

UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

# Tribute to Retirees

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

# August 11, 2018

Sponsored by the Association of Retired Faculty and Staff and the University of West Georgia Foundation

Anne C. Richards & Martha Ann Saunders (Eds.)

# **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Association of Retired Faculty and Staff (ARFS) and the University of West Georgia Foundation gratefully acknowledge the photographic contributions of Steven Broome and Xiaojuan "Yo" Christian, the invaluable assistance of Denise Robinson and Terri Bussey, and the "extra-mile" efforts of Michaela Carey, Kacy McBurnett, and other Publications and Printing staff in the production of this publication. Special thanks to Dale Duffey, Kevin Hemphill, and Denice King-Perdue for a variety of support services; to Kevin Hemphill for ARFS website management; and to Denice King for her coordination of the retiree reunion.

### **ARFS Coordinating Council Members** (2017-2018)

Mitch Clifton, (President, GA-HERO representative, USGRC voting member) Computer Science

Jimmy Drew, Publications and Printing Dan Flinn, Campus Planning & Facilities Kathryn Grams, School of Nursing Swain Harris, University Police Bruce Lyon, Student Services

Debbie Novak, Ingram Library (Scholarship Committee) Glenn Novak (Past President), Department of Mass Communications

Linda Picklesimer, Center for Student Involvement

Bob Reeves, Physical Education

Anne C. Richards (Co-Chair Programs/Events Committee), Department of Psychology Gail Reid, Department of Mass Communications

Jan Ruskell (Travel Program Coordinator, Scholarship Committee), Ingram Library Martha Ann Saunders (Co-Chair, Programs/Events Committee), Department of English Karen Smith (Treasurer), Department of Math

# Dear Colleagues:

I'm pleased to have this opportunity to thank you for your service to the university and to convey my congratulations on your retirement. When we say the best and brightest Go West, we're not talking just about the students. Our faculty and staff are an integral part of who we are as a university, and I hope you are proud and excited to have contributed to its development and accomplishments.

I am very grateful for your years of commitment to the university and, most importantly, to the students we all serve. Your loyalty and passion have helped make UWG into the exciting place it is today, a place focused firmly on student success and on becoming the best comprehensive university in America - sought after as the best place to work, learn, and succeed! UWG is poised well for further greatness, and you have played a vital role in the journey that has led to its success.

Though you are retiring, you remain an important part of the UWG family. I hope you will stay in touch with us and tell us about your new adventures via social media, email, or note. We certainly plan to keep you informed about events and special initiatives, and we hope to see you on campus. Please consider participating in the Association of Retired Faculty and Staff as a way of keeping up with UWG and with news about your fellow retirees. And - if you are interested in being part of the part-time retired employee pool to help campus units during times of employee extended leave - please contact Dr. Melanie McClellan at melmcc@westga.edu.

Wherever your path may take you, I hope you carry fond memories of the University of West Georgia - and of all the amazing ways in which you helped make a positive difference in the lives and experiences of students, your colleagues, and this institution.

With warmest regards,

Dr. Kyle Marrero

President

# The Association of Retired Faculty & Staff (ARFS)

was established in 2004 as a voluntary association of the university's retired faculty and staff who joined together for several purposes: to maintain social connections with university colleagues; foster continuous involvement between the University of West Georgia and its retired employees; support the intellectual, social, and physical wellbeing of retired faculty and staff; and continue to make meaningful contributions to the future of the university and to the academic community.

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

Each year, ARFS recognizes persons from the faculty and staff who have retired from full-time employment at the university. At this time, they receive a medallion from the university with their name, department, and years of service engraved on it. They are also included in this commemorative booklet. Recent retirees who cannot attend the reception where the booklets and medallions are presented will receive these items by mail.

Besides recognizing retirees in these ways, ARFS organizes programs featuring the national and/or international adventures of our traveling colleagues, and plans occasional participation in campus tours, off-campus trips, service projects, parades, plays, and concerts. A newsletter, called the *Rejuvenator*, is distributed quarterly to the membership. If you have suggestions about other activities you would like to see us organize, do let us know.

About six years ago, ARFS joined a national organization of retired organizations in higher education known as AROHE and, through a state subsidiary of that group (known as GA-HERO), some of us have attended meetings with retirees in higher education from all around Georgia. In these meetings, we have learned a lot about what other retiree organizations are doing. Any of you are welcome to join those who attend these meetings. Save the date: the biannual meeting of AROHE will be held in Atlanta at Emory University's Conference Center October 7-9, 2018. Those who have attended AROHE meetings in the past say it's an adventure you'll not want to miss. We hope you will consider attending.

Three years ago, the University System of Georgia created a retiree council (USGRC) to advise the Chancellor's Office and the Board of Regents on matters of consequence to retirees. The president of ARFS is our "official voting member" at this meeting, and we are also allowed a designated "alternate member" in the event our official voting member cannot make the meeting. Currently, Anne Richards is serving as the "alternate member" in order to take notes to pass along to others. Since it came into being, the USGRC has focused almost exclusively on the transition for Medicare-eligible retirees to the Aon Retiree Healthcare Exchange, but hopes to turn its attention in the future to many other issues of concern to retirees. Retirees who are approaching Medicare-eligibility have expressed a desire to talk with persons who have already transitioned from the USG healthcare plan to working with Aon. If you would be interested in sharing some of your experiences of this process with them, do let us know.

To become a member of ARFS is easy. Just contact either Kathryn Grams (kgrams@ westga.edu) or Denice King-Perdue (dking@westga.edu, 678-839-6384) to let us know you want to join. If you're willing to give us an email address, we can provide you with information we learn from meetings of AROHE, GA-HERO, and the USGRC as well as about the University and what's happening in the lives of other UWG retirees. We invite you to become an active member of this organization by attending some of our meetings and annual programs, and/or just checking out the information we provide now and then.

We also hope you will take advantage of some or all of the benefits available to you as a retiree. There are a lot of them, such as a courtesy parking hang tag, eligibility for free membership to utilize all facilities in the Campus Center (secured in 2017), a copy of the current academic year's Faculty and Staff Directory (along with a listing in it if you choose), eligibility to check out books from the Ingram Library, reduced rates on West Georgia Theatre Company performances, and a 10% discount on purchases made at the University bookstore. We continue to look into the possibility of securing other benefits as well.

