

BEREA COLLEGE

MAGAZINE

Distanced Yearning

A Year of COVID-19
on and off campus

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BEREA COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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Crystal Wylie '05



Crystal Wylie '05



Crystal Wylie '05



Jalen Prater '21

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ABOUT THE COVER: Students (left to right) Natoria '21, Mickaela '21 and Darriena '24 sit on the tiered steps outside the Alumni Building. They gaze at the mountains that hem in the Berea Bubble as they look ahead to what life after the pandemic may hold. Photo by Tyler Rocquemore '22.

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Berea
Alumni and Friends,

One year.

One year ago, I sat in the same kitchen typing about how different my world had become in a few short months. Today, virtual meetings are the norm. Being a work-from-home editor (mom, school teacher and chef) is now commonplace, though still exhausting. And I'm still working on strategies to find work-life balance when work and life all happen in the confines of the same square footage. It seems most share a sense of having adjusted to "COVID normal," yet yearning for life to be normal-normal again.

But it hasn't been all bad. We've done less running around, enjoyed more family dinners around the table, game nights, movie nights and long walks just to be outside. We've participated in and received drive-by birthday parades, encouraging texts and even snail-mail greetings.

No two experiences have been the same for anyone throughout this global pandemic. Worldwide, we have lost millions of people to this virus. But we've also seen thousands step up and aid the hurting, hungry and helpless in communities across the globe.

This issue of the *Berea College Magazine* takes a look at this "gap year," and how the College and Bereans across the country have responded to, dealt with and flourished in the pandemic. From the early onset when Berea became the first college in Kentucky to close its campus to in-person instruction, to the plans Berea is making for the upcoming fall, the articles in this issue highlight the experiences of our students, staff, faculty, alumni and friends—the good and bad, difficult and uplifting—our stories of support and sacrifice.

You'll meet three Berea alumnae whose work in the medical and research fields have given them unique perspectives throughout the pandemic. From being on the frontlines in America's hardest-hit hospitals to diving into new ideas for successful vaccines, the work of these women has been instrumental in helping our country move beyond the pandemic.

Beginning on page 10, you'll see how our students navigated the difficult decisions of remote learning versus returning to campus and weighed the risks and rewards of both. For student-athletes, there was the added pressure of choosing whether to play the sport they love, in addition to delayed seasons and arduous testing regimens when sports resumed. For other students, decisions hinged on myriad circumstances, and their experiences from Spring 2020 through Spring 2021 varied greatly.

You'll also read about those outside of the "Berea Bubble," such as donors who stepped in to provide resources for students making these difficult decisions and transitions, and the way members of the Berea community partnered with the College to provide for all those who needed assistance in the surrounding area.

We are all ready to close the gaps this trying pandemic has placed in our lives and relationships. As we lean toward our new normal, let's also reflect on both the hardship and the hope that have gotten us this far.

Abbie Tanyhill Darst

Abbie Tanyhill Darst '03
Editor

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Beautiful Research

Foundation alumna Trudy Morrison explains her virus-like particle research

By Jason Lee Miller

Trudy Morrison Fd.'63 has a long history of dealing with microbes. Her father, Berea College biology professor Seth Gilkerson '38, would send her out into the flora around campus to search for naturally occurring antibiotics.

"He'd have me out gathering various things and putting them on bacterial plates to see if I could inhibit the bacteria," Morrison said. "I didn't find anything."

As far as potential careers went, young Trudy had no intentions of following her father's footsteps into the sciences. She took this lack of intention with her to Wellesley College, where she attended on scholarship and where she ultimately changed her mind. Soon after,

she was pursuing a Ph.D. at Tufts University, studying viruses that infected bacteria. But her true interest was in viruses that infected humans, which led her to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she worked with Nobel Prize-winning virologist David Baltimore. Eventually, she landed at the University of Massachusetts Medical School to conduct her own research. She serves there currently as a professor in the department of microbiology and physiological systems.

For many years, her research included studying the Newcastle disease virus, a pathogen that infects birds. It was a safe virus to work with because it doesn't infect humans, and because of that it required no special laboratory environ-

ment. Things changed, however, in 2001, when the U.S. government named the Newcastle disease virus to its list of "select agents." The virus was added due to its potential effect on the poultry industry. The new designation on a list that includes pathogens such as Ebola meant Morrison had to transition to studying viruses in a super-containment lab.

"We have a number of people here working on select agents as well as other fairly serious pathogens," she said. "We also have an animal BSL-3 lab, which means we can infect animals with these viruses as well. So that increases the spectrum of work that we can do with these pathogens."

Among the pathogens Morrison works with is the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), a virus that is especially dangerous for babies and, like SARS-CoV-2, the elderly. Scientists, including Morrison, have been working on a vaccine for RSV since the 1960s, and for the past decade she has devoted her own time to developing one. In 2012, Morrison and a graduate student working in her lab, Homer Pantua, had a breakthrough with the development of something called a "virus-like particle."

Virus-like particles express the major structural proteins of a virus in a virus-sized particle without the genome. It's a kind of clone of the virus, not the virus itself, and its development offered a "back door" to studying the RSV virus.

"After two or three days," Morrison said, "the cells expressing viral proteins released particles that look just like a virus particle. Homer said to me, 'You know, this would make a great vaccine.' It was



Rob Carlin

Foundation School alumna Trudy Morrison '63 runs the Morrison Laboratory at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. There, she studies viruses, including SARS CoV-2, which causes COVID-19.



Like everyone else at UMass, Morrison was sent home when the COVID-19 pandemic began. A short time later, she was called back to the laboratory to see if her "virus-like particle" research could be beneficial to developing a vaccine.

Rob Carlin



Rob Carlin

In her lab, Morrison is using her virus-like particle research to develop a vaccine for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), a vaccine that has eluded scientists since the 1960s.

an unusual suggestion, but it worked beautifully. He could immunize animals with these virus-like particles and get beautiful neutralizing antibodies in these animals.”

The idea showed promise, but since babies’ immune systems are immature, Morrison wanted to learn if the antibodies could be passed from mother to offspring after maternal immunization. In 2013, the Morrison Lab began testing the concept with cotton rats—and it worked.

“We’ve been very successful in showing that in this animal model,” Morrison said. “We can immunize the mom, and the pups are quite well protected against infection. That’s where we were about a year ago, and then COVID hit, and we were all sent home.”

Sheltering at home was short-lived for the UMass virus researcher. Over the course of the next week, it became clear to members of the administration that they had special resources, in terms of scientists and laboratories, that could aid in understanding the coronavirus and potentially developing a vaccine. Morrison submitted a proposal to apply her virus-like particle research to COVID-19 and was called back to the lab.

As Morrison worked on a vaccine based on her virus-like particle, pharmaceutical companies such as Pfizer and Moderna moved forward with a different kind of vaccine based on messenger

ribonucleic acid (mRNA) of the coronavirus. The process is simpler than creating a virus-like particle, and the companies were able to speed their vaccines into clinical trials much faster than Morrison was able to replicate.

“When I started,” she said, “I had no idea that those mRNA vaccines were going to be so good. I was really skeptical because there has been no licensed vaccine developed using that technology. But it worked beautifully, and the efficacy of those vaccines is just striking.”

Morrison added that it was good they were able to work so fast. Their new approach could result in the development of other vaccines for other pathogens and make them easier to produce. Though the pharmaceutical industry had the resources to be able to produce a vaccine much faster than an academic could, Morrison says questions still remain about the durability of this type of vaccine.

“We do not know how durable the protection will be after immunization with the mRNA vaccine,” she said. “Vaccine designs such as mine may induce protective responses that are more durable. I do know that immunization of animal models with my vaccine candidates induces protection for the life of the animal.”

Morrison will continue to study the pathogen and hopes her virus-like particle will find its niche. At the very least, it can

be used as a tool to ask questions about the structure and function of various virus proteins that will enable vaccine development for other pathogens. Academic labs like Morrison’s are ideally suited to addressing these questions. In addition, her research will be important for other coronaviruses that emerge in the future.

“This is a serious concern since the SARS-CoV-2 is the second coronavirus that has caused a pandemic in the past 15 years,” Morrison said. “There is certainly potential for other related viruses to cause problems in the future.”

Perhaps the biggest challenge for an academic is getting a vaccine candidate into clinical trials. The expense and logistics of testing beyond animals produce a barrier more difficult to overcome than for pharmaceutical companies. Nonetheless, Morrison will continue to research coronavirus and has resumed her research on her RSV vaccine in the hopes that she will find a company willing to take the vaccine candidate to clinical trials. ■

HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS

Today, there is only Berea College, but once upon a time on campus there was an elementary school, Knapp Hall, and a high school, the Foundation School, that served the local community while training teachers. Trudy Morrison attended both schools as her father, Seth Gilkerson, taught biology at the College.

“It was a really terrific way to get an education,” Morrison said. “I transferred after my sophomore year, when my father moved to North Carolina.” At her new school, the junior was given books she was already familiar with, having used them in the eighth grade in Berea. “I was so far ahead because of Berea. My junior and senior year in high school were a total waste.”

Morrison’s mother, Anna Sue Osborn ‘38, is an alumna of Berea College. Morrison suggested her parents’ lives would have been very different if not for a school that didn’t charge tuition.

“Berea is unique in terms of the approach to education and educating people who can’t afford to go to college otherwise,” she said. “My parents would not have gone to college if it hadn’t been for that.”

COVID Boosts College and Community Cooperation

By Kim Kobersmith

As Dr. Meta Mendel-Reyes, associate professor of General Studies and Peace and Social Justice Studies, realized the magnitude of COVID-19’s impact in March 2020, she sprang into action. With a strong background in community organizing, she reached out to Berea College President Lyle Roelofs and suggested the College organize a Berea COVID Response Forum consisting of campus and community leaders. Roelofs agreed and looked to collaborate with other members of the campus community.

Berea Mayor Bruce Fraley got on board, offering connections to other city leaders. Thirty people joined in the first virtual meeting with a goal of sharing information and identifying any gaps in services.

“The response forum brought people together in a moment when we really needed to come together,” Dr. Mendel-Reyes said. “This was a community crisis and needed a community response.”

The group has continued to meet on a weekly or biweekly basis ever since. It is made up of a diverse group of leaders, representing the Berea Police Department, Berea Food Bank, Saint Joseph Berea Hospital, the Willis D. Weatherford, Jr. Campus Christian Center, Madison County Public Library, Chamber of Commerce, Madison County Health Department and Union

Church. By sharing their pandemic responses, the organizations prevent duplication of services and multiply opportunities for outreach—and it is making a tangible difference.

One of the first concerns the forum identified was a lack of information about community resources off-line. Rachel

The response forum brought people together in a moment when we really needed to come together. This was a community crisis and needed a community response.

– Dr. Meta Mendel-Reyes

Dorroh, a Berea citizen, developed a two-sided handout listing resources such as food pantries, rent relief and unemployment benefits. The College’s Hispanic Outreach Project translated it into

Spanish. Zinnia Hensley, community resources coordinator with the Berea Police Department, arranged for it to be mailed with Berea Municipal Utility bills.

For Mendel-Reyes, learning about response work in the community was eye-opening. Ruthie Maslin, Madison County Public Library director, shared the staff’s concern about the impact of periodic building closures on those who

We both have many resources that can be helpful to each other. It is in everyone’s best interest for us to work together. – Mayor Bruce Fraley

rely on the library for internet access. The staff installed a stronger router, creating an extended range.

“I didn’t know how many things were going on in the community,” Mendel-Reyes said. “There are so many dedicated people and non-profits active in the community who are going above

and beyond in COVID.”

The work of the forum closely aligns with that of Berea College’s Center for Excellence in Learning through Service (CE LTS), which aims to provide students opportunities to serve with community-based organizations and learn alongside community leaders.

“A student leader who attended forum meetings helped to create a survey of participants, and the survey results are guiding the evolution of the group,” said Ashley Cochrane, CELTS director. “At CELTS, students have been reflecting on how we are all learning together to do community-based work in a pandemic.”

The Berea COVID Response Forum is one link in a strong relationship between city and College leaders. Both Roelofs and Fraley have shown a real commitment to nurturing that relationship. Fraley invites Roelofs to share a College update at the Berea City Council meeting a couple of times a year and points out that the easements for many of the city’s shared-use paths were donated by the College.

“We both have many resources that can be helpful to each other,” Fraley

said. “It is in everyone’s best interest for us to work together.”

With an intertwined geography, history and future, the collaboration is a hopeful sign. “While there are real gaps between the College and the community,” Mendel-Reyes said, “there is also more cooperation than we realize.” ■

A Competitive Hope

By Abbie Tanyhill Darst '03

Displaced, confined, lost, bored, lonely. Today's student-athletes have felt the pressures and emotional loss of the seasons that were postponed or canceled because of COVID-19. When students were sent home in March 2020, the women's basketball team had completed its season with its first NCAA tournament appearance. The softball team had just returned from a week-long spring break tournament in Clermont, Fla., and track and field athletes were preparing to head to an invitational meet in Murray, Ky. All of that came screeching to a halt with the announcement that this new virus would close Berea's campus. No in-person instruction meant no participation in sports.

