20	Todd Lee Spiker ('91), 4/4/21	Joseph Daniel Shearer ('04), 8/19/20
Kenneth Maxwell Penuel ('79), 1/12/21	Tracy Owen Cheyne ('85), 4/27/21	Charles Franklin Echols ('92), 9/10/19	Jacquelyn Michelle Kennedy ('07), 6/5/18
Nan Christian Roy ('79), 5/10/20	Donald Earl Goodman ('85), 1/12/21	Roger Glenn Murphy ('92), 3/14/21	Christopher James Lyles ('07), 9/25/20
Miryam Leyva Stewart ('79), 5/13/20	Anthony Armstrong Jones ('85), 2/19/21	Lara Root Coleman ('93), 4/13/20	Cheryl "Cherrie" Aldridge Wilkerson ('07), 1/1/20
Cathylene McCain Williams ('79), 1/18/21	John Roger Schwartz ('86), 2/19/21	Beverly Davenport Shull ('94/'96), 9/8/20	Trenton Lee Roberts ('08), 7/31/20
<b>1980–1989</b>	Charles Alan "Chuck" Brown ('87), 11/8/20	Kimberley Joy Parton ('95), 5/30/20	<b>2010–2019</b>
Rita Blackwell Cheatwood ('80), 8/15/20	Suellen Perry Brown ('88), 5/20/20	William Denison Taylor III ('95), 7/21/20	Matthew Layton Reese ('10), 4/11/21
Curtis Blane Lambert ('80), 10/5/20	SKC Joel Allyn Conway ('88), 9/5/20	Charles Webster Platt ('96), 1/15/21	Jessica Lynn Sewell ('10), 7/27/20
Gordon J. McGraw III ('80), 3/15/20	Michael D. Garigan ('88), 1/24/21	Willie "Clyde" Jones ('97), 12/14/20	Stuart Neal Bozeman ('11), 3/10/21
LTC John P. Robinson ('80), 5/29/20	Gregory Lee Blevins ('89), 5/10/19	Jamey Loyd Broach ('98), 8/19/20	Keith Pitman Toney ('11/'12), 5/2/20
Phyllis Charlyn Dooly ('81/'90), 9/9/20	Jane Boyd Fuqua ('89), 3/4/21	Mary Draper Coty ('98), 5/4/20	Regena Diane Buckner Payne ('13), 1/4/21
Gail Spivey Lee ('81), 6/11/20	Betty Atmore Merriweather ('89/'97), 8/2/20	Michael Lasseter ('98), 10/27/20	Jessica Lynn Sprayberry ('16), 5/30/19
Mackenzie Paul Parris ('81), 7/10/20	William E. Montgomery III ('89), 12/23/20	James Andrew Wear ('98), 2/27/16	<b>2020</b>
Barry Livingston Brogdon ('82/'84), 4/3/20	Wilbur B. "Dub" Nolen II ('89/'94), 10/17/20	Coach Leo G. Davidovich ('99), 9/23/20	Michael L. Carlisle ('20), 3/29/21
Andre' "Andy" JJ Fournier ('82), 5/25/20	<b>1990–1999</b>	<b>2000–2009</b>	
	Brigitte Fowden Cole ('90/'92), 8/7/20	Gloria Thompson Dozier ('01), 1/9/21	

## ALUM NOTES

### 1970–1979

Hugh ('70) and Jeanie Bailey Bryant ('70), Trussville, Ala., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 31, 2020. Mrs. Bryant was the 1968 JSU Homecoming Queen. Mr. Bryant was a member of the JSU Peer Counselors, played tennis, and was commissioned through the JSU ROTC program.

Jimmy Wayne Langley ('71), Hoover, Ala., was presented with the Jack Crouch Service Award by the Hoover Historical Society, recognizing him as the outstanding volunteer of the year. At JSU he was a member of Delta Chi and was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate through the ROTC program. He served in the Army and retired as a lieutenant colonel with 23 years of service. He has become a prolific writer, artist and storyteller.

### 1980–1989

Dr. Frank Buck ('81), Pell City, Ala., was named No. 1 in the "Time Management" category by Global Gurus' "Top 30." He has spoken internationally on organization, time management and personal productivity. He is currently working on his fourth book in these areas. He is a former member of the Marching Southerners.

Jeaneen Johnston Tucker ('81), Columbia, SC, retired in December 2020, having served 18 years as a principal during her nearly 40-year career in public education. She continues to serve part time, assisting with implementing Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) in Grades K-12. Prior to her retirement, she was awarded Principal of the Year by the South Carolina Council for Exceptional Children. She was also the 2020 recipient of the South Carolina Association of School Administrators Lifetime Achievement Award.

Joe Whitmore ('83/'03), Glencoe, Ala., has been named Snead State Community College's president. He previously served as Snead's vice president for finance and administration and as chief financial officer. Prior to his time at Snead, he served in several leadership roles during his 22-year career at JSU. He is married to Janet Whitmore, who serves as a JSU event planner.

