

the Collegian

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Students win grants to research voice aging and mental health

Eylan Martinez
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore communication disorders majors Rebecca Gomes and Emily Stark received a \$5,139 grant from the South Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities (SCICU) to conduct research alongside communication disorders faculty member Hannah Benge. Freshman kinesiology major Vivian Smith won a \$3,270 grant from the SCICU to research the how physical exercise and sleep relate to mental health among college students as part of a study directed by Dr. Stephen Chen.

The SCICU, whose goal is to provide research opportunities to its affiliated institutions, selected the students based on their application forms.



Freshman kinesiology major Vivian Smith and sophomore communication disorders majors Rebecca Gomes and Emily Stark will use the grants to help conduct studies on campus at BJU.

In the form, freshman and sophomore students included their qualifications: their experience in the field, the communication disorders courses they had taken and GPA. Gomes and Stark also included their research proposal titled "Strengthening the Aging Voice (STAG) Study: Evaluation of

Respiratory Muscle Strength Training Plus Vocal Function Exercise" and their expectations for their research, which are to learn more about their topic and gain confidence in the professional research setting, Stark said. Both Gomes and Stark will research for approximately 10

hours a week starting in the fall semester. As they look forward to developing their research, they are thankful for their academic training at BJU. "I've learned so much at Bob Jones. You can tell that the faculty, they're really passionate about

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04/28
2023



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News Nuggets

Classes end today
Exams begin Monday.

Senior regalia distribution
Graduating students can pick up their regalia today in the Den from 11:45 a.m.-5 p.m. in the room beside Estaban's.

School of Religion award ceremony
All SOR students are expected to attend the ceremony held today at 4 p.m. in Stratton Hall.

Senior film project showcase
Attendees must purchase tickets for \$6 from Programs & Productions. April 29 at 7 p.m. in Stratton Hall.

The Brodys
This annual awards ceremony for student-athletes will induct the inaugural Hall of Fame class April 29 at 7 p.m. in Rodeheaver Auditorium.

Baccalaureate & Legacy Ceremony
This is a combination worship service and time to honor the class of 2023. May 4 at 7 p.m. in Founder's Memorial Amphitheater.

Commencement
Doors open at 1 p.m. May 5 for the 2 p.m. ceremony.

Faculty adviser retires after 36 years of serving *The Collegian*, 44 years teaching

Nathaniel Hendry
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A decade after winning the Distinguished Servant Award from the Bob Jones University Alumni Association, Betty Solomon has finally reached the end of an illustrious career of teaching and will retire at the end of the spring 2023 semester.

Solomon has been *The Collegian's* faculty adviser for 36 years, and the paper has won many awards under her oversight. Before her work with *The Collegian*, Solomon served as faculty adviser for BJU's *Vintage* yearbook. Solomon has taught in the Division of

English Language and Literature and currently teaches courses in the Division of Communication's journalism and mass communication department.

Solomon has worked as a freelance reporter for *The Greenville News*, and she earned a master's degree in journalism and mass communication from the University of South Carolina and a master's degree in English education from BJU.

Looking back

Solomon recounted some of her favorite memories of the paper's early years. In the earliest days of *The Collegian*,



Solomon has been a faculty adviser for *The Collegian* since its first issue
Photo: Katelyn McKenney

computers did not have the design functional-

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From the Editor

As a senior, here are my five best tips



Nathaniel Hendry

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As I review the last four years of college, some of the biggest lessons I've learned didn't come in a classroom. They were life lessons that came because of the college setting. For those coming behind me, here are a few of my top recommendations for a successful and rewarding time in college.

Sample a lot, then focus in

As a freshman, I signed up for all sorts of organizations and activities. I got involved in Missions Advance, the University Investment Association, University Business Association, University Marketing Association, Public Policy Organization and society sports. I helped with my church's kids' ministry and preached several times at my church. I could afford to get heavily involved because I was a freshman and my classes were mainly introductory at that point.

In the following years, I became a GL, writer and photographer for *The Collegian*, Pathways peer leader, ministry mentor and society officer. I sang in the choir several semesters, dressed up for *Living Gallery* and died as a Philistine in *Samson et Dalila*.

