NEW COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®



THE UNIVERSITY OF

College of Arts & Sciences New College

SPRING | SUMMER 2023 EDITION



Greetings,

Spring 2023 was filled with milestones, accolades, and successes! It is amazing how much our students and faculty can accomplish when they take advantage of the freedom that New College provides.

So far this year, we endowed a scholarship in honor of Carole and Bernie Sloan; welcomed the Sloans and several alumni to our Honors Day ceremony, at which we recognized many of our students; hosted the day-long Levitetz Leadership and Innovation Day; celebrated Dr. Dewar's 2023 SEC Faculty Achievement Award and Rose Doskey's Fulbright Award; hosted several guest speakers and visitors; and held our May graduation ceremony, during which we honored our latest class of graduates and remembered former New College student, Matthew Smith. We also welcomed Dr. Laura Davis as Assistant Director of New College LifeTrack, and bid farewell to Ashley Wilder-Morrison (Levitetz assistant), and Dr. Ellen Spears, who retired in July.

It has been an incredibly productive spring and summer. I hope you enjoy reading all about it!

Best wishes, Julia Cherry, Director



BOOKMARK OUR WEBSITE



to stay up to date with News & Events!

newcollege.ua.edu



HAIL & FAREWELL

Dr. Ellen Spears Retires

Dr. Ellen G. Spears has been a pillar of our New College family since 2009 as our professor of Environmental History. In her time with us, Ellen has lent her extensive knowledge to countless New College students, faculty, and staff. Her research and teaching contributions have been invaluable to our program, and her contagious positivity will be duly missed at Lloyd Hall.

As Ellen retires to her home in Atlanta, GA, with her husband Brian, we bid her farewell and express our gratitude for all she contributed to our team. Thanks for everything, Ellen. Enjoy your next chapters!



Dr. Ellen Griffith Spears and Mr. Brian Spears

Best Wishes to Ashley Wilder-Morrison

For almost two years, Ashley was an integral part of helping to manage the Levitetz Leadership Program. While New College is sad to see her moving on to another department, we couldn't be happier for her.

We are certain that her new work family will find her to be an asset and a joy, and we'll miss her kind and bubbly spirit above all.

We appreciate you, Ashley, and wish you all the best!



Ms. Ashley Wilder-Morrison

WHO'S NEW



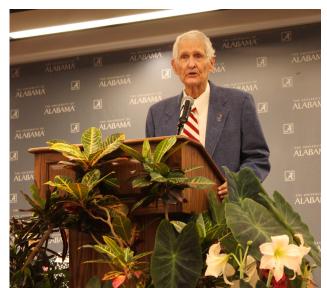
Laura Davis, PhD

We are pleased to introduce Dr. Laura Davis as the new Assistant Director of New College LifeTrack (NCLT). Laura is originally from Enterprise, AL, and completed her undergraduate degree in Athletic Training at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, AL. Laura discovered her passion at Huntingdon, and she knew she wanted to work with students in Higher Education one day. She completed her master's degree in education from Auburn University and decided to work for a few years in Miami, FL, before returning home to sweet home Alabama. She finished her Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration at UA in 2018. For the last 15 years, she has worked at UA in Student Life and has taught leadership courses for NCLT since 2020. Outside of work, Laura loves to read and spend time with family. Welcome to the team, Laura.

At the 2023 Honors ceremony, we were honored to host some very special guests, including keynote speaker and former New College dean, Dr. Bernie Sloan, and his wife Carole. Dr. Sloan delivered words of wisdom and nostalgia to the honorees and attendees, and personally presented this year's Sloan Spirit of New College awards. A great time was had as we recognized some of our exceptional students and their achievements. We were happy to see Gay Lynne Bittle, daughter of the late Fran Geddes, for whom we award the Outstanding Service to New College award, and several other New College alumni, many of whom contributed to the newly endowed scholarship in Bernie and Carole's honor.



