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**INAUGURATION FOR
PRESIDENT BETSY FLEMING
AND FOUNDER'S DAY**

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2006 — 11:30 AM
TWICHELL AUDITORIUM

ALUMNAE REUNION 2006

(Classes ending in 1 and 6 and the Class of 2005)

APRIL 28–29, 2006

*For more information, contact Elizabeth G. Simons, associate director of alumnae,
at elizabeth.simons@converse.edu or (864) 596-9058.*



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CONVERSE

BULLETIN

FALL 2005



Learn, Serve, Lead

A Converse Legacy is the Greatest Gift



Sharing Converse with your daughter or other talented young women is one of the greatest gifts you can give. Refer a young woman to Converse today by contacting the Office of Admissions at (800) 766-1125 or admissions@converse.edu. Arrange a campus visit via telephone or online at www.converse.edu/admissions.

Plant the Dream....

"My advice to other Converse (Alumnae) Mothers is to start teaching your daughter about Converse when she is very young. Plant the dream and water it with fond stories about your days at Converse. Feed the dream in High School with Junior Jump Start and Senior Day visits, and watch her bloom into a Converse freshman!"

— Liz Topp Klammer '80



(above left) Liz brought Katie and her brother, Karl, to visit Converse when Katie was three years old. Joe Ann Lever, who retired as dean of arts and sciences and associate professor of biology in 2002, taught Katie and Karl about microscopes in Kuhn Science Hall.

(right) Katie also played in the beloved Converse fountain behind the Dining Hall.

(left) Katie Klammer of Dallas, TX, is the daughter of Liz Topp Klammer '80. Katie is enjoying her freshman year at Converse as a biology major, and plans to attend medical school one day.



Summer Camps for High School Students

The Young Writers Summer Workshop

for male and female rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors

June 11-16, 2006

Contact: Sam Howie at sam.howie@converse.edu or (864) 596-9186

Visual Arts Workshop: An exploration of the Paper Arts

for male and female rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors

June 11-16, 2006

Contact: Andrew Blanchard at andrew.blanchard@converse.edu or (864) 596-9179

L3—Ladies Learning and Leading

for rising female sophomores

June 5-8, 2006

Contact: Katie Landon at katie.landon@converse.edu or (864) 596-9016

Your gift will help **Paint the World Purple** for Breelan Riddle...

Breelan Riddle '06 of Sumter, SC, is a gifted student who has immersed herself in opportunities to learn, serve, and lead at Converse College. An Abney Scholar and recipient of a Leadership Scholarship, Breelan's Converse experience depends greatly upon assistance from the Converse Fund.

"**Leadership and service** are a big part of life at Converse. I have learned to lead and serve in my own unique style through the President's Leadership Program, Crescent, and Mortar Board. Converse has taught me to give back more than I receive, just as alumnae give so that I can enjoy all that Converse has to offer."



"I am a BFA studio art major, but because Converse is a liberal arts college I also have opportunities to grow and learn in a variety of other disciplines. I've been a member of the **Dance Ensemble** since my freshman year, and have really enjoyed the opportunity to continue my lifelong love of dancing."

"Having my Dad escort me for **May Court** will always be a special Converse memory. I love traditions like Big Sis/Little Sis, Festival of Lessons and Carols, 1889 Week, and especially May Day. I know they are the memories I will carry with me for the rest of my life."



Whether you give \$20 for an art apron or \$500 to help cover expenses for a guest artist, your Converse Fund gift makes a significant difference. You are **Painting the World Purple** for students like Breelan!

By Cash or Check

You can mail your gift to:
Converse College
580 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302

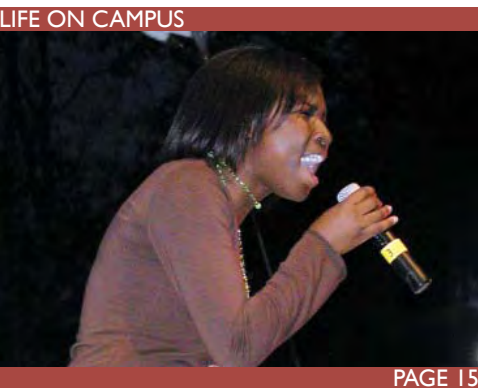
Make your tax deductible gift before **December 31!**

Online — www.converse.edu/giving

You may use our secure website to charge your gift using your Visa, MasterCard, or Discover card.

Alternative Ways to Give

To request a bank draft, give gifts of stocks or appreciated securities, or learn more about additional giving opportunities, call the Office of Development at (864) 596-9018 or E-mail development@converse.edu.



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COVER PHOTO: Converse interior design students Danielle de Villier '07 of St. Helena Island, SC, and Caroline Baldwin '07 of Richmond, VA, with Vietnam War veteran Carle Dunn and renovation plans for Dunn's home. The students are members of a Converse interior design class that completed a design project to make Dunn's home accessible for his wheelchair. The renovation is funded by a grant from the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Read the complete story on page 10 of The Bulletin.

Learn, Serve, Lead

Greetings from Wilson Hall! It is an honor and pleasure to be on campus, immersed in Converse College. Together, we have begun an amazing adventure of learning, leadership, and service.

Before my arrival, *The New York Times* featured an article on September 11, 2005, entitled “Realistic Idealists,” which discussed the immediate, effective, and widespread mobilization of American high school students to provide relief in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The report suggested that these students were becoming the CEOs of community service. With the opening of the Julia Jones Daniels Center for Leadership and Service, Converse College is the vanguard of a national movement. The center formalizes, at last, that distinct, longstanding

Converse tradition of blending learning, leadership, and service.

The vision of providing women access to a liberal arts education that encourages open-mindedness, critical thinking, risk-taking, and the application of knowledge in the service of others rests with our founder, Dexter Edgar Converse. Asserting that “the well-being of any country depends much upon the culture of its women,” he founded this College in 1889. That same year, a dam collapsed in Johnstown, PA, drowning 2,200 innocent civilians. Our country added four states, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, and Montana, to the republic. Miss Nellie Bly, a pioneering world traveler and investigative journalist, began a trip around the world. With the goal of breaking the record of 80 days, she concluded her journey in less than 73. The year 2005 includes events equally daunting: A war in Iraq; the retirement of Sandra Day O’Connor, the first female justice of the Supreme Court; the successful launch and return of the Space Shuttle Discovery led by Lt. Colonel Eileen Collins, the first female commander in space; and the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and

Rita. The legacy of Dexter Edgar Converse encourages our active engagement in these historic and contemporary episodes of tragedy, innovation, and adventure.

This summer, I read selections from Aristotle’s *Ethics* as one of many assignments for a leadership seminar in which I participated at The Aspen Institute in Colorado. It was a beautiful week in Aspen. There may have been many things that I would have preferred to do than sit in a classroom for eight hours each day discussing human nature, community, civil society, and leadership. Yet, as I begin my tenure as Converse College’s ninth president, and as we watch from afar the renewal efforts in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, Aristotle’s text remains forefront in my mind. Aristotle asserts that the pursuit of happiness motivates Man. This personal fulfillment is only achieved through a lifetime of actively engaging one’s intellect and talents within a community. One’s happiness and satisfaction depends upon cooperation, specifically the sharing of knowledge, experiences, and resources to enrich a world larger than the individual.

