

December 2022 Alumni & Friends Newsletter

Dean's Message

We hope that this newsletter finds you well. Our fall 2022 semester has been filled with offering innovative and challenging courses, highlighting positive role models for new students, and celebrating the achievements of students and faculty. As always, we are happy to say that external organizations continue to confer accolades upon our folk—a sign that we are preparing students well and that our faculty members are not only excellent in our own eyes. We have been happy to see alumni and friends in recent months at events such as: College programs, the Community Lecture Series at The Arts Center, The Greenwood Museum to see the Lander history exhibit, Homecoming festivities, The Lander Foundation's scholarship banquet, and at the annual Christmas tree lighting. It is always good to see you, hear your news, and meet your families.

This newsletter includes alumni updates, student and faculty news, and invitations to Spring 2023 events. If you have not visited Greenwood or the campus recently, we hope to see you soon.

We also invite your gifts to support of our people and programs. Tim Snyder is set to retire in May 2023 after 35 years on our faculty, so we particularly encourage your support of the Snyder Scholarship to honor him.

Thanks for your continued support and encouragement. In the words of "Jessye's carol," my wish for you and yours is that "peace and love and hope abide this Christmastide." -- *Lucas McMillan*

Alumni News

Johnathan McAllister '06 recently graduated from the FBI Academy. He currently serves as a sergeant with the Conway (S.C.) Police Department and is a student in Lander's M.S. in Emergency Management program.

Hannah Bromley '18 earned her Psy.M. in Applied Behavioral Analysis from Purdue University. She works for the Atlanta Behavior Academy, having previously served in an academic support services role for The Citadel.

Joe Camp '88 has completed his third book on World War II, *Langdon Liberando: An Abbevilian's Fifty Missions Over Southern Europe*. He teaches U.S. history courses as a part-time faculty member at Lander and is on the faculty of Cambridge Academy. Dr. Camp's previous works include *32 Answered: A South Carolina Veterans' Story*, a book that was a finalist for a 2016 Next Generation Indie Book Award.

Eryan Cooper '18 is serving as interim executive director for the Foundation for Monterey County Free Libraries in CA.

Matthew Dantzler '16 is an Electronic Records Analyst for the S.C. Department of Archives & History, having earned two master's degrees – one in public history from Georgia Southern University and another in library science/ archives and records management from N.C. Central University. Mr. Dantzler is also a part-time faculty member at Lander.



Joe Camp



Matthew Dantzler



Makaylyn Helms



Kathryn Spence Lindler



Daniel Odom

Tanisha Elder-Kirk '14 is a research project manager for the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. She earned a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree at USC.

Jessica Falls Garcia '12 is a prevention specialist at MEG'S House, a non-profit organization in Greenwood.

Makaylyn Helms '21 recently earned her M.Sc. in Psychology of Mental Health *with distinction* from London Metropolitan University in the United Kingdom. She is now applying to doctoral programs in clinical and health psychology and hopes to publish her research in the future.

Richard Kaczmarek '19, '21 is Region 5 Coordinator for the S.C. Emergency Management Division. He earned his bachelor's degree and an M.S. in Emergency Management at Lander before securing this position. He is now pursuing a doctorate from Jacksonville State University.

Kathryn Spence Lindler '18 serves as a School Counselor for Brennen Elementary School in Columbia, S.C. She completed her Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree and a play therapy certificate from USC – Columbia.

Daniel Odom '21 is pursuing his Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree at Appalachian State University and working for the Western Piedmont Council of Governments as a transportation planner.

Perrin Rickenbaker '20 is studying for a Master of Human Resources degree at USC's Moore School of Business.

Chelsey Steifle '15, human resources manager at Eaton Power Distribution Manufacturing in Greenwood, has joined the Self Regional Healthcare Foundation board of trustees.

Ettelle Toole '16 is director of business development & preconstruction at H.G. Reynolds Company in Aiken, S.C.

Kathryn Wypasek '18 completed her M.A. in higher education from Caldwell University in July and will enroll in Lander's MBA program in January 2023. She serves as a Communications Processor in Lander's Office of Admissions.