Bernie Sloan and The Spirit of New College Awardees



Bernie Sloan delivering his keynote address



Recipients of Outstanding Students in New College Seminar Award



New College alumni, J.D. Wilson and Gay Lynne Bittle



- NEW COLLEGE HONOREES -

Dean Neal Berte Endowed Scholarship

Geoffrey Alintoff

Ashton Smith Rose Doskey

Fran Geddes **Outstanding Service to** New College Award

Dean Bernie Sloan Spirit of New College Award



Armandeep Singh

William Belmonte

Jean O'Conner-Snyder Internship Program Walker County Interns



Olivia Goble Madison DuBoise Tanner Jones Sadie Keller Lorin O'Rear Madison Skinner

Iain Wilson Joseph Hernandez



Hugh Holloway Endowed Scholarship

Jack Watson

Samuel J. Senter **Memorial Scholarship**



James Pemberton Jasmine Lewis

Harry Lyon "Bing" **Blewitt Scholarship** Mia Liacopoulos

Dr. Jerome Rosenberg Scholarship



Olivia Goble

Editor-in-Chief New College Review



Grace Sarkisian

Bernard C. & Alma B. Weber Scholarship Reagan Christian

Samuel Thomas Barnes IV Memorial Scholarship Sean Atchison Ta'Kyla Bates

Byron Franklin & Ophelia Burke Watson Scholarship Noah Jacobs Kyle Mesler

SPRING 2022 -Geoffrey Alintoff Elizabeth Bigelow Maria Evola Candace Keogh Victoria Myers Marlie Thompson Carmen Tizapa-Zamora Benjamin Trost Megan Woodard



FALL 2022 -Geoffrev Alintoff Ivv Borden Ella Boyd Josie Fuller Priya Gilman Arthur Graham Kathleen Kelley Paola Lopez Natalie Revnolds Elizabeth Saggio Grace Sarkisian Armnadeep Singh Ashton Smith Iain Wilson

dowed Scholarship





Sabrina Richard

Suzanne Younger En-

- NEW COLLEGE LIFETRACK HONOREES -

Outstanding Senior Project



Gretchen Akers



Shannon Roulaine Colin Bradshaw Brooke C. Morrow Michael Tindal

Alice Parker Award for Outstanding Work in Literature, Art & Society Danielle K. Drinkard Christopher Macias Anna Russell Outstanding Work in Leadership Studies



Jeffery B. Davidson Nicole P. Gonzales Seth S. Phillips Fawn Weaver

Dean Bernie Sloan Spirit of New College Award



William E. Goodwin

Mary Avis Todd Award for OutstandingWork in Community Studies



Allyson Holliday Michelle D. English

Colgan Bryan Award for Outstanding Work in Science, Technology & Culture



Lisa M. Longshore Link Sunny Tsapatoris Elisabeth Forrest Wright

- LEVITETZ LIGHT BULB AWARDEES -



The Levitetz Leadership Program awards Light Bulb Research funding to support bright, deserving scholars as they develop their ideas to help better our world. These students were recognized for their outstanding research projects and presentations during the Levitetz Leadership and Innovation Day.

Read more about their projects at https://llp.ua.edu

Pictured with Dr. Cherry (from left):

Geoffrey Alintoff: "The Future of Clinical Psychedelics in America"

Jacob Dorris: "Designing Online Tools to Increase Public Participation in Freshwater Mussel Conservation"

- LEVITETZ SCHOLARS -

The Levitetz Scholarships are made possible through the generous donation of New College alumnus, Jeff Levitetz. An entrepreneur while attending UA in the late 70s and early 80s, Mr. Levitetz created these scholarships to recognize New College students who demonstrate entrepreneurship and creativity.

NEW COLLEGE

FALL 2022

Sean Atchison Ivy Borden Kalyn Credi Ethan Ferguson Daisy Hudson Trevor Paige James Pemberton Jacob Pickle Cy Salvant Brian Szczotka Irulan Williams



SPRING 2023

Elizabeth Bigelow Abrielle Brown Victoria Crane Josie Fuller DeAndra Gauntt Jazmyne Isaac Ian Jobst Kyle Richard Devon Siford Brian Szczotka Harley Tandy Marlie Thompson

NEW COLLEGE LIFETRACK



FALL 2022

Tony B. Lea Jackson Mauldin Richard Cargile

SPRING 2023

James Rominger Richard Alabama Lucey Michelle D. Williams



Levitetz Leadership and Innovation Day is the time for entrepreneurial students who participated in the Light Bulb Research Awards and Seed Grant competitions to showcase their work.