Such a philosophy seems to shape everything at Converse College. The dream of a single leader became reality only through the active support and involvement of others. Today, the Converse community includes more than 1,400 students, over 200 faculty and staff, and 13,400 alumnae, among numerous additional friends. All are committed to advancing the culture of women near and far. This Aristotelian community and its contributions to society are the source of immense pride and inspiration for all within its sphere of influence. Converse is a place where heroic vision begins—individually and collectively, publicly and privately. The faculty and staff equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary for building a life of learning, leadership, and service. Such alumnae as Julia Jones Daniels provide exemplary models of the rewarding lives molded by this unique educational experience.

Nineteen years ago, during the fall of my freshman year at Harvard College, I felt overwhelmed by the diversity of people, perspectives, and options, and wanted to return to the familiar territory of home. My mother, Converse Class of 1965, encouraged me instead to embrace the challenges, to voice my opinions, and to take full advantage of the exceptional learning opportunities at my fingertips. I did, and discovered art history. It became my window into



President Betsy Fleming

understanding and thinking critically about the world, its people, and their values—past and present. Art history likewise guides the roles that I have chosen to play in society, as educator, as director working to assure museums are lively community centers, and now as president of Converse, steering the next generation toward roles that integrate learning, leadership, and service.

Leading and serving are among my principal duties as president; however, the success of such endeavors depends upon the learning that I experience with you—alumnae, students, faculty, staff, and friends. Join me in renewing the Converse commitment to the dynamic interplay of healthy community, vibrant culture, and active women. Our tradition has birthed many CEOs of community service. We need more of these values-based leaders. The Converse community of realistic idealists will be integral to the future well-being of the world and its cultures.

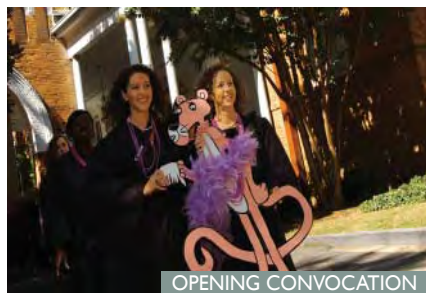
I look forward to learning, leading, and serving with you.

Betsy Fleming
Betsy Fleming



Converse Unveils The Daniels Center for Leadership and Service

During Opening Convocation in September, Converse announced the establishment of The Julia Jones Daniels Center for Leadership and Service. The center is a partnership between academic and student affairs that provides Converse students with opportunities to learn, serve, and lead in accordance with the College's mission to prepare women for lives of service to their community. It is named for Julia Jones Daniels '53 in honor of her leadership and service in her community and to her alma mater.



The day's celebration included a luncheon for Julia and her husband, Frank, with members of the Converse College Institute for Leadership (CCIFL). Julia toured The Haven, a homeless shelter that is a volunteer site for Converse

Bonner Leaders, during the afternoon and was the guest speaker for a leadership dinner honoring inductees into the Bonner Leader program. During the dinner, Spartanburg Mayor Bill Barnet presented a proclamation recognizing Julia's commitment to leadership and service, and the Daniels Center at Converse.

Many colleges have separate programs for leadership and service, but the Daniels Center is distinctive in that leadership and service are combined into an integrated approach. "Our long legacy of leadership and service coupled with our status as a women's college position Converse to emerge as a leader in developing women who lead and serve," said President Betsy Fleming.

The Daniels Center will provide oversight of Converse's existing programs, which include The Bonner Leaders Program, President's Leadership Program, CCIFL, Project Serve, Summer Serve, and IMPACT Day of Service, among others. It will also assist faculty with integrating service learning into their curriculum by facilitating training and discussion groups and offering site-matching

services, regional conference opportunities, a resource library, and individual consultations.

Service learning is defined as a teaching and learning strategy that combines meaningful community service with structured opportunities for self-reflection, self-discovery, and the acquisition and comprehension of values, skills, and knowledge. "Converse students have long participated in service projects as part of their education, with a number of projects incorporated into academic classes," said Dr. Jeffrey H. Barker, vice president for academic affairs. "For example, a computer science class recently designed a new web site for the SAFE Homes/Rape Crisis Coalition. It is a regular occurrence for Converse theatre students to teach classes and direct productions for the Spartanburg Youth Theatre. One of our African-American history classes contributed a chapter to a Hub City Writers Project book about a local black neighborhood that was largely dispersed by a 1970s urban renewal project. The Daniels Center will help faculty to increase the variety of depth of such projects as service-learning experiences."

According to national survey data, Converse attracts and enrolls high school students who are more active in community service than their peers. "Women have tremendous opportunities to grow as leaders at Converse, in part because we have 60 student organizations and more than 80 student government elected positions. We also work to create a culture that encourages volunteerism and involvement. Last year, our students worked 5,550 service hours at 60 local agencies," said Haven Hart, dean of students.

Converse is a member of Campus Compact, a coalition of college and university presidents founded in 1985 by the presidents of Brown, Georgetown and Stanford universities and the president of the Education Commission of the States. Campus Compact is a leader in the movement to integrate civic learning into campus and academic life, and is the only national organization dedicated solely to advancing higher education's civic mission. Member institutions receive training, resources, and advocacy needed to teach students the skills and values of democracy. Converse is also a charter member of an emerging South Carolina Compact.



"Statistics from the Women's College Coalition support the fact that graduates of women's colleges are better prepared to become leaders than their peers at coeducational colleges and universities," said Barker. Studies show that graduates of women's colleges hold higher positions in their fields, are happier and earn higher salaries, develop measurably higher levels of self-esteem, and tend to be more involved in philanthropy. "We know single gender education works for women, and the addition of the Daniels Center makes Converse a vital resource for developing women who contribute in meaningful ways to society."

Facts and Figures: Converse Student Leadership & Service

- 60+ Student Organizations
- 80+ Student Government elected positions, one out of every seven students holds an SGA elected position
- 5,550 service hours logged by Converse students in 2004-2005
- 60 local agencies served by Converse students in 2004-2005

I learn, serve, and lead... inside and outside of class

“As an education major, the service learning projects that have had the most influence in my life are ones that enabled me to work directly with children. One summer, I worked with at-risk K-4th graders who needed tutoring to prepare them for the upcoming school year. I also volunteered at a local Laotian church, helping organize and establish programs for children. I enjoyed great satisfaction serving these organizations because they do not have a steady flow of volunteers. And the experience of working with children from many different backgrounds and cultures will be invaluable as I enter my own classroom as a teacher after graduation. ”

Kathleen Jenkins '06
Greer, SC



Julia Jones Daniels during Opening Convocation

“The Daniels Center reflects beliefs that Converse has always taught: that each of us has potential and an obligation to serve other people and our communities. There are as many ways to serve as there are people, and the efforts surrounding Hurricane Katrina have certainly made that fact clear to all of us. Converse has established a program to hone the skills that shape leaders — by valuing and recognizing the difference each person can make.

It only takes one voice to make change. The Daniels Center and Converse are

nurturing and training our students, turning them into many voices who will have immeasurable impact.

Anne Frank said, 'Everyone has inside of him a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be! How much you can love! What you can accomplish — or what your potential is!'

Let's celebrate that good news in our Converse students. They are our future leaders, our future role models, our voice! ”

— Julia Jones Daniels '53



Converse students participate in the 2004 College Town Service Initiative at Miracle Hill Rescue Mission.