"I was in shock," recalled Immanuel '23, a sophomore track and field athlete. "Berea was one of the first to make that decision, and I didn't understand what was happening. People reached out to me, and I reached out to friends, but I didn't know what to make of it. I was hurt and wanted to stay on campus and run."

Track and field student-athletes Immanuel '23 (left) and Caleb '24 chose to compete in the 2021 season despite all the challenges inflicted by COVID-19. Their love for the sport, desire for competition and enjoyment of team camaraderie all influenced their decision to pursue an on-campus experience in the 2020-21 academic year.

Immanuel was one of dozens of student-athletes to feel let down by the abrupt cessation of their spring athletic seasons. However, like most of the country, these athletes thought they might have to go home for a little while, but then hopefully return quickly, and by the time their next season came around everything would be back to normal.

“Coaches definitely kept in contact through the spring and summer,” Immanuel said. “They called once a month to check up on us. They texted us, and we [athletes] would text each other. We kept each other accountable to do workouts.”

Now more than a year after that March 2020 announcement, Berea’s student-athletes and coaches have done their best to navigate the uncertainties and challenges that plagued collegiate sports through the 2020-21 season.

Decision time

During the summer, it became obvious the College would not operate as usual in Fall 2020. All upper-class students were given the option to return to

campus, study remotely or take a leave of absence. First-year students could either reside on campus or defer their acceptance.

Coming to campus came with strict rules to keep the entire community safe from transmission of the COVID-19 virus, including not being able to leave Berea during the entire semester. That meant 14 weeks without going home to visit family, without leaving campus for entertainment and without normal access to campus events that connect students.

As complicated as this decision was for all students, student-athletes had another layer to their decision to return to campus or not.

Participation in sports is such an integral part of an athlete’s experience. Not returning to campus meant they could not participate in athletic competition, but there were no certainties that fall and winter sports would have competitive seasons as colleges and conferences across the country awaited decisions about what athletics would look like going into Fall 2020.

For some athletes, like senior men’s basketball player, Terique, their decision mainly hinged on whether they would get to play.

“There was talk of playing a normal season,” Terique recalled. “I thought, ‘If I can play basketball, I don’t mind coming back and not being able to leave.’ Plus, I learn better in person, so coming back and having in-person classes was important. But I’m only from Richmond [Ky.], so not being able to go home is a big challenge for me because I grew up around family. I knew I’d miss my mom, miss home and miss going out and being with friends.”

Students had to make the decision to return by July 10, before they knew for certain what sports seasons would

look like, but the College offered the flexibility of switching to remote learning after the deadline. Just weeks before returning to campus, the USA South Conference announced that all fall sports seasons and championships were being moved to spring.

Ultimately, Terique, Immanuel and about 40 percent of Berea’s student-athletes came to campus in the fall with the hope of practicing with their teams. The other 60 percent chose to study remotely or take a leave of absence. Both choices came with their own set of rewards and challenges.

Student-athletes who returned to campus submitted negative COVID-19

test results upon arrival and submitted to additional testing within a week of being on campus. They had scheduled meal times and couldn’t eat in groups. Some had all online classes despite being on campus. As they

awaited clearance to begin practicing with their respective teams, feelings of isolation set in. For many teams, it took weeks before they were allowed to begin practicing together.

“I probably wouldn’t have come back if I had known that would be the case,” said Callie ’23, a volleyball player. “But our coaches said we’d have practice and be able to have scrimmages. Then once we were on campus the timeline was pushed back more and more. It was pretty frustrating. I know the school wasn’t to blame and the conference was not to blame, it was because of the virus, but we didn’t know when we could meet in the gym.”

The volleyball team played on a sand volleyball court outside of one of the residence halls to get in some playing time, get to know each other and try to begin growing as a team, Callie recalled.

First-year track athlete Caleb ’24 worked through similar stresses at the

“I learn better in person, so coming back and having in-person classes was important. But...not being able to go home is a big challenge for me because I grew up around family. I knew I’d miss my mom, miss home and miss going out and being with friends.”
—Terique ’21



Terique '21, a guard from Richmond, Ky., has played four seasons with Berea’s men’s basketball team. He made the decision to return to campus mainly for the opportunity to participate in athletics his senior year.



Deanna '24, a first-year outside hitter from Georgetown, Texas, was named USA South Conference Rookie of the Week in mid-March, averaging 4.10 kills and 3.10 digs per set.

beginning of the semester. “Once I got to campus, it took a minute to begin practicing,” he said. “So it was a patience thing. We had to wait and see how things panned out. That process of coming in as a college student was a little bit of a struggle. I came in anxious and excited and then was told to wait a little bit. It became easier to be relaxed and not workout as much.”

Caleb said he would go down to the track to work out on his own, but it felt weird being there alone.

“Once we were allowed to practice, everyone came in ready to work,” he said. “The workouts weren’t hard, but my body wasn’t in shape anymore, and I had to push myself to keep going. But then once I got with the team, those workouts were easier because I had other people around. It was a struggle, but it was OK because we were all in it together.”

Being in it together was key for many of the athletes who returned in the fall. They had to wear masks through most of practice, have their temperatures taken, answer a series of questions before being allowed to participate each day,

and spend additional time making sure all equipment used was properly sanitized. But having that in-person interaction made their overall school experience better.

“Juniors and seniors stepped in and helped mentor—they took me and everyone under their wing and that was a big part of making practice successful,” Caleb said. “I was new and nervous, but having that leadership on the track was great. And off the track, they were the same energetic, goofy, fun people.”

Staying home

Still, many student-athletes, like Bailee ’22, made the difficult decision to stay home. Bailee, a dual athlete in women’s soccer and basketball from Richmond, Ky., ultimately decided to study remotely because of the College’s strict policies about leaving campus and not having visitors. Proximity to family and having them attend games and then getting to spend time with them afterward was part of Bailee’s attraction to attending Berea.

“The whole reason to go back would have been for sports,” she said. “I didn’t

want to miss a season of playing, but when policies came out and I realized I wouldn’t be able to spend any time with family—that was the big deciding factor.”

After a year of being off campus and not participating in the sports she loves, Bailee has faced other struggles. “It has been a lot harder than I expected,” she confessed. “When I was really busy all the time before—I usually went from soccer season to basketball season, and then a few weeks after basketball, I’d start spring soccer. That’s how it’s been all my life. This is the longest off-season I’ve ever had.”

“It feels like something is missing,” she continued. “When we’re in season, it is go, go, go, and I wish for a break, but now with such a big break, I wish I could play. It’s like an identity crisis—when for so long sports is all you’ve done and what you like to do or who you are—now I’m not a soccer player or a basketball player.”



Aaron '24, a first-year guard from Georgetown, Ky., goes for a layup during practice. He and the other seven members of the basketball team returned to campus in early January to prepare for a shortened competition season.



Abbie Darst '03

Naomi '24 from Crandall, Ind., plays center midfield during a late-February game against Wesleyan University. The women's soccer team began practicing in small pods in Fall 2020, and the normal fall playing season was moved to Spring 2021.

Like many athletes, Bailee lacked motivation to continue training while at home. Not only was her rigorous schedule altered, COVID-19 restrictions kept many local gyms closed, so finding places to work out or practice was difficult. In addition, Bailee has dealt with the difficulties of separation from her teammates. The women's soccer team had a group chat where athletes kept in contact. On-campus athletes would send messages about practices or scrimmages, Bailee recalled, and she would feel disconnected, knowing what was going on but not being able to participate.

"My closest friends are my teammates," she said. "These friends are the support system I've relied on for three years—and it's just not the same on Zoom."

However, consistent Zoom meetings hosted by coaches were the primary method nearly every team used to keep its athletes connected. These meetings allowed coaches to pass along updates and encourage their players. They also built recognition and camaraderie among on- and off-campus athletes, especially first-year student-athletes who had never met or played with off-campus upper-class students.

"Coach (Chris) Lewis did a great job of that," said sophomore baseball player Peyton. "Every Monday we would have a Zoom call with all athletes on and off campus, since we had not all met each other. Then Coach (Nathan) Finn

started Finny Fridays where he'd talk about team chemistry and what it means to be a leader. I only saw him once in-person in the fall, but I saw him each week on Zoom."

Peyton was one of only four baseball players on campus in

Fall 2020. Despite having a good experience with his team and coaches, he chose to study remotely in Spring 2021, and ultimately Berea's baseball and softball teams chose not to compete in the Spring 2021 season.

Back in action

Though some student-athletes returned home for the spring semester and some remained home, 52 percent returned to participate in winter, spring and postponed fall sports. These athletes' return marked a resurgence in hope that athletic life would be normal—albeit a new normal—with athletic events, team travel and long-awaited competition. The men's basketball team was the first to arrive on campus after the extended winter break that began days before Thanksgiving. Despite the challenges of returning nearly a month before any other students and a positive COVID-19 test forcing the team to quarantine for 10 days shortly after their arrival, the team was hungry for competition. When the team hit the road for its first game on Jan. 23, it had been 322 days since Berea had participated in an intercollegiate athletic contest.


"Just having a season means the College has tried to give us the best they could," Terique said about the launch of the basketball season. "Getting the experience to play my senior year—and we may not play for a championship—

but to go out and get a win and have fun will mean a lot to me."

Though indoor-sport athletes played to empty arenas and outdoor sports had restricted spectator rules, sports programs resumed play. Teams maintained stringent testing protocols, testing before every game, multiple times per week. By the end of the season, the men's basketball players had been tested 25 times in two months. Taking these and other travel challenges in stride, each team made the most of the opportunity to finally compete again.

"Personally, I want to be able to see how I react and perform at the college level coming out of a pandemic," Caleb said about beginning the spring track season. "I'm a very competitive person, so to take a break from anything, especially running, hurt—it really did hurt. So to see how I can perform at a level I haven't been at is what I'm most excited to experience."

This same excitement and hope for the future of Berea's athletic programs is shared by those looking even further ahead to returning to play in Fall 2021.

"I'm most looking forward to getting back into an environment with people who know me and I'm friends with—and coaches and staff, too," Bailee said. "I want to be around people I can have a conversation with and be on the field with and go to class in person—I even miss going to class. Being home and lying in bed sounds nice, but it's only nice for so long. I just want to get the Berea environment back and all the things COVID-19 ripped away from everyone." 



ONLINE EXCLUSIVE: Student-athletes weren't the only ones who experienced challenges dealing with the ever-changing athletic landscape. Hear from Berea's coaches about their biggest obstacles in practice, play and recruitment during their 2020-21 seasons at www.berea.college/covid-coach-challenges

COVID-19 and Berea College: Fall 2020 Highlights

Fall 2020 at Berea College looked quite different because of the COVID-19 global pandemic. The semester was divided into two seven-week academic terms.

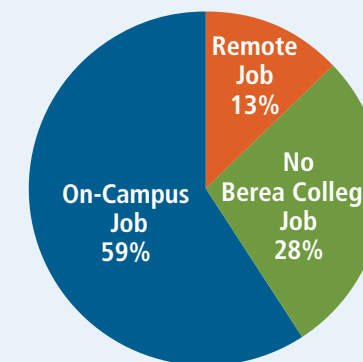
Students

1,432 Total Students
220 Fewer Students than Fall 2019

NOTES: Sixty-six students took a leave of absence prior to the start of Fall 2020. At the start of Fall 2019, that number was only five.

There are 295 First-Year Students (Fall 2019 = 413) and 30 New Transfer Students (Fall 2019 = 54)—all were on campus. Students new to Berea were given the option to defer their enrollment but not to be remote.

Student Labor

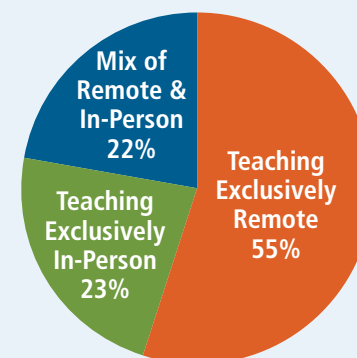


592 Remote Students
41%

840 On-Campus Students
59%

Faculty

181 Total Faculty



542 Total Classes

Remote
63%

In-Person
37%

Course Rubric
by Academic
Division

Percent of
Courses Taught
in Person

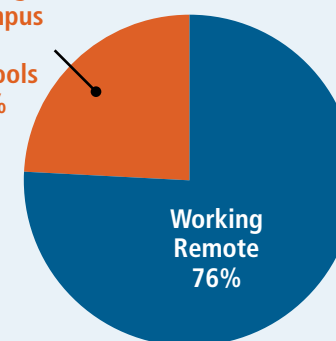
One	59%
Two	14%
Three	33%
Four	44%
Five	41%
Six	20%
GST/R	23%

Course Rubrics by Division

One: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Nursing, Physics
Two: Agriculture and Natural Resources, Computer Science, Economics and Business, SENS, Technology and Applied Design
Three: Child and Family Studies, Health and Human Performance, Psychology, Sociology
Four: Communication, English, Foreign Languages, Music, Theatre
Five: Art, Asian Studies, History, Philosophy, Political Science
Six: African and African American Studies, Appalachian Studies, Education Studies, Peace and Social Justice Studies, Religion, Women's and Gender Studies

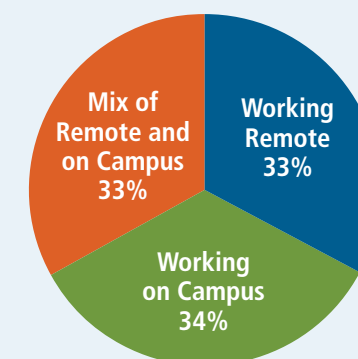
Partners for Education (PFE) Staff

Working
on Campus
OR
in Schools
24%



NOTE: The status of PFE staff changed throughout the year as public schools began in-person classes.

