

# The Rejuvenator



Newsletter of the UWG Association of Retired Faculty & Staff No. 38 June 2020



## THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF *VIRTUAL ANNUAL REUNION*

**Saturday, August 22, 2020 at 11:30 am**

In the best interest of everyone's health and well-being, the 2020 ARFS Annual Reunion will be virtual instead of face-to-face. Although we always enjoy this wonderful event, the Coordinating Council believes it is prudent to avoid a large, in-person gathering of retirees, family, and friends in August. However, a virtual event allows us to still honor and celebrate our retirees. The event will include a slideshow presentation to recognize each retiree. We will also share a message of gratitude for their service to UWG from our new President, Dr. Brendan Kelly. The in-person recognition of the 2019-20 retirees will be delayed until conditions are sufficiently safe, possibly in the spring.

Please plan to view the event via the ARFS website [www.alumni.westga.edu/arfs](http://www.alumni.westga.edu/arfs). A link to view the event will be available on the website on Saturday, August 22, 2020 at 11:30 am.

### **2019-2020 Retirees to be Honored Virtually at August 22, 2020 Reunion**

Gerald M. Allen	Dale Duffey	Faramarz Parsa
Billy "Randy" Bearden	Danny Doyle Folds	Mary Reid
Carolyn M. Berry	Chris Geiger	Johnnie A. Samples
Peggy L. Boston	Karen Gibbs	Robert Sanders
Judy Butler	Linda A. Henson	Jane W. Smith
Wanda Calhoun	Kimberly Ingram	Phyllis R. Snipes
John Congleton	Doris R. Kieh	Teresa Steadman
John Micheal Crafton	Daniel G. Lewis	Lynn W. Wilkinson
Tammy B. Crews	Laura Mayfield	George Howard Williams
Bruce Robert Daniel	Patresa Murphy	Howard L. Winters
Nancy DuBose-Watkins	Karen S. O'Connor	Mary-Kathryn Zachary

## ***UWG CAMPUS UPDATES—Welcome Dr. Brendan Kelly***

Our new President, Dr. Brendan Kelly, joined UWG officially on March 23, 2020. Dr. Kelly previously served as chancellor of the University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, South Carolina, a position he held since 2017. He also was appointed in April 2019 as interim president of the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina. Prior to USC Upstate, Kelly served as vice president of university advancement, foundation president and chief executive officer of the historic trust at the University of West Florida (UWF) in Pensacola, Florida, from 2013 to 2017. Kelly earned both a bachelor's degree in public relations and a master's degree in communication from Eastern Michigan University. He earned his doctorate in rhetoric and political communication from Wayne State University.



In his new role as UWG President, Dr. Kelly is taking every measure necessary to protect our entire campus community during this challenging and difficult time. All classroom instruction is being delivered online through the summer, and we are anxiously awaiting the hopeful return of students to campus this fall. It has been a transition for both students and faculty, but we are navigating this new territory well and continuing to be a leader within the University System of Georgia in these efforts. Spring and summer sports, as well as, in-person commencement ceremonies were postponed. We did have the opportunity to recognize our spring 2020 graduates with a virtual graduation celebration. As for the faculty and staff at UWG, the large majority are telecommuting as plans to return to campus are being finalized. For further campus updates, please continue to check the UWG website and social media accounts!

### ***Welcome Dr. Meredith Brunen, Vice President for University Advancement***



The Vice President for University Advancement is responsible for overseeing the University Advancement division, which includes Advancement Services, Alumni Relations, Annual Giving, Development, Donor Relations, and Special Events. Dr. Meredith Brunen previously served as vice chancellor for University Advancement and chief executive officer of two foundations at the University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, South Carolina. She worked extensively and successfully to enhance fundraising outcomes for the university, help elevate the profile of USC Upstate, and engage community partners by sharing a strategic vision and the importance of the university to the region. Prior to joining USC Upstate, Dr. Brunen served in executive leadership roles at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, Florida, and Northwest Arkansas Community College Foundation in Bentonville, Arkansas.

