



UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

# *Tribute to Retirees*

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Fall, 2022

Sponsored by the Association of Retired Faculty and Staff,  
University of West Georgia Office of Human Resources,  
and University of West Georgia Foundation

Meg Cooper & Francesca Taylor (Eds.)



## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Association of Retired Faculty and Staff (ARFS) gratefully acknowledges the contributions of Lauren Niedringhaus and Beverly Dittmer (Human Resources), University Communications and Marketing, and Printing Services staff (especially Brooke Keener), as well as the UWG Office of Human Resources and the UWG Foundation, in preparation of this commemorative tribute booklet.

### **ARFS Coordinating Council Members (2021-2022)**

- Meg Cooper (President, USGRC voting member, Programs/Events Committee, Newsletter Committee), Special Education
- Kathryn Grams (Past President, GA-HERO representative, Newsletter Committee), Nursing
- Anne Richards (Vice President, USGRC alternate member, GA-HERO secretary, ARFS Listserv Manager, Newsletter Committee chairperson), Psychology
- Francesca Taylor (Secretary, Programs/Events Committee), Academic Testing Services
- Sally Roberts (Treasurer), Publications and Printing
- Micheal Crafton, English and UWG administration
- Jimmy Drew, Publications and Printing
- Ross Miller, Education
- Frank Pritchett (Newsletter Committee), Alumni Relations
- Anita Thomas, Richards College of Business
- John von Eschenbach (Scholarship Committee), Curriculum and Instruction
- Nancy Watkins, Center for Diversity and Inclusion
- Alice Wesley, Graduate School
- Diane Williamson, Richards College of Business

**UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA**  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



Colleagues,

I am honored to congratulate you on your retirement and share the depth of appreciation and admiration I have for you as you begin this new chapter in your life.

Your years of dedication to our university have made a positive and lasting impact, and your quality of work has ensured generations of students will have the opportunity for a first-choice higher education experience – and the post-graduate outcomes we help them create – at the University of West Georgia.

Because of you, UWG is a destination university in Georgia, and I am grateful for the role you played in that achievement. Your loyalty and commitment have not gone unnoticed, and I am humbled and honored to have served alongside you.

You will always remain an important part of the UWG community. It is my hope that you will stay in touch with us, so that we may share in your new experiences and adventures. Please consider participating in the Association of Retired Faculty and Staff as a way of keeping up with news about UWG and your fellow retirees.

May this new era in your life bring endless joy and great prosperity. Wherever life takes you, I hope UWG holds a special and enduring place in your heart and mind.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Kelly", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**Brendan B. Kelly, Ph.D.**  
*President*  
**University of West Georgia**

## The Association of Retired Faculty & Staff (ARFS)

was established in 2004 as a voluntary association of the university's retired faculty and staff who joined together for several purposes: to promote the well-being of its members; support the University of West Georgia retiree community; foster continued involvement of retirees in the mission of the university; facilitate communication between the university and its retirees; seek to promote the scholarly, social, and cultural interests of the retiree community; and address matters related to benefits and resources for retirees.

Membership in ARFS is free and members decide for themselves how much involvement they wish to have in the organization and its activities.

Each year, ARFS recognizes persons from the faculty and staff who have retired from full-time employment at the university. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have had online events the last two years. We are once again planning an in-person reception for the 2022 annual meeting and recognition of retirees. Participating 2021-2022 retirees will receive a medallion from the university with their name, department, and years of service engraved on it. Those attending the reception will have a formal picture taken when they come onstage to receive the medallion at the reception. Retirees may also choose to be included in this commemorative booklet. Retirees from 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, who already have their medallions and commemorative tribute booklets, will be recognized in two groups at the in-person reception this year.

Many activities in which ARFS members have typically been involved were curtailed again in 2021 and 2022. In the past, ARFS has sponsored programs featuring adventures of our traveling colleagues, and members have participated in various activities, including campus tours, off-campus trips, service projects, parades, plays, and concerts. Recently, participation has been limited to sharing information through the ARFS listserv, problem solving for retirees requesting information, and publishing our newsletter, *The Rejuvenator*. If you have suggestions about activities you would like to see us organize, especially once COVID-19 is contained, please do let us know.