Vision for The Daniels Center

Incorporate Service Learning into the Curriculum

Faculty Incentives for Course Development

Faculty will apply for stipends to develop service learning components into an existing course or to coordinate an off-campus service learning course.

Undergraduate Teaching Facilitators

Undergraduate Teaching Assistants (UTAs) will assist faculty in implementing effective techniques in the classroom, such as reflection activities, arrangements with the service site, or transportation.

Annual Faculty Training/Discussion Group

Faculty and student affairs staff will meet to discuss service learning topics, learn about current trends, and share successes and failures in their courses.

Site Matching Service

The Daniels Center will assist in finding appropriate sites for service learning courses that meet and are supervised off-campus. Center staff will also meet with faculty and the on-site supervisor to discuss ways in which course objectives might be met.

January Term Course in Non-Profit Leadership

Topics will include management styles, leadership skills, and

volunteer recruitment. Service at various sites will be complemented by reflection on the leadership occurring there.

Resource Library

Materials are available to faculty, including research on the outcomes of service learning, sample syllabi from other institutions, and materials for reflection activities.

Incorporate Service Learning into a Freshman Year Experience course

Community Service

Project Serve

This student group will continue to research, plan, and implement one-time service projects available to the entire campus. Successful events planned by this group include IMPACT Day of Service, College Town Service Initiative, and Relay

Continued on Page 8



IMPACT DAY OF SERVICE



Service Learning Brings Classroom Teaching to Life

BY MADELYN V. YOUNG, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS AND CHAIR OF THE ECONOMICS, ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Renowned educator and philosopher John Dewey suggested that individuals learn best from observing the environment in which they exist. He rationalized that the lessons learned when students work to improve the welfare of others not only provides an educational stimulus, but also provides an expansion of their horizons. At Converse, we are implementing a service-learning approach into our curriculum that closely resembles Dewey's ideas.

I recently applied service learning in three courses: Introduction to Leadership, Gender and Economics, and Macroeconomic Principles. Students in the Introduction to Leadership class were required to perform ten hours of community service at an agency of their choice

and write a paper on their experience. Through their time at the Children's Shelter, SAFE Homes/Rape Crisis, the Soup Kitchen, and the Ellen Hines Smith Girl's Home, they learned first-hand that being a leader involves serving others.

Students in my Gender and Economics class also performed ten hours of community service, utilizing the economic ideas and theories they learned in the classroom to analyze and understand real-world issues such as unemployment or under-employment, lack of transportation, lack of adequate child-care, the opportunity cost of life-decisions, and low-pay.

My Macroeconomic Principles students participated in the local Junior

Achievement Program, spending approximately six hours in first, second or third grade classrooms where they taught lessons about different sectors of the economy, such as the community, government, and money. Not only did their own understanding of basic economic principles grow through the act of teaching a younger audience, but it also showed them the importance of early economic education in enhancing decision-making skills of our youth. The elementary students loved learning about the economy from college students, and especially liked learning about the idea that scarcity of resources leads to choices which, in turn, leads to trade-offs. They came to understand that every time they make a choice, they give up an opportunity for something else. They also learned the importance of weighing the costs and benefits of every decision.

Service learning experiences broaden the learning of Converse students. As a teacher, it is rewarding to help students grow through service to others and practical application of principals and theories I teach in the classroom.



I learn, serve, and lead... in my community

“I got involved with Project Serve my sophomore year and it was exactly what I needed—a service opportunity that reached beyond Converse and allowed me to work with students from other local colleges. Students participated in one-time projects such as caroling at a local hospital and the Light the Night Walk for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, as well as a year-long project at the Bethlehem Center where we helped local children with homework. As president of Project Serve, I am proud of the excitement I see in our student body when we join forces to make a difference in our community.”

*Kristin Williams '07
Yorktown, VA*

Continued from Page 7

for Life. In 2004, Project Serve developed one-time service opportunities each month, offered a “standing site” where students volunteered weekly during the fall, and created a Volunteer of the Month program to recognize student leaders in service.

Service Leader Training

The Daniels Center will offer an annual training session for student organizations that plan volunteer opportunities. Training will include discussion of the critical elements of meaningful community service and will provide an opportunity for groups to work together on projects.

A Clearinghouse for Students Interested in Service

The Daniels Center will provide students with resources to research both individual and group community service opportunities. The center will also provide consultations for students.

Special Projects

Summer Serve and Summer Serve reunions

This program for entering freshman provides an excellent vehicle for getting students interested in community volunteerism before they arrive at Converse. Students live on campus and participate in service projects at several community agencies, then meet to reflect on their experiences and the importance of volunteerism.

IMPACT - Campus-Wide Day of Service

An “Into the Streets” event, this program

sends students to various locations around town. More than 100 students have participated each of the past two years.

Spring Break and January Term Course Trips

These trips provide opportunities for students to travel while participating in service. Students are involved in the planning and implementation process and can receive need-based scholarships to participate. The Daniels Center partners with the Chaplain's Office for the Spring Break Mission Trip.

Annual Involvement Fair

Each fall, community agencies are invited to campus to recruit volunteers. The goal is to increase enthusiasm for volunteerism by making students aware of the variety of opportunities.

Financial Award for Student Service

As a part of the Awards Day ceremony, a financial award will be presented to a student who has excelled in community service.

Leadership

The Converse College Institute for Leadership (CCIFL)

Based on the Social Change Model, CCIFL is a selective four-year program designed to provide students with both leadership

theory and opportunities to practice and develop leadership skills. Students take part in retreats, seminars, and team projects which allow them to define and develop their own leadership style. In addition to the co-curricular requirements, students must take one academic course in leadership studies.

The Bonner Leaders Program

Sponsored by the Bonner Foundation of Princeton, NJ, the Bonner Leaders program is a service-based scholarship program. Its motto—“access to education, opportunity to serve”—captures its dual purpose of supporting college students to use their energy, talent, and leadership to engage in local communities. At Converse, Bonner Leaders begin service to the Spartanburg community in either their sophomore or junior year. At the end of their two-year experience, each student has provided 750 hours of service and leadership at various sites.



The President's Leadership Program

This six-week co-curricular course in leadership is designed for freshmen and sophomores who aim to become leaders on campus. Led by upper classmen, the interactive course gives students opportunities to refine their leadership skills and work collaboratively with other participants. This program is an excellent gateway to other leadership programs on campus because of its short length and the fact that students introduce their peers to leadership concepts and connect them with campus organizations.

Leadership Seminar Series

These workshops are aimed to prepare students to excel in student organizations and in life beyond Converse. Sessions are highly interactive and focus on helping students apply the content to their own lives.



Summer Serve Sparks Lasting Friendships

It can be daunting for freshmen to enter a college campus full of strangers and seek out new friendships, but that was not the case for Melissa Meyer, Jennifer Wahl, and Elizabeth Walker. The seniors' friendship began when they discovered a shared passion for leadership and service at Summer Serve—weeks before their freshman year even began.

During Summer Serve, incoming freshmen spend three days living in Converse residence halls and working in small groups to perform service projects in the Spartanburg community. “Melissa and I were Summer Serve roommates, and Elizabeth was in my group,” said Jennifer.

All three hail from different areas and have diverse majors: Melissa from Houston, TX, is an art education major; Jennifer from Smyrna, GA, is majoring in history; and Elizabeth from Columbia, SC, is majoring in modern languages and international business.