**To sign up for our listserv, please email Debbie Novak at [dnovak@westga.edu](mailto:dnovak@westga.edu). Also, remember that if you've changed your email address, you must notify us so we can update you on the ARFS listserv. Our listserv address is [uwg-arfs-list@westga.edu](mailto:uwg-arfs-list@westga.edu).**

## ARFS Candidate Slate to be Presented at August 22, 2020 Virtual Reunion

The ARFS Nominating Committee is pleased to present to the membership our slate of candidates for Officers and Coordinating Council Members At-Large for the coming year(s). We appreciate all of our candidates for their willingness to have their names placed on this year's ballot. Terms begin at reunion date and end two years later at reunion date.

The ballot shown below will be voted on during the virtual Annual Reunion in August. It includes persons completing their terms as prescribed by ARFS Bylaws:

### Officers

(also members of the Coordinating Council)

President: Meg Cooper (term 2020-2022)

Vice President: Anne Richards (term 2020-2022)

Past President: Kathryn Grams (term 2020-2022)

Secretary: Francie Taylor (term 2020-2022)

Treasurer: Sally Roberts (term 2020-2022)

### At-Large Members of the Coordinating Council

(minimum of six)

Bonnie Bar (term 2019-2021)

Bobby Powell (term 2019-2021)

Frank Pritchett (term 2019-2021)

Jimmy Drew (term 2020-2022)

John von Eschenbach (term 2020-2022)

Anita Thomas (term 2020-2022)

Alice Wesley (term 2020-2022)

Diane Williamson (term 2020-2022)



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## ARFS 2019 Annual Report

An Annual Report has been submitted to the VP for University Advancement and is available to review on the ARFS website under *Documents Center*. The report covers activities of the group from August 2018 to September 2019. Topics covered in the report include:

- ARFS Support for University Mission and Values
- Coordinating Council Meetings
- The Rejuvenator Newsletter
- Benefits Fair Participation
- University System of Georgia Retiree Council (USGRC) Involvement
- Georgia Association of Higher Education Retiree Organization (GA-HERO) Involvement
- The 2019 Annual Reunion

*Thank you to all involved in this important work!*

## UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship Update



The Association of Retired Faculty & Staff is pleased to announce the current recipient of the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship is Allen Ledbetter. Thanks to all who have given so generously to the scholarship fund. Your gifts make all the difference!

Allen is a UWG graduate student in the MBA program in Richards College of Business. While attending classes, he also currently works full-time as a Systems Analyst at Southwire. Allen's goal is to use the knowledge that he gains from the MBA to manage a team to further Southwire's leverage of their enterprise systems.

Allen and his wife, Meredith have 2 children, Charlotte and Jack. Allen is the son of UWG retiree, Lisa Ledbetter. Congratulations to Allen!

***PLEASE NOTE—DONATIONS ARE STILL NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP!***

If you would like to make a gift, you may donate online ([www.westga.edu/arfs](http://www.westga.edu/arfs)). You may also mail a check to the Alumni House (1601 Maple Street, Carrollton GA 30118). Be sure to indicate on your check that your donation is designated for the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship. For additional information/questions, please contact Ketty Cusick, Director of Development, at [kcusick@westga.edu](mailto:kcusick@westga.edu) or 678-839-6501.

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### ARFS COORDINATING COUNCIL WORK

The Coordinating Council has continued to operate and conduct business during the pandemic and quarantine. The association by-laws were amended to include meeting and voting protocols via virtual formats. On June 12, Coordinating Council members were able to meet virtually with the new V.P. for Advancement, Dr. Meredith Brunen, and President, Dr. Brendan Kelly. This was an opportunity to introduce council members to the new administration and share input with them regarding important issues for UWG retirees.

### UWG TO REOPEN CAMPUS

The University of West Georgia, based on guidance from the USG, plans to open its campus for all employees and students for the Fall 2020 term. UWG's method prioritizes bringing employees back to campus in a safe and responsible manner. The intent of this plan is to account for the full opening of campus to include students' presence, residence, attendance, and participation in academic instruction, athletic events, campus events, use of student services, and any and all other normal campus activities and events that preceded the university's March 2020 response to the COVID-19 pandemic. For ongoing updates please visit [www.westga.edu](http://www.westga.edu)