Naturally, I wasn't able to keep up my involvement with all of those organizations as my class loads got heavier. However, I'm glad I made the most of the opportunities while I could. While I am not

heavily involved with all those organizations anymore, I found a few of them deeply rewarding, especially Missions Advance and the UMA. (And of course, *The Collegian*.)

Value depth

I must confess that I got involved in several organizations simply to beef up my resume. However, by the time I became a senior, my resume included so many involvements that I couldn't fit them all into the usual one page resume format. Half the things I got involved in just so I could put them on my resume didn't even fit on my resume. Doing something just for credit is kind of pointless when you don't even get the credit.

Additionally, as a freshman, I would see people that were heavily involved in lots of different activities and organizations, and assume that meant they were successful. I equated busyness with success. This is a dangerous mindset. Busyness is not as rewarding as we might hope.

How do you square my last piece of advice with this one? Sample everything at first, and then narrow your focus to the activities that you find most beneficial. You'll have to drop several activities as you progress through college, but doing so should leave you more time to focus on the ones you enjoy the most.

Seek a learning mindset

While there have been many assignments for which I did only the minimum requirements, the most memorable and enjoyable school projects for me have been the ones for which I went beyond the basic requirements:

When my paper was three times beyond the minimum word count because I really enjoyed learning about the topic.

When I read an entire book to prepare for a speech.

When I looked up and watched a performance of the entire play for En 103.

If you can try to become interested in the learning

material, you'll find you enjoy schoolwork much more. You got to pick what major to study, so you already should have at least some interest in the material. Make the most of that interest and you'll turn out projects that you both enjoy and remember.

Prioritize ministry

No matter what career you plan to pursue, God intends for you to be involved in ministry after you graduate. But you shouldn't wait until you graduate to get involved. Even though your time in college seems very busy, you won't necessarily become less busy once you graduate and begin working a full-time job and begin a family. Make the most of the freedom and ministry opportunities that you have as a student that you may never have again.

Adults with a full time job can't often drop everything and go on a two-month mission trip.

Medical professionals who need to work on Sunday may not be able to teach a Sunday school class.

Parents with young children can't simply leave for a summer to work at a camp.

No matter your major, talents or existing skills, God intends for you to learn more than just career necessities while you're in college. He wants you to grow you as an effective servant for His Kingdom.

Avoid complaining

Don't complain about things that cannot be changed. Pointing out how cold it is won't make you feel warmer.

Don't complain about things when you can change them. If you know a problem can be fixed by simply having a little bit of courage and talking to the right person, do it. Complaining about something when a solution is available is like complaining about the dark when you're standing by the light switch.

Don't complain about the consequences of your own choices. You chose to come

the Collegian

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to college. You chose which classes to take each semester. You chose, or could have chosen, your roommates.

We have so many gifts that other people don't enjoy and that we did nothing to deserve. Learning to embrace gratitude will help displace a complaining spirit.

Enjoy your time at college. Make the most of this season of life. It will end eventually. But don't miss the experiences along the way in your eagerness to finish.

Talkback: Seniors share what's next for them



Zachary Haynes

Ministry and leadership

"I will be a grad assistant here at Bob Jones, so I'll do a Master of Divinity degree."



Nina Gasparik

Biblical Counseling

"I plan to attend the Bob Jones Seminary and pursue a degree in a master of biblical counseling. I also received a graduate assistant position with the Academic Resource Center, so I'll be working there as a grad assistant."



Jacob Henson

Film and digital storytelling

"I will set up my own video production company with my twin brother. We will be doing commercial work to start off as we come up with movie scripts and TV pilots to pitch to whoever wants to produce them."



Katelyn Wiedell

English
Education

"After graduation, I'm going to go back home to North Carolina, and I'm going to teach high school English at the school that I graduated from."



Thomas Henson

Film and digital
storytelling

"We're going to do commercial work on the side to get money, and then primarily start making short films, pitching scripts to people to hopefully eventually get noticed."

METES event explores organization's purpose

Zachary Smith
STAFF WRITER

"Why does BJU need a student organization that focuses on minority ethnicities?" Bob Jones University's Minorities Empowered to Educate and Serve organization addressed this question in a March 30 forum. About 15 students, faculty and staff formed a simple circle of chairs in a classroom to share their perspectives and experiences.