All Other Berea College Staff



* These numbers are from the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.

The (Clinical) Trials of the Pandemic

By Kim Kobersmith

Katie Davis Hines '05 vividly remembers the first clinical trial she managed. It was a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) study, trying to expand the age range of pre-term infants eligible for insurance coverage for a preventative medication. While reviewing the heartbreaking data about babies dying of the disease, she found herself in the midst of a very personal experience with it. Her own infant son contracted RSV and, at his worst times, needed a breathing machine.

That experience set the stage for her vocation as a senior project manager with late-phase clinical medical trials. "I never felt so much like I was making a difference," Hines said. "I see the real-world evidence of what I do." The past year has seen a marked increase in public awareness and visibility of Hines' line of work. Even lay people banter around terms like "late-phase trials" and "90 percent vaccine effectiveness," perhaps without full understanding of what they mean. In the midst of a pandemic and beyond, Hines' projects are making a difference for patients with both rare and common



Katie Davis Hines '05 spends time with her "office mates" as she works from her Berea, Ky., home office during the pandemic. Hines reconfigured a closet to serve as her "cloffice," or closet-office, while she worked on managing clinical research with labs across the country.

diseases around the world.

Hines works for PPD, a global contract research organization. The company is hired by pharmaceutical companies, biotech firms and academic institutions for its expertise in running clinical trials. She coordinates the work of the doctors, data collectors and medical experts in studies as small as 30 patients and as large as 12,000 at as many as 300 medical sites and in multiple countries.

Hines focuses on Phase IIb and IV clinical trials. She explains that each of

the first three phases of trials enroll increasingly more participants with each phase as part of the process of establishing the safety and effectiveness of the products for a specific indication. Phase IV (usually referred to as "late phase") typically occurs after a drug or device has been approved for use in order to establish long-term safety and efficacy. In the early phases, acute safety is a high priority, while in late phase, a drug's long-term effects and the impact on the patient's quality of life can be better assessed, and unforeseen side effects also

can be identified. Hines has worked on studies where a particular drug has a follow-up trial for as many as 30 years.

Late-phase trials also include observational studies. For example, if a company wants to better understand the realities of living with a particular disease, a late-phase study would follow patients with that disease. It would gather data on what issues they have and what treatments they are currently implementing. Some data would be collected from healthcare providers, and some would be self-reported by patients.

Hines has worked on studies that have promising results, including studies focusing on muscular dystrophy, early cancer detection and less-invasive testing for viral and bacterial infections. All of her work has the possibility of being life-changing for those affected by the respective diseases.

In this time of COVID-19, Hines has managed two projects that already are contributing to the end of the pandemic. They involved techniques for detecting the virus in a much less invasive and more comfortable process than the standard (and notorious) nasopharyngeal swab. Those testing techniques are now in widespread use.

Almost all new drugs and vaccines are required to have a Post-Authorization Safety Study following approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. These long-term studies look for correlations between the medications/vaccines and any adverse effects that might be linked to them.

"Vaccinations have to meet certain safety standards for the general public before they are approved," Hines said. "And the COVID vaccinations that have been approved have met the FDA's criteria for safety for the populations

included in the studies that have occurred to this point. Last-phase research will continue to study those vaccines after the approval stage."

The purpose of many vaccines is not to eradicate the illness, she added, but to build collective immunity to make the symptoms less life-threatening.

Because of the pandemic, a couple of Hines' studies have progressed at break-neck speed. Often, a trial takes years. One of her fastest trials in 2020 was completed in eight weeks. That acceleration requires extra hours for the staff. However, even with the urgency of the situation, they maintain rigorous standards and carefully follow all guidelines throughout the process.

Protocols and plans requiring patient understanding/consent and confidentiality are written for each study

Vaccinations have to meet certain safety standards for the general public before they are approved. And the COVID vaccinations that have been approved have met the FDA's criteria for safety for the populations included in the studies that have occurred to this point. — Katie Davis Hines '05

and examined and approved by the Institutional Review Boards in the U.S., or national ethics committees across the globe. Each participating medical or academic site undergoes a vetting process to ensure it has the capacity to complete the process safely and accurately.

While Hines is passionate about facilitating clinical trials, she didn't set out to make a career in the medical field. Her undergraduate degree is in theatre and communication; a science background is not required as the studies rely

on the expertise of medical experts. She entered the field as a temporary employee when her family moved to Lexington for her husband's schooling.

But she easily sees the connection between her experiences as a stage manager for theatre productions and clinical trial management. "Coordinating actors as a stage manager is a lot like coordinating doctors for clinical trials," she quipped. "They have similar temperaments."

Hines and her family have moved back to Berea in the last couple of years and are glad to be putting down roots. She has reconnected with her alma mater, serving as stage manager for a recent Berea College alumni theatre production.

The family's ties to the larger community were strengthened during a difficult situation two years ago. Hines' young daughter went missing on a mountain just outside of town, and thousands of people, from all walks of life, showed up to join in the search. That included other Berea alumni, many of whom she didn't even know. Her daughter was found, safe and sound.

"I found a community both during and after college that I had never found before. Berea is THAT place, where people want to take care of each other." ■



Katie Davis Hines '05 finds a spot in her "cloffice" for her Rookie of the Year Award from PPD. The award is given to "a newbie who has caught on to their job quickly, exceeding expectations." Hines has been in project management for seven years and clinical research for 14 years, and she joined PPD in March 2020.

Perspectives from a Virologist

Dr. Dawn Anderson

By Abbie Tanyhill Darst '03

There is so much available information about SARS-CoV-2, or COVID-19. It often can be hard to distinguish between what's true and what is speculation, and it can be even more difficult to understand the scientific explanations for those not in the field. Berea College biology professor and virologist

Dr. Dawn Anderson has studied viruses for a large portion of her career, and her knowledge helped inform some of the College's decisions around policies and actions to keep Berea's campus as safe as possible over this past year.

The College had two logistics groups that met regularly beginning in summer 2020 to plan for campus life and a

possible return to in-person instruction for the Fall 2020 semester. Dr. Anderson served as a resource person for both groups as they discussed the spread of the virus and what protocols were needed.

For years, when Anderson's microbiology students studied influenza and the 1918 pandemic, they invariably asked if she thought it would ever happen again. Anderson said she always replied that it was about when, not if, another pandemic would occur.

"I assumed it would be decades or 100 years from now," Anderson said. "I never thought I'd be experiencing a big pandemic."

What do we know about COVID-19?

COVID-19 first came on the scene in December 2019 as an unknown pneumonia and the first case was reported in the U.S. in mid-January 2020. According to Anderson, the virus is unique, but behaves similarly as other viruses coming into a naïve population—a population that has never seen it before—and wreaks havoc in the beginning.

"Historically, in terms of a lot of the other coronaviruses that humans have lived with forever, like the common cold, when they arose in the human population in the 1800s, they caused a lot of illness," Anderson said. "They are just little replicating entities that can make you really sick. But the best viruses out there—the ones that survive long

term—are the ones that make you sick but don't kill you. With the common cold, you get the sniffles and you pass it on to someone else. The virus's goal is for you to get symptomatic and then pass it on to someone else so it can replicate more. The virus doesn't want to kill you because you aren't going to pass it along if you die."

Anderson agrees with others in the field, including Dr. Anthony Fauci, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases director, that the best way to limit replication and the introduction of new strains is to limit transmission.

"The more we inhibit the virus's ability to replicate, the greater chance that we won't have new strains developing," Anderson said. "The only way to slow the development of new strains is to prevent the virus from replicating, and the way to do that is to prevent transmission. The only way we really have to do that right now is masking up and staying apart," Anderson said.

Why does it affect people so differently?

With most viruses there are sub-sections of the population that seem to be more vulnerable or whose immune systems react more violently. Everyone's immune system is different and made up of so many factors, the reason for such varied reactions cannot be narrowed to just one, Anderson said.

"The people who really do a deep dive and have horrible conditions where their lungs fill up with fluid, they can't breathe and they feel like they are drowning, that seems to be the result of a massive triggering of the immune system in that person," Anderson explained. "It is caused by this phenomenon known as a cytokine storm. What happens is your immune system recognizes the virus and goes into hyper drive and you get all these inflammatory chemicals released. Inflammation activates your immune system. This is a hyper inflammation, and one of the

things with inflammation is leakage of fluid from other places into places like your lungs.

"I know researchers have looked at the respiratory tracts in people who have had those responses and they see lots and lots of indicators of massive inflammation,"

she continued. "So some of the damage is not caused by the virus itself, but by the body responding to the virus."

The 1918 influenza pandemic was similar in that many who died from the flu were young people with strong immune systems that just hyper-responded to the virus, Anderson added.

How quickly will vaccines help us "get back to normal?"

Anderson said she hopes vaccines help dramatically in getting things back to a new normal. "I don't mind teaching online, I'm getting reasonably good at it...but I'd much rather be back in the classroom," Anderson said. "But it won't be 'back to normal.' It won't be back to what it was. There is before COVID and after COVID, and we'll never go back to before COVID. We can't. But what we can do is mitigate the possibility that we will have transmission. The more people who get vaccinated, that will immediately decrease the amount of transmission. I think vaccination is key.

"I know everyone wants the pandemic to be over quickly; it's not going to be," Anderson continued. "We're going to be living with this for the duration. I've heard this from other virologists in doing other reading that it may be like the flu. Every year it comes back around and you're going to have to get a vaccine—it's now part of us. The one good thing is it's not going to be a situation where we have to live

like this forever because what happens over time with most viruses, like other coronaviruses that are persisting, they tend to become less pathogenic over time. They just become part of those pathogens that routinely infect us, and we learn to live with them."

In relation to the creation of the vaccine, Anderson described how in the beginning, many labs that were working on other things switched to working on COVID research if they had the capacity to do so. With targeted money and resources, the all-hands-on-deck mentality allowed for a swifter process, she said.

"The vaccine is safe," Anderson said. "I know there is some hesitancy about how fast these vaccines rolled out. I've heard people make comments, saying 'Well normally it takes years to do this.' Well yes, because there are only a few companies working on it, and they don't have endless supplies of money. But what was done was to throw a lot of money and a lot of good people at developing vaccines. The technology of these vaccines has been around a long time. ...It has been used in research a lot, just not in vaccines. It's not a new thing that they just came up with. They are using technology that has been in the research lab for a decade at least."

For Anderson, it's imperative that people understand the pandemic on a realistic timeline. "It's not a sprint, it's a marathon," she said. "I really think if we can stop thinking about it as if there is a finish line—this is one of those long runs. If you can change your mindset of how you look at the pandemic—this is not something we're going to get over fast. It's a continuum and a process we will move through. At some point there will be sort of a finish line, but we won't burst through the ribbon with our arms held high." ■



Berea biology professor and virologist Dr. Dawn Anderson chose to teach all of her classes remotely in the 2020-21 academic year. She has incorporated lessons on virology and past pandemics into her classes for more than two decades, but says she never thought she'd live through a global pandemic herself.

With a Little Help from Our Friends

By Jason Lee Miller

Berea College was about three days ahead of the rest of the world in shutting down on-campus instruction due to the novel coronavirus pandemic in March 2020. The announcement that students were being sent home went out on a Tuesday. People scratched their heads, wondering if Berea was overreacting, but by Friday even the NCAA basketball tournament dubbed “March Madness” had been cancelled. It was not known at the time just how long things would remain shut down—people were optimistic, just a few weeks, some thought—and it was also unknown the extent to which the pandemic would affect Berea’s bottom line. Other schools have tuition to fund their efforts. Berea has friends and a market-dependent endowment.

And then, the endowment “dropped like a rock,” said Jeff Amburgey, vice president for finance. By the end of March 2020, the endowment’s market value had lost \$185 million. “The sell-off in the financial markets, which was tremendous, was obviously nerve-racking,” he added.

Berea’s operating budget was dependent upon the endowment’s return. Fortunately, the sharpest decline in market history was followed by the fastest recovery in history, and the endowment returned to health. But

there were other problems. Lost revenue, unexpected expenses and helping students get home threatened the College’s reserve funds.

The first and most pressing problem belonged to students, who had to finance travel home two months earlier than usual or find a new place to live with just a few days’ notice. By the end of that month, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act would provide some relief, but until then the College was helping students by refunding \$1.1 million in room and board costs.

