

LIPSCOMB *now*:

The Magazine for Alumni and Friends

SUMMER 2019

Vol. 14 No.1



LIPSCOMBLEADS

A FAITH-DRIVEN, FORWARD-THINKING CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES *pg.4*

LIPSCOMB LEADS

A FAITH-DRIVEN, FORWARD-THINKING CAMPAIGN.

Lipscomb was founded with leadership that outlasted its leaders. It grew through a vision bolder than the leaders' lifespans. Our vision today is still that of our original founders: to "stand in the front ranks of great educational institutions of the world" by building a premier national Christian university in the 21st century.

Lipscomb University has a rich history. In recent years, that history has included tremendous growth coupled with notable success and numerous accolades. That only matters, however, if those things result in the raising up of students to learn differently and lead uniquely through knowing Christ.

LipscombLEADS is about raising the bar to create even more excellent academics, to create an unmatched experience for our students, to put in place a sophisticated business model that ensures a solid foundation and sustainability for the future.

As we embark on this journey to make Lipscomb a premier national Christian university, we hope you will join us, because we can't make it happen without people like you.



From the stage of Nashville's Schermerhorn Symphony Center, **John Lowry**, senior vice president for advancement, declared that the leadership Lipscomb aspires to is the model of leadership given to us by Jesus.

TWO DAYS OF MUSIC AND INSPIRATION

LipscombLEADS launches biggest campaign in university history with evening at Schermerhorn Symphony Center, campus celebration

In January, Lipscomb hosted hundreds of donors and friends at Nashville's Schermerhorn Symphony Center and held a campus wide celebration in a packed Allen Arena to invite the entire Lipscomb community worldwide to join LipscombLEADS, the culmination of an 11-year initiative to build Lipscomb University and Lipscomb Academy into a premier national Christian university in the 21st century.

The goal of LipscombLEADS is to enter the year 2021 with \$250 million to invest in broadening Lipscomb's reach to the community, the economy, health care, spiritual health and many

other aspects of our world. These two events launched the public phase of LipscombLEADS, which has already raised \$206 million through the generosity of more than 43,500 donors.

The celebratory night featured the Nashville Symphony performing an original work by one of Lipscomb's newest faculty—**Ben Blasko**, director of instrumental studies, who was also selected as the conductor of the Grammy-winning orchestra for the event.

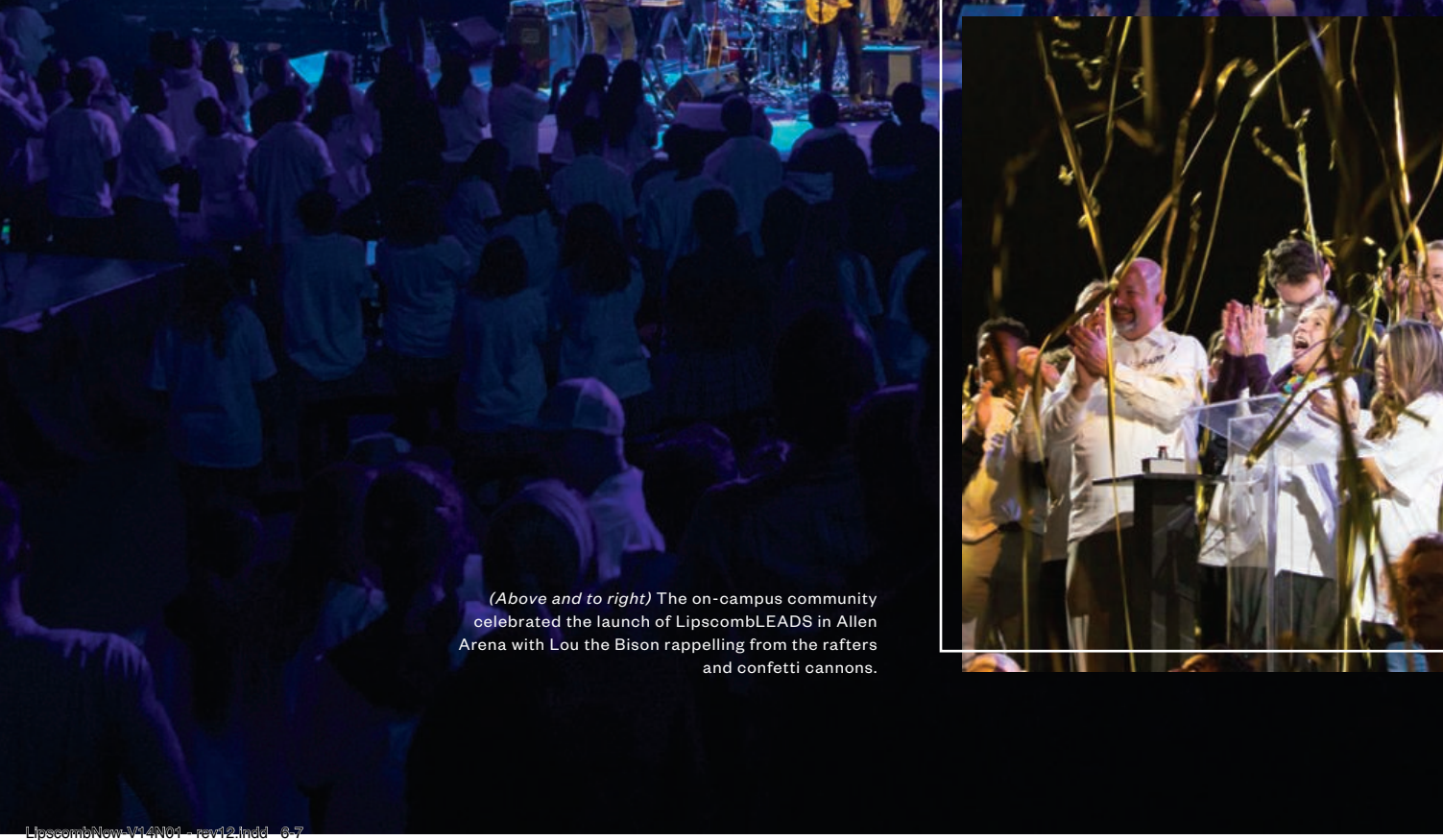
The program was filled with examples of how Lipscomb University serves through building a best-in-class academic

program, producing professionals of competence and character and advancing a model of leadership grounded in service and inspired by faith.