For Elizabeth, the first days of college may have been much different had it not been for the opportunity

I had not had the opportunity to get to know them before classes started,” she said. “College is such a different atmosphere and can be especially difficult for freshmen who want to make the best impression they can. It was such a good feeling knowing that I already had two friends.”

Throughout their years at Converse, the three have taken very active rolls on campus. All three are in the Converse College Institute for Leadership (CCIFL). “I know that Jen and I would have become friends eventually, but I'm not sure if Elizabeth and I would have become so close if it had not been for our meeting during Summer Serve,” said Melissa.

“We may have different personalities and backgrounds, but we're all very motivated,” said Elizabeth. “Jen is chair of the Honor Board, which is reflective of her personal desire to keep everything honest and fair. Melissa is president of the Art Club; I never realized how important art is until I met her. She put so much effort into re-writing the Art Club's constitution to shape it into an organization that more people wanted to be a part of, and I learned a great deal from those efforts as I reshaped the constitution for the Student Legislature. We want Converse students to take the Honor Pledge seriously, and to respect our artists and our politicians.”

The friendship has extended well beyond the Converse campus. “I took Elizabeth to Houston during Spring Break to show her around my hometown,” said Melissa. “Whenever my parents are in Atlanta, they always stop to see Jen's father. After Jen lost her mother to breast cancer, Elizabeth and I joined Jen's family in a Florida getaway. She was away from Converse that entire term, and we missed her so much. Until you've met best friends like mine, you don't know what you're missing.”

to take part in Summer Serve. “I probably would have been a little bit intimidated by Jen and Melissa if

I learn, serve, and lead... now and in the future

“I became a Bonner Leader because I enjoy knowing that something I've said or done has made an impact on someone else's life. The Bonner program offers long-term work with a site, which allows me to really get to know the organization and the people who benefit from it.

During my time at The Haven (a local homeless shelter), I realized that many organizations would have a hard time getting everything done efficiently without us there to help carry some of the responsibility. It is amazing how many non-profit organizations are in the Spartanburg area, and they are excited to know that college students are willing to offer their time to help out.”

Jessica Fosdick '07
Hixson, TN



(l to r) Jennifer Wahl, Melissa Meyer, and Elizabeth Walker

Interior Design Majors Give War Vet's Home Extreme Makeover



be willing to take on the interior designing task as a class project.

"This is really a 'win-win' situation for everyone involved," Pajak said. "The students have the opportunity to work with an actual client and Carle Dunn gets the designs for his home that he really needs."

Caroline Baldwin '07, Andrea Dalby (Converse II), Danielle deVillier '07, and Debra Owensby (Converse II) began working on three separate designs in April, and presented them to Dunn and his wife in May. Rather than selecting one specific design, Dunn combined aspects of all three plans into one.

Converse College interior design students put their skills to work for a Vietnam War veteran who needed greater wheelchair accessibility in his home.

Carle Dunn, a retired Army lieutenant colonel who commanded the last Chinook helicopter unit in Vietnam, was heavily exposed to Agent Orange during the war. The chemically-based herbicide is slowly deteriorating his nervous system. Dunn has rarely left his home in the past three years because it is difficult to travel. Even at home, his disabilities make it challenging to maneuver through daily activities.

The US Department of Veterans Affairs has given Dunn a \$50,000 grant to cover the costs of renovating his home for greater wheelchair accessibility. Because the grant requires meticulous attention to the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, local designers would not accept the project. John Atwater, a Spartanburg architect, contacted Frazer Pajak, associate professor of interior design at Converse, to see if Converse students would

included a landscaped garden and courtyard area," she said.

The designs also called for raising the door to Dunn's two-car garage for better van access and applying new wallpaper throughout the house. When work is complete, the Dunns will have nearly 450 square feet added to their 1620 square-foot home.

Dunn was emotional when the designs were presented. "This will give me the chance to enjoy life so much more," he said. "It's one of the greatest gestures I've ever witnessed, and proves to me that places like Converse and it's students have a big heart."

"The project was a real hands-on-experience for us as interior design students, and learning how to work with a client and the other technical aspects was very beneficial. I can't wait to see how things turn out," said Danielle deVillier of St. Helena Island, SC.

Construction to the Dunn house is scheduled to begin in late winter, and should take three months to complete. The Converse students will be involved throughout the process to ensure the work meets specifications.



Caroline Baldwin '07 presents designs to Carle Dunn at his home.

Converse College Institute for Leadership, Yesterday and Today

BY KATIE LANDON '02, DIRECTOR OF LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AND NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS

In keeping with The Founder's Ideal, the Institute for Leadership was founded a decade ago to promote the abilities of aspiring women leaders. The format, name, activities, and requirements of this program have evolved during that time, but its overall mission remains unchanged.

Established in 1995 as the "South Carolina Institute for Leadership," Converse began a revision process for the program in 1998. What resulted in the year 2000 was the Converse College Institute for Leadership (CCIFL), which continues to thrive today. CCIFL is based on the social change model and aims to develop ethical leaders who are capable of affecting positive change on their campus and in their future communities.

Students who are selected for the institute enroll for four years. They participate in retreats, seminars, and team projects that help define and develop their personal leadership style. In addition to the co-curricular requirements, students must also take an academic course in leadership studies. Valerie Dowling '07, an Irmo, SC, native double majoring in economics and politics, articulates the institute's mission by explaining, "CCIFL is an organization that uses a holistic approach to develop young women into poised, passionate, and prepared leaders of our generation."

This fall, at our Opening Convocation, CCIFL was celebrated as the cornerstone of the new Daniels Center for Leadership and Service.

CCIFL provides:

- Opportunities that enhance students' social, psychological, emotional, spiritual, and physical well-being
- Interaction with peer leaders and others who wish to develop leadership skills

- An interactive, participatory leadership experience
- Life skills in leadership which apply to all areas of personal and professional life
- A foundation for assuming leadership positions at Converse and beyond and for becoming a responsible citizen

Key Components of the Program:

- Leadership Conferences and Leadership Seminar Series
- Weekly Meetings
- Academic Leadership Projects
- Institute Day of Service
- Leadership Development Class
- Service Projects
- Portfolio Reviews
- Institute Teams — to Serve and Educate Community
- Student Advisory Governance

"I desire that the instruction and influence of Converse College be always such that the students may be enabled to see clearly, decided wisely, and act justly."

— DEXTER EDGAR CONVERSE
THE FOUNDER'S IDEAL



(left) Converse students participate in the Light the Night walk, which benefits the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.



(below) Student Government Association at New Student Orientation 2004

ALUMNAE WHO LEARN, SERVE, AND LEAD DAILY

CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE STEMS FROM CONVERSE EXPERIENCE

BY VALERIE BROCK '03

Valerie Brock '03 is employed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, GA, where she works with contracts relating to President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. While at Converse, she double majored in music and political science, held leadership roles in several organizations, and was an award-winning member of the Model Arab League Delegation. Valerie went on to the Master's of Public Administration (MPA) program at the University of Georgia, where she earned a coveted Presidential Management Fellowship, was named Student of the Year for the MPA program, and received the School of Public and International Affairs' Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.



