Walker College of Business
Appalachian State University
2013 News Archive

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December graduation: Vice president of Rotary International to speak

December 3, 2013

ASU NEWS - Dr. Anne L. Matthews, vice president of Rotary International, will be the guest speaker for December graduation at Appalachian State University.



Matthews will address graduates of the Walker College of Business Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. in the Holmes Convocation Center. It will be a combined ceremony with graduates from the College of Fine and Applied Arts, Hayes School of Music and the College of Health Sciences.

Matthews has a bachelor's degree from Coker College, a master's degree from Appalachian's Walker College of Business and a doctorate from the University of South Carolina.

Matthews is president of Matthews and Associates, an educational consulting firm in Columbia, S.C. She has taught business courses at the high school, technical college and university levels. She is a former director for the South Carolina Department of Education.

A Rotarian since 1989, Matthews has served Rotary International as a Rotary Foundation trustee, regional Rotary Foundation coordinator, Rotary International president's representative, lead seminar trainer, Rotary International training leader and district governor.

In 2013, she was elected the first woman vice president of Rotary International.

Ethics in Sports and Athletics Conference is November 22

November 13, 2013



Four panels featuring a variety of speakers will highlight the Ethics in Sports and Athletics Conference scheduled for November 22 in the Parkway Ballroom of the Plemmons Student Union. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., with the final panel beginning at noon.

The conference is open to the public. Registration is encouraged.

The conference will open with remarks by Walker College Dean Dr. Randy Edwards and Management Department chairperson Jacqui Bergman. Alan Singer, a management professor overseeing the conference, will then discuss "What are the main ethical issues in sports and athletics?" Four panel discussions will following, including:

- Ethical Issues in event management - featuring Thomas Mueller, Carol Cook, Robin Byerly and Dana Clark
- Collegiate sports and athletics in North Carolina - featuring Charles Cobb, Doug Justice, Jonathon Reeder, Ken Muir and Lyle Schoenfeldt
- Ethics in selection and on the field - featuring Scott Hayward, Rick Cotton, Mark Lewis, Mark Boatright and Thomas Mclaughlin
- Hearing it from the coaches and captains - featuring Sarah Strickland, Graham Fisher, Justine Stocks and John Weaver

RMI senior wins scholarship to study in London

November 6, 2013



Alyssa Bouchard, a senior Risk Management & Insurance major, was recently awardedthe Joseph H. Blades Memorial Scholarship by the National Association of Professional Surplus Lines Offices (NAPSLO). The scholarship will allow Bouchard to study in London for three weeks next summer. She will be working with NAPSLO member firm Bell & Clements, getting an overview of the company's operations and visiting the Lloyd's of London marketplace.

Bouchard is president of the Appalachian State chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma Rho. She coordinated the Brantley Center 25th Anniversary Celebration, two Risk Management & Insurance Career Fairs, and the 2013 Gamma Iota Sigma international convention at Appalachian. She is scheduled to graduate in May 2014, and will begin her career with AmWINS.

CEO Lecture: 'A revolutionary time in health care'

October 30, 2013

Health care was the topic of the Fall 2013 Harlan Boyles CEO Lecture Series, held October 25 in conjuncture with the College of Health Sciences' inaugural Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Lecture, within the Holmes Convocation Center. The speaker was Brad Wilson, president and CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina. Following his remarks, a luncheon was held featuring Hugh Tilson, Jr., Senior Vice President, North Carolina Hospital Association.

Both speakers focused on what is occuring today in the industry, as well as future trends. They each also gave some attention to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, which has dominated headlines since several of its provisions went into effect October 1, three weeks prior to their speeches.



Wilson discussed a "Prescription for a Better Health Care System." Tilson's speech was entitled "How To Keep Flying The Airplane As We Rebuild It." Both presentations can be viewed online or downloaded as an mp3.

Wilson covered a variety of topics, with emphasis on facing challenges ahead.

This is a revolutionary time in health care as we all come together and try to figure out new ways to improve quality in the delivery of care and lower cost in order to get more value out of every dollar that we spend in health care," he said.

The current system that rewards and pays doctors and hospitals for the volume of procedures they provide and not for the value and quality of care delivered is unsustainable and driving the push for a new health care model that is more patient centered, collaborative and effective, he said.

"As a nation, we are spending more than $7 billion a day on health care and that number is going to go up," he said. "At the current rate of increase, health care spending will be 20 percent of the nation's gross domestic product by the end of this decade."

That means that regardless of an individual's age or salary, "one out of every $5 in your wallet is going to be spent on health care whether you are spending it or not," he said. "That is an unsustainable economic model for the nation and it is an unacceptable, and unsustainable, economic model for us as individuals."

Following his prepared remarks, Wilson took questions from the audience. One person related personal details regarding her current health care policy, and its sudden increase in cost.

"I'm a current Blue Cross policy holder and my question is specific to the increase in my premium which I paid now, and the projected premium which is available on the website. Currently the policy that I hold is $224 a month. And through the online Blue Cross tool, I'm being told that my policy is going to be $591, effective January 1. Could you speak to that drastic increase?"

Wilson cautioned he could not be too specific responding to her personal situation, but said one impact of the ACA law was that all policies must now meet minimum federal standards. He said roughly two-thirds of all BCBSNC policy holders would see either no increase or an increase in line with a normal range ("low double digits to high single digits"). The other third would see increases similar to what the questioner was facing.

"The ACA requires that there be benefits in the products that are eligible for sale on the exchange, as well as off of the exchange, that you didn't have before. Whether you need it or not, and whether you want it or not, you gotta buy it.

Let me give you an example. Everyone has to have maternity coverage. Period. Whether you're a 4-year-old girl, a 60-year-old male, a 42-year-old female, or a 32-year old female, or a 32-year-old male, we have to price for that and we can't take it out. Another impact, provision of the ACA, is that under the law, we cannot charge more than three times whatever our lowest premium is. It's called the age band. …. I'm 60. My premium can't be more than three times what my son's premium would be, who is 27 years old. Guess what. For those on the lower end of the spectrum, regardless of your health ... it gets increased disproportionately to the decrease for those on the upper end."

Tilson spoke at an invitation luncheon following Wilson's speech. He detailed the challenges of revamping the current health care system while simultaneously having as little disruption as possible in that same system. He also spoke about not just the responsibilties of medical professionals and the government, but patients as well.

"We've got to help people really understand personal responsibility for their health care. Because at the end of the day, we can do miracles, and we do miracles everyday, and we work with our people that pay for it to get it financed. But if people aren't doing the things ... in terms of prevention, and personal responsibility, we've got to develop systems that enable that, but ultimately we've got to help people to live the healthy lives, because the best and most effective health care is health care that's avoided. So we've got to make sure that's part of what we do.

And if you take away nothing else from what I tell you today, remember this - Uncertainty, Uncertainty is what's really driving the hospitals' lives, the doctors' lives, everybody with whom you will interface on a regular basis. Government has a profound role in what we do. You know what's happening in government. It's dysfunctional; that's the word I keep hearing. It pays for a lot of what we do. We have to operate in that environment."

"I've always kind of had an entrepreneurship spirit"

October 29, 2013

The entrepreneurial spirit continues to flourish at Walker College. One recent example is David Holloman, a senior entrepreneurship and marketing major, who is busy with plans to start his own business next month. *The Appalachian*profiles the driving force behind Appalachia Cookie Company, a "a late night cookie delivery business with students as its primary market."

Holloman said he wanted to start something that the local community would get behind and get excited about. After asking friends and getting favorable responses from people who tried his cookies, he decided to move forward with the idea.

Cookies will be made fresh for delivery only. The company will also cater and take shipping orders, an idea Holloman had so the cookies could reach friends back home in Virginia Beach and Appalachian alumni.

The menu will consist of milk, brownies, hot chocolate, coffee and 14 to 16 types of cookies with gluten-free and vegan options also available.

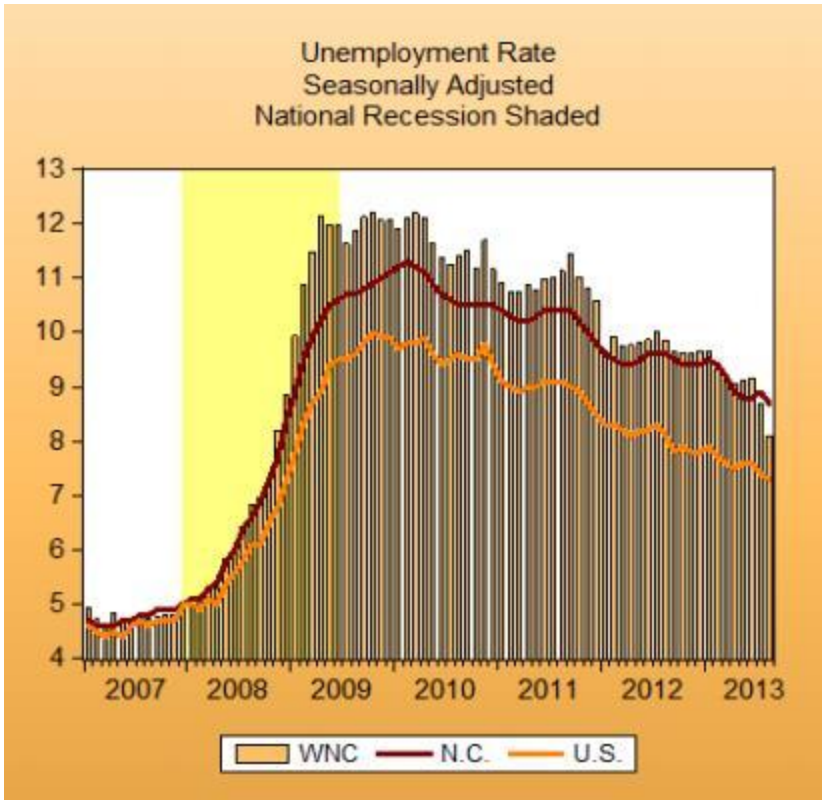
Holloman said his "entrepreneurship spirit" is his motivation.

"There are definitely some members of the community and some people here in Boone that have helped me," Holloman said. "In terms of inspiration, I've always kind of had an entrepreneurship spirit. I've always been self-motivated to do my own thing."

WNC Index: 'August numbers showed continued positive movement'

October 22, 2013

From ASU News - The Western North Carolina Economic Index increased by 0.2 points in August. This was the seventh consecutive monthly gain in the index, which tracks the level of economic activity in 25 western North Carolina counties. The report is compiled by the Center for Economic Research and Policy Analysis at Appalachian State University.



“The August numbers showed continued positive movement, though a bit slower than in the previous two months,” said Dr. Todd Cherry, director of the center and a professor in theDepartment of Economics in Walker College of Business. “The slower growth is not a concern because the large moves in the previous two months were not sustainable. Gains in August are more in line with a solid, longer term growth rate.

The gains in WNC are even better considering the lagging numbers at the state level, Cherry said. “The employment picture for the state has deteriorated, so Western North Carolina holding steady on employment is a better sign than it appears. It is a reversal of roles because the region’s job growth has lagged behind the state since the recession,” he said.

Job growth has been better in the region than the state for the past six months. According to the report, seasonally adjusted employment for WNC decreased slightly, by less than 0.01 percent in August. Statewide adjusted employment decreased by 0.1 percent.

