Four Honored With Emeritus Title

Four retired professors were on campus in November to receive one of the college's highest honors: the title of Professor Emeritus.

The names are very familiar to alumni: Dr. Anne Armstrong, Dr. Judith Hector and Dr. Samuel O'Dell. Dr. James Ford was named professor emeritus in 2006 but was on hand for this ceremony.

“I am pleased to bestow this status on three of the college’s most respected faculty members. They have dedicated much of their scholarly work and community service to this institution. The college, their colleagues and their students have benefited greatly from their dedication,” said Dr. Wade B. McCamey, president of Walters State.

Each honoree was present as McCamey unveiled photographs which will be displayed on the Academic Wall of Honor.

Armstrong joined Walters State in 1970, rising through the ranks of faculty and eventually serving as head of the English Department.

“Dr. Armstrong was not only committed to improving students’ understanding and appreciation for good writing and literature, but she promoted students’ participation in cultural activities as well,” McCamey said. He added that her creative writing courses also attracted the best students and helped those students develop a creative outlet.

Hector joined the faculty in 1973 and served as dean of mathematics from 1984-2004.

“Dr. Hector served Walters State both by her outstanding instruction in the classroom and her accomplishments in national and state educational organizations. Under her leadership, the mathematics division provided considerable outreach to teachers and students throughout the area. Her legacy of outreach continues,” McCamey said.

O’Dell joined Walters State in 1970 and served as division chair for social sciences and professor of history and political science.

“Dr. O’Dell was known for his sense of humor, quick smile and ability to tell a nonfiction or a fiction story. He could easily keep the attention of students while weaving through years of history,” McCamey said.
Last month, the college held a nursing pinning ceremony for the first time in the month of December. Traditionally, we have held only one pinning ceremony a year, in May. But because of the growth and expansion of our nursing program—in addition to the Morristown campus we now offer the program at our Greeneville and Sevierville campus sites—we decided to add another ceremony for students who complete the program mid-year.

During such profound occasions as this one, I am in the fortunate position of meeting our graduates as they cross the threshold of one of the most important milestones of their lives. It is truly an honor for me to share this moment with them because I fully realize and appreciate that this day is the culmination of hours upon hours of hard work and personal sacrifice.

These students, like all of our students who complete a degree program, are extremely dedicated individuals who balance family, school and jobs in an effort to improve their lives through education. If you are a Walters State alumnus reading this message, you too probably made similar sacrifices to earn your degree.

This is why it is personally very rewarding to see that community colleges are receiving state and national recognition for the significant role we are playing throughout the nation in economic recovery efforts. After all, nearly half of all college-degree seeking students attend a community college, and that number is rising every semester.

Locally, Walters State has always received tremendous support from visionary governmental and community leaders. Unfortunately, many community colleges have struggled to receive the recognition they deserve for their contributions to the American higher education system and our economy.

However, throughout the recent economic downturn, Walters State and other community colleges have been at the forefront of local economic recovery efforts, offering programs and services that are helping displaced workers get back into the workforce. Community colleges have been able to adapt and effect change quickly to meet the current workforce demands.

Such recognition is gratifying because it represents more than just a shift in how community colleges are perceived. It is also a reflection of the major contributions community college graduates are making in the workforce and the economy.

And based on the inspiring student success stories I hear at every nursing pinning and graduation ceremony, I am confident that a further investment in community college students will continue to reap major economic returns.

Wade B. McCay
Long-Time Employee Remembered By Endowment

The family of the late Billy E. Brandenburg has honored the long-time Walters State employee and alumnus with an endowed scholarship through the Walters State Foundation.

Brandenburg began working at Walters State as a security officer in 1980. Years later, when the college opened the Basic Law Enforcement Officer Academy, he entered the intense program to become a certified police officer with the Walters State Campus Police. At 58, he became the oldest man in the state to earn certification, and he graduated with high grades.

“Due to his vast experience, wisdom and strong values, Billy became an invaluable ambassador for the college. He also became an advisor to his colleagues and to students,” said Dr. Jack Campbell, president emeritus of Walters State. “Billy even offered advice to the college’s president and I listened.”

“Billy loved Walters State, so this was a natural thing to do,” his wife, Anna said. Both Brandenburg children, Alisa and David, are Walters State graduates.

Mrs. Brandenburg’s donation is being matched by Sherwin-Williams, Anna’s employer for many years.

By establishing an endowed scholarship, the Brandenburg family has created a lasting memorial. Interest from the endowment will fund scholarships, while the principal is untouched. The endowment will perpetually fund scholarships through the Walters State Foundation.

Is Planned Giving Part of Your Legacy?

