





# A Message from Interim President John N. Williams '74



#### GlobalTransy – An Imperative for Our University in the 21st Century

My mother was born in 1926 in China to missionary parents. My grandfather, William P. Hardy, completed medical school in 1909 and was called to mission work with the Christian Church Disciples of Christ at the age of 19. He stayed in China for over 20 years, during which time he met my grandmother, who had taken up a similar call to go to China as a teacher at the age of 18.

All three of their children were born in China and attended Transylvania University over staggered years beginning in 1932 and ending with my mother's graduation in the '40s. I remember so well the stories of life on the mission field, the family life amid the Chinese and Tibetan people and the dedication of my grandparents as medical and teaching missionaries.

They were immersed and totally engaged in their global work.

Now 120 years later, we are even more keenly focused on a global experiential agenda, not just as those with missionary zeal, but as an essential part of a liberal arts education. My own professional global work has included projects in Kenya, Japan, Mexico and most recently Saudi Arabia, where I headed a project to improve oral health and dental education throughout the country.

We operate in a global society, and our students must be prepared to function effectively in it. In a 2019 report from the Association of American Colleges and Universities, prospective employers were surveyed and reported that students are careerready when they can demonstrate global and multicultural fluency among the top eight essential competencies.

Transy's newest initiative, GlobalTransy, offers every student an affordable opportunity to have a substantive, global-intensive educational experience. Studying, researching and interning abroad encourages Pioneers to think outside their purview, broadening their perspectives and intensifying the learning that begins in the classroom. And, of course, it enhances their skills and builds the confidence and competencies prospective employers desire.

Through Transy's Office of Global and Intercultural Engagement, students are able to experience a traditional semester abroad, travel with their peers on a May term course, participate in a summer study program, including Transy in Ireland, or earn credit during an internship abroad that is tailored to their academic and professional growth.

Whenever I travel to Japan (in about 12 hours by air one way), I am always reminded of my mother's lament of the five months it took to send a letter one way from the U.S. to China! My, how times have changed, and so too have our global initiatives to enhance our students' learning.

In my brief time as interim president, I find our students eager to embrace societal challenges and work toward a better world. I am confident that Transylvania will continue its innovation in curriculum and programs to advance our mission by graduating Pioneers who are motivated to serve and ready to address the needs of our global society in the 21st century.

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Transylvania University, located in the heart of downtown Lexington, Kentucky, is a top-ranked private liberal arts college featuring a community-driven, personalized approach to a liberal arts education through 46 majors. Founded in 1780, it is the 16th oldest institution of higher learning in the country, with approximately 1,000 students.

#### Find more resources online at transy.edu.

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#### On the Cover

Cover photo by Jacob Hall '16 of Selena Quintanilla '17 and Joseph Howard '19 at the Gliúfrabúi waterfall in Iceland.



#### **Inside Cover**

Inside cover by Yousef Alsdudi '21, winner of the 2019 study abroad photo contest (in-person voting), taken in Florence, Italy, where he's studying through the Global Transy program.

## STUDY ABROAD -AS DIVINING ROD



As an undergraduate, Lauren Gilbert '18 arrived in Israel without knowing the Hebrew alphabet. Not long after completing an intensive language course, the William T. Young scholar was able to read, write and present in her new language. By chance, to fill an extra course credit, she took a class on water security.

"Water resources in the Middle East sounded intriguing," she remembers thinking. Given her interest in intelligence and national security, she adds, "I thought there would be implications." Indeed, there was so much to be learned about water security issues throughout the world that she wondered, "Why aren't the alarms going off everywhere?" She returned to Transy inspired to pursue water policy as her postgraduate path.

Now, after a year in graduate school in Bologna, Italy, and a summer interning in the U.S. embassy in La Paz, Bolivia, Gilbert is completing the second year of her master's degree at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Study. She's already gaining experience working with a development consulting group on infrastructure projects in Latin America. Ultimately, she wants to help ensure that all people, from Lexington to La Paz, have access to clean water.

# "WHEN THE WELL IS DRY, WE WILL KNOW THE WORTH OF WATER."

By Lauren Gilbert '18



I set out to conquer the Negev Desert, intent on beating the persistent mid-summer heat. No one could say we were unprepared: five liters of water each, electrolyte tablets, copious amounts of sunscreen. Yet deep within the desolate wilderness, my pack ran dry. My new reality insisted on rationing and had zero tolerance for careless drinking. I lagged behind my companions as we ambled for what seemed like days. With temperatures soaring over 100 degrees, I caught a glimpse of a reality that millions face daily.

Six months prior, I boarded my flight to Tel Aviv, Israel, beginning my semester abroad knowing little of the transformational experience that awaited me. Back on campus at Transy, I had intensely studied the Middle East, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the violence; I had read the books, discussed the issues, done the research. Yet, for all the book knowledge, daily life existed deep in a web of complexities I never could have imagined from within the confines of the classroom.

In class, however, all the study hours and endless readings over the past years paid off. I slipped easily into an academic routine, giving me more time to focus on disentangling my new sociocultural realities. I learned how to balance exploration with paper writing, deal with homesickness and make the most of my limited time — lessons that would follow me as I moved to Italy for my first year of graduate study.

At the risk of sounding cliché, my experience profoundly impacted me in ways which I am still discovering. Some variation of this statement can be heard from most students returning from their time abroad, whether it be in reference to personal growth, new friends or global awareness. For me, going to Israel illuminated my career path; it gave me a direction, a passion. It shapes my graduate studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Study; my interests in conflict management and energy, resources and environment; the list of jobs for which I am currently applying and all the research papers written since my return.

# "FOR ME, GOING TO ISRAEL ILLUMINATED MY CAREER PATH; IT GAVE ME A DIRECTION, A PASSION."



Pure coincidence landed me in a class on water resources and conflict. A series of field trips took me from the Gazan border with its integrated wastewater and desalination plants to the West Bank and its wadis, deep ravines lined with hoses attempting to capture any stray water. The symptoms of water insecurity followed me everywhere I went: water tanks atop homes, illegal wells around villages. Palestinians lived in fear of having their water shut off in retaliation for terror attacks; Israelis lived in fear of hostile nations undermining their freshwater supply.

The issue of water security captured my attention. I could see the reality all around me. In small ways, I lived this daily: limited showers, the potential that



# "IT WAS NOT UNTIL THAT DAY IN THE DESERT THAT I BEGAN TO COMPREHEND HOW ALL-CONSUMING THE IDEA OF WATER CAN BE WHEN ONE EXPERIENCES TRUE UNCERTAINTY."

the water tank would run dry, zero days of rain in the seven months I was there. However, it was not until that day in the desert that I began to comprehend how all-consuming the idea of water can be when one experiences true uncertainty. Thirsty, dusty and tired in the wilderness, I realized I would spend my life working on water.

Though my journey began in Israel, the reality of water insecurity flows through the fabric of life across the globe. This passion has taken me from the rural strongholds of Eastern Kentucky where outhouses and dry taps are commonplace, to the urbanized centers of Italy with its failing water infrastructure, to the high altitude of Bolivia and its indigenous population who continue to experience marginalized service access and, finally, back to our nation's capital. Wherever the path leads next, I strive to leave each place knowing fewer people will worry about their water access than they did the day before.





TOP: Negev Desert near Midreshet Ben-Gurion, Israel LEFT: Pipes catching rainwater near Jericho in the West Bank RIGHT: Attending the National Water Research Institute Conference

# GlobalTransy Programs Open Study Abroad Opportunities to More Pioneers



Transylvania wants to make it possible for all students to study abroad, and a recent expansion of its GlobalTransy program is playing a big part in making that mission a reality.

The Office of Global and Intercultural Engagement has added 30 GlobalTransy programs in nearly every region of the world; they will allow students to use 100% of their institutional, state and federal aid to study abroad for a semester while paying their regular Transy tuition.

"Regardless of our students' major or minor, studying abroad is extremely valuable to their future career," says Director of Global and Intercultural Engagement Courtney Smith '16. "Employers are attracted to applicants with language skills, cultural awareness, flexibility and open minds. These are all things students gain while studying abroad."

Smith's office has spent the last several months improving the process for students to choose programs that meet their academic interests through the creation of a new web page, implementation of online applications,

and solidification of external partnerships. The office has created advising pages to highlight specific opportunities for each Transy major.

But so often, study and research overseas come down to finances, and Smith is confident that GlobalTransy will help bridge that gap for many Pioneers who want to have the same life-changing experiences she's had as a lifelong learner and an avid world traveler.

"My own travels and study abroad experiences have allowed me to open my eyes to the wider world and see the beauty of different cultures, religions and viewpoints," she says. "Being aware of and understanding cultural values and norms is so important in today's globalized society. Seeing the world for yourself will teach you that the way you've been looking at the world isn't the same as the way everybody else sees it, and that one viewpoint is not more 'right' than another."

See all of GlobalTransy's partnership programs at transy.edu/globaltransy.



After serving as a Fulbright English teaching assistant in Slovakia, and earning a master's degree from George Washington University, Courtney Smith '16 has returned to campus as the new director of global and intercultural engagement. As of last summer, she's visited 84 countries.



## "This opportunity is of great value and importance to me."

Because of the expanded GlobalTransy offerings, Grace Kim '21 is able to participate in a program tailored to her psychology major in Seoul, South Korea. Not only will she stay on track academically, but she hopes to become fluent in the language and culture of her Korean heritage.



"For as long as I can remember, the only thing I've wanted to do is to be able to travel and go to new places and look around and know where I am, yet [at the same time] not know at all."