Eleven counties across the region experienced increases in seasonally adjusted county-level employment, with the largest gains seen in Alexander, McDowell and Burke counties, all with 0.7 percent increases. Eleven counties also experienced employment losses with Alleghany, Yancey, and Mitchell counties showing the largest employment decreases with 1.1, 0.9 and 0.9 percent decreases.

While the current government shutdown is not evident in the August report, it will likely have a negative effect in the coming months,” Cherry said. “The on-going uncertainty and repeated crises in D.C. continue to undermine the economy and have held back the recovery.”

Seasonally adjusted WNC unemployment registered 8.1 percent in August – down by 0.6 points when compared to the previous month and down 1.8 points compared to one year ago. The state unemployment rate decreased from the previous month to 8.7 percent while the national rate also fell to 7.3 percent.

“Unemployment did not increase for any county, and many experienced large decreases in rates,” Cherry said. “It’s worth reminding ourselves that great differences exist across the region, with unemployment rates ranging from 6.1 to 14.4 percent.”

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate within the region’s rural counties decreased by 0.5 points to 9.3 percent in August. In the region’s metro areas, unemployment decreased by 0.4 points to 6.3 percent in Asheville and by 0.8 points in Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir to 9.1 percent.

County-level seasonally adjusted unemployment rates were highest in Graham, Swain and Rutherford counties with rates at 14.4, 11.7 and 11.3 percent, respectively. Rates were lowest in Buncombe, Henderson and Polk counties at 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 percent, respectively.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in August decreased in 24 of the 25 WNC counties compared to July. Caldwell, Mitchell and Graham recorded the largest decreases in unemployment rates with a 1.4, 0.9 and 0.9 point decrease, respectively. The unemployment rate in Alexander showed no change for the month, remaining at 8.1 percent.

Looking over the last 12-month period, all 25 WNC counties experienced decreases in unemployment. Unemployment rates in Swain, Graham and Caldwell decreased the most over this period by 3.4, 2.5 and 2.4 points, respectively.

Seasonally adjusted initial claims for unemployment insurance in the region, a leading indicator of unemployment, increased by 12.7 percent in August. Initial claims decreased by 11.0 percent in Asheville but increased by 35.3 percent in Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir.

The WNC Economic Index and Report is a cooperative effort by the Center for Economic Research and Policy Analysis at Appalachian State University and Advantage West. The report is compiled and written by John W. Dawson and O. Ashton Morgan, faculty in Appalachian’s Department of Economics.

BIG: Fall semester begins in New York City

October 18, 2013

The Bowden Investment Group (BIG), Walker College students who manage a live stock portfolio for course credit, has released its first Update of the semester. The monthly report not only tracks the latest financial activity of the BIG, but details its recent visit to New York City. The annual trip offers students the opportunity to interact with investment professionals and tour the financial district.

*In the first week of October, the Bowden Investment Group had the opportunity to travel to New York to meet with a variety of financial firms. Our first meeting on arriving in New York was with Alex Robertson of Tiger Management. Mr. Robertson talked with us about his hedge fund and spoke about the importance of a competitive attitude and a healthy work-life balance. We then met back at the Loft for an alumni reception. The reception was a great success and meeting with the local Appalachian graduates gave us a firsthand look at what it's like to live in The Big Apple.*

Thursday Morning the group met with a variety of industry and economic analysts at both Cornerstone Macro and then Bienville Capital. The meetings were informative and helped the group gain a better perspective on the effects the U.S. could face with the government shutdown and the debt crisis. We also heard and discussed professional outlooks on emerging markets and the global economy. To cap off a great day the group met with Bloomberg L.P. to talk about their corporate culture and to get a tour of the company that is so useful in our stock analyses.

On Friday morning the group got an early start with International Strategy and Investment (ISI). The meeting was an inspiration for effective communication and we all gained a lot from witnessing the group dynamics at this firm. After ISI, we went to Blackrock where we met some members of the sales team and discussed iShares ETF and large cap stocks. Our visit was capped off by a trip to floor of the New York Stock Exchange right before the close on Friday and then a day of sightseeing on Saturday.

You can read more about the BIG, including its economic outlook, in the Update. [PDF]

CEO Lecture: "Prescription for a Better Health Care System"

October 17, 2013

J. Bradley "Brad" Wilson, president and chief executive officer of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC), will be the speaker at a special co-presentation of the inaugural Blue Cross and Blue Shield Lecture and the 52nd Harlan E. Boyles Distinguished CEO Lecture at Appalachian State University.



Wilson's speech is titled "Prescription for a Better Health Care System."

The event, co-sponsored by the College of Health Sciences and the Walker College of Business, will be held Friday, Oct. 25, at. 10 a.m. in the Holmes Convocation Center on Appalachian's campus. The public is invited. For more information call 828-262-2057.

A native of North Carolina, Wilson earned a bachelor's degree from Appalachian State University, a master's degree from Duke University and a Juris Doctorate degree from Wake Forest University School of Law.

He joined BCBSNC in 1995 and held a range of senior-level positions before being named president in 2010. Prior to joining BCBSNC, Wilson practiced law and served as general counsel to Gov. Jim Hunt, directing the governor's legislative strategy and heading his legal department.

Wilson chairs the board of directors of the National Institute for Health Care Management Foundation and works with the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare to address health care challenges at the national level. He is director of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), BCS Financial Corporation and Prime Therapeutics.

He chairs the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation – an independent charitable organization that has invested nearly $90 million in community-based health and wellness efforts.

Wilson is a past chair of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors, treasurer of the North Carolina Chamber and board member of the Research Triangle Regional Partnership.

BCBSNC is a fully taxed, not-for-profit North Carolina company with headquarters in Chapel Hill and major operations centers in Durham and Winston-Salem. The company is the state's largest health insurer, employing 4,000 North Carolinians and serving 3.7 million customers.

The newly created Blue Cross and Blue Shield Lecture Series is funded by a portion of a $2 million grant awarded in 2011 by BCBSNC to the College of Health Sciences.

The Harlan E. Boyles Lecture Series was established in 1988 and named in 1991 for the late Harlan E. Boyles, who served for 24 years as N.C. state treasurer.

Debating Fed actions on interest rates

October 16, 2013

For years, interest rates within the United States have remained near record lows. It has been Federal Reserve policy to keep them there, with the theory being lower rates would help grow a struggling economy, but not without some costs, as moneyrates.com explains.

The Federal Reserve has been a central contributor to the sad state of savings account and CD rates in recent years. In wrestling with the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, the Fed has done virtually all it can to keep interest rates near zero since 2008. This approach has come at a clear cost to savers, but what would have happened if the Fed hadn't intervened?

The site solicited answers to that question from five economics professors from around the country. One was Dr. Mark Strazicich, economics professor at Walker College of Business.

While it is difficult to say for sure, most economists seem to believe that the Fed's quick action to lower interest rates and provide liquidity following the recent financial crisis helped to avert a more serious economic downturn. I agree with this assessment.

Publication lists Walker College among "Best 295 Business Schools"

October 14, 2013

The Walker College of Business at Appalachian State University is one of the nation's most outstanding business schools, according to The Princeton Review. The education services company features the school in the new 2014 edition of its book "The Best 295 Business Schools."

According to Robert Franek, Princeton Review senior vice president-publisher, "We recommend the Walker College of Business as one of the best institutions a student could attend to earn a business school degree."

The company does not rank the schools in the book hierarchically.



“We chose the schools we profiled in this book based on our high regard for their academic programs and our reviews of institutional data we collected from the schools,” Franek said. “We also solicited and greatly respect the opinions of students attending these schools who rated and reported on their experiences at them on our 80-question student survey for the book.”

The Princeton Review’s survey asks business school students about their school’s academics, student body and campus life as well as about themselves and their career plans.

“It’s an honor for the Walker College of Business to be included again on this prestigious list of best business schools,” said Professor Randy Edwards, dean of the college. “I am especially pleased that our graduate students recognized the excellent instruction that is provided by faculty in the MBA program and also the high-quality academic experience that they receive.”

“The Best 295 Business Schools: 2014 Edition” has two-page profiles of the schools with write-ups on their academics, student life and admissions. In the Walker College of Business profile, editors said the school “offers a small, efficient, and affordable MBA program to a largely local student population. For many, the fast-paced course schedule is a major benefit of this program. Here, the entire MBA – including an optional internship – can be completed in ‘only one year.’”

The profile also noted the college’s focus on international business and its study abroad opportunities in China, Hong Kong, Turkey, Cuba, France and Poland.

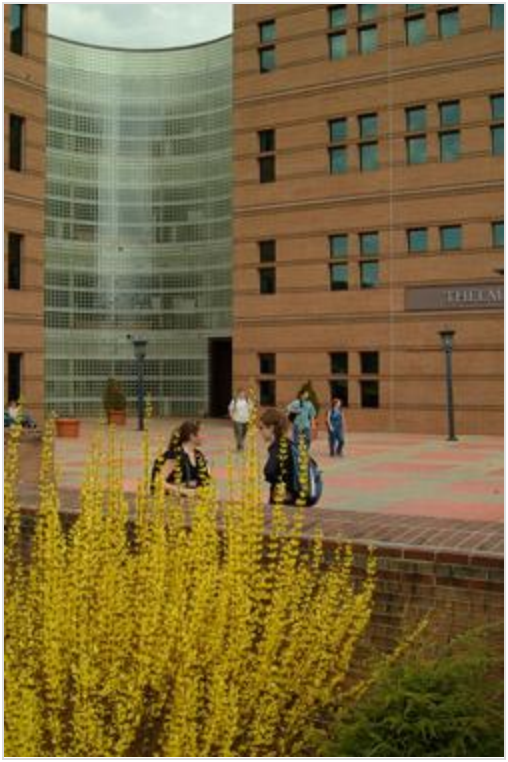
Students enrolled in the business program praised the college’s caring, student-oriented atmosphere and personal attention. “The school has a great administration that is willing to work with the students in order to help the students achieve their goals,” one student reported. In addition, “The professors, on the whole, are easy to get along with and are always willing to help the students.” Another student reported, “Teachers are knowledgeable and excited for students to learn.”

The school profiles in “The Best 295 Business Schools” have rating scores in five categories that The Princeton Review tallies based on institutional data it collected during the 2012-13 academic year and/or its student survey for the book. The ratings are scores on a scale of 60 to 99. Rating categories are: Academic Experience, Admissions Selectivity, Career, Professors Interesting and Professors Accessible.

The Walker College of Business received a rating of 79 in the Academic Experience category, 80 for Professors Interesting and 77 for Professors Accessible.
Conducted during the 2012-13, 2011-12 and 2010-11 academic years, the student surveys were completed online.

Thelma C. Raley Hall to become Kenneth E. Peacock Hall

October 10, 2013
To honor the legacy of Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock, the Appalachian State University Board of Trustees voted Friday, Sept. 27, to approve the renaming of Thelma C. Raley Hall to Kenneth E. Peacock Hall.
The change will occur once the $200 million Campaign for Appalachian is successfully completed in June 2014.
More from ASU News.



