

# **TUSCULUM** COLLEGE

Annual Report FY 2012-2013



#### **Mission Statement**

Tusculum College provides a liberal arts education in a Judeo-Christian and civic arts environment, with pathways for career preparation, personal development and civic engagement.



## **Tusculum College's Vision**

Tusculum College strives to actualize educational excellence and ongoing relevance through our third century by:

- Establishing transformative living and learning communities,
- Reflecting institutional integrity through aspirational leadership and academic innovation,
- Distinguishing Tusculum College alumni as leading citizen-scholars, and
- Maximizing individual, group, and community fiscal support and partnerships to promote innovation.

#### Values of Tusculum College

*Integrity:* Encompassing honesty and trustworthiness, all members of the Tusculum Community value and live with integrity, respect and virtue in communications, relationships and actions.

*Education:* We value a balanced education grounded in the civic and liberal arts and career preparedness. Our goal is for students to develop practical wisdom, global literacy, critical and independent thinking, and an appreciation for life-long learning, diversity and inclusion.

*Civic Responsibility:* We value our unique heritage in the civic arts and the Judeo-Christian tradition, and seek to develop citizen-scholars who will serve their communities throughout the world. We develop students as leaders who problem solve with reflective judgment.

## Academics

- Academic Affairs announced new leadership with the appointments of Dr. Paul Fox '77, dean of the School of Education and Dr. Michael Dillon, dean of the School of Business. Dr. Fox has an Ed.D in educational administration from East Tennessee State University. Dr. Dillon holds a Ph.D in finance from the University of Cincinnati and an MBA from Xavier University.
- New academic programs receiving SACSCOC approval include the Bachelor of Science in nursing and the RN to BSN program, the Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice and the Bachelor of Science in chemistry.
- The College received conditional approval from the Tennessee Department of Education to offer the graduate level special education endorsements for preschool/ECE PreK-3 and Special Education: Modified/Comprehensive K-12. These endorsements meet the needs of licensed teachers seeking additional teaching endorsements.
- The Kingsport Commission of Higher Education and SACSCOC approved Tusculum College to offer degree completion programs in business, education and psychology at the Kingsport Center for Higher Education.



Five recently promoted faculty members include: Dr. Michelle Freeman promoted to professor of business administration, and promoted to associate professor were Dr. Deborah Bryan (art), Dr. Bill Garris (psychology), Dr. Angela Keaton (history) and Dr. Sheila Morton (English).



Honored in April were retiring faculty, from left, Ron Conley, Dr. Bob Davis, Dan Barnett, Dr. Dale Gibson and Lynn Reeves (not pictured).

- The accomplishments and contributions of five retiring faculty were celebrated in a reception in April: Mr. Dan Barnett, associate professor of chemistry; Ron Conley, associate professor of mathematics; Dr. Bob Davis, professor of biology; Dr. Dale Gibson, professor of physical education, and Lynn Reeves, assistant professor of accounting. The Tusculum College Board of Trustees awarded faculty emeritus rank to Dr. Davis, Barnett and Conley.
- Tusculum College has been honored by the Corporation for National and Community Service and the U.S. Department of Education with a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the seventh year in a row.

Student Support Services celebrated the accomplishments of 40 graduating seniors in May 2013, many of whom were accepted into graduate programs including Alex Wiedemann, the University of South Carolina in math; Ben Sneyd, Central Arkansas University for an Master of Fine Arts in fiction; Alisha Jones and William Kemper, Lincoln Memorial University College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Billie Jennings, MFA program at the University of Tennessee. This year five of 20 spots available in the competitive Ronald E. McNair TRIO Program, sponsored by East Tennessee State University, were filled by Tusculum College rising seniors, all of whom are psychology majors.



## Academic Achievements

- Examples of student groups who presented their scholarship during 2013 includes:
- Seven English/creative writing majors who attended Hollins University's 53rd Annual Lex Allen Literary Festival in Roanoke, Va., with English department chair, Heather Patterson. Seniors Justin Reed and Ben Sneyd, were selected as finalists in the poetry category; seniors Noelle Rankin and Sneyd and junior Austen Herron were selected as finalists in the fiction category. Reed's poem, "The Saints Look On La Sagrada Familia," was selected as first-place winner of the festival's poetry prize. Sneyd's short story, "Riding Reflections," was selected as runner-up winner in the fiction category.

