

## Dean's Leadership Council Begins Its Work

G. David Johnson, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is pleased to announce the formation of the inaugural Dean's Leadership Council. The Dean's Leadership Council had their first official meeting in January and toured the Alfred and Lucile Delchamps Center for Archaeological Studies after a presentation from Dr. Greg Waselkov, Professor and Director of the Center. The Dean's Leadership Council elected their first Chair, Dr. Linda Busby-Parker, and formed a Nomination Committee to recommend additional members.



### Dr. Linda Busby-Parker

Linda earned her B.A. from the University of South Alabama (English and Creative Writing), her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan (Journalism and Mass Communication), and her M.F.A. from Spalding University (Creative Writing). She is the author of two college level textbooks, numerous research articles, and her first novel, *Seven Laurels*, was published in 2004. *Seven Laurels* won the James Jones Award for a first novel and the Langum Prize for

Historical Fiction. She served on the faculties of Eastern Michigan University, Iowa State University, and the University of South Alabama. She has most recently taught fiction writing as a visiting professor at Spalding University and has taught in a continuing education program at Middle Tennessee State University. In 2004, she was a Tennessee Williams Scholar in Fiction at the Sewanee University summer writing program. As chair of the Arts & Sciences Council, she looks forward to bridging the space between the university community and the civic community and to serving the best interests of the college.



### James Patterson Caldwell

Mr. Caldwell is a marketing consultant and principal consultant for James Caldwell Consulting of St. Louis, MO. Mr. Caldwell previously served as Vice President for the Boeing Company and is a Viet Nam Veteran of the US Marine Corps. Mr. Caldwell serves as Chairman of the Board of Advisors for the James and Ivel Caldwell Scholarship in International Studies at USA. He holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the University of Alabama.



### Dr. Jean P. McIver

Dr. McIver recently retired after serving as Professor of English and Director of African American Studies at USA. Dr. McIver is a member of the Board of Directors of Museum of Mobile, the College Language Association, the Toni Morrison Society, and Delta Sigma Theta, a public service sorority. Dr. McIver is awaiting publication of a book chapter profiling Judge Herman Thomas. She holds the Ph.D. in English from the University of Alabama, an M.A. in English from Atlanta

University, and the A.B. from Miles College. Dr. McIver is Professor Emeritus of English.



G. David Johnson,  
Dean College of Arts and Sciences

## Dean's Letter

This issue of the Arts and Sciences Newsletter reports several outstanding features of the College. I am particularly pleased to announce the formation of the Dean's Leadership Council, a group of leaders who have pledged their support of our College's mission, faculty and students. The responsibilities of the Council are to:

1. Assist with strategic planning, helping identify opportunities and priorities for the College from a community perspective;
2. Investigate and suggest public/private and public/public partnership opportunities for the College;
3. Articulate and promote the accomplishments of the faculty, students, and alumni of the College;
4. In some circumstances, participate in the recruitment of key candidates for positions in the College;
5. Facilitate the success of community outreach efforts of the College;

6. Assist with fundraising.

We chose eight outstanding supporters of the College, and one faculty liaison, to serve as the inaugural members of the Council. Each has a strong personal connection to the College and University, and they have pledged to provide good counsel, support, and leadership over the next two years. On behalf of our faculty and students, I thank them for their service.

The lead story in this issue describes the award winning research of an outstanding member of our faculty, Dr. Steve Picou, the Chair of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work. The final story describes our annual Geology Field School, the capstone course for this outstanding undergraduate program. As always, the purpose of our Newsletter is to inform the reader of the wonderful accomplishments of our faculty, students, alumni and supporters. We are happy to share their stories with you.

## Dean's Leadership Council Announced

continued



### Ms. Celia Mann Baehr

Ms. Baehr is a certified financial planner with her own business and is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Mobile Symphony, a lifetime member of the USA Alumni Association, and a Member of the Mobile Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce. She is President of the Board of Directors, Gulf States chapter of the Financial Planning Association. Ms. Baehr earned her B.S. degree in geology from the University of Alabama and has the MBA from USA.



### Mr. Michael McGlothren

Mr. Michael McGlothren is a trial lawyer in private practice in Fairhope, Alabama, with the firm of McGlothren & Caldwell, P.C. A magna cum laude graduate of USA with a degree in Philosophy, Mr. McGlothren is a cum laude graduate also of the Cumberland School of Law at Sanford University. Mr. McGlothren has endowed multiple scholarships for philosophy majors and pre-law students at USA in honor of his parents, brother and sister.