Wanda Gresham Dunham ('85), Covington, Ga., retired in May 2020 as MARTA Chief of System Safety, Security and Emergency Management, after 34 years of service. She was the first African American and first woman to hold this position. She holds another milestone as the longest serving law

enforcement officer in the department's 43-year history. She has now written "Becoming Chief: Life Lessons Learned on the Road Less Traveled, Volume 1."

Kimberly Vickers ('87) has been promoted to associate executive director of the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA), where she has served as a member of executive staff since 2014. In addition to a BS in secondary language arts from JSU, she holds a master's degree in secondary education/language arts from Auburn University at Montgomery. Before joining AHSAA, she served as a teacher, coach and assistant athletic administrator at Horseshoe Bend High School. She and her husband, Jimmy, share two daughters, Hagen and Carlie.

Dr. Rendi Leigh Murphree ('89/'93), Theodore, Ala., an epidemiologist and Director of the Bureau of Disease Surveillance and Environmental Services in Mobile County, has been honored as one of the recipients of the Mobile Community Health Leadership Award. She had enjoyed a long career with the U.S. Public Health Service, retiring with the rank of captain, working

mostly with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Just as she settled into her new job with the Mobile County Health Department, COVID-19 struck, and she became the public face for the agency's reports on the pandemic.

### 1990-1999

Dr. Kevin Garrett ('90/'95), Atmore, Ala., graduated from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in December 2020 with a Doctor of Ministry degree. A former member of the Marching Southerners, he currently serves as pastor of First Baptist Church of Atmore. He is married to Tina Jones Garrett ('95/'98), a special education

### WHAT'S YOUR JSU STORY?

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teacher for Escambia County Schools.

Michael Anthony Suco ('90), Birmingham, Ala., has been named Senior Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer at Coca-Cola UNITED. He previously served in the corporate headquarters in Atlanta as vice president of the company's east region. Under his leadership in Atlanta, the company acquired 10 new facilities and market territories in Georgia and transitioned more than 2,000 new employees and approximately 30,000 new customers into the company — the single largest acquisition in Coca-Cola UNITED's history. He is married to Shelley Arnold Suco ('94) and resides in Birmingham with their two children. At JSU, Mr. Suco was a member of Kappa Sigma while Mrs. Suco was a member of the Marching Ballerinas and Phi Mu.

Michael Don Allison ('91/'97/'11), Panama City Beach, Fla., has been inducted into the Weaver High School Hall of Fame. He is currently on the faculty at Rosenwald High School, Panama City, Fla., and is the head wrestling coach at Arnold High. He formerly served as principal at Weaver High. Dr. Joshua Lamar Lowe

('99), Cumming, Ga., is the new principal of Forsyth Central High School. He was a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry at JSU.

Deborah V. Wheeler ('99), Vonore, Tenn., has retired from a 19-year career in journalism. Her first two years were with the Jacksonville News, where she covered city council meetings.

### 2000–2009

James B. Tate ('02), Birmingham, Ala., after a 26-year military career, is now the founding chair and CEO of Overdrive Global, a marketing and sales hub for Bennett International Group. He was also selected to serve as Chief of Security for the Honorary Consul General of Japan, Mark Jackson, out of Birmingham.

Michael Scott Barton ('05), Gadsden, Ala., has been named the new Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety at JSU. He most recently served as Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Coordinator for Calhoun County. He is married to Natalie Geer Barton ('04), a Marching Southerners alumna.

Cambrey Jordan Little ('05), Nashville, Tenn., has been named Chief

Growth Officer for Lirio, a behavioral change A1 company. She has more than 15 years of health care and software technology experience. At JSU, she was an Ambassador, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and a student assistant for Alumni Relations.

Brandi Norred Maiorino ('05), Nashville, Tenn., is an attorney with Maynard Cooper & Gale's Real Estate and Financial Services practice group, where she focuses on advising developers and investors on commercial real estate projects throughout the Southeast. At JSU, she was a member of Alpha Xi.

Caleb Matthew Hill ('09), Laramie, Wyo., is an assistant professor in the University of Wyoming's Department of Chemistry. He is a recent recipient of a \$600,000 Faculty Early Career Development Award from the National Science Foundation, which will fund his research through 2026. His team is developing analytical methods that will allow scientists to characterize the chemical behavior of individual reactive entities such as nanoparticles.

### 2010–2019

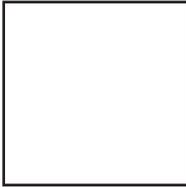
Ashley Cox Robinson ('10), Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and her husband have started their own business, Green Cardigan Marketing, a marketing agency providing marketing services for lawyers. They have clients nationwide. Mrs. Robinson played golf for four years at JSU.

Benjamin Haase ('13), Guntersville, Ala., spent the last couple of years teaching abroad in Albania before becoming an environmental science and human anatomy and physiology teacher at Arab High School. He is married to Rachel Foster Haase ('14). They enjoyed their European experience, traveling to 18 countries.

Jennifer K. Whyte ('16), Anniston, Ala., is a Spanish teacher at The Donoho School. She has been awarded the 2021 Southern Conference on Language Teaching Teacher of the Year Award. She will now vie for the title of American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages National Language Teacher of the Year, which will be announced in November, and will also serve as the national spokesperson for language learning in 2022.



JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY



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