Presenting at the 2013 Southeastern Psychology Association Conference were Kate Barford, Theodore Oing, Latisha Stover and Robert Arrowood along with psychology professor Dr. Brian Pope.

• Six political science students (Ashley Fritz, Pamela Keen, Michael Fernando, Trevor Long, Caitlin Curtis and

Steven Hollingshead) participated this past fall in the 43rd General Assembly of the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature in Nashville, TN. Keen, a junior political science major was elected to and served as the TISL treasurer and oversaw the 44th General Assembly in 2013.

- Six psychology students (Kate Barford, Robert Arrowood, Latisha Stover, Jenny Grant, Theodore Oing and Paige Hudson) conducted poster presentations on their undergraduate research projects at the 2013 Southeastern Psychology Association Conference.
- Seven students participated in the 2013 Blue Ridge Undergraduate Conference with one of the students, Chelsea White, receiving the Outstanding Poster prize.
- + Faculty members were engaged in a wide variety of scholarship and grant related activities:



Dr. Lois Ewen

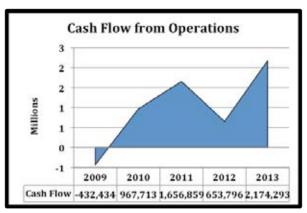
- Dr. Travis B. Williams, professor of religious studies, released his first book, "Persecution in 1 Peter: Differentiating and Contextualizing Early Christian Suffering."
- Dr. Lois Ewen, dean of nursing and health sciences, implemented the simulation laboratory for the Bachelor of Science in nursing program as the result of the awarding of a \$263,996 grant from BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Foundation.
- Dr. David Key, assistant professor of history, has two books headed to publication. The first is "Rough Rider: The Life of Theodore Roosevelt." Additionally, Dr. Key, in partnership with Cliff Hoy, director of the Tusculum Bookstore, produced a text of readings for use in the course "Political Traditions of the West."

• Wayne Thomas, associate professor of English and chair of the Department of Fine Arts, was the winner of the highly competitive 2013 Baltic Writing Residency in Latvia. Thomas is also

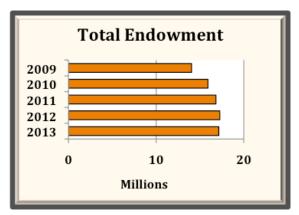
co-editor of "Red Holler: Contemporary Appalachian Literature," released in October.

- Ms. Jan LaPerle Matthews, assistant professor of English, published a poetry collection, "It Would Be Quiet."
- Dr. Eva Cowell, assistant professor of management, was recently recognized by the East Tennessee College Alliance as an Adult Educator of the Year.
- Dr. Richard Thompson, assistant professor of chemistry, was named recipient of the Appalachian College Association's Post-Doctoral Faculty Fellowship Program. The \$10,000 Fellowship will be used to develop an undergraduate research program for Tusculum students interested in chemistry. The research will allow students to participate in a global effort to identify potential drug-like molecules for the treatment of neglected diseases.
- ACA also announced a \$12,000 Latino student access award applied for by Deborah Gietema, instructor of mathematics, and Jeanne Stokes, director of TRIO programs and grant support services. The grant will start a Latino Living Learning Community aimed at recruiting and retaining Latino students.
- Myron ("Jack") Smith, Jr., Tusculum College library director and professor of library science, published "Le Roy Fitch vs. The Thunderbolt of the Confederacy," the cover article in the September 2012 issue of "North & South," the magazine of the Civil War Society.

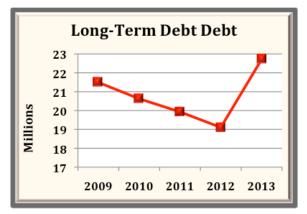




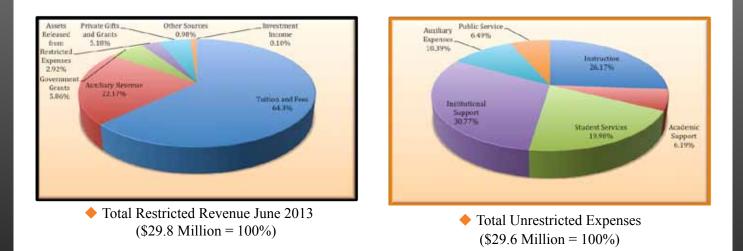
 Cash flow from operations increased from \$653,796 in 2012 to \$2,174,293 in 2013.