# **UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship**

ARFS is pleased and proud to announce its ability to award the first ever UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship. Thanks to all who have given so generously to the scholarship fund, \$25,000 was raised in a three year period to endow this scholarship! The initial recipient of this scholarship is **Hunter Jacob (Jake) Saunders**, a UWG senior majoring in Physical Geography who would like to pursue a career in Natural Resources or Conservation. Jake is the grandson of Dr. Martha Ann Saunders, retired English Professor from UWG.

# For Future Applicants:

Students may apply by going to the University of West Georgia Scholarship Portal (http://www.westga.edu/scholarships) and following the instructions. Scholarship Application will open annually in October. The scholarship deadline for incoming students is February 1st. Priority will be given to students who apply before February 1st, but applications will be considered until a candidate is selected. Please contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions (at admiss@westga.edu) with any questions.

# Eligibility Criteria:

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

# Retired Faculty & Staff Tribute Booklet

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Retiree	Page
Christopher M. Aanstoos, Ph.D	7
Margie Almon	8
June Barry	9
Laura M. Bennett	1C
Susan R. Boes, Ph.D	11
Michelle Byrne, Ph.D., RN	12
Meg Cooper, Ph.D	13
Eddie Duffey	14
Daniel A. Helminiak, Ph.D., PhD	15
Danny Johnson	16
Jeff Johnson, Ph.D	17
Tina Johnson	18
Kathryn McWhorter	19
Billy W. Morgan	2C
Sheila B. Norton	21
Kathryn Owens	22
Shelly Parker	23
Beverly Phillips	24
Bob Powell, Ph.D	25
Hema Ramanathan, Ph.D	26
Pricella Ann Reese	27
Frma Shooks	28

# TABLE OF CONTENTS, continued

Retiree	Page
Connie S. Smith	29
Francesca B. Taylor	30
Sherry M. Borders Walls	31
In Memoriam  Note: If you are aware of retirees who have been left out of this ballet us know so we can recognize their service in a subsequent	

# Christopher M. Aanstoos, Ph.D.

Position held: Professor

Department: Psychology

Years of Service: 1982-2018

### **Tribute Statement:**

Chris Aanstoos served as a professor and member of the faculty in the Department of Psychology for 36 years, where he taught undergraduate and graduate courses, including the required senior seminar for psychology majors and the core required courses for the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Psychology. He also served a year as interim Chair of the Department.



Chris was active in faculty governance, including several terms as a member of the Faculty Senate. During this time, he was the Faculty Secretary and he chaired the Rules Committee when it rewrote USG policies and procedures in the *Faculty Handbook*. He also chaired the committee that wrote the By-laws for the inaugural College of Social Sciences.

He was active in scholarly organizations in psychology; he served as a member of the executive boards of two divisions in the American Psychological Association (APA), was elected President of its Division (32) of Humanistic Psychology, and also served Division 32 as the editor of its journal, *The Humanistic Psychologist*. He was awarded Fellow status by the APA.

Chris was active in research and his record of professional publications included more than a hundred articles, chapters and books. He also presented more than a hundred papers at professional conferences.

[Jeff Reber, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Psychology, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

In retirement, Chris plans to travel (to Iceland in particular), write for a general audience (as opposed to continuing with specialized, professional writing), and to spend time with those he loves.

# Margie Almon

Position held: Custodian Associate

**Department:** Campus Planning & Facilities/

**Custodial Services** 

**Years of Service: 2001-2018** 

## **Tribute Statement:**

I have had the pleasure of working with Margie Almon at UWG for the past 17 years. She worked in the Pafford Building for most of that time and was there before the elevator was installed. Margie worked closely with the occupants of the building and was ready for all those last-minute donor parties as well. She was a great employee, always



on time and willing to do whatever it took to get the job done. She has a work ethic that is hard to find nowadays. She hardly ever called to say she couldn't make it to work and willingly helped her fellow employees succeed at their tasks. She really made my job easy. She also entertained us all by keeping us guessing as to what hair style she would have on any given day. And she impressed us with the sharp creases she maintained in her uniform and, of course, her color-coordinated accessories - right down to her nail polish.

On a personal note, Margie can always be seen riding a beautiful horse in the 4th of July parade. She and her husband, Buck, have a farm with several horses. Both of their daughters attended UWG and also worked here. Margie's favorite pastime is traveling. If she is not on a boat to the Bahamas, Mexico, or the Caribbean, she is at her home-away-from-home in Hilton Head Island. Now that she is retired, she can spend all her time with the people and things she loves: family, fashion, friends, travel, and God. Happy Retirement, Margie!!!!!!!!

[Kathryn Owens, Custodian Superintendent, Campus Planning & Facilities/Custodial Services. UWG1

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

In her retirement, Margie plans to travel, get to do things on her "bucket list," and make a difference in others' lives.

# June Barry

Position(s) held: Senior Secretary, Staff Assistant, Departmental Assistant, Departmental Associate

Department(s): Early Childhood; Early Childhood Education & Reading; Early Childhood, Elementary and Reading Education; Curriculum &Instruction; Educational Innovation; Educational Technology & Foundations; Leadership & Instruction; Sport Management, Wellness, & Physical Education



**Years of Service:** 1985-2017

### **Tribute Statement:**

The phrase "salt of the earth" (first credited to Jesus and later popularized by Chaucer) honors the value of this commodity to humans. And it captures well for me what June Barry meant to so many throughout her years at UWG. Like salt in our food, that we rarely appreciate until it isn't there any more, regardless of whatever she was living through, each day June brought smiles to our faces and peace to our busy lives as she thought of things we needed before we even realized we needed them.

As a preservative, salt guards and protects from ruin or harm. Similarly, June was our first line of defense. She would warn us of angry students headed our way, or ward off problems to prevent our being bothered by them. She preserved our traditions, be they routine or something more celebratory. Salt enriches bland food, adding value and enjoyment to the ordinary. In this vein, June has been extraordinary. Even when completing tasks we loved to avoid (e.g., need I say Peoplesoft?), she made the work enjoyable, or at least less painful. She was both a necessary ingredient and that which turned the mundane into something to savor.

Being the "salt of the earth" also implies usefulness. June was that, and more. In my view, her value is closer to that of jewels than to that of spice. She knew rules, procedures, and protocols. More importantly, she knew how to circumvent them. She had a connection in every unit on campus that could "grease the wheels" of the slow grind of administrivia. If you needed to get something done, you turned to June. But June was also the spice of life. Like decorations that make our space more beautiful, joy that we understand only after sorrow, or the dessert that follows a great meal, June is the "essence" we are definitely going to miss.