Yousef Alsdudi '21 is an international affairs major. Originally from Palestine, he currently resides in the U.S. Through GlobalTransy, he is spending this semester in Italy and fulfilling his want of wonder and excitement.



# LISTENING IN GUINEA

Comprehending how we fit into the world inevitably relates back to knowing who we are.

Diaka Savané '20 grew up fascinated by the stories of her parents who met in Guinea during her mother's service in the Peace Corps. Their memories piqued her interest in international travel and cultures, and in her family in West Africa.

Coming of age in Lexington, Savané got to know the family of her mother, jewelry designer Rachel Savané, but the questions she had long entertained about her father's family in West Africa became deeper and more compelling. She longed to meet and communicate with the French-speaking family of her father, Lexington restauranteur Mamadou Savané, and to comprehend the many dimensions of his childhood.

She remembers, as a girl, being unable to conceptualize the more than 100 relatives of her father's extended family, and how she sought "the full image" behind the family photos. "I wanted to understand what it was like to grow up there and to be in that environment," she recalls.

But before she could get to know her family, Savané needed to think and write in French. And then find the means to travel to Guinea.

With the help of a French immersion scholarship endowed by 1961 graduates Douglas and Marilyn Estridge Cardwell, Savané was able to gain intimate knowledge of French by living with a host family in France. Then, in the summer before her senior year, with support from the Kenan Fund for Faculty and Student Enrichment, she at last traveled to Guinea.

Guided by adviser Kremena Todorova, associate professor of English, to make the focus of her oral history project about family, Savané embraced the concept of an autoethnographic study, gathering stories of her family and placing them in a broader sociopolitical and cultural context.

"History in Guinea is always told orally," she explains. "My project was to immortalize that."

# "History in Guinea is always told orally. My project was to immortalize that."

Rather than a more formal audio recording device, she chose to write in journals in French. "It made more sense," she says. "That's how I was absorbing it." Communicating in French allowed her to get close to family members. "Speaking English would have been a step removed."

Through story, she learned not just details of family members, events and history, but "how people interact," she says. "They spoke to me about how they grew up." Uncles shared memories of her father that gave her a sense of the freedom he enjoyed in childhood.

She placed herself within a lineage that named every first-born female "Diaka." She derived confidence from the stories of bravery about her grandmother Diaka. This information, particularly in an oral tradition, is difficult to come by without multiple family members sharing their knowledge.

Now, after Guinea, her family no longer feels distant. She understands where she and her father fit into their extensive family. This awareness is important to her.

So too, are the broader social revelations: the "solidarity of the populations" she observed,

the importance of relationships and the welcoming generosity. Offering examples, she remembers complimenting a woman on her bracelet: "Here, have it," the woman proffered. And how, "when people stop by the house just to say hello or ask a question," she says, "you nourish them, even if you don't have the means."

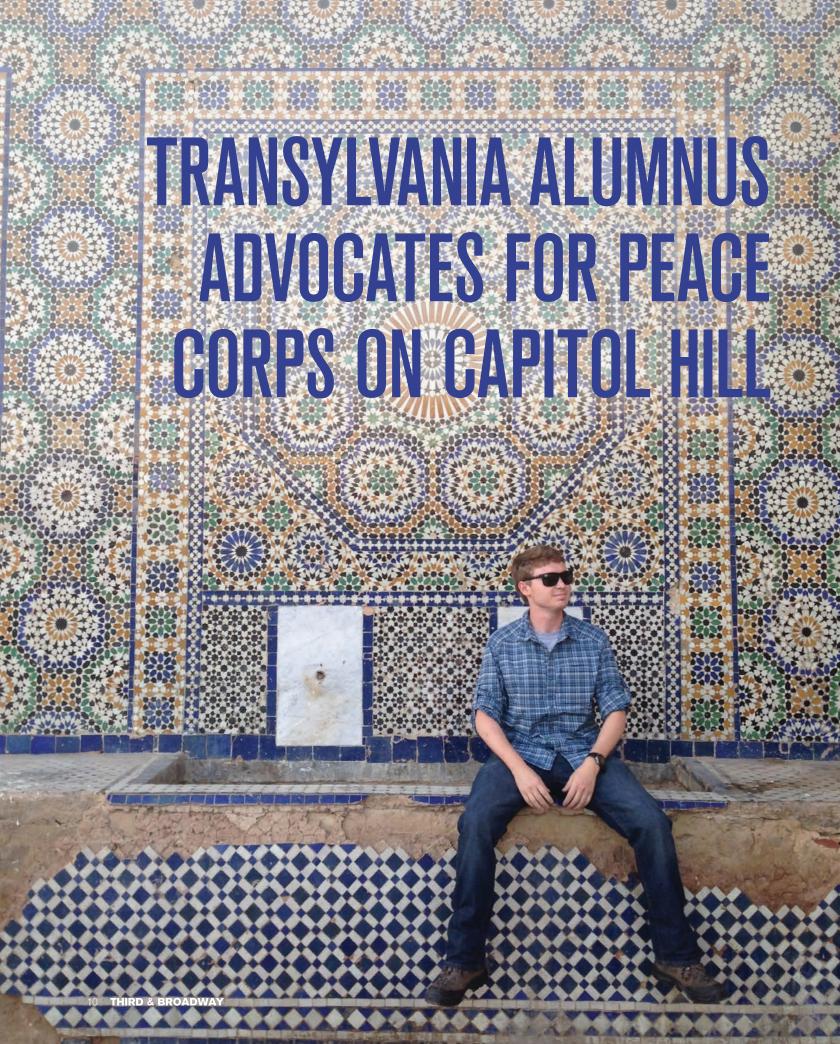
At Transy, Savané is a student leader

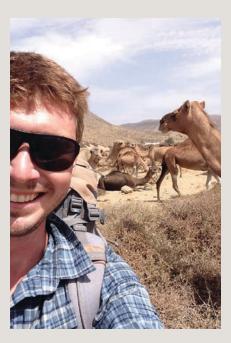
"When people stop by the house just to say hello or ask a question, you nourish them even if you don't have the means."

active in social justice issues, a First Engagements scholar and coordinator and a recipient of the Charles and Susan Shearer Scholarship. As she works toward graduation in May, she is completing Transy's Peace Corps Prep Program. She hopes to take her years of tutoring experience at the Carnegie Center and teach abroad through the Peace Corps and other programs before pursuing her "dream career" as a foreign service officer.

"I love being around different people and listening to different languages — just hearing about where people grew up, and how that's different from where I grew up," she concludes with enthusiasm.

"I want to see as much of the world as I can."







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# IT WAS A SPECTACULAR OPPORTUNITY.

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 William Burriss '13 worked as a youth and community development specialist in Morocco for the Peace Corps. William Burriss '13 grew up in a family dedicated to service — from the military to civilian government. So the ideal of working for the greater good has been ingrained in him since an early age.

After graduating Transylvania, Burriss served as a congressional staffer in the U.S. House of Representatives and then as a Peace Corps youth and community development specialist in Morocco. Now he advocates for the Peace Corps mission and community as a government relations officer.

"I settled on the Peace Corps pretty early," he says. First it sounded like a cool adventure, but then his motivation evolved into something more altruistic.

Burriss worked for two years in a small Berber and Arab village outside Marrakech, where olive groves meet the foothills of the Atlas Mountains. "It was a spectacular opportunity," he says.

With the help of local partners, he opened up a humble community youth center, which featured the village's first multimedia library. The facility was built after the Arab Spring movement to improve youth employability, promote healthy lifestyles, etc. "But they never hired anybody to open this place up," Burriss says.

He dusted things off, set up computers, secured international donations for the library and instructed villagers in subjects like English and computer literacy. Additionally, at the University of Marrakech he taught a master's level course on creative writing that focused on positive social change. For the class, he used a liberal arts, multidisciplinary approach he learned at

Transylvania. He also helped lead a foreign affairs club at the Marrakech American Corner, which the State Department sponsors.

While in Morocco, Burriss wrote a memo about how Peace Corps volunteers can better lobby Congress. It ended up being shared with the National Peace Corps Association, which is a nonprofit supporting returned volunteers and advocating for the agency. The Peace Corps general counsel approved the memo, which put Burriss on the agency's radar. He got a job out of it, in fact.

Now Burriss works for the National Peace Corps Association's advocacy department. "I'm basically a congressional outreach person for them," he says.

In his Peace Corps role, Burriss has worked with the office of Congressman Andy Barr, whose district includes Lexington and who serves on the Congressional Peace Corps Caucus. Burriss says if he's asking lawmakers to increase or maintain funding for the agency, he'll point out things like how many of their districts' members serve in the Peace Corps, and whether there are affiliate groups — such as a prep program like the one at Transylvania — in the area.

While his alma mater's prep program started after he graduated, Burriss says the university's faculty and staff were supportive of his career plans.

He also appreciates how he was pushed to excel in the classroom. "The standards of excellence demanded by so many of my professors truly gave me an edge," he says. "I don't think I would have started down this path without my political science degree from Transylvania."

## **Memories Over Mohinga**



Travel opportunities were limited for Rachel Johnson
'16 as a young girl growing up in southeastern
Kentucky. But Transy presented opportunities to
travel abroad and, after graduation, to serve in the
Peace Corps. Johnson kept a blog during her time in
Myanmar at memoriesovermohinga.wordpress.com.
This is an excerpt about food from her Culture-Corner.

"When I imagine a food culture opposite to the one in the United States, I can't envision a better fit than Myanmar. The way that Myanmar culture treats food, eating and the social implications of the dinner table are a world apart from what I had experienced before service. In Myanmar, food is a way to bring people together, demonstrate love and show hospitality. It is often given as gifts, always a part of social events, and usually given during festivals and religious events as well. My experience with Myanmar food has been really interesting; I've gotten a lot more adventurous and willing to try new things. Trying new food has been a way to bond with my counterparts, community members, etc., and a way to learn a little more about Myanmar."







