

If you've been wondering what English majors/minors (and Communication Studies majors and Creative Writing majors/minors) and alums--as well as your departmental faculty--have been up to lately, please to enjoy this semester's update below.

STUDENTS

Sigma Tau Delta Induction

On April 10th, at the department's Spring Brunch, several students were inducted into Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society:

- **Ella Casto-Waters '25**
- **Ansley Crisp '25**
- **Cassie Gonzalez '25**
- **Sam Hauff '25**
- **Kai Reid '25**
- **Maddi Wood '25**

2025 Honors Day Convocation

Several of our majors and minors were recognized for their achievements at the [2025 Honors Day Convocation](#):

- **Kai Reid '25** was named the Outstanding Senior in English and the Outstanding Senior in Psychology.
- **Sam Hauff '25** was named the Outstanding Senior in Communication Studies.
- **Ella Casto-Waters '25** received the Joseph O. Nixon Leadership Award.
- **Dakota Price '25** was named the Outstanding Senior in Political Science.

Capstone Research

In April, four of our majors presented their Capstone research:

- **Dallas McKiver**, "How Extremist Christianity and Racism Negatively Affect the Way the Voodoo Religion Is Seen in Media"
- **Marino Martin '25**, "Red-Pilled: Myth Making in the Modern Era"
- **Jake Randolph**, "Streaming of College Football"
- **Eli Vergolino-Holiday '25**, "The Role of Fake Media: Storytelling, Ethics, and Public Perception"

Honors Day

On Honors Day (April 24th), several of our students presented their research and/or creative writing:

- **Kaia Barringer** participated in the Creative Writing Senior Portfolio student reading.
- **Minor alumna Gabriela Brinez-Pardo '24** presented "Curating Exhibitions and Purpose at the South Pacific WWII Museum Curating Exhibitions and Purpose at the South Pacific WWII Museum" at the Internship Poster Session.
- **Ella Casto-Waters '25** presented her WGST research project "Faith, Advocacy, and Justice: Reflections from the United Nations' 69th Commission on the Status of Women"
- **Cassie Gonzalez '25** performed in Hangman, the Theater performance.
- **Sam Hauff '25** participated in the Creative Writing Senior Portfolio student reading.
- **Mickey Paredes '25** presented her Honors Research project, "Sports Injury and Identity."
- **Minor Dakota Price '25** presented her Political Science Honors Research project, "Faith, Politics, and Polarization: Understanding Catholic Voting Patterns in Post-Roe America"
- **Kai Reid '25** presented "The Effect of Music on Student Productivity" at the Psychology Capstone Poster Symposium and also participated in the Creative Writing Senior Portfolio student reading.

ALUMS

Ella Casto-Waters '25 started a Master's in Higher Education Administration at Georgetown University. She is also working as a Chapter Support Coordinator for her sorority Alpha Delta Pi's Executive Office.

Ansley Crisp '25 started a new position as Marketing and Communications Coordinator at Thornwell Charter School in July.

In June, **minor alumna Brooke Chandler '25** joined Aura--which provides "all-in-one protection from identity theft, scams, and online threats for the whole family"--as a Sales Specialist.

In June, **Brynn Edwards '25** began work as a Sales Representative and is now a Corporate Trainer for Brown & Partners, "which provide[s] marketing and sales solutions in the B2C [Business-to-Consumer] sector for the Greenville metropolitan area."

Samantha Hauff '25 received a Fulbright Award (specifically an ETA, English Teaching Assistant Award) to teach English in Montana, Bulgaria for the 2025-2026 school year. [Read more here.](#)

In June, **Maddie Hopkins '24** began a new position as Corporate Communications Coordinator at ScanSource in Greenville.

In August, **Worth Warner '24** began a new position as a Business Development Representative at software company MaintainX in Raleigh, NC.

Kenedie Conaway Jones '23 received a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (she's working on her master's degree in entomology at the University of Georgia). [Read more about the award and Kenedie's experience at PC here.](#)

This summer, **Isabella Quatraro '23** started work at Brenau University in Gainesville, GA, as an Admissions Counselor.

In April, **Heaven Weems '23** started a new position in Charleston, SC, as Project Assistant for Clement Rivers, LLP, Attorneys at Law. In August, she became a Legal Assistant with Turner Padgett Graham & Lainey, P.A., in Columbia, SC.