Would you like to support the work of Walters State Community College, but feel unable to because of approaching retirement, the need to make sure your family is cared for or just think planned giving can be too complicated?

Through planned giving, many alumni have been able to include Walters State in their legacy without neglecting other important responsibilities.

To learn more about Planned Giving, contact Henry Drinnon at (423) 585-2629.
1978
Mark Ray, A.S. Nursing, was recognized by Lakeway Regional Hospital for 31 years of employment, making him the hospital's longest running employee. Ray is the charge nurse in surgery.

1984
Beverly Brooks, A.S. Criminal Justice, has completed her first documentary. "Granny Nichols: Last of the Old Timey Midwives" is based on the true life of Etta Nichols. Brooks works at the Walters State Computer Helpdesk with Debbie Jones, Nichols' granddaughter.

Garlena Lee is the new director of the University of Tennessee Medical Center Sleep Disorders Center. She lives in Strawberry Plains with her husband, Don. The couple has two children.

1985
Trena Parks, A.S. Education, retired following 22 years of teaching at Cocke County High School. For most of her career, she served as chairperson for the science department and was voted favorite teacher by the graduating classes of 2003 and 2009. She lives in Kodak with her husband Jim.

1987
Terri Conduff, General Studies, opened a new advertising and public relations company, TDC Communications in Morristown. Conduff completed her B.S. in graphic design at Middle Tennessee State University and spent 15 years working at several prestigious advertising firms before opening her own.

1992
Sharon Claiborne, A.S. Nursing, has a second generation Walters State student in her family. After serving in the Marines, her son Jimmy Phillips has just completed his first semester in the nursing program.

1996
Jonathan Greene has been appointed as the Tennessee Region I International Trauma Life Support Coordinator. His duties include improving patient care through the education of healthcare providers in Northeast Tennessee. Greene is training coordinator with Greeneville/Greene County Emergency Medical Services.

1998
Barbara Fanning, A.S. General Science, earned her DVM degree in 2006 from the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. She works at Lakeway Animal Hospital in Jefferson City and Rutledge Animal Clinic in Rutledge. She plans to complete a residency and become certified in feline medicine.

1999
Neal Elliott, A.S. Production Horticulture, is employed by Peachtree Landscaping in Gray.

Christy Painter, A.S. Nursing, has been named director of Takoma Regional Hospital's intensive care unit. She has worked at the hospital in nursing and leadership roles for 11 years.

2000
Christy Painter, A.S. Nursing, has been named director of Takoma Regional Hospital's intensive care unit. She has worked at the hospital in nursing and leadership roles for 11 years.

2007
Tasia Bush, A.S. General Studies, graduated cum laude with a B.S. in human services from East Tennessee State University. She has accepted a teacher/counselor position at Holston United Methodist Home for Children in Greeneville.

Kaylin Fletcher, A.S. Paralegal Studies, became Kaylin Miller in August when she married Joshua Miller. She is a paralegal at Terry, Terry and Stapleton in Morristown. The couple lives in Newport.

Clint Hodges, A.S. Agriculture, has completed his B.S. in animal production/business. He is employed by Long Creek Farm.

2008
Mary Jones, A.S. General Studies, is completing her B.S. in education at Tusculum College and will be student teaching in the spring. She is proud to be one of the first graduates of Walters State's College Express program.

Joshua Newton, Certificate EMS, is a paramedic at the Hawkins County EMS.

Full Name__________________________________________
Address____________________________________________
E-mail______________________________________________
Years attended________________________Major/Degree__________
Current position and/or activities________________________

Share Your News With Other WSCC Alumni!

Return to Office of College Advancement, Walters State Community College, 500 S. Davy Crockett Pkwy, Morristown, TN 37813 or e-mail your news to wanda.harrell@ws.edu.
Most college students change majors at least once. Changing hers at the right time made Misty Bailey a unique fit for a research editor position at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine.

Bailey, who earned an associate’s degree in 1998, started Walters State as a pre-pharmacy major. After working in a pharmacy, she decided a pharmacy career wasn’t the right career choice for her. She then gravitated to English and went on to earn bachelor’s and master’s degrees in the subject.

The change in majors didn’t come before Bailey had taken the required science courses at Walters State. “The general science courses I took at Walters State have really helped me with this job. I needed that general science background to be able to understand the material I am editing,” Bailey said.

Bailey works closely with faculty members and assists them when research findings are about to be published as journal articles. Several faculty members are involved in cancer research. “Cancer has touched my family, so working with faculty who are doing such important research makes me feel like I am part of something bigger,” said Bailey.

Bailey was one of 30 people chosen at the University of Tennessee to be part of a month-long intensive English language program at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China.

