



**STRONGER
TRUER
SEWanee**
The Campaign for
the University of the South

IMPACT

The newsletter for *Stronger Truer Sewanee—The Campaign for the University of the South* | **FEBRUARY 2020**



Students, faculty, staff, and community members met to celebrate nearly \$30,000 in grants made through the community philanthropy program.

FOUNDATIONS OF COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY

In November, a group of Sewanee students, faculty, and staff gathered for lunch in a meeting room in McClurg Dining Hall to meet an educational pioneer: Dr. Sybil Hampton, president of the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, based in Little Rock, Arkansas. A lifelong proponent of social justice and education, Hampton was part of the second group of students to integrate Arkansas' Central High School following the groundbreaking Little Rock Nine. That evening, she would deliver the keynote address, "Playing the Long Game," at the Philanthropy Internship Grant Awards Ceremony.

Both the lunch and the ceremony were the culmination of a yearlong process for a group of six students who had been chosen as philanthropy interns. In the spring semester, they attended a class led by Nicky Campbell Hamilton, C'99, who develops community partnerships in her role with the Office of Civic Engagement. Then in spring and summer, they shadowed the grantmaking process of the South Cumberland

Community Fund. Finally, after learning philanthropy theory and seeing that theory put into practice by an innovative community organization, the students were empowered to make their own grants.

"I thoroughly enjoyed our discussion of time, treasure, and talent [in the class]," said Teresa Colhoun, C'20. "It can be difficult for young people to feel adequate to engage in philanthropy because we so often associate philanthropy with the giving and taking of money. However, talent is also vital to the success of philanthropies."

Colhoun was also moved by connections she made in the community. "It was inspiring ... to hear that so many individuals, all of whom lead busy lives, are going out of their way to develop programs, engage in their communities, and help others." Colhoun has been encouraged to engage in philanthropy and community work "throughout my life."

Eight grants totaling \$29,887 were awarded at the ceremony and are now at work providing basic services, education and enrichment for inmates, financial

literacy training, mathematics education enrichment at a local high school, promotion of a recreational trail, and youth sports.

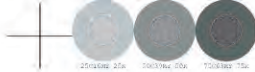
This work is supported by the Fund for Civic Engagement; Antoinette and Ben Brewster, C'70; Lisa Green Brock, P'14, P'16, and Charles Brock, C'87, P'14, P'16; the Chisholm Foundation; and Dr. Charles Robert Clark and Joanne M. Clark, P'80, P'82, P'85. The University hopes to raise an endowment to sustain this innovative partnership between a community fund and a university as they work together to build conditions of thriving.

To make a gift to the Fund for Community Philanthropy, a new endowment supporting this important work, contact strongertruergifts@sewanee.edu.

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Stronger Truer Sewanee surpasses \$271 million—\$21 million in excess of goal. New advancement goals focus on financial aid, 21st century programs, and the facilities to house them.





MAKING LIVING SEWANEE CONNECTIONS



Rob Crichton, C'71

“Belonging” is one of the latest buzzwords in higher education, and a sense of belonging as early as possible in students’ careers creates positive outcomes, from retention to academic achievement to postgraduate success. Sewanee is working hard at building belonging through efforts such as the “Finding Your Place” first-year program; better mentoring through undergraduate research, leadership programs in business, civic engagement, and pre-health; and a revitalized Career Center. But we have always placed belonging and the EQB ethic at the center of our identity. The result for many is that a feeling of belonging becomes a feeling of responsibility. This issue of *Impact* features stories of belonging that have been forged into stories of family, where Sewanee is very much a living presence in the lives of these people. *Impact* is ostensibly about donors. But in reality, these stories are about family and the gifts we give one another.

STEADY EDDIE

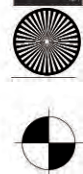
Every story in *Impact* ultimately comes down to what motivates people to give to their alma mater, and Rob Crichton, C’71, has thought hard about his intentions.

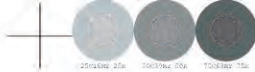
“I’ve been a ‘steady Eddie’ for a long time,” says Crichton. It’s a claim that is backed up by the record, with giving that rises with Crichton’s age. And while the focus of his giving has changed over the years, the regularity and reliability of it has never waned.

Crichton explains it this way: “You will give to Sewanee because you loved your experience as a student and also because Sewanee continues to have a place in your life.” As a Nashville native and current resident, Crichton has been close enough to his alma mater to continue that living connection. “Over the years, if I was going through a rough patch, I could come to Sewanee,” he says. “I might visit an old professor or just sit at Green’s View and enjoy the scenery.”