 Total endowment fell slightly from \$17,250,330 in 2012 to \$17,140,775 in 2013.

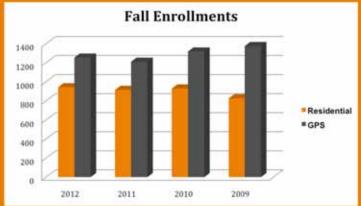


Long-term debt increased from \$19,104,714 in 2012 to \$22,709, 187 in 2013.



#### **Enrollment Management**

- The Tennessee State Grant program was able to obtain additional funding and extended the cutoff deadline for processing awards. Tusculum was able to award six additional students for the 2012-2013 year.
- Financial aid award letters for Graduate and Professional Studies successfully began on June 17, 2013.
- Standardized start dates improved the awarding process and made it easier to process the aid for Colleague Conversion for GPS applicants and inquiries, which were successfully completed in August.



The Office of Student Success and Engagement conducted a College Readiness Survey during the summer entitled Extensions. The 30-minute survey is relevant in reinforcing the notion of responsibilities of each student and can be utilized at any time on line by students for follow up. Presentations were made to 13 out of 14 Tusculum Experience classes during Block 1.

<b>Residential Housing</b>	
2012	744
2011	724
2010	720
2009	630

The Retention Committee worked thorough out the spring having student-related staff of various offices make presentations and discuss opportunities for improvement. A list of more than 20 areas have been identified that will be worked upon by the committee. An Early Alert system that is part of the ICE system has been demonstrated by the webmaster and is in the process of being reviewed for consideration to develop and adapt it by the College community.

- Spring programming efforts focused on assuring end of 2012-2013 year positive programming alternatives. The annual Spring Fling took place with activities throughout the campus. In addition, the senior send-off celebration, the Golden Lantern Ceremony, provided graduates the opportunity to recognize favored faculty by bestowing the "golden lantern award" designed to recognize the many contributions faculty members had on helping them to that end goal.
- Enrollment Management staff continued to promote satisfaction with residential living by facilitating the spring 2013 Housing Check-outs with an emphasis on avoiding any cleaning charges. The Student Affairs staff obtained various cleaning supplies from Facilities Management to help students remedy any identified concerns before they received

Academic Trends for Residential Freshmen		
	ACT Composite Score	Grade Point Average
2012	21.1	3.04
2011	21.5	3.11
2010	21.6	3.19

billings for cleaning and damage charges. These efforts saw a

continued decrease in charges being assessed, which not only results in positive student satisfaction, but also reduces the burden on institutional personnel in preparing facilities for conference operations and turning the facilities around for fall occupation. The following chart demonstrates the continued lower costs per student at checkout.

#### Institutional Advancement

#### Resources:

- Raised \$650,482 for the Tusculum Fund
- Received \$2,387,449 in gifts from:
- Alumni \$772,833
- Foundations \$510,392
- Bequests \$558,359
- Donors for New Scholarships \$195,887
- Received commitments of \$10,009,843 to various projects



A networking event at Jefferson Federal Bank in Farragut, Tenn., attracted several alumni from the Knoxville area.

#### Relationships:

- 63 percent of faculty and staff made a gift to the College, up 72 donors from last year's 39 percent.
- Gifts were received from 100 percent of the Trustees and 100 percent of the Alumni Executive Board.
- The College had 231 more donors overall, and 148 more alumni donors than the previous year.
- 185 members of the Pioneer Club supported Tusculum athletics.



Alumni members of Shiloh reunited for a performance during the Old Oak Festival and took part in a jam session that included local musicians and the Tusculum College Jazz Band.

- 27 off-campus events were held for alumni and friends of the College from Los Angeles, Calif. to Charleston, S. C. and Albany, N.Y. to Naples, Fla.
- 45 events were held on the Greeneville campus and three events at the Knoxville Regional Center for alumni and friends of the College.
- 32 volunteer opportunities, on and off campus, engaged alumni and friends.
- The Old Oak Festival brought in more than 75 artisans, more than a dozen bands and hundreds of visitors.
- The Theologian-in-Residence program featured Rev. Carol Howard Merritt and attracted more than 100 people.
- Tusculum College Sunday at First Presbyterian Church in Greeneville featured the College's brass quintet, the handbell choir and Mark Stokes, director of religious life, church and community relations, preaching at both services.
- The 32 members of the marching band performed at six football games and in two parades.
- The concert band, jazz band and handbell choir played three major concerts.
- The pep band played for eighteen home basketball games.