Latimore appointed U.S. Marshal for South Carolina

U.S. President Joe Biden nominated **Chrissie Cofield Latimore '11** (*pictured, left*) to serve as U.S. Marshal for the District of South Carolina in June. On Dec. 6, 2022, the U.S. Senate confirmed Latimore for this role. She will soon begin a four-year term. U.S. marshals support all aspects of the federal justice system, such as providing security for federal courts, judges, and correctional facilities; apprehending criminals and maintaining custody of federal prisoners; and enforcing federal laws.

Latimore has served as Chief of Police for Laurens, S.C. since 2018 and in various roles with that department since 1999. She was a special agent for the S.C. Law Enforcement Division from 2013-2014. A veteran of the U.S. Army and Army Reserve, she previously served as a part-time faculty member in Criminology at Lander.



Alumni present research at national conference

In August, two alumni presented findings from their undergraduate research projects at the American Psychological Association meeting in Minneapolis, MN. **Chelsea Davis '22** (*pictured, right*) is currently pursuing an M.S. in sport and exercise psychology at Ball State University in Indiana. **Morgan Ferqueron '22** (*pictured, left*) is now studying for her M.S. in clinical psychology at USC – Aiken. "The opportunity for undergraduate students to work directly with faculty on research is truly unique. It is one of my favorite things about working at Lander," says Professor of Psychology **Mandy Cleveland** (*pictured, right*), the mentor for these projects.

Davis noted that the APA conference forced her "to think outside of my comfort zone and deepened my understanding of what it means to 'attend a conference.'" It is uncommon for research by undergraduates to be presented at national-level conferences. Faculty, such as Dr. Cleveland, have been pleased to mentor more students in recent years.



Providing these experiences is why the College continues to raise money for funds such as the **Dr. Deb Acorn Student Research Fund** within the Department of Psychological Science & Human Services.

Alumni Award Winners at Homecoming

Sharon McMahan Adams '65 received Lander's *Grace Iler Norman Alumni Service Award* during Homecoming in October. Mrs. Adams taught social studies and history for 33 years, retiring from Boiling Springs Junior High School. Since 1999, she has served as a stalwart volunteer for Lander in several capacities. She served on the Alumni Association board of directors, planned several reunions, and helped raise funds for the Class of 1965 Scholarship. For her dedication and steadfast support to Lander, President Richard Cosentino was pleased to present Mrs. Adams with the highest honor from the Alumni Association during Homecoming festivities in October.



In this photo, Mrs. Adams (center) is pictured with education alumna Katie Troutman '07 (left), winner of the *Young Alumni Achievement Award*; and **Cory Plowden '99** (right), winner of the *Distinguished Alumni Award*. Col. Plowden completed Lander's ROTC program and, upon graduation with a biology degree, commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. His service to the nation includes three combat tours. Today he serves as Commander of the Desmond Doss Health Clinic at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Special Events

Constitution Day Program

Kierra Brown '14 was the speaker for "The Constitution Today: Why it Matters to You, to Us, and the Future." This September program provided students with a chance to see a successful alumna who explained the Founders' views on the roles of government and summarized many historic cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. A graduate of Penn State's law school, Ms. Brown practices law in the Charleston, S.C. firm of Copeland Stair Valz & Lovell. Pictured above with Brown (right), are Mia Crankfield '22, (center); and Dean McMillan (left).



Halloween Costume Contests

Three Halloween costume contests on Oct. 31 drew much participation from students and faculty. First, second, and third place prizes were awarded throughout the day. These photos are just a sample of the many folks who participated.

The College is better known for more serious events each semester, but it is always good to have some fun!



Student News



Courtney Clavel



Austin Lathren



Madison Pigford

The Value of Internships

Courtney Clavel '23 will spend the spring 2023 semester in Washington, D.C. as part of the University of South Carolina's Washington Semester Program. Clavel, a political science major completing the emphasis in public administration, will intern in the office of U.S. Rep. James E. Clyburn (D.-S.C.) and take courses with students from S.C. universities that are a part of this special consortium. Thirty students have interned in Washington, D.C. in recent years.