At the camp, Bailey gave lectures in the morning and led small group activities in the afternoon. The idea for one of her activities came from the fact that she was celebrating her fourth anniversary a world away from her husband.

“I told them about American wedding traditions, shared some photos of my wedding and showed them my wedding ring. The next day, I wanted them to tell me about Chinese wedding traditions so the students acted out a Chinese wedding for me,” Bailey recalls.

Tsinghua University treated the American instructors very well, including planning trips to the Great Wall and the Forbidden City. Her students, though, were so eager to practice their English language skills that they could have served as tour guides, taking her to places on campus and in the city of Beijing. Students also took her to the city’s Summer Palace.

The first nursing class to complete the program entirely at the Sevier County Campus graduated in December. Class members are shown above with Donna McGaha, assistant professor of nursing, left, and Sue Frazier, dean of the campus.
Fouché Is 09 Distinguished Faculty

Dr. Pamela Fouche’, professor of biology, received the 2009-2010 Distinguished Faculty Award during inaugural week activities in September. Fouche’ joined the college in 1990.

Fouche’ doesn’t remember making the decision to be a teacher. For her, it just happened. “I found teaching to be much more rewarding than working in industry. Working with students, you see the results immediately. Students get a look on their face and you know they understand what you’ve said,” Fouche’ said.

Fouche’ pioneered the online delivery of courses, developing anatomy and physiology programs for the Tennessee Board of Regents Online Degree Program. During fall semester, 65 sections of the course were offered.

“Dr. Fouche’ is a consummate professional who always takes a student-centered approach. She mastered the challenge of online delivery of these courses,” said Dr. Jeffrey Horner, dean of the Natural Science Division.

Meet WSCC’s New Alumni Coordinator

Wanda (Adams) Harrell is the new coordinator of alumni affairs and special events at Walters State. She’s a familiar face around the college. She’s an alumna (A.S., Child Care Technology) and previously served as secretary in the Office of College Advancement.

Harrell oversees the college’s alumni Web site and coordinates alumni events. She’s eager to meet other alumni and welcomes phone calls and e-mails.

“I am excited about the chance to interact with students and with alumni,” Harrell said. Her daughter, Danielle, is also an alumna. She graduated in 2006 and served as the Student Government Association president.

Harrell is also excited about Walters State’s evolving alumni program. The college has over 17,800 graduates. An estimated 17,000 more attended for several semesters without earning a degree, likely transferring to a four-year college to finish a bachelor’s program.

“I want to see the involvement and support that Walters State has among its alumni continue and even grow,” Harrell said. Harrell looks forward to meeting and communicating with more alumni.

“Dr. Pamela Fouche’

“The RODP courses that she developed and currently facilitates provide higher education opportunities for more students,” Horner said.

“Wanda Harrell

Meet WSCC’s New Alumni Coordinator

Dr. Richa Russell, professor of nursing, was chosen as the outstanding instructor in the Citizen Tribune’s annual “Best of Morristown” poll. The award usually goes to an elementary or secondary school teacher.

Malcolm McAvoy, head of Walters State’s Speech Communications Department, chaired panels on Departmental Public Relations and Debate and Forensics at this year’s Tennessee Communications Association Conference. Dr. Larry Clifton, assistant professor, presented a paper on “Aristotelian Properties for the Public Sector.” Marci Nimick, instructor, also served on the Debate and Forensics Panel.

Gail Winkler, head of the Health Information Technology Program, and Jane Shrader, instructor, attended a conference on new ICD-10 coding standards. Both have passed the required exam and the college will be offering this new form of medical coding in the future.

Dr. Betsy Dobbins’ article, “Where Has all the Mereidine Gone?” will be published in January in Nursing. Dobbins is professor of nursing.

Dr. Chris Baker, professor of sociology, was quoted in the magazine “Gardens and Guns” and also on CBS’ Sunday Morning recently. Both featured Baker’s insights into moonshine and Appalachia. Baker has also co-authored a book on social issues, including service learning. He is also known for his research in prison sociology.

Dr. Eric Powell, Paramedic Program Director, attended the University and Agency Partners semiannual program for Homeland Security Experts at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School’s Center for Homeland Security in Monterey, Calif.

Viki Rouse, assistant professor of English, received the Plattner Award for the best fiction submission to “Appalachia,” a journal of arts and literature. Rouse accepted the honor on behalf of Mildred Haun. The award was given for a previously unpublished story written by the late Haun. Rouse discovered the story while going through Haun’s literary papers at Vanderbilt University.
The Senators welcome 18 fresh faces to the baseball team this year with another three players making their debuts after redshirting last season. That’s a record number of new players for the program.

With only seven players returning, Coach Ken Campbell is excited to get things going in the spring.