Student support

Alaura Fleishman, Grace Harris and Lianna Stewart are current students at BJU. They share the experience of being adopted from China by white American families. All three students discussed the complexities of having a "culturally white" but ethnically Asian background.

"Until I came to college, I had never seen so many Chinese people in one place," Fleishman said. She encouraged her peers to learn new languages, get outside the bubbles they grew up in and "reach people where they are."

Harris teared up talking about insensitive and hurtful comments she and her sister Abigail, also adopted from China, have faced. During the Covid pandemic, some people she knew questioned her loyalty to the U.S., she said. Harris sees value in METES' constructive conversations because "we as Christians have work to do," she said. She wants to ensure that believers of all ethnic backgrounds feel accepted at their schools, churches and other environments.

Stewart shared her experience of having her Chinese background and chronic health issues that set her apart as different among her peers growing up. Before coming to BJU, she said, "I saw no one like me." Now, she enjoys friendships with many students from minority backgrounds.



Minorities Empowered to Educate and Serve (METES) is open to students from all backgrounds, not just minorities. Photo: Provided

Growth experiences

Brenda Schoolfield, chair of the Division of History, Government and Social Science at BJU, said METES is "rescuing us from the danger of a single story," referencing a TED Talk by Nigerian novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie that has been viewed more than 11 million times. Schoolfield noted the lingering presence of discriminatory views, as 38% of South Carolinians voted to keep anti-miscegenation language in the state constitution in a 1998 referendum. Miscegenation is a term that generally refers to the marriages of whites to members of other ethnic groups.

METES secretary Abigail Bergmann discussed how race was an uncomfortable topic to discuss among her extended family during her growing up years. She talked about the harm of being uneducated about other cultures and ethnicities. "We have a duty to be educated," she said. She sees the organization as supporting global missions, breaking barriers and fostering unity among diverse believers. "We're all Christians...that's what unites us," she said.

Esther Salinas, an alumna and member of the teacher education faculty at BJU, said curiosity motivated her to attend the

event. She is from California and brings years of experience in multicultural ministry to her role at BJU. "We do share that one identity in Christ," she said.

Autumn Hicks, a sophomore English education major, is from "really rural" New Hampshire, an area that doesn't experience significant ethnic diversity. She appreciates METES and encouraged her peers to take the posture of learners.

Community Service

Johnny Pierre, president of METES and incoming student body president at BJU, talked about the impact of METES' mentorship program and partnership with the Black Student Union at Wade Hampton High School. He said that the presence of BJU students means a lot to the high school students. He mentioned events METES is planning for next semester, including visiting Wade Hampton High and hosting more roundtable discussions.

Tim Hunter works for Aramark, the company that services the dining common at BJU. He grew up in the Greenville area and is passionate about community service and the shared values believers have in the Lord.

METES Events Coordi-

nator Josiah Roselle talked about the beginnings of the organization. It was founded in October 2020, just months after the killing of George Floyd. Johnny Pierre said he was concerned the group would be "BLM on campus," but quickly learned that METES was very different. METES seeks to address racial issues in a thoroughly Christian way, emphasizing unity in Christ while strengthening cross-cultural relationships.

BJU's history

Hunter shared his perspective as an African American on the past interracial dating ban. "I didn't think it was right," he said. However, to reflect Christ's love, he didn't "demonize" BJU, in his words. Hunter said he wants to learn more and help the University. As fellow Christians, he said, "We're not haters. We're lovers, like Jesus."

Sarah Gothard, an alumna and member of the computer science faculty at BJU, remembered how she felt when the University removed its controversial interracial dating ban in 2000. "I was so happy," she said. She mentioned that as a young person, she heard some people argue against interracial marriage, claiming that biblical passages such as

Genesis 11 and Acts 17:26 supported their view.

Schoolfield commented on BJU's past policies: "This has never been a perfect place. This has always been a place that needed to grow and change." She wants to help support METES because "college should be the place where you learn empathy," she said.