I came to Converse seeking a degree in Music Education. In high school, my favorite classes were politics and music, and when I went to college, it seemed that music won out. I was very pleased to be accepted into the Nisbet Honors Program when I entered Converse, and jumped at the chance to take a 1960s history course. It was in that course that I met Dr. Joe Dunn, an impressive force that I desperately wanted to win over. He was the first person to ever take me aside and say, "You're smarter than you think you are. Why don't you pursue a dual degree?" Had it not been for him believing in me and teaching me to believe in myself, my path in life would have gone a very different route. I truly think all I needed was someone to tell me that I was talented enough to pursue my dreams. This support is one of Converse's most distinctive aspects - that professors care about student performance not only in class, but also in life. Overall, Converse best prepared me by providing me with the encouragement I needed to excel. I know that the History and Politics Department is cheering me on and expecting me to do great things.

Another unique aspect of Converse is its availability of leadership opportunities. I learned many lessons from my leadership roles in campus organizations that are applicable to my professional life. Through the Student Activities Committee, I learned the valuable lesson of challenging long-standing practices. As a leader, you will inevitably come across the mantra: "But we've done it this

way for years." While that may be true, it doesn't mean it is always the right thing to do. Organizations can fall into a rut if they don't objectively evaluate their programs. If it is not serving a client's need, what's the point?

From Model League, I learned how to transform a feisty group of girls into a cohesive team. This was not an easy task, especially since the sole purpose of the group is to argue. However, as a leader, it is imperative that members of your group respect one another and that the team takes priority over the individual.

As a Residential Life Counselor, I learned how to stretch beyond my comfort zone to offer support to a very diverse group of students. I also learned how to really hear what people were saying. Sometimes all people need is to know someone will listen to them.

All of these experiences have taught me how to be leader. There is no doubt in my mind that Converse's environment is one that nurtures and strengthens leadership skills, preparing young women to become successful in whatever path they choose to follow.

THE NEED IS OFTEN GREATER THAN THE COST

BY RAMSAY LEA GORHAM '73

As a New Mexico state senator from 1996-2004, Ramsay Lea Gorham '73 was a champion for improved education and tougher sex offender laws. She was named Home Healthcare Legislator of the Year by the Home Healthcare Association, Legislator of the Year by the New Mexico District Attorney, and received the Star Focus Award from New Mexico's Chamber of Commerce for eight consecutive years. In 2003, she was elected to serve as Chairman of the New Mexico Republican State Party.

Leadership is not about who is the most qualified or who is the most highly educated. It is about who will work, who has the most passion, and who is willing to sacrifice to fulfill a need. When doors open in front of you, they are usually an invitation to walk into your destiny. The confusing problem is that it is usually not the destiny you would have chosen for yourself. That is when you have to decide whether you believe in Someone with a greater plan that you can join in or that you know better what the future will bring while sticking with your comfortable and very doable goals.

From my viewpoint, I was the least likely member of the legislature to handle the ten-year roadblock on Meagan's Law, the sex offender bill that required identification of sex offenders after they served their sentences. Megan Kanka was a seven-year-old girl who was invited to see the puppies of her white-collar neighbor. After he raped her, he strangled her with his belt. Megan's mom never knew their nice neighbor had been a twice convicted rapist.

I wasn't an attorney, I wasn't even on Judiciary Committee, and I didn't know that New Mexico was the only state without Meagan's Law. I couldn't imagine why anyone would oppose notifying the public of a former sex offender and rapist. Why would anyone allow these convicted felons to continue to work around children? How naïve I was.

What I found was that every attorney-republican and democrat alike on Judiciary had voted against the bill in committee even though some were arguing for it in the press.

I realized I would be going up against the leadership in the House and the Senate. I refused to carry the bill without a year's worth of research on the court rulings. Once I had thoroughly researched the issue, I was outraged to find that New Mexico had become a haven for rapists. We had hundreds more than our surrounding states. We had the highest rape level in the country. Law enforcement officials told me that when rapists were released from prison, many called New Mexico to find out if they still were allowed to remain unregistered. Surely, the press would want to know about this. Surely they would want to follow the progression of the bill. Once again, I was shocked to learn that they were stonewalling all stories on such a politically incorrect situation.

Despite the gridlock by the politicians and press, public support was on my side. Word was spreading and outrage was rising. After many blockades in the legislature, Meagan's Law was passed and signed into law a year later because public pressure became so extreme. I was also able to initiate a bill that removed the statute of limitations for prosecution of felony rape using a DNA profile, and successfully added crimes against household members to the Victim of Crimes Act.

As an elected legislator, I had to make a choice: change culture and lives or achieve great titles and build monuments with political pork? No one was supposed to fight against senate leadership if they wanted to protect their senate seat in the next election. As a result, most people walked away from change and controversy. But I found that win or lose, only the bloody boxer in the ring has the satisfaction of the fight. Only the fight teaches you things that others have never dared experience. Every qualified attorney looked at me and told me there was no way I would win. They were right if you only looked at the facts: I fought huge wars behind the scenes, lost 'friends' who couldn't buy my vote, and was not a controlling committee chairman because I had decided they wouldn't control me. But leaders sometimes must consider that the need is greater than the cost.



LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

EFFECTIVE LEADERS KNOW WHEN TO SAY “NO”

BY WALLACE JOHNSON '63



Wallace Johnson '63, Converse College's 2003 Community Service Award recipient, has lived a life of leadership and service to her community. She has served on the boards of The Ellen Hines Smith Girls' Home, The Charles Lea Center Foundation, The Spartanburg County Historical Association, The Spartanburg Little Theatre, The Ballet Guild of Spartanburg, The Artists' Guild Board, The Music Foundation of Spartanburg, Music Club of Spartanburg, The Healing Arts Committee, the Development Committee of the Converse College Alumnae Board, and the Converse Fund Committee. In 2000, she chaired Dance in the Woods, which benefited Spartanburg County's arts, science, and history groups through the Arts Partnership of Greater Spartanburg. Today, she is a member of The Board of Visitors of Spartanburg Regional Medical Center, The Spartanburg Technical College Foundation Board, and the Charles Lea Center Board of Trustees.

I was once told that I was a “late bloomer,” to which I responded, “It beats not blooming at all!” While a student at Converse, my schedule allowed very little time for any extra-curricular activities and certainly none for volunteer work. When I became a member of the Junior League of Spartanburg, I learned to appreciate volunteerism and its importance.

By the late 1960s, I was really into the volunteer mode and with each passing year my interests and involvement increased. I finally became so engulfed in all these activities that I seemed to be working on projects around the clock because I couldn't say “No.” I truly was wearing too many hats at one time, and learned that spreading yourself too thin is a big mistake. When you're on so many boards and

committees that you can only make a few of their meetings, you're not going to be an effective member. It took me much too long but I finally learned to say “No” without feeling guilty.

One of the biggest disappointments to me on some of the boards I have served was the realization that some members were there in print only! They seldom came to meetings and when time came to work on a project they weren't available. All boards have a purpose and mission, and their members should work together as a team. No board needs dead wood.

Volunteers are a precious commodity and are critically important to every community. What would we do without them? Just consider the numerous organizations and agencies that are

central components of every city that rely on volunteers to serve on their boards to enable them to operate efficiently and effectively. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve on a variety of boards and committees in Spartanburg. It's the feeling of bringing joy and happiness to others and the chance to help make life better for those less fortunate that motivate me. The inner rewards are immeasurable, for it is in giving that we receive. Accomplishments of which I am most proud include serving as National Converse Fund Chair, raising a large sum for the arts as chair of a special level of giving, co-founding the Converse College Youth Orchestra in the late sixties, and performing as a violinist with the Spartanburg Symphony Orchestra and now the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra for 49 years this concert season.