Although most internships occur in Greenwood and near the campus, internships are offered across South Carolina and near students' homes. Wherever the location, the College appreciates the partnership it enjoys with organizations and their supervisors who provide students with experiential education and enhancement of professional skills. In September, a panel of junior and senior students explained the value of their summer and fall internships to their peers. Some of these students were later featured in the *Index-Journal* or in university news releases in recent months. These include:

- **Austin Lathren '23**, a political science – public administration major, interned with the City of Greenwood in during summer and fall 2022. One of his duties was to work with Greenwood City Manager **Julie Wilkie '03** on development of a policy for dilapidated houses that he presented to the Greenwood City Council.
- **Madison Pigford '24**, an international studies major, spent summer 2022 in Greensboro, N.C. as an intern for the New Arrivals Institute, a non-profit organization that assists refugees and their families.
- **Anna Henriksen Shea '23**, a history major completing the public history emphasis, interned at The Greenwood Museum this fall. As part of her duties, she assisted with the museum's exhibit on Lander's sesquicentennial.

Lander makes partnerships with more technical colleges

Agreements facilitate pathways for high-achieving transfer students



TECHNICAL COLLEGE
OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

Lander University continues to make partnerships with technical colleges across South Carolina, an initiative that began several years ago. In recent months, the College has concluded articulation agreements with **York Technical College** and **Technical College of the Lowcountry** to assist students coming into Lander's programs in criminology, human services, and paralegal studies.

These agreements add to University's ability to recruit high-achieving and motivated students because, like others, they make for smooth transitions for any student—those who have taken only a few courses or who have completed an associate's degree. Beyond those students continuing their education in CRIM, HUS, or LEG disciplines, these agreements help students who are in Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Science (A.S.), or university transfer programs. Students interested in transferring to Lander University should contact **Kenneth Calliham** in the Admissions Office at **864-388-8307** or admissions@lander.edu.



Faculty News

On Dec. 6, the College hosted a book launch party at Sundance Galleries in Greenwood for **Jonathan Bassett** to celebrate his new book, *Death on the Small Screen: The Psychology of Viewing Violent Television* (McFarland Publishers, 2022). The author of over 40 journal articles and many conference presentations, Dr. Bassett benefited from a sabbatical to help complete this project. The book has garnered many positive reviews, and the Ernest Becker Foundation interviewed Dr. Bassett about this project earlier this fall. In October, he presented another paper at the national meeting of the Popular Culture Association.

We were happy that so many active and retired Lander faculty, community friends, and alumni joined us for this celebratory event.

If you are interested in learning more about this book, join us on **Feb. 7, 2023 at The Arts Center of Greenwood** for a Community Lecture Series event featuring Dr. Bassett. A reception begins at 5:30, and the talk begins at 6:00 p.m.



Dr. Bassett speaks at the party.



Drs. Tim Snyder, Jon Bassett, and Deb Acorn catch up at the party.



Daniel Harrison (pictured left, in his office) is the subject of a documentary produced by Florida State University graduate students. They interviewed him about his research on Marshall Ledbetter, the subject of his book, *Making Sense of Marshall Ledbetter: The Dark Side of Political Protest* (The University Press of Florida, 2014). Dr. Harrison currently serves as president of the South Carolina Sociological Association.

Laura Jean Kerr serves as program chair for the 2023 S.C. Sociological Association meeting that will be held from Feb. 24-26 in Florence.

Sarah King has an article accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal in criminology.

Matthew Malone has recently published an article in the *Journal of Emergency Management and Disaster Communications*. Additionally, Dr. Malone serves as program chair for the 2023 South Carolina Political Science Association meeting that will be held at Lander University on Feb. 17-18.

Lucas McMillan was elected to the board of directors of the Alston Wilkes Society, a multi-state non-profit organization that provides programs for veterans and their families, individuals with justice system involvement, and at-risk youth and adults. Lander University trustee **Anne Walker '72** is President and CEO of the Alston Wilkes Society.