Peacock, former dean of the Walker College of Business housed in Raley Hall, became the university's chancellor in 2004. Under his leadership, Appalachian has strengthened academics and international education, implemented new programs to better serve the region, raised graduation rates and made the university more efficient and sustainable.
"With the Chancellor's announcement this spring that he was stepping down, we are focused on surpassing the campaign goal before his tenure ends," said Mike Steinback, chairman of the Board of Trustees. "All gifts supporting any area of the university during this last year honor his legacy, and re-naming the building allows us to publicly thank Ken for the many ways he has advanced Appalachian."
The name change has support from the family of the late Thelma Raley, a resident of Winter Haven, Fla., and Blowing Rock who led a successful business in Florida's citrus industry. She and Peacock were longtime friends. The building was named in Thelma Raley's honor in 1992 for a future commitment. She died in 2006, and her son, Lindsay Raley, who lives in Lakeland, Florida, made the following statement:
"My mother was close friends with Chancellor Peacock and had great admiration and respect for his work as dean. I believe she would feel this is a perfect way to honor his commitment, dedication and impact on Appalachian State

University. Our family sees re-naming the building as an opportunity to inspire others to continue to support the Campaign for Appalachian as it draws to a close."

Walker College APPlause

September 26, 2013

Tony Harris '92 FIN, Safety & Risk Director for Cabarrus County, recently received the 2013 Public Risk Manager of the Year award from the Public Risk Management Association.
David Labiak '95 MBA, the senior portfolio manager for 3D Tech Plus fund, was recently quoted at length in a *The Busienss Journal* article on 3D printing.
Dr. Karen Epermanis, director of the Brantley Risk & Insurance Center, authored an article in AAMGA Wholesale Insurance News (WIN) magazine entitled, "How We Are Educating The Wholesale Insurance Industry Leaders of Tomorrow."
You can read more Appalachian State alumni Class Notes - and submit your own with photos - in the Gold Book.

WNC Index: Six months of increasing economic activity

September 18, 2013
Western North Carolina economic activity showed strong growth in July and the regional unemployment rate fell below state averages, according to the Western North Carolina Economic Index compiled by the Center for Economic Research and Policy Analysis at Appalachian State University.



The index rose a full point to 110.6. This was the second largest monthly gain in the index since the end of the Great Recession in 2009.
"In terms of economic activity, we've had six months of gains and in the past couple of months these gains have been quite strong," said Dr. Todd Cherry, director of the center and a professor in the Department of Economics in Appalachian's Walker College of Business. "This stronger growth is needed to lift the labor market, which remains stagnant though better than the deteriorating jobs picture at the state level."

The Western North Carolina Economic Index tracks the level of economic activity in 25 western North Carolina counties.

Other data from July shows that seasonally adjusted employment for WNC increased by 0.35 percent. Statewide adjusted employment decreased by 0.3 percent.

The full report is online. [PDF] More information at ASU News.

Walker student featured in national trade magazine

September 4, 2013

Leader's Edge is a magazine produced by the The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers which "takes a deep dive into the world of commercial insurance and group benefits distribution." Its September issue features a brief profile of Walker College student Detoria Rolle, a recipient of the Council's FAME scholarship program.

Both a Risk Management & Insurance and Finance & Banking major, Rolle is traveling to the southeastern RIMS (Risk and Insurance Management Society) conference next week.

Rolle appears on page 18 of the latest *Leader's Edge*.



15 SECONDS OF FAME • FAME SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Detoria Rolle

2012-2014 FAME SCHOLAR

School: Appalachian State University
Major: Risk Management, Insurance, Finance & Banking
Favorite Non-Major Course: Women's Studies
Advice to Future FAME Scholars: "You were awarded this scholarship because someone out there believes in you. You can do it!"
Clubs/Organizations: Student ambassador, Gospel Choir member, Hall Council, Student Government Association
Best Interview Question: Name one current event you've heard in the news recently. Now tell me how you would fix the problem.
Contact Info: rolledn@gmail.com

Walker College professor helps ring the NASDAQ closing bell

August 28, 2013



Officials with Yadkin Financial Corporation, the bank holding company for Yadkin Bank, were recently given the honor of ringing the NASDAQ closing bell. Among those present was Walker College Finance Professor Dr. Harry Davis. He serves as vice chairman of the Yadkin Financial Corporation Board of Directors. (In the above photo he is in the front row, just left of center, wearing a red bowtie.)

Yadkin Financial Corporation underwent a rebranding initiative and a 1-for-3 reverse stock split. According to some reports, it had a solid financial performance over the last year. To celebrate those accomplishments, officials with the company were invited to ring the closing bell August 1.

Walker Business Connections will bring business world to students

August 21, 2013

Students, faculty and industry representatives are invited to the inaugural Walker Business Connections, a two-day event designed to promote networking and career preparation. There will be panel discussions, workshops, information tables and opportunities for students to interact with prospective employers.



Walker Business Connections is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 10 and 11. Events include:

- Faculty/Professional networking
- Practice interviews
- Corporate information tables
- Dining and Professional Etiquette Seminar for students
- Faculty/Professional lunch
- Workshops, discussions, and panels
- Networking Social for students, faculty, and professionals

Along with the panels and workshops, students can network with company representatives and recruiters interested in hiring College of Business students for full-time positions and internships. The day after the event, visiting recruiters will interview select students from the day before.
All interested attendees are asked to register online.

- Faculty and Industry Professionals registration
- Recruiters registration
- Student registration

Explore membership opportunities at Business Club Expo

August 20, 2013



The Walker College of Business is home to about two dozen students clubs. Many focus on majors; others specific areas of employment. All provide benefits to students, both in networking and exploring potential career paths.

The clubs will be seeking new members during the Business Club Expo, scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 29, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the second floor of Raley Hall. It is open to all students, both COB majors and non-COB majors. It is organized by the Walker Fellows.

There are student clubs centered on academic majors (American Marketing Association, Appalachian Supply Chain Club), interests (International Business Student Association, AIESEC) and honorary organizations (Epsilon Chi Omicron, Beta Gamma Sigma). A full listing of clubs is available on the Walker College website.

One of the clubs expected to be present is ASE, the Association of Student Entrepreneurs. It meets every other Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in Rall Hall room 2018. Its first meeting of the fall semester is Wednesday, Aug. 28.



Holland Fellows "Bring It All Back" for another year

August 20, 2013

Don't stop, never give up! Hold your head high and reach the top.
Let the world see what you have got. Bring it all back to you!
S Club 7's hit song "Bring It All Back" was a fitting soundtrack for the 2013 Holland Fellows, who joined their Chinese peers for their own rendition of the song during their stay in Shanghai. It was the 17th group of Appalachian State students to participate in the annual study abroad program, which includes three weeks of lectures, travel and learning at Fudan University.



Walker College is now accepting applications for the 2014 William R. Holland Fellows for Business Study in Asia. Twelve students will be selected to participate in a semester-long course on the history, geography, business practices and demographics of China. It includes an extended visit to China, tentatively scheduled for May 13-June 4. Fudan students also make a trip to Boone and experience college life in the states.

Participation is limited to full-time juniors, seniors and graduate students in the Walker College of Business with a GPA of 3.0 or better. The deadline for submitting an application is Friday, Sept. 27, at 5 p.m.

The program brochure has more details. [PDF]

The Holland Fellows Program is designed for the mature, self-motivated student who is flexible and adaptable in working with students from other cultures. You are expected to be ambassadors during the period in which you are required to host the Fudan delegation in the United States and also during the period of travel and work in China. The work and schedule is demanding, but richly rewarding.

Walker College APPlause

August 6, 2013

Dr. David Marlett, Chair of the Walker College Department of Finance, Banking & Insurance and IIANC Distinguished Professor, authored the story "5 Policies for Insuring High-Value Homes in a Coastal State" for the July 25 *Independent Agent* magazine.

Robyn H. Paul '78 MKT has joined Charleston-based Harbor National Bank as a vice president in the mortgage division. She has more than nine years of experience in mortgage lending in the Charleston area and more than 35

years of sales and financial management experience. She has a master's degree in marketing and management from Appalachian State University.

Kristen Freeman '03 ACC has been named United Way of Henderson County's new marketing and communications coordinator. Freeman is a 10-year resident of Hendersonville, graduated from Appalachian State University with a major in health care management, and previously worked in medical and pharmaceutical sales with Rotech Healthcare and Astellas Pharma US.



Bank of Oak Ridge President and CEO Ron Black '90 MA ECON was named Chairman of the Board of Directors during the 177th Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Bankers Association (NCBA). With more than 40 years of banking industry experience, Black has served as President and CEO of Bank of Oak Ridge since the bank's founding in April 2000.

Reginald Hill '87 MKT was recently promoted to full time AGR rank of Sergeant Major at the 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, North Carolina Army National Guard located in Charlotte.

Reed Davis '02 ITOM and Lindsey Davis are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, James Lyon. He was born on March 26, 2013 in Winston Salem, and weighed 7 lb., 10 oz.

Brandon Eudy '06 ECON '10 MBA and Dana Sigmon Eudy '06 '10 are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Nathan Lee. He was born on April 19, 2013.

Jonathan Triplett '03 MGT and Tara Triplett are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Ryker William. He was born on May 15, 2013 in Hickory, and weighed 9 lb., 6 oz.

You can read more Appalachian State alumni Class Notes - and submit your own with photos - in the Gold Book.

COB alumni named to Appalachian Board of Trustees

July 17, 2013

Lee Barnes '90 MGT, Charles Murray '87 MGT and James Barnes '84 DS recently joined the Appalachian Board of Trustees, following action by the UNC Board of Governors.

Lee Barnes is the president and director of M.M. Fowler Inc. Before that he was a sales development representative for Shell Oil Company. Barnes graduated from Appalachian in 1990 with a degree in business administration. In 2012 he founded the Lee Barnes Scholars Program at Appalachian. He has a master's degree in business administration from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

Charles Murray is the president of Murray Supply Company. He is a charter member of the Appalachian State University Board of Visitors. He is also a member of Appalachian's Yosef Club and the Business Advisory Council in the Walker College of Business. Murray received the Outstanding Service Award from Appalachian's Alumni Association in 2003. He and his wife founded the Charles V. and Beth W. Murray Scholarship for Business. Murray graduated from Appalachian in 1987 with a degree in management.