METES vice president Naryan Parimi said, "I was pretty excited because I thought the University needed something like METES." Parimi noted that his heritage — his father is of Indian descent and his mother is white — would have put him in an awkward position had he attended the school under the old policy. Parimi and others mentioned how uncomfortable mixed individuals attending BJU under the policy felt when they were required to choose an ethnic or racial identity for dating. Though he is graduating, Parimi plans to continue supporting METES and said it feels like a home to him.

Johnny Pierre closed the meeting by reading from Jude 20-23 and praying for the attendees. He is excited about the future of the organization as they seek to honor Christ and bless the student body and Greenville community.

Showcase concert recognizes top student musicians

Zachary Edmondson
STAFF WRITER

Bob Jones University presented the Music Contest Showcase, where finalists of the competitions earlier in the semester demonstrated their mastery of challenging classical pieces Monday, April 17.

Before the music began, several awards were given. Audrey Marinelli, a sophomore piano pedagogy major, received the Piano

Central Pedagogy Award. Michael Moore, chair of the BJU Division of Music, said the award is presented every year to a junior or senior pedagogy major as a gift to cover some tuition costs.

Moore also recognized the first recipients of two new certificates. The first certificate was for Keyboard Pedagogy and was awarded to Hannah Pierre, while Andrew Weiss received a certificate for Digital Audio

Production. A new certificate will be inaugurated in the fall of 2023.

During the showcase, Natalie Thorson played the horn, Sarah Grace Johnson sang, Ben Hyink played the cello and Ling Zhou played the piano. The showcase was relatively short, lasting about 25 minutes, but it was a powerful demonstration of the time and effort each student committed to mastering these pieces. There was a good crowd in attendance, and many stayed afterwards to congratulate the performers.

After his breathtaking performance that concluded the showcase, Zhou shared what it was like to rehearse and win the contest. While his performance was a consummate example of calmness and composure, Zhou said his biggest struggle was not technique, but nervousness on stage.



Ling Zhou practiced his piece every day to prepare for the contest. Photo: Katelyn McKenney



Taryn Johnson, last year's piano contest winner, accompanied trumpet player Natalie Thorson. Photo: Katelyn McKenney

Recognizing this, he prepared by having some of his friends listen to his practice sessions, and he never went a day without pushing his technique to new levels. He started playing at age 8 and continues to enjoy piano because of the emotional power of its music, creating new melodies in his spare time.

"Keep asking yourself why you like playing piano, because you need to

put a lot of time," Ling advised. "It isn't a thing that can benefit you immediately." He pointed out that the learning process is very gradual and coming to the stage is not easy. "You need to discover why you love playing piano, and just keep playing." The road is long, but the reward is great, and his performance along with those of the other finalists was a great testimony to that truth.

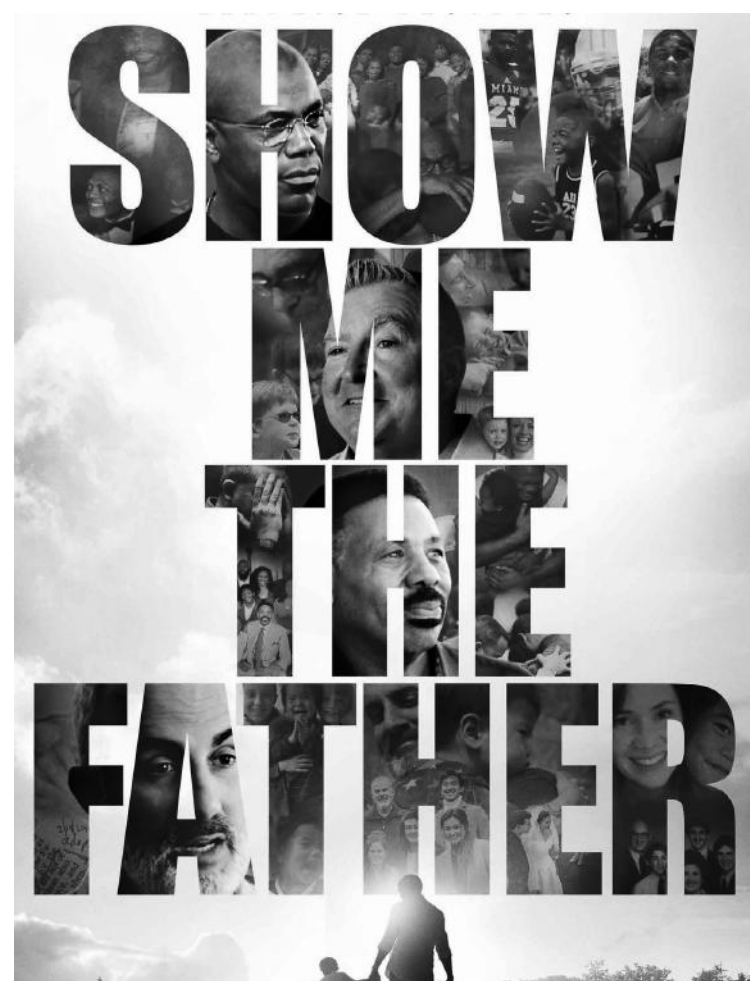
BJU showed Kendrick Brothers' film on fatherhood