Shaunette Parker published a book review in the *Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology* this fall.

William Ramsey recently published a book review in *The Journal of Military History*.



Franklin Rausch (pictured, left) has been busy setting up a public history lab where students can put together their own podcasts and documentaries or conduct interviews. The lab also aids public history courses where students familiarize themselves with handling historical objects and work on design exhibits. Dr. Rausch has recorded podcasts with several history alumni and current students in the past year and is an active performer in public history demonstrations, both at the Ninety Six National Historic Site and with community groups.

In scholarly activity, Dr. Rausch published a book review in the journal *Acta Koreana* and made a presentation for the American Academy of Religion in June. He made a presentation for The George Washington University in September. Finally, Dr. Rausch published an article in the *Journal of Korean Religions* in October.

Zach Rubin and **Kalysta Addison '23** recently published a co-authored article in the journal *Human Services Organizations: Management, Leadership, and Governance*. Dr. Rubin also presented his research at the Communal Studies Assn. meeting in October. He serves as program chair for the Carolinas Undergraduate Social Science Symposium that Lander will host on Apr. 20-21, 2023. **Lane Riley '12**, associate coordinator of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship S.C., will be a guest speaker for this symposium.



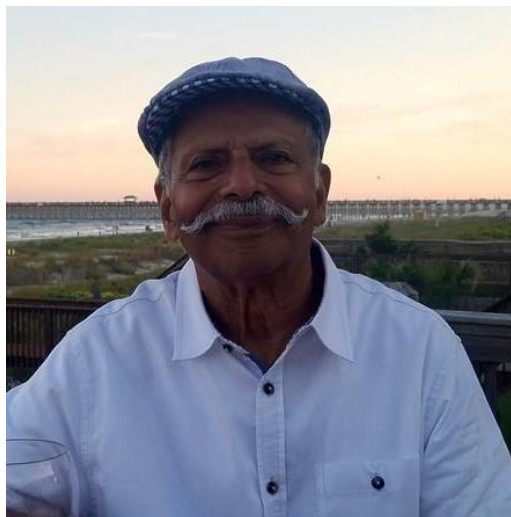
Michelle Scott (pictured, left) and Lander's Human Services program at the University Center in Greenville were in a [WYFF News 4 broadcast](#) in September that explained how students benefited from a suicide prevention course. This is an example of how Prof. Scott often collaborates with local professionals in order to help Lander and Greenville Technical College students learn about best practices in the human services field. This fall, Prof. Scott and some students benefited from a virtual National Organization of Human Services conference.



A presentation by **Shana Southard-Dobbs** and **Tess Gemberling** (pictured, left) won a prize from the Early Career Psychologists Committee at the October 2022 meeting of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology. Dr. Southard-Dobbs and Dr. Gemberling have been researching the impact of syllabus statements of support on student perceptions of faculty members and a course, a strong example of the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Kevin Witherspoon and **Maddie Hudlow '21** published an article in the magazine *The Historian*. The article discusses the

Rev. John McPherson Lander (son of Lander's founder, the Rev. Samuel Lander) and the origins of soccer in Brazil. This work comes from Ms. Hudlow's undergraduate research project that Dr. Witherspoon supervised. Ms. Hudlow is special events coordinator for Lander's Office of Admissions.



In Memoriam

We were very sad to learn that **Professor Emeritus of Sociology Samrendra Singh** (*pictured, left*) died on Nov. 18 at age 83. A native of India with a doctorate from the University of Georgia, Dr. Singh taught at Lander from 1970 until his retirement in 2000. A highly regarded teacher, Dr. Singh received Lander's Distinguished Professor Award in 1977. During his career, he served as a Fulbright Scholar in Poland and mentored many students. During the 1990s, he was Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs.

From 2000-2006, he worked through accreditation processes for universities in the United Arab Emirates as Commissioner for Higher Education before his retirement to Charleston, S.C. in 2007. Dr. Singh is survived by his wife, two sons, two grandchildren, and many other family members.