International students were in a particularly tough spot. Airports and borders around the world were closed, and even if they could get home, international travel was costly. They did not have access to CARES Act funding to assist their efforts to find host families or friends willing to take them in as the pandemic raged, nor did they have much money to contribute to their keep. Thankfully, generous friends of the College made a sizeable gift to help.

Assisting students in getting home was only the beginning of the challenges the College would face over the coming year. Personal protective equipment and COVID-19 testing was needed. Plexiglass had to be installed in office buildings across campus. Essential employees



When the COVID-19 pandemic hit low-wealth families especially hard, Don Hirschman '66 answered the call to cover the \$50 deposits for incoming Berea students.

merited hazard pay. Additional Zoom licenses needed to be purchased so employees could work from home. On top of these additional costs were losses in revenue. Boone Tavern was shut down or operating at half-capacity and people had stopped traveling. The Labor Program lost 140,000 hours of labor but paid the students anyway, and Student Craft, normally staffed by 100 skilled student weavers, broom makers, wood workers and ceramicists, suffered the same losses as businesses nationwide.

“As we saw this past year, the effects of the pandemic were costly,” said Dr. Chad Berry, vice president for Alumni, Communications and Philanthropy. “Like society as a whole, the College has been fighting not one crisis, but three: economic collapse for so many people, racial injustice and its tragic effects and,

of course, a ravenous pandemic. All three of these challenges hit particularly hard our current and prospective students and their families. We had to respond because our mission demands it.”

Friends and alumni step up

Committed students—admitted students who did not yet attend but had plans to in the fall—may not have been at the top of mind for many people, but for Luke Hodson, associate vice president of Admissions, it was clear in April 2020 that any extra costs to the incoming class could be a burden or even a barrier to entry. He rang the alarm in an email to alumni. The pandemic was wreaking havoc on low-wealth families in America and the families of students Berea College serves. Would alumni be willing to cover the \$50 deposit for incoming students?

Fifty dollars may not sound like a lot, but when Don Hirschman '66 thought of it, he was taken back to third grade lunch. “Lunch was 25 cents,” he said, “and they raised the price to 30 cents. That might not seem like much, but I remember my mother in tears trying to figure out where that nickel was coming from.”

He remembered, too, being a Berea College student once, scrounging for cash. “We were all broke,” he said. “If you took a girl on a date, you took her to Chapel because you didn’t have to spend any money.”

Hirschman knew there were would-be Berea College families for whom \$50 was a significant burden, and he resolved to help them. Nearly 100 fellow alumni joined him in the effort, raising about \$21,000 to cover incoming student deposits.

“The simple act of stepping up, regardless of the amount, speaks volumes about the type of community we are,” Hodson said. “It becomes clear to prospective students and families they will find a welcoming, inclusive, supportive environment at Berea.”

All over the country, alumni and friends of the College stepped up to help in a time of need. Blair Frank, a long-time supporter, has a particular affinity for international students and offered to

assist them.

“I called the school and asked how international students were dealing with the closing of the school year early. It became apparent that they needed help

We are so grateful that Berea alumni and friends didn’t pull back on their generosity but instead scaled up their generous support of Berea’s mission and its students. There hardly has been a day go by that I haven’t been inspired and uplifted by this generosity. — Dr. Chad Berry

MEETING NEEDS

While most were hunkering down at home, Dan Brown of Neenah, Wisc., was gathering friends. Masks were in short supply, and one friend, Amanda Beyer of Manda Marie Upholstery, was shutting down for a few weeks to focus on making them. Brown, retired from the paper industry, joined her “Modern Day Rosie” efforts by assembling a team of suppliers to help her.

“I knew people that were in the elastic business,” he said. “I knew people that were in the metal fabricating business. I got together with a dozen high school students who had 3D printers.”

Having recruited more than 1,000 people to sew, in just a few months Brown and company had succeeded in making and distributing about 40,000 masks to family, friends, businesses, nonprofits and homeless shelters.

“There were a number of people involved in bringing all these components together,” Brown said. “That’s a real community effort. No one blinked an eye. It was a neat experience.”

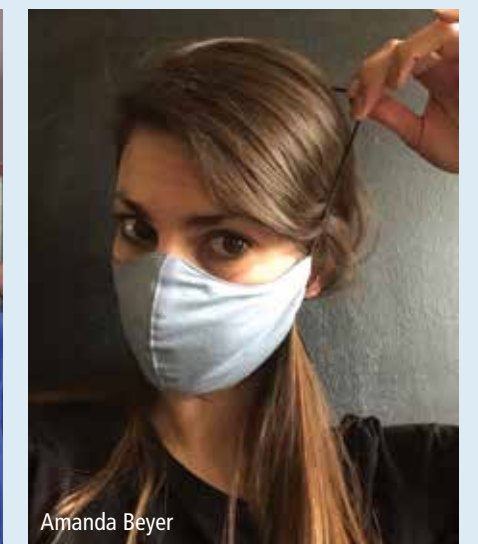
He noted, too, that sweat equity can be as valuable as financial assistance. Nevertheless, when the alert went out that the Berea College Student Craft program was facing significant losses due to COVID, Brown considered his Berea College broom collection and tapped a different resource to help: his family’s foundation, which provided \$10,000 to assist the Craft program.

Brown has supported other initiatives at Berea, including the forestry program and dental work for students. Supporting Berea as a charitable organization is something he inherited from his parents.

“There’s always something new our family discovers about Berea,” he said. “We were always very impressed with how Berea does business.”



Dan Brown



Amanda Beyer



When some students had to remain on campus during an extended winter break, Kathy and Rev. J. Oscar McCloud reached out to support the Housing Relief Fund.

“For those who couldn’t go home, Berea became their family. We were impressed by the way Berea did that. And we were impressed by the way the president reached out to Berea alumni and Berea supporters to make them aware of what the students were going through. — J. Oscar McCloud ’58

beyond what U.S. kids needed. I wanted to help them get through this, particularly by providing some money to alleviate the everyday expenses they would encounter that are harder to deal with at an institutional level.”

Former Berea College trustee J. Oscar McCloud ’58 was compelled by the Housing Relief Fund, set up to assist students who remained on campus over winter break, which had been extended due to an alteration of the academic calendar. Motivated by compassion and gratitude, McCloud wanted to reach out to students who could not go home to be with their families.

“For those who couldn’t go home,” he said, “Berea became their family. We were impressed by the way Berea did that. And we were also impressed by the way the president reached out to Berea alumni and Berea supporters to make them aware of what the students were going through.”

In Michigan, Diane and Bob Barnard heard about the extra expenses the College was incurring and made a large donation to help with Berea’s most urgent needs. “We hoped the pandemic would be over soon,” Diane said, “and the College would be back to its regular schedule, but we knew this experience

would be a real trial for students in the meantime. We thought a special gift would lift morale, and we were glad to be able to do it.”

And in Blackey, Ky., Dean ’55 and Nina Cornett ’61, expanded their already-generous support of Berea College to help cover unexpected pandemic-related costs like personal protective equipment, travel expenses, Zoom licenses and others.

“We benefited from Berea, and we wanted to pay that debt forward to others with circumstances similar to ours. We both grew up in poor, working-class homes and conditions, and we knew from our experience with local Berea aspirants that there would almost certainly be extraordinary expenses which the students could not afford and Berea could not have budgeted or planned for.”

These are just

a few examples of friends and alumni who reached out a helping hand during a challenging time. “We are so grateful that Berea alumni and friends didn’t pull back on their generosity but instead scaled up their generous support of Berea’s mission and its students,” Dr. Berry said. “There hardly has been a day go by that I haven’t been inspired and uplifted by this generosity.”

Mary Galloway, director of major giving, contributed to this article.



Nina and Dean Cornett, of Blackey, Ky., stepped up their support of Berea College by covering unexpected expenses like Zoom licenses, personal protective equipment and travel expenses.

I am a Philanthropist

Since 2014, Berea Patrons have raised nearly **\$200,000**

Donors: **414**
Dollars: **\$10,500**

* Current Berea Patron totals due to COVID-19 year. Fiscal year ends June 30.

Like many students from hard-working families who struggle with finances, I knew the cost of college was out of my reach. Admission to Berea College and the **No-Tuition Promise** presented the opportunity of a lifetime. I could attend college, focus on my studies and graduate without the tens of thousands of dollars in student loan debt that my peers at other schools owe. All because someone gave to the **Berea Fund**.

In 2014, Berea College introduced the **Berea Patrons Program**, a way for current students to give back and support Berea’s mission. I’m so proud to be a Berea Patron, and even prouder that **60 percent of my classmates** also choose to give a small portion of their

labor program earnings to the Berea Fund through payroll deduction. Although many students can only give \$3 from every paycheck, we know we’re helping someone like us realize their dream of attending college. I’ve learned that it’s not how much you give, just that you give something. Every little bit counts. After all, **philanthropy is not about wealth. It’s about generosity.**

Our gifts make an impact. Berea Patrons students have contributed almost \$200,000 to Berea College to pay forward their own educational opportunity. I’m inspired to continue giving to the College after I graduate. I hope this wonderful program inspires you to give, too.

Inside and Outside the Bubble

Student perspectives on navigating the pandemic

By Evan Harrell

The pandemic upended everyone's lives, and though some predicted it would take a large toll on the world, few were fully prepared for the fallout that was to come. Healthcare and other frontline workers labored tirelessly to provide essential care. Many educators were left in the lurch, trying to figure out how to teach online—some for the first time ever. People lost their jobs as businesses around the world shuttered. And, worldwide more than 3 million people have lost their lives.

Students were not immune to the effects of the pandemic. One by one at first, and then seemingly all at once, colleges and universities around the country sent students home in the spring of 2020. Being among the first, Berea College garnered some negative press at the outset, but once the news broke of death tolls rising and outbreaks on other college campuses, many quickly pulled back on their disagreement with the College's decision.

Nicholas '24, a Jackson County, Ky., native, was a high school senior when the pandemic hit. Immediately after Berea's campus shut down, he was concerned about whether students living in rural areas like his would be able to complete their online coursework from home. However, when he learned the College was providing students in need with Wi-Fi hotspots, he saw that Berea cared about its students' success. He recalls that instance helping make his decision to attend Berea even easier.

"They really do care for their



Nicholas '24, called Bubby by most of his friends and family, began his first year on campus in Fall 2020. As a member of the cheerleading squad, he excelled in his first semester. But family concerns combined with the limitations on leaving campus persuaded Bubby to switch to remote learning from his Jackson County, Ky., home for the Spring 2021 semester.

student population," he said. "So that really kind of helped me decide and say, 'Yeah, this is most definitely for me.'"

Senior Shá remembers the day Berea College announced it would be sending students home for the rest of the semester. "It was crazy," she said, "because when I went outside, you just saw everybody on their phone calling their parents saying, 'Mom, you have to come get me now.' I could definitely see the panic on people's faces."

In Spring 2020, most students had no choice but to leave campus. As an impromptu Class of 2020 graduation photo was taken on the steps of Union Church, students said goodbye to one another and made plans to return home. Berea continued to house and feed those students for whom returning home was not an option.

After an uncertain summer, new guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention meant Berea was able to reopen to in-person classes for the Fall 2020 semester. Students were left with the difficult decision to return to campus or continue with distance learning.

"I think truly the hard challenge in deciding to come to campus is knowing yourself and if you are willing to abide by the COVID guidelines that have been established," said Michelle Johnson, Student Life program coordinator. "Students don't have their same freedoms, like driving in their vehicles or leaving town for anything. They can't eat in restaurants. They have to walk to Walmart to pick up items they need. Deciding to abide by these rules has been a challenge for some."

Collis Robinson '13, associate dean of Student Life, says approximately 60 percent of students were on campus and 40 percent were remote in Spring 2021. This is all new for Berea, a college whose live-learn-work model is predicated on students being on campus.

Family concerns were a determining factor for many students when deciding whether to return to campus. As a first-year student, Nicholas was required



Sitting outside of her Berea, Ky., apartment, Jordan '22 participates in classes remotely. Though initially returning home in March 2020, she and a few friends ultimately decided to study remotely while living off-campus together for the 2020-21 academic year.

to come to campus his first semester, but he chose to go back home for the spring semester to avoid being stuck on campus if his family needed him.

"I needed to be able to make sure if I needed to come home that I can," he said. "I knew that if I did go to Berea for this semester that I could [go home], but it would be harder. I didn't want to fill out paperwork if I have to attend a funeral or something that I couldn't control. I wanted the freedom to be able to go home if something did happen."

For her part, Shá says the pandemic has been a blessing because she has been able to spend time with family she otherwise wouldn't have seen. "Although I do miss hanging out with my friends," she said, "this is probably the most time I've spent with [family] in about three years since I've been out of high school. So, I do enjoy that aspect of it. I have been getting closer with my family."

While Nicholas and Shá have appreciated the extra time with family,

there are others for whom living with family posed more problems than solutions.

"There's just not enough space at home for me and my full-grown adult self and all that comes with that," Jordan '22 said. "Two weeks in I was like, 'Oh, this is real. This is not going away. I need to find a long-term solution and at home is not it.'"

So she and two other friends moved back to Berea and rented an off-campus apartment.