Lipscomb's College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences was particularly highlighted as **Matt Murphy**, a fourth year pharmacy student described his one-on-one work with pharmacy faculty for three years to analyze and synthesize drugs; **Klarissa Jackson**, assistant professor and researcher in the pharmaceutical labs, described her work with the breast cancer drug lapatinib; and **Deanna Smith**, CEO of Sarah Cannon, shared her passion for patients



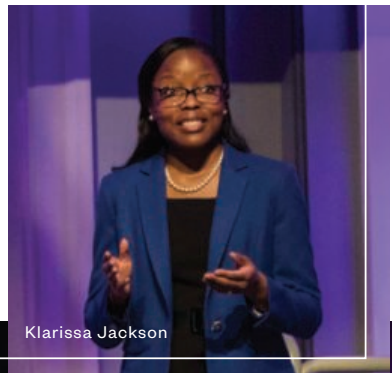
David Lipscomb wanted us to create people who are competent and who have character, but he wanted us to also be known for service. —President L. Randolph Lowry



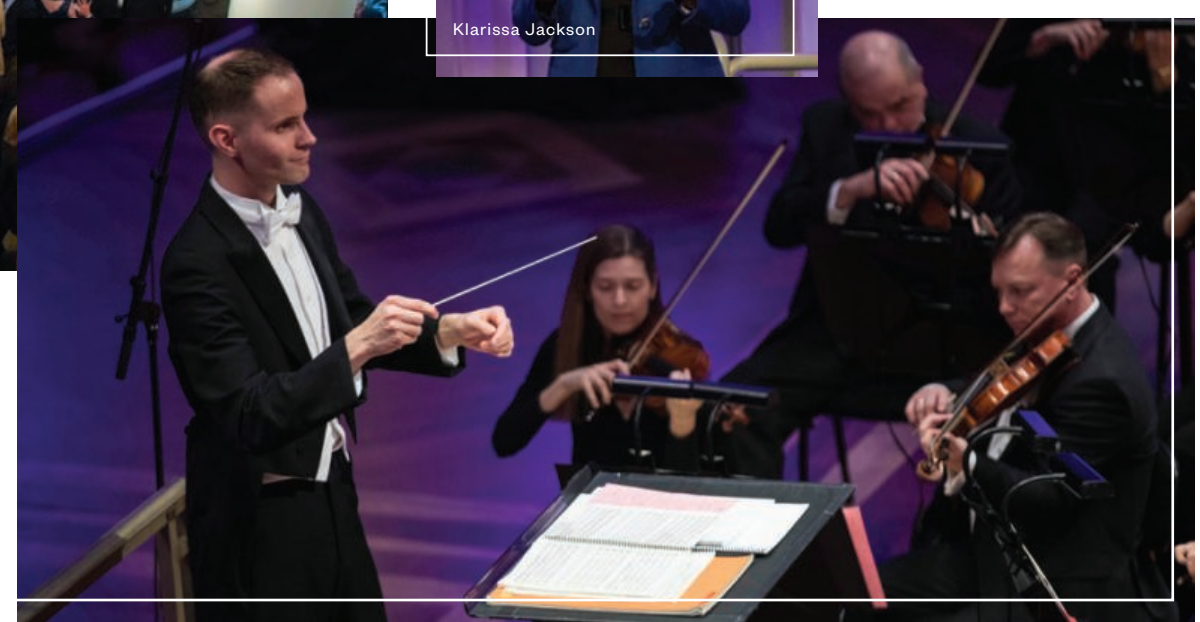
(Above and to right) The on-campus community celebrated the launch of LipscombLEADS in Allen Arena with Lou the Bison rappelling from the rafters and confetti cannons.



Selvana Rouman



Klarissa Jackson



The Lipscomb community at-large celebrated at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center (at left), where Lipscomb Director of Instrumental Studies Ben Blasko conducted the Nashville Symphony during the event (below), including one of his own original compositions.



and how the institute was the first facility to give a dose of lapatinib to a cancer patient in Nashville.

“Who knows, maybe one day you will find yourself taking a pill that can trace its roots back to Lipscomb,” Murphy told the crowd.

“I am so thrilled that Lipscomb has joined the fight,” said Smith. “It will most definitely take all of us, working together, fighting cancer together, to eradicate this disease.”

In an example of how Lipscomb transforms lives, **Selvana Rouman**, a senior in management and international business, shared how she has been able to overcome gender, religious bias and economic obstacles by her family coming to America and then her enrollment at Lipscomb.

“I was able to build a life that combined professionalism and Christian faith at the same time,” she said.

Four days later, the on-campus celebration featured music by Lipscomb’s commercial music majors and Lipscomb Academy singers, confetti cannons and the mascot, Lou the Bison, rappelling from the rafters.

The on-campus event, included two important pledges of support for LipscombLEADS from Lipscomb’s Faculty Senate, pledging to provide 2,500 hours of student mentoring, and from the Student Government Association, pledging students to carry out 200,000 hours of service to the community.

“The leadership that we aspire to is a model of leadership that was given to us by Jesus,” **John Lowry**, senior vice

president for advancement, announced from the stage. “It is a model that is born in faith and love. It is a model that is focused on others and it’s a model that plays out in service. This is the essence of LipscombLEADS of which you all are an important part.”

Among the activities at the on-campus event was the announcement of the establishment of the Pfeffer Graduate School of Business, named in recognition of **Pam** and **Phil Pfeffer**, CEO-in-residence for the College of Business and former president of Random House and chairman of the board and CEO of Nashville’s Ingram Distribution Group (for more details on the Pfeffer Graduate School of business, go to page 12).

Bisons make history in the Big Apple with NIT championship run

The Lipscomb men's basketball team carried its season as far as it could go.

When the Bisons began their journey on Nov. 6 at home with a decisive win against Sewanee few would have imagined the season would end on April 4 in the National Invitation Tournament championship game in New York City's Madison Square Garden.

To reach the most fabled of basketball arenas in the country and a national championship game, the Bisons had a season that will be remembered for years to come.

Following on the heels of last year's first-ever NCAA appearance, Lipscomb was the pre-season pick to win the ASUN conference tournament and return to the NCAA tournament for a second consecutive year.

The Bisons started the season out strong with significant wins over Texas Christian University, Southern Methodist University, Middle Tennessee State University, Navy and Vermont with valiant efforts at the University of Louisville and Clemson University.

During the 2018-19 season, the Bisons were ranked in several statistical categories including eighth in the country with a +14.8 scoring margin and ninth in scoring offense and assists per game (17.4). Lipscomb also ranked among the nation's best in total assists (11th), defensive rebounds per game (16th), free throws made (21st), field goal percentage (24th) and turnovers forced (25th).

In the ASUN, Lipscomb ranked top-3 in 19 different statistical categories. They led the league in points, points per game, field goals per game, 3-point percentage, free throws per game, defensive rebounds per game, rebounding margin, assists per game, steals per game, opponents field goal percentage and opponents 3-point percentage. The Bisons set a single-season DI program record for ASUN winning percentage at .875, were on an 11-

game winning streak earlier in the year—the longest in Division I program history—and compiled 19-straight wins against ASUN competition.

The 2018-19 season was the third consecutive 20-win season, including a program best 28-9 record (NCAA era), and for the first time in university history, the Bisons received votes for the AP top 25. Lipscomb was consistently the talk of sports analysts, media and fans across the country throughout the season. The team earned numerous honors along the way including **Garrison Mathews**, senior, being named ASUN Player of the Year and former Bison coach **Casey Alexander** being named ASUN Coach of the Year. The regular season ended with the Bisons earning a share of the ASUN regular season title and hosting three rounds of the ASUN conference tournament.

However, the Bisons' season took an unexpected turn when they lost at home March 10 in the ASUN tournament championship in a hard-fought battle against conference newcomer Liberty University, ending Lipscomb's dreams of a return trip to the NCAA men's basketball national tournament.

In the week that followed that loss, Lipscomb's basketball program was the topic of national conversation about the possibility of an at-large bid. On March 17—Selection Sunday—the Bisons did not receive an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament but did accept a bid to the National Invitation Tournament. The Bisons set out to prepare for postseason play and set their sights firmly on getting to the finals in New York City in April.

The No. 5-seeded Bisons found the state of North Carolina to be their NIT good luck charm as they headed east to take on three consecutive opponents from the Tar Heel state. After a wild game, the Bisons defeated Davidson 89-81, notching the program's first NCAA-era postseason win.