About eight years ago, ARFS joined a national organization of retiree organizations in higher education, known as AROHE (Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education -- <https://www.arohe.org/>). Through a state subsidiary of that group, GA-HERO (<https://ga-hero.org/>), some of us have attended meetings with retirees in higher education from all around Georgia. In the meetings, we have learned a lot about what other retiree organizations are doing. Any of you are welcome to join those who attend these meetings. Meetings have been held online via Zoom and will continue with in-person and/or online options in the future.

In 2015 the University System of Georgia created a retiree council (USGRC) to advise the Chancellor's Office and the Board of Regents on matters of consequence to retirees. The president of the ARFS Coordinating Council is

our “official voting member” at USGRC meetings, and we are also allowed a designated “alternate member” in the event our official voting member cannot make the meeting. Currently, Anne Richards is serving as the “alternate member” in order to take notes to pass along to others. While the USGRC continues to have a focus on Medicare-eligible retirees’ use of Alight Retiree Health Solutions (formerly the Aon Retiree Healthcare Exchange), it is also looking at many other issues of concern to retirees, including access to library resources on system campuses, well-being resources/services for retirees, and communication matters.

To become a member of ARFS is easy. Just contact Meg Cooper ([mcooper@westga.edu](mailto:mcooper@westga.edu), 770-880-5078), Anne Richards ([arichard@westga.edu](mailto:arichard@westga.edu), 770-834-8143), or Lauren Niedringhaus ([lniedringhaus@westga.edu](mailto:lniedringhaus@westga.edu), 678-839-1034) to let us know you want to join. We will need contact information. An e-mail address will help most since we use the ARFS listserv to share a variety of information. However, our newsletter, *The Rejuvenator*, is also distributed by postal mail when necessary. We invite you to become an active member of this organization, especially as we are able to get back to more in-person events.

We also hope you will take advantage of some or all of the benefits available to you as a retiree. There are a lot of them, such as a courtesy parking hangtag, eligibility for free membership to utilize all facilities in the Campus Center (secured in 2017), participation in well-being activities, a listing in a planned retiree directory if you would like, eligibility to check out books from the Ingram Library, reduced rates on West Georgia Theatre Company performances, free admission to UWG athletic events, and a 10% discount at the University Bookstore. We continue to look into the possibility of securing other benefits as well.

## **UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship**

ARFS is pleased and proud to announce that the 2022-2023 recipient of the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship is Jordan Wagner, a senior majoring in Computer Science and the son of UWG retiree Donald R. Wagner. Jordan will be recognized at our annual reunion.

### **For Future Applicants:**

Students may apply by going to the University of West Georgia Scholarship Portal ([https://westga.scholarships.ngwebsolutions.com/CMXAdmin/Cmx\\_Content.aspx?cpld=896](https://westga.scholarships.ngwebsolutions.com/CMXAdmin/Cmx_Content.aspx?cpld=896)) and following the instructions. Scholarship Application will open annually in October. The scholarship deadline for incoming students is February 1st. Priority will be given to students who apply before February 1st, but applications will be considered until a candidate is selected.

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- \* Recipients will be full-time graduate or undergraduate students who are retirees of the institution or who are direct descendants or an immediate family relation of a retired faculty or staff member (with a minimum of 10 years of service to the institution).
- \* Recipients will have minimum cumulative GPA 2.5, with preference given to applicants with higher GPA.
- \* Preference will be given to applicants with a demonstrated financial need as determined by the UWG Financial Aid Office.

**If you would like to make a gift to help fund this scholarship, check out <https://www.westga.edu/give/how-to-give> for ways you can contribute, including through an online giving form. Be sure to designate the “UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship” if you wish to support this scholarship. Another option is to go directly to <https://giving.westga.edu/arfs/> where you can choose to donate to ARFS or to the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship online. You could also contact Ketty Cusick at [kcusick@westga.edu](mailto:kcusick@westga.edu) or 678-839-6501.**

# Retired Faculty & Staff Tribute Booklet

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

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Note: If you are aware of retirees who have been left out of this booklet, please let us know so we can recognize their service in a subsequent year.