[Judy Butler,Ph.D., Professor, Secondary Education, College of Education, UWG]

### **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

June is putting her considerable energy and enthusiasm into her retirement and is happy about being able to do her shopping when stores aren't so busy or crowded. She is spending more time with family and friends, attending a LOT of musical programs and senior dances (where she especially enjoys line-dancing), doing a variety of needlecraft projects, and participating in several wellness/fitness activities.

# Laura M. Bennett (BS, Criminology '16)

Position held: Lieutenant

**Department:** University Police

**Years of Service:** 1989-2017

### **Tribute Statement:**

Laura M. Bennett started her law enforcement career at the University of West Georgia as a security guard on August 19, 1989. Since that time she diligently and faithfully worked her way up through the ranks to become a respected leader in the University of West Georgia Police Department. She always put victims and the community she



served first. I know Laura as a consummate professional who knows her craft well. Laura always pays attention to the details of her cases, an attribute which separates great cops from the rest of those serving in law enforcement.

Among many accomplishments Laura had during her tenure at UWG, the most important was completing her Bachelor's at UWG, her internship with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C., and the Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officers Course at the University of Louisville. Currently, Laura is finishing her Master's degree at the Georgia Association Chief of Police Command College at Columbus State University. Of all the accolades to her credit, however, perhaps the accomplishment of which she is most proud is being a mother of two children and grandmother of three, soon to be four, grandchildren. I recall many times when Laura and I would discuss our children's adventures over coffee.

In sum, Laura has achieved the best life has to offer: a respected career and a model family life. She will always be missed at the University of West Georgia.

[G.E. "Ned" Watson, Ph.D., Deputy Chief of Police, University Police, UWG]

### **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Although retired from UWG, Laura is now a Major in the Police Department at Columbus State University. In addition to her responsibilities in this new position, she is enjoying time with family (including her grandchildren) in her retirement from UWG.

# Susan R. Boes, Ph.D.

Position held: Professor

**Department:** Communication Sciences &

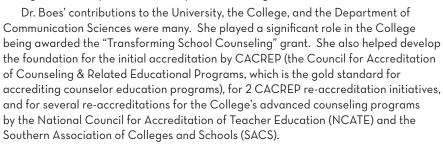
Professional Counseling

**Years of Service:** 1995-2017

### **Tribute Statement:**

Dr. Susan Boes retired as a long-time counselor educator from the College of Education in July, 2017. During her 22 years in the College of Education at UWG she demonstrated exemplary dedication to pursuing excellence in the counselor education profession. Her career spanned the





During her years at UWG, Dr. Boes focused her professional efforts on mentoring both students and colleagues, which resulted in numerous collaborative presentations at professional conferences. She supported the publication of 15 professional research journal articles in conjunction with her M.Ed., Ed.S. and doctoral students, as well as with other faculty colleagues. These professional activities established key connections between her academic effectiveness and practical applications by providing counselor education knowledge, skills, and awareness for both school and clinical mental health counselors-in-training to prepare them for professional counseling careers.

[Mark Parrish, Chair, Department of Communication Sciences & Professional Counseling, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Susan decided to settle into her retirement for a year by gardening, reading, and becoming involved in reading groups through her local library before volunteering in some service-oriented capacity. Now retired for over a year, she's looking into the possibility of having her dog certified as an emotional support/therapy dog that can accompany her on visits to older persons living in retirement homes.

# Michelle Byrne, Ph.D., R.N.

Position(s) held: Professor

**Department:** Nursing

**Years of Service: 2013-2017** 

[Hired 2004 at University of North Georgia]

### **Tribute Statement:**

Dr. Michelle Byrne joined the faculty in the School of Nursing in 2013 as a professor who already possessed an impressive body of work as a nurse academician. Dr. Byrne had been contributing to the Nursing field through dissemination of new and applied knowledge in high impact professional journals and prestigious



national and international conferences since 1986. Her service to the profession includes a variety of noteworthy contributions. She served two terms on the National League for Nursing's Certified Nurse Education Commission, the group responsible for certification of nurse educators, and she is a member of the Editorial Board for *Nursing Education Perspectives*, a top-tier journal in nursing education. Her professional background is in perioperative nursing, and she is an active member of the American Association of periOperative Nurses (AORN) where she served as a member of the AORN Journal editorial board for many years.

Her professional honors are numerous. She was the National Academic Perioperative Educator Award winner for AORN in 2003 and also received the Georgia March of Dimes Nurse Educator of the Year award in 2006. In her 4 years at UWG, Dr. Byrne was instrumental in the growth of the Ed.D. program in Nursing Education from the admission of the first class and is recognized as an excellent online instructor. She has chaired many successful dissertation committees and is considered an active mentor of students and junior faculty. Her colleagues at UWG have benefited greatly from her "lead from behind the scenes" style of leadership. Under her tutelage, the School of Nursing has a high percentage of Certified Nurse Educators. She will be sorely missed as a member of the full-time faculty in the School of Nursing.

[Jennifer Schuessler, Dean, School of Nursing, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement**

Although Michelle wants to travel, she also plans to continue working with UWG doctoral students online and doing consulting regarding nursing curricula and medical/legal issues in nursing.

# Meg Cooper, Ph.D.

Position held: Associate Professor

**Department:** Special Education

**Years of Service:** 1990-2017

### **Tribute Statement:**

For 27 years Dr. Meg Cooper has been the heart of the Special Education Department at UWG. As many others came and went, she was the constant presence in the department, the reliquary of knowledge for all questions regarding history of the department, teacher certification, and accreditation.



With a primary interest in severe/multiple disabilities, Dr. Cooper coordinated undergraduate and graduate programs while also teaching classes in other areas of special education. Her graduates were sought after and hired by school systems in Atlanta and surrounding areas. One personnel director stated, " . . . if teachers were prepared by Dr. Cooper, you knew they were the best for your students."

Prior to coming to UWG, Dr. Cooper taught for several other universities (e.g., Vanderbilt, Alabama, Auburn, etc.). She was an expert on autism before others began discussing the topic and was involved with programs and organizations addressing it in over 30 states and at the national level. She assisted both school personnel and parents of students with disabilities, particularly with legal issues.