From volunteerism comes leadership. In my view, leadership is synonymous with commitment, dedication, obligation, education, enthusiasm, reliability, and being well informed and interested. Some people are natural born leaders, and others must work at it and grow into leadership roles gradually. Leadership is not for everyone—many people would rather be an Indian than a chief—but it takes a combination of both to generate success. It can take a while to build self-confidence but you'll never know what you're capable of if you don't get involved and test the waters. Volunteers and leaders do make a big difference, so stand up and be counted!

I am most grateful for having had so many opportunities to make a difference. I still keep my feet in the water, I just don't get in the deep end.

A New Era for Converse Volleyball

by Ross Goodacre, Sports Information Director

With first year head coach Bill Rude and his assistant Brandi Ankney at the helm of a team venturing into its inaugural season in the CVAC Conference, the Volleyball All-Stars have firmly established themselves as one of the elite programs in the league with stunning defensive play and an all-around desire for excellence.

An experienced team provided a firm foundation and belief that with quality coaching and guidance, the team would respond both on and off the court. According to star junior Lauren Mueller '07 the difference between this year and previous ones has been trust. “We trusted Coach and Brandi to lead us where we needed to go. We learned (and are still learning) how to trust each other, and we have learned how to trust the game.”

With a rough schedule to start the season, the All-Stars were reeling at 1-4 and had dropped heartbreaking five-set matches to Newberry and USC-Upstate within the space of a few days. In previous years, this would have impacted the team deep into the year but this is a season unlike any other in Converse Volleyball. The losses would be a springboard to better things, not a weight they would carry with them throughout the year as Coach Brandi Ankney explained, “We told the girls that we learn from each loss, we gain experience from critical game situations, so the next time we feel that kind of pressure, we are prepared and we react the way good players and good teams do.”

With the early setbacks behind them, the All-Stars entered the meat of their CVAC schedule with a newfound sense of belief and confidence that would firmly dismiss any doubts

about their ability to compete in a conference which last year sent three teams to the Division II NCAA Tournament. With outstanding leadership from Leslie Shain '06 and Brittany Ogez '07 the All-Stars rattled off win after win and began the month of October as a team on the rise.

The weekend of October 8-9 would be a defining moment for the All-Stars program. Facing the two conference unbeaten Lees McRae and Mount Olive on consecutive days, the All-Stars let an 11-7 lead against Lees McRae get away in the fifth set to suffer an agonizing loss. Just a day later, the All-Stars returned to a dramatic fifth set with Mount Olive after appearing destined for the same fate earlier after falling down by two sets. But this was the new Converse All-Stars Volleyball team and they clinched the final set 15-13 to hand Mount Olive their first loss of the year.

At press time, the All-Stars sit 4th in the CVAC table with a 19-12 record including winning 11 of their last 13 games as they begin their final run towards the Conference Tournament. As Mueller firmly states “We all know we are in pursuit of something bigger than winning one game. We are in pursuit of the conference championship title.”



College Fest 2005 in Spartanburg



Maureen Brown '08

Spartanburg college students gathered for an evening of fun and fellowship at the third annual College Fest on Saturday, October 22 at Barnet Park. The event was hosted by the College Town consortium, which is comprised of the six colleges in Spartanburg (Converse College, Sherman College, Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg Technical College, University of South Carolina Upstate, and Wofford College), in partnership with the City of Spartanburg.

Patterned after American Idol, College Fest 2005 included a talent competition and a lip sync competition for students.

Preliminary competitions were held on each campus before the event, where finalists were selected to compete in the college-wide competition.

Maureen Brown '08 represented Converse in the talent competition and won third place, and Grace Bagwell '07, Jennifer Bronson '08, and Colby Sanders '08 represented Converse for the lip sync competition and won first place.

College Town of Spartanburg was initiated by Spartanburg Mayor Bill Barnet to promote collaboration among the colleges for social and academic programs, as well as to bring visibility to the institutions of higher education within the community.

Converse Students Help Katrina Victims

The 2005 hurricane season was nothing short of devastating, especially for the Gulf Coast region of the US. In typical Converse fashion, the College family freely gave of their time, talents, and efforts to provide assistance to those affected by Hurricane Katrina.

On October 14, 99 students, faculty, and staff from Converse and Clemson University departed for Metairie, LA,

where they spent their fall break days helping Metairie citizens rebuild from the devastation caused by Katrina. The Converse and Clemson groups assisted American Red Cross representatives with assessing community needs, working to clear debris, and helping families repair their homes. Rosa Yancich, a Converse freshman from Metairie majoring in psychology and theatre, was one of the student leaders

of the effort. "I am excited that so many people were willing to help the citizens of my hometown," she said. "It really means a lot to me that they are so loving to others who are in need."

On September 21, the Converse English Department and *Concept*, the student literary journal, presented a public reading in Dalton Auditorium to benefit the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund. Susan Tekulve, Sam Howie, and Rick Mulkey—all members of the department's writing faculty—presented samples of their writing. Monetary donations were accepted at the door, and copies of the latest issue of *Concept* were available for purchase. All donations and profit from the sales of *Concept* went to the Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

The Converse Rotaract Club organized a campus-wide collection of essential items needed by families who lost their homes and belongings during the storm. According to Tina Rohner '07, president of Rotaract, such an abundance of donations

was given that a large shipment was also taken to Greater Spartanburg Ministries.

On September 16, the Student Christian Association, in conjunction with the Baptist College Ministry, the Presbyterian Student Association, Gospel Choir, InterVarsity, Campus Crusade for Christ, the Newman Club, and Canterbury Club, sponsored the observation of the declared national day of prayer for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

On September 14, students in all seven residence halls joined with faculty and staff members in a coin war to benefit the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

The Converse/Wofford gospel choir, known as The United Voices of Victory, participated in the Spartanburg Bands Together Concert fundraiser at Barnett Park on September 10th.

One student from Tulane University and another from Loyola University, both in New Orleans, LA, decided to enroll at Converse until they are able to return to their campuses. Converse was able to minimize costs to the students by offering significant reductions in tuition and room/board fees.

"Healing Journey" Exhibited by Hospice

This fall, Hospice of the Carolina Foothills in Columbus, NC, took its first foray into presenting art therapy with an exhibit by Marilyn Field, director of the art therapy program at Converse College.

"Our staff and volunteers bring comfort and peace to individuals and families in the midst of suffering, grief and loss," said Marsha Van Hecke, director of community awareness for Hospice. "We're trying to find new ways to reach people, and while this is our first art therapy exhibit, it fits very well with the mission of Hospice."

According to Field, works in the 20-piece exhibit, entitled "Healing Journey," represent the effectiveness of art therapy. "Many traditional artists take a specific medium and explore it as much as possible," she said. "But art therapy is most often a spontaneous act, and the artist will generally use whatever is handy. The 'Healing Journey' exhibit features pencil drawing, pastels, oil pastels, acrylics, paper, photography and stone



Marilyn Field

sculpture. The works are examples of my own responses to grief and loss, including the stages of my emotional response to the diagnosis of breast cancer and my response after the terrorists' attack of 9-11. There is also the artwork of a group of women cancer survivors."



Crossing Over by Marilyn Field

The Converse art therapy program is the only undergraduate degreed art therapy program in the Southeast.