## Linda Bittner

**Position held:** Executive Associate to Assistant VP

**Department:** Campus Planning and Facilities

**Years of Service:** 2006-2021



### **Tribute Statement:**

Fifteen years ago, Linda began her journey with the University of West Georgia. In that time, she served in key administrative support roles to senior management staff throughout the University. As the Executive Associate to the Assistant Vice President for Campus Planning and Facilities, Linda personified the ultimate professional committed to doing whatever was asked of her to meet departmental goals. Many benefitted from having Linda on the team; she was articulate, warm, caring, helpful, friendly, respectful, dedicated, conscientious, dependable, and well-respected.

Linda's many talents included a number of applicable business skills that set her apart from all others. Her IT knowledge and aptitude for comprehending new software and applications provided the department with tools that streamlined processes. Her work in this area was key to success with continuous improvement initiatives in the CP&F department. For many of us in the department, our skills with Excel and other applications were developed because of Linda's undying willingness to teach and share her knowledge.

UWG is a much better place because of Linda Bittner, and she is missed.

*[Mike Speir, Manager of Business Operations, Campus Planning and Facilities,  
UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- working part-time at her church
- enjoying her grandchildren
- crocheting
- not getting up with an alarm clock

## John Bleuel

**Position held:** Professor

**Department:** Music

**Years of Service:** 1998-2021

### **Tribute Statement:**

Dr. Bleuel's exemplary tenure and superb work—beginning as a Visiting Instructor in 1998 and retiring as a Professor of Music—is the embodiment of his dedication and service to UWG. His studio and classroom teaching was nationally known due to his passion, knowledge, and commitment to our students' education, and the Saxophone Ensemble John established over two decades ago led the charge for our wind and percussion program as a benchmark of musical excellence. His conducting and aural skills teaching were also exemplary.

In addition to his work at UWG, John played and lectured on the national and world stages, including national and international presentations at the College Music Society, performances at the World Saxophone Congress, and numerous recitals at the regional and national biennial meetings of the North America Saxophone Alliance. In dozens of performances, he represented UWG at the local, regional, national, and international levels. John's passion as a performer served as an example for our students as they witnessed him practicing, playing, studying, and even fighting through the effects of focal dystonia and epilepsy during his last four years at UWG.

John's musicianship, teaching, collegiality, and leadership benefitted the thousands of students involved in the Music Program and his faculty colleagues.

*[Dr. Josh Byrd, Director of Bands, UWG]*



### **Plans for Retirement:**

- part-time teaching at Clemson University and working with Clemson's Saxophone Ensemble
- running with the goal of reaching 100 miles per month

## **Brendan Bowen**

**Position held:** Associate Vice President

**Department:** Campus Planning and Facilities

**Years of Service:** 2011-2021



### **Tribute Statement:**

Brendan arrived at UWG in 2011 to engage in the third chapter in his career as a lifelong facilities manager in higher education, bringing with him lessons learned over the years about how to maintain operations on campus in an excellent way, plan for the future, and ensure students have a great experience.

At UWG, Brendan had great mentors, people he worked for who were really engaged and helpful. The main goal was to provide excellent service to customers – students, faculty, and staff. Brendan tried to build a “culture of planning,” a forward facing attitude toward the campus. At UWG he oversaw an annual budget of about \$15 million, and he coordinated capital projects of over \$200 million. He touched nearly every building on campus in his time here. But he thinks his most significant accomplishment is a tuition assistance program set up to help Facilities employees build their skills in the technical college system. This opportunity was life changing for some employees.

Upon retirement from UWG, Brendan has begun the fourth chapter in his career, working with the Technical College System of Georgia. He is also looking forward to continuing as a semi-professional musician and spending more time with his wife (Diane), sons, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter.