James Barnes is a real estate broker and the president of NAI Carolantic Realty Inc. He currently serves or has served on the Appalachian State University Board of Visitors, NAI Global Leadership Board, Greater Raleigh

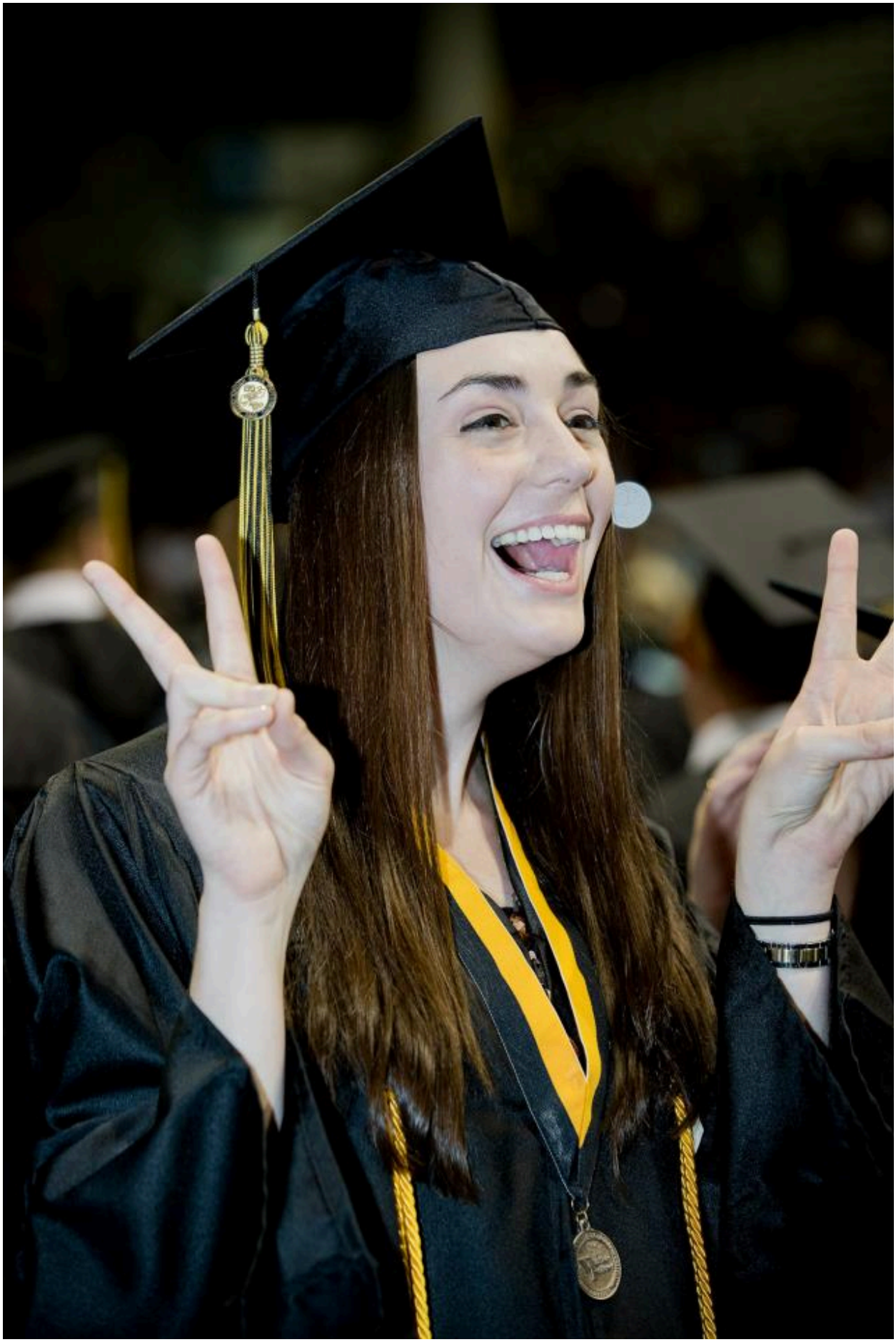
Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Boy Scouts Occoneechee Council. Barnes graduated from Appalachian in 1984 with a degree in business administration.

Walker College May Commencement now online

July 9, 2013

Videos from May graduation ceremonies at Appalachian State are now online. That includes the 94-minute Walker College of Business commencement. The featured speaker was Frank Stewart, president of Ultra Machine and Fabrication.

There are also photos online from Spring 2013 Commencement Reception held in Raley Hall.



Walker College APPlause

July 1, 2013



William F. Simpson Jr. '78 MGT has been appointed chief executive officer at Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Co.. Simpson is currently the company's president and chief operating officer and will remain president.

Ron Black '80 MS ECON, Bank of Oak Ridge President and CEO, was recently appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors. With more than 40 years of banking industry experience, Black has served as President and CEO of Bank of Oak Ridge since the bank's founding in April 2000.

James R. Milner III '04 FIN, a Commercial Real Estate Broker in Boone, recently earned the Certified Commercial Investment Member designation from the CCIM Institute, one of the leading commercial real estate associations in the world.

Peter Kapetanakis '99 MGT recently accepted a position at Bank of North Carolina located in High Point as a Vice President/ Appraisal Manager. He was employed at BB&T as a Assistant Vice President/Real Estate Evaluator.

Reginald Hill '87 MKT was recently promoted to full time AGR rank of Sergeant Major at the 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, North Carolina Army National Guard located in Charlotte.

Angela Matherly '94 FIN, Senior Director of Risk Management for Snyder's-Lance, was honored June 20 with the 2013 Women in Business Achievement award given by the *Charlotte Business Journal*.

The Public Risk Management Association has named Tony L. Harris '92 FIN, safety and risk director for Cabarrus County, N.C., as its 2013 public risk manager of the year.

Bart Lassiter '75 MGT was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of Atlas World Group (parent of Atlas Van Lines) based in Evansville, Ind.

Elizabeth Froehling '87 ECON was recently promoted to executive director at NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence located in Durham.

Richard Cimino '94 ACC was recently promoted to Partner from Managing Director at KPMG LLP located in Greensboro.

Terry McCollum '70 ECON recently retired from Facilities Maintenance at Kannapolis City schools located in Kannapolis.

You can read more Appalachian State alumni Class Notes - and submit your own with photos - in the Gold Book.

Alumni Awards: Adcocks receive Young Alumni Award

June 26, 2013

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZH0GITCKmLY

The Appalachian Alumni Association recently announced its 2013 alumni award winners. Among the recipients were Brandon Adcock '06 MKT and his wife, Erica Adcock '07 ACC '08 MS. Both were presented the Young Alumni Award during the Alumni Awards Gala held June 8.



The Adcocks were passionate and engaged students while at Appalachian, and as young alumni that passion has evolved to incorporate their new roles as university benefactors and volunteers.

Brandon Adcock, co-founder of Direct Digital LLC, graduated from Appalachian in 2006. Direct Digital LLC is a multi-million dollar business with offices in Charlotte and Boston.

The Adcocks were Appalachian Student Ambassadors and William R. Holland Fellows for Business Study in Asia while students at the university. They have provided time and considerable financial support to the Center for Entrepreneurship, the Walker College of Business, Appalachian Student Ambassadors, Appalachian Athletics, The Appalachian Fund, and student scholarships.

Brandon Adcock has served as a member of the university's Alumni Council, and is currently on Appalachian's Foundation Board of Directors. He chairs the Walker College of Business Center for Entrepreneurship Advisory Board.

Erica Adcock earned a bachelor's degree in 2007 and a master's degree in 2008. She remains involved with the women's field hockey team at Appalachian as a summer camp volunteer and mentor. She recently left her position at PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Charlotte to pursue her passion of coaching field hockey. She also works at a local non-profit, A Child's Place.

Last year Direct Digital was listed No. 1 on the *Charlotte Business Journal's* Fast 50, a collection of the region's fastest-growing privately held companies.

Walker College of Business 2013 Awards for Excellence presented

June 25, 2013



(from left) Donna Lindabury, Chris Taylor, Ben Powell, Rachel S. Shinnar and Dana Clark recently received the Walker College of Business 2013 Awards for Excellence. Photo by University Photographer Marie Freeman.

Four Appalachian State University Walker College of Business faculty members and one staff member have received the college's 2013 Awards for Excellence.

The awards are presented annually. Winners receive a monetary prize and a glass statue. The awards are made possible by a contribution from G.A. Sywassink, chairman and CEO of Standard Holding Corporation of Charlotte.

Dr. Ben Powell received the award for teaching. Dr. Rachel S. Shinnar was honored for her research contributions. The award for excellence in service was presented to Dr. Dana Clark. Chris Taylor was honored as the outstanding non-tenure track faculty member, and Donna Lindabury was honored as the outstanding staff member.

Powell is an associate professor in the Department of Management where he teaches entrepreneurship. He was Appalachian's first tenure-track professor in entrepreneurship and was recently appointed director of the Transportation Insight Center for Entrepreneurship at Appalachian.

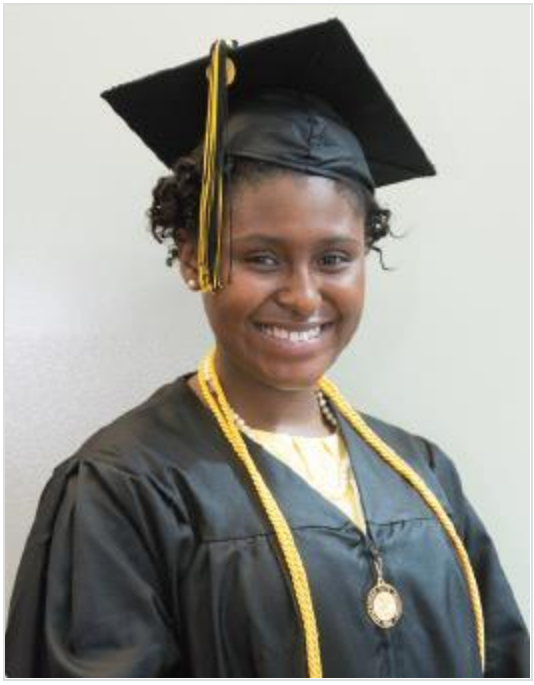
A nominator said, "His teaching performance is guided by his sincere interest in creating an effective interactive learning environment for students to engage in problem-solving and critical thinking."

Prior to joining the faculty at Appalachian in 2007, Powell taught at the University of Alabama for six years. Powell received an MBA from UNC Chapel Hill, a master's degree in applied economics and managerial science and a Ph.D. in management with an emphasis on strategy from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.
Research award recipient Rachel S. Shinnar is an associate professor in the Department of Management.
Shinnar's research focuses on Hispanic immigrants in the North American workplace as well as minority entrepreneurship. Recent works have been published in the Journal of Family Business, Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice, International Entrepreneurship and Management, and the International Business Review.
Shinnar earned a master's degree and a Ph.D. in hospitality administration from the University of Nevada Las Vegas.
Dana Clark, a professor in the Department of Management, was recognized for his service to the college. Clark is director of the Walker College's hospitality and tourism management program. He has served on numerous department, college and university-level committees.
His professional contributions include membership on the Tourism Industry Association of North Carolina's Board of Advisors and serving as co-chair of the Destination Marketing Association of North Carolina's research committee.
Clark was awarded the Charles Parker Award for Tourism Excellence in 2012. He earned an MBA from the University of Georgia and a Ph.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.
The recipient of the non-tenure track faculty award, Chris Taylor, is a lecturer in the Department of Computer Information Systems.
Taylor's professional interests include network and information security and cloud computing technologies. He brings to Appalachian several years experience as a network operations manager and security consultant from private industry. Taylor serves as co-faculty advisor of the Appalachian chapter of the Association of Information Technology Professionals and has helped the group achieve consecutive chapter of the year honors in 2012 and 2013.
Taylor received an MBA from Appalachian in 2011.
Donna Lindabury received the outstanding staff award, which honors college staff members who exhibit dedication in service, innovation, workplace morale and service to Appalachian and the community.
Lindabury serves as coordinator for the college's MBA program and has previously served as international programs coordinator. She began her career with the college as administrative assistant in the Department of Computer Information Systems.
Lindabury holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Appalachian.

Business Leaders: 'My biggest challenge was finding a balance between being a mother and a college student'

June 24, 2013

The 2013 edition of Walker College of Business Leaders magazine includes several news item from the past academic year, including details on two CEO Lectures, another Bowden Investment Group victory, new study abroad opportunities, and a letter from Dean Randy Edwards.