Just in the past year, Crichton has made gifts to the 1899 football team film project, *Unrivaled*, YSR golf, and the William Ralston Listening Library. In keeping with the idea of a living connection, these gifts are animated by the personal. Of *Unrivaled*, Crichton has this to say: “It’s not just the project itself, though the story of the 1899 football team is certainly a Sewanee distinction. More than that, I was motivated by sympathy for the guys putting the film together.” (Of the six individuals on the production team, five are Sewanee alumni. See sewanee1899.org for more information). I’ve been involved with two or three projects like that, and I know it is difficult.” One of the projects was to document the life of Andrew Lytle, and Crichton was recruited to lead fundraising for the project. “I first wanted to know if Mr. Lytle wanted to do it, so I visited him in Monteagle, and we decided to go ahead.” The film, entitled “A Steady Sense of Time,” was directed by Vernon Taylor. He was also involved in the funding for the publication of Charles Harrison’s collection of essays titled *Shakespeare’s Insistent Theme*.

Crichton’s support of golf has a personal element as well, and he is motivated by the idea that Head Coach Nate Parrish is doing a good job and that the program’s people deserve support.





As for the William Ralston Listening Library, Crichton is obviously motivated by memories of listening to music with Ralston himself in Sewanee. "He had an amazing collection of music, all in impeccable condition, and he would invite us over to listen," Crichton remembers. "I was and still am a jazz enthusiast, but I had a difficult time convincing Ralston to appreciate it." One night, at Ralston's suggestion, Crichton brought a new record, Dave Brubeck's *Brandenburg Gate: Revisited*. "We listened to about half the first side," Crichton says. "And he lifted the needle off and said, 'That sounds like a sick Caruso.'"

Past, present, and future mesh in Crichton's theory of giving. Memories of times and events in the past coupled with hopes for a better future energize his giving and his love for his alma mater.

LOVING THE PEOPLE

One reason Brittany Macon, C'14, likes her job in real estate law at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings is that when the outcome is good, everyone involved is happy. "When I went to law school [at Vanderbilt], I thought I was going to be a defense attorney," she says. "But I realized that life was not for me. For one thing, when you go to court, even though there is an outcome that favors one party over another, in reality no one ever wins. Real estate is different. There is a tangible good outcome; you can drive past a building and think, 'I helped make that deal.' Everyone makes new personal connections; and often those new connections are ready to make the next deal."

Sitting for an interview in a gleaming conference room overlooking Nashville's Music Row and the "Musica" statue in the roundabout where Division and 16th Avenue meet, Macon is a bright and positive presence. A recipient of the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Medallion as a graduating senior, her Sewanee resume is glittering. Assistant proctor, proctor, and then head proctor for the "Finding Your Place" first-year program, she was deeply embedded in student life. She developed and implemented a healthy life program called Choices 101, and was the African American Alliance's community service chair.

But for Macon, Sewanee is not part of her past—it's part of her ongoing



Brittany Macon, C'14

reality as a regular donor to the Sewanee Fund. "I've never separated myself from Sewanee; I have an ongoing connection. I go back to talk with Sewanee students at Beyond the Gates, and, because I was homecoming queen, I went back to crown the new queen the year after I graduated and try to go back as often as I can."

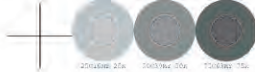
In part, that ongoing connection may be related to her brother Brandon's presence on campus as a member of the Class of 2020.

"I would not be where I am without Sewanee," she says. "Hagi Bradley [a former associate dean of students] was able to make some connections for me that

led to my internship at the firm." Yet, for Macon, the connection is more intense than that practical matter of a job. "I'm a Sewanee junkie," she says. "There are four of us here at the firm, and we have a common bond, and I am often aware when a client also has a Sewanee connection. Lots of people love their alma mater, but with Sewanee, the connection is different. We love the school, but we also love the people."

While a major focus of the Sewanee Fund is raising unrestricted gifts, donors may also make gifts that focus on enhancing current operations. To learn more, contact sewanee@sewanee.edu.





AROUND EVERY TURN

Kate Belknap-Bruchak, C'83, is in one of her happiest places when she is paddling down the Main Salmon River in Idaho with friends. The water is moving with lots of energy, the scenery is spectacular, and the time with others is precious. A part-time river guide, Belknap-Bruchak knows how to read a stream, and she knows every aspect of a river, from the way the water moves to the rock art on the cliffs nearby and the flora and fauna. A professor, an adventurer, an outdoor educator, and a devotee of mythology, when Belknap-Bruchak looks at her Sewanee story, she has this to say: "The fact that I went to Sewanee influenced every turn in my life."