#### Reputation:

- 426 positive news placements recorded.
- Two issues of the Tusculum Magazine produced and an annual report published
- Monthly e-newsletters sent to alumni, parents and friends of the College who have an email address on file.
- 100 percent satisfaction ratings from departments using Communication Office services.
- More College web pages moved to WordPress sites that allow departments and offices to update information quickly and easily.



The Rev. Carol Howard Merritt was the featured speaker for the 2013 Theologianin-Residence lecture series.



#### **Information Systems**

- At the Morristown site, Information Systems has added a new Active Directory server for staff and faculty; installed a Smart Board; upgraded the RAM for the 24 laptop mobile cart; moved to Windows 7; replaced 15 classroom, staff and faculty computers; upgraded RAM for two staff computers, and replaced a 24 computer lab with thin clients and new server.
- At the Knoxville Regional Center, two staff and two classroom computers were replaced; all classrooms have been upgraded; the mobile cart was replaced and 24 new laptops were installed, and a mobile distance learning cart was installed.
- Through its partnership with The Niswonger Foundation's NETCO Consortium, the Tusculum College online dual enrollment pilot generated 8 of 12 earned credits in World Literature and College Algebra. Nine more online dual enrollment courses will go live by January 2014.
- Replacing Tusculum's aging management information system, TCNET, has been a primary ongoing focus for Information Services since early 2011. The process of replacing the current system is moving along quickly with full implementation slated for June 2014. Currently the student and finance modules are live. Human Resources, Recruiter and the Student Mobile App are in the final stages of implementation and should be live by late 2013 or early 2014.
- Utilizing a customized work request system built by the Tusculum College Webmaster, the Department of Information Services completed more than 1,000 documented requests during fiscal 2012 - 2013.
- The implementation of a complete campus wide wireless service has begun with engineers mapping out locations for the access points inside all buildings as well as outside areas.
- Tusculum College has been using the Moodle learning management platform since July 1, 2012. Currently the Department of Information Services manages over 800 Moodle sites in 30 different departments.
- In the past year the Tusculum College Department of Information Services has replaced 167 outdated pieces of computer technology averaging one replacement every two days. The average cost per unit is less than \$600. Information Services has also virtualized 73 individual network servers on to only 19 physical machines.
- Information Services has upgraded 71 student lab computers to thin client terminals allowing for these labs to run Windows 7.

## **Athletics**

- Tusculum's seven SAC Scholar Athletes were most in league (7 of 14) with 46 honorees since 1999-2000, and Baseball's Taylor Rakes named 2012-13 recipient of South Atlantic Conference Presidents Award for second straight year.
- Tommy Arnett (men's tennis), Julie
  Huebner(softball) and
  Michael Robinson
  (volleyball) earned SAC
  Coach of the Year honors.



Named SAC Scholar Athletes of the Year for 2012-13 were, from left, Andy Goellner '13 (men's soccer), Jenny Grant '13 (cross country), David Talley '13 (men's golf), Ashley Sarmiento (volleyball), Lukas Winkelmann (men's tennis), Jill Corum '13 (women's golf) and Taylor Rakes '12 (baseball).

- Softball garnered its first SAC championship and first conference championship of any kind in 20 years.
- Men's Tennis captured its 4th SAC title led by SAC Player of the Year Lukas Winkelmann as well as SAC Freshman of the Year Nicolas Planchard.



 Volleyball advanced to the NCAA Division II Tournament for fourth straight season and to Southeast Regional final for 1st time ever.

- Women's Basketball advanced to the SAC Tournament Championship game for the 6th time in the last 8 years, while defeating the national champion in each of the last two years.
- Women's Tennis recorded a 2nd place finish while Erin Mills, a sophomore from Duluth, Ga., earned SAC Co-Freshman of the Year recognition.

Bo Cordell

• Women's Golf earned a 2nd place conference finish led by conference Player of the Year Emee Herbert who paced the team with the best scoring average in school history

The football team included one All-American and a National Special Teams Player of the Week. Quarterback Bo Cordell '13 becomes the league's all-time passing and total offensive yards leader.

(76.25).

Members of the softball team celebrate their conference championship.