Zachary Edmondson
STAFF WRITER

Bob Jones University's Center for Biblical Worldview hosted a viewing of the documentary "Show Me The Father" a Kendrick Brothers production directed by Nashville-based musician and filmmaker Rick Altizer in Stratton Hall Thursday, April 20.

After the viewing, Altizer answered questions about fatherhood and the role of godly men during a Q&A session with Steve Noble, host of "The Steve Noble Show" on the C2A Radio Network in Raleigh, North Carolina. Renton Rathbun, director of the Center for Biblical Worldview, hosted the Q&A.

"Show Me The Father" demonstrates how our relationships with our fathers affect our lives and our views of who God is. To understand what God is like, His children need to know what the Bible says a perfect father looks like. "Show Me The Father" interviews several well-known people about their



The Kendrick brothers are best known for their drama films including War Room, Courageous, Fireproof, and Overcomer. Photo: Provided

relationships with both their fathers and their children, including filmmaker Stephen Kendrick, former NFL coach Sherman Smith, college football coach Deland

McCullough and Focus on the Family president Jim Daly.

Altizer said many Christians, including himself, struggle with the idea that

God is a perfect father. During his childhood, Altizer had a difficult relationship with his own father. "So for me, connecting the words 'perfect' and 'father' in the same sentence was very difficult for me," Altizer said. "And so I struggled in my faith, connecting with God as Father."

Altizer described Christians like his younger self as "functional orphans," who struggle to believe that God loves and cares about them. They go to church and often hold positions of leadership. They have a functioning faith in God, but they don't believe He is there for them.

"I can believe that God is good, and pray for you, and believe He is sovereignly in control of your life," Altizer said. "But when it comes to me and my life? I struggle with that. ... So at the core, I was functionally an orphan — functionally did not believe that God was my father."

What drew Altizer to the film was the opportunity to show people that they have

a perfect heavenly Father who loves them. "I wanted to make a film that helped communicate this — that helped people who maybe don't even know they're functional orphans, maybe see something about this that helps them grow."

Through heartwarming testimonies, "Show Me The Father" reminds audiences that while all fathers fall short of perfection, a loving father can help a child to better understand God's love. Children who did not have good fathers as role models can find the Father they never had in Him.

"God makes everything good," Altizer said during the Q&A session. "And you might not see it right now. You might not see how it's absolute, how it's possible at all for anything good to come out of the situation. But God will do it because He is the essence of good. He is what defines good. And so all He does is good. That's all He can do because it's who He is."

Symphonic Wind Band Performs *Day and Night*

Jonathan Millar

STAFF WRITER

The Symphonic Wind performed a concert titled *Day and Night* on April 14 in the Rodeheaver Auditorium. The concert centered on the theme of its title, with the songs focusing on the early morning hours and the darkness of night.

The performance began at 7 p.m., with an introduction by Bruce Cox, the director of the band.