*[Meg Cooper, Associate Professor Emerita, Special Education, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- looking forward to being able to travel more, including visits to family out west and overseas
- seeing family more
- working on music, continuing with his band, the Groove Gypsies
- planning to continue making contributions in his career for a while, first with a move to the Technical College System of Georgia

## Anita Bryant

**Position held:** Departmental Assistant - Senior

**Department:** Campus Planning and Facilities

**Years of Service:** 1994-2022



### **Tribute Statement:**

Anita Bryant came to work as the departmental administrative assistant in the Geology Department in 1994, and she has seen many changes over her tenure here. The Geology Department became the Geosciences Department (adding in Geography) and was later reorganized to the Department of Mathematics, Science, and Technology, swelling the faculty that she and one other admin supported to almost 100! That was then subdivided, and Anita worked with the Department of Natural Sciences, handling all administrative duties for the geology, geography, and biology programs.

Anita always made her job look easy because she was so capable. She handled complicated travel paperwork associated with a field trip-heavy department, grants, budgets, student issues, and everything else involved with administering a department. She was recognized for her efforts, receiving the Academic Affairs Divisional Award of Excellence (2002), the Pat Hughes Employee of the Year Award (2002), and the CACSI Outstanding Staff Award (2021).

Anita was a calm presence—if you had a problem, she competently started working through a solution due to her campus contacts, experience, and good working relationships. Blessed with a good sense of humor and a green thumb, she rescued many a colleague's dying plant by nursing it back to health.

*[Randa Harris, Senior Laboratory Coordinator, Geology Program, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- gardening and working in her flower beds
- spending time with husband, kids, and grandkids in Florida

## Jeannette Diaz

**Position held:** Associate Professor

**Departments:** Psychology; Department of Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology (DAPS)

**Years of Service:** 2008-2021



### **Tribute Statement:**

Jeannette Diaz came to the Psychology Department in 2008 as an Assistant Professor. With a PhD from the University of California, Riverside, Dr. Diaz brought a wealth of expertise in social policy, community psychology, and developmental psychology, along with a keen focus on social justice. Her award-winning doctoral dissertation focused on social psychological dynamics of African American and Korean American relations in Los Angeles during the heightened times of unrest in the wake of the Rodney King beating.

Dr. Diaz taught a wide range of courses, including Community Psychology, Human Growth and Development, Human Service Practicum, Integrative Seminar, Introduction to Psychology, Personal Relationships, Psychology and Globalization, Transformational Leadership, Community Mental Health, and Critical Foundations of Psychology. She also served on several Master's and PhD Dissertation Committees.

She developed an active research program, publishing work on social justice praxis, food insecurity, nutrition in low-income residents in rural Georgia, and globalization, as well as many community-based initiatives in Haiti. Jeannette was able to share with countless UWG students and the wider discipline a unique approach to psychology which understands mental health and intergroup relations as emerging from political and economic history. Many students and colleagues have been inspired by her passion, curiosity, and sense of justice.

*[Dr. James Dillon, Professor, Psychology Department, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- becoming a K-12 substitute teacher in San Francisco
- continuing studies in music and developing opportunities for performances in drumming
- training to be a CASA worker
- pursuing certification in Integrative Nutrition

## Dale K. Driver

**Positions held:** Budget Director, CAS; Assistant Vice President of IT/CIO

**Departments:** College of Arts and Sciences, Information Technology Services

**Years of Service:** 1995-2022



### **Tribute Statement:**

During his UWG career, Dale Driver held several positions and developed multiple areas of expertise. Dale began work in the College of Arts and Sciences. After seven years, he moved to Information Technology Services. As a certified project manager, Dale led many campus projects that improved the quality of life for students, faculty, and staff. In addition to being a strong leader, Dale was technically proficient. He designed and built several applications that were used across campus.

Dale was known for his calming presence and ability to efficiently manage crises. He was a strong advocate for his team, at both the institutional and individual levels. He took pride in recognizing birthdays and work anniversaries for everybody in ITS. Dale enjoyed mentoring his team members as well as learning from them. He was quick to give credit to others and incorporate their feedback. Dale will be remembered as a man who lived his faith.