The creativity with which she leads her life is one echo of her Sewanee background. Kate teaches full time at Colorado Mesa University: two mythology courses, an interdisciplinary course focusing on the Colorado River, and freshman English. "Everyone in the department teaches the freshman course," she says.

On breaks and weekends, Belknap-Bruchak pursues her other avocations. For many years, she was a river ranger in Dinosaur National Monument, and she has been a ski instructor at Powderhorn Resort near her home in western Colorado. "When I moved here, I was driving down the highway one day and thought, 'What do I most enjoy?'" The answer was teaching English, skiing, and being outdoors. "I just began putting things together that fit that picture."

Along with gifts to women's soccer and field hockey, Belknap-Bruchak has just made a contribution to establish a Cornerstone Scholarship for a Sewanee student. The Cornerstone program pairs donors of annual scholarships with students, and it is one foundation of fundraising for financial aid that is a top priority for Sewanee.

"I really zeroed in on the Cornerstone Scholarship for one thing because my only real skill is teaching. Going along with that, I very strongly believe in education—and education for everyone! The Cornerstone really spoke to me as an avenue for accomplishing that idea."

To learn more about the Cornerstone program, contact strongertruergifts@sewanee.edu



Kate Belknap-Bruchak, C'83, sees Sewanee at every turn in her life. River guide, ski instructor, and English instructor, she is a strong proponent of education and has given a Cornerstone Scholarship.

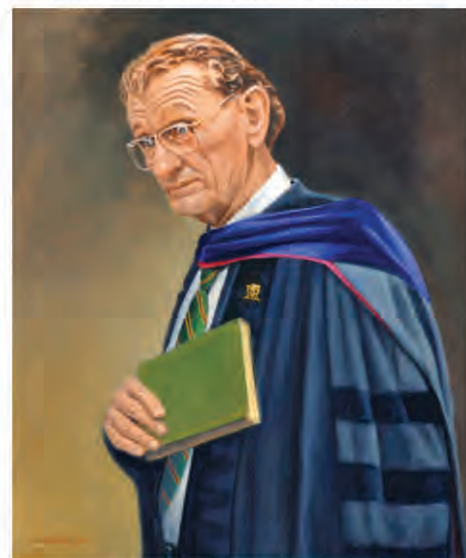
NAYLOR BEQUEST ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

In September, longtime Spanish Professor Dr. Eric Naylor, C'58, passed away, and the campus community mourned and remembered his legacy. He touched the lives of so many in so many ways, not only in Sewanee, but in Spain, in a community where he annually studied and contributed to civic life.

One of Naylor's most prized possessions was an elaborate toolbox that was built by his grandfather over a century ago. The toolbox was prominently displayed in his living room, along with the prototype of a hand-held mechanical sower—the likes of which is still on sale in farm and garden stores around the world—invented by that same forefather.

For someone fascinated with tools, it is fitting that in making Sewanee the beneficiary of a portion of his estate, Naylor used every tool available to him. He left a donation to the University in his will. In his retirement years, he established many different charitable annuities (gifts to the University that supply the donor with life income). He made Sewanee the beneficiary of his retirement account and life insurance policy, and he also willed his house and property in Sewanee and Obion County to the University. These gifts will be used primarily for the scholarship fund and, additionally, to support other causes within the University community that were important to Dr. Naylor.

The result of all these gifts to the University will be the establishment of one of the larger scholarship endowments at Sewanee. First preference for awards will go to aspiring students from Naylor's hometown of Union City, Tennessee. At the very least, the gift acknowledges Naylor's love for humanity and his alma mater. At most, it will launch a virtual cycle, with some new student from the plains of north-west Tennessee launching, with the good graces of a Sewanee education, an illustrious career as a scholar, teacher, mentor, and the very best of friends.



Generations of Sewanee students counted Eric Naylor as a friend. As a result of his bequest, Sewanee now has a generous scholarship endowment, with first preference to students from his native Union City, Tennessee.





Charles Nabit, C'77, of Baltimore, Maryland, with Vice-Chancellor McCardell at the dedication of Smith Hall. The Nabit Art Building is named in his honor, as he previously made a gift toward its construction. His new commitment helps build a new home for the photography program near the studio art building

PHOTOGRAPHY EARNS A NEW HOME

Last summer, Chuck Nabit, C'77, made a gift that has launched a project to renovate Wiggins Hall as a home for Sewanee's excellent photography program. In the early 2000s, Nabit made a leadership gift to a new studio art building on Georgia Avenue, and the Nabit Art Building became the home of the painting and sculpture programs. At the time, a photography addition was designed, but because the photography studio in Carnegie had recently been renovated and outfitted, the program did not move to Georgia Avenue. Now, with the renovation of Carnegie Hall planned for economics, the Office of Global Citizenship, the Career Center, and the Babson Center, photography will move to Wiggins, adjacent to Nabit Art Center.