The first piece performed was titled “Early Light.” The song started off quietly, but it quickly grew louder, evoking the feeling of the sunrise in the morning. The attendees also picked up on several sections of the piece that had parts of the National Anthem incorporated into the piece. One of the most interesting parts of the piece was the use of the slapstick, an instrument that mimics the sound of a baseball bat hitting a baseball. The



The Symphonic Wind Band is open to students of any major, although most of the members are music majors and graduate students. Photo: Joshua Jackson

entire piece was created to reflect America, from its incorporated parts of the National Anthem to the “baseball bat” sound.

“Sunrise at Angel’s Gate” was the second piece and also paid homage to America, with the inspiration for the song coming from the Grand Canyon. It was a very majestic piece, with not many

subtle notes coming from the percussion section.

The third piece, “Music for the Royal Fireworks,” began with an explosive beginning before falling into a more majestic, almost courtly sound.

The second-to-last piece was “Serenity.” This one had an almost bleak tone, but it was also a very calm piece.

to the title.

An encore piece interrupted the supposed-ending of the concert applause. The name of this piece was “Transit of Venus,” a march song written by John Philip Sousa.

Hans Rathert, a freshman film and digital storytelling major who plays percussion in the band, described the meaning of the concert’s title. “It’s meant to talk about the contrast in the pieces. Just as the contrast between night and day, we’re playing some very fast, kind of loud, exciting pieces and some really slow pieces,” Rathert said.

Trevor Lyons, a freshman music education major who plays in the brass section of the band, explained how the music in the pieces were creating a painting. “What’re we’re going to be doing is kind of painting a picture of the sun rising.” Although music is an audio form of art, the notes can create a vivid mental picture.

The final piece of the performance listed on the program was “Firefly.” This piece was based on the idea of how a child looks at the world with a simple mind. The composer wrote the song after he watched his daughters become intrigued by a firefly. Throughout the song, the simple notes created a sense of flying, a reference

sudoku

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Bruce Cox directs the Symphonic Wind Band. Photo: Joshua Jackson

»» From **Solomon** p.1

ity available today. The original staff had to print off the articles and physically paste them onto a board with wax. If the design changed, the articles might not fit, and the students would have to physically rearrange the content again.

Today, *Collegian* staff use Adobe InDesign to easily create and edit the paper's layout.

Solomon said she also enjoyed watching the paper grow and adapt over the years. The paper was originally published every other week. In 2005, in response to input from students, the paper began publishing articles weekly under the leadership of editor-in-chief Ryan Fisher. In 2022, in response to the industry's shift toward online publishing, *The Collegian* began prioritizing its weekly online issues while publishing a print issue once a month. *The Collegian* continued its shift toward emphasizing quick turnaround times with a spring 2023 major website upgrade.

Jewel Schuurmans, another former *Collegian* editor who is now a graduate student in communication studies, said Solomon's work was a huge catalyst for her own growth. "My time writing for *The Collegian* was the single best benefit to my

ability as a writer, journalistically or creatively." Schuurmans admitted that it was hard to get critical feedback at first, but that she learned how much better Solomon's suggestions made her writing.

After becoming an editor, Schuurmans found she could always rely on Solomon's wisdom in making edits. "I could always count on her being a resource, regardless of the situation," Schuurmans said. "Anyone who has been taught by her immediately gets the impression that she knows exactly what she's talking about."

Johnathon Smith, another former editor-in-chief of *The Collegian*, said he is thankful for Solomon's work and input. "For over 35 years, Ms. Solomon has poured her heart and soul into making *The Collegian* the best paper it can be. I'm grateful I had the chance to work with her and learn from her dedication."

Moving on

What is Solomon hoping to do in retirement? "Not grade papers." After 45 years of reviewing students' work, Solomon can immediately identify and correct the most common student errors. "I love working with students one on one," she said, "but grading papers — not my favorite thing."

In addition to rest-

ing from editing student work, Solomon looks forward to resting in general. Although not really a travel enthusiast, she wants to spend some time in Virginia with her sister and family as well as visit nieces and nephews in several different states. A self-described homebody, she looks forward to spending time working on her home, practicing calligraphy and surprising her miniature schnauzer Oliver by staying home every day.

Solomon said she enjoys keeping up with her past students on social media. "I try to keep up with as many former students as possible," she said. "I love, love, love seeing what they're doing and where they're going and how they're using what they learned at BJU and especially what they learned at *The Collegian* to better serve the Lord."