Although it is difficult, Jordan believes most students' frustrations arise through no fault of the College. "I think a lot of students recognize that the College is trying [its] best, but they just want answers faster," she said. "And that's not the College's fault. That's the pandemic's fault."

Jordan, however, feels more grateful than frustrated, especially because of the CARES Act money the College received and has passed down to students when applicable. "I can't complain too much

because without refund money and CARES Act money I would have had to move back to my parents. And all that help is because of Berea.”

Senior non-traditional student Gabby is raising her son in addition to managing a course load and her student work position. “When I realized it was really serious, and that we weren’t going to come back anytime soon, I actually went home because it got really scary. It was nothing I experienced before.”

She returned to her hometown of Louisville, Ky., but quickly realized it was not a permanent solution. “When I went to Louisville, I wasn’t comfortable there because it was me and my son, my mom and three siblings at home. I still have work to do, and it was just very distracting.”

After returning to Berea, a case of COVID shut down the Child Development Lab, her son’s on-campus care and early education facility, leaving Gabby with more on her hands than she thought she could manage. But her professors provided her with the flexibility she needed.

“I do feel like my professors were understanding of my situation, and they knew that if I had to miss class, it wasn’t that I didn’t want to be there. It’s because I didn’t have childcare because of COVID.”

While stories of outbreaks on other college campuses flooded the news in 2020, Berea College remained relatively unscathed, due in large part to the stringent restrictions placed on students. And though there were some naysayers at first, Johnson noted students’ overall attitudes have become more grateful as the effects of the pandemic wear on.

“I remember many students feeling the rules were too strict in the fall; however, the attitude has shifted to one of appreciation for the spring,” Johnson said. “I’ve heard students express how much safer they feel from the virus here on campus than they do at home due to stronger exposure risks or less guideline-following at home.”

The College continues random



Jalen Prieter '21


Gabby '21 and her son, Damian, play outside of their Ecovillage apartment on Berea's campus. Juggling the uncertainties of the pandemic along with being a full-time mother and student have been especially challenging, Gabby said.

student testing, with the goal of testing 50 students per week, according to Johnson, and if students become ill there are enough resources to act quickly and appropriately.

“If students fall sick for any reason,” Johnson says, “we’ve been able to provide supplies for quarantining, like bedding, toiletries, snacks and so forth.”

However, the strict safety guidelines and social distancing does not come without costs. “One of the biggest challenges I think everyone is facing is pandemic fatigue,” Johnson said. “Going on a full year of the pandemic, many

people are ready to get back to ‘normal.’”

It is uncertain when life will be back to normal, but there are signs of hope. The availability of vaccines gives a chance to beat the virus and see more students return to campus this fall. Two things are for certain, however: Berea College will continue to seek out ways to help its students during these trying times, and those students will continue to persevere just as they always have through this and other difficulties. 



When students returned to Berea at the beginning of February for the Spring 2021 semester, they were greeted with banners placed across campus that encouraged social distancing, mask wearing, hand washing and staying away from parties. These bright and light-hearted signs were meant to increase student buy-in to the College’s policies as well as help set the tone for a community dedicated to a virus-free campus.

Crystal Wylie '05

Boone Tavern: *The Year that Wasn't*

By Jason Lee Miller

The year 2020 promised to be gangbusters for the Historic Boone Tavern Hotel and Restaurant of Berea College. Patrick Huston, director of sales and marketing, was booking a brand-new event space that could accommodate 150 people and would open up a world of possibility for the Tavern, which until now could only handle more intimate gatherings. After the traditionally slow winter, March was looking good and busy. The Tavern had hosted a murder-mystery weekend that had been a huge success.

And then—well, by now everybody

knows what happened—the global COVID-19 pandemic brought everything to a ghostly standstill.

“We were getting ready,” Huston said. “2020 was probably going to be a year of history for Boone Tavern. But then the phone stopped ringing, except for cancellations.”

Now Huston was scrambling to move events into the mysterious future. “Everything short-term was moved to later. In the beginning, everybody thought this was temporary, but it just kept on going. It was a big change.”

Another big change was the reduc-

tion in staff. Huston usually has four colleagues working alongside him. Now it's down to him and another person. There is one desk clerk, working behind Plexiglass, rather than four. And for the first time in anyone's memory, there is no bellman, furloughed along with half of the remaining hotel and restaurant staff.

This sudden emptiness was the scene that Melissa McGuire walked into in April, having just accepted the position of general manager. Two years before, she had turned down this same job, feeling it wasn't the right time in her career to make the move. But now here she was, managing the historic, unique and empty hotel in the throes of a pandemic.

“When I came in, it was pretty slow, as you can imagine,” she said. “I came in to very minimal staff, just trying to figure out how to minimize cost and still give some sort of service.”

Minimizing costs was difficult because there were new costs: sanitizer, gloves, plexiglass, additional deep cleaning for the sporadic hotel guests. For a time, in the most restrictive weeks of the pandemic, the restaurant began offering low-priced, carryout family meals to the community.

“The family meals weren't truly a revenue substitute for what we had lost,” McGuire said. “We were basically just breaking even. Our goal was to stay relevant while giving back to the community.”

“We have been very aware of the challenges the staff has been facing and we are so proud of them for all they've done, especially our new manager, Melissa, walking into such a difficult



Boone Tavern's front desk, normally staffed by four employees, is down to one desk clerk as a result of the pandemic.



Melissa McGuire, general manager of the Boone Tavern, stands in a mostly empty dining room. McGuire hopes 2021 will be a better year than 2020.

situation,” added First Lady Laurie Roelofs, who chairs the Frost Committee, which oversees the Tavern. “We look forward to having our Tavern back with all of its busyness and historic charm.”

When the restaurant reopened in June, it did so at 50 percent capacity, per the Kentucky governor's orders, as the hotel maintained a similar occupancy rate. In October, excitement grew as business picked up. But it wasn't for long, because in November, just before the traditional Thanksgiving service—normally a buffet, though not this year—a spike in COVID cases moved the governor to shut down Kentucky's restaurants once again.

Besides cutting costs and looking for ways to increase revenue, McGuire's main focus has been on reducing risks without sacrificing service. The remaining staff have their temperatures checked before and after their shifts and are tested for COVID-19 regularly. Room keys are sanitized between guests and placed in a sealed envelope. Pens and menus have been removed from the rooms. If someone stays multiple nights, their room is cleaned only by request and then deep-cleaned after departure.

“We just try to minimize the touch points,” McGuire said.

For many who have stayed or eaten at Boone Tavern, the distant, sanitary practice of minimized touchpoints may seem anathema to a place that, historically, has prided itself on the personal touches of service and storytelling. McGuire and company are trying to make up the difference by offering delivery for the first time in Boone Tavern's 112-year history. As she finalizes the budget for the next fiscal year, she remains “cautiously optimistic,” imagining a slow return to some kind of normal.

For Huston and his colleague, they've had to get creative when it comes to booking events. This might mean arranging tables outside under the portico or booking smaller “hybrid” conferences where half the attendees participate via web-based video platforms. Over the past year, Huston has put together special packages—a kayak package, a hiking package, a “staycation” package—that might appeal to the local traveler looking for a close-to-home, outdoorsy getaway.

“We're not going to let COVID stop us from doing what we do,” Huston

said. “I want to let people know that we're still open for business.”

More than a year later, McGuire still hasn't seen the place at its busiest, at its best. In January—a slow month in normal years—McGuire was anticipating the romance of February to bring some business back to Boone Tavern. “We see light at the end of the tunnel in February,” she said heading into the month. “We've got some good things going with Valentine's Day. We've already got a lot of reservations on the books for Valentine's weekend.”

Romance, it seems, will keep Boone Tavern afloat. For Huston, too, it's suddenly wedding season as people who had cancelled their nuptials in 2020 are ready for vows in 2021. “Micro-weddings are a big trend right now,” Huston said. “Weddings are doing very well. That's the one segment out of everything that seems to be really performing.”

Both McGuire and Huston expect things to operate a little differently well into 2022, as people reemerge into society vaccinated and eventually without masks. Until then, for Boone Tavern's business, anyway, it seems love will save the day. ■



A server delivers a gourmet meal to diners in the Boone Tavern Restaurant. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, both the hotel and restaurant have operated at about 50 percent capacity.



REMINISCENT OF HOME

Chase '21 is a biology major from Knott County, Ky., in the heart of Appalachia. He grew up in a crafting family, his father a woodworker, his mother a quilter.

"I've always been interested in working with my hands because that's what we've always done," Chase said. "It's a fun time to make things. It's reminiscent of home."

Chase makes "a little bit of everything" in the woodworking department of Student Craft, from clipboards to rolling pins, but his favorite is the Forest Stool. Made with ash wood from the Berea College Forest, each Forest Stool is handmade from log to finished product, a process that takes weeks to complete. Chase prefers working by hand rather than using the machines in the woodshop.

"It's more involved," he said. "You'll get an arm workout for sure. We have to use a lot more hand tools, splitting them out from the logs, shaving them down. And then we have to dry them. Each Forest Stool is unique because you're putting your own handiwork into it. It really fills your heart to make something you're proud of."

Chase has done woodworking as his labor assignment all four years in college, even over the summers. The future pharmacist enjoys the work as a break from classes.

"It's nice to go from the stress of classes and just be able to focus on something entirely different—just making things, enjoying working in the woodshop, having friends and good company."

Photo by Tyler Rocquemore '22

EVERY PIECE TELLS A STORY

When you purchase a handmade Berea College Student Craft product, you are buying much more than a bowl or a basket. Each piece is imprinted with the identity and heart of the student who made it.

FOREST STOOL (ABOVE RIGHT)

A revision of a design by legendary Kentucky chair maker Chester Cornett and offered with a hickory bark seat, the Forest Stool celebrates the artists who made the greenwood chair synonymous with Appalachian craft.

WOODEN BOWLS (RIGHT)

Each wooden bowl features hand-carved and painted details that provide a perfect canvas for student design and expression.



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A Century of Endowing Our Future

By Michele Pekola

Attaining a college education can be life-changing for many, and for students with great potential yet little means, it can be the opportunity of a lifetime.

"Had it not been for the generosity of donors, I don't know where I would be today," said Destiny '21, a political science major and law, ethics, and society minor from Virginia. "I come as a first-generation college student, and thanks to Berea College my life has changed for the better. And I am forever grateful."

"As a graduate of Berea, I know the life-long impact of the liberal arts education I received here," added Amy Harmon '99, director of planned giving. "Berea was my only option for higher education and remains so today for so many of our students."

Berea College has provided a world-class, tuition-free college education to deserving students with high potential like Destiny and Harmon since 1892. Yet, unlike other colleges where tuition revenue accounts for most of the funding, Berea depends on the endowment's return for 74 percent of its operating costs. The College continues to fulfill its mission thanks to the many alumni and friends who have donated funds to the endowment through outright gifts or included Berea in their estate plans.

In 1920, the Board of Trustees had the foresight to mandate that all be-

quests would be considered additions to the permanent endowment funds of the College, unless otherwise designated. That visionary decision has helped secure the mission of the College to this day by building resilience through its endowment.

Throughout the past year, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of this key decision, Berea College has sought 100 newly committed bequestors during a year-long celebration of the 1920 Board of Trustees decision. This initiative, named 100 in 100, not only celebrates the 1920 Board decision, but also

further supports and strengthens the College's mission for the next 100 years.

"The education I received included learning the value of hard work, along

with the principles of love over hate, human dignity and equality, and peace with justice," Harmon said. "It was those principles that truly made me who I am today."

Donors who include Berea in their estate plans become members of the Great Commitments Society. Those who notify the College of these plans between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, will receive recognition as part of this effort.

"As a Great Commitments Society member myself," Harmon said, "I know my values will live on through my legacy gift at Berea."

JOIN THE 100

Bequests can be made in any amount and may be made in various ways, such as including Berea College as a beneficiary of a will, trust, life insurance policy or a retirement account.

Office of Planned Giving

800-457-9846

plannedgiving@berea.edu
berea.giftlegacy.com

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in
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BEREA COLLEGE
GREAT COMMITMENTS SOCIETY



Crystal Wylie '05

Destiny '21

On the Frontlines

By Cora Allison '22

Trinity Goodman, BSN, RN '17 thought when COVID-19 hit the United States it would bring short-term hardship. She quickly came



Trinity Goodman '17

to realize what a severe underestimation that was.

Goodman got her start in nursing at Berea College and only had three years of real-world experience in her field before the virus hit. She admits

she made the same mistake as many other Americans in failing to take the virus seriously at first.

"We thought we were untouchable," Goodman said. "We knew it would reach us, but we thought it would be over in a month. We thought it would never get that bad here."

She was working in the neurological intensive care unit at Norton Hospital in Louisville, Ky., when she began hearing the horror stories about the virus in New York City. As many of the departments in her hospital closed due to safety protocols, she felt powerless as news about the growing crisis in the Big Apple circulated the internet.

"I just thought, 'What are we doing here?'" Goodman said. "There were only two of us in the unit that day, and we both just sat and cried. People were dying on the streets there and couldn't even get into hospitals. I was useless in Louisville."