There is also a profile of Spring 2013 graduate Latwanna Singleton. A participant in Walker College's Building Insurance Talent program, she enrolled at Appalachian State both as a first generation college student and a young mother.

As much pressure as academics may have exerted, Singleton's desire to succeed for her daughter's sake brought even more. "My biggest challenge was finding a balance between being a mother and a college student," she said. "I would stress over my grades because freshman year I received straight As, and I wanted to keep it going. I knew that my competition in the job market were students who did not carry my responsibilities, and I wanted to make sure I kept my grades up to par.

"I also knew that Alanna depended on me now, and she needed my time now as well as in the future, because I had to provide for her. I always felt as though there was something I needed to be doing. I felt guilty for not spending time with her when I had homework to do, and I felt guilty for spending time with her because I had homework to do. It was an ongoing battle."

RMI students earn CPCU credit through coursework

May 28, 2013



Appalachian State University Risk Management & Insurance (RMI) majors recently participated in a pilot program sponsored by The Institutes, called “Collegiate Studies.” The program, only available at 15 universities nationwide, recognizes course work completed in college as part of an RMI degree program and provides qualifying students at approved schools credit toward up to two parts of the (CPCU) designation.

The program is described in the the Spring 2013 American Risk and Insurance Association newsletter. [PDF]

During the spring 2013 semester, 41 AppState RMI students met the program qualifications and earned CPCU credit through their Personal and Commercial Insurance classes. The students reported a very positive experience. Some of their comments can be read at the Brantley Center website.

RMI students explore issues of highway safety during trip to DC

May 16, 2013

A 50-mph test crash of a Volkswagen Jetta and discussions with U.S. legislators provided a group of Walker College students an in-depth look at the multi-faceted risk and insurance industry.



Student majors within the Brantley Risk and Insurance Center visited the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety's Vehicle Research Center in Ruckersville, Va. in April, where they witnessed the test car crash and heard a historical overview of highway safety and automobile crash testing from Kim Hazelbaker, senior vice president of the Highway Loss Data Institute.

"The students were very engaged and asked lots of good questions. The VRC is an excellent example of the positive things done by the insurance industry to save lives and reduces injuries in car crashes," said Kim Hazelbaker, senior vice president of the institute.

"The tour and presentation covered not only insurance issues, but also provide a lesson on physics, regulation and law. Witnessing the actual test crash test firsthand was a memorable experience," said Dr. David Marlett, chair of Appalachian's Department of Finance, Banking and Insurance.

After visiting the institute, the students and Marlett attended the Independent Agents and Brokers Association Legislative Conference in Washington D.C.

During the conference, the students learned about issues before Congress that are critical to the insurance industry, including the Affordable Care Act, Terrorism Risk and Insurance Act (TRIA) and the National Flood Insurance Program. Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-Texas) and Sen. Mark Warner (D-Virginia) spoke to the group about fiscal issues. Students also accompanied independent agents from North Carolina during their visits to members of Congress.

“The D.C. trip was a great experience to network with industry professionals and some of our representatives,” said junior Jason Capps from Appalachian.

The visit to Capitol Hill gave me a greater respect for what the independent agents are doing in order to protect their industry from restrictive legislation. I was also impressed with the hospitality of the agents and their willingness to interact with the students from the N.C. universities,” he said.

During their last day in Washington, the students heard a panel session that included Fox News analysts Dana Perino and Juan Williams as they debated terrorism insurance, health care and the national political climate.

“The legislative conference was full of great experiences and exciting events,” said Grant Jared, a risk management and insurance major from Appalachian. “Whether it was meeting with members of Congress or watching political roundtables, there was always something to take away. This trip showed me the vast opportunities within the risk management and insurance field and made me even more excited to graduate and get right to work.”

The travel opportunity was made possible by financial support from the Independent Agents of North Carolina.

“I really liked the opportunities I had to meet with all the different independent agents. Because this is the field I one day hope to work in, I found it extremely beneficial to not only practice networking with these agents but to be able to get a feel for what they do on an everyday basis,” said Appalachian junior Matt Frein. “I came away from this trip feeling more confident than ever that this is the industry I one day want to work in.”

Commencement: "Passion flows from purpose and in living your purpose, you live life with passion"

May 15, 2013



More than 350 degrees were awarded during Walker College's Spring 2013 Commencement, held May 11. The ceremony is online.

Frank Stewart, president of Ultra Machine and Fabrication, was the featured speaker. He discussed the role of passion in a successful career, according to ASU News.

He said passion is "a strong and barely controllable emotion, a strongly felt emotion… Passion flows from purpose and in living your purpose, you live life with passion."

His advice to those about to enter the workforce was to find out what they are really passionate about. He said that, as a company CEO, by the time a potential employee comes to his office he or she has been interviewed by human resources and other company personnel. "I know they are competent," Stewart said. "I am more interested in knowing what you are about, what really lights your fire, what is it that you are going to bring into a business that makes a difference. Businesses are interested in passionate people."

Stewart is a member of the Walker College of Business Advisory Council.

Prior to commencement, a graduation reception was held at Raley Hall for both graduates and Walker College staff and faculty. Photos from the event have been posted to the COB Facebook page.

Walker College Class of 2013 graduates Saturday

May 10, 2013



Walker College commencement ceremonies will take place Saturday, May 11, at 4 p.m. in the Holmes Convocation Center. Approximately 350 spring and summer graduates are eligible to walk the stage.

Prior to the ceremony there will be a Walker College graduation reception from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Boyles Lobby on second floor Raley Hall. This will be an opportunity for graduating students and their guests to meet COB administrators, faculty and staff.

Students with family and friends arriving for the weekend should make them aware of traffic conditions in Boone for the weekend, primarily Blowing Rock Road. Students are also reminded to register email addresses with Grad Images in order to view and order graduation photos.



The featured speaker at graduation will be a regional business leader.

Frank Stewart will speak to graduates of the Walker College of Business commencement which begins at 4 p.m. in Holmes Convocation Center. Stewart is president of Ultra Machine and Fabrication, a company he founded in 1989. Stewart is a member of the Walker College of Business Advisory Council. He received the Cleveland County Entrepreneur of the Year 2007 and Ultra was awarded the Cleveland County Chamber Small Business of the Year 2007. In 2010 he received the Patriot Award, given by the Department of Defenses' Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) committee, for his support of the U.S. Guard and Reservists.

Nathan Healy named Walker College Top Student of the Year

May 9, 2013



From left, Appalachian Chancellor Kenneth Peacock, Nathan Healy, and Walker College Dean Randy Edwards.

Nathan Healy is accustomed to double duty.

On the basketball court, the 6-foot-7 Appalachian State forwardrecorded seven double-doubles his senior season, finishing ninth in scoring (14.5 points) and second in rebounding (7.7) in the Southern Conference. He didn't just excel at offense. He was also named the league's Defensive Player of the Year.

In the classroom, the Walker College senior pursued a double major in finance and banking, and management. He finished his academic career with a 3.99 cumulative grade point average and became the first basketball player at Appalachian to be named an Academic All-American.

All that effort and success led to the New Bern native being named the Walker College Top Student of the Year for 2012-13.

He was recognized for his achievement during the business college's annual honors convocation.

In addition to honoring the top overall student, the event recognizes the top students in each of the college's nine undergraduate majors, two graduate disciplines and 21 student organizations. ...

He plans to play basketball overseas following graduation.

Walker College continues insurance paper award streak

May 9, 2013

For the fourth straight year, a Walker College student has won a national research award.



Senior Steven Schallau is one of two national winners in this year's White Paper Contest sponsored by American Association of Managing General Agents Education Foundation. His paper is entitled "Coastal Property Insurance: The Carolinas." It is available online. [PDF] The paper examines problems and solutions for North Carolina and South Carolina's coastal property insurance programs, according to ASU News.

Schallau is a senior in Appalachian's Walker College of Business, triple majoring in marketing, risk management and insurance, and finance and banking. ...

Schallau will receive a $1,000 award and be recognized at the AAMGA's 87th Annual Meeting in New Orleans May 19-22, which he will attend with his professor, Dr. David Wood. Schallau's paper will be released to trade publications and printed in AAMGA's newsletters.

AAMGA's executive director, Bernie Heinze, announced Schallau's accomplishment while on campus giving the keynote address at the 25th anniversary celebration dinner for the Brantley Risk and Insurance Center.

Previous Walker College winners of the Annual White Paper Contest include Justin Litaker '12 MKT (2012 winner), Lisa Blair '11 RMI, MKT, FIN (2011 winner) and Ben Robbins '11 FIN (2010).

RMI major to receive Plemmons Leadership Medallion

May 3, 2013

James C. Terrell III, a senior risk management and insurance major, is one of three recipients of the W.H. Plemmons Leadership Medallion. He will be publicly presented the honor during fall Convocation, September 10.



“James manages to maintain his high academic standards while seeking out a wide array of leadership opportunities,” wrote nominator Heather Lippard, assistant director of Learning Skills Services and academic advisor.

Terrell has been an Appalachian Ambassador for three years, a member of Student Orientation Undergraduate Leaders (SOULs) for two years and was president of Club Council for one year. He also has been a mentor with the Western Youth Network and a senator in the Student Government Association.

“James has actively sought out leadership roles in his entire tenure at Appalachian State University. He thrives in these roles and I believe has made a positive impact on students all over campus,” Lippard wrote.

In April, Terrell was honored at the On Course National Conference for an essay he wrote in his freshman year about his story and how he got to where he is as a student and person. His essay will be included in the next publication of the textbook “On Course,” which is currently used in classes at Appalachian and in courses across the nation. His essay focuses on the importance of accepting self-responsibility and using visualization as a method to achieve goals and experience success.

Named in honor of Dr. William H. Plemmons, who served as the second president of Appalachian from 1955 to 1969, the medallion is given to recognize "the time, energy, skills, and commitment of students, faculty, student development educators and staff who exceed their peers in providing leadership that enriches the quality of student life and advances the education of students."

Brantley Center celebrates 25 years, raises $100,000

May 2, 2013



More than 170 industry professionals and 65 Appalachian State students celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Brantley Risk & Insurance Center April 29, gathering for a special dinner at the Holmes Convocation Center.


20

Greg Langdon, assistant director of the Brantley Center, served as master of ceremonies. Other distinguished speakers included:

- Former Brantley Center board member Jim Harrill
- Walker College of Business Dean Randy Edwards
- Appalachian State Chancellor Kenneth Peacock
- NC Department of Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin
- All three Brantley Center Directors, Drs. Dave Wood, David Marlett and Karen Epermanis
- AAMGA Executive Director Bernd G. Heinze

Langdon applauded the generosity of the event's 34 sponsors, who raised more than $100,000 to support the ongoing mission of the Center - to prepare the next generation of Risk Management and Insurance leaders.
The following day, 12 teams competed in the first Brantley Center golf tournament, which raised additional money for the Appalachian RMI program.

Senior awarded Student Entrepreneur of the Year honor

April 24, 2013
Wade Montgomery, a senior majoring in commercial recreation and tourism with a minor in entrepreneurship, has received the Student Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the Transportation Insight Center for Entrepreneurship with Walker College.
The annual award is presented to an undergraduate from Appalachian who has exhibited exceptionally meritorious entrepreneurial achievement. Montgomery will receive a $2,500 scholarship and a space in the center's new business accelerator.



