



Dear Friend:

Greetings! So far, the month of May looks to be one of transformation. During our spring board meeting, the trustees and I discussed the progress of an Andrew College nursing program, which was met with energy and excitement. The trustees endorsed our nursing program application, which has been forwarded to the Georgia Board of Nursing for approval, along with a feasibility study. The trustees also approved the awarding of 63 associate degrees. Pending final grades, these degrees will be awarded on Saturday, May 7 at 11 a.m. For the first time in several years, a baccalaureate service will precede commencement at Cuthbert United Methodist Church.

Earlier this month, head baseball coach Blake Williams earned his 100<sup>th</sup> career win, and four students joined the Rev. Dr. Peter Vermeulen at the South Georgia Conference United Methodist Men's Retreat at Epworth by the Sea. What a joy it was to find out that a member of that group chose to be baptized upon his return to campus! In addition, Dr. Drew Schiavone arrives later this week to begin planning our regenerative agriculture program.

Indeed, this month has brought exciting news to campus and to our Andrew Family abroad. As the semester draws to an end, I'm looking forward to closing out my first academic year. And as the fiscal year winds down, I'm hopeful that the College will reach its goal of engaging 200 alumni gifts before June 30.

If you feel inspired to help the next generation of Fighting Tigers, please consider making a gift to the Andrew Fund today. You may send your gift in the mail or submit it online at [www.andrewcollege.edu/online-giving](http://www.andrewcollege.edu/online-giving). However, your gifts of time, talent, and prayer would also be greatly appreciated. Thank you, as always, for your unwavering support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda" or "Linda M. Johnson".

Linda

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Spring Commencement

The College hosts its 162<sup>nd</sup> Commencement Exercises on Saturday, May 7, in the G. Clyde and Ruth Tarrer Jinks, Sr. Physical Education Complex. At 11 a.m. that morning, President Buchanan will confer associate degrees upon more than 60 students—one of the largest graduating classes in recent history. The ceremony marks the first set of commencement exercises presided over by the College's new president, who took office in June 2015.



Paul S. Amos II, the president of Aflac, will deliver the keynote address to the audience of graduates and their families. Amos joined Aflac in 2002 and became president in 2007, where he now oversees Aflac Japan. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Duke University and a master's degree in business administration from Emory University. He also holds a juris doctor degree from Tulane University.

In addition to associate degrees, the College will also bestow honorary doctorates to former board chairs Elizabeth C. Ogie and Emily Jean McAfee. Ogie served on the board of trustees from 1983 until 2001, chairing the board from 1984 to 1987 and 1992 to 1996. McAfee served on the board of trustees from 1986 until 2013, chairing the board from 1997 until 2010.

Before the ceremony, Cuthbert United Methodist Church will host guests for a light breakfast at 8 a.m., followed by a baccalaureate service at 9 a.m. The Rev. Dr. Peter Vermeulen, who serves as both pastor of Cuthbert UMC and the Andrew College chaplain, will lead the service. Several faculty members will also address the crowd during the service.

After commencement, the day's activities will conclude with lunch in the Turner Dining Hall.



## International Write-In

On April 25, 24 students participated in the 2016 International Write-In. The program, which had more than 70 participating campuses from around the world, aims to bring writers together from across the globe. Swarthmore College (of Pennsylvania) hosts the annual event, and schools like Columbia University and King Saud University participate.

## Softball in the Post-Season



For the first time since transitioning to fast pitch, the Andrew College Lady Fighting Tigers are headed to the GCAA Softball Championships. Following a slow start, the Tigers caught fire, winning 8 of 9 games—including 5 GCAA victories—to vault themselves into the playoff picture, climbing as high as 3rd place in the region. The tournament began April 29, when the team lost 2-1

against Darton State College. The following day, a second loss to Georgia Highlands College closed the team's season. A full recap is available at [www.andrewfightingtigers.com](http://www.andrewfightingtigers.com).

## **Blood Drive**

Led by AndrewServes and in partnership with the American Red Cross Blood Service, students donated more than 45 pints of blood during a collection event on campus.



## Endowment Outperforms Peers

The College's endowment, which helps fund the College's operations and student scholarships, closed fiscal year 2015 at \$10,341,205, marking an increase over previous years. The fund's continued growth highlights wise investments from the board endowment committee, which is chaired by trustee Malon Wickham.

By many standards, the fund has experienced better returns than those of peer organizations. According to the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), for example, endowments smaller than \$25 million typically enjoy returns of 2.3% in a single year. Andrew College's returns for the same time period are 3.77%. Additional, NACUBO finds three-year returns to enjoy a 9.9% rate, five-year returns to enjoy a 10.6% rate and 10-year returns to enjoy a 6% rate. The College's return rates are at 10.04%, 9.59% and 6.24% for each of those categories, suggesting a well-managed investment profile.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Baccalaureate Service

May 7

9 a.m.

Cuthbert UMC

## Spring Commencement featuring Paul Amos (Aflac)

May 7

11 a.m.

Jinks Gymnasium

## Summer Classes Begin

June 2

## Atlanta Alumni Gathering

June 4

4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

*Learn more at [andrewcollege.edu/georgia-alumni](http://andrewcollege.edu/georgia-alumni)*