Petrie School Celebrates Works by the "Forgotten Mendelssohn"

While hosting the Southeast Chapter of the American Musicological Society in October, the Petrie School of Music celebrated the 200th anniversary of the birth of Fanny Mendelssohn, elder sister of Felix and one of history's most underappreciated female composers.

In addition to the concert, Dr. Marcia Citron from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University and author of several books and articles on Fanny Mendelssohn, delivered an address entitled "A Bicentennial Reflection: Twenty-Five Years with Fanny Hansel." Dr. Citron's presentation was made possible through the Nancy Oliver Gray Women in Education Visiting Scholars Program.

"Like her younger brother Felix, Fanny showed exceptional musical ability at an early age and began to write music when she was still a child," said Dr. Siegwart Reichwald, associate professor of musicology at Converse. "She would go on to write in many

genres, but unfortunately was a bit of a victim of attitudes at the time that were not particularly supportive of women. In fact, some of her works were credited simply as 'F. Mendelssohn,' which led many people to assume that those works were composed by her brother Felix. Within the last 30 years, musicologists have rediscovered Fanny's works, which were mainly in manuscript form, and are recognizing her tremendous talents as a composer that were overlooked for so long."

Conferences on Fanny Mendelssohn were recently hosted at the University of Oxford in Great Britain and Florida State University.



A full concert of her works was presented by the Converse Symphony Orchestra, the Converse Chamber Singers, and the Converse Trio. The concert marked the first time that some of her works had been heard in the Southeastern United States.

Converse to Study Educational Quality through Collaborative Grant

Four liberal arts colleges—Converse and Wofford in Spartanburg, the University of North Carolina Asheville, and Agnes Scott College in Georgia—jointly have received a \$25,000 planning grant from the Teagle Foundation. The grant will be used for a yearlong program that will bring educators and consultants from around the country together to examine best practices in assessing institutional creativity and how those practices affect learning outcomes.

Most college rankings are based on quantitative information, such as SAT scores and selectivity. Converse and her partners will study qualitative characteristics that distinguish liberal arts

colleges, such as a culture of collaboration among faculty, students and staff; a culture of continuous improvement and innovation; and strong institutional support for those activities.

"Our collaborative represents a unique partnership among Southeastern institutions that, while diverse in type, share a commitment to providing the highest quality liberal education to our students," said Dr. Jeffrey H. Barker, vice president of academic affairs at Converse. Wofford is an independent co-educational institution, Converse and Agnes Scott are independent women's colleges, and UNC-Asheville is a public co-educational institution.

"Careful reflection about our unique structures and missions may reveal lessons or approaches applicable to all," Barker says. "For example, how have women's colleges, like Converse and Agnes Scott, been intentional in developing the leadership skills of our students? How have religious-affiliated schools like Wofford balanced an atmosphere that honors their historical commitment to the church while celebrating religious and other differences? How have public universities such as UNC-Asheville been able to leverage faculty and other resources to continue to nurture a true liberal arts environment, given their unique institutional realities?"

2005-2006 GRANDDAUGHTER'S CLUB

Sponsored by the Alumnae Office, the Granddaughter's Club is an organization that promotes contact between students and Converse alumnae through special events and projects.



Anna Bennett and her mother,
Susan McCormac Bennett '81



Margaret "Meg" Patterson and her
mother, Frankie Epps Patterson '78



Jessica Pittard and her mother,
Michelle Hambrick Pittard '84



Megan Madison, daughter of
Patricia Eubank Madison '66



E'owyn Morrow and her mother,
Paula Jean Morrow '76 MAT



Kate Klammer and her mother,
Lizz Topp Klammer '80

Not pictured:

Brittany Jeter, daughter of Gayle Benfield Jeter-Smith '83

Katie Beaty Mayes, granddaughter of the late Katie Beaty Mayes '41

ALUMNAE EVENTS

Wilmington, NC • August 24, 2005

Frank and Ramsay Lea Gorham '73 hosted an alumnae event on Figure Eight Island.

Attending: Bill Barnet, John and Michelle Bratton, parents of Connie Bratton Grine '72, Claire Efrd '85, Frank and Ramsay Lea Gorham '73, Connie Bratton Grine '72 with her husband, Rose Harvin-Long '72 with her husband and daughter, Walker, Chasity Mahaffey '05, admissions counselor, George and Harriet Taylor Ramsey '51, Dr. Tom Reeves, Pat and Mary Cooper Roche '62, prospective student, Savannah Shannon and her father, Mike Shannon, prospective student, Kristen Black, prospective student, Katy Butler and her parents, Jeff and Melissa Butler, and Heather Patchett, vice president of institutional advancement



Nashville, TN • September 6, 2005

Converse alumnae met for a Dutch Treat Luncheon at Martha's at the Plantation. Mindy Thompson Orman '71, Converse club chair in Nashville, planned the event.



Chattanooga, TN • September 7, 2005

Converse alumnae in Chattanooga met for a luncheon at Southside Grill. Ashley Dover Sorrow '94, Converse club chair in Chattanooga, planned the event.

Faculty and Student Accomplishments

Faculty

Dr. Jeff Barker (Religion and Philosophy) published a review of E. Fuller Torrey, *Beasts of the Earth: Animals, Humans, and Disease* (Rutgers, 2005), in *Choice*, October 2005.

Dr. Karen Carmean (English) had two articles printed in the *Carolina English Teacher* sponsored by the South Carolina Council of Teachers of English (Fall 2005). Her articles are titled "Teaching Strategies that Work" and "Strategies that Don't Work."

Dr. Joe Dunn's (History/Politics) article, "Teaching the Civil Rights Era: A Student-Active Approach," appears in *The History Teacher* (August 2005). He also participated in the Harvard Summer Seminar, "Interpreting the History of Recent and Controversial Events," sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and The Council of Independent Colleges, where he served as discussion leader for the sessions on the Vietnam War.

Dr. Rafael E. Hernandez (Foreign Languages and Literatures) presented a research paper and chaired a session on the Contemporary Latin American Novel at the 52nd Annual Conference of the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS) at Vanderbilt University.

Sam Howie (English) directed a successful second annual Young Writers Summer Workshop at Converse (a full capacity group of 20 participated) and taught fiction workshops for the program. His book manuscript of short fiction was a finalist for the Serena B. MacDonald prize at Snake Nation Press. He also had two reviews accepted for publication in *Kirkus*, where he is now a regular contributor.

Dr. Susan Lyle (Petrie School of Music) gave a poster presentation of her research "Register Switching as a Pedagogical Device in the Unification of the Singing Voice" in Vancouver, British Columbia at the International Congress of Voice Teachers Conference. She also performed

in Germany as a soloist in Bach's *B-Minor Mass* with the Bach Consortium. Leigha Pace, a candidate for the master of music in vocal performance at Converse and a student of Dr. Lyle, sang the soprano solos.

Dr. Tom McDaniel (Education) and his daughter Katy, who teaches at Marietta College in Ohio, have an article in the May 2005 issue of *The National Teaching and Learning Forum* entitled "The Perils of Powerpoint."

Rick Mulkey (English) gave a reading at the 2005 South Carolina Poetry Initiative's Southern Voices and Southern Visions workshop in Columbia, SC. The reading featured several writers in the anthology, *A Millennial Sampler of South Carolina Poetry*. He also had a poem, "A Natural History of Divorce," accepted for publication in the fall issue of *Appalachian Journal*. Rick gave a reading from his new book at the Spirit of Place Writing Workshop in Vitorchiano, Italy during the summer. He also had two new poems appear in the summer issue of *The Connecticut Review*, and one new poem in the spring issue of *Shenandoah*.