Four days later, Lipscomb took on top-seeded University of North Carolina-Greensboro turning a one-

Continued on page 35

The nation watched as the Bisons made a historic stampede to NIT finals

This season Lipscomb basketball has been the topic of national chatter and has put its stake in the ground as a nationally recognized and highly competitive mid-major basketball program. The nation was watching as the Bisons proudly represented our school in the NIT.

Through the Bisons' postseason, March 10–April 7, Lipscomb's men's basketball team was featured in local and national television media nearly 1,000 times with a total viewership of more than 95 million viewers. More than 1,350 print and online articles appeared with a reach of 1.5 billion views. Engagement with Lipscomb University's official social media channels skyrocketed during this time period, and in the Nashville area a series of billboards, radio and television ads as well as yard signs and banners helped to capitalize on this moment when the sports world was watching.

On championship game day, Lipscomb received numerous messages of support from Nashville Mayor **David Briley**, Tennessee Gov. **Bill Lee**, the Nashville Predators, the Tennessee Titans, former student **Thomas Rhett** and many more.

Perhaps most importantly, the Bisons also made an impression on those who did not know anything about the university prior to the team's appearance in the NIT tournament. This message (at right) was sent to Lipscomb President **L. Randolph Lowry** the morning after the Bisons lost to Texas in the championship game.

The author, John Collins, and his wife, Jo, live in Madison, Alabama. He sent this email on April 5 as a daily devotional that he shared with his friends and colleagues. It is an example of the lasting impact the Lipscomb University men's basketball team had across the country this season.



I'm a Bison fan now...

From: John Collins

Date: April 5, 2019 at 6:49:43 AM CDT

Subject: Fwd: Daily Devotional for April 5, 2019

Today's lesson is especially pertinent because it reminded me of something very cool I saw last night.

Here's what I mean...

Okay, I admit it....college basketball at tournament time is my favorite. So much so, that I even watch the NIT with fascination. This year has been no exception....The Tide, Xavier (with the kid Hankins from Ferris State), NC State, and Wichita State (you all know how much I like their mascot Wisbock)...you name it, I've watched it.

But as the tournament has unfolded, the real story has been Lipscomb University. A small Christian school out of Nashville, they've played great basketball at different levels throughout the years. But this year was especially good...earning them a berth in the tourney....where they proceeded to beat Davidson, UNCG, NC State and Wichita State to get to the finals.

That brings us to last night. A true Cinderella Story...the little school from Nashville taking on Texas (yes, that Texas) at Madison Square Garden in New York City for the championship. Bright lights...big city...the opportunity of a lifetime...the stuff they make movies about. Unfortunately, this movie didn't end well...unless you watched till the very end. Texas was simply bigger, stronger and faster...all that and the fact they shot the lights out from 3 point land...leading to an 18 point defeat.

But that's where this story gets really good. As you might imagine, the cameras focused on their seniors who tearfully hugged each other...and the fans who gave the players standing ovations as they walked off the court for the last time. As the game ended the Texas coach was interviewed, then the cameras panned to mid-court where the team had formed a prayer circle around the MSG logo at mid-court. Yes, I know that lots of teams pray after games....but this time the camera stayed on the circled team as one of their players delivered a passionate word of prayer.

So where am I going here? Easy game. It was no coincidence whatsoever that an unknown school was in the NIT finals. It was no coincidence that this team openly was sharing their faith in what many see as the most decadent city in the U.S., and it was certainly no coincidence that the man holding the camera stayed with them long enough to make sure the world watching knew what was going on.

Yes, the players will always wish they had played better. But finishing up strong...are you kidding me. Talk about kids using the platform to build the Kingdom...double amen to that. Needless to say, I'm a Bison fan now...

point deficit late in the first half into a convincing 86-69 beat down.

Next up for Lipscomb was NC State on the road in arguably one of the toughest—and loudest—gyms in the country to play in. The Bisons came away with a 94-93 win in a thrilling, back-and-forth heavyweight battle for a spot in the NIT semifinals. Mathews hit big shot after big shot all night for the Bisons, pouring in a program DI record 44 points, but it was junior point guard **Kenny Cooper** who came through with the two biggest shots of the night, scoring the final five points including the game-winning floater with 1.7 seconds remaining.

With the win, Lipscomb earned a trip to Madison Square Garden to take on No. 6-seed Wichita State.

"It was an awesome win for our program," said Alexander. "I'm completely proud of guys that hung in there, guys that got us off to great starts and guys that finished it up for us. That last four or five minutes with the noise, what we had to play through, and coming from behind—these guys made plays.

"We're a good team. We've won big road games already. We have a lot of experience and every time they came over to the huddle they thought they were going to win. There's not much a coach can say or do about that; that's these guys believing in what they're doing and performing when their number is called and getting the result that we wanted. I'm really proud."

Three days later, the Bisons were on a plane headed to the Big Apple to play in one of the most famous venues in the country. And in the city that never sleeps the Bison faithful turned out en masse to cheer on the Bisons. A contingent of fans gathered for a pre-game pep rally, sponsored by Lipscomb's Alumni Relations Office, and hundreds of alumni from New York City and across the country along with Lipscomb faculty, staff, students, former Bison players and friends packed the house to celebrate this milestone in Lipscomb basketball history.

The Bisons and No. 6 seed Wichita State met for the first time on the hardwood in the NIT semifinals on April 2 in a nationally televised game on ESPN. It also aired nationally on Westwood One radio.

Every basketball player grows up dreaming of winning a big game in Madison Square Garden, and on that night the Lipscomb men's basketball team did just that.

The Bisons mounted a late second-half comeback in the NIT semifinals to take down Wichita State 71-64 off the back of Mathews' 34 points. After a 14-0 run to close out the win, Lipscomb earned a spot in the NIT Championship game, a first in ASUN history. The win also gave the Bisons more road wins, 14, than any other team in the nation this season.

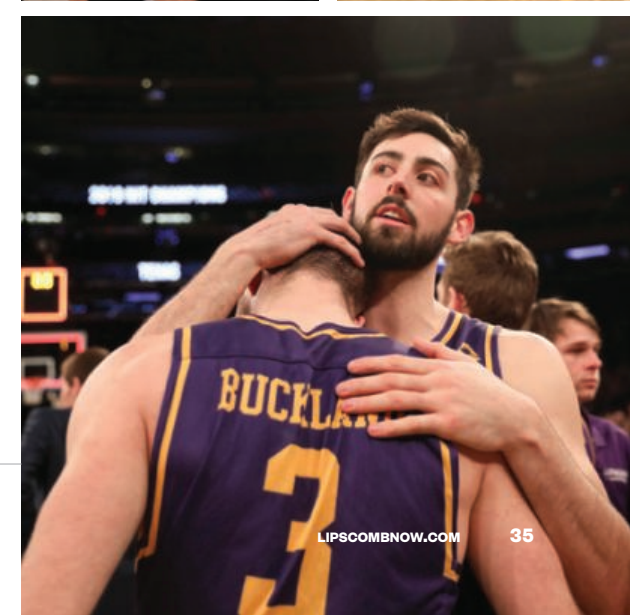
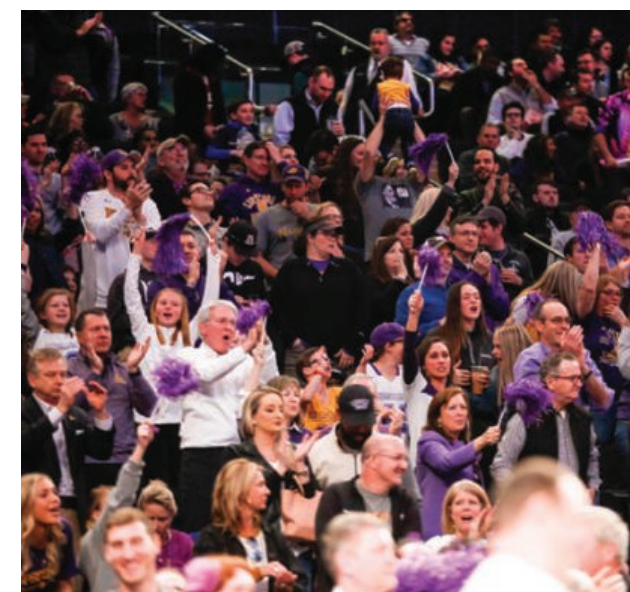
"It is difficult for me to express how thankful I am to be able to be in this position," Mathews said. "To have won a game here and to be in the championship with my team is something I will never forget. It is awesome to be able to do it with my best friends."