Dr. Cooper is the ultimate professional when it comes to mentoring new faculty, ensuring student success and excellence, and unselfishly sharing her knowledge and skills with all who are willing to learn. And, although she has "officially" retired, she continues to educate special education students.

[Nancy Ellen Pollard]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Meg says she intends to do more sleeping in retirement than she found time for when working full-time. She will also be continuing to contribute to the field of Special Education through teaching 1-2 courses each semester. In addition, she has plans for traveling with family and taking on various projects.

# Eddie Duffey (BS, Parks & Recreation Management '77)

Position held: Senior Associate Athletic Director

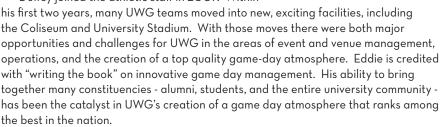
**Department:** Athletics

**Years of Service: 2007-2017** 

# **Tribute Statement:**

The University of West Georgia and its athletic program have had no more passionate servant than Eddie Duffey. For over a decade Duffey served as UWG's senior associate athletic director, and his impact was overwhelming.





Eddie also draws praise for his leadership in the expansion of the Corporate Partner program for UWG Athletics. Under his guidance, the program has grown from a handful of businesses to the current list of close to 100 corporate entities that actively support the West Georgia program. For his efforts Duffey is being honored in September of 2018 as an inductee into the University of West Georgia Athletic Hall of Fame.

[Mitch Gray, Director, Sports Information, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

In his retirement, Eddie plans to become more a part of his children's and grandchildren's lives. He will also serve as Director of Fitness at City Station Fitness in the new City Station community center project of the Southern Hills Christian Church.



# Daniel A. Helminiak, Ph.D., Ph.D.

Position(s) held: (Adjunct, 1999-2000), Professor

**Department:** Psychology

Years of Service: 1995-1997, 1999-2018

# **Tribute Statement:**

Daniel brought an unparalleled background of educational experience and professional expertise to the department of Psychology. He is conversant in six foreign languages (French, German, Italian, Koine Greek, Latin, and Spanish). He served 27 years as a Roman Catholic priest, earned a Ph.D. in Theology (Boston College/Andover Newton Theological School), became a pastoral counselor



and did extensive work in the mental health field before earning a second Ph.D. in Educational Psychology (University of Texas, Austin) and joining the faculty at UWG. He later became licensed as a Professional Counselor in Georgia.

A student of and student-assistant to Bernard Lonergan, the pre-eminent Canadian philosopher, theologian, and economist, Daniel has sought to convey to new generations, and in varied ways, the wisdom of Lonergan's legacy. Grounded in this perspective, Daniel has developed a fully psychological theory of spirituality. He has also served in significant human services positions over the course of his career and has written extensively, articulately, and memorably in both professional and popular media on such topics as spirituality, sexuality, religion, meditation, psychotherapy, health/well-being, and the ways in which such issues intersect. He has taught a wide range of courses for the Department on these and related topics.

One of his books, What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality, has sold over 120,000 copies and has been translated into 7 languages. Sought after as a distinguished author, editor, and presenter for myriad conferences, workshops, retreats, panel discussions, symposia and dialogues, Daniel has been recognized for his scholarly writings and compelling contributions to public discourse via such honors as election as a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (2011), and receipt of the Outstanding Service and Witness Award, Dignity/USA (1997).

[Anne C. Richards, Ed.D., Professor Emerita, Department of Psychology, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Daniel will be moving back to Pittsburgh, PA to live in the family home where he grew up. He expects to be more of an activist on issues of sex and spirituality, and also looks forward to the opportunities retirement provides to spend more time playing music and enjoying life in the city of Pittsburgh.

# **Danny Johnson**

Position held: Electronics Technician, Intermediate

Department: Campus Planning and Facilities/

Maintenance, Electrical Shop

**Years of Service:** 1983-2018

# **Tribute Statement:**

Danny and I worked together, day in and day out, for over 3O years. He is a good fellow, the kind of person you really wanted to know, and I thought of him as a brother. Each of us helped and learned from the other. Almost everything we did while employed at UWG was work done in the background. Most of the time, folks didn't know



we were around until something went wrong. They knew us after we'd been there, though, when whatever got worn out or didn't function right was fixed. Whatever the emergency or the cause of equipment not working, Danny just considered it part of the job, and would help in any way he could to get things back in working order.

[Steve Arrington, retired Electrical Technician, Intermediate, Campus Planning and Facilities/Maintenance, Electrical Shop, UWG]

Danny is the best friend the university ever had. They just don't make them like him anymore. He handled fire alarms, card access, and all the sound equipment for home football and basketball games, graduations, and other special events (e.g., orientation) from 1983-2018. If fire alarms went off in the middle of the night or were giving the residence halls trouble in any way, he'd get up and come to campus to ensure they were working properly. He took his job seriously. He was the kind of good man and irreplaceable employee you hate to see go. He's also a real good farmer and a good cook.

[James Spake, retired Maintenance Technician, Campus Planning and Facilities/ Maintenance. UWG1

**Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:** In his retirement, Danny plans to take care of his mother, ride motorcycles, and go fishing more often.

# Jeff Johnson, Ph.D.

Position held: Associate Professor

Department: Sport Management, Wellness, &

Physical Education

**Years of Service: 2004-2018** 

## **Tribute Statement:**

How does one sum up such an accomplished career in just a few sentences? The Department of Sport Management, Wellness, and Physical Education and the College of Education congratulate Jeff on his retirement from UWG. While all of us here will miss him, he certainly deserves his retirement. His hard work and



diligence greatly benefited not only this University but its students as well.

We are grateful for his dedication to student success and learning. We thank him for his endless patience, motivation, and persistence. We thank him for always being a springboard to listen and to help guide new faculty. Most importantly, we appreciate him for showing us all how to treat others fairly and how to lead and teach with patience and respect. We can all agree with his students who consistently reminded us that "Dr. J is so awesome."

There is no point to count the years. They are not important. Important are the things he did, the lives he touched, and the moments that were shared along the way. It has always been our pleasure to work with Jeff. So, while we are saddened to see him go, we are confident that he will find the same success and happiness in retirement that he experienced during his time here at UWG.

We wish him the best in his future endeavors. Retirement will surely offer him many new opportunities, which we know he will embrace wholeheartedly. We hope he will keep in touch, visit often, and continue to be well in his retirement.

