



News from the PRESIDENT

West Virginia Wesleyan College

Summer 2016

Wesleyan's beautiful campus is quieter now that students have returned home for the summer months. However, it will not be too long until we anxiously await their return and the arrival of a promising group of incoming students.



Loar Hall

The campus will have a number of guests this summer including the West Virginia United Methodist Church Annual Conference, the Governor's School for the Arts, middle school band camp, and sports camps. Work crews will also be quite busy tackling academic renovation and improvement projects funded by the Title III Grant in the Lynch-Raine Administration Building, English Annex, Christopher Hall of Science, Haymond Hall, Loar Hall, McCuskey Hall, and the David E. Reemsnyder Research Center.

Last month, over 270 seniors and graduate students participated in the 2016 Commencement ceremony. Joanne Cadorette Soliday '69, author and higher education leader, spoke to students and their families about the benefits of the Wesleyan experience. Joanne was also awarded an honorary degree along with outgoing Board of Trustees Chair, Marc Halbritter. We are grateful for his eight years of service to the Board and for his leadership as Chair.



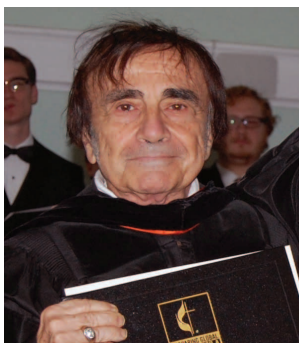
Halbritter



Soliday

In April, the Board elected Gavin Appleby '76 of Atlanta as the next Chair. Gavin is a partner in the Atlanta office of the international employment law firm of Littler Mendelson and also serves on the anti-doping review board of the International Tennis Federation and International Cricket Board.

In addition to electing Gavin as chair, the Board also elected Vice-Chairs for the coming year. The group includes John Esaias '71 of Pittsburgh; Rev. J.F. Lacia '71 of Charleston; Tony Lindeman '80 of Madison, AL; Rev. Dave Myers '70 of Gloucester, MA; Caroline Rapping '79 of Reston, VA; and John Shimrak '67 of Berwyn, PA. Bill Grant '75 of Oakland, MD will continue to serve as the Secretary of the Board.



One of Wesleyan's most beloved and distinguished professors retired this year after serving as a member of the faculty since 1970. **Dr. Rich Calef**, professor of psychology, has taught and mentored thousands of Wesleyan students during his 46-year tenure. Last fall, Dr. Calef received the Exemplary Teaching Award, presented each year by Wesleyan and the General Board of Higher Education of The United Methodist Church. We will certainly miss Rich as he was a wonderful teacher who always sought to instill passion in students. He was also a firm believer in undergraduate research and co-authored numerous articles with his students.



The Emeritus Club, which includes Wesleyan graduates of 50 or more years, is celebrating 55 years (1961-2016) and is the College's most active alumni group. For the past 20 years, former trustee Dr. Harold T. Elmore, Hon. '82 has provided incredible dedicated leadership for this group. On June 30, Harold will "officially retire" from his role as the coordinator of the Emeritus Club.

In this capacity, he has reached out to thousands of Wesleyan alumni and has been instrumental in securing funding for a number of projects. In May, Club members surprised Harold and his wife, Sylvia, with a number of special presentations and gifts. One of the Club's most recent fundraising projects has been the establishment of a scholarship to assist students who desire to pursue international travel opportunities.

Members voted to change the name of the scholarship to the Harold T. Elmore Emeritus Club International Travel Scholarship in honor of his service and commitment.

During the past several weeks, we have conducted a national search for our next women's basketball coach. I cannot begin to tell you how excited we are to announce that one of the most decorated women's basketball players in the nation has joined our athletic staff. Vicky Bullet, a three-time first team All-ACC selection from the University of Maryland and a member of the 1988 and 1992 United States Olympic Teams, will bring her tremendous motivation and teaching skills to lead our program. Vicky was also the first player selected in the 1987 WNBA draft by the Charlotte Sting. She played six years in the WNBA and also played professionally in Brazil and Italy. She arrives at Wesleyan after leading Hagerstown Community College to a 24-8 record last season.



As you know, we reached out to you for financial support on May 2 for WVWC Day. The initiative was a tremendous success. We set aside May 2 as a day to rally support to secure funding for the Title III Endowment Challenge. We received nearly 600 donations and, including the federal matching dollars, we secured nearly \$400,000 for Wesleyan's endowment.

The Alumni Office is planning a busy summer with five Bobcats at the Ballpark events. Watch your mailboxes for information about ordering tickets. The dates and locations include:

- July 17—Trenton, NJ @ 4:30 pm
- July 18—Aberdeen, MD @ 6:30 pm
- July 28—Richmond, VA @ 6:30 pm
- July 29—Durham, NC @ 6:00 pm
- July 30—Charlotte, NC @ 11:00 am

Please also mark your calendar for October 6-9 as we celebrate Homecoming this fall. We are planning a number of events including a Friday night comedy show and Saturday night jazz concert. A full detailed schedule will be listed on the website and mailed to you later this summer.

Remember, you are always welcome to visit the Wesleyan campus during the summer months. If you are interested in bringing a prospective student, call 800-722-9933 to schedule a visit. If you just want to walk around the campus, contact the Alumni Office at 304-473-8509.



Patrick and I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Thank you again for the many ways you enthusiastically support our "Home Among the Hills."

In Friendship,

Pamela Balch

Pamela Balch '71