Lipscomb extended its season to the very last possible day as they advanced to the NIT finals on April 4 in the Garden against a tough University of Texas team. The Bisons fell 81-66, ending a memorable tournament run and a historic season (29-8).

Senior **Rob Marberry** carried the Bisons' offense early on, notching the team's first six points. He finished with a team-high 17 points in his final game for Lipscomb. Although the Bisons fell short of winning the national championship, losing the game was not the saddest aspect for the Bisons.

"My real message to (the team) was the absolute only thing to be sad about is that it's over. That's it. We had an expectation to win the game. We thought we could win the game. We're disappointed we didn't win the game. We're disappointed we didn't play better but the only thing to be sad about is this team doesn't have any more days together, and you know, but we have to finish it up—because we maxed out pretty well," said Alexander.

Seniors Marberry, Mathews, **Nate Moran**, **Matt Rose** and **Eli Pepper** played their final games in the Purple and Gold after a memorable stint with the Bisons. The senior class finishes with the most wins for a career and in a single season in the program's Division I era.



THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE IS NOW

“Research informs teaching, and if you want to provide cutting-edge teaching, you have to be involved in research.”

-W. Craig Bledsoe, Lipscomb Provost

Every day on the Lipscomb University campus, just what you would expect goes on in classrooms on campus: students studying, listening, taking tests and discussing issues.

But then there are the things you wouldn't expect going on in our classrooms as well: students fighting terrorism, developing new drugs for cancer, figuring out how to make our cell phones even smaller, understanding DNA, fighting bullying, defending against cyberattacks.

And they aren't just learning how to do these things in their future careers. They are doing these things now, every day, as Lipscomb faculty carry out scientific research in practically every discipline and invite students into the process.

In the past 10 years, a continuously growing, enhanced focus on research at Lipscomb has paid off in big dividends, including an R3 Carnegie designation, a U.S. News and World Report categorization as a national university, growing numbers of grants from state organizations, private foundations and corporations and \$5.4 million and counting in federally funded research, community engagement, human service and educational access grants.

But that's just how the research going on at Lipscomb benefits the university. Hundreds of projects carried out each semester will help us drive on safer roads and combat the national opioid epidemic. They help improve test scores in Tennessee school districts and enhance the bottom line of Nashville businesses. They help fight the war on terror and the fight against cancer.

The foundation Lipscomb built, starting more than a decade ago, is standing firm as the university builds a stronger reputation in the national scientific community, stronger academic credentials within colleges, a stronger faculty with impressive research backgrounds and stronger financial resources to continue making a difference for our world in the future.

Lipscomb University has long been known as a university that gets its pre-med students into medical school, and McFarland's halls have long included faculty with nationally known research resumes, such as J. Ridley Stroop. But Lipscomb's latest focus on incorporating more research into its academics can be traced to a few key decisions over a decade ago that eventually led to the campuswide research fervor on campus today.



Lipscomb lifer searches for 'more of the story' in her own campus lab

Rachel Crouch ('08, Pharm.D. '12) always wants to know more of the story.

“Research gives me the opportunity to analyze questions I have and try to figure out the rest of the story,” said Crouch, assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences at Lipscomb since November 2017.

This fall, Lipscomb's newest pharmacy researcher set up her own lab in Lipscomb's Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Center to turn her curiosity toward an enzyme called aldehyde oxidase. She wants to understand more about this enzyme's role in metabolizing certain drugs, as this information could improve success rates in the discovery and development of new drugs. How the body processes a drug has a big influence on how effective the drug can be at treating illness, she said.

“Some of the drugs I am working with made it all the way into clinical trials, and at that stage they realized that the drugs were being metabolized in the body so fast that they would not have time to take effect. As a result, the drugs failed out of clinical trials,” she said. “By that time, a lot of money and time had gone into developing these drugs. So that's an example of why pharmacokinetics (including drug metabolism, her area of study) is so important.”

Crouch's inquisitive nature was crafted almost entirely by Lipscomb teachers, professors and

mentors. She attended Lipscomb Academy and Lipscomb University, where her first interest in research was piqued by participating in a research project by chemistry Chair and Professor **Kent Clinger**.

Then she entered Lipscomb's Pharm.D. program and nurtured her desire to answer questions by becoming one of the first students in Lipscomb's College of Pharmacy Summer Research Program and became the first to take advantage of the Pharm.D.-to-Ph.D. Pathway Program to transition to Vanderbilt University to earn a Ph.D.

As part of the summer program, she worked in a Lipscomb lab one summer and in a Vanderbilt lab the next summer, and was able to cut about a year off her Ph.D. study time at Vanderbilt. Her research of pharmacokinetics began in her fourth year of pharmacy school when she rotated in a drug metabolism lab at Vanderbilt.

Crouch has been published in academic journals, presented her research at a conference in Germany and was invited to a Gordon Research Conference on Drug Metabolism in New Hampshire.

Four additional Lipscomb students have participated in the pathway program, with one to begin Vanderbilt later this year and another who opted to obtain her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina.

2007

The Langford-Yates Endowment for the Advancement of Science was established. Up to four undergraduates per year conduct research such as using CRISPR to edit genes.

2008

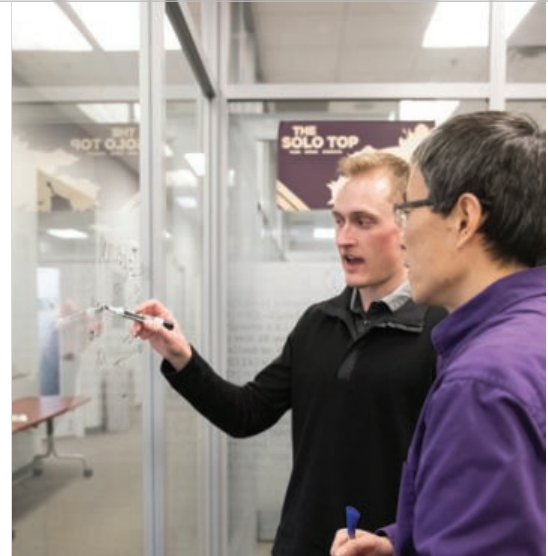
The College of Pharmacy, Lipscomb's first doctoral program, inducts its first class and establishes a pathway for students to delve into research.

2009

The first six students were selected for the Pharmaceutical Sciences Summer Research Program, a 10-week research internship to work on researching new and existing drug therapies.