As fate would have it, Goodman's contract was almost up, and she was one

of the first group of nurses to be furloughed from Norton Hospital.

"Everything kind of fell into place," Goodman said. "I really felt at that moment in time, that was the course for my life."

Goodman and two of her coworkers were hired by a crisis company that would send them to New York City.

"The staffing company posted an ad for 5,000 nurses, and we spent all day calling. We tried from seven different phones for 10 hours," Goodman recalled. "We finally got through, and that was it."

Within 24 hours, she arrived in New York and settled into one of many hotels filled with thousands of nurses. Shortly thereafter, she began her contracted 21 days, which would later extend to eight weeks. Her experience in New York ignited her passion and desire to continue to help aid the COVID-19 crisis all over the country.

"I definitely knew where I wanted to go and what I needed to be doing," Goodman said.

After New York, she spent only a couple weeks at home before taking another contract in

southern Texas. Goodman admitted even her experience thus far with the virus couldn't have prepared her for the devastation in Texas.

"While I was in New York, we never ran out of ventilators or personal protective equipment (PPE)," Goodman explained. "In Texas, we ran out of PPE, and we ran out of ventilators frequently. People were dying, and we ran out of life-saving medications; we couldn't keep them alive."

The reality was grim, and Goodman was one of many exhausted and broken-hearted nurses fighting an uphill battle.



Despite the long days and difficult work as an emergency nurse, Trinity Goodman '17 made new friends and celebrated life while serving in hospitals in New York City and Texas.



Goodman (center) joined other emergency nurses at Knapp Medical Center in Weslaco, Texas. The Lone Star state has been one of the hardest hit states throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, reporting more than 49,000 deaths from the virus—the third-highest state total in the nation.



Trinity Goodman '17 poses with thankful community members in an airport when she arrived to serve as an emergency nurse in hospitals most affected by COVID-19.

She was performing chest compressions and several other life-saving procedures for hours at a time, leaving her soaked in sweat and without time to tend to her own needs before moving on to the next patient.

In addition to the physical and emotional stress of deciding which patients received very limited resources, Goodman was responsible for calling the families of those who had passed away from the virus.

"It was absolutely the most miserable thing I've ever dealt with," Goodman said. "Unfortunately, I don't think one patient survived."

After working 14-hour shifts for four weeks, Goodman was more than ready to go home. She recalled feeling like she had to leave south Texas for her own mental stability.

"I was so desperate to go home that I drove the full 18 hours without stopping once to sleep," Goodman said.

Little did she know, she would bring


the virus home with her. She said it knocked her off her feet for quite a while.

"I remember the extreme fatigue," Goodman said. "I couldn't even walk to the bathroom or anything for a month."

While the fatigue subsided, some symptoms still remain. She shared that, despite having contracted the virus in August, her sense of taste and smell are still muted. Having played tennis at Berea College, she has always kept herself in good physical condition, but Goodman finds that exercise is still very difficult. "I can hardly finish a 20-minute [stationary bike] ride without feeling like I'm going to pass out," she said.

Goodman continues to overcome the effects of the virus while she works and puts herself through nurse practitioner school. She is currently stationed in Dallas and was present for the gridlock when hundreds of thousands of Texans were without power and facing life-threatening weather conditions.

After one trip to New York City and

three to Texas, Goodman still endures the challenges facing our healthcare workers as they make the ultimate sacrifice. She will continue to stand bravely on the frontlines of COVID-19 and support the communities around her whenever called upon. 

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE: GROWING DURING THE STANDSTILL

Destiny Askew '18 shone as a beacon of hope during the height of pandemic shutdowns. Read about how this AmeriCorps alumna used her extra time while abiding by stay-at-home restrictions to teach Birmingham, Ala., youth about gardening as a life skill at <http://ow.ly/Bfir50E9M8X>



Documenting COVID Life

By Abbie Tanyhill Darst '03



Chris Radcliffe

Life is made up of stories, moments in time captured as snapshots in our memory, of relationships and encounters, of tangible adventures and fleeting thoughts, of all that we experience both inside and outside of ourselves. Life in a pandemic is still all of these things, but we have perceived and experienced them differently over this past year. The Berea College Special Collections and Archives (SCA) wants to document it all.

“We want anything that lets people tell their own story and lets them be part of history and how this pandemic and how this year has affected and impacted their life,” said Lori Myers-Steele, SCA collections archivist.

Immediately after the College closed the campus to in-person learning due to COVID-19,

Myers-Steele and the SCA staff knew they were experiencing history in the making. They moved quickly to create the Bereans and COVID-19 Initiative to begin collecting data for the archive to document this moment in the life of the College’s

faculty, staff, students and alumni. Through documenting a variety of experiences, SCA hopes to foster connections within Berea’s community and preserve a record of the individual and shared experiences for posterity.

Part of this collection includes institutional records such as documents released by the Administrative Committee, copies of the daily emails sent by President Lyle Roelofs, videos and articles written about Berea during this time. Marketing and Communications photographers deliberately visited all facets of Berea’s workspaces to document what campus life was like in those first few days and weeks. But records don’t tell the whole story. So in addition, the initiative

sought input from individual members of the community. All Bereans were encouraged to submit anything they felt captured their experience during the pandemic—or as time would tell, the new way of doing life that lasted much longer than anyone anticipated.

“Even if someone submits just one photograph that captures their life during the pandemic,” Myers-Steele said. “We want to capture life during this time period and anything that has happened—not just COVID-19—and how it affected our lives.”

Submissions have come in the form of prose, poetry, self-reflections, excerpts from diaries and journals, photographs, hand-written correspondence, fliers, screenshots of social media posts, artwork and interviews, to name a few.

“We want to capture life during this time period and anything that has happened—not just COVID-19—and how it affected our lives....This is the first time we’ve had an initiative where we are gathering a collection of the crisis while still in the midst of crisis. This is a whole different thing for most of us.”

— Lori Meyers-Steele

“We wanted to make sure we were collecting things that reflected what was happening at the moment,” Myers-Steele said. “This is the first time we’ve had an initiative where we are gathering a collection of the crisis while still in the midst of crisis. This is a whole

different thing for most of us.”

SCA has extended the deadline for submissions to the Berea and COVID-19 Initiative twice because the experience of the pandemic has lasted longer than originally foreseen. All Bereans are encouraged to look back at this past year, think about what has been significant to their experience and submit something that documents those moments.

“In five, 10 or 20 years,” Myers-Steele said, “I think it will be very interesting to people to see how we reacted in this time.”

Please help add to the richness of Berea’s record of this experience. You can make submissions online at <https://libraryguides.berea.edu/COVID-19DocumentingInitiative>, via email to

myerssteelel@bera.edu or mail them to Berea College Special Collections and Archives, CPO LIB, Berea, KY 40404. ■

ONE HUNDRED YEARS

What might the documented 2020 pandemic experience look like to those in the 22nd century? When the Spanish Flu pandemic ravaged the country in 1918, Berea’s archived documentation allowed today’s administration a telling look into the past.

President Lyle Roelofs notes that he was grateful for assistance from Berea’s Special Collections and Archives (SCA) for information from the first pandemic that Berea College experienced 102 years ago. Knowing the trauma the community endured then and the resilience that was shown helped put the current situation in context, he said. Courtesy of SCA, Roelofs was able to share a scan of the letter then-president William Goodell Frost had received from what was then the local public health authority, Dr. Bosley of Richmond, advising of the measures that needed to be taken at the beginning of that ordeal.

“President Frost’s journal entries throughout the experience were haunting,” Roelofs said, “as the Bereans of 1918 suffered through an experience considerably more grave than the pandemic of 2020, with much less in the way of medical resources and virtually no reliable information, even as a world war was also raging.”

For more on Berea’s experience during the 1918 pandemic, including scans of President Frost’s and First Lady Eleanor Frost’s journals and images of Berea life, visit www.berea.college/Berea1918.



Berea Ranked Tops in the Nation for Sustainability Campus Engagement

The 2020 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Sustainable Campus Index provides a comparison of top-performing colleges and universities overall, and in 17 campus sustainability impact areas. The index compares schools in areas like food, buildings and renewable energy, sustainability curriculum, public engagement, and diversity and affordability. The comparisons are based on data submitted by institutions to the comprehensive Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS).

Berea tied for first in the nation in sustainability campus engagement. The College scored perfect points in this category, 100 percent, with an average national score of 68.2 percent. This accolade was achieved alongside Cornell University and the University of Connecticut and assessed overall campus engagement in creating sustainability culture and programs. Engaging in sustainability through co-curricular activities allows students,

faculty and staff to deepen and apply their understandings of sustainability principles. Co-curricular sustainability offerings help integrate sustainability into the campus culture and encourage behavior changes that promote sustainability.

To view the entire AASHE Sustainable Campus index, visit <https://bit.ly/3ceel11> or scan this QR code with your smart device.



New Berea-Lehigh Partnership Agreement Enhances Student Access to Graduate Management Education

Berea College and Lehigh University's College of Business announced a new 4+1 partnership agreement. This unique "4+1" joint partnership calls for a five-year program (four years of undergraduate studies at Berea College, plus one year of graduate management education at Lehigh University). Students from Berea College can enter Lehigh University's master's in Management (M2) program to earn a master's-level degree in just 10 months. The combination of Liberal Arts or STEM as well as skills learned in Berea's Labor Program, coupled with business training, further positions Berea graduates to be workforce ready as they pursue careers in a variety of industries.

4+1

Berea College Student Named a Newman Civic Fellow

Autumn '22, a junior majoring in history at Berea College, has been selected as a Newman Civic Fellow for 2021-2022 by Campus Compact, a Boston-based non-profit organization advancing the public purposes of higher education. She joins 212 students from 39 states, Washington, D.C., and Mexico, to form the 2021 Newman Civic Fellow cohort.

"Autumn is a student leader who uses her skills, knowledge and creativity to promote dialogue and action, preparing students to engage with pressing social issues," said Berea College President Lyle Roelofs. "She provides a strong example of the Berea College experience of 'learning, labor and service.' A Bonner Scholar, Autumn works in the Center for Excellence in Learning through Service (CELS), where she trains and supervises first-year Berea College students who have committed to making service and civic engagement an integral part of their college careers."

The Newman Civic Fellowship is a year-long program for students who are leaders on their campuses and demonstrate a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing communities locally, nationally and internationally.



William L. Robbins Elected as Berea College Trustee



William L. (Will) Robbins was elected to serve on the Berea College Board of Trustees for a six-year term beginning immediately through June 30, 2027.

"I couldn't be more excited to serve an institution that has had such a lasting and positive impact on my family and so many others," Robbins said. "I'm both honored and privileged to be elected to the Board of Trustees and look forward to engaging with administration, faculty and students alike in furtherance of Berea's mission."

Robbins' grandfather was enrolled in the Foundation School at Berea College, which permanently altered the trajectory of his family. Robbins believes education is the great equalizer in our society, and he primarily focuses his philanthropic interests on education.

"I couldn't be more excited to serve an institution that has had such a lasting and positive impact on my family and so many others."
—Will Robbins

PBS Features Berea College in "Craft in America" Series

"Craft in America: DEMOCRACY" explores how craft intertwines with our nation's defining principles, providing inspiring examples of artists and organizations working together to embody democratic ideals. The program highlights the historic and contemporary crafts Berea College students produce through the College's distinctive Labor program. It features interviews with students and staff in Berea's crafts program—which includes weaving, broom making, ceramics and woodworking—and Stephen Burks, an industrial designer and educator who headed Berea's Crafting Diversity project. Burks worked with students to design products for

the Student Craft program, ensuring the inclusive diversity of Berea's student body was represented in the craft they created.

"Perhaps more than ever, it is critical that we hear the voices of the artists, art advocates and cultural workers who define and unite our nation through their work," PBS stated when announcing the program.

To view the program visit <https://www.pbs.org/craft-in-america/tv-series/democracy> or scan this QR code with your smart device.



Stephen Burke's "Broom Thing" highlights "Crafting Diversity," a collaboration with Berea College Student Craft.

Silas House Receives Governor's Award



Silas House is the recipient of the 2020 Artist Award from Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear as part of the annual Governor's Award in the Arts. The commonwealth's most prestigious arts awards honor Kentucky individuals, businesses and organizations that make significant contributions to the arts in the state. Governor's Awards in the Arts recipients exemplify a diversity of accomplishments in all areas of the arts as well as the irreplaceable value of those contributions to the state's communities, educational environment and

economy. The combined achievements and contributions of this year's esteemed group of recipients demonstrate the many ways that citizens of Kentucky uphold the tradition of creating a rich cultural legacy.

Read a Kentucky Arts Council interview with House at <http://ow.ly/4ONN50E9MFs> or scan this QR code with your smart device.