Teresa Prater (Art and Design) was resident artist at the Hambidge Center in Rabun Gap, GA, where she worked on a series of new digital images.

Dr. Scott Robbins (Petrie School of Music) received his 12th consecutive ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers) award. *The Clearing*, a film for which he composed the soundtrack in 1991, has recently been broadcast on Bravo and HBO.

Susan Tekulve (English) achieved her first published poems, "Stoics" and "Tarantata," in the *Clackamas Literary Review*. Her review essay of *The Literary Traveler*, a collection of travel essays co-authored by Walter Cummins and Thomas E. Kennedy with Webdelsol Press, is forthcoming in the fall 2005 issue of *New Letters*.

Dr. Melissa Walker (History/Politics) served as a book manuscript reviewer over the summer for the University of South Carolina Press and University Press of Florida.

Students

Biology majors **Patty Amatriain '06** and **Jennifer Jones '07** earned first place at the Eighth Annual Undergraduate Research Conference at University of Maryland, at which they presented a research poster entitled "Production and Investigation of Prolactin Antagonist Exotoxin Fusion Protein."

Cross Country All-Star **Mary Cloonan '07** has been named to the All-CVAC (Carolinas-Virginia Athletic Conference) first team. Mary missed the early part of the season due to injuries, but was still able to cut nearly a minute off her personal best for the season.

Brittany Harrelson '07 earned a research grant from the Nisbet Honors Program to research Man Ray (1890-1976) for her art history thesis. Ray was one of the most influential contributors of the Surrealist art movement.

Holly Jordan '07 served as a special envoy of the US National Model North Atlantic Treaty Organization to the Icelandic Atlantic Youth Association conference in Reykjavik, Iceland.





Dear Fellow Alumnae,

I have recently returned from our fall Alumnae Board meeting and have so much news to share with you. We had our largest board attendance and I thank our board members for their commitment to Converse through their time and gifts. The excitement of this new academic year with Betsy Fleming's arrival as our president, the reopening of Montgomery Student Center, and the creation of the Julia Jones Daniels Center for Leadership and Service could be felt by all.

The first talked about leadership and service opportunities at Converse and how they help students to learn about themselves. Here are just a few quotes: "I learned to manage my time and to delegate... I grew from a follower in high school to a leader at Converse... I discovered that I have a heart to serve... I learned there are many different types of leaders." As alumnae, you too have experienced these feelings in your volunteer and leadership responsibilities. The Daniels Center will open new doors of leadership opportunities for our students.

Reverend Christine Henchar Reed led the second student discussion. During fall break, Converse students and faculty joined with Clemson students to serve in Hurricane Katrina relief projects in Metairie, LA. "Katrina" has been an important event in these students' lives and they are being led

to serve in any way they can. Their responsibilities ranged from clean up to damage assessment to home repair. The alumnae board-sponsored Student Benevolence Fund contributed \$3,000 toward their trip expenses. I know you join me in thanking them for their service.

Please come visit Converse and meet these dynamic women leaders. Tell high school students about the leadership and service opportunities at Converse. One out of five new Converse students comes by referral from alumnae!

A special thank-you to our class representatives and alumnae office staff for keeping in contact with alumnae who were displaced and affected by the hurricanes. We are all members of a special group... Converse College alumnae.

Sandra Sherard Bethea

Sandra Sherard Bethea '67
Converse College Alumnae Association President

SAVE THE DATE!

INAUGURATION FOR PRESIDENT BETSY FLEMING AND FOUNDER'S DAY

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2006 — 11:30 AM
TWICHELL AUDITORIUM

ALUMNAE REUNION 2006

(Classes ending in 1 and 6 and the Class of 2005)

APRIL 28-29, 2006

For more information, contact
Elizabeth G. Simons,
associate director of alumnae,
at elizabeth.simons@converse.edu
or (864) 596-9058.

Greece: Following the Footsteps of Paul

MAY 19 – JUNE 2, 2006

Trace the Apostle Paul's journey and gain a renewed appreciation for his mission, message, and ministry by exploring the great cities of Classic and Hellenistic Greece. Explore the Scriptures in their original setting of Philippi, Thessaloniki, Berea, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, and Patmos, where pivotal events of the early church come alive. Visit Vergina, site of the royal tombs; Meteora, with its towering monasteries; and Delphi, shrine of the ancient god Apollo.



Of course, no tour would be complete without a cruise of the wonderful Greek islands. Led by Dr. David Sparks, president of Footsteps Ministries, and his wife Elizabeth, who will help relate Paul's message to today's world while taking you off the beaten path to experience Greek food and culture to the fullest extent.

President Fleming Wants to Learn about YOU!

Betsy Fleming has a great desire to get know as many alumnae as possible during her first year as president. She will meet many of you in person through various alumnae club events. She is also especially eager to hear your personal stories about Converse and your own life of learning, leadership, and service.

Help her to know you. Please E-mail or mail a résumé, bulleted list, or letter outlining your professional and community involvement, accomplishments or special recognitions, leadership positions held, interesting challenges and opportunities, as well as your most cherished Converse memories—both on or off campus. E-mail to the attention of Betsy Fleming at alumnae@converse.edu, or mail to 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg SC 29302.

An Invitation from Converse Students

Converse students invite alumnae to join them in the second annual Spartanburg Colleges Relay for Life, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, on March 17-18, 2006, at Converse. Alumnae who wish to gather a team to represent Converse or would like more information should contact Jennifer Wahl at jennifer.wahl@converse.edu. Students also wish to know of alumnae cancer survivors so they may recognize you the night of the event. If you are a survivor, please contact Sarah Walters at sarah.walters@converse.edu. You may also reach Jennifer or Sarah by calling (864) 596-9000.



ALUMNAE EVENTS



Johnson City, TN • September 7, 2005
Liz Harkins Biosca '64 planned and hosted a late afternoon alumnae event at the Johnson City Country Club.



Gastonia, NC • September 14, 2005
A luncheon was held at the Gaston Country Club. Lyn Farmer Smeak '78, Converse club chair in Gastonia, planned the luncheon.



Greenwood, SC • September 21, 2005
An alumnae luncheon was held at the Greenwood Country Club. Sabra McDaniel Moseley '65 planned the event.



Myrtle Beach, SC • September 22, 2005
A Converse alumnae luncheon was held in Myrtle Beach at the Dunes Club. Winnie Brown King '90 and Debbie Currin Conner '90 planned the event.

Upcoming Alumnae Events

January 20	Beaufort, SC evening event	February 24	Past Alumnae Association Presidents Luncheon, Spartanburg
February 3-5	Converse Alumnae Association Board Winter Meeting, Spartanburg	March 8	Rock Hill, SC luncheon
February 9	Jacksonville, FL luncheon	March 9	Winston-Salem, NC luncheon
February 10	Winter Park/Orlando, FL evening event	March 9	Raleigh, NC evening event
February 16	Tampa, FL evening event	March 10	Greensboro, NC luncheon
February 21	Norfolk, VA luncheon	March 15	Birmingham, AL
	Richmond, VA evening event	March 23	Atlanta, GA
	Florence, SC evening event		