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## Transy Only Liberal Arts College in Kentucky to Offer Peace Corps Prep Program

Many compete. Few are chosen. Yet, even with increased competition for the same number of spots, Transy maintains a strong track record of Peace Corps volunteers. Recent Transy graduates have served in Costa Rica, China, Myanmar, Morocco, Senegal, Cambodia, Botswana and Uganda.

"It's a testament to the quality of our students," says Stephen Hess, an assistant professor of politics and returned Peace Corps volunteer, who leads the Transy Peace Corps Prep Program.

Open to all Transy students, the year-old program combines co-curricular coursework, community service and professional leadership training, and is a formal partnership with the Peace Corps. Upon completion, students receive a certificate denoting their preparation for international development fieldwork as well as special consideration for acceptance into the Corps.

"The Peace Corps wants our applicants, and Transy wants to give them these applicants," says Hess.

# **OPPORTUNITIES FOR A LIFETIME**

From May term and semesters abroad to Gilman and Fulbright awards, Pioneers build their futures on the quality of their international experiences.

### May Term

"One of the most valuable parts of traveling with students in May term is observing how class readings become more engaging and relevant for our students when discussing them in the actual place and with people from the country and culture we are studying and exploring."

- Sharon Brown, professor of health and exercise science



Creative, highly interdisciplinary and often team-taught by faculty, Transy's May term courses offer many students their first international experience.

Pre-med student Drew Dodds '21, who spent last May in China, understands the long-term significance: "For a physician who needs to be able to communicate with people of other cultures and religions," he says, "it should be a requirement."



## Gilman and Fulbright Awards

Jamie Vescio '17 (below) teaches kindergarteners to be global citizens at Kentucky's first French immersion program at Whitney Young Elementary in Louisville. A past recipient of both the State Department's Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study in Tanzania, and a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant award in France, she found a way to fold her own global experiences she had through Transy into her current work.





Ben Costigan '12 (above) spent a semester in Barcelona, Spain, during his time at Transy. Afterward, he received a Fulbright grant in Spain. He resides in Copenhagen, Denmark, working for Novo Nordisk A/S in a finance role.

"It is no exaggeration to say that my semester in Barcelona changed my life. The experience of living and studying abroad took my cultural curiosity to new heights. More importantly, I learned that such curiosity could be leveraged to open doors in my professional life."



# BECOME YOURSELF."

From a mother's song in Wolof, a language of Senegal

At the age of 3, Aissata Sackho '21 traveled to the Republic of Senegal in West Africa to spend her childhood among extended family. Returning to her native U.S. to attend secondary school, then college at Transylvania, she soon realized how being part of two nations and cultures gave her a special vantage point.

Now a junior, Sackho possesses a wisdom that allows her to see the best of both countries — and the potential of each. A double major in international affairs and French, a 2019 First Engagements scholar, and a recent recipient of a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, she is committed to helping the place of her childhood.

Last summer, with support from the Kenan Fund for Faculty and Student Enrichment, Sackho returned to Senegal for the first time since her departure as a young teen. Exploring the education system and the role of women in community engagement, she identified impediments that keep some children from advancing. She was particularly attuned to the reality of many girls who, encouraged to marry young, forfeit their education and any hope of ever being independent or able to earn a living.

expectations and a reprioritization of values.

Spending time in Fouta and in the village of Guedé, Sackho observed that schools often lack technology and basic resources. On rainy days, she recalls, classes would be canceled because the school floor was drenched. But she couldn't help thinking that these seemed like fairly easy fixes with stronger government funding. She now dreams of helping children receive a quality education.

Education, Sackho reflects, brings opportunity and a form of insurance to individuals and, more broadly, to the nation.

In October, she presented at a conference in San Antonio, Texas, alongside Brian Arganbright, professor of French, and Ousmane Pame, president of the Global Ecovillage Network/Africa. They discussed purposeful global learning experiences. Sackho notes that Pame's life and community development work have been an inspiration to her.

"He came back to give back," she notes of his return to Senegal. It's the same spirit of generosity she experienced in the communities she visited.

After Transy, Sackho hopes to gain experience by training with NGOs, and then working with Senegal's government to prioritize and invest in

# "IN OUR WORLD, WE NEED EDUCATION TO BRING LIGHT INTO DARKNESS."

"In our world," she notes, "we need education to bring light into darkness."

The first in her family to attend college, Sackho has witnessed the value of education in her own life. She recognizes that, as with so many in the world, becoming educated requires surpassing cultural

education for all people — girls and boys alike. She knows the challenges, yet can see all that's ready to be accomplished. She only wishes she could begin today.



# TRAVELING THE WORLD TO UNCOVER THE PAST

From Costa Rica to Croatia, anthropology professor Chris Begley's archaeological adventures have given Transylvania students real-world experience on an international scale.

Through working with Begley, who is a 1988 Transylvania graduate and a National Geographic Explorer, these students not only learn practical fieldwork, but they also face challenges that help them grow as people.

"They have to adapt and overcome all of the unexpected issues that come up in archaeology," Begley says. "They also get to experience what an actual archaeological project is like." A rare opportunity for undergraduates, this kind of work can be exhausting, frustrating — even scary. "The ones that stay involved are the ones who enjoy the challenge and see a setback as another hurdle that makes it all the more interesting and rewarding."

Much of Begley's focus is on underwater archaeology. This past summer he traveled to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the Caribbean with juniors Olivia Livingston and Caroline McMahan to investigate areas with the potential for submerged archaeological sites — and they visited several known shipwrecks to determine their age and condition. The work was supported by Transylvania's David and Betty Jones Faculty Development Fund.

"Caroline and Olivia have had the opportunity to really put underwater archaeological skills to work — from surveying new areas to mapping to diving on half a dozen shipwrecks," Begley says.

Learning archaeological skills in real-world situations showed McMahan a possible career path. "This project gives us a glimpse of what the future could be like after graduation, continuing in underwater archaeology," she says.

Livingston notes the value of immersing herself in a place that was new to her. "This forces us to think about our archaeological research not only as answering research questions, but also as guests, invited by our hosts to participate in the process of understanding and preserving the past."

In addition to conducting underwater work, Begley's students who travel abroad also learn basic field methods on land, such as mapping, photography and excavation. Some of this work includes high-tech tools; for instance, in Spain and Honduras, students helped with 3D imaging technology that Begley has been developing with University of Kentucky professor Larry Hassebrook.

Begley — and oftentimes his students — collaborate with scholars not just from across town, but throughout the world. He's currently involved in underwater archaeology projects



with Roberto Gallardo of the Guzman National Museum of Anthropology in El Salvador. This past summer they solved the mystery of a 19th-century shipwreck just off the coast — in what was one of the first investigations of a shipwreck in that country. Their work documenting the cargo of that 1850s brigantine ship revealed interesting details about El Salvador during its transition from colonialism to independence, from the types of dishes they used to construction materials.

Begley has worked with a long list of other researchers abroad, including those at the Museum of the Sea in Sicily, the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Croatia and the Albanian Institute of Marine Sciences. (He also explored the Honduran rainforest with actor Ewan McGregor for a BBC documentary.)

Whether students are getting to meet international scholars or map a shipwreck, Begley sees these experiences as giving them an edge in future endeavors. In fact, one of his former students said when she got to graduate school she was the only one of her incoming class who had participated in an underwater archaeological project.

"Students benefit from this work because they get to see a project from start to finish — from conceptualizing it to managing the logistics in the field," Begley says. Students also learn how to formulate research questions and to make sense of data they collect. "They get to see the scientific project in action."







TOP AND MIDDLE: Juniors Olivia Livingston and Caroline McMahan, along with professor Chris Begley, explored underwater shipwrecks off St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the Caribbean this past summer.

BOTTOM LEFT: Begley, along with Peter Campbell, who is with the Cave Archaeology Investigation & Research Network, and Annie Wright '14 dove in Menorca, Spain.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Begley and students Elisa Green '18 (right) and Mackenzie Mirre '18 visited El Salvador in 2016 to work on the Volcanic Crater Lakes Underwater Archaeology Project, co-directed by Begley and Roberto Gallardo.

# campus **NEWS**

#### To stay informed

about the latest Transylvania news, visit our 1780 blog at blog.transy.edu and subscribe to biweekly email updates.

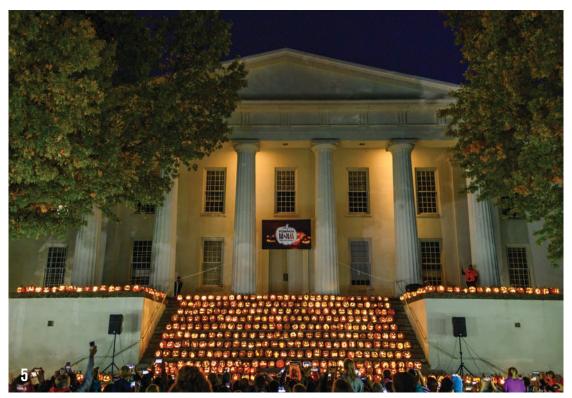








- 1. The Class of 2023 includes students from Australia, Ireland, Kenya, Nigeria, Poland, Spain, Tanzania and the United Kingdom. One in five are first-generation college students and 22% are students of color. It's the second year in a row Transylvania has enrolled its most diverse class ever.
- 2. Washington Monthly ranked Transylvania among the nation's top 10 liberal arts colleges for public service.
- 3. The Inaugural Transylvania in Ireland program was a stunning success. Registration for the 2020 summer program again is open to students of any college.
- 4. Former Lexington Mayor Jim Gray spoke on the campus theme of resilience during the Transylvania Academic Convocation in September.