### Ms. Judsen Culbreth

Ms. Culbreth has more than thirty years of experience in magazine and television journalism, serving as editor-in-chief of Working Mother, executive editor of Redbook, and the first work/family contributing editor on the Today show. Ms Culbreth currently serves as executive editor of Mobile Bay Monthly. Her first book, "The Boomer's Guide to Online Dating" was recently released by Rodale Publishers. She is a history graduate of the University of South Alabama.



### Dr. Susan Youngblood

Dr. Youngblood serves as Faculty Liaison to the Dean's Leadership Council. She is Assistant Professor of Philosophy and has built the scholarship endowment in philosophy and art and is currently working to enhance premed scholarships for the College of Arts and Sciences. She has presented at national and international conferences in philosophy. Her community service includes a successful fundraising effort

for the Playhouse in the Park. Dr. Youngblood holds the Ph.D. from Tulane, and Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the University of Alabama.



### Ms. Carlos Fendley Parkman

Carlos Parkman received her B.A. degree from Converse College in 1965. Over the past thirty years, she has been active in organizing and conducting fund raising campaigns for projects and buildings that have benefited social services and the cultural community in Mobile, Alabama. She coordinated and directed the capital campaign for Child Day Care Association, a United Way Agency, which raised 1.5 million dollars to build a center for the children of low income families and

developed annual fund programs for the Mobile Symphony and Mobile Public Library. Carlos is currently serving as president and chief executive officer of the Centre for the Living Arts, a non-profit corporation that operates performing and visual arts centers in downtown Mobile. She is married to Harold D. Parkman, a practicing lawyer.



### Mr. Nick Stratas

Mr. Stratas is a graduate in Journalism from the University of Southern Mississippi. He worked his way through college in the amusement business and upon graduation moved to Mobile and grew the amusement business to the largest in the state. He was a long term President of the Greek Orthodox parish council and received the Archon Order of St. Michael by the Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church. Mr. Stratas and others worked

through AHEPA, a Greek American Civic Organization to build and manage AHEPA retirement units throughout Mobile. He has served as President of the National Housing Board of AHEPA and he and his wife Pipsa chair the Greek Fest in Mobile for the last several years. Through Paideia, the Panhellenic organization, Mr. Stratas has contributed to the Paideia Scholarship for Greek study abroad and Classic Studies at the University of South Alabama.

## Dean's Leadership Council New Members Named

By: Jen Ekman, Public Relations

G. David Johnson, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is pleased to announce the formation of the inaugural Dean's Leadership Council. The Dean's Leadership Council had their first official meeting in January and toured the Alfred and Lucile Delchamps Center for Archaeological Studies after a presentation from Dr. Greg Waselkov, Professor and Director of the Center. The Dean's Leadership Council elected their first Chair, Dr. Linda Busby-Parker, and formed a Nomination Committee to recommend additional members.



### Ms. Angelia Stokes

Ms. Stokes holds the Bachelor's Degree in Management with a Minor in Economics from USA. She is a certified grant writer from Troy University and has volunteered at PTO President of Dothan High School, the Educational Foundation for the Future of Dothan City Schools on both the Allocation Committee and has served as secretary. She is a docent at Wiregrass Art Museum and a member of Covenant United Methodist Church in Dothan. Ms.

Stokes and her husband Dr. Steven H. Stokes have funded creative writing scholarships in the English Department at the University of South Alabama.



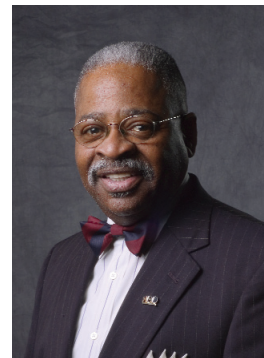
### Mr. Danny K. Patterson

Danny Patterson is the Senior Location Executive for IBM's Mobile and Pensacola locations and is a native of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He has a BA degree in Economics from Carleton College. He has been with IBM for 26 years and was recognized with the IBM Chairman's Award for his leadership with the Mercedes-Benz first US based assembly plant in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He established the Lighthouse Community Development Corporation in 2002 to

assist the underserved residents of Southwest Mobile County and has served as Chairman of this non profit organization. He is active with the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, the Women's Business Center, United Way, Leadership Mobile, and Mobile Rotary.

### Mr. Stillman Knight

Stillman Knight is Executive Vice President for the NHP Foundation in Washington, DC. He is the former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multifamily Housing Programs in the Office of Housing/Federal Housing Administration (FHA) at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Stillman has been recognized as Builder Developer of the Year by the National Home Builders' Council and founded the Knight Companies in 1991. He was recognized nationally with the Robert Corletta Award for Achievement in Affordable Housing and the Pillars of the Industry Award among others. Stillman is an alum from USA's Political Science Department and the University of Alabama School of Law. He is a native of Mobile and he and his wife Dr. Mary A. Knight currently reside in Alexandria, VA.