He currently owns and operates multiple businesses. Pro-Seal is a seal coating and line striping paving business with large commercial clients. Montgomery's primary focus is Local, a clothing and accessories company for skateboarders by skateboarders sold in specialty stores throughout the Southeast. In addition to running two profitable businesses, he also is passionate about using his entrepreneurial skills to give back to the local community. Through Local, he created a charity called Afford to Board that gives children the tools, skateboards and support they need to make their dream of skate boarding a reality. Montgomery also provides custom design work for clients, is a vendor in the BootstrApps student-run campus store, serves as an officer in the Association of Student Entrepreneurs, was a finalist for Student Entrepreneur of the Year in 2012 and was a finalist in the university's Launch Pad Competition last fall.

He was a member of a student team that represented Appalachian at the Values and Ventures international competition hosted April 19-20 by the Neeley School of Business at Texas Christian University.

The Transportation Insight Center for Entrepreneurship was established in 2006 to support student entrepreneurs at Appalachian State University. Approximately 200 students are enrolled in the entrepreneurship concentration in the management major. In a recent survey of students from across campus, 28 percent said their primary career aspiration was to own their own business.

Photo by Kristian Jackson

Walker College professor named Rasmuson chair of economics at University of Alaska

April 24, 2013

Dr. Todd L. Cherry, professor in the Department of Economics and director of the Center for Economic Research and Policy Analysis at Appalachian State, has been selected to be the Rasmuson Chair of Economics in the College of Business and Public Policy at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). The appointment is for the 2013-14 academic year.



The Rasmuson Chair was created with a $5 million endowment to bring UAA distinction and leadership in the study of economics and its relevance to Alaska's future. The chair is an integral part of UAA's research on environmental and energy issues that are vital to Alaska and the world.

Cherry's primary activity will be collaborating with UAA researchers, interacting with students, and advising local and state policymakers. He is scheduled to give a public lecture to the Anchorage community and to visit remote communities to learn more about the people and natural resources of the state. Past appointees include Nobel Laureate Vernon Smith, with the most recent being Robert Kurzban of the University of Pennsylvania.

Cherry's appointment coincides with the 10th anniversary of the Rasmuson Chair. Special activities and events will take place to celebrate the anniversary, including bringing back the scholars who have previously held the position.

Cherry is a senior research fellow at the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research – Oslo, which is affiliated with the University of Oslo. He currently serves as an advisor to the Mountain Resource Legislative Commission and previously served as an advisor to the NC Rural Economic Development Center. He previously was a faculty fellow at the Institution of Emerging Issues at N.C. State University.

Cherry's research focuses on public policy issues related to environmental challenges, energy resources and climate change. His research has been funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Transportation, Norwegian Research Council, Appalachian Regional Council and NC Rural Center, among others.

CEO Lecture: Videos now online

April 18, 2013



(from left) Walker College Dean Dr. Randy Edwards, Appalachian State Chancellor Dr. Kenneth Peacock, BB&T CEO Kelly King, Appalachian Trustee Dr. Brenda White Wright, former US Sen. Jim Broyhill and Executive Vice President BB&T Human Systems Division Tim Davis.

Kelly King discussed an array of economic issues, from Cyprus to the US economy, while delivering the 51st Harlan Boyles Distinguished CEO Lecture. The BB&T CEO also offered what he calls values which create effective leadership in the business world.

King's speech can be viewed online, or downloaded as a podcast.

Early in his remarks, King discussed the impact of the financial meltdown in 2008. He acknowledged he was speaking from the perspective of someone who works in the banking industry.

A lot of the blame has been placed on the banks. And as you might imagine I'm a bit defensive about that. But really most of the banks like you know around Main Street - BB&T and many other really fine institutions - really practically didn't have anything to do with that.

It really was the, what we now call the shadow banking system, that really created most of the problem. Most people don't realize this but when I started in banking in 1972 the banks in this country made 80 percent of all the loans made; 80 percent. Just before we headed into this crisis the banks in this country made 30 percent

So about 50 percent of the loans that were made by the banks left the banking system, went out into the shadow banking system that had no regulation and lot of other economic variations, and frankly it's became a really big mess.

Now in fairness, a lot of the Wall Street banks did have culpability in this because they were involved in developing the products and selling the products around the globe. And so it's been a big challenge.

All of us, I think, at the end of the day, rather than spending much time on casting blame or trying to assign responsibility, I think it's safe to safe that all of us in this country got a little bit accustomed to living beyond our means and so we're going through a period of correction.

Prior to King's speech, Appalachian State Trustee Dr. Brenda White Wright delivered the CEO Lecture Series Luncheon speech. A motivational speaker, Wright described the life lessons she's personally learned. Her speech is also online and available as a podcast.

Walker College professor receives UNC System teaching award

April 18, 2013

Dr. Scott Hunsinger, an associate professor within Walker College's Department of Computer Information Systems, recently received a UNC Board of Governors Excellence in Teaching Award. It came with a a commemorative bronze medallion and a $7,500 cash prize.



Established by the Board of Governors in 1994 to underscore the importance of teaching and to reward good teaching across the UNC system, the awards are given annually to a tenured faculty member from each UNC campus. Winners must have taught at their present institutions at least seven years. No one may receive the award more than once.

Hunsinger has taught at Appalachian since 2004. He served in multiple roles in the North Carolina Community College System from 1996-2004, including dean of academic affairs and information technology and instructor, and previously worked at Microsoft Corporation in Charlotte.

In order to stay up to date on the latest technologies, Hunsinger has earned more than 20 Information Technology certifications. He encourages his students to pursue certifications, as his research has shown that some employers use certification to differentiate among job candidates.

Hunsinger received $35,000 in funding to begin a Cisco Networking Academy in 2010 so that his students could gain experience with equipment. He integrates hands-on activities since many students learn best kinesthetically.

Hunsinger believes that students learn best by doing, not just by seeing and hearing. A former student explained, “He made (class) fun and engaging through humor and hands-on opportunities, communicating the material of each class in highly effective fashion.”

Hunsinger has served since 2006 as faculty Advisor for the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) student club. Through AITP, he offers additional learning opportunities to students. Each spring, Hunsinger takes students to compete at the AITP National Collegiate Conference. He mentors these students as they prepare for the competitions. His students have won four 1st place awards, two 2nd place awards, and an honorable mention in the undergraduate and graduate papers competition. Overall, the chapter, members, and he have received more than 25 awards, including back-to-back National Chapter of the Year and National Faculty Advisor of the Year.

Hunsinger believes in the importance of learning both inside and outside the classroom. Each year he takes students to visit technology-related companies so that they can learn about technological infrastructures and network with employees. He has chartered buses to take large groups of students to visit companies such as Cisco Systems and

IBM. For the past five years, he has taken 50 to 65 students each January to the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. Hunsinger also sets up multiple guest speaker meetings on campus each semester so that students can learn about job and internship opportunities. An alumnus stated, “His leadership and devotion to his students and organizations is unparalleled.”

In 2008, Hunsinger became the internship coordinator for the Department of Computer Information Systems. He strongly encourages students to gain real-world experience through internships before graduating. Making sure that students are well-prepared for the workforce is one of Hunsinger’s most important goals. He mentors many students and helps them find full-time jobs. A former student wrote, “Dr. Hunsinger ensures that students get exposure to top-notch companies.”

He received the Plemmons Leadership Medallion in 2012 for his work with students and the Walker College of Business Faculty Award for Teaching in 2011.

Hunsinger earned a Ph.D. in information technology, M.B.A., and B.S.B.A. in management information Systems from UNC Charlotte.

Watch the award-winning Bowden Investment Group presentation

April 16, 2013

In February the Bowden Investment Group repeated as winner of the North Carolina Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Society Research Challenge. The students made it to the final 16 teams out of the America's region pool of more than 60 schools.

The goal of the research challenge was to provide students with a real-world application of writing research reports. Each team was assigned Family Dollar Stores Inc. to analyze.

The Bowden Investment Group team was comprised of Dan Alliss, Jack Gibbs, Ellen Morgan, Alan Clarke and Matthew Vanek. They recently presented their analysis during the Spring 2013 Boyles CEO Lecture Luncheon. It can be viewed online.

Global Opportunities Conference features NYT bestselling author

April 4, 2013

New York Times bestselling author William Kamkwamba is the keynote speaker for the 5th Annual Global Opportunities Conference, scheduled for Friday, April 12, at the Holmes Convocation Center. The conference opens at 10 a.m.

Kamkwamba, co-author of *The Boy who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope*, will speak at 11 a.m. Following his keynote address, there will be a luncheon and panel discussion. Kamkwamba will be signing books at 2 p.m.



The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope, relates Kamkwamba's story of how he achieved his dream of bringing electricity, light, and the promise of a better life to his family and his Malawi village. He has appeared on Comedy Central's *The Daily Show*, ABC's *Good Morning America*, CSPAN *Book-TV*, and NPR. A 2007 TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) Global Fellow, he was a student in the inaugural class of the Pan-African Leadership Academy in South Africa. He has addressed audiences at the 2008 World Economic Forum, multiple times at TED, and at schools and universities across the globe.

During the conference's morning session, Jeff Ramsdell of the Appalachian State University Energy Center will speak on development in Africa and the important role of alternative and renewable energy. Students from the Walker College of Business will share their experiences in Malawi, Africa.

A multidisciplinary panel will discuss Creative Solutions for Development in Africa during the afternoon luncheon.

This year's Global Opportunities Conference is co-sponsored by the Walker College of Business and Transportation Insight Center for Entrepreneurship, with additional funding provided by the Goodnight Family Sustainable Development Program, the Department of Geography and Planning and the University Forum.

Walker College of Business receives accreditation renewal from AACSB

April 3, 2013

AACSB International (AACSB) has extended accreditation to the Walker College of Business at Appalachian State University for an additional five years. The accreditation renewal is based on a peer review team recommendation following a site visit in January. The Walker College of Business has been accredited since 1976.

AACSB International is the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools that offer undergraduate, master’s and doctoral degrees in business and accounting.



“AACSB accreditation is the standard of excellence for business schools,” said Walker College Dean Randy Edwards. He noted several commendations made by the review team regarding the college and its effective practices.

“The team was very impressed with the culture of the college and university that fosters a collegial atmosphere,” Edwards said. “The faculty are involved in the life of the college and focused on enhancing or facilitating transformative experiences for the students. The students are very positive about the faculty, Appalachian and their experiences here.

Edwards said the review team also cited Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock’s open door policy, saying it is “worthy of note and a distinctive feature of the campus. … It is clear that the upper administration strongly supports the Walker College of Business and its dean.”

The review team also praised the strong programs and centers that support the efforts of the faculty, the college's student organizations and their faculty advisors, international study experiences and partnership development, and support for faculty in development, research and learning new skills.

"AACSB commends deans, heads of business units, and academic and non-academic staff at each institution for their exemplary work in helping their schools earn or maintain the highest honor in business school accreditation," said Robert D. Reid, executive vice president and chief accreditation officer of AACSB International. "We are pleased to welcome the newly accredited schools, and send our congratulations to those that have maintained their accreditation."

AACSB International (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) was founded in 1916. There are 672 business schools in 44 countries and territories that maintain AACSB accreditation. AACSB's mission is to advance quality management education worldwide through accreditation, thought leadership, and value-added services. As the premier accreditation body for institutions offering undergraduate, master's, and doctorate degrees in business and accounting, the association also conducts a wide array of conferences and seminar programs at locations throughout the world.