2010

The Doctor of Education program began. The college partners with more than 60 organizations in Middle Tennessee to carry out up to 30 dissertation projects at one time.



Quingguo Wang, associate professor of computational sciences, and recent student Thais Minet, worked together on Wang's latest research on RNA sequencing samples.

Lipscomb has received* research grants from numerous agencies including these:

- Vanderbilt University Medical Center
- National Institutes of Health
- Tennessee Department of Health
- Nashville Public Education Foundation
- Vanderbilt University
- Tennessee Department of Transportation
- National Science Foundation
- Community Pharmacy Foundation

These successes in research grants have led to almost \$4.7 million in federally funded community engagement, human service and educational access grants* from these agencies:

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- National Endowment for the Humanities
- U.S. Department of Education
- National Science Foundation

*Since the 2014-15 school year

Computer research works to solve society's 'bugs'

When the average person thinks of an "IT guy" (or girl), he or she probably associates them with rebooting desktops, maintaining a network or setting up a new app.

But actually the next generation of IT professionals at Lipscomb is preparing to become far more integrally involved in every crucial system in our society by using their computing skills to address some of society's weightiest problems: public safety, fighting terrorism, mapping genes related to cancer, predicting pandemics or bolstering cybersecurity, among other things.

Thais Minet ('18), the College of Computing & Technology's Outstanding Senior of the Year, was already using computers to help scientists and physicians understand the genetic mechanisms underlying human disease even before he graduated in December.

Minet, from Sammamish, Washington, worked as a research assistant for **Quingguo Wang**, associate professor of computational sciences, working to develop ways that RNA sequencing samples from different sources can be compared accurately, which would allow scientists to merge data from separate RNA databases.

Minet gained experience presenting the results at the Lipscomb Student Scholars Symposium, winning a Best Poster honor. He also co-authored a paper with Wang on the topic, which has been published at Nature.com, experiences that have prepared him to target the top graduate schools in the nation.

"The research experiences I have had with Dr. Wang have been fantastic learning experiences which directly contributed to a 2018 summer software engineer internship at Amazon and allowed me to pursue the

graduate programs I am most interested in," said Minet.

He is just one example of a computing student who has benefitted from faculty's involvement in research projects.

Twenty-three undergraduate and 15 graduate computing students made presentations at Lipscomb's 2018 scholars symposium, and all graduate students are required to carry out a practicum, overseen by some of the college's most prolific research scholars, like Alan Cantrell, who has carried out his own research to determine if a particular computer game engine could be used to demonstrate how people evacuate a crisis situation like a fire.

"When considering a research project, the first thing we ask ourselves is, 'Is there a social responsibility component?'" said college Dean **Fortune Mhlanga**. "We are not doing research for the sake of research, but to supplement and complement our mission. Consistent with our overall vision and mission, our research mission is to develop and deploy impactful and socially-responsible scientific knowledge and practical technologies that empower society to improve the quality of life."

Such research projects infuse Lipscomb's computing classrooms with exercises to boost critical thinking, prepare students for the future of computing and help them see the value of all their areas of study: math, biology, physics and psychology, among others.

"Students are working to create real-world solutions, which often means developing new computer applications using advanced math and science to build computerized solutions that are socially responsible," he said.

117 FACULTY HAVE SUBMITTED

438

ARTICLES TO A PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS*

332 STUDENTS MADE PRESENTATIONS AT THE 2019 STUDENT SCHOLARS SYMPOSIUM

106 FACULTY HAVE HAD

434

ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS*

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE STUDENT SCHOLARS SYMPOSIUM INCREASED FROM: **41** IN 2012 TO **250** IN 2019

65

BOOKS HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED BY 30 FACULTY**

98 FACULTY HAVE INVOLVED AN ESTIMATED 700+ STUDENTS IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

\$432,634

of institutional funds were devoted to research activities in 2017-18 fiscal year

*Since the 2014-15 academic year
**During their tenure at Lipscomb

All stats are based on the survey of 87 percent of the 285 full-time faculty and deans.



INVESTING101

Lipscomb alumni pay back 'Dr. G' during his bout with cancer in 2018

On March 3, 2018, Chair of Biology Kent Gallaher discovered he suffered from renal carcinoma: kidney cancer.

On Tuesday March 6, 2018, former Dean of Student Life **Scott McDowell** lead a prayer for Gallaher in Lipscomb's weekly chapel service. Over the course of the next 12 hours, "Dr. G," as he is lovingly called by Lipscomb students, received almost 300 contacts on social media from friends, family, church family and former and current students... many, many students.

He received hand-written letters from alumni all over the nation and world. One alumnus, a surgeon, flew from New Jersey just to sit with his family during Gallaher's surgery, which occurred less than a week after his diagnosis. Another alumna, now a nurse, rallied her fellow alums to collect inspirational Bible verses which were sewn into a "cancer blanket," with the motivational message, "Losing is not in my DNA."

Current students also showered encouragement on Gallaher, gathering at

the hospital to pray and keep watch with his family during the surgery, coordinating a prayer vigil in front of McFarland to take place during the surgery, gathering to cook him dinner on his first night home from the hospital and providing apparel, inspirational books and gift cards, among other gift

The outpouring of alumni and student encouragement was "overwhelming," Gallaher said, but it was also decades in the making. Gallaher has taught at Lipscomb for 18 years and has spent a portion of every day "investing" in the community of students at Lipscomb.

And years before that, Gallaher learned the value of such investment when he experienced the benefits himself as an "emotionally guarded and spiritually broken" transfer student at Lipscomb in the 1980s.

One month to the day after his cancer diagnosis, Gallaher was at the podium at Lipscomb's weekly chapel service, bringing the message to students that "you can't wait until you need it to invest in your community." Read on to see Dr. G's story in his own words taken from that April 2018 chapel speech and an annual talk he gives for prospective students and their families.

EXCERPTS FROM THE ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL WEEKEND SPEECH

There's a lot of "stuff" that can get in the way of your healthy social/emotional/spiritual development. I came to Lipscomb in the 1980's. I was a 24-year-old transfer student, who had previously been dismissed from another Christian college when I was 20. So for several years I had lived a difficult life. When I arrived at Lipscomb I was hardened, emotionally guarded and spiritually broken.

But I met people at Lipscomb whom God used to change my life. Professors who gently began the process of softening me and who invested their lives in my recovery. Men and women who showed me how to live as a mature Christian should. They became my mentors.

Several of them have now passed away, but I can tell you that their fingerprints are on my life. Their influence can be seen in my marriage, how I parented my children and in my choice of career. Those godly people will be part of my life for the rest of my life.

It's a beautiful thing really. At Lipscomb you are surrounded by men and women who have made the conscious decision to minister



in higher education. We have chosen to be at this place, at this time, because we know that someone like you might need to know someone like us.

You see at Lipscomb, it's really all about relationships. Mentoring manifests itself in some of the most personal and memorable moments in life.

I could tell you about all of the students that I've lead to Christ over a 22-year career. Or about a couple named Brandon and Savannah whose wedding I officiated in May. Or of the international students that my wife and I have fostered from places like Brazil, Madagascar, Scotland, Rwanda and the Czech Republic. Or of the students I've mentored in research and with whom I have travelled the world. Or of the social club for which I serve as faculty sponsor.

The bottom line is this: I have discovered that authentic mentoring relationships are time consuming, sometimes uncomfortable and often involve personal sacrifices, but the payoff is beyond compare!