Solomon's retirement coincides with other major changes at *The Collegian*. Starting in the fall of 2023, *The Collegian* will have a new faculty adviser, new editorial staff and new publishing flow. Solomon left a few words encouraging the incoming crew to realize their opportunity to gain valuable experience, have fun, meet interesting and influential people and probe their minds for details and insights. Or, as she put it, "You just get to be a little nosy about peo-



Solomon is known for her expertise in writing using proper style and her ability to quickly spot areas for writers to improve. Photo: Hal Cook

ple by asking them questions, which I find very fun."

In addition to her influence and advice, Solomon will also leave the next *Collegian* faculty adviser some books, along with her now-iconic editorial cartoons that adorn the walls of her office. The cartoons, which include figures such as George H. W. Bush, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Saddam Hussein, were a gift from Fisher, who left them when he moved to France

to continue his work as a communications professional while helping a missionary family and local church.

Even though the incoming staff will not benefit directly from Solomon's work, Schuurmans said she looks forward to seeing the paper continue to grow. "*The Collegian* has a bright future because it has a strong foundation, and a major part of that foundation was Miss Solomon's work on it since it started."

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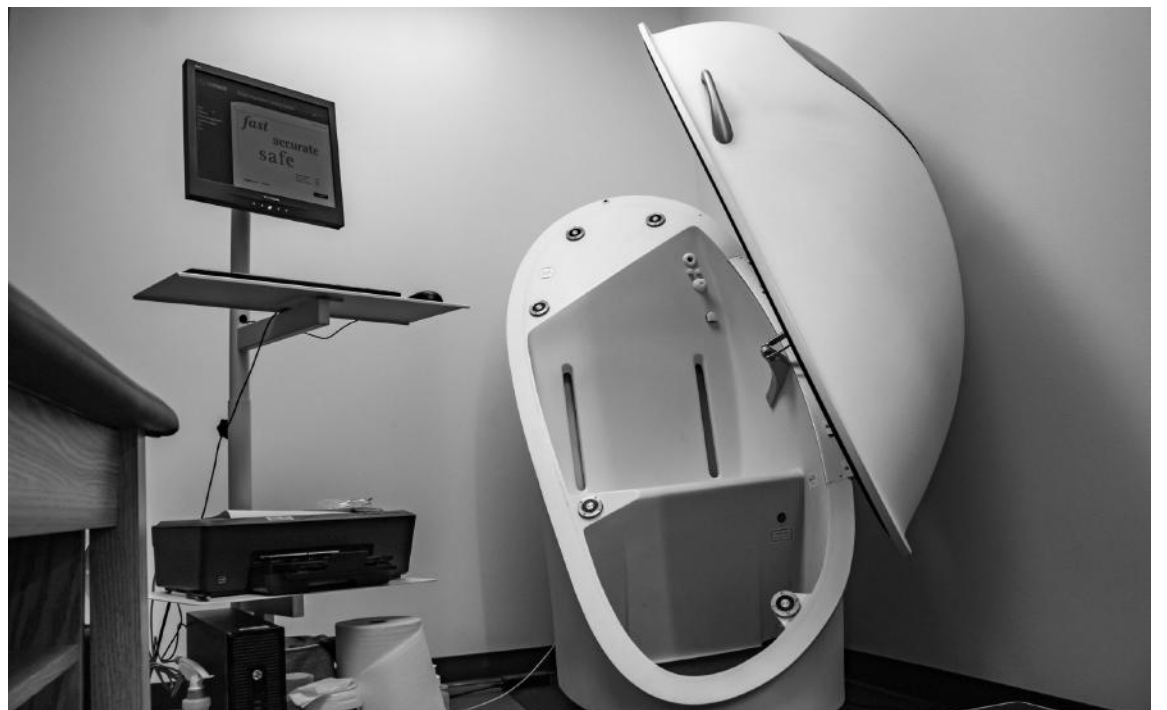
what they do, and their passion kind of floods into their students," Gomes said.

Smith's hands-on work has already begun as part of a study conducted by Dr. Stephen Chen that evaluates students using the Mack Building's Human Performance Center. The study collects data on students' demographic background, anthropomorphic details, sleep quality, physical activity and depression and anxiety.