5. Thousands of community members joined Transylvania's students, faculty and staff for the university's ninth annual PumpkinMania celebration. 6. After carving more than 600 jack-o'-lanterns for this year's PumpkinMania, Transylvania donated the scooped-out pumpkin guts to the Kentucky Wildlife Center. The leftover jack-o'lanterns were composted. 7. Members of the Transylvania Athletics 2019 Hall of Fame class are pictured with Interim President John N. Williams '74. They are (I-r) Dave Orwick '91, Wendell Gividen '78, (Dr. Williams), Bradley Sutherland '09, Meredith Carrithers McCoun '04 and Lesley Wellington Wiglesworth '04. 8. Transylvania provided a front-row seat to the national digital arts and music scene during the Studio 300 Festival. 9-10. Wendell Berry, Bobbie Ann Mason, Mary Ann Taylor-Hall and Gray Zeitz gave readings from their works as part of the Delcamp Visiting Writers Series and "The Art of Kentucky Literature: 45 Years of Larkspur Press" exhibition.



# **Becoming a Global Citizen**

By Annebelle Klein '20

Each year, the first-year students on Transylvania's campus are officially welcomed to the university during its formal convocation. There, both the president and the guest speaker touch on the subject of using the next four years to become a liberally educated student and a "global citizen" — something that Transy values deeply.

What exactly does it mean to be a global citizen? At convocation, firstyear students are meant to interpret that term and determine how they're going to embody it over the next four years. Though it may seem a daunting task, psychology professor Iva Katzarska-Miller explained to me how Transy uses its administration and programs, as well as its curriculum, to promote an overall sense of global citizenship on campus. In other words, without realizing it, Transy students are constantly being influenced to become global citizens in both the classroom and their outside opportunities.

Katzarska-Miller explained how she uses the idea of being a global citizen in her classes.

"I don't explicitly tell the students that we try to change their perspective," she says. But, she does encourage her students' practice of being global citizens via her class assignments. In Psychology of Globalization, for example, she assigns a paper that asks her students to live a day as global citizens. Meanwhile, in Cultural Psychology, she asks her students to pick an event, choose two perspectives from different cultural spaces and describe their findings. Though both of these assignments seem easy enough to complete, they have a deeper purpose of encouraging the practice of values that are crucial to being a global citizen.

"In the research I do, we define global citizenship as awareness, caring, embracing diversity, promoting social justice and sustainability and a sense of responsibility to act," Katzarska-Miller explains. She argues that what encourages global citizenship the

 Author Klein (right) talks with Iva Katzarska-Miller, associate professor of psychology and co-author of "The Psychology of Global Citizenship: A Review of Theory and Research."

most on Transy's campus is the act of awareness. Awareness is an important aspect of being a global citizen because "global citizenship is identifying that we are not all identical and realizing that other citizens do not live the same way I do."

I asked her why she believes that becoming a global citizen is so important for students on this campus. She again emphasized the importance of being aware, suggesting that with the world facing threats of nationalism and prejudice, global citizenship is needed now more than ever. She added that, "Based on research in education on what can promote global citizenship on campus, Transy is already doing many of those things," making reference to the curriculum's foreign language requirements, as well as its study abroad and service learning opportunities.

As a senior graduating this May, I've begun to look back at my own convocation. I can understand the intimidation that first-year Pioneers feel when they are officially welcomed to the university and introduced to the ideas of a liberal arts education and what it means to be a global citizen. However, I've learned throughout my time here that I was never alone in determining how to be a global citizen. Instead, I've realized that on Transy's campus, global citizenship works hand in hand with a liberal arts education. They work together to complete the same goal by encouraging students to become more globally aware.





#### Campus Programming Reflects Yearlong Theme of Resilience

Sometimes life seems more like a bowl of lemons than cherries.

But when we face adversity with courage and determination, we can not only overcome obstacles but thrive as a person (enjoy the lemonade, as it were).

Transylvania has taken on the spirit of resilience as this academic year's campus theme, brought to life through concerts, plays, art exhibits and lectures.

The university's New Frontiers featured event series is bringing to campus nationally renowned artists and thinkers — from winners of Tony and Grammy awards to one of the nation's most celebrated poets.

As part of New Frontiers, which asks audiences to go beyond the familiar, U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo (left) will discuss resilience for the 2020 Kenan lecture on March 18. Also, Transylvania Theater will present the acclaimed musical "Fun Home" in May, and the Kronos Quartet (right) will perform the 2020 Smith Concert on Jan. 28.

This academic year's Creative Intelligence Series also will tackle the topic of resilience as creative and thought leaders from across the nation bring their ideas and works to campus.

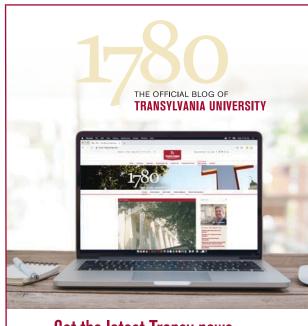
"We need to cultivate resilience and inventiveness so we can energetically respond to climate change, challenges to our core democratic ideals, populations on the move, shifting job markets, radical expansions in knowledge and the evolution of technology at dizzying speed," says Zoé Strecker, an art professor and director of Creative Intelligence and special academic programming.

Join us! All events and parking are free and open to the public. Reservations may be required. Find a complete list at transy.edu/events.



Transylvania Receives Best-Ever Ranking from U.S. News & World Report

Transylvania continues to climb in the U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges rankings of the nation's top liberal arts schools. The university recently placed 72nd in the country — rising 15 spots in the last two years to its best-ever ranking in the national liberal arts colleges category. Transylvania also placed 50th in the new Top Performers on Social Mobility rating, which takes into consideration how well schools graduate students receiving Pell Grants — the majority of these funds are awarded to families with a total income below \$20,000.



Get the latest Transy news and updates at blog.transy.edu.



#### Legacy Scholarship Strengthens Family Ties to University

Transylvania recently created the Legacy Scholarship, which starting next fall will award \$8,000 over four years to eligible, newly enrolled students whose parents, stepparents, grandparents or siblings have attended Transylvania or are enrolled as of fall 2020. The new scholarship — which can be combined with other awards and aid — is a collaborative effort between the alumni and admissions offices.



Transylvania, Lexington Legends Make Whitaker Bank Ballpark Home Venue for Pioneer Baseball in 2020

The athletic department and the Lexington Legends Minor League Baseball program have made Whitaker Bank Ballpark the new home venue of the Pioneers baseball team for the 2019-20 season. Located on North Broadway just one mile from campus, the 6,994-seat stadium is home to the Class-A Legends team.







Kincaid, Transy's Newest Residence Hall

Transy's newest residence building, which houses 140 students, was named Kincaid Hall for alumna Nelle Wilson Kincaid '36 and Garvice D. Kincaid, along with their daughters, Jane W. Kincaid and Joan D. Kincaid. The university is deeply grateful for the recent gift from the Kincaid family and Central Bank.

Joan Kincaid currently serves as vice chairman of the board of directors of Central Bancshares, parent of Central Bank & Trust Co. in Lexington.

# alumni **NOTES**

#### Submit your alumni news

by email to alumni@transy.edu or mail to Office of Alumni and Development Transylvania University 300 North Broadway Lexington, KY 40508

#### 1940s

Virginia Marsh Bell '44, Lexington, received the Humanitarian Cup Award from The Rotary Club of Lexington. She was honored for her study of Alzheimer's disease and commitment to serving those with the disease, as well as elevating care and awareness.

#### 1950s

#### Barbara Burch Merrell '50,

Kirkwood, Missouri, was commended in April by the Missouri House of Representatives for her work in the community and in celebration of her 90th birthday. Friends can reach her at 1013 Romine Drive, Kirkwood MO 63122, or Jleemer@aol.com.

Dave Alexander '53, Jacksonville, Florida, has retired as pastor of the ecumenical congregation at Cypress Village after 67 years of serving Disciples congregations. He and Anne are looking forward to worshipping sitting together in the pew.

#### 1960s

Dick Longo '60, Metairie, Louisiana, set state records in 1 mile, 2 mile, 4 mile, 5k, 8k, 10k and 12k in the 80+ age division. A veteran of 300+ races since 2007, he has won 213 out of 215 races in age divisions from 60+ to 80+.

#### Patsy Alexander Nielsen '61,

Lexington, received the Jessamine County Athletic Achievement Award in September.

Leah Geeslin Davies '62, Bend, Oregon, is author and president of Kelly Bear Press LLC, which is dedicated to helping children thrive and provides resources such as teacher-counselor articles, parenting handouts, activity-worksheets, parenting videos and children's activities that can be found at www. kellyhear com

Charlie Taylor '65, Lexington, is working on his fourth album in Nashville, Tennessee, and Muscle Shoals, Alabama, using local session musicians including the members of the Muscle Shoals Horns.

**Bruce Davis '66,** Lexington, is vice chair of the Homelessness Prevention & Intervention Board of Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.

Michael Lofton '67, Harwood, Maryland, completed a term as chairman of the Anne Arundel Co. Water Access Commission, appointed by the county executive. Bill Prewitt '68, Charleston, South Carolina, organized a 50th reunion of Marine Corps officers who attended the Basic School at Quantico from 1968-69. About 100 classmates and spouses attended the five-day event.