[Bridgette A. Stewart,M.Ed., Senior Lecturer, Health & Community Wellness Program Coordinator, Department of Sport Management, Wellness & Physical Education, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Having acquired an inherited condition which has led to continuing physical deterioration, Jeff doesn't yet know how he will fare over the long-term. Consequently, he plans on figuring out his retirement options as time goes by when he is better able to determine just what he can accomplish and enjoy.

# Tina Johnson

Position held: Administrative Support-Senior

**Department:** Biology

Years of Service: 1988-2018

### **Tribute Statement:**

Tina Johnson was the Biology Department secretary for 3O years, including the last 25 years of my 4O years as a Biology Professor at UWG. Tina served and survived six department chairs, I being one of them. If she had not been the secretary when I was asked to be chair, I doubt I would have agreed to take the job. In my opinion, she is the main reason the department



has been successful in fulfilling its mission. I never had to ask her more than once to do something. And, most of the time when I asked her to take care of something, she would say, "I already did that." Besides handling the budget, ordering supplies and equipment (a huge job), arranging for equipment to be maintained or repaired, and all the other items on her plate, she organized department luncheons and parties. Because she is such a super-organized person, she did a very difficult job extremely well and on time. No wonder she was honored as the Employee of the Year in 2002. She will be missed!

[Carl Quertermus, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Biology, UWG]

Mrs. Tina Johnson served the department of Biology continuously for 30 years as an integral component in the administration of the mission and vision of the department. Her service spanned the growth of the Biology department from a faculty of 10 to over 24 and 1000+ undergraduate Biology majors; the change of institutional name and mission (from West Georgia College to the State University of West Georgia to the University of West Georgia); and the relocation of Biology to and from temporary office space during an 18-month renovation. Adopting Biology as her second family, Tina sustained, trouble-shot, listened, scheduled, drove, purchased, and repaired/fixed all things. Simply put, Tina has been the matrix that binds the vast diversity typical of a large and extended family. Whether an undergraduate/ graduate student, instructor/faculty, vendor/service provider, parent, visitor, or other, Tina nurtured the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of all while keeping every component of the vast machine we call Biology running like a finely tuned Mustang/ Yamaha. Because we recognize that it will be difficult to find someone who can successfully handle all that Tina (formerly Johnson) Nixon did, upon her retirement it has been decided that her responsibilities will be divided among two individuals, both holding administrative assistant senior positions.

[Christopher Tabit, Chair, Department of Biology, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Tina has recently married and is now known as Tina Nixon. In her retirement, she and her husband plan to do a lot of traveling. She has only been to a few states thus far, but is hoping to visit all 50 of them over time.

# Kathryn McWhorter

**Position(s) held:** Departmental Assistant, Senior Secretary, Building Manager, Asset Management - Inventory Clerk

Department(s): Continuing Education (1980-1983), Career Services (1985-1988), Educational Leadership (1992-1996), Physical Education/Recreation (1996-2009), Office of Controller/Accounting & Asset Management (2009-2018)

**Years of Service:** 1980-1983, 1985-1988, 1992-2018.



### **Tribute Statement:**

Kathryn worked in several UWG departments (Continuing Education, Career Services, Educational Leadership, and Physical Education/Recreation) before moving to Asset Management in 2009. She worked in Asset Management from 2009 until retiring in 2018. In Kathryn's time in Asset Management she became known as the subject matter expert for Surplus. Kathryn was very good at following Institutional Guidelines and Procedures, bringing about valued consistency in her department. Kathryn's humor put people at ease resulting in many lifelong relationships around campus as well as with the Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) and UWG customers.

All who know Kathryn know how much she loves her family. Beyond this, Kathryn's love for family spilled over to FWS (student workers). Kathryn was firm with students - teaching them many things, including how to have a good work ethic - while loving them like her own. Because of the meaningful relationships she built with students, they routinely return to see Kathryn long after they have graduated.

Whatever Kathryn does in retirement, she will be equally successful in the next chapter of her life because she has always done well in all her endeavors.

[George Parmer, Manager of Asset Management, Office of the Controller, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Kathryn is staying very busy in her retirement. In addition to spending more time with family (including three grandchildren), she and her husband enjoy traveling and camping. They also love to cook, do art work (sketching and painting) and are avid gardeners. For about 14 years, they have also had the responsibility (on a part-time basis) for doing the cleaning at their church.

# Billy W. Morgan

Position(s) held: Grounds Foreman

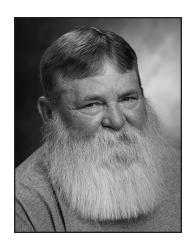
Department: Campus Planning and Facilities/

Landscape and Grounds

**Years of Service:**: 1999-2018

## **Tribute Statement:**

Billy Wayne Morgan was a member of the grounds maintenance team at the University of West Georgia for eighteen years. With his engaging personality and trademark beard, the man affectionately known as Santa Claus was a fixture on campus. Everyone who had the pleasure of meeting him remembers him



fondly. Billy Wayne enjoyed the work he did at UWG and always had a smile and a pleasant word for those he met on campus.

Billy Wayne's presence has been sorely missed within the grounds department since the day he retired. Due in large part to his efforts, the UWG campus has long been considered one of the most attractive of all campuses in the University System of Georgia. All who had the pleasure of working with Billy Wayne throughout the years wish him and his family nothing but the best as he enjoys his well-deserved retirement years.

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

In his retirement, Billy says he's begun "taking it easy" some, but hasn't "slacked off much." He's been working around the house, and he and his wife, Dana, plan to spend time at their property near Ranburne, AL where Billy Wayne will concentrate on his passions of vegetable gardening and following Alabama Crimson Tide football.

[Marshall Lott, Grounds Maintenance Superintendent, Campus Planning and Facilities/ Landscape & Grounds, UWG]

# Sheila B. Norton

Position held: Custodian - Associate

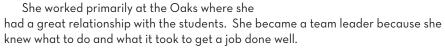
Department: Campus Planning and Facilities/

**Custodial Services** 

**Years of Service: 2002-2017** 

## **Tribute Statement:**

Sheila Norton was a faithful, conscientious, dependable, and all-around good worker. Whatever the situation or the assignment, she had an upbeat, "can-do," "we gotta-do-what-wegotta-do" attitude about handling jobs she was asked or expected to do.