What's Hot on Social

f 50K reach, 4.4K engagement



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Today, we proudly recognize bell hooks, our distinguished professor in residence in **#appalachian** studies. She is an acclaimed intellectual, feminist theorist, cultural critic and artist. She has written over 30 books and founded the bell hooks institute on campus. In 2020, bell hooks was featured in *TIME* as one of the most influential women of the past century. **#WomensHistoryMonth** **#BereaProud** **#bellhooks**
(Posted on 3/16/21)

ig 5,882K impressions



BERNIE SANDERS MEMES

Wonder if **@bcstudentcraft** can whip something like this up. [mitten emoji] **#fashion**
(Posted on 1/21/21)

tw 23K impressions



AKILAH HUGHES INTERVIEW WITH MADEWELL

Check out **#BereaAlum** **@AkilahObviously** '10 doing incredible things (as usual) **@madewell** on **#InternationalWomensDay!** ow.ly/nRcu30rzSHV
(Posted 3/8/21)

Photo supplied by Madewell

Berea's Students Need You and Your Generous Support More Than Ever

Scholarships

1,600 —
—
1,200 —
—
800 —
—
400 —
—
0 —

Izabel '21

Generous alumni and friends like you have helped fund 1,232 scholarships this year. But with only a month left before the end of the fiscal year, we have a significant amount left to raise to provide **Tuition Promise Scholarships** for each of our 1,600 students. Your gift to the Berea Fund supports annual **Tuition Promise Scholarships** and helps ensure the Berea College experience continues for talented students.

Give the gift of education today.

Photo by Jennifer Lance '20

The Berea College Alumni Association enjoys hearing from Bereans from all over the world. The "Class Notes" section of *Berea College Magazine* reports verifiable news you wish to share with your alumni friends and associates: careers, weddings, retirements, births, and other items of importance to our alumni. Please include your class year and name used while attending Berea. Notes may be edited for style and length. While we will make every effort to put your information into the next issue of BCM, some delays may occur. We appreciate your understanding.

Submit class notes and photographs at www.berea.edu/alumni/classnote

1953

Claude M. Allison is now 90 and has been married to Clara Jean Jones for 68 years. They are both in reasonable mind and health. Allison has long been retired from a successful career in health care administration.

Blanche Allison Bakke has enjoyed living at Brightview Senior Living for the past four years in Severna Park, Md. Her husband, Winston, passed away four years ago. They have one daughter, four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

1955

Tom Sylvester Kress has written a novel, titled "Wormwood: (A Retrospective Novel Related to Chernobyl)," that contains information on how a poor east Tennessee boy entered Berea and spent two years there before he left to get a Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee. This novel includes much about Berea and how this author ended up reviewing Chernobyl, including a really good description of the accident itself. Kress thinks his fellow alumni may enjoy reading it.

1956

Mary Meece and **Roger Meece '57** live in Noblesville, Ind. They moved to be closer to family.

1957

R. Mason Morrison retired after 41 years with the University of Kentucky and is living in Berea with wife, Margaret. They have four great grandchildren scattered across Florida and Indiana.

1959

Larry Baber shared that since his wife, Annette Meeks Baber, died on Aug. 30, 2019, he continues to live in a retirement village. He is enjoying life at

age 84 and invites anyone to call or visit. His house is very near US I-26. Call him at (828) 606-9133.

Dr. Robert Dowdy and **Annette Dowdy '60** reside in Destin, Fla., most of the year. They welcome guests in non-COVID years.

1960

Prof. Robert G. Lawson was awarded the 2020 Medallion for Intellectual Achievement by the University of Kentucky Libraries. Read more: <http://ow.ly/Llns50DzArE>

1961

Madge Maupin Haney shared that **Phillip Haney '63** died on Sept. 22, 2020, at the Louisa, Ky., Jordan Center Nursing Home. He and Madge were married 59 years ago at Berea College. Both are retired Ashland teachers.

1965

Mary Workman Manning says, "Thank you for the difference you made in my life 58 years ago. I owe Berea College so much. Thank you."

1966

Dr. Alfred L. Cobbs, a retired professor of German from Wayne State University, Detroit, has written his memoir, "Locked Out: Finding freedom and education after Prince Edward County closed its schools." The impetus for him writing his memoir was a return to Berea for the 50th anniversary of the Class of 1966, and it includes much about his experiences as a student at Berea College. He attended Berea after Prince Edward County, Va., closed its public schools rather than desegregate them, as ordered by the Supreme Court in the 1954 *Brown v Board of Education* decision. He found refuge in the study of and immersion in the German language and culture, which aided him in finding his way existentially, and ultimately led him to a rewarding career as a professor. "Locked Out" is a testimony of human perseverance and triumph against the odds. The memoir appeared in print in September 2020. It is available for purchase through many online sources, among them Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Books a Million and Target, or on order through your local bookstore. Listen to Cobbs' interview with the director of the Morton Museum at <https://bit.ly/3t3xvTR>.

Dr. John Fleming serves as the museum director-in-residence of the National Museum of African American Music which opened in Nashville, Tenn., on Jan. 18. Read more: <http://ow.ly/npm50Dlewk>

1968

Dr. Jim Boulware retired from radiation oncology two years ago.

John Shotwell recently completed management of the 2020 U.S. Census house-to-house enumeration in the eastern half of Kentucky. His area of responsibility covered residences in 77 counties covering more than 20 million square miles. His office's caseload of 460,000 homes was the third largest in the nation. His team completed 99.97 percent of all cases assigned. Shotwell, a retired USMC colonel, was inducted into the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame in 2019, one of fewer than 200 Kentuckians included in the Hall since its founding. He and his wife Geraldine (**Jerri Cochran '68**), a retired corporate controller, have been married 52 years and continue to reside in Lexington, Ky. They can be reached at jmsgss@windstream.net.



1969

Jerry Duane Kidd is working on a book about fraud in elections. He spent 30 years computerizing election offices in 10 states and has much information to share. He hopes to publish this coming summer.



1972

Pamela Baldwin Ray retired from the IRS in 2013 and has kept busy keeping books for her daughter's veterinary hospital and working part-time for an accounting firm in Orange, Va. She and her husband also travel frequently.

1973

Virginia H. Pistello Underwood and her daughter, Stephanie, founded an independent book publishing company, Shadelandhouse Modern Press, after she retired from higher education administration in 2013. Her award-winning press recently published its 10th book, a historical novel set in the Civil War-era in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, and told through the eyes of a 14-year-old Mennonite boy struggling to protect his family. The press previously published Jane Stephenson's (former first lady of Berea College) book "I Am Not a Nobody: Stories of Courageous Appalachian Women and Their Journeys with the New Opportunity School for Women." Underwood is also a business lawyer and lives in Lexington, Ky., with her husband, Richard.

1976

Larry Edward Sparks is a happily retired educator and former owner of Bay Window Antiques. Follow him on Instagram @larrye.sparks as he shares what he's learned as an antique dealer (junkie).



1978

John Alexander and 7-year-old grandson, Noah Ridenhour, competed in the Berea College Virtual 5k The Great Pumpkin Run. Alexander finished with a time of 42:34 and his grandson paced him on his bike the entire way of the 5k. Afterwards, they had an award ceremony where Noah earned top prize, \$5.



1979

Dr. Mike A. Banks retired from DuPont, where he was accountable for researching and leading market growth enabling global certifications for sustainability, green codes, construction, rail, motor vehicles and marine applications, Uniform Plumbing Code and National Plumbing Code for the U.S. and Canada, as well as other global applications for Food Contact. Dr. Banks is currently providing consulting expertise through Surfacing Insights LLC.

Tim Williams, former vice mayor of Damascus, Va., was recently honored for his dedication to Damascus. Read more: <http://ow.ly/oDul50DzAtK>

1982

David Gullett, a master jeweler, retired after nearly 40 years. Read more: <http://ow.ly/AL2r50DzABi>

1984

Dean Coleman was promoted to PPG regional sales manager for all distribution of LIC commercial coatings in the southeastern United States.



Dr. Thomas Glenn Kincer, MD, is the associate dean for rural and community programs at the Quillen College of Medicine at Eastern Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tenn.

1986

Shawn Renee Anderson retired from Somerset Community College after 30 years as a financial aid director and center administrator.



Kelly Boyer joined the Jonathan Rose Companies in 2017 as president of the mortgage company. As a specialist in affordable housing, she is focused on increasing access to opportunity by increasing the supply of housing. Read more: <http://ow.ly/TB3850DIaY6>

1989

Jeanette Humphrey Byrd is continuing in her role as principal at Cummings Elementary, where she serves 530 preschool through fourth grade students and 92 staff members. During the pandemic, she has continued to engage in regular physical activity, including her favorite—running! She celebrated 30 years of marriage to Alex Byrd (professor of history at Rice University) in August. Their kids are growing up quickly. Benjamin is a junior at Oberlin College and Conservatory (jazz guitar) and Jenna is a junior at Lamar High School and was recently named to the National Honor Society.



Selina Plumley Vickers' candidacy for House of Delegates in the 32nd District in West Virginia was endorsed by Fayette Fair Share, a political community organization registered as a political action committee, for the 2020 general election. Read more: <http://ow.ly/m3xv50DzACW>

Kathy Riley Williams, a former history and Spanish major, retired Dec. 31, 2019, after 29 years in higher education. She began her career as an administrative assistant to the first Bonner Scholars program in the U.S. She retired as the director of academic readiness at Eastern Kentucky University. During her teaching career, she taught composition and literature at Berea College, Somerset Community College, Eastern Kentucky University, Shawnee State University and Midway College. As an administrator, she served many state and national organizations, including the National Organization for Student Success (Special Interests Network, Academic Readiness, leader emeritus), the Kentucky Organization for Student Success (president and archivist emeritus), the Big Sandy Area Development District, Shaping Our Appalachian Region, and various education-related subgroups of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. In retirement, she plans to actually begin reading from the library she began amassing as a child.



1991

Jeffrey Reddick served as a panelist for the "Dissecting Horror" digital panel series that took place Oct. 28, 2020. Read more: <http://ow.ly/nJfu50DzAF4>

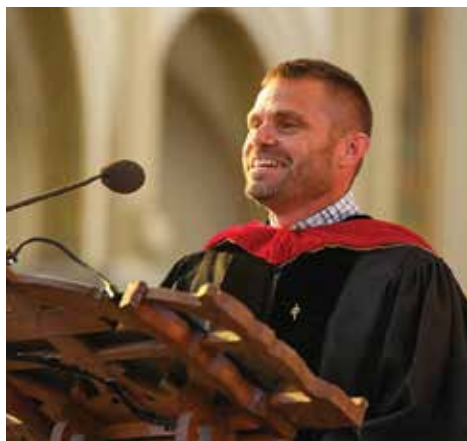
Carla Rhoades began a new position as a tenure track faculty in early childhood education at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College in Ohio. She is a Ph.D. candidate in educational studies and developmental and learning sciences at the University of Cincinnati.

1992

Mark Gaddis competed on the game show "The Weakest Link" and won! It all came down to a tie-breaker, but he took home \$59,000.

1993

Dr. Jason King was honored with the Thoburn Excellence in Teaching Award at Saint Vincent College in Pennsylvania. Read more: <http://ow.ly/h9kY50DzAIf>

**1995**

Cheryl Lowry Kula has been published in the anthology "In the Midst: A Covid-19 Anthology." Her essay "The Hoarder," appears among 100 selected entries from around the world.

**1998**

Dr. Dawayne Kirkman was appointed as the new vice president of student affairs at Clark State Community College in Ohio. Kirkman joined Clark State on Jan. 11, 2021, from Sinclair Community College, where he most recently served as regional centers assistant vice president and onsite leader of Sinclair in Centerville. Read more: <http://ow.ly/os4U50DzAXp>

1999

LeDon Jones was named the first director of corporate stewardship by South State Bank. Read more: <http://ow.ly/VdVz50DzAXz>

2000

Amy Elizabeth Harshbarger Thompson became a national board certified teacher in art early and middle childhood in December 2020. She has been teaching art for 20 years in Cabell County, W. Va. She lives in Chesapeake with her husband, David, and sons, Cameron, 15, and Caden, 11.

2001

Dr. Dwayne Compton was honored as a part of distinguished graduates who are exemplary ambassadors for the University of Louisville. To watch his 2020 CEHD Fellow video and learn more about Dr. Compton visit: <http://ow.ly/8Jkm50DlBqH>

Oana Sirboiu Harrison published her book "Of One Blood." The book is available for purchase in eBook and paperback format from BookBaby, in eBook format on Amazon, and soon on other platforms too.

2002

Bobi Conn provided her commentary regarding the book "Hillbilly Elegy" and the role large pharmaceutical companies play in Appalachia in an article published on Salon.com titled *A day of reckoning for Big Pharma: The elegy that Appalachia really needs*. Read more: <http://ow.ly/DYdr50DzB0b>

Rev. Samuel Weddington offers a community prayer as a guest columnist. Read more: <http://ow.ly/27Z550DzB0T>

2003

Dr. Alice Driver reflects on how COVID-19 has made life harder as a writer but how helping younger writers with diverse life and work experiences helps her maintain hope. Read more: <http://ow.ly/kXpq50DzB2A>

2005

BIRTH: a daughter, Mahala Jolene Rose Hinds, to **Rebecca Wheat** and husband, Matt Hinds, on Oct. 2, 2020.

**2007**

Dia Berend Obonyo completed a doctorate of Public Health from the University of Kentucky in December 2020. She and husband, **Victor Obonyo**, live in Lexington, Ky., with their two sons, Luka and Elon.