"I have always wanted to give Pradip [Malde]'s program the space it so richly deserves," says Nabit. "At one point, some of us had considered building a new, standalone space for photography. This year, when the opportunity to repurpose Wiggins for a complementary space for photography became available, I thought it was a great adaptive reuse, and I was inspired to make a gift that would move that process forward."

The photography program at Sewanee is distinguished by its focus on digital narrative as a way of building human thriving in places such as rural Haiti and rural Appalachia that face intense economic challenges. Professor Malde is also a pioneer in platinum palladium printing, and he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2018 for work about female genital cutting, that "looks askance at the explicit but, with widened eyes, directly at loss and sacrifice".

With his gift, Nabit has claimed naming rights for a new front entryway porch for the Wiggins Hall renovation, and several naming opportunities are available for alumni and other friends who wish to support Sewanee's superb photography program and the people who have made it work. Naming opportunities include two studio offices (\$50,000), a workroom (\$125,000), a digital classroom (\$175,000) and a social space (\$50,000).

MCCRORY FAMILY ESTABLISHES AN ENDOWMENT FOR THE SEWANEE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Sewanee Summer Music Festival is one of the most venerable summer music institutes in the nation, preceded by the Cumberland

Forest Festival. In 1963, Vice-Chancellor Edward McCrady tapped a young cellist of extraordinary abilities and wide-ranging talents to lead the Music Center, now the Sewanee Summer Music Festival.

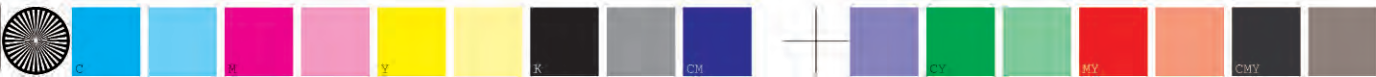
Her name was Martha McCrory, and for 42 years, she brilliantly led the program, establishing it as one of the nation's premier orchestral training programs, greatly expanding its reputation at home and abroad. Martha also taught in the Music Department, leaving a lasting impact on students of the University along with generations of young musicians.

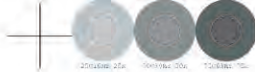
In the summer of 2019, McCrory's nieces, Cheri, Mary, and Martha, established the Martha McCrory Scholarship for the Sewanee Summer Music Festival. The largest endowment gift for the festival in over a decade, it will support scholarship funding for festival participants and allow for enhanced creative activities during the summer season. The principal cello chairs of both orchestras and the final concert of each season will be named in honor of McCrory.

For more information about the endowment fund and the music festival, please visit ssmf.sewanee.edu



A new scholarship endowment has been created in memory of Martha McCrory, the longtime director of one of the premier summer music festivals in the country.





REFINEMENTS OF THE LIBERAL ARTS EXCITE TODAY'S STUDENTS

The original liberal arts of grammar, logic, rhetoric, arithmetic, geometry, music theory, and astronomy are firmly embedded in the Sewanee curriculum, yet the 21st century presents challenges that were unanticipated when Cicero coined the term *artes liberales*. Donors to the *Stronger Truer Sewanee* campaign contributed nearly \$50 million for reinforcing academic distinction. Along with that success, however, three central priorities that respond to admitted students' interest in hands-on learning, global opportunities, and pre-professional education remain underfunded.

- **Civic Engagement.** A new civic engagement program was generously funded by a grant from a family foundation. At its heart, civic engagement is an antidote to the polarization that characterizes much of contemporary discourse. Through hands-on opportunities, students learn to understand themselves and others, and work across differences to change the world. A sustaining endowment is critical for this work, and we still need to raise at least **\$3 million** in endowment for full program implementation.
- **The Babson Center for Global Commerce and the Wm. Polk Carey Business Program.** The Babson Center and Wm. Polk Carey Business Program make strategic connections across campus to prepare students for success in an increasingly global world. We've raised over 60% of the \$12 million goal, which still gives donors a lot of room to make an enormous impact on the future of this educational asset.
- **Pre-professional programs.** A little over \$2 million was donated in the *Stronger Truer Sewanee* campaign for support of pre-professional programs, and those funds have led to an overhaul of how Sewanee prepares students for success in professional schools. Funds are still needed to grow the Pre-Health Endowment, which ensures students can successfully train for health-related careers.