When it was snowing out, she was the only employee who called in to ask if employees were needed to come in to work. She always did her job without grumbling or complaining, and always tried to do her best to abide by college rules, regulations, and requirements. She graciously assisted students on move-in day and could be counted on to come in to work when emergencies occurred and/or when help was needed, including on a weekend.

I definitely miss her capable and helpful presence on the campus.

[Howard Winters, Custodian Superintendent, Campus Planning and Facilities, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Sheila is very much enjoying the opportunities retirement provides to do what she wants to do when she wants to do it. She says that if she wants to sit, she sits. If she wants to work in her garden (where she is growing mostly vegetables), she does this. If she wants to go out, she goes out.



# Kathryn Owens

Position held: Custodian - Superintendent

**Department:** Campus Planning and Facilities/

**Custodial Services** 

**Years of Service:** 1995-2018

## **Tribute Statement:**

Twenty-two years ago, Kitty started working for UWG in Facilities and Grounds with the 3rd shift floor crew, stripping, waxing, and buffing floors. It soon became evident that her skills were superior to others, not just in floor care, but also in leadership, training, and overall knowledge about custodial care. As a supervisor, Kitty set the bar for the custodial department.



Ms. Kathryn Owens has made an indelible mark on UWG, with a legacy that not only showcases her knowledge and dedication, but also her genuine caring for her employees, past and present. She was always there to help her employees with gas money so they could get back to work, or money for groceries until the next pay check, and she has taken up numerous collections for employees who needed help with funeral arrangements.

Over the years, she has taught and mentored me, not only as a work colleague, but also as a friend. It is now time for her to rest, relax, and enjoy life. I will always cherish our working relationship, and now look forward to expanding our friendship.

[Theresa Jablecki-Kriel, former Assistant Director, Facilities and Grounds Administration, Campus Planning & Facilities Administration, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Kitty plans to enjoy life more in her retirement while taking care of her husband who has been disabled for many years. Among other things, she will be hanging out with him and bird-watching (especially hummingbirds).

# **Shelly Parker**

**Position(s) held:** P-Card Administrator, Accounts Payable Clerk, Director

**Department(s):** Business and Finance/Purchasing Services, Student Aid, Accounts Payable, Purchasing

**Years of Service: 1988-2017** 

### **Tribute Statement:**

Shelly Parker began her employment at West Georgia College in 1988, working in Student Aid. She spent the majority of her 29 year career in Purchasing Services, initially in Accounts Payable and then in a variety of purchasing roles as her



career advanced. Her willingness to take on additional responsibilities led her to wear many hats of responsibility over time. Shelly started when vouchers were handwritten and 5 Part Purchase Orders (PO's) were typed up on a typewriter. She added P-Card Administrator duties to her areas of expertise, and soon moved into the role of Assistant Director of Purchasing.

Shelly was the driving force behind UWG's transition to ePro, the electronic catalogue and procurement system. She worked with counterparts at UWG to develop a pilot team to test utilization of the system and implemented a year-long roll-out of the program. Shelly was widely known throughout the University System of Georgia for her knowledge and wisdom regarding ePro and made UWG an inaugural success story. She was promoted to Director of Purchasing in 2015.

Shelly was warmly regarded across campus as a result of her laid back personality and characteristic antics. To ensure that her co-workers knew how much she appreciated them, she enjoyed involving them in occasional pranks. Whether it was covering a co-worker's office in tin foil or turning a vacationing co-worker's office upside down, she had a special way to make sure you knew how valued you were. Shelly is greatly missed by the campus community and her absence is felt.

The UWG family wishes her all the best as she enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

[Lisa Elliott Little, Director, Purchasing Services, UWG]

### **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

In her retirement, Shelly plans to spend more time with grandchildren, while doing more traveling and gardening.

# **Beverly Phillips**

Position held: Groundskeeper - Intermediate

**Department:** Campus Planning and Facilities/

Landscape and Grounds

**Years of Service: 2004-2017** 

# **Tribute Statement:**

Beverly is a caring person who focuses on the welfare of others both at home and at work. She made sure that her mother, who lives next door, was well taken care of and did not go unattended. Beverly prepared food for her, kept house for her, took her to doctor's appointments and to church every Sunday.



Beverly displayed the same dedication to the care of her children and her grandchildren. She often would be that extra babysitter for the family or the one who picked up the grandchildren at daycare or after school. She also took them to appointments, and more. The highlight of her year was her family vacations with her children and grandchildren.

Beverly brought this same love and caring to our work place at UWG. She cared about her work and took pride in doing the best job possible. She also genuinely cared about the families of her co-workers. She took care of us at work as if we were part of her family. She made our workplace feel like a family. Beverly would bake cakes for our birthdays and special occasions; she would often mend or hem staff uniforms; she liked to make ice cream for the crew; and she would always want to know how our families were doing and would call our children by name when she asked about them.

Beverly is blessed with a green thumb, which showed in the beautiful plantings around campus that she personally cared for. She was known for the lovely flower arrangements she provided for events all over campus, sometimes cutting flowers from her own garden or even from the side of the road on her way into work.

Beverly Phillips led by example during her time at UWG. She believed in hard work, accountability, friendly service, and honest relationships. She made a lasting impression on those of us who were fortunate enough to have worked with her.

[James Hembree, Landscape Superintendent, Campus Planning and Facilities/Landscape and Grounds, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Beverly says she enjoys "doing whatever I want to," in retirement. She also has "plenty to do" on a daily basis, including looking after her elderly mother and her five grandchildren. And she still finds time for gardening and doing alterations.

# Bob Powell, Ph.D.

**Position(s) Held:** Professor and Chair Emeritus, Director of the Observatory Emeritus

**Department:** Physics

**Years of Service: 1967-2017** 

# **Tribute Statement:**

Over the course of his 50 and 1/2 years of service to UWG, Dr. Bob Powell has been a titan of physics education. One cannot go into the West Georgia region without meeting his former students, all of whom are grateful for what he taught them and eager to share stories from his many courses. Others tell of time spent



at the observatory, which he had built in 1979 and served as director of until his retirement in 2017. For years he directed the West Georgia Regional Science and Engineering Fair, encouraging the development of young, inquiring, scientific minds. Local teachers well know his summer workshops, aimed at helping to improve their understanding of physics and increase their effectiveness as educators. He also served as the faculty advisor for the Phi Kappa chapter of the Chi Omega sorority.