On March 24, 2023, Light Bulb recipients presented on their research during an opening session. Then, Seed Grant students presented their ideas in one of four judged categories for a chance to receive additional funding.

Read more about Leadership and Innovation Day at https://llp.ua.edu/2023-levitetz-leadership-innovation-day/

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES DIVISION



SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP DIVISION



FOR-PROFIT DIVISION



LARGE GRANT DIVISION



(L-R): George Berry, Katharine Murray, Christopher Youssef, (*Not Pictured*) Kennedi Grant, Yechiel Peterson, Emily Petro, Funmi Akinpelu, Noah Oladele, Chiagoziem Jideofor

> **WINNER** Luke Turner

WINNER

Emily Petro









(L-R): Luke Turner, Garrett Kennedy, Dania Botello, Delanie Williams, Jake Pietroniro, Emma Torija, Anne Roberts

WINNER James White

(L-R): DeAndra Gauntt, Daryl Deeter, James Pemberton, James White, Ian C. Jobst

> WINNERS Olivia Bruno & Sydney Ringold

(L-R): LaKisha Cargill, Ashleigh Woods, Olivia Bruno, Corban Walsh, Sydney Ringold, Jacob Noordhoek, Hannah Berry, & Kaitlyn Shelver





New College and New College LifeTrack celebrated our Spring 2023 Graduates on May 5, 2023, at the UA Student Center with bagpipe fanfare and words of inspiration from our graduating guest speakers, Sherry Barrow and Kathleen Kelley. The ceremony also included a posthumous degree presentation and heartfelt tribute for the late Matthew Smith delivered by Dr. Julia Cherry. We were grateful to have his mother, Linda Coogan, join us as we presented a commemorative plaque in Matt's honor. Thanks to all who attended to support our students.



Shery Barrow Northport, AL Leadership Studies ~ Summa Cum Laude



Abrielle Brown Irmo, SC Global Health ~ Summa Cum Laude



Lizzy Bigelow Columbus, MS Visual Design & Small Business Management ~ Cum Laude



Annamaria Bleyer Little River, SC Holistic Healthcare



Ivy Borden Birmingham, AL 1. Art History 2. Southern Studies ~ Summa Cum Laude



TaMeisha Buchanan Porter, TX Leadership Studies



Analise Chambers Odenville, AL 1. Computational Liguistics 2. Spanish



Karen Chason Panama City, FL Community Studies



Kalyn Credi South Bend, IN Pre Health & Nonprofit Management ~ Magna Cum Laude



Jacob Dorris Chelsea, AL Environmental Biology ~Summa Cum Laude



Tevin Harris Frisco, TX Leadership Studies



Misty Haynes Gardendale, AL Leadership Studies ~ Cum Laude



Kathleen Kelley Birmingham, AL Arts Administration as Social Practice ~ Summa Cum Laude



Lora Lee McCullough Hot Springs, AR Literature, Art & Society



Ashlyn Lambert Bradford, AR Urban Planning & Social Justice ~ Cum Laude



Richard Alabama Lucey Theodore, AL Leadership Studies ~*Magna Cum Laude*



Jack Mauldin Tuscaloosa, AL Leadership Studies



Madison "Brinn" Murdock Henagar, AL Sports Marketing ~ Magna Cum Laude



Osagie Okoruwa Lubbock, TX Community Studies



Betty "Ann" Olaveson Navarre, FL Community Studies



Michael Rowe Cary, NC Holistic Medicine ~ Summa Cum Laude



Melanie Sanders Senoia, GA Literature, Art, & Society ~ Magna Cum Laude



Sydney Simmons Hoover, AL Neurobiology



Elaine Darcy Smith Foley, AL Literature, Art & Society ~ Summa Cum Laude



Terri Smith Mount Hope, AL Leadership Studies



Jacob Snead Northport, AL Writing for Media



Laura Beth "LB" Taylor Starkville, MS Sports Administration ~ Cum Laude



Nancy Thomas Hoover, AL Leadership Studies

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



Courtney Tooson Birmingham, AL Leadership Studies



Deanah White Tuscaloosa, AL Leadership Studies



Tristan Williams Dallas, TX Leadership Studies



David Artushin Mount Pleasant, SC Communication, Advocacy & Community Engagement ~ Magna Cum Laude