*[Hugh Russell, Interim CIO, Information Technology Services]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- spending time with his family
- gardening and woodworking
- some traveling, including Greece and the beach
- working part-time for local home-schooling entity



## Patricia S. Durrough

**Positions held:** Purchasing Director, Controller,  
Assistant Director of Learning and  
Organizational Development

**Departments:** Business Services, Center for  
Business Excellence

**Years of Service:** 1992-2022



### **Tribute Statement:**

Tricia was hired in March 1992 as a property control officer, which led to positions as the institution's purchasing director and later controller. She recognized the challenges of advancing technology within business processes and the impact on worker productivity and morale, pioneering a new area - Business Services - to help employees understand the various financial- and employee- relations platforms required to help standardize processes across the University System of Georgia.

In 2011, Tricia helped develop the Center for Business Excellence--a unit to instill a proactive culture of continuous improvement, a uniform understanding of business processes, and the administration of a professional development platform for the institutional needs. Her MEd in Instructional Technology ('18) helped her produce training courses employees continue to use for business-related processes and USG mandates.

Admired by colleagues for her attention to detail and exceptional presentation skills, Tricia also possesses the listening and personality qualities that are necessary in guiding all employees in their training requirements - regardless of their work classification. Some of her key contributions include the implementation of both the first Purchasing Card Program and "DevelopWest"; creation of a learning and development framework to meet operational, strategic, technical and compliance training needs for employees; and revamping the framework for "WolfLife," UWG's New Employee Onboarding Program.

*[Dan Lewis, Retired Executive Director, Center for Business Excellence, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- working part-time at her church
- traveling
- spending time with her daughter and other family members

## Wanda Kay Lovejoy Eidson

**Positions held:** Assistant Registrar for Graduation Team, Degree Works Analyst

**Department:** Office of the Registrar

**Years of Service:** 1995-2021



### **Tribute Statement:**

Wanda Eidson ended her 26+ years with UWG as the Registrar's Office Degree Works Analyst. Immediately prior to this role she served as the Assistant Registrar for the Graduation Team. These roles required extensive knowledge of degree program requirements and SACSCOC, USG, and UWG policies, as well as the ability to use Scribe programming language.

She spent countless hours helping students register; performing degree audits by hand; organizing commencement ceremonies; and serving students, faculty, and staff in numerous ways. She played a large role in transitioning the campus to DegreeWorks aka Wolf Watch for degree auditing and improving the student experience through this technology. Wanda served as mentor to many Registrar employees throughout the years and made a great impact on the UWG campus community.

Most importantly, Wanda's strong faith in God was an encouragement and bright light to many at UWG. Her prayers have covered many of us throughout her time at UWG, and I have no doubt she will continue to pray for us all. I have been blessed with her as a colleague and friend over the last 10 years, and I look forward to seeing where God will lead her next.

*[Jennifer McManus, Senior Associate Registrar, Office of the Registrar, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- traveling, especially to the beach
- playing golf and reading
- spending time with her grandchildren
- singing in her church choir



## Julili Fowler

**Position held:** Senior Secretary; Instructor; Receptionist and Test Proctor; Director of eCampus Engagement and Analytics

**Departments:** Waring Archeological Laboratory; Continuing Education; Newnan Center; Distance Education/eCore/eCampus

**Years of Service:** 2007-2022



### Tribute Statement:

Julili Fowler began as an assistant at UWG's Newnan Center, having retired from corporate work. Thanks to her drive and integrity, she quickly moved up the ranks and became one of the original leaders for eCore when UWG became the institutional provider for the system. Her passion for students was genuine and relentless. I would estimate that Julili personally made over 50,000 calls to students who were falling behind. She really deserves credit for fully developing an outreach model long before traditional departments.

Along with possessing a heart of pure gold, Julili was a data genius. Many decisions made in eCampus and by several provosts at UWG were based on her ability to find patterns and clues to student success in massive piles of data. She was called on by UWG, other institutions, the system office, and the Carl Vinson Institute for her rare level of expertise and ability to turn around a project faster than anyone.