In May, **Savanna Page, JD '22** completed her law degree at the Charleston School of Law. She reports, "I'm thrilled to share that after a long summer of studying, I have passed the July 2025 Bar Exam with a score high enough to practice in any UBE jurisdiction. I'll officially be sworn in as an ATTORNEY on October 2!!! I have already begun the transition into my new role as an associate at Latham, Keele, Lehman, Ratcliff, Carter & Clarke, where I will be focusing on worker's compensation law."



Minor alumna Kendall McGeorge '21

Minor alumna Kendall McGeorge '21 is Public Programs Manager at the Charlotte Museum of History, which was recently awarded the Museum Impact Award from the American Alliance of Museums, in part because of Kendall's work. Kendall also received a ["Ones to Watch" recognition from the Southeastern Museums Conference](#).

Shannon Kimbrough '20 has been accepted to Mercer University School of Law.

Reese Bates Stanton '19 has started a new position as a Social Studies teacher at Dreher High School in Columbia, SC.

Kendra Talley, JD '17 has been named to the 2026 Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch list. [Read more here](#). Kendra works at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough in Atlanta, GA, where she focuses on Commercial Litigation, Insurance Law, and Product Liability Litigation.

In July, **Katie Ward Stockley '15** started a new position as Account Manager for Matlen Silver, an IT Services and Consulting company.

Minor alumna Jada Suber, PhD '15 has been named the recipient of the 2025 Outstanding Young Alumna Award. She and the other award recipients were celebrated at the [Alumni Awards Ceremony](#) on Saturday, October 18th.

Minor alumna Chantara Tolbert Morton '14 started a new position as a Realtor at Keller Williams Ballantyne Area in Charlotte, NC.

Drew Brandel, PhD '13 was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor of Psychology at PC. He also continues to serve as the Director of the Summer Fellows program.

In September, **Grace Aldridge Foster, MA '13** published "How to Write in a Professional, Authentic Tone of Voice" on Forbes.com. Grace co-founded Bold Type.

Mary Ellis Glymph, MA '13 successfully defended her dissertation "Getting Poked (Lovingly) with a Stick: A Study of Parental Involvement During First-Year Students' College Transitions" in July and is now Dr. Glymph. She received her EdD through the Educational Practice and Innovation EdD Degree Program--Curriculum Studies Concentration from the University of South Carolina.

In April, **Katie Ball Kent, MA '11** was profiled in Triangle Business Journal in the article "Married to a Soldier: First-hand Experiences in Dealing with the Trials of Deployment and More."

Chelsea Wright Loper, MFA '11 received her Ed.S. (Education Specialist) degree in Educational Leadership from Gordon College in May.

A former TV producer, **Alison Feleppa McCall '10** started Alison McCall Copywriting in 2024. She says, "I'm a freelance health and wellness writer with experience working at a healthcare marketing agency, as well as writing for medspas, weight loss clinics, a SaaS company, and a skincare brand." In 2025, she began writing blogs for Medstar Media, Burg + Co. Marketing, and The Collective Source.

Minor alumnus Mac Caldwell, LPC, LPC/S, LAC, LAC/S '06 started a new position in May as the Director of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health.

Minor alumnus Mitchell Spearman, JD '03 has been the Director of Strategic Partnerships at the Winn Family Foundation, Inc., since February.

Kathryn (Kay) Owen Hix, PhD '00 will receive the Mary H. Lehman Service Award at PC's Alumni Awards Ceremony on Saturday, October 18th. Currently, she works in faculty development at the USC School of Medicine in Greenville.

On August 5th, **Oscar "Dee" Parker, '56** passed away at NHC of Clinton.

DEPARTMENT FACULTY

In July, **Dr. Terry Barr** published "This Birmingham Radio Station Put Me in Danger of Smoking Pot" in *ComebackTown*. He published "Southern Pagan Rights" in *Modern Southern Folklore* in August.

Dr. Justin Brent has been named the director of the College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for our SACSCOC Reaffirmation.

Dr. Kendra Hamilton gave the 2025 Honors Day Convocation address, "The Uncomfortable Truth" ([read about it here](#)). She was also named the 2025 Professor of the Year, and you can [read about her commencement address here](#). In June, Dr. Hamilton read her poetry as part of Piccolo Spoleto's annual Sundown Poetry Series in Charleston.

Dr. Lynne Simpson spent a month with her family traveling throughout Japan and South Korea this past summer. For fans of James Clavell's *Shogun*, her itinerary included the castle ruins, shrines, and final resting place of Tokugawa Ieyasu, on whom the eponymous character is based.



Dr. Kendra Hamilton