“We’re looking forward to getting spring practice started and seeing what the new kids can do for us,” Campbell said. “We had a chance to get them some action in the fall, and we have some pretty good power coming in.”

The Senators will welcome some new big hitters to the lineup, but Campbell is also looking for good things out of a revamped pitching staff.

“Right now, our pitching is probably like everyone else. They’re all equal, and I couldn’t give you a depth chart on who will start or be in relief,” Campbell said.

“We’ve got a few guys coming back off of redshirt seasons, and we added a couple of guys with some experience as well. We also have some talent with the new guys, and it will be interesting to see just how they shake out when we get going.”

Under Armour All-Americans Corey Davis from Douglas, Ga., and Chris Constantino from Lincoln, R.I., anchor the corner positions at first and third, respectively, and Pigeon Forge graduate Adam Guinn will battle for time at third as well.

Morristown native Adam Epps, along with transfers Garrett Koster and Shaun Ball, will look for time at either second or short with returning starter Sam Munson.

“We needed some depth in the infield after losing several players at those positions,” Campbell said. “We have some good power in there with Davis, Constantino and Ball, but we feel like we have great players all around fighting for playing time in the infield.”

Dylan Pratt returns to Walters State after redshirting at Vanderbilt last season. In 2008, Pratt had a highly successful season by batting .371 and bashing 23 home runs while helping guide the Senators to the JUCO World Series.

“Having Pratt come back for another year is a tremendous lift for us,” Campbell said. “We can pretty much count on him for 20 or more homers and a .400 batting average.”

Pratt is joined by Knox Catholic product Dalton Irwin, and Campbell also noted that Munson and pitcher Will Scott could see action in the outfield as well.

“We have a lot of options when it comes to the outfield spots,” Campbell said. “We’re going to put the best nine on the field that give us the opportunity to win.”

The first home game is Feb. 17. A complete schedule is available at www.ws.edu.
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Walters State Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097: telephone number 404-679-4501) to award Associate of Arts, Associate of Science and Associate of Applied Science degrees.

Walters State Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, color, religion, national origin, age, disability or veteran status in provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits pursuant to the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA). Inquiries and charges of violations of any of the above referenced policies should be directed to the Human Resources Office at Walters State, 500 S. Davy Crockett Pkwy., Morristown, TN 37813-6899. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to Office of Disability Services at Walters State, 500 S. Davy Crockett Pkwy., Morristown, TN 37813-6899.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Walters State Community College
500 South Davy Crockett Parkway
Morristown, TN 37813-6892

Five Reasons to Visit Your Alma Mater!

Where Else Can you Enjoy Basketball and Romance

Think nothing is going on at WSCC? No reason to visit the campus since you’re not a student anymore? Wrong! Here are five things planned for this spring that warrant a drive to a Walters State campus.

1. The Lady Senators
The team wrapped up the pre-Christmas season 10-1 (7-0 in the conference). The team is ranked No. 8 in the country and at press time has a home court winning streak of 41. Admission is free. A schedule is available on the college’s Web site (click “Athletics”).

2. The New Bakery!
The Rel Maples Institute for Culinary Arts now offers a public bakery every Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Try some homemade bread, artisan breads, cinnamon rolls, pastries, pies and cakes. Chef Catherine Hallman, head of the culinary arts program, promises you’ll be happy with whatever you choose.

3. Romeo and Juliet
The Department of Music and Theatre plans to present the Shakespeare classic in the spring. Look for details on the Web site.

4. Summer Camps
Walters State offers some of the most diverse and affordable summer camps in the state. Young athletes can learn from the Senators and Lady Senators, and young scholars can choose from over 50 subjects at Kids College. For more info on Kids College, e-mail Dr. Nicole Cardwell-Hampton at Nicole.Cardwell-Hampton@ws.edu.

5. The Tennessee Schmaltz
This group will bring their unique blend of Jewish music to campus in March.

Correct Your Address And Win A WSCC Alum T-Shirt!

Make sure you keep receiving The HUB by e-mailing your correct address to Wanda.Harrell@ws.edu. Mail address corrections to Wanda Harrell; Walters State Community College; 500 South Davy Crockett Parkway; Morristown, TN 37813. The first 25 alumni to correct a name, address or other data will receive a cool WSCC Alumnus T-shirt.

The Walters State Alumni Association is a great way to stay involved with your alma mater. To join, simply complete the requested information at the Walters State Alumni Web site. (Visit www.ws.edu and click on the alumni logo). Register with your year and choose chapters in which you would like to participate. The site is secure and offers many social networking benefits. You can also choose your class year.

The Walters State Alumni Association offers opportunities to network, connect with faculty members and learn about events at the college. For additional information, call (423) 585-6976.