Jill Robinson '68, Frankfort, Kentucky, received the 2019 Franklin County Distinguished Citizen's Award. She was honored for her extraordinary work in the Frankfort community. She worked for several years in a variety of state government positions, is a member of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence and led the effort to establish the Franklin County Women's Shelter.

Jo Ellen Hayden '69, Lexington, received an award from Brooke USA for her work on the Horse Heroes project, which honors and documents the use of American horses and mules during World War I.

#### 1970s

Melinda Miller Deer '70, Sugar Land, Texas, began working at Houston Private Training/Houston Gymnastics Center in September 2018 as a men's team manager and administrator.

#### Anne Durham Blackford '71.

Addison, Texas, retired after a teaching career which began in 1971. She taught secondary math in several states, including the last 20 years at Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas.

Clark Taylor '71, Ooltewah, Tennessee, founded the nonprofit Chattanooga Institute for Faith and Work (www.chattfaithandwork.org) in 2018 to help equip people at the intersection of faith and work.

Jim Gearhart '72, Paducah, Kentucky, and his wife welcomed their third grandchild, Killian Rue Gearhart, on June 3.

**Brant Isaacoff '72,** Manalapan, New Jersey, was an exhibiting member at Guild of Creative Art in July.

**Celia Marks Wilke '73,** Lexington, retired after more than 25 years as a practicing physical therapist.

#### Libby Jacobs Christensen '74,

Wetumpka, Alabama, retired after 42 years teaching high school and college English and opened an online quilted items business, www.sewgocreate.com.

John N. Williams '74, Lexington, became the interim president at Transylvania in August and was accompanied by his spouse, Lucy Sims Williams '74. He was also honored with the President's Medal for Excellence from Indiana University. See page 2.

Linda Wise McNay '77, Atlanta, had an article titled "Philanthropy for Kids" published in July's issue of Association of Fundraising Professionals: Advancing Philanthropy magazine.

Fred Peters '77, Lexington, has a son attending Transylvania as a member of the Class of 2023.

Jo Ann Turner Houston '78, Castle Rock, Colorado, began teaching music at Heritage International School in August.

#### 1980s

Michael Davis '83, Cincinnati, received the Donna Corrington Lifetime Achievement Award from the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati. The award is given to a person who exhibits "extraordinary dedication, commitment and compassion to homeless families."

**Laura Justice-Slone '83,** Lexington, was selected as one of the Top 25 Women in Dentistry in August.

**David Nisbet '83,** Lexington, was featured in a Washington Post article in August for his work toward starting a monthly "dementia night" in restaurants. The article details how his work honors his father, Dinsmore Nisbet '55.

Dennis Ashley '84, Macon, Georgia, was named the inaugural Will C. Sealy Endowed Chair of Surgery in the School of Medicine at Mercer University in September.

Jackie Meece Summers '84, Bardstown, Kentucky, became a co-pastor at First Christian Church in July 2018.

Brett Kitchen '86, Washington, D.C., became a sales executive and real estate agent for Hilton Grand Vacations and Coldwell Banker Arlington in April.

Paul Schram '87, Churubusco, Indiana, is the metallizing engineer and social media manager at Applied Metals and Machine Works as of March. He is also the proprietor of PTSCHRAM Rover Repair, where he provides services to Land Rovers from 1948 to today.

**Jen Day Shaw '88,** Tampa, Florida, was appointed vice president for student affairs at Saint Leo University.

Stephanie Dixon Sutphin '89, Lexington, retired from UK Markey Cancer Center in June, where she worked as a pharmacist.

## The Art of Human Connection





Dr. Amit Patel '99 sat in the airport, waiting to board a plane to Ecuador, and he was uncomfortable. It had less to do with healing from a recent skiing accident, and more to do with the fact that he was dressed as a clown.

He was on his way to a mission trip with Patch Adams, the famed doctor and founder of the Gesundheit! Institute, which teaches holistic medical care. Adams has become well known for

dressing up as a clown to encourage laughter and joy as therapeutic method of healing, especially with children.

Patel is a surgeon at the University of Kentucky who specializes in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery. It's a field that combines his many interests — medicine, art, architecture, biology and, lately, communication.

"The part I really enjoy that I never thought I'd put into it is the art of human connection," Patel says. "I've learned how to communicate with people, whether it's with a small group in a conference room discussing how to solve a

problem, meeting with a radiation oncologist or talking directly with patients."

So when his accident forced him to take a short break from surgery, he reached out to the Gesundheit! Institute and the School for Designing and Society, who invited him on the trip to Ecuador. He and the other doctors visited pediatric hospitals, asylums, prisons and smallpox colonies, dressed as clowns, and not speaking with the patients directly. The goal was to build their nonverbal communication skills and use comedy for connection and comfort.

"We would drop into an inner-city hospital with a full waiting room, and our job was — without saying a word — to establish authentic connection," he says. "It was a classroom I never thought I'd end up in. You can talk about empathy, but when you're using completely different tools, it's very powerful."

Patel now uses what he learned to speak around the world about creativity and empathy and how they pertain to his role as a facial surgeon. He's spoken in Paris, France; Cairo, Egypt; Nairobi, Kenya; and Tallin, Estonia, to doctors, medical associations and even groups of children.

And he uses laughter therapy in his own practice to help patients navigate through often lifechanging procedures that leave them unsure and unconfident.

One of the greatest lessons he's learned from his travels, he says, is to become comfortable with discomfort. It's a lesson that began when he arrived in Lexington from Owensboro, Kentucky, as a biology major at Transy. Not only did he hone the interests that would guide him to his future career by taking classes like Ceramics and Medical Illustration, but he learned vital communication and adaptation skills that continue to pay off in his medical practice and his work abroad.

"Lexington was a big city for me," he says. "But a lot of seeds for how to communicate and how to interact with people from different backgrounds and mindsets were planted at Transy. A creative liberal arts background is integral to what I do on a daily basis."

"I've learned how to communicate with people, whether it's with a small group in a conference room discussing how to solve a problem, meeting with a radiation oncologist or talking directly with patients."

## SAVE THE DATE

**FEBRUARY 11, 2020** 

Naples Alumni and Friends Reception Naples Yacht Club

FEBRUARY 29, 2020

Transylvania Alumni Board and Young Alumni Council Meetings Transy Campus

MARCH 26, 2020 #TogetherForTransy

APRIL 24-26, 2020 Alumni Weekend

Inspired by these travel stories? We have exciting alumni trips on offer in 2020, including a Gaelic Cruise and a Medieval Sojourn from Barcelona, Spain, to Athens, Greece.

For more information contact: Natasa Mongiardo 859-233-8213; 800-487-2679 nmongiardo@transy.edu

#### 1990s

Cynthia Ganote '90, Louisville, became the assistant dean for diversity and community engagement in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Louisville in July. In addition, she is teaching courses in the Department of Sociology.

Jack Lackey '90, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, was selected to serve as the new school board attorney for Trigg County effective July. He is also the attorney for the Christian County Board of Education.

Chris Chaffin '91, Lexington, joined the Shepherd's House Inc. in June as the COO. Shepherd's House is a 12-to-18-month transitional residential treatment program for men 18 and older. He previously worked for 21 years with Traditional Bank.

Jill Stratton '91, St. Louis, was the Transylvania delegate for the inauguration of Chancellor Andrew Martin at Washington University in

**Tony Hardin '92,** Atlanta, became the senior director of treasury, tax and risk at The Krystal Company in May

Mary Leigh Clay Wilson '92,

Germany, started her position as a third and fourth grade teacher at Dakar Academy in August.

**Carey Lee Dodds '93,** Madisonville, Kentucky, was voted the best pediatrician by her community in May.

Dani Tharp Clore '94, Lexington, was recognized by The Lane Report in July as one of the Top Women in Business for her work as the CEO of the Kentucky Nonprofit Network.

Beth Johnson '94, Nashville, Tennessee, was appointed U.S. Segment Leader for Family Offices at Mercer in June. She will focus on policy development, asset allocation design, investment manager selection and strategy implementation.

**Sam Lucas '94,** Los Angeles, is an administrative law judge for the state of California as of May.

Beth Boggs Parameswaran '95,

Madison, Alabama, graduated from the University of Alabama in Huntsville with a master's degree in education, concentration in autism spectrum disorders. She was also awarded the Outstanding M.Ed. Teacher Education Award for 2019.

**Charles Porter '96,** Brandenburg, Kentucky, retired from Lockheed Martin in April.

Heather Dearing '97, Louisville, is the campaign manager for U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth (KY-3) and was named to the 2019 class of Leadership Kentucky.

Angela Tackett Dearinger '97,

Versailles, Kentucky, was named commissioner for the Kentucky Department of Public Health in August.

Jarett Gregory '97, Lakeland, Florida, lead physician for urgent care, is opening a new center, Watson Clinic South Campus. This location's focus will be on providing a higher level of diagnostic services, including CT scans and ultrasound.

Emily Damron Northcutt '98,

Frankfort, Kentucky, began serving her term as president of the Kentucky Association of School Librarians in July. She was also one of the recipients of KET's inaugural Education All-Star awards.

Rachel Nance Woehler '98,

Madisonville, Kentucky, began serving as the Transitional West Area Minister to The Christian Church in Kentucky in September.

Chasity Bothman '99, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, started at the American Red Cross in March as a regional philanthropy officer.

Michael Sharp '99, Versailles, Kentucky, became battalion commander of the Kentucky National Guard's 103rd Brigade Support Battalion in September.

Joe Sonka '99, Louisville, began working at the Courier-Journal in August as a reporter covering politics and government.

#### 2000s

Mary Ellen Meurer Ford '00,

Lexington, joined Humana's health information technology department in November 2018. She manages relationships and contracts related to Humana's strategic clinical interoperability initiatives.