### Mr. Al Stokes

City Government's resident academician, Al (as he is commonly referred to), has been visiting scholar, guest lecturer, instructor, assistant professor at University of Illinois, University of South Alabama and Xavier University in L.A. Twelve years ago, this native Mobilian descended from the Ivory Tower to become the executive assistant to the Mayor of New Orleans where he was known as "the glue" that kept the

administration and council together, on key issues. After receiving an associate degree at Mobile's Bishop State Community College, Al earned a B.S. from a Dallas College and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Illinois where he was a doctoral candidate. As Mayor Jones' "Chief of Staff", Al is in charge of "anything the Mayor says he's in charge of". The executive directors report to him and he is responsible for inter-as well as intra-governmental relations.



### **Dr. Richard Rogers**

Dr. Richard Rogers worked in design and synthesis for the Dow Chemical Company for 31 years including roles as Global Director and Development Manager. He has been actively involved in mentoring young scientists and achieved the rank of Fellow which is the highest scientific level in Dow AgroSciences and his research resulted in the publication of several patents. Dr. Rogers brought his enthusiasm and

energy to the University of South Alabama Chemistry Department first in 2001 and has been a popular professor since then. Dr. Rogers holds the Ph.D. from the University of Alabama, the Master's from University of Wisconsin and a Bachelor's Degree from Tulane. He did post doctoral work at Indiana University. He and his wife reside in Mobile in a restored 150 year old home.



### **Mr. Christopher Lee**

Chris Lee is presently the Director of the J. L. Bedsole Foundation. He was born in Los Angeles, California, received an undergraduate degree in Business Administration from George Washington University. In 1974 he was commissioned in the Navy and completed Navy Flight Training. Chris had a 22 year career with the Navy and Coast Guard where he flew both rotary wing and fixed wing aircraft and he also served as Director of Aviation

Plans and Programs in Washington DC. Following retirement from the Coast Guard in 1994, Chris served in the Dow administration as Executive Director of Administrative Services for the City of Mobile for over 11 years. During this time he was also on the adjunct faculty for the University of South Alabama in the Department of Criminal Justice and Public Administration. Chris holds a Masters in Management and Human Relations from Webster University and a Masters in Public Administration from Harvard University. Chris's hobbies include cycling, sailing, reading and gardening. He is married to Sandra and he has two step daughters and four grandchildren, all living here in Mobile.



### **Ms. Patsy Busby Dow**

Patsy Dow is a former Assistant US Attorney and Former Assistant District Attorney. She is the co author of "Winning the Day Trading Game" published in 2005 by John Wiley and Sons, and the co author of the upcoming "The Markets Never Sleep" to be published by John Wiley and Sons in February 2007. Patsy is active as a staff writer and in Volunteers of America. She holds three degrees from the University of South Alabama: a B.A. in History, an

M.A. in History, and a M.Ed. Early Childhood. She graduated with honors from Tulane School of Law and enjoys traveling and real estate. She has been married for 36 years to Mike Dow.



### **Mr. Scott Speck**

Scott Speck is the Director of the Mobile Symphony. With recent performances in London, Paris, Moscow, Beijing, San Francisco and Washington, Scott Speck has inspired international acclaim as a conductor of passion, intelligence and winning personality. He has led numerous performances with the symphony orchestras of Baltimore, Houston, Paris, Moscow, Shanghai, Beijing, Buffalo, Columbus (OH), Honolulu, Louisville, New Orleans, Oregon, Rochester, Florida, and

Photo by: Lisa Kohler

Virginia, among many others. Previously he held positions as Conductor of the San Francisco Ballet (1998 to 2002); Music Advisor and Conductor of the Honolulu Symphony; and Associate Conductor of the Los Angeles Opera. During a recent tour of Asia he was named Principal Guest Conductor of the China Film Philharmonic in Beijing. In addition, Scott Speck is the co-author of two of the world's best-selling books on classical music for a popular audience, *Classical Music for Dummies* and *Opera for Dummies*. His third book in the series, *Ballet for Dummies*, was released in September 2003. Born in Boston, Scott Speck graduated summa cum laude from Yale University. He received his Master's Degree with highest honors from the University of Southern California, served as a Conducting Fellow at the Aspen School of Music, and studied at the Tanglewood Music Center.