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# University of Georgia Est. 1937 FOUNDATION

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER / SUMMER 2010

### Dear Friends -

It is that exciting time of year again when the UGA campus begins to spring to life with orientation sessions and the first students beginning to arrive on campus in preparation for the fall semester.

Soon the sounds of the Redcoat Band will start emanating from their practices, and footballs will be flying through the air as Coach Richt preps the 2010 Bulldogs for another season of SEC gridiron action.

It's also a time when our new classes of Foundation Fellows and Ramsey Honors Scholars embark on their collegiate careers.

In short, it's a time when we truly see what the University of Georgia is all about. It allows those of us who had the privilege of living and studying in Athens to look back with great fondness on some of the best days of our lives.

With that in mind, we are pleased to bring you this edition of the UGA Foundation Chairman's Letter and hope that you enjoy reading about the important work you, our donors, support through your generous contributions.

Sam Holmes, Chairman



Foundation Fellow and 2010 graduate **Cleveland Piggott** from Suwanee, Georgia, gave a rousing keynote presentation during the dinner program at the foundation's annual meeting in June. He discussed his experiences as a fellow and his plans for the future. Cleveland used the opportunity to extol the virtues of the university and the honors program during an inspiring speech that drew a standing ovation from more than 100 trustees, emeritus trustees and friends in attendance.

### UGA Foundation welcomes new trustees at annual meeting

The University of Georgia Foundation was pleased to welcome four new trustees at the June annual meeting. All four are graduates of our beloved University of Georgia and were unanimously elected by the board.

**William "Bill" Douglas III** is a resident of Bishop, Georgia, and is an executive vice president and chief financial officer of Atlanta-based Coca-Cola Enterprises. A 1983 graduate of UGA, Bill will serve on the foundation's finance and investment committees.



Don Waters

A 1968 graduate of UGA, **Emily Dunlap "Sissy" Lawson** has the distinction of being the first female mayor of Gainesville (Ga). In addition, she served on the Gainesville City Council for 18 years.

**Dr. Stephen Smith**, a former Foundation Fellow and 1986 UGA graduate, is an orthopaedic surgeon with the Peachtree Orthopaedic Clinic in Atlanta. He is a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and travels to Haiti each year to donate his services to perform charity surgeries.

A 1978 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law, **Don Waters** is a Savannah native and is chairman, president and chief executive officer of Brasseler USA, a dental, medical and industrial instrument manufacturer.



Sissy Lawson

It is with sincere gratitude that we also bid farewell to five outstanding trustees whose terms expired on July 1. **Rachel Conway, Billy Espy, Taylor Glover, Rusty Griffin** and **Mike Marshall** all served with distinction during their time on the board of trustees, ensuring that the generous gifts entrusted to the foundation by our donors provided the maximum benefit to the university.

Billy, Taylor and Mike all served on the investment committee, and Rusty served on the finance committee. Their efforts were vital to the ongoing success of the foundation during recent economic challenges. Rachel, who served most recently as secretary of the executive committee, demonstrated an enduring commitment to the important work of the UGA Foundation throughout her tenure.

All of these individuals were accorded emeritus trustee status and we hope each will maintain an active role in the foundation for many years to come.

## Study abroad at UGA Oxford 'best academic experience of my college career' *By Nicole Foo*



*Nicole and a friend pose near the White Cliffs of Dover during her time abroad*

This past spring, I was given the opportunity to study abroad through the UGA at Oxford program. Immersing oneself in a different culture is a priceless opportunity, and I was able to do just that during my three-month stay in England. I took advantage of the convenient travel throughout the United Kingdom as well as the rest of Europe; I studied hard and learned deep and engaging lessons from my Oxford dons. Despite all of this, the most important thing I am taking away from my experience abroad is a new appreciation for the act and art of learning. A quote I found says that the aim of education "should be to teach us how to think, than what to think – rather to improve our minds, so as to enable us to think for ourselves, than to load the memory with thoughts of other men." And that is what I'm walking away with: a new appreciation for learning, a high standard for always encouraging the curiosity of a subject beyond a textbook, and a caliber of study that I would not have otherwise set for myself without studying at Oxford for a term. My time abroad has changed my outlook on learning and given me a new perspective as a citizen of the world. I can confidently say that my time abroad was the best academic experience of my college career.

## Logan Krusac awarded Critical Language Scholarship



Foundation Fellow Logan Krusac is the recipient of a Critical Language Scholarship from the U.S. Department of State. Krusac, from Smyrna, Georgia, is pursuing degrees in political science and

Mandarin Chinese and will be studying Mandarin at the Institute for International Students at Nanjing University in Nanjing, China. The Critical Language Scholarships for Intensive Summer Institutes program was established by the State Department in 2006 as part of a larger initiative to significantly increase the number of U.S. students proficient in "critical-need" languages. Krusac is one of approximately 575 undergraduate and graduate students from across the U.S. who was selected for the seven- to ten-week intensive language immersion programs.

## Beth Shapiro honored by National Geographic



Former Foundation Fellow Beth Shapiro was recently named one of National Geographic's 2010 Emerging Explorers. The Rome, Georgia, native earned both a bachelor's and

master's degree in science at UGA, and in 2003 received a doctorate from the University of Oxford, where she was also a Royal Society University Research Fellow. In addition to receiving a Foundation Fellowship, Shapiro was a Rhodes Scholar and last year became a MacArthur Fellow. You can read more about Shapiro's groundbreaking scientific research in evolutionary biology at <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/field/grants-programs/emerging-explorers/> (Photo courtesy of the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation)

## UGA Foundation trustee Jay Davis recognized by Terry College of Business



Foundation trustee Jay M. Davis was recently honored by UGA's Terry College of Business with a Distinguished

Alumni Award. The award was presented during the college's 2010 Alumni Awards and Gala in Atlanta.

Davis is the chairman and CEO of National Distributing Co., which was cofounded by his father in 1942. The company was honored as Georgia Family Business of the Year in 2006, and recently combined its business with the Republic Beverage Company to form Republic National Distributing Company, now the second-largest distributor of premium wine and spirits in the U.S.

As community leaders, Davis and his wife, Ann, were instrumental in forming the Alfred and Adele Davis Academy, Atlanta's Reform Jewish day school. Bearing the name of Jay's parents, the academy has become the fastest growing Reform Jewish day school in the country and also one of the largest.

In addition to serving as UGA Foundation trustee, Davis is a member of the Terry Dean's Advisory Council and has served as a board member of the Standard Club, the Commerce Club and the High Museum of Art. Congratulations Jay, the foundation is proud to have you as a trustee!

**The University of Georgia Foundation accepts and manages gifts to the university according to donor wishes. For more information, please call (706) 542-6677 or visit the foundation's website at [www.ugafoundation.org](http://www.ugafoundation.org).**