Outside of the College's own disciplines, other Lander faculty members who have died this fall include **Professor Emeritus of Music Larry Joe Cook** as well as **Professor Emeritus of Mathematics Walter M. Patterson III**. Alumni from the 1980s and 1990s would remember Prof. Cook from music courses and concerts, particularly if they performed in Lander's band or wind ensemble. Alumni of the same era would remember Dr. Patterson from math courses or his leadership of the Honors International Program that pioneered study abroad partnerships in Europe.

Giving News

Thank you to those who have provided us with gifts in recent months. Gifts to the funds below are especially encouraged because we want to cross the threshold to get them endowed:

Deb Acorn Student Research Fund in Psychology

Timothy L. Snyder Scholarship in Psychology

Aron Tannenbaum Study Abroad Fund

Through your generosity, we have enhanced support for students through academic scholarships as well as funds for professional development in the past five years. We aim to start funds that would help provide summer support for students between the junior and senior year. Contact [Dean McMillan](#) or staff members in [The Lander Foundation](#) to talk more about our giving needs.

To give, visit giving.lander.edu, call 864-388-8350, or mail your check to:

The Lander Foundation

320 Stanley Ave.

Greenwood, SC 29649

Got news to share? We would love to hear from you!

Send your update to smcmillan@lander.edu.

Join us at the spring 2023 events listed on the next page and stay tuned for more events announced by the College or Lander's Alumni Affairs Office. In addition, don't forget the busy seasons of Lander athletics! For alumni events near your area, follow Lander Alumni Affairs on social media or contact our staff at alumni@lander.edu or 864-388-8351.



Spring 2023 Events

The Arts Center of Greenwood is one of Lander's community partners and host of upcoming events about the arts, culture, and history. Learn more at <http://www.artscentergreenwood.com>.

Lander University Community Lecture Series

Events are at The Arts Center, 120 Main St. in Uptown Greenwood. Reception at 5:30, and the talk begins at 6:00 pm.

Jonathan Bassett, "The Psychology of Violent Television"

Feb. 7

Dr. Bassett is Professor of Psychology at Lander.

Josie Ryan, "The Mathematics of Communication"

Mar. 14

Dr. Ryan is Professor of Mathematics at Lander.

Walter Iriarte, "Tik Tok Evangelism"

Apr. 4

Dr. Iriarte is Assistant Professor of Media & Communication at Lander.

Gullah Geechee Culture of the Lowcountry

supported by South Carolina Humanities



Two exhibitions will be at The Arts Center, 120 Main St., Greenwood from **Jan. 16 – Mar. 2, 2023.**

Gullah Spirit: Jonathan Green

Sewn by the Sea: Southern Sweetgrass Basketry

Events and Programs

Unless noted, all events and programs are **free**.

Storytime in the Gallery

Sat., Jan. 21

A partnership with Greenwood County Library

10:00

Gullah Geechee Legacy: Community Lecture

Thurs., Feb. 2

Victoria Smalls – Executive Director, Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor

Lecture, 5:30-6:30

Sean Barnette – Professor of English, Lander University

Exhibit Reception,

Sponsors: SC Humanities, Greenwood County Community Foundation,
and The Self Family Foundation

6:30-8:00

Gullah Gullah: Family Fun Day

Sat., Feb. 4

Sponsor: Greenwood Women Care

10:00-2:00

A Taste of the Lowcountry, a partnership with the Columbia City Ballet

Sat., Feb. 11

Tickets: **\$100** for members and **\$120** for non-members at

7:00-10:00

<http://www.artscentergreenwood.com/a-taste-of-the-lowcountry.html>

Sponsor: Self Regional Healthcare

Sweetgrass Basketry Workshop with Vera Manigault

Feb. TBA

Tickets: **\$60** per person at <http://www.artscentergreenwood.com>

1:00-5:00

Gullah Visions: Community Lecture

Tues., Feb. 21

James Romaine – Professor of Art History, Lander University

5:30

Elizabeth Snipes-Rochester – Professor of Art, Lander University

Sponsor: SC Humanities and Greenwood County Community Foundation

Read this newsletter online at www.lander.edu/cobss