Gomes and Stark appreciate their practical learning experience, which has prepared them for present and future

opportunities. "It's not just sitting in a class; you actually apply what you do," Stark said. Gomes also highlighted the curriculum's applicational aspect: "Bob Jones is very good at having hands-on learning. Just in general, they want to have that experience," she said.

As grant winners, Gomes and Stark said they feel nervous and excited about the opportunity to submit their findings' abstract on Jan. 26, 2024, and present it at the Research Symposium on Feb. 22, 2024.



Study participants were entered to win free body testing in Mack Building's Bod Pod. Photo: Robert Stuber

Rupert Huse Veterans Center opens in Greenville

Jonathan Millar

STAFF WRITER

With South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster and Greenville Mayor Knox White in attendance, the Rupert Huse Veteran Center performed its ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 19.

The Rupert Huse Veteran Center is a connection center for veterans returning home to adjust back into civilian life. Several real estate businesses are located inside the center, as well as an attorney's office to help veterans find housing. The Center also provides veterans with PTSD counselors and an art room for veterans to express their feelings through various art forms.

Several hundred attendees, most of whom were veterans from Greenville, gathered outside the Rupert Huse Veteran Center to witness the ceremony. The ceremony began shortly after 4 p.m., with an introduction given by Ali FauntLeRoy, who then announced the presentation of the American flag. Four marines in dress uniform marched up the aisle and presented the American flag as Eric Babb sang the National Anthem.

Once the marines fin-



Staff and dignitaries including Gov. Henry McMaster open the Robert Huse Veteran Center. Photo: Jonathan Millar

ished, Ted Hamm, the Upstate Warrior Solution Church Partnership Program manager, approached the platform and prayed.

Mastin Roberson, the UWS Chairman of the Board, spoke first. He explained that the UWS exist to ensure veterans do not need to worry about what they will do when they return home from war. "When a veteran needs anything, there is a community," Roberson said. "That's what propelled them to do the heroics they did on the battlefield."

However, Roberson said the national and state veteran affairs programs cannot provide these returning veterans with everything they need.

South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster spoke about the military background of South Carolina which, combined with a Judeo-Christian values, created the culture of today's Greenville. As the Governor finished his speech, he recognized the important of the Rupert Huse Veteran Center. "Let this be a shining example for other people and other places to do the same thing," McMaster said.

The third main speaker, Rupert Huse Charitable Fund Trustee Dorothy Dowe, spoke about her father, Rupert Huse, and his life and service to his country. Huse had been in the ROTC program at Union College in New York. After graduating, he volunteered

to serve in the United States Army Reserves from 1958-1964, serving in the Army Signal Corps.

The Greenville Poet Laureate, Glenis Redmond, read a poem that she had written for this occasion. The poem paid homage to our nation's veterans.

"We stand here, we take in freedom's breath because of you. We nod to veterans and say thank you for your service," Redmond read. "But we know our civilian salute does not match the gravity of our gratitude. We will never know the sum total of what you sacrifice."

Redmond then transitioned into how the Center was one way in which the citizens of America could tell veterans thank you.

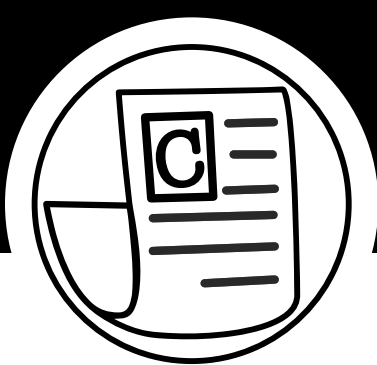
Paul Sparks, UWS Board of Directors, and Charlie Hall, UWS President, both thanked the crowd for their attendance at the event before Dowe cut the ribbon, opening the center for the public. FauntLeRoy then invited the attendees to tour the Center.

Bob Jones University students interested in volunteering at the Rupert Huse Veteran Center can go to UpstateWarriorSolution.org and fill out a volunteer application to get involved with helping and supporting the nation's heroes.



South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster spoke during the opening ceremony.

Photo: Jonathan Millar



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