Lisa Merlo Greene '00, Gainesville, Florida, received a Presidential Citation from the American Psychological Association as a citizen psychologist "for her sustained volunteerism to advocate for improved quality of life in Gainesville, Florida, and beyond." Ashleigh Walling Neal '00,

Louisville, started working at Middletown Christian Preschool and Kindergarten as a teaching assistant in January.

Jessica McCarthy Lotz '01, O'Fallon, Illinois, was elected to the city council in O'Fallon for a four-year term. She's the leadership and development coordinator for the O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce and sits on the St. Louis Regional Board of Directors for Thrivent Financial.

Anthony Staten '01, Louisville, started a company called TechLink Insights. His business is a curated media app for business professionals to consume industry insights, socialize and exchange advice.

Megan Hoffman Boone '02,

Morehead, Kentucky, was named director of the Office of Career Services at Morehead State University in July. As acting director, she built a peer coaching program and instituted a career development module into the First Year Seminar.

Natalie Wallis Harper '02.

Elizabethtown, Kentucky, joined the Hardin Memorial Health Cancer Care team in September.

Jonathan Upton '03, Louisville, became the owner and wealth adviser at Centris Wealth Management in December 2018.

**Keith Brown '04**, Bowling Green, Kentucky, became principal at Potter Gray Elementary School in June.

Marianne Lodmell Young '04,

Lexington, earned her Ph.D. in higher education in May. Her dissertation was titled "An Oral History Exploration of Change at the University of Kentucky Following the Virginia Tech Shooting."

**Alicia Still Branum '05,** Lexington, joined the legal department at Alltech Inc. as corporate counsel in March.

**Erin Jones '05,** Lexington, was named CEO of the Telford Community Center YMCA in September.

Megan Smyth '05, Lexington, was promoted to general counsel at the National Association of State Procurement Officials in August.

Nate Valentine '05, London, Kentucky, is the new head coach for the North Laurel High School men's basketball team.

Amelia Martin Adams '06,

Lexington, became vice president and senior trust officer at WesBanco in July.

**Drew Grey '06,** Knoxville, Tennessee, became COO at North Knoxville Medical Center in February.

Patrick Lewis '06, Louisville, began as scholar in residence at the Filson Historical Society in August. He will oversee scholarly research, publications and academic conferences hosted by Filson.

Jack Branum '07, Lexington, celebrated the second anniversary of the company he founded, Bluegrass Learning Solutions. BLS helps clients in a variety of industries explain their message in creative, meaningful and lasting ways.

Thomas Lefler '07, Wayland, Massachusetts, was recognized as a member of the Class of 2019 NextGens by Chief Investment Officer in June. He has been with Raytheon for six years, where he is currently transitioning to the company's new Portfolio Strategy and Risk group.

Amanda Miller '07, Irvine, Kentucky, started at Marcum and Wallace Hospital as a behavioral health consultant in July.

Amy McCleese Nichols '07, Berea, Kentucky, received her Ph.D. in rhetoric and composition from the University of Louisville in August.

**Alyssa Rice '07,** Lexington, started at Kentucky Refugee Ministries as a health services coordinator in March.

#### Langdon Ryan Worley '07,

Lexington, was accepted into the Leadership Lexington Class of 2019-20.

Sarah Billiter Cameron '08, Fort Thomas, Kentucky, was elected a partner of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, effective Jan. 1.

Elizabeth Combs '08, Lexington, is vice president of strategic initiatives and an attorney at Wrigley Media Group. She works as in-house counsel, HR compliance, lobbying and community relations.

**Heather Hackney '08,** Lexington, started at the University of Kentucky Bluegrass Care Clinic in August as a research protocol manager of finances.

John Kromer '08, Mesa, Arizona, began working at Arizona State University as the STEM division head in September 2018.

Anne-Tyler Morgan '08, Lexington, was appointed by former Gov. Matt Bevin to the Advisory Council for Medical Assistance in July.

Anne Bearse '09, Lexington, began working at UK HealthCare: Internal Medicine - Infectious Diseases as a social worker principal in July.

Natasha Collier '09, Lexington, joined the staff at Girl Scouts of Kentucky's Wilderness Road Council in June. She will be supporting the executive and fund development teams.

#### Shayanna Little Hutchinson '09,

Lexington, began as the philanthropy officer senior with the University of Kentucky College of Medicine in August.

#### Courtney Williams Wenta '09,

Cibolo, Texas, started a business designing, creating and selling earrings. You can follow her work on Facebook @TheGracefulLeaf or on Etsy.

Josh Wenta '09, Cibolo, Texas, was promoted to major in the U.S. Air Force last year and works at Randolph Air Force Base.

#### Katie Williams Wise '09,

Laramie, Wyoming, became an elementary Title I reading and math interventionist in August.

#### 2010s

**Sydney Blevins '10,** Melrose, Massachusetts, began as a scientist at Foghorn Therapeutics in October.

Zachary Purdom '10, Lexington, was awarded an MBA from the UK-UL Executive MBA Program.

**Brittany Riley '10,** London, Kentucky, received the Ten Under 40 Award at London's Living Treasures Banquet in May.

#### Amanda Foley Harvill '11,

Anchorage, Alaska, became a business systems analyst III for Crowley Maritime in February.

Emileigh Burns Ledgerwood '11, Louisville, has joined St. Albert the Great Catholic Church as director of youth ministry and confirmation.

Matt Wise '11, Laramie, Wyoming, was named assistant coach for the men's basketball program at the University of Wyoming in May.

Brooke Benton '12, Jonesborough, Tennessee, graduated from the University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine in May. She is a resident physician at East Tennessee State University.

Erin Brock Carlson '12, Lafayette, Indiana, earned her Ph.D. in rhetoric and composition (English) from Purdue University and started as a tenure-track assistant professor of English at West Virginia University this fall

# alumni **EVENTS**



Susan Swindler Lyle '69, Bill Schiphorst '57 and Bicky Barriger Schiphorst '59 (I-r) visited during the breakfast session of the Fall Reunion of the Barr Society at Graham Cottage on Sept. 26. This fifth annual event drew 70 alumni (from classes 1944-69) and guests for a day of learning, fellowship and fun.



Interim President John Williams '74 and Lucy Sims Williams '74 visited with members of the Transylvania Alumni Board and the Young Alumni Council during their fall meetings on Sept. 21.



Members of the Class of 2010 (I-r) Melissa Wood, Elyse French and Clare Grosser enjoyed cheering on the Cincinnati FC at the Transy outing to the FC Cincinnati soccer match vs. Orlando City on Sept. 29. Interesting tidbit: Kyle Smith '14 plays for Orlando City now.

Josh Edge '12, New Albany, Ohio, completed his Ph.D. in mathematics from Indiana University Bloomington and began a faculty position at Denison University this fall.

John Johnson '12, Nashville, Tennessee, graduated with a Master of Arts in teaching from Austin Peay State University in December 2018. He has accepted a Latin position at Station Camp High School in Gallatin.

**Heather Riley '12,** Lexington, began at Lexington Christian Academy as a college counselor in August.

**Mike Stone '12,** Lexington, was named assistant men's basketball coach at Transylvania in July.

April York '12, Glendale, Kentucky, graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Master of Science in library science in May.

Israel Cook '13, Memphis, Tennessee, graduated from American University Washington College of Law and began her If/When/How's Reproductive Justice Fellowship year at SisterReach.

**Brittany Staub Stanley '13,** Rancho Palos Verdes, California, started at Sage as a school-based therapist for high school students in August.

**Chase Bullock '14,** Chicago, graduated from Northwestern Pritzker School of Law in May.

Ashley Carter '14, Washington, D.C., graduated from the George Washington University Law School and started her fellowship at Equal Justice Works, where she works with issues involving domestic violence.

Brandon Fain '14, Durham, North Carolina, started as an assistant research professor for Duke University's Department of Computer Science in July.

Rachel Norris '14, Lexington, graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Master of Science in higher education administration with a focus on student services in May.

Raisa Tikhtman '14, Cincinnati, became a resident physician in otolaryngology at the University of Cincinnati in June.

Maria Kerr Turner '14, Owensboro, Kentucky, began working as a registered nurse in January 2019.

Sara Williamson '14, University City, Missouri, began at the International Institute of St. Louis as a social worker, MSSW, in November 2018. Morgan Cecil '15, New Haven, Kentucky, began at the Legislative Research Commission in August as part of the leadership staff for the Kentucky State Senate Majority Caucus. She will receive her M.A. in international relations from American University in December.

**Miranda Jarvis '15,** Lexington, became the lead teacher at Bourbon County Preschool in July.

Daniel Lyvers '15, Fort Collins, Colorado, was awarded the J.D. Owen Prize for Excellence in New Testament by Vanderbilt Divinity School.

Daniel Martell '15, Owensboro, Kentucky, is serving with the Peace Corps in Uganda. His primary efforts are within the Uganda Primary Literacy Project, where he teaches English to primary students in the rural areas of the country.

**Rachel Smith '15,** Washington, D.C., became the academic coordinator at Shorelight Education in February.

Quentin Becker '16, Charlotte, North Carolina, graduated from Washington and Lee University School of Law in May. He is now working in finance at the law firm of Moore & Van Allen.

Chanslor Gallenstein '16, Maysville, Kentucky, graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School in May.

Ashley Mailloux '16, Elkton, Maryland, became part of the broadcast team at Post Time with Mike and Mike presented by the USTA/BetAmerica in June.

Ashton Ogle '16, Stamford, Connecticut, was elected to the American Academy of PAs' Student Board of Directors as the northeast regional director representing the 50 PA programs in the Northeast.