Walker College APPlause

March 6, 2013



Dr. Al Harris, member of the Computer Information Systems Department, recently received the Association for Information Systems (AIS) award for Outstanding Contributions to IS Education. The award is sponsored by AIS and recognizes a faculty member who has made outstanding contributions to information systems education over a sustained period of time. AIS has a membership of about 5000 faculty members from around the world.

Christopher M. Cuddy '95 FIN was recently promoted to a newly created role of President, Sweeteners and Starches, with Archer Daniels Midland Company's corn business unit. He previously served as vice president and general manager for the sweeteners and starches business.

Bart Lassiter '75 MGT was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of Atlas World Group (parent of Atlas Van Lines), based in Evansville, Ind.

Peter Kapetanakis '99 MGT recently accepted a position as Vice President/ Appraisal Manager with Bank of North Carolina located in High Point. He recently was employed at BB&T as a Assistant Vice President/Real Estate Evaluator.

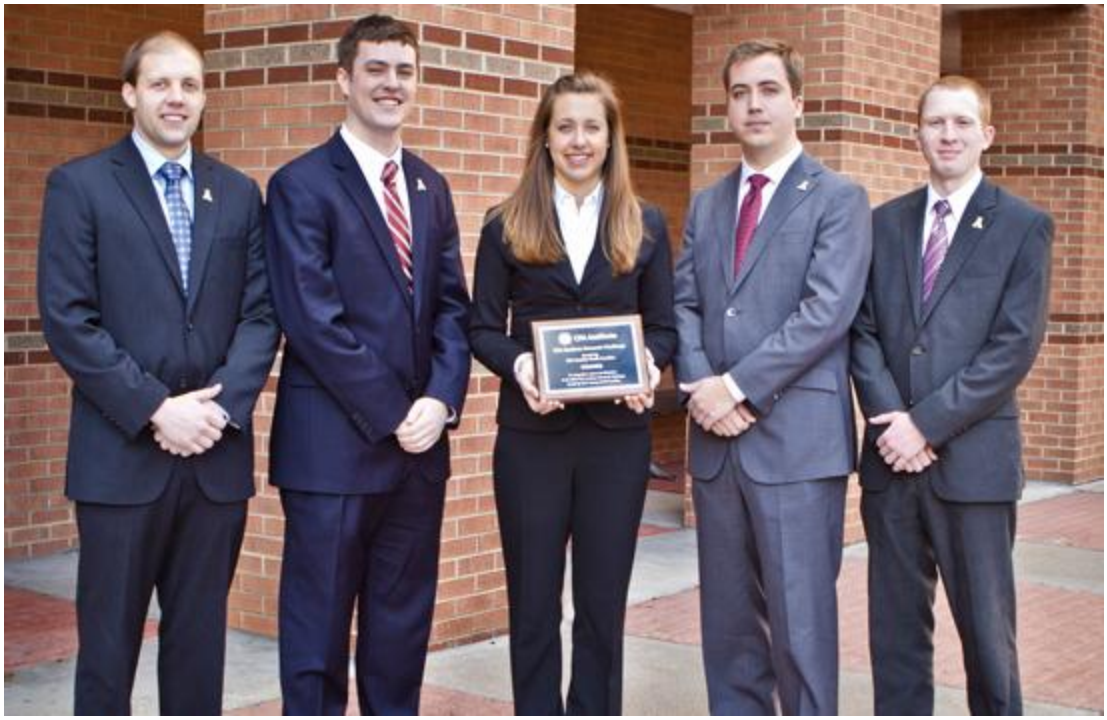
Richard Cimino '94 ACC was recently promoted to Partner from Managing Director at KPMG LLP, located in Greensboro.

Elizabeth Froehling 87 'ECON was recently promoted to Executive Director at NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, located in Durham.

You can read more Class Notes - and submit your own with photos - in the Gold Book.

BIG members win research challenge for second consecutive year

March 6, 2013



(from left) Appalachian State University students Dan Alliss, Jack Gibbs, Ellen Morgan, Alan Clarke and Matthew Vanek recently won a financial analyst competition that was held at UNC Greensboro. (Photo by Amanda Getty)

For the second year in a row, a team of undergraduates from Appalachian State University's Walker College of Business has won the North Carolina Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Society Research Challenge.

The winning students are Dan Alliss, Jack Gibbs, Ellen Morgan, Alan Clarke and Matthew Vanek. Their CFA mentor was Chris Pavese, chief investment officer at Broyhill Asset Management. Pavese also coached last year's winning team.

The team, all members of the Bowden Investment Group in the Department of Finance, Banking and Insurance, will advance to the Americas Regional finals competition held in Toronto, Canada, in March.

The victory was the third win in five years for Appalachian in the state competition (Campus team also won in 2009.) It also gives Appalachian the best overall record in the North Carolina competition, according to Delbert Goff, a professor in the Department of Finance, Banking and Insurance and advisor to the investment group. The students competed against MBA and undergraduate business students from nine universities across the state.

The goal of the research challenge is to provide students with a real-world application of writing research reports. The challenge also teaches best practices in research to the next generation of analysts and offers experiences that complement students' academic curriculum.

Each team was assigned Family Dollar Stores Inc. to analyze. The students were given access to the company's management team as part of their research process. Teams then wrote and presented a report recommending a "Buy," "Sell," or "Hold" position on the publicly traded company. Members of the N.C. CFA society assisted in providing education tools and research seminars.

Goff estimates the students spent nearly 200 hours each preparing for the competition. "They gained very in-depth, hands on, security analysis experience, developed very strong report-writing skills and had the chance to refine their presentation skills," he said of the competition. "The team faced challenging questions from investment professionals who served as judges, and they excelled on all levels.

The team from Appalachian will compete against approximately 45 teams from North, South and Central America. Four teams will be selected to compete at the global competition to be held in London in April.

CEO Lecture: BB&T CEO Kelly King returns to the series

March 1, 2013

The 51st Boyles Distinguished CEO Lecture Series will feature a returning speaker.

BB&T Corporation CEO Kelly King, who spoke at the 44th Lecture in Fall 2009, will discuss "Economic Realities – Post Election" during his lecture Wednesday, March 27, at 2 p.m. in the Holmes Convocation Center. The lecture is free and open to the public.

King has been with BB&T for 40 years, and held many key leadership roles. He was named President in 1996 and served as COO from 2004-2008. He was named Chairman and CEO of Branch Bank, and President and CEO of BB&T, in 2009.

King assumed the Chairmanship of BB&T Corporation in 2010. In December 2012, his contract as CEO was extended.

BB&T's board of directors said in a regulatory filing Thursday it has approved eliminating the automatic expiration of King's employment term as chief executive when he turned 65. ...

King has been the last remaining member of the "original five" executives widely credited for transforming BB&T from one-time farm bank into one of the largest financial institutions in the country. ...

Among King's achievements:

- *BB&T having enough financial strength to take over a collapse Colonial Bank in 2009, giving it entrance into Alabama and Texas and bolstering its presence in Florida.*
- *The bank has not had a negative financial quarter since the financial crisis began in late 2007.*
- *It also was among the first large banks to repay the funds borrowed from the federal Troubled Asset Relief Program, which was $3.1 billion for BB&T.*

King's lecture will be part of a full-day focus on leadership, sponsored by the BB&T Student Leadership Center.

Who needs life insurance?

February 28, 2013

Dr. David Marlett, chair of the Department of Finance, Banking and Insurance within Walker College, recently conducted a Q&A with bankrate.com. The topic was life insurance. Who needs it? What kinds are available? When should one but it?

It can be an intimidating subject. Marlett offers easy to understand advice.

Q. Life insurance is a product that sometimes confuses and intimidates people. In a nutshell, who needs this insurance, and who does not?

A. Anyone with dependents should strongly consider purchasing life insurance. Dependents could include a spouse, child or even elderly parents in your care. Young, single people without children do not have a significant need for life insurance.

Q. Life insurance basically can be divided into two types: temporary and permanent. Do you have some tips for determining which product is right for you?

A. For most people, temporary (commonly called "term") insurance will meet their needs. It is much less expensive than permanent life insurance. Term insurance is basically a commodity, and you can purchase (it) from a wide range of highly rated insurers. It is also simple and easy to understand.

Read the full interview online.

Walker professor named senior research fellow with CICERO

February 26, 2013

Todd L. Cherry, professor of economics at Appalachian State, has been appointed a senior research fellow at the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research-Oslo (CICERO). CICERO, a research center associated with the University of Oslo in Norway, has been an international leader since 1990 in conducting research and providing information on climate change and climate policy.



CICERO has nearly 80 researchers from a range of disciplines including anthropology, atmospheric chemistry, meteorology, geophysics, human geography, sociology, biology, chemistry, political science and economics. The organization has many scientists contributing to the

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 5th Assessment Report, among them six lead authors and one coordinating lead author.
CICERO cooperates with a number of research communities throughout Europe and North America, and has active research networks in several developing countries, including China and India.
Cherry regularly visits CICERO in Oslo, including spending time in residence during the summer. He recently worked with Dr. Dave McEvoy, a colleague in Appalachian's Department of Economics, and Jon Hovi, a colleague at CICERO and professor of political science at the University of Oslo, to organize a workshop on international climate policy. The two-day workshop, part of a larger book project, brought together leading researchers from Columbia University, University of California-Santa Barbara, Resources for the Future and the University of Bath, among others. The workshop was sponsored by CICERO, University of Oslo and Appalachian.

More than 60 students attend Professional Development Workshop

February 21, 2013



Georgia Doran poses with a group of RMI students.

More than 60 Walker College students, including dozens of Risk Management and Insurance majors, attended the Brantley Risk & Insurance Center sponsored Professional Development Workshop and Etiquette Lunch February 8. The 5-hour professional development event was held in the new Plemmons Student Union Parkway Ballroom. Georgia Holmes Doran, Director of Career Education at the University of South Carolina's Moore School of Business and certified professional career development trainer, led the students through interactive sessions titled:

- "Personal Branding"
- "Managing Your Digital Footprint"
- "Millennials and Corporate America's Perception"

- "How to Work a Career Fair"

The event culminated with a full business etiquette lunch presentation and meal.
More information and photos are available at the Brantley Center website.

Faculty work: Sheriff Roscoe P. Coltrane gets settlement

February 19, 2013
For six years, James Best portrayed the bumbling Sheriff Roscoe P. Coltrane in the hit television show, "The Dukes of Hazzard." For years afterward, his likeness was sold on everything from action figures to lunch boxes. And, according to Best, he never received due compensation.



OSWALD

Represented by Charles Oswald, a Hickory attorney and Walker College adjunct instructor, Best filed suit against Warner Bros. in August 2011. Some of his claims were dismissed, but two were upheld. The trial was to begin in North Carolina this month.
Instead, a settlement was reached.
Though the settlement wasn't made public, Best had said in his lawsuit, filed in August 2011, that Warner Bros. underestimated the royalties, and he could have been due $5 million to $25 million or more for the early years of the show alone. In letters to Best cited in the suit, Warner said his share was less.