You see, when that day comes—when my career is over and I reflect on whether I did anything significant with my life—that's when they will come to me. I will see their faces in my mind's eye. All those former students that I've mentored, not just in science, but in life. They will be my evidence of a life well lived in service to my God.

EXCERPTS FROM THE APRIL 2018 CHAPEL SPEECH

I have thought a lot about what it means to belong to a community.

What I have learned through this last month, is that God shows up through the kindness

of his people. There are lots of passages in Scripture that I grew up with, that you probably grew up with, that are so familiar: I Thessalonians 5:11, "Encourage one another, and build one another up;" Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ;" and I Peter 4:10, "As each has received a gift. Employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

If God has put something in you, then you use it as a manifestation of God's grace in the life of someone else.

The Tuesday after I received my diagnosis, my good friend Scott McDowell came in here and led this group in prayer for me. Then campus life put out that they were going to have a prayer meeting for me on the Thursday morning of my surgery. When the news that I had cancer hit social media, I can tell you that over a 12-hour period that day I was contacted by almost 300 people. Some were my church family, some were my personal family, but the vast majority were students. Some of you in this room.

I've literally taught thousands of kids. I have hundreds of former students who are doctors, dentists and pharmacists. The encouragement that I began to receive was overwhelming. I know what it feels like to belong to a community.

And then the letters. The personal letters from places all over the country, from New Jersey, Ohio, Minnesota, Oregon, California, Texas, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia and North Carolina, and around the world from Japan, China, the UK, Spain and Madagascar. All of them saying the same thing: You made a difference in my life.

And if you need anything. If you need me to fly from New Jersey and sit with your

family? I'm on a plane. That was one of my former students who is now a head and neck surgeon in New Jersey. You need me to come from Lubbock, Texas, and take care of your family? I'll be there tomorrow. God shows up through the kindness of his people.

That's what I've been living the past month. So what's the lesson? You can't wait until you need it to invest into community. Being part of a community, belonging to a community is a conscious decision. It is a choice. Let me encourage you today to start investing in your community.

Every morning I come to the university at 6:30 a.m.; I make coffee for the department; I read a psalm. I reach up on my computer monitor and take off a prayer list; I have 41 names. And I finish that prayer every day the same way: "God show me the student that needs you the most today. Give me the courage to approach that student. Give me the wisdom to minister to that student. Help me to love them sacrificially."

I try to invest in my community every day, and any love I have shown you, or all those other hundreds of people who were my students who are working now, it came back to me this last month a thousand-fold.

Let me just encourage you to actively look for ways to be a blessing to somebody's life today. Shake the numbness off and actively look for ways to be a blessing every day. And then when it is your turn (and this was so hard for me), set the pride aside and receive the blessing when it's your turn. The most beautiful thing in the world folks is to love and be loved. Let's do that!

© Hear Kent Gallaher's complete April 2018 chapel speech, online at <http://bit.ly/DrGGathering>.



Education alumnus Gerron Hurt earned two masters in 2018

One at Lipscomb, and one on MasterChef

Photo submitted by FOX.

Lipscomb University student and Lumination reporter Sara Jones contributed to this report.

For **Gerron Hurt**, a 25-year old teacher at Nashville's LEAD Academy High School, 2018 was a year of celebration. First he enjoyed a graduation celebration when he earned his Master of Education from Lipscomb in May. Then in September he enjoyed a nationally televised celebration when he won the Fox reality show cooking competition MasterChef.

Hurt, an English teacher at LEAD for more than three years, won a \$250,000 prize and is working to use some of his

winnings to begin a culinary program for students at LEAD, a Nashville public charter school designated for low income students.

Not only did Hurt earn his master's from Lipscomb and an ELL (English Language Learning) certificate this past May, but he did it while filming the Season 9 episodes of MasterChef, which took him away from campus for several weeks to film the show in Los Angeles.

"I gave him the syllabus and all the assignments ahead of time, and he had the textbook," said **Jeanne Fain**, a professor of education at Lipscomb who came to know Hurt well. "You have

to be extremely organized to earn a master's and be on a reality show and go right back to teaching at LEAD, so his organizational skills are really good."

No doubt. On the episodes leading up to the finals, Hurt was required to make three chocolate desserts at one time as well as prepare a three-course meal of risotto, salmon and sticky toffee pudding, all in one time period.

Throughout the show, Hurt, a native of Louisville, Kentucky, drew on his roots to create innovative versions of Southern staples. For the finale menu, Hurt did a spin on Nashville hot chicken to create a "Nashville hot quail"





appetizer, a version of shrimp and grits with prawns for the entrée and an amaretto chess pie for dessert.

Hurt began cooking around the age of 5, he said. “Growing up, I was always interested in what my Mom was cooking because I loved to eat,” said Hurt. “My mom would say, ‘Come into this kitchen because I don’t want you to be waiting on a woman to cook your meal!’”

As he grew older, Hurt loved to watch cooking shows on the Food Network and shows featuring the MasterChef host Gordon Ramsay, international chef and restaurateur.

In 2013, Hurt’s mother passed away, an event that impacted him greatly both spiritually and in his culinary journey.

“I have always been a religious person, but it wasn’t until my mother’s death that I truly established a one-on-one relationship with God,” Hurt said. “Losing my mom made me challenge what God had in store for my life, but going to church and constantly talking to God allowed me to rekindle my faith and to put all of my trust in Him. Without the Lord, none of my accomplishments would be possible! I owe it all to Him!”

He attended Western Kentucky University for his undergraduate degree and then came to Nashville as part of the Nashville Teacher Residency program, which recruits and trains recent college graduates to become math and English teachers in Nashville’s low-income public middle and high schools. The residency program

has a partnership with Lipscomb for master’s-level course work.

Hurt said he appreciates his time at Lipscomb for the relevant tools he received and strong foundation it provided. “Lipscomb’s program really, really prepared me to be able to truly accommodate my ELL students and differentiate my lesson plans accordingly,” said Hurt.

Hurt is quite popular at LEAD Academy High School, he says, because in addition to filling his students’ heads with a good grasp of language and writing, he also fills their tummies with good food on a regular basis. “I cook all the time for

him, and he focused on the support he received from his friends and family.

“I am about food that speaks to the soul and food that is influenced by family,” Hurt said.

In addition to the culinary program at LEAD, Hurt also plans to travel the world learning about food cuisine and to possibly establish a food truck or a pop-up restaurant in Nashville. He will also participate in Camp MasterChef, an immersive summer camp the show holds for kids ages 8-16.

Hurt said he feels he was fairly represented as who he really is on MasterChef, and Fain agrees.

“He is so amazing! Before he went, I had a chance to pray with him, because he was really nervous. He gave

me this big bear hug,” said Fain. “He is so genuine. That is really who he is (on the show). They haven’t edited him or framed him in a different way.”

As an educator, Fain is excited that Hurt has had the opportunity to represent a positive attitude toward learning, she said.

“He has demonstrated really well what it is like to take constructive feedback positively and learn from it,” she said. “He is a great example of what a lifelong learner looks like. He has learned from everything and doesn’t let criticism beat him up, but instead really tries hard not to make the same mistake. He’s a really great example for our students.”

© To see the original, longer version of this article go to bit.ly/HurtMasterChef.

“I am about food that speaks to the soul and food that is influenced by family.”

my students, and they are so grateful for every meal I cook for them. I make a buffalo chicken dish that they beg for every week,” he said.