Jessica Wise '16, Los Angeles, began working at Coast to Coast Talent Group as the youth theatrical assistant in November 2018. She coordinates with managers and casting directors to set clients up on film and television auditions.

Samuel Crankshaw '17, Louisville, started at ACLU of Kentucky as a communications associate in July.

Mollie LaFavers '17, Louisville, began at Volunteers of America Mid-States as a communications coordinator in September 2018. Morgan Nicoulin '17, Fairburn, Georgia, started at Heritage Preparatory School as a Latin teacher and curriculum director for grades three to eight in August.

Madison Sandwith-Crader '17, Irvine, California, graduated with a Master of Science in marketing from University of Southern California in May.

**Amanda Wilburn '17,** Lexington, began at the University of Kentucky Department of Neurology as a clinical research coordinator in July.

**Erin Alexander '18,** Lexington, became an admissions counselor at Transylvania in September.

**Timothy Baker '18,** Nashville, Tennessee, signed a publishing deal with Blue Springs Music.

**Lauren Gilbert '18**, La Paz, Bolivia, began her internship in June at the U.S. Department of State-Careers in the political-economic section. See page 4.

Harry Hazelwood '18, Henderson, Kentucky, became the CASA coordinator at Children's Advocacy Center of Green River District in March.

**Kiali Jelinek '18,** Lexington, began as a Fayette County Public Schools peace officer in February.

Megan Kamb '18, Lexington, became an online computer science tutor for Tutor.com Inc. in November.

**Justin Warren '18,** Lexington, started at Snider, Corales & Associates PSC as a staff accountant in January.

Lance Antoine '19, Lexington, began working at Galls LLC in June.

Brenna D'Amico '19, Independence, Kentucky, began as a youth crisis advocate for AmeriCorps - AWARE in August.

**Rebecca Facktor '19,** Louisville, became a second grade teacher at St. Leonard in August.

**Angie Hilen '19,** Lexington, became a fifth grade teacher at Maxwell Elementary in August.

Jenna Phelps Hopkins '19, Corbin, Kentucky, became a first grade teacher at London Elementary in August.

Rachel Stone '19, Lexington, started teaching second grade at Lansdowne Elementary in August.

**Abigail Woodie '19,** Georgetown, Kentucky, began teaching fourth grade at Eastern Elementary School in August.

#### **MARRIAGES**

**Janet McGinnis Thomson '60** and Donald Ritter, Sept. 8, 2018

**Karen Napier Pohl '84** and Bob Shaver, May 25, 2019

Patrick Burba '86 and Fumiko Hattori, Aug. 25, 2018

**Shannon Cook '90** and David Geames, Oct. 6, 2018

**Jen Brown '95** and Gary Murphy, July 12, 2019

**Charlie Deep '95** and Emily Martin, June 28, 2019

Catherine Benson '02 and Larry Swihart, Oct. 13, 2018

**Jessica Holmes '03** and Jim Masters, July 21, 2019

**Bradley Sullivan '03** and Tara Mulrooney, June 15, 2019

Corey A. Clatterbuck '08 and Matthew G. McKee, August 2019

**Katie Hicks '09** and Joshua Lopez, Oct. 5, 2019

Morgan Lavy '10 and Ben Ferguson, May 18, 2019

**Kathryn Baldwin '11** and Alex Biale, July 7, 2018

**Greg Finch '11** and Erika Schmit, May 18, 2019

**Lee Richardson '12** and McKenzie Vater, May 18, 2019

**Donald Combs '13** and Emily Hunt, June 22, 2019

**Brandon Rash '13** and Brittany Smith, May 25, 2019

**Sarah Fuller '14** and Lee Ross Dinwiddie, May 18, 2019

**Brittany Horsley '14** and Ian Lauder, Aug. 24, 2019

Rachel Hempel Rhudy '14 and Christian Rhudy '14, May 11, 2019

**Jordan Rice '14** and **Ryan Kelsch '13,** Oct. 5, 2019

**Sara Williamson '14** and Ted Roush, May 11, 2019

Annie Edkins '16 and Andrew Meyer '17, Aug. 4, 2018

**Kristen Frost '16** and **Tyler Turcotte '15,** June 25, 2019

Paige Anness '16 and Colten Sullivan, May 11, 2019

**Lauren Eastman '18** and Josh Ford, April 20, 2019



# Matt and Melissa Koger Educate New Generation of Global Citizens

Have you ever considered what it's like for students of military kids growing up abroad, moving around with their parents and continually having to make new friends in different countries?

Matt '00 and Melissa McDougal '00 Koger know firsthand — Matt grew up in the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) school system with a father who was active duty military, and Melissa's father, Stan McDougal '70, was in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. They appreciated this unique way for kids to get acquainted with the world, and they always wanted to find a way to give back to that community. The Kogers both worked in Anderson County, Kentucky, schools — Matt as a school psychologist and Melissa as a teacher — and they considered finishing their careers overseas once their two daughters had grown up.

But their youngest battled through some health trouble when she was young, and it helped the Kogers realize: Why not give them the same opportunity? So Melissa found a position at a DoDEA district office in Puerto Rico working with teachers to improve their instructional skills, and the family packed up and moved there for 15 months.

Then, four years ago, when a school psychology opportunity opened up for Matt at a DoDEA school in the Netherlands, they moved again, and they have been working at AF North International School ever since.

The school is divided into U.S., British, Canadian and German sections, and within those sections, every NATO nation is represented. Melissa has taught students from places like Azerbaijan, Finland and Lithuania, and the girls are thriving in a world wholly different from the one they knew in the U.S.

"They're learning about the Dutch culture and the history of the Netherlands, and they did the same in Puerto Rico," Melissa says. "It gives them another perspective on life, seeing all these cultures."

Matt adds, "They're learning a greater

worldview, that not everything is always so America-centric. It's a world of cultures that they'll be able to interact with internationally, and hopefully in their futures they'll be able to work in environments that appreciate diversity and recognize the opportunities that other cultures can bring to the world."

Interestingly, this idea never really occurred to them as undergraduates dating at Transylvania. But they realize now that their education was readying them to tackle issues that face students growing up in this unusual situation, along with the everyday challenges that children navigate.

"The coursework at Transy prepares you for that," Matt says. "Especially in the social sciences and education, you learn to deal with populations that have difficulties. Here we're dealing with parents who are being deployed, and frequent school changes is a unique challenge. But it's a resilient group of kids that are able to effectively transition and meet new friends, and sometimes their paths end up crossing again."

It's rewarding work that the Kogers have no plans to give up anytime soon. They say they plan to stay in the Netherlands indefinitely, keeping their global education adventure alive. Monyneath Kiem '18 and William Carey '15, July 27, 2019

**Jenna Phelps '19** and Mike Hopkins, June 8, 2019

Megan Quackenbush '19 and Andrew Stewart, June 23, 2019

#### **BIRTHS**

Whitney Meriwether Dowdy '01 and Jason Dowdy, a son, Quay Preston Dowdy, Oct. 19, 2018

Maggie Parker Angelica '02 and Christopher Angelica, a daughter, Cecilia Rose Marie Angelica, Feb. 5, 2019

**Taylor C. Coates '03** and Amy L. Coates, a son, Hutcherson "Hutch" Glenn Coates, March 15, 2019

**Brandy Baldwin Jones '03** and Nicholas Jones, a daughter, Selah Marie Jones, April 11, 2019

**Lindsey Sepp Stockdale '04** and Mark Stockdale, a daughter, Berkley Quinn Stockdale, June 25, 2019

**Julie Verax Adler '05** and Andy Adler, a daughter, Nora Rose Adler, April 16, 2019

Rachel Green Brown '05 and Keith Brown '04, a son, William James Brown, March 12, 2019

**Gina Dunphy Collins '05** and Joe B. Collins, a daughter, Emerson Kate Collins, July 29, 2019

**Jessica Hamlet Selino '05** and Jennie Selino, a son, Finnley Joe Selino, Sept. 5, 2017

**Bethany Cox Snider '05** and John Snider, a daughter, Elizabeth Jean Snider, April 13, 2019

Hayley Castle Trimble '06 and Ben Trimble, a son, Beau Benjamin Trimble, April 29, 2019

Emmy Cooper Rittenhouse '06 and Marty Rittenhouse, a son, Cooper Martin Rittenhouse, July 6, 2019

**Zach Davis '08** and Natalie Davis, a daughter, Mary Benton Davis, Sept. 12, 2019

**Bridgette Brown Guye '08** and Scott Guye, a son, Miles Houston Guye, July 16, 2019

Katie West-Pfingston '08 and John Pfingston '07, a daughter, Mary-Kathleen West Pfingston, Jan. 18, 2019 Charlotte Robinson Blakeman '09 and Stephan Blakeman, a son, Elliott Graham Blakeman, April 18, 2019

Emily Bausch Blevins '09 and Derrick Blevins, a son, Augustus "Gus" James Blevins, June 6, 2019

**Cayce Franz Tomlin '09** and Mike Tomlin, a daughter, Piper Rylee Tomlin, July 8, 2019

**Joey Verax '09** and Morgan Taylor Verax, a son, William Jensen Verax, April 23, 2019.

Monica Hagan Vetter '09 and Matthew Vetter '09, a son, Miles Hagan Vetter, June 19, 2019

**Aaron Conn '10** and Jessica Conn, a daughter, Landri Blake Conn, April 20, 2019

Anna Rush Gausepohl '10 and Abe Gausepohl '11, a son, Cooper Joseph Gausepohl, Oct. 2, 2019

**Jessica Horohov Moldoff '10** and David Moldoff, a daughter, Noa Moldoff, May 17, 2019

Katie Murphy Smith '10 and Karl Smith, a son, Wesley Coleman Smith, June 22, 2019

**Brittany Henderlight Stoiber '10** and Luke Stoiber, a daughter, Maggie Ryann Stoiber, June 15, 2019

**Kathleen Thacker Danziger '11** and Jacob Danziger, a son, Evan James Danziger, July 16, 2019

Claire Dorris-Lloyd '11 and Logan Lloyd '09, a daughter, Cora Lynn Lloyd, July 30, 2019

Shawn Price Finlinson '11 and Warren Finlinson '11, daughters, Piper Everly and Mila Elizabeth Finlinson, Nov. 1, 2018

**Leah Grace Bennett '15** and Ryan Bennett, a daughter, Bailey Rae Bennett, Sept. 25, 2019

#### IN MEMORIAM

**Carolyn Tassie**, public services librarian 1986-2009, Lexington, died April 22, 2019.

**Ann Cranfill,** administrative assistant for the humanities, Lexington, died July 29, 2019.

**Marion Vernon Tucker '37,** Blue Rock, Ohio, died May 17, 2019.

James Hobart Havens '42, Lexington, died July 19, 2019.