When weekends came, Julili was the one who was still working, never stopping until she found a solution for every student. No one can fill her shoes at UWG, but I'm excited to see what contributions she makes to the world in her next chapter of life.

*[Melanie N. Clay; Executive Director of Extended Learning, UWG, and Dean of USG eCore]*

### Plans for Retirement:

- spending time walking the mountains
- performing benevolence activities
- improving photography skills and golf game
- attending some architecture lecture courses

## Carol Joy Gingerich

**Position held:** Professor

**Departments:** Music

**Years of Service:** 1991-2021



### **Tribute Statement:**

Dr. Gingerich was my professor during my MM in Piano Performance studies at UWG in 2000-2001. She was an excellent Professor of Piano/Piano Pedagogy in every regard. She had an encouraging and highly organized style of teaching. She was eager to provide additional effort and time to prepare us for the exams and student recitals and offered me her own studio, so that I could practice on a grand concert piano. She encouraged me to enter the GMTA Piano Competition, where I was awarded the “Award of Excellence.”

With her precise, step-by-step teaching style in the pedagogy classes, she mentored us to become effective teachers. In ensemble classes, she made us read and discuss articles besides working on our performances. She made arrangements outside the university to make us learn “the art of accompaniment” through real life examples.

Her support in my professional career continued after my graduation. She advised me during my Ph.D. studies in Turkey and kept supporting me to develop my career internationally.

Dr. Gingerich was not only one of the best professors I have had, but also is one of the best colleagues and persons I know with her warm, kind, supportive, and dedicated personality.

*[Evren Kutlay, Professor of Music, Istanbul, Turkey]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

Carol is pleased that in early retirement she is still receiving invitations to actively participate in conferences, judge piano competitions and give piano teacher workshop/lectures. She is enjoying traveling with her new husband, Robert, and reconnecting with her family roots in Canada. Her Carrollton garden is blooming beautifully.

## Vicki J. Griffin

**Positions held:** Departmental Assistant (CS and COE), eCore/eMajor Liaison (DE)

**Departments:** Career Services, College of Education, Distance Education

**Years of Service:** 2009-2022



### **Tribute Statement:**

Vicki has been an integral part of UWG. She engaged in all aspects of campus life -- serving on committees, facilitating trainings, teaching freshman seminar classes, serving as an adjunct professor, and completing both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees all while working in the College of Education and for eCore. She wasn't one to sit back and just put in her time; she worked to ensure that UWG was an equitable, engaging, and welcoming place for students, staff, and faculty.

I had the honor of working with Vicki as I began my tenure as a department chair. Vicki's role was to support students, and she saw student support as not just organizing files, but also as caring, listening, and connecting. Students would reach out to her in frustration but by the end of the conversation they had their problems solved and had found a friend! The same was true for faculty and other staff across the College of Education. In my case, she began as a coworker and is now a family friend.

Vicki was an asset to everyone who knew her, I am fortunate that our paths crossed. I am better for it and so is the University of West Georgia!

*[Lara Willox, former Professor and Department Chairperson, College of Education, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- spending time with kitty cats
- traveling
- spending time with family

## Teri K. Lewis

**Position held:** Academic Instructional Support Specialist

**Departments:** UWG-Newnan

**Years of Service:** 1990-2022

### Tribute Statement:

In August of 1990, Teri Lewis was hired as secretary to the University of West Georgia Newnan Center's first director. Upon her retirement 32 years later, she was UWG Newnan's longest-serving team member. Through her determination and dedication to UWG, Teri advanced from secretary to academic instructional support specialist during her time at UWG.

Teri was asked to develop a testing site for Newnan; she was responsible for administering a comprehensive test-proctoring environment that promoted integrity, accessibility, and reliable technology. Over the decades, Teri proctored thousands of exams, providing a holistic approach to services and compassion to all.