Aaron Blankenship Thorsby, AL Community Studies ~ Magna Cum Laude

Joshua Capps Los Angeles, CA Leadership Studies Rick Cargile Fayette, AL Leadership Studies

Michael "Cole" Dobbins Flint, TX Sports Management ~ Cum Laude

Rose Doskey Marrero, LA Language, Culture & Society ~ Summa Cum Laude

Tabetha FranklinPort Neches, TXLeadership Studies

Daisy Hudson Huntsville, AL Minority Representation in American Pop Culture ~ Summa Cum Laude Christopher "Chris" Jones Salem, NH Sports Management ~ Magna Cum Laude

Afton Lorenz Brevard, NC Leadership Studies ~Magna Cum Laude

Quest Momeni Montgomery, AL Literature, Art & Society

Leigh Ann Ozment Decatur, AL Community Studies

James Pemberton Huntsville, AL Audio/Visual Production

James Rominger Brookwood, AL Leadership Studies

Deidre Rooker Cleveland, AL Leadership Studies ~ Summa Cum Laude

Brittany Sadler Fountain Valley, CA Leadership Studies

Elizabeth Saggio Milwaukee, WI Critical Love Studies

Jonathon Smalley Tuscaloosa, AL Leadership Studies ~ Cum Laude Ashton Smith Tuscola, IL 1. Books & Design 2. Communications & Advertising ~ Summa Cum Laude

Brandon Vegas Carriere, MS Science, Technology & Culture ~ Summa Cum Laude

Robert "Rob" Wilson Decatur, AL Corporate & Community Social Responsibility

E. Forrest Wright Richmond, VA Literature, Art & Society

We are proud to recognize each of these outstanding scholars and their achievements, and are honored to have been a part of their educational journeys.

We wish them all the very best in their future academic and professional pursuits.

Congratulations to our newest alumni!



NEW COLLEGE VISITORS



Nabil Ayers Book Tour

Nabil Ayers was invited by Dr. Andrew Dewar to speak on February 21 about his book, *My Life in the Sunshine*, and his role as President of Beggars Group US, a major consortium of record labels in NYC.

Students were inspired and enlightened by the story of his search for family and his entrepreneurial trajectory through the music industry.

His book is available at https:// www.penguinrandomhouse. com/books/651853/my-life-inthe-sunshine-by-nabil-ayers

Our Guests from Japan

On March 8, 2023, New College Professor Ellen Griffith Spears met with scholars from Japan's Meiji and Ibaraki universities. They came to Alabama to research PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) and environmental justice campaigns in the U.S., particularly in Anniston, Alabama.

After an informative exchange in New College, the international visitors traveled to meet with activists in Anniston.



From left, Dr. Shiki Wang, M.A., University of Alabama, American Studies, Ph.D., Meiji University; Dr. Julia Cherry, Director, New College; Dr. Ellen Griffith Spears, Professor, New College; Dr. Ryoichi Terada, Professor, Department of Psychology and Sociology, Meiji University, Japan; Dr. Yayoi Haraguchi, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Ibaraki University.

NEW COLLEGE VISITORS



Hultgren Masterclass

On February 1, 2023, Prof. Holland Hopson hosted cellist, Craig Hultgren. He met with students from New College in between his masterclass for acoustic and electric cellists at UA's School of Music and his solo performance in the Moody Recital Hall that evening. His visit was part of a tour of the southeastern United States. We were glad he could share his musical gifts and insights with our students.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GUESTS & VISITORS FROM NEAR AND FAR

OUR DOORS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO THE INNOVATORS OF THE WORLD



Drs. Sehrish Shafi (left) and Rehana Shahid (right) shadowed Dr. Cherry for a day

Guests from Pakistan

In early February, UA hosted a group of 28 female university leaders from Pakistan as part of a USAID project to build up higher education systems around the world. As part of the program, the women spent February 6, 2023, shadowing various leaders on campus. Dr. Julia Cherry was pleased to host Dr. Sehrish Shafi from Mirpur University of Science & Technology and Dr. Rehana Shahid from The University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore.