A new historical marker proclaims this house to be "Saints' Rest," one of the oldest structures on campus. Soon it will be the home of the Sewanee Review, the Sewanee Writers' Conference and Young Writers' Conference, and the Sewanee School of Letters, bringing much of Sewanee's literary action under one roof.

BUILDING A CAMPUS FOR TODAY'S STUDENTS

Chuck Nabit's gift to the Wiggins renovation is moving forward a project to build a new home for Sewanee's extraordinarily innovative and robust photography program. Naming opportunities at Wiggins include two studio offices (\$50,000), a workroom (\$125,000), a digital classroom (\$175,000) and a social space (\$50,000).

Over the next two years, several projects will be launched or completed for the arts, Sewanee literary programs, as well as the distributed commons concept. Naming opportunities are available for these projects and others that will shape the campus for many decades. While each project will have naming opportunities based on the size of the facility being named and that facility's prominence in the project, in general, naming rights are given to individuals who make gifts at the following levels:

- Offices and study spaces: \$50,000 and above
- Seminar rooms and similar spaces: \$125,000 and above
- Classrooms and laboratories: \$175,000 to \$350,000 and above (depending on equipment needed)
- Large public spaces: \$350,000 and above

WHAT'S PLANNED NEXT?

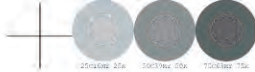
Renovation of the historic **Lines House** (Angel's Rest) will house some of Sewanee's most distinctive assets—its creative writing programs. With the construction of Wiggins and Lines underway, work will also begin on a **renovation of Carnegie Hall** to house politics, economics, business, philosophy, the Career Center, an improved advising program, and the Babson Center for Global Commerce. This project will provide facilities for expanded and improved programs that focus on student success—both in college and afterwards.

Planning for the **Social Commons** project on the site of Thompson Union is in process. That project has an anticipated construction start date of December 2020.

These projects, along with a new bookstore and Wellness Commons—projects that are well along in construction now—will transform the campus, making it more fit to the particular educational and developmental challenges of students in the 21st century.

For more information about how to make a gift to one of these projects, contact strongertruergifts@sewanee.edu





STRONGER TRUER SEWANEE: \$271.2 MILLION ON DEC. 3, 2019

\$250M AND BEYOND

As of Dec. 3, 2019, *Stronger Truer Sewanee* had raised over \$271 million, well above the monetary goal originally set for the campaign. In the coming months, we are trying to raise additional financial aid resources to provide philanthropic support for the University's commitment to covering 100% of demonstrated

need for all students, beginning with the class entering in 2020. We are also raising funds to sustain our powerful new program in civic engagement as well as to complete needed renovations to the campus to meet the needs of today's students. Join us.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY CAMPAIGN OBJECTIVE

Together, we have worked hard to increase access and opportunity, build academic programs that respond to the challenges of the 21st century, build a student-centered campus, and enhance education for tomorrow's church leaders. In addition to working toward those important ends, we have raised over \$97 million for current operations and needs that are not yet designated.



Ensuring Access, Value, and Opportunity

With over \$64 million raised for student support through scholarships and internships, we hope to expand the financial aid endowment to increase access and hold the line on costs to new Sewanee families. We will also support the Sewanee Pledge, ensuring that students have the financial aid needed for a study away experience and a guaranteed paid internship. **This work is urgent in times of unparalleled challenges to the liberal arts college sector.**



Reinforcing Academic Distinction

With nearly \$52 million raised, we have created a new Learning Commons in Jessie Ball duPont Library, bolstered pre-business and pre-health programs, and built the Office of Civic Engagement. **Sustaining these new assets will require substantial new endowment (\$12 million in all) or the equivalent in annual gifts.**



Enriching the Sewanee Experience

With over \$31 million raised, we have upgraded athletic facilities, built the striking and welcoming Sewanee Inn, and taken the first steps toward building a learner-centered campus with renewed student life facilities. In the coming year, we will look to fulfill the promise we have made to students by **completing funding for a distributed commons that puts student needs first.**



Educating Tomorrow's Church Leaders

With \$27 million raised, we have made great progress on funding a new facility for the School of Theology, and we've created innovative new programs and increased our resources for financial aid. In the coming months, **we will continue to seek funds for an enhanced home for the seminary and build financial aid resources to ensure that seminarians graduate with as little debt as possible.**