In 2015, UWG transitioned to 80 Jackson Street. Teri continued to successfully manage the day-to-day operations of the 66,261 square-foot facility, a large change from the much smaller location of before, but Teri handled the change with grace.

Throughout Teri's career, she won many awards including the Risk Management Award in 2018.

Teri's focus on kindness meant that no faculty or students left feeling unloved or unsupported. One student and employee of UWG Newnan reminisced that "Teri is the most selfless person I know, and every room is better with her in it." Everyone should strive to be a bit more like Teri every day.

*[Rebecca Smith, Associate Director UWG - Newnan and USG eCampus, UWG]*

### Plans for Retirement:

- traveling with family
- teaching basic drawing and painting to Young Artists of Newnan and Coweta County through Coweta County Recreation Department
- working on various projects around the house

## N. Jane McCandless

**Positions held and Departments:** Professor, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology; Director of Graduate Studies, Sociology Graduate Program; Acting Chair, Department of Philosophy; Interim Chair, Department of Mass Communications and Theatre Arts; Chair, Department of Sociology and Criminology; Transitional Dean, College of Arts & Sciences; Founding Dean, College of Social Sciences



**Years of Service:** 1990-2022

### **Tribute Statement:**

Jane McCandless has impacted the development, integrity, and well-being of UWG in myriad and meaningful ways. She is the only colleague I know of who has served as a Professor, Coordinator of a ground-breaking program of study, Chair (and acting or interim Chair) of three different departments, and Dean of the College of Social Sciences. Whatever university, college, or departmental role she undertook, Jane thoughtfully explored and fostered opportunities for addressing challenges and shortcomings affecting operational relevance and effectiveness, and brought into being circumstances that made countless situations far better than she initially found them.

An articulate and dedicated educator, she received numerous awards and honors for her teaching, leadership, and service. She has also distinguished herself in various national, state, and local professional and community organizations and timely and meaningful publications and presentations on matters of consequence, discerning and capable contributions to committee work, and long-term service on Boards of Directors. She has also served as a mediator in the Magistrate Court of Carroll County.

Jane is well-known for her iconic, principled, and visionary leadership; inspired teaching; courage, candor, and determination in times of crisis and turmoil; wise counsel; unwavering commitment to the well-being of students, staff, and colleagues; and exemplary contributions to higher education at its best. She has left a lasting legacy at UWG and her conscientious and forthright presence will be greatly missed.

*[Anne C. Richards, Professor Emerita, Psychology, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- are just now beginning to unfold

## **Patty Moran**

**Position held:** Assistant Professor

**Department:** Nursing

**Years of Service:** 2016-2022



### **Tribute Statement:**

Dr. Patty Moran has had a rewarding career as a nurse and nurse educator. Patty has been a nurse since 1982 and began her teaching career in 2010 with a love of teaching undergraduate nurses. She received both her BSN and MSN degrees at UWG and went on to complete a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Samford University in 2016.

Patty came to UWG to teach in the undergraduate programs at the Tanner Health System School of Nursing (THSSON) in 2016. She was drawn here as an alumnus by the school's caring philosophy, which she exemplified in the educational environment. Her love of students included teaching in the clinical area, sharing her nursing skills with new nurses, as well as participating on the THSSON Caring for Students committee. In 2018, she received the Daisy faculty award, a prestigious award given to two nursing faculty members each year.

I will miss Patty, especially her smile and her enthusiasm for teaching in the clinical area. It is now time for her to spend time with her family, including two grandchildren, and friends. I look forward to keeping in touch with Patty for her next chapter!

*[Cynthia Brown, Professor, Tanner Health System School of Nursing, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- spending time with my grandsons



## Tim North

**Positions held:** Cabling Technician, Senior Network Engineer

**Departments:** Facilities, Information Technology Services

**Years of Service:** 1992-2021



### **Tribute Statement:**

After high school graduation in 1980, Tim spent the next decade finding himself before finally landing at “The College.” His first job was in Grounds, cutting grass and trimming shrubs. He eventually moved into the bookstore, receiving inventory and putting it out on the sales floor. Again, Tim found an opportunity to gain new skills as he started in Facilities as a Cabling Technician. Tim’s willingness to learn and grow eventually facilitated his transition into the role of a full-fledged Network Engineer in ITS.