“Throughout the season, Gerron displayed the drive and characteristics we so often ask of one another and, especially, our students,” said LEAD Academy’s CEO Dwayne Tucker. “He was courageous in trying out for the show in the first place. He was committed, disciplined and self-reliant in his approach to the competition and the way in which he talked about his students and his passion for them was the very definition of serving others.”

Hurt still recalls the intimidation he felt cooking for chef Ramsay. In order to get past his fears, he reminded himself that Ramsay was a regular person, just like



ANIMATION PROGRAM FEATURES FACULTY WITH DEEP DISNEY ROOTS

If Disneyland is the “Happiest Place on Earth”™ for millions of families, then Lipscomb University is surely the happiest place on earth for budding animators.

Since the earliest days of animation, Disney artists have been pioneers in the field developing innovative ways

to deliver entertainment to audiences while creating some of the most beloved characters. Now, Lipscomb is giving students who want to pursue careers in animation a unique opportunity to learn from artists who have been on the front lines at Disney, as well as other production houses.

Four years ago **Tom Bancroft** brought a vision to life for Lipscomb’s George Shinn College of Entertainment & the Arts to offer a unique academic program to prepare students who want to pursue careers in animation. What he has created is a program where faculty and guest lecturers include former and current Disney animators, Big Idea

Production artists and numerous other industry-proven leaders and has at its core a faith-based perspective.

It is a very specialized program that approaches animation education with an infusion of fundamental art techniques such as perspective, figure drawing, film elements and movement. And, the program has grown quickly from eight freshmen when it began four years ago to more than 22 freshmen this past fall.

“I am very pleased with where we are today,” says Bancroft. “We have gone further in a short period of time than I thought possible. The word is out that Lipscomb is a place to seriously study animation from some of the best artists in the industry. I think we are the only program in the world to have four Disney artists on faculty!”

For more than 25 years Bancroft has been creating animated shorts, films and features in the animation industry. Much of that time was spent working for Walt Disney Feature Animation, where he was animator on four animated shorts and eight feature films including *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Lion King*, *Aladdin*, *Pocahontas*, *Mulan* and *Brother Bear*.

He left Disney in 2000 to follow his heart and help Big Idea Productions, creators of the popular *VeggieTales* animated series, create its first feature film, *Jonah: A VeggieTales Movie*. While there he also directed and co-created the popular 2D animated video series *Larryboy Adventures*.

He is right at home in the classroom, as he has literally written the textbook for budding animators.

His popular character design instruction books, *Creating Characters with Personality* and *Character Mentor* have become the most recognized books on designing

characters for animation, video games, comic books and cartooning and are required textbooks at many art schools around the world.

Because of the popularity of these books, Bancroft has been hired to design hundreds of characters for film, TV, and video game productions as well as speak at art schools and animation studios around the nation as well as in Italy, Canada and Costa Rica. Bancroft has been nominated for Annie Awards, presented by the International Animated Film Association; and Reuben Awards, presented by the National Cartoonist Society. He has spoken at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was awarded an entry into the Chicago Children’s Film Festival.

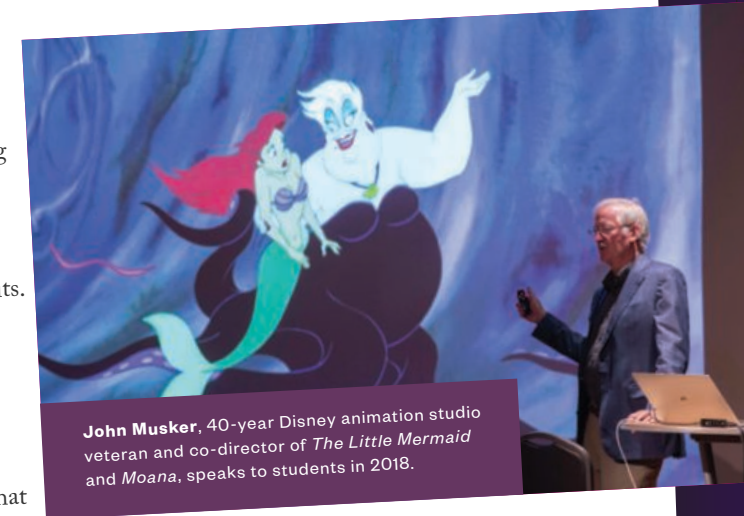
“I love what I do with my many day jobs in animation designing characters for film and TV, but I’ve always wanted to give back to the next generation of artists and animators,” he admits. “Working with Lipscomb is taking that desire to the next level for me. We are preparing our students to be industry-ready and to be able to create entertainment for the world that will equal what is produced by the best studios in the country.”

INDUSTRY LEADING FACULTY

Bancroft says he believes it is important for students in the animation program to learn from professionals who are also active practitioners like him.

“Lipscomb is very fortunate to have faculty who are ‘academic artists,’ who are industry proven, actively working in the field and have a passion to teaching the next generation of artists,” he said. “Bringing these experts to campus adds tremendous value to a student’s educational experience not only for the knowledge and insight they gain but also with the networking and connections they make with these professionals.”

Fellow Disney veteran **John Pomeroy** has been part of the faculty Bancroft assembled since the beginning of the program. He can identify with students who have animation dreams. From the time he was a boy, Pomeroy wanted to be an animator for Walt Disney when he grew up.



John Musker, 40-year Disney animation studio veteran and co-director of *The Little Mermaid* and *Moana*, speaks to students in 2018.



For more than 25 years **Tom Bancroft**, founder of Lipscomb’s animation program, has been creating animated shorts, films and features, including his years at Walt Disney Feature Animation.

FIVE WAYS TO HELP LIPSCOMB LEAD THE NEXT GENERATION TO IMPACTFUL CAREERS AND LIVES

Hello Fellow Bisons,

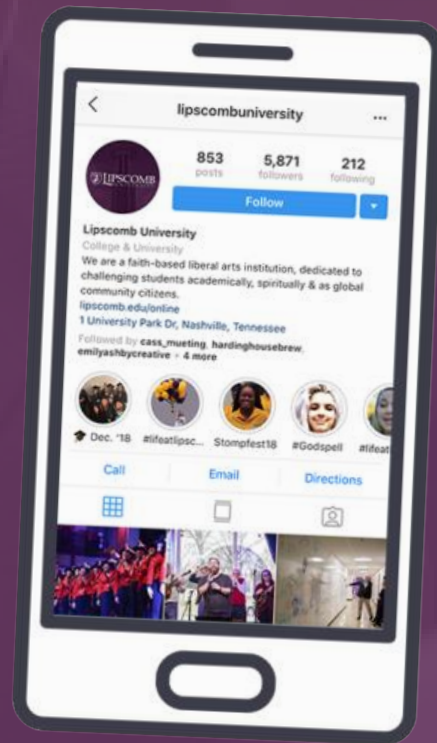
You know that without Lipscomb your life wouldn't be the same. Maybe a Lipscomb professor prepared and challenged you in ways that opened doors to a vocation you never thought possible. Perhaps a mission trip opened your eyes to a relationship with God and his children. Maybe you met that special someone on campus who later became your spouse!

Whatever the story, if it hadn't been for Lipscomb, you wouldn't be where you are today.

So imagine the impact your time, support and effort could have on the next generation of Bisons now studying at or considering attending Lipscomb. The world will be shaped by future Bisons, so check out the top five ways you can help shape that future today.