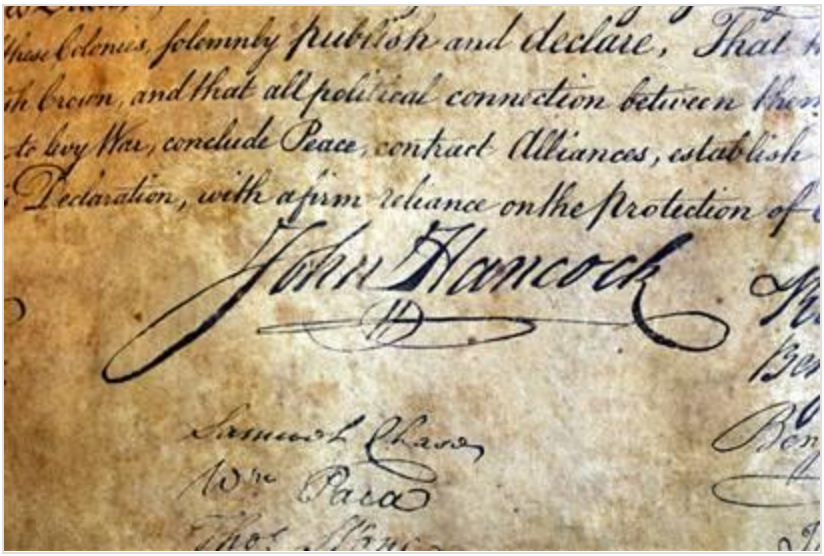
Walker College APPlause: Alumna among top 40 under 40

February 19, 2013
In 2008, Sonja Speck '02 ACC '03 MS started a Chick-fil-A franchise in Fresno, Calif. Business has since boomed, propelling her to be named one of "40 under 40" by Business Street online. The promotion recognizes some of the top young business professionals in Central California's public and private sectors who are also leaders in the community.

Sonja Speck grew up in North Carolina, and began working at a Chick-fil-A restaurant when she was 16. She started as a cashier, and worked for Chick-fil-A through the rest of high school and college. Speck attended Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, and earned a BSBA in accounting and a master's in tax. ...
She employs 55 people, and her main responsibility is developing the leadership of her team. The staff is mainly made up of college students. A day at work for Speck usually consists of checking e-mails, visiting with guests in the dining room, having meetings with the general manager and directors, and sometimes dealing with vendors.

Faculty Research: Reading too much into big signatures?

February 7, 2013
Signatures are big news now. Or more appropriately, big signatures.
When President Obama nominated Jack Lew to be the next Treasury Secretary, several news outlets focused on the nominee's distinctive signature - a series of cursive loops lacking any relation to his actual name. Riding on the coattails of that attention is a new study which suggests the larger a person's signature, the more likely that person is a narcissist.
Two Walker College professors dispute the findings of the study.



The new study, released by the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina, is described as the first of its kind to discuss on signature size. Researchers reviewed 605 signatures scribbled on various documents, including annual reports and proxies, filed by S&P 500 companies as of July 2011. They then used a software program to analyze them, and based their findings on various psychological literature which finds the larger the mark, the larger the ego.
ABC News has a report online regarding the study, and finds two detractors in Boone.
Narcissism experts James Westerman and Jacqueline Bergman of Appalachian State University are skeptical of the paper's conclusions for this very reason: Other factors can determine signature size, including, they tell ABC news, high self-esteem and an extroverted personality.
They further question how predictive a CEO's big signature may be of his or her company's performance. If high self-esteem is responsible for that ebullient scrawl, might not the company benefit from his positive self-assurance?
The researchers respond to the challenge. Read the full report for their response.
Westerman has a much more colorful quote in a *Bloomberg Businessweek* article.

“A bigger signature might have squat to do with narcissism,” Westerman said. “What does large handwriting truly indicate? That’s what you’re screening out.”

The story has also been picked up in the UK.

Westerman and Bergman have been heavily involved in research dealing with narcissism, both with college business students and graduates.

Appalachian Abroad: "We really have a more balanced view of ourselves and our country"

January 23, 2013



Walker College has recently broadened its international opportunities for students to include trips to study in Cuba. The most recent such program was in early October 2012, when students spent seven days traveling across the country studing business and society.

Dr. Martin Meznar, Walker College Associate Dean of International Programs and Assessment, led the trip. He recently interviewed three students who participated. They discussed what they learned there, and the new perspectives they gained.

Tiffany Davis: The contrast of the information we get here (from) our government and then you go to Cuba and you have their side of the story. You know there's a lot of things that... don't go together at all, but there are some things that mesh and there are things that we learned about our own country that we're not told I guess, or that we would never think about ... that I just didn't think about until now.

Garrett Bowman: Seeing a completely new perspective was really awesome, and I just like seeing both sides of the story kind of like Tiffany said. And I think that really helps out trying to understand our culture as well as other cultures too.

AAMGA magazine features articles from Walker College professor, alumna

January 23, 2013



A recent issue of a national trade publication features two articles written by Walker College representatives.

Risk Management and Insurance professor Dr. Dave Wood and alumna Allyson Lunsford '12 FIN, RMI are both featured in the Winter 2013 issue of WIN magazine, a publication of the American Association of Managing General Agents (AAMGA). WIN magazine (Wholesale Insurance News) is distributed quarterly to insurance professionals throughout the US, Canada, Europe and the United Kingdom.

Wood, the Freeman Professor of Insurance at Appalachian State, wrote "A Primer on Insurance-Linked Securities." Lunsford, a brokerage underwriter for All Risks Ltd in Richmond, Va., authored “CAT Modeling and the Implementation of RMS 11.”

Accounting firm continues strong financial support of Walker College

January 14, 2013

One of the country's largest accounting firms has been a huge supporter of Walker College, donating more than $90,000 for a variety of causes.


Dixon Hughes Goodman, the largest certified public accounting firm headquartered in the Southern U.S., has donated $94,900 to support the College's Department of Accounting. It has also given discretionary funds to the dean of the college, and established the Dixon Hughes Goodman/Brooks Ferrell Memorial Scholarship endowment fund, according to ASU News.

"With this down economy, we are well aware of the fact that Appalachian and other state supported institutions have had significant budget cuts and they need us more than ever," said Eddie Sams, former chairman of Dixon Hughes Goodman. "Universities and the accounting programs in business schools perpetuate our profession. If we are not healthy and robust and doing the best we can at the campus level, then all of our firms will suffer and the profession will suffer."

The accounting firm's annual $25,000 gift to the Department of Accounting funds a Dixon Hughes Goodman Research Fellows award presented to a faculty member in the department as well as scholarships for accounting majors.

"The research award enables a faculty member to forego summer teaching and focus on research and remain current in the field," said department chairman Dr. Timothy Forsyth. Priority is given to faculty members who are in process of earning tenure, but it also may be awarded to senior faculty to support their research activities. "Dixon Hughes Goodman has been very generous to our department in the last decade with these annual gifts. We truly appreciate what they do for us," Forsyth said.

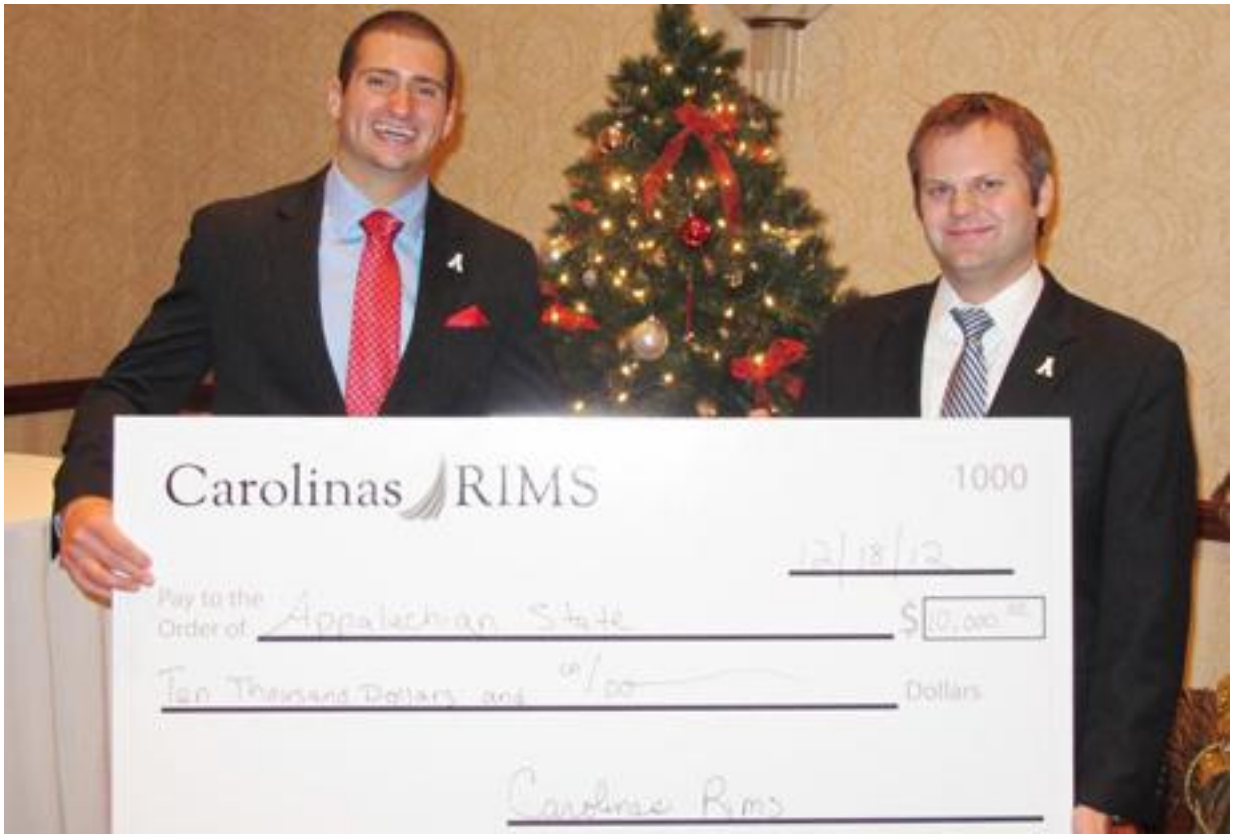
The Dixon Hughes Goodman/Brooks Ferrell Memorial Scholarship was created through a $27,500 contribution. The endowed scholarship was established in honor of the late son of David and Pam Ferrell. David Ferrell, a 1982 graduate from accounting program in the Walker College of Business, is a partner with Dixon Hughes Goodman. The scholarship will be awarded annually to an accounting student.

A total of $42,400 was earmarked for the Walker College of Business Dean's Club. "Dixon Hughes Goodman's support of the Dean's Club provides much needed funding for critical needs in the college that aren't supported by state funds," said Dr. Randy Edwards, dean of the college. "Contributions such as this help ensure the college's ability to provide scholarships to deserving business students, fund faculty and student travel to professional conferences, support student travel to corporate worksites, the New York Stock Exchange and Wall Street, and support development of new international study abroad opportunities for our students."

More information at ASU News.

Carolinas RIMS Chapter supports Appalachian's RMI students

January 9, 2013



The Board of Directors for the Carolinas Risk & Insurance Management Society chapter recently presented a $10,000 check to students from the Appalachian State Risk Management & Insurance program, during a December 2012 holiday social in Charlotte. Pictured in the photo, from left, are Appalachian RMI members Cameron Annas and Dustin Walker.