Once in ITS as a Network Engineer, Tim played a large role in putting the technology in the Technology-Enhanced Learning Center, Adamson Hall, University Suites, Arbor View Apartments, East Village, and Richards Hall. As his skills and abilities grew, Tim played a major role in the continued growth and success of the network itself. He shouldered the responsibility for the management of the entire University IP address space consisting of over 16,000 individual IP addresses. He ended his career as the Senior Network Engineer, mentor to countless student workers and staff.

*[Rob Yawn, Retired Manager of Networking, UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

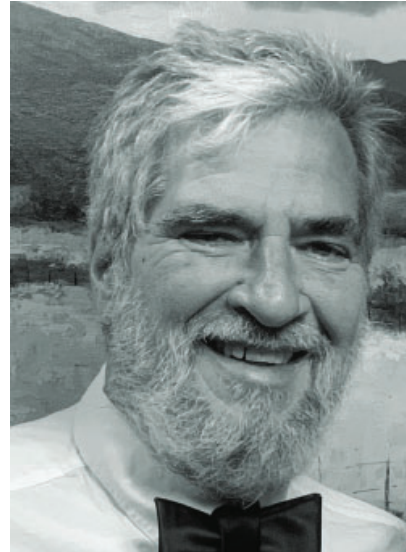
- spoiling his grandbabies
- taking care of an elderly parent
- doing what he wants to do, like fishing, hunting, and gardening

## Larry Schor, Ph.D.

**Position held:** Professor

**Department:** Psychology

**Years of Service:** 1991-1998 (part-time), 1998-2021 (full-time)



### **Tribute Statement:**

Now the moon is almost hidden, the stars are beginning to hide. The fortunetelling lady has even taken all her things inside. But since 1983, when he came to WGC as a student in search of meaning and himself, Larry Schor has been a finger pointing at the moon, a searcher of elusive twinkling stars, the sort of teacher whose fortune was to bring his meaning-making not only inside, but out. A faculty member since 1998, Dr. Schor has been a scholar, authoring a unique compilation of disaster mental-health resources for Georgia and preeminent studies on cluster headaches. A tireless volunteer with the Red Cross for nearly three decades, he has served in countless disaster-related mental health capacities, including service at Hurricane Katrina and the World Trade Centers. Dr. Schor has also been honored by his state profession as both Counselor of the Year and Counselor Educator of the Year. But no doubt his greatest legacy will be as one whose moon and stars serve as unwavering points of reference for those blessed by his teaching and supervision who are going on to bless others in what would otherwise be mere desolation. Dr. Schor has been a great gift to this place, and to me, and will be sorely missed.

*[Mark Kunkel; Professor; Department of Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology; UWG]*

### **Plans for Retirement:**

- continuing to live a meaningful life



## **In Memoriam (2021-2022)**

**Andy Freer -- Manager of Plant Operations, Facilities**

**Dr. Jonathan Goldstein - Professor, History**

**Gene Grizzard - Staff, Maintenance**

**Dr. Joel Barry Haynes - Professor, Real Estate and Marketing**

**Dr. William Benjamin (Ben) Kennedy - Professor, History**

**Rebecca E. Lee - Accounting Assistant, Cashier's Office**

**Gene William Payne - Staff, Maintenance**

**Judi E. Petty - EDP Technician, Instructional Technology Services**

**Dr. Brent Marriott Snow - Professor and Chairperson, Counseling and Educational Psychology**

**Jon Storer - Director, Office of Sponsored Operations and Special Projects**

**Celeste Tigner Turner - Secretary, Learning Resources**

**Dr. Laurie Jowers Ware - Professor and Associate Dean, Nursing**

**Willie Wynn - Assistant Manager, Central Stores & Receiving**

**Inadvertently omitted from the 2020-2021 booklet: Dr. James (Jim) K. Baum - Professor, Secondary Education**



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