Phil Ellenburg
Vice President for Alumni Relations
f t LipscombAlumni



1 Share your Lipscomb pride!

Feeling social? Let everyone know how proud you are to be a Bison by liking our Facebook page or following us on Twitter or Instagram.

2 Experience the Lipscomb spirit.

Alumni Relations has scheduled one of its busiest years to date, making 2019 the perfect opportunity to connect with other Lipscomb alumni through networking, professional development and school spirit events.

Contact alumni@lipscomb.edu to find events in your area.

3 Serve beside your fellow Bisons.

Students past knew that "beautiful day" meant no classes and a day of fun in the sun. Students today know "Service Day" means no classes and a day of volunteering in Nashville.

In 2019 alumni know that spring's "Alumni Days of Service" means joining their fellow Lipscomb graduates to serve in their own communities. In March alumni served in nursing homes and public schools and through food distribution throughout the South.

To get involved in service with fellow alumni contact Rhonda Minton at rhonda.minton@lipscomb.edu.

4 Give to your passion.

Perhaps it was a special relationship with a faculty mentor, or maybe those long days and nights spent rehearsing for Singarama. For every Lipscomb graduate there is at least one special experience that shaped the values and passion you hold today.

So here's an opportunity to give to your passion. Donations to Lipscomb can be designated for any particular program or for any particular project (and, yes, you can even give to Singarama).

Find "Give a gift" at lipscomb.edu/giving where you can designate your gift your way.

5 Be part of the GOLD Network.

Starting a new chapter of life doesn't mean giving up your connections to your alma mater. The first decade after graduation is a time of tremendous change. Alumni Relations has connections to tens of thousands of Lipscomb Bisons and extensive resources on campus, so let us use our connections and experience for you.

Contact alumni@lipscomb.edu to learn more about the GOLD Network (Graduates of the Last Decade).





Looking back...

Alumna created her own wedding dress for senior class project

Janavee McDoniel ('56), of Tuckerman, Arkansas, celebrated more than her marriage to **Richard Craig** ('56), of Jacksonville, Florida, on June 10, 1956. She also celebrated the completion of her senior project in Lipscomb's home economics program: her own wedding dress!

With the upcoming nuptials pending that spring, Jan pondered ways she could afford an elegant, beautiful dress on the big day. As she had already designed a dress as one of her class projects, she decided to design and sew her own wedding dress as a money-saving technique.

"If I had been able to draw, I could have been a designer, because I was always adding to, or taking away from, basic patterns," said Jan, who now resides in Nashville with husband, Richard.

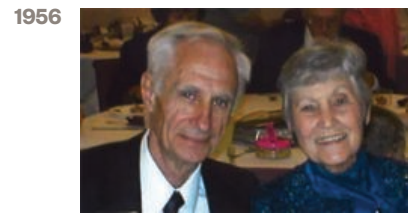
For around \$30, Jan bought the pattern and materials: taffeta, net and lace. She remembers Lipscomb professor **Margaret Carter** helping her sew the buttons and hoops up the back of the dress, a frustrating procedure, she said.

Once complete, her creation was featured in the 1956 David Lipscomb College Bulletin, which featured the Department of Home Economics.

Upon graduation, the couple moved to Jacksonville and subsequently lived in Atlanta for 47 years, before moving to Nashville to be near their grandchildren, all of whom attended Lipscomb Academy and some of whom graduated from Lipscomb University.

Class Notes

At lipscomb.edu/classnotes see the latest, post an update, share a photo, especially if it is your reunion year. For Bisons who have joined Golden Circle—that's 50+ years since graduation—every year is a reunion year.



Wilma Campbell McQueen of Lake Leelanau, Mich., retired from the board of the Leelanau Republican Women's Club after serving nearly 20 years as an officer and/or board member. She still serves on the executive board of the Leelanau County Republican Party and is an elected precinct delegate. She and her husband Ralph celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on Oct. 19, 2018.

1957 Billy Ables of Richardson, Texas, is retired from Raytheon Corporation.

1959 Dr. R. Wilburn Clouse of Madison, Tenn., is Vanderbilt University professor emeritus, president and founder of the Clouse-Elrod Foundation Inc. and visiting research professor with Womack Education Leadership at Middle Tennessee State University. Clouse recently was appointed to two national boards: The Middle Tennessee State University National Alumni Association Board and the board of directors for Isaac Litton High School Alumni Association.

1962 Richard H. Martin of Toney, Ala., is a professor of criminal justice and homeland security at Mercer University.

C. Bruce White of Franklin, Tenn., celebrated 60 years in ministry in June. He preached for churches in five states and spoke at many Christian lectureships. He made mission trips to six foreign countries and taught at Lipscomb University for five years. He retired from the Madison church of Christ pulpit in 2008 but continues to teach classes at the Madison church.

1963 David Parker of Nashville is an attorney at David Young Parker P.C.

1964 Conn Hamlett of Joelton released *John Lee Johnson: Into the Pits of Hell*, the fifth book of the John Lee Johnson series.



1965 Craven Crowell of Knoxville, Tenn., retired from chairmanship of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Thomas Perry of Incline Village, Nev., is a teacher at Incline High School.

Rod and Brenda Rutherford ('64) live in Powell, Tenn., where he is a retired minister. The Rutherfords have been involved with mission work in Zambia and Australia.

1966 Mel Brown of Hermitage, Tenn., retired in June 2018 as principal from Mount Juliet High School after serving 14 years with the school.

1968 Jim Allen of Destin, Fla., is founder and operating partner of Meritage Private Equity. He and his wife **Linda** ('70) are 2018 Lipscomb Honors Award winners, the highest honor conferred upon Lipscomb alumni. Jim Allen served on the Lipscomb University Board of Trustees from 1998 to 2017.

Jon and Jenifer Spivey Hosch live in Crowley, Texas. He is an early college and high school teacher with Texas Academy of Biomedical Sciences, and she teaches kindergarten at JR Stevens Elementary.

Stanley Jackson of Brockville, Ontario, is retired from the City of Ottawa in Ontario.

Steve McCaslin of Adairsville, Ga., retired in February 2018 after preaching more than 45 years and doing mission work in the Philippines.

Jerry Trousdale of Murfreesboro is an author and director of International Ministries for New Generations.

1969 Sylvia Barr Badis of Pleasant Plain, Ohio, is a supervisor of Mid-Western Children's Home Independent Living Center.

1970 George Laws of Louisville, Ky., is a loan specialist with the Veterans Administration.

1971 Tom Haddock of Cumming, Ga., is regional director for Haystac Inc.

Paul Keckley of Nashville is managing editor of The Keckley Report.

Robert L. Weaver of Johnson City, Tenn., is a partner in Robert L. Weaver CPA PLLC.

1972 Patricia Shearry Bethel of Chattanooga, Tenn., is a PMO project manager with BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee.

1973 Steve Groom of Nashville is an attorney with Neal & Harwell. Groom is a 2018 Lipscomb Honors Award winner, the highest honor conferred upon Lipscomb alumni.

1976 James Netterville of Nashville is the director of head and neck surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Netterville is a 2018 Lipscomb Honors Award winner, the highest honor conferred upon Lipscomb alumni.

1979 Mark McGee (MA '17) of Shelbyville, Tenn., was named Best Feature Writer in Division IV of the Tennessee Sports Writers Association Writing Contest in summer 2018.

1980 Lois Elkins Cole of Nashville is a math teacher at Brentwood Middle School.

Kenneth Fieth of Nashville is an archivist