2008

Grace Todd McKenzie and **Heather Dent '11** are creating a picture book to celebrate the life of Michelle Tooley, former Eli Lilly Chair of Religion, associate professor of religion and former chair of Peace and Social Justice Studies. Tooley passed away in 2015 after a two-year struggle with melanoma. In order to best represent Tooley's life, McKenzie and Dent encourage all Bereans who knew her to share photos and memories to assist with the project. For more information or to support the project, visit their Create Hope for a Better World Facebook page at <http://ow.ly/xiFV50E0Jy9>

**2009**

Alix E. Harrow was interviewed for "Locus" magazine. She reflects on Berea College and her life as an author. Read more: <http://ow.ly/4d3r50DzB3q>

Leesa Unger, an Emerge Kentucky alumna, won the 4th and final seat on the Frankfort City Commission in the 2020 election. Read more: <http://ow.ly/EtNa50DzB3V>

Nikita Leigh Thornsberry Vundi obtained a doctorate of public health, epidemiology in May 2020 from the University of Kentucky College of Public Health.

2010

Bozhidar "Bo" Bashkov, Ph.D., has moved to Toronto, Ontario, Canada and started a new job as lead research scientist with IXL Learning, a K-12 personalized e-learning company.

**2011**

BIRTH: a son, Sullivan Jay, to **Kelsey (Crim)** and **John Hargis '09** on Nov. 10, 2020, weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 19 inches long. This is their first child and they are thrilled and in awe of such a beautiful miracle.

**2012**

Elyse Budkie earned a master's degree in teaching math in the summer of 2016. Since then, Budkie has been working towards completing a doctorate in Education with a focus on online education practices of assessments in mathematics. During this time, she has worked as adjunct and visiting faculty in the Math department and served as the coordinator of Florida Atlantic University's Math Learning Center in Boca Raton. Budkie was offered a position to run the math studio at Florida State University and began this new position at the beginning of 2021.



Aaron Meadows recently completed his M.S. in acupuncture studies at Shandong University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Prior to undertaking this three-year, graduate-level program of traditional Chinese medical training, Meadows served in the U.S. Peace Corps in China for two years. He also serves as the chief editor of "Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Quarterly," an online publication devoted to promoting Chinese medicine and culture abroad.

Danielle Goldman-Musser was recognized as a recipient of the Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award by the Society of Health and Physical Education—Colorado. Read more: <http://ow.ly/or6l50DzB5b>

**2016**

Joscelin Rocha-Hidalgo earned a Masters of Arts degree in Psychology from Georgetown University. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the psychology program (lifespan cognitive neuroscience concentration). She recently taught her own undergraduate seminar called Bilingualism and Cognition. Rocha-Hidalgo is expected to earn her Ph.D. in spring 2022.

**2019**

MARRIED: **Aidana Almazova** to **Brandon Pollock** in March 2020. The couple lives in Minneapolis, Minn. Aidana passed her CPA exams and is soon to be licensed. She is currently working as an internal auditor. Brandon passed his Series 7 and 66 financial industry licenses and is working in private wealth management. His next goal is to pass the CFA exam. In July 2020, they went skydiving for the first time to celebrate one year since graduation.



MARRIED: **Rachel Hickman** to Michael Collins on Nov. 7, 2020. They were able to have a safe and memorable wedding during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite many challenges they had to overcome in planning, the day was spent with close family and friends on a beautiful fall day.

Brandon Mitchell was selected to perform his original musical composition at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music's Department of Technology and Applied Composition Showcase Concert in late January. The performance was livestreamed and then archived online at <https://vimeo.com/481493641>. Mitchell studied in Japan with Berea professors Dr. Lauren McKee and Dr. Jeff Richey through the Kentucky Institute for International Studies on a U.S. Department of State Benjamin A. Gilman International scholarship during the summer of 2018. He based his composition on Murakami Haruki 村上春樹's short story, "Super-Frog Saves Tokyo" as well as on his experience of visiting the Hiroshima Peace Bell during his time in Japan. Mitchell is now enrolled as a graduate student in the Technology and Applied Composition department at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where he is studying under Lennie Moore. Upon completion of his studies, he hopes to work as a composer for film and video games and continue to travel the world and share his music with others.

Dear Fellow Bereans,

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic and keeping in line with our state guidelines, we must cancel Summer Reunion 2021. Our current plan is to gather at Summer Reunion 2022 (June 10-12, 2022). We will celebrate the 50th Reunions of the classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972, as well as the other classes that would be celebrated at Summer Reunion 2022. As always, we welcome all alumni and friends to this celebration in 2022.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Jackie Collier at collierj@berea.edu.

We miss you,
Berea College Alumni Relations Team

Photo by Desiree Dunn '21

Corrections in the Winter 2021 Magazine

Vickie Smith Arrington '80 was incorrectly listed as deceased. She is alive and well.

Wayne R. Jones, husband of **Sue Hairston Jones '71** was incorrectly listed with a date of death as July 1, 2008. The correct date is July 28, 2008.

Ruth Alexander McDonald '57 was incorrectly listed with a date of death as July 20, 2020. The correct date is July 23, 2020.

Grace Roberts Scott '40 was incorrectly listed with a date of death as March 21, 2020. The correct date is April 21, 2020.

Staff & Faculty

Dr. Claude Gentry
Biology and Agriculture (1960-1999)
Jan. 14, 2021

Rev. Dr. Gloria Johnson
Willis D. Weatherford Jr. Campus Christian Center
First African-American Female College Chaplain
(2000-2010)
Jan. 6, 2021

Matthew Stewart
Networking and Infrastructure Director in
Information Systems & Services (2018-2020)
Dec. 20, 2020

1930s

Jean Hoffman Wexler Acad. '38
Nov. 18, 2020

1940s

Elizabeth Eversole Adams Acad. '40, '44
Oct. 6, 2020

Geneva Mullins Gilb Acad. '44
Dec. 1, 2020

Susan Cochran Gibson '45
Nov. 2, 2020

Frances Nunley Giles '45
Oct. 16, 2020

Eula Turner Holliday Acad. '40 '45
Oct. 19, 2020

Norma Vanderheide Johnson '45
Sept. 6, 2020

Edward Stanley Golon Navy V-12 '45
Nov. 13, 2018

Margaret Jessup Kauffman '45
March 25, 2019

John V. Coapman '46
Aug. 19, 2013

Homer W. Hall
Spouse of **Bernice Clark Hall '46**
April 24, 2019

Evalee Williams Hensley '46
May 10, 2018

Nancy Covington Lacy '46
Jan. 11, 2021

Doris Davies Comer '47
Dec. 18, 2020

Jean Wolfe Dollar '47
July 29, 2020

Maxine J. Funk Acad. '43, '47
Oct. 9, 2020

L. Felix Joyner Navy V-12 '44, '47
Oct. 29, 2020

Dorothy Turpin Morris '47
Nov. 17, 2013

Lou Haigler Salter '47
Dec. 13, 2020

Kathleen Beverly Cruise '48
Nov. 6, 2020

Jean Justice Welsh '48
Sept. 26, 2019

Loyal Hogue '49
July 14, 2016

1950s

William B. Evans Fd. '50
Nov. 22, 2020

Billy Kaye Moores Acad. '46, '50
Aug. 12, 2019

Doris Walker Rummel '50
Jan. 2, 2021

Garland Williams '50
Dec. 3, 2020

Harold W. Barr
Spouse of **Sara Anderson Barr '51**
Feb. 21, 2019

Louise Lewis Craft '51
Dec. 20, 2020

G. Milton Davis '51
Dec. 9, 2020

Margaret Templin Hall '51
Aug. 30, 2020

PASSAGES

Martha Dendy King '52
Dec. 3, 2020

John Campbell Rogers '52
Jan. 12, 2021

Dr. Oscar Byrne Tinney Jr. '52
Oct. 12, 2019

Doretha Bensenhaver
Spouse of **Charles B. Bensenhaver Jr. '53**
Oct. 22, 2020

Dorothy Cooper Falin Fd. '53
March 30, 2019

Roy C. Page '53
Oct. 29, 2020

Dr. Walter Riley Wright '53
Oct. 6, 2020

James Herbert Allen Fd. '54
Aug. 26, 2018

Mazie Faulkner Baker '54
Dec. 13, 2020

L. Hunter Elrod '54
Obituary Unavailable

Nelma Eller Sherrill '54
Sept. 20, 2020

Dorothy Ledford Withers '54
Nov. 6, 2020

Roy W. Cline '55
Aug. 10, 2009

Dorothy Gay Rouse '55
Jan. 4, 2021

Sylvene Osteen Spickerman '56
Jan. 14, 2021

Roma Ball Pedde Fd. '57
Nov. 28, 2020

Thomas M. Bertram
Spouse of **Marguerite Dyer Bertram '58**
Dec. 21, 2020

J. C. Brandenburg '58
March 1, 2020

June Torrence Farley '58
Jan. 6, 2021

Dr. John W. Forbes, III '58
Oct. 29, 2020

Dr. Marvin Gay Payne '58
Obituary Unavailable

Sharron M. Coker
Spouse of **Sherril Franklin Coker '59**
Jan. 24, 2015

PASSAGES

Cecil Edward Hatfield '59
Nov. 16, 2020

Jean Gibson Jones '59
Sept. 23, 2010

Loretta Vance Krogstad '59
Dec. 28, 2020

Margaret Melton Tunnell '59
Dec. 13, 2020

1960s

Mary Riddle Armbrester '60
Jan. 18, 2020

A. Dan Morgan
Spouse of **Katha Reagan Morgan '60**
Feb. 4, 2018

Joseph T. Fanti Jr.
Spouse of **Maudie Meek Fanti '61**
Sept. 28, 2018

Francis L. Sheedy Fd. '61
Sept. 26, 2020

John R. Sheppard
Spouse of **Diane Robertson Sheppard '61**
Oct. 1, 2020

Catherine Austin Teets '62
Dec. 16, 2020

Edwina Poynter Adams '63
Nov. 8, 2020

Bill Howard
Spouse of **Hazel Lawless Howard '63**
Sept. 1, 2017

Richard H. Nachman
Spouse of **Evelyn Ritchie Nachman '63**
Jan. 5, 2020

Patricia Wolford Porter '63
Jan. 22, 2021

Nellie Mawk Smith Fd. '63
Dec. 29, 2018

Victoria C. Lewis
Spouse of **Donald Edward Lewis '64**
Obituary Unavailable

Bonnie Burke Venters '64
Sept. 12, 2020

Hunter P. Widener '64
Oct. 25, 2020

Cecil R. Yates
Spouse of **Pat Barney Yates '64**
Aug. 9, 2020

Esther Alexander Clements '65
Dec. 12, 2020

William J. James
Spouse of **Ann Elliott James '65**
Nov. 5, 2013

Chester R. Morrow '65
Aug. 29, 2020

Joe F. Stevens '66
Nov. 15, 2019

Robert A. Ferreebee '67
Nov. 7, 2020

Doris Edwards Henry '67
Aug. 21, 2020

Phyllis J. Pigmon Osburn '67
Sept. 11, 2020

Chester "Chet" M. Copeland '68
Nov. 2, 2020

Dennis E. Cox '68
Sept. 30, 2020

Dalton L. Smart '68
Nov. 1, 2020

Leon I. Alder '69
Jan. 3, 2021

1970s

James H. Raines '72
Nov. 5, 2020

Bill Jay Daniel '74
Oct. 1, 2020

William Earl Broadbuss '77
Jan. 19, 2021

Debbie Werk Fowler '77
Feb. 10, 2020

1980s

Rosemary Buchanan Briggs '83
Jan. 19, 2021

Lars Aric Jenssen '86
Sept. 3, 2016

Darlene Lattimore Cartwright '87
Oct. 12, 2020

Tina Denise Hawke '89
March 17, 2019

Kendrah Lea Mills '89
Nov. 28, 2019

Teresa Paulina Ramey '89
Dec. 26, 2020

1990s

Yvonne McDowell Christiansen '91
Jan. 17, 2021

Cathy Sue Maggard '96
Sept. 26, 2020

2000s

Paula R. Wilson '05
July 3, 2020

2020s

Austin Dunn '21
March 21, 2021

Read full obituaries on our website at
<https://magazine.berea.edu>

BEREA COLLEGE

M. Elizabeth Culbreth

The Elizabeth Culbreth Society

Berea's giving society for long-time donors is now even more inclusive. Now, all donors who have given more than five years will be recognized as Culbreth Society members. Berea depends on these steadfast donors, who reflect the incredible giving of Elizabeth Culbreth '64, to continue its mission.

*Donors must also have given in at least one of the last five fiscal years.

Photo by Desiree Dunn '21



Welcome to the Berea College Trace.

While some of our campus was shut down for the better part of last year, many of us have been working to ensure that when you return, we can offer you better service and more things to do and explore! We would love it if you would put us on your travel itinerary and come visit us when the time is right for you. Reach out and let us know you're coming, and we'll be more than happy to make sure you have an enjoyable stay.



Email us at bctrace@berea.edu

www.bctrace.com