NEW COLLEGE OUTINGS

Urban Spaces: Federal Courthouse



Dr. Ellen Spears and her NEW/ AMS 439/539 Urban Spaces class visited the Federal Courthouse in Tuscaloosa on April 20, 2023.

On this trip, students learned about the role of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama and toured the murals depicting the history of Tuscaloosa. The tour was given by Career Law Clerk, Anna Belle Wilder Norton.

New College in Boston



On June 1, 2023, New College Alumni, Dr. Lane McLelland (1982) and Dr. Jackson Harris (2016), joined by New College Assistant Director, Prof. John Miller, co-presented at NASPA's 2023 Civic Learning & Democratic Engagement Meeting in Boston. The group discussed symbiotic relationships between curricular and co-curricular opportunities for students to strengthen civic knowledge and capacities. With an eye toward helping others augment similar opportunities at their campuses, McLelland, Harris, and Miller explained how viewing civic initiatives, coursework, internship programs, and minors as interrelated could strengthen the civic learning ecosystems at member institutions.

New College in New York



Professors Holland Hopson and John Miller participated in a concert at New York City's Skyscraper Museum on May 26, 2023, which was hosted by Hopson's collaborators and violin duo, Miolina. Comprised of Mioi Takeda and Lynn Bechtold, the group performed pieces selected to evoke New York's skyline, including Professor Hopson's composition for violin and live electronics, "A Long Line of Clouds Just Above the Trees", for which this concert was its premiere. As part of the performance, Prof. Miller read his new poem, "Temples in Air", which considers the senses of awe and wonder skyscrapers inspire.



NEW COLLEGE ON THE MOVE!





NEW 337: Sustainable Home Landscaping with Leah Connell



NEW 335: Everyday Wildlife in Alabama with Wayne Ford







NEW 243: Interdisciplinary Sciences with Dr. Amanda Espy-Brown



\mathcal{O} & ACTIVITE VENTS

Levitetz Leadership Program "How To Make a Pitch" Workshop with Amy Pirkle

Levitetz Leadership Program TRIVIA NIGHT!







Digital Making Plot Device Exhibition with Holland Hopson

Walker County Internship



Interns (left to right): Lorin O'Rear, Madison Skinner, Madison DuBoise, Tanner Jones, Sadie Keller, and Olivia Goble.

July marked the end of the 13th year of New College's civic engagement internship in Walker County, Alabama. In partnership with the Walker Area Community Foundation and the David Mathews Center for Civic Life, the internship placed New College and other UA students with Jasper-area nonprofits for eight weeks this summer.

Supervised by Prof. John Miller and local partners, this year's interns worked on a range of issues, including: opioid response, trauma informed care, family services, LatinX outreach, and community development. Their experience culminated with public presentations in Jasper on July 28.

King of the Court



In March, New College student, Aaron Berry, and his teammates on the UA Adapted Athletics Men's Wheelchair Basketball Team, won the 2023 National Championship! Aaron is also a current player for the Under 23 Team representing the USA.

Learn more about Aaron and the team at https://bamaadapted.com/sports/ mens-wheelchair-basketball/roster/ aaron-berry/58

Dinner with the Directors



Dr. Julia Cherry and Professor John Miller hosted seven students for Dinner with a Professor at their home on February 1, 2023. As always, good food, topics, and vibes were on the menu.





SEC Faculty Achievement Award

Earlier this year, Dr. Andrew Dewar received the 2023 SEC Faculty Achievement Award, which recognizes one faculty from each SEC member institution per year for their outstanding records in research and scholarship. New College is proud to be the home to two UA recipients in the past three years! Dr. Catherine Roach received the award in 2021, and both she and Dr. Dewar were honored at a College of Arts & Sciences reception on May 4, 2023.