**Dorothy Rawlings Young '48,** Mount Sterling, Kentucky, died May 7, 2019.

Constance Ballmann Chambers '48, Tulsa, Oklahoma, died Sept. 18, 2019.

**James Graham '49,** Bardstown, Kentucky, died May 19, 2019.

**Dotty Stovall Stewart '51,** Piedmont, Virginia, wife of **Herbert Stewart '52,** died Dec. 27, 2018.

**Alice Preston Bourne '52,** Paintsville, Kentucky, died Dec. 25, 2018.

Emma Mildred Nisbet Gould '52, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, died July 12, 2019.

Richard J. McLean '53, San Antonio, Texas, died March 29, 2019.

Indianapolis, died May 6, 2019.

Anna Louise Carroll Hall '55,

Shelbyville, Kentucky, died Aug. 23, 2019.

Dinsmore Nisbet '55, Lexington, husband of Jo Ann Pearce Nisbet '58, father of Ben Nisbet '81, David Nisbet '83 and James Nisbet '92, grandfather of Pearce Nisbet '22, died June 9, 2019.

**Linda Hensley Fields '56,** Nashville, Tennessee, died Aug. 28, 2019.

**Al Prewitt '57,** Lexington, died Oct. 8, 2019.

**Norman Hagley '58,** Hutchinson, Kansas, died Sept. 25, 2019.

**Dale Rogers Herrick '58,** Brentwood, Tennessee, died Aug. 16, 2019.

Chris Hobgood '58, Berlin, Maryland, husband of Cary Alexander Hobgood '59, died May 31, 2019.

Norma Jean White Martin '58, Durham, North Carolina, died April 12, 2019.

**Bill Bodine '59,** Louisville, husband of **Ritchey Eldred Bodine '62,** died Aug. 26, 2019.

**Betty Kidwell Lyons '60,** Louisville, died June 10, 2019.

**Betty Davis Dixon '61,** Louisville, died June 27, 2019.

**Russ Wilson '62,** Burlington, North Carolina, died May 18, 2019.

**Linda M. Biddle '64,** Walton, Kentucky, died April 11, 2019.

**Pete Carpenter '64,** Jacksonville, Florida, died Aug. 20, 2019.

Mary Ann Williams Kuykendall '64, Lexington, mother of Kyle Kuykendall '02, died Aug. 10, 2019. Ann Taylor Irwin '65, Lexington, sister of Charlie Taylor '65 and Fran Taylor '75, died Aug. 8, 2019.

Gloria Williams Wirthwine '68, Cincinnati, died April 15, 2019.

**Linda Alexander '69,** Lancaster, Kentucky, died May 6, 2019.

**Susan Wright Reilly '72,** Englewood East, Kentucky, died June 25, 2019.

Margaret Schram '73, Fort Wayne, Indiana, sister of Paul Schram '87, died April 2018.

Isaac "Ike" VanMeter Jr. '74, Lexington, brother of John VanMeter '78, died June 5, 2019.

**Gregory Holmes '76,** Louisville, died July 18, 2019.

**Diane Wood '77,** Indianapolis, died May 22, 2019.

**Koby Minshall '85,** Missoula, Montana, died July 1, 2019.

**Joseph Carney '88,** Louisville, died Aug. 5, 2019.

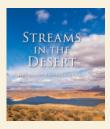
Emily Hicks '91, Dayton, Ohio, died Oct. 7, 2019.

**Daniel Rison '11,** Mount Sterling, Kentucky, died May 15, 2019.

# Transy **CREATES**



Posthumous publication of **Judy Gaines Young '62,** "A Careful Hunger: Poems by Judy Young."



Jeff Rogers '81, Lexington, Kentucky, released his sixth self-published book on photography, "Streams in the Desert."



Ashley A. Sekhon '03, Lexington, Kentucky, has published a mystery novella, "Assumptions," under the pen name of A. A. Sekhon.



Anna Tussey '13, of Louisville, Kentucky, published research from her master's thesis in Maya America. She recently visited the Little Mountain School in Joya Honda, Guatemala.

# Sister Cities Program Offers Barton Lynch '16 Opportunity to Find His Place



One of the unique opportunities available to students in Lexington is the Sister Cities program, which facilitates partnerships including an exchange student partnership and a yearlong teaching placement at schools in one of Lexington's four Sister Cities — Deauville, France; County Kildare, Ireland; Shinhidaka, Japan; or Newmarket, England.

Barton Lynch '16 participated in the exchange program in Deauville for three weeks as a high school student and fell in love with the area and the Sister Cities organization. He interned with Sister Cities as a senior international affairs and French major at Transy, and when he graduated, he went back to Deauville, this time to teach English to preschool, kindergarten and first grade students.

"The whole experience was such a good thing for me; it was the most fulfilling work," he says. "And it gave me the skills to go out and be confident in tackling any challenge that I don't know I'm prepared for."

He spent his days off traveling Europe and immersing himself in the culture,

testing his limits in an unfamiliar place as he developed his communication and adaptability. In fact, he says the ability to adapt in uncomfortable situations was one of the most useful skills he learned during his time abroad, and he continues to draw upon those in his current position as an account researcher with Brunswick Group, a strategic advisory firm in Washington, D.C.

# "Being able to shift your perspective to understand another is really what I learned."

"Being able to shift your perspective to understand another is really what I learned," he says. "And I was able to think about what I wanted to do, who I wanted to be and how I wanted to contribute to the world. Everything I learned abroad is used in my time now."

## Transy Remembers Two Trustees and Lifelong Benefactors



former President Charles L. Shearer at the 2007 Transylvania commencement ceremony.

RIGHT: Portrait of Warren Rosenthal, 2002 by William T. Chambers. This oil on canvas is part of Transylvania's permanent collection and is on display in the J. Douglas Gay Jr./Frances Carrick Thomas Library.

TOP: David A. Jones Sr. (left) and



Former trustee **David A. Jones Sr.**, co-founder and chairman emeritus of Humana Inc. and one of Kentucky's best known entrepreneurs, philanthropists and civic leaders, died on Sept. 18. He and his wife Betty Jones, who died on Aug. 16, supported virtually every major Transylvania program over the years, including capital campaigns and such initiatives as the William T. Young Scholars program, the William T. Young Campus Center and the David and Betty Jones Fund for Faculty Development. Transylvania honored him with the Transylvania Medal in 1994 and the President's Award in 2007.

Warren W. Rosenthal, a retired CEO of Jerrico Inc. and former vice chairman, chair of the development committee and member of the executive committee of Transylvania's board of trustees, died on Oct. 19. He was instrumental in establishing the university's hospitality and tourism track in the business program. In addition to his own generous contributions, he played a leading role in fundraising for the Beck Athletic and Recreation Center and numerous other capital projects. The Warren W. Rosenthal Residence Complex, a 42-unit apartment building, is named in his honor. In 2013, the Warren W. Rosenthal Endowed Scholarship was established by his friends to honor his lifetime of friendship and dedication to Transylvania. The 1977 Transylvania Medal recipient received an honorary degree in 1979 and the Charles and Susan Shearer Award in 2012. His daughter Carol Rosenthal is a 1975 alumna.

# Coming This Spring — Transylvania Treasures Online



For more than a decade, the award-winning Transylvania Treasures has featured material from the university's Special Collections and Moosnick Collection and stories about historic figures. Dr. Charles Ambrose, who served as the creative force and financial support for the biannual publication, died on June 29

Ambrose was a professor at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine. His interest in 18th- and 19th-century medicine built a decades-long relationship with the university's Special Collections, of which he was a benefactor.

This spring, the university will publish Transylvania Treasures in a digital format at transy.edu and will begin to highlight content in future issues of Third & Broadway. The next issue will include reflections on work by Rafinesque and the life and cultural context of aviator and academic Jane Haselden '26.



"Walking the grounds, I was flooded with memories of the institution that helped build me into a confident leader, diligent worker and a dream chaser. In the wake of these unfolding dreams, I want to extend a genuine thank you to Transylvania and every individual that works hard to uphold this university. What you do matters, and reaches farther than any of us will ever know."

### Allison Conder '14

CO-FOUNDER KAIROS INTERNATIONAL

Allison Conder '14 (left) and Nzinga Donovan '13 are co-founders of Kairos International, a nonprofit that helps young adults in developing nations. During her five-year class reunion at Transy, Conder reflected on her own education and the individuals who supported it.

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