In such a short space, it's impossible to sum up Bob's noteworthy accomplishments, all his service, and the many ways he will be missed at UWG as he moves on to the next chapter in his life. His legacy and greatest professional achievement are the multitude of students and peers whose lives he has directly and indirectly touched. He is the embodiment of the core values of UWG: a commitment to academic excellence, a lifetime of service to the community at large, and a willingness to care for each student individually.

[Ben Jenkins, Sr. Lab Coordinator, Associate Director of the UWG Observatory, Director of the West Georgia Regional Science and Engineering Fair, Boyd Building manager, UWG]

### **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Although Dr. Powell is retiring, when interviewed for this booklet he was cleaning out his long-time office and moving to a smaller space on campus in which he will do "various professional things" (including work related to a grant he recently secured). He also plans to spend more time interacting with his children and grandchildren and do some traveling, including visiting some Civil War battlegrounds.

# Hema Ramanathan, Ph.D.

Position(s) held: Associate Professor

**Department(s):** Curriculum & Instruction (English as a Second Language), Literacy and Special Education

Years of Service: 2005-2017

### **Tribute Statement:**

After traveling extensively while teaching and researching in such countries as Indonesia, Malaysia, the United Kingdom, and Pakistan, Dr. Ramanathan brought her international experience, research, and educational expertise to the College of Education at UWG, which had a mission at that time to prepare



educators and leaders for a global society. Dr. Ramanathan taught doctoral courses in the Ed.D. program in School Improvement (EDSI), a master's level course in the English as a Second Language endorsement program, and undergraduate EDUC and ECED courses. Working with EDSI students was a special passion of hers. She served as a dissertation Chair or Committee member on 18 dissertation committees at UWG. At the time of her retirement, this was the largest number for any faculty member in the College of Education.

Dr. Ramanathan served on and continues to serve on numerous committees and boards of professional education organizations. She completed over 35 publications, including two chapters and two books, and gave over 100 presentations at international, national, and regional professional conferences. Among the special honors she received was selection as a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Scholar. In this role, she helped administrators and teachers in private schools in India plan and implement policies and practices to maintain high academic standards while successfully assimilating students into their schools from economically weaker and socially disadvantaged sections of society.

No matter the level of course she was assigned, her high standards and international views of education were shared with her students in impactful and sometimes lifechanging ways. Her presence on our campus left an indelible impression on students and colleagues, deepening their understanding of the role of language, culture, and personal bias in school settings and enriching their lives in magnificent and unexpected ways. Without a doubt, her humor, intelligence, sophistication, and savoir faire will be sorely missed.

### Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:

In her "retirement," Hema continues to serve as a consultant to persons in leadership positions in public schools in India, has been editing and coauthoring a series of textbooks for teaching English, and does volunteer work teaching conversational English to people from disadvantaged sectors of society. Clearly, she hasn't slowed down one bit in her commitment to supporting the educational endeavors of teachers, students, and school administrators both in the United States and abroad.

[Jill Drake, Ed.D., Professor of Early Childhood & Elementary Education and Chair, Department of Early Childhood Through Secondary Education (ESE), UWG]

# Pricella Ann Reese

Position held: Custodian - Associate

**Department:** Campus Planning & Facilities/

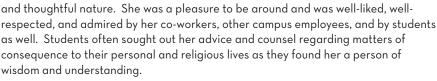
**Custodial Services** 

**Years of Service: 2007-2017** 

## **Tribute Statement:**

Pricella handled custodial clean-up operations in the Boyd building and at Publications and Printing for the past ten years. She was always "into her work" and "didn't let anything stop her from doing her job."

She was not only appreciated for the quality of her work, but for her good-hearted, sweet,



In addition to the above, Pricella serves in a leadership role among the ushers in her church, sings in the choir, and assists with clean-up at her church. She also has considerable artistic ability that has enabled her to design creative decorations for various social events over the years.

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Since her retirement, Pricella has enjoyed doing chores and fixing up her house with her husband, spending more time in church, checking in on her 101-year-old mother, assisting her wheelchair-bound sister-in-law with several errands, and looking after her three-year-old granddaughter. In general she says she "keeps [herself] going" and is "staying busy."

[Linda Henson, Custodian-Associate, UWG Campus Planning and Facilities/Custodial Services]



# Erma Shooks

Position held: Senior Departmental Assistant

**Department:** Institutional Effectiveness & Assessment (formerly Budget & Research Services, Institutional Research & Planning, Planning and Assessment)

**Years of Service: 1987-2018** 

### **Tribute Statement:**

Following a family tradition of working at UWG (her mother, sister and a cousin have all had positions on campus), Mrs. Erma Shooks was hired in 1987 as secretary for the Office of Budget & Research Services. Serving for over 30 years.



Erma has witnessed and experienced many changes here at UWG. Interestingly, Erma learned during her tenure that many things come in threes, such as institutional name changes, presidential appointments, and decades. With mixed emotions, she has decided to take all of her considerable institutional knowledge with her and leave for a life of leisure.

Besides wrestling with the budget, Erma played an integral role in the production of the annual Fact Book, all while assisting colleagues with University compliance with the Georgia Open Records Act. In this vein, she recently completed the Records Professional Certification through the Georgia Records Association. Additionally, Erma used her institutional knowledge to champion the rights of all UWG employees while serving as President of the Staff Advisory Council on campus.

On a personal note, as her coworker for nearly 20 years, I have had the privilege of benefiting from her support, humor, and wisdom. She is always there to give encouragement, a laugh, and a hug. Yes, even to non-huggers like me. We will miss her fashion sense and her sensible shoes. But mostly, with her retirement, she gives hope to the rest of us left behind that we can make it too.

[Tara Pearson, University Records and Information Manager, University Open Records Officer; Annette Pritchett, Institutional Research Analyst II, UWG]

# **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

When interviewed for this booklet, Erma said she planned to spend more time with her husband in retirement, but wasn't sure what else she might wish to do. Undoubtedly, she'll enjoy the opportunities retirement provides to figure this out and enjoy life as the future unfolds.

# Connie S. Smith

Position held: Procurement Agent - Intermediate

**Department:** Purchasing **Years of service:** 1992 - 2018

### **Tribute Statement:**

Connie Scott Smith - WOW, where to begin! I had the pleasure of working with Connie during her entire 26 years at UWG. The journey began in Melson Hall for West Georgia College and ended in Aycock Hall for the University of West Georgia. Connie's calm, friendly nature allowed her to quickly become a "go to" person for ALL information related to Business and Finance. It



was not uncommon for her peers to call and say: "I don't know who to ask, so I'm calling you because I know you will guide me in the right direction." I believe this is a testament to the friendships and trust that Connie maintained throughout her career.

Connie was the model employee, always going above and beyond. I am not aware of a cross word that she had with anyone, at any time, on our campus. She is one of a kind. She loved and cared for all students, especially our student workers. The students seemed to migrate to her for her motherly care and advice.

Connie was also a target for pranks. While in Melson Hall, our office was on the second floor. One year, Connie was celebrating a milestone birthday which we coworkers pretended to "forget." But when she returned from lunch, her workspace was filled with black balloons, ALL durable medical equipment associated with geriatrics, and a sign posted outside her second floor window stating: "HONK, It's My Birthday!" Front campus drive was filled with the sounds of celebration for the rest of the day.

It has been my greatest honor and pleasure to work with Connie and call her my friend. She is the sweet, compassionate person that I aspire to be. If every employee at UWG had the same qualities of Connie Scott Smith, UWG would, hands down, be "The BEST Place to Work, Learn, and Succeed!!"

[Shelly Parker, retired Director of Purchasing, UWG]

### **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

While still getting used to being retired, Connie is already spending more time with family (including picking up her grandchildren from school, and attending their softball and lacrosse games). She enjoys gardening, planting, and walking, and is also doing a little volunteer work. In addition, she has travel plans (e.g., going to the beach in Florida and attending a softball game in Denver, CO).

# Francesca B. Taylor

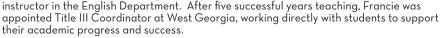
**Position(s) held:** Instructor, Title III Coordinator, Director

Department(s): English (1977-1983), Academic Testing Services (formerly Developmental Studies, formerly Learning Support and Testing - 1987-2018)

Years of Service: 1977-1983, 1987-2018

### **Tribute Statement:**

Francesca Taylor - fondly known to all of her friends and colleagues as Francie - received the B.A. in English from Augusta College in 1975 and the M.A. in English from Florida State University in 1977. She began her career at West Georgia College as an



After working briefly with Southwire as a technical writer and training coordinator from 1983-1987, Francie returned to West Georgia as Coordinator of Testing and Assistant to the Director of Developmental Studies, a decision that Francie describes as "the best move that ever happened to me." It was in that role that she first began to manage testing on campus and also worked in the remedial program, teaching the study skills course that was a precursor to UWG 1101. In 1997, Francie was appointed interim Director of Learning Support and Testing and she officially became its Director in 1999.

Once Learning Support was eliminated in 2012, Francie worked to organize her administrative unit, which officially became Academic Testing Services in 2015. It was in this role that Francie achieved some of her most significant professional accomplishments. In addition to professional presentations, Francie became a charter member of the Southeastern Testing Association (SETA) and served as its president from 1996-1997. She was also a charter member of the National College Testing Association (NCTA), served on its governing board for 14 years, and served two terms as national president (2005-2006, 2014-2016). Also a founding member of the Georgia College Testing Association, Francie served several terms on its governing board and as its president from 2008-2009.

Beyond all of these impressive professional achievements, however, it is Francie's daily work with students over decades by which her legacy will truly be measured. As Rose Payne, one of Francie's former students, observed, "As a student who struggled with test anxiety, Mrs. Taylor always made sure that I knew that the testing center was a place where I could take my time and be comfortable. When I felt discouraged, she always reminded me to do what was my best. Having someone who understood me and my needs as a student meant everything." Francie's colleagues at West Georgia and elsewhere would echo similar praise. All of us thank you, Francie, for your enduring dedication to our students and for the constant professional integrity that have defined every stage of your journey with us. You are a rare spirit, gifted, irreplaceable, and will be truly missed! [David Newton, Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs/Faculty Development

### Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:

In retirement, Francie plans to oversee some upgrades needed at her home, and participate more in the activities her son is involved in during his Senior year at Sanford University. She also hopes to travel some. Most of all, she looks forward to making some decisions on the spur of the moment without having to check her calendar first.



&Academic Initiatives, UWG1

# Sherry M. Borders Walls (B.Ed., Early Childhood Education, '80)

**Position(s) held:** Records Coordinator; Director, Teaching Materials Center/TecHub

**Department(s):** Admissions, Teaching Materials Center/ TecHub, College of Education

**Years of Service: 1990-2017** 

# **Tribute Statement:**

Sherry Walls joined the workforce at West Georgia College in 1990 and stayed for 27 years. She began her career at WGC in the Admissions Office. Sherry moved to the Teaching Materials



Center in the College of Education in 1992 as an assistant to Pat Gaston, then Director of the Center. She eventually became the Director of the Center herself, where she continued to work until her retirement in July, 2017.

Sherry saw a number of changes over the years, including the transformation of West Georgia College to the University of West Georgia and the conversion of the Teaching Materials Center to the TecHub in the College of Education. Sherry was always open to change and quickly and effectively responded to recommendations for improving and enhancing the Teaching Materials Center/TecHub as the function and purpose of the center were altered over time. She always took her responsibilities for service to students and faculty seriously, and did so with a smile. In addition, she continued to take advantage of opportunities to increase and further develop her own knowledge and skills.

As Sherry transitions into retirement, a new chapter of her life, she is looking forward to becoming a grandmother in November and transitioning into yet another new and exciting role.

[Dr. Dawn Putney, Professor, Educational Technology & Foundations, UWG]

## **Hobbies/Plans for Retirement:**

Sherry reports that she is "enjoying the stress-free life" in her retirement while working part-time (seasonally) at the Tax Commissioner's Office in Coweta County. She now has summers off but expects to be actively involved year-round as a grandmother once November rolls around.

# In MEMORIAM

F. Lamar Blanton, Ed.D., Educational Research

Homer Coker, Ph.D., Education

Barbara J. Crowder, Custodial Services

Leland V. Gustafson, Ph.D., Economics

Rachel "Trudy" Healy, Coordinator, Continuing Education

Margaret Hughes, Ingram Library

J. Mark Miller, former Dean, College of Business

Thomas J. (Bubba) Powell, Jr., Custodial Services

Jan Ruskell, Ingram Library

Produced on campus by Publications and Printing