Drs. Andrew Dewar (left) and Catherine Roach (right) with Dean Joseph Messina at the SEC Faculty Achievement reception

Rose Doskey: Fulbright Scholar

New College is proud to announce that another of its graduates received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Award. Rose, who earned a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a depth study in language, culture and society, will teach in Germany.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we announce that one of Dr. Julia Cherry's graduate students, Jacob "Jake" Dybiec, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, July 3, 2023. As a team member in Dr. Cherry's Wetland Ecology Lab, Jake worked with New College students conducting undergraduate research in ecology and environmental science. Although not a New College student, Jake was frequently seen in the halls of Lloyd and occasionally made appearances at New College events. Jake was an amazing student and friend to all. He will be dearly missed.

More about Jake can be found at https://bsc.ua.edu/in-memory-of-jake-dybiec/

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Mrs. Elaine Darcy Smith

Mrs. Elaine D. Smith

Elaine Darcy Smith graduated with honors this Spring at the age of 77, a long awaited and hard-earned acheivement. Her journey to her bachelor's degree began with a pamphlet for the New College LifeTrack program that she happened to find one day after completing her associate's degree at Coastal Alabama Community College.

Elaine started her college career when she was 71 after some encouragement from her family, and she hopes her story helps people realize that it's never too late to achieve a life-long dream.

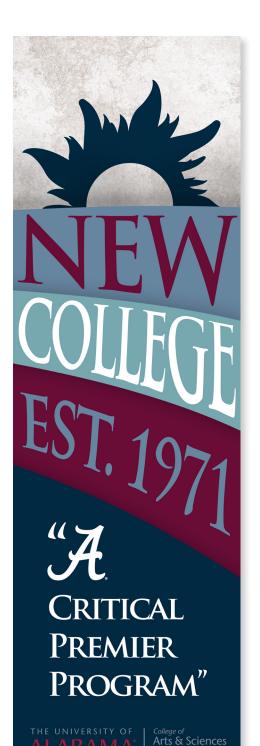
Read the full <u>UA News Article</u> about Elaine's inspirational road to graduation here: news.ua.edu/2023/04/ua-grad-77-its-never-too-late-to-chase-your-dream



Elaine and her Mother-in-Law, Mae



Want to be in the spotlight? Email us at <u>ncfrndsk@ua.edu</u> and tell us about all the great things you're doing!



Email our office associate, Jennifer Kunz (<u>jrkunz@ua.edu</u>), or complete the Alumni Update Form online (<u>newcollege.ua.edu/alumninews</u>) if you have changes to your Contact Information or if you have any information or achievements you'd like us to know about!

MORE NEW COLLEGE NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- The scholarship established in honor of Bernie and Carole Sloan was fully endowed thanks to several donations received earlier this year. We thank everyone who contributed to this scholarship, as well as those who continue to donate to New College, for your support of our students.
- Congratulations to Prof. Jennifer Caputo on receiving this year's Levitetz FLIP award for her project, "Enhancing Student Engagement through Experiential Learning in NEW 212/213 Creativity Seminars".
- Congratulations to Drs. Cherry and Elliott, who along with their colleague, Dr. Nate Jones (Biology), received funding from NOAA to research marsh elevations at two National Estuarine Research Reserves.
- Drs. Barbara Brickman, Ted Trost, and Vincent Willis showcased their respective book covers as part of the exhibit, "On the Cover: Books Published by A&S Faculty", at the Dinah Washington Cultural Arts Center in March.
- Dr. Andrew Dewar was awarded one of three 2023-24 Alabama State Council for the Arts music fellowships.
- Congratulations and thanks to Drs. Marysia Galbraith and Kim Colburn for being elected to the Faculty Senate as excellent representatives of New College.
- Congratulations to Prof. John Miller on being inducted into the UMS-Wright Arts Hall of Fame.
- Congratulations to Dr. Vincent Willis, whose application for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor was approved by the Provost.



Dr. Vincent Willis in front of the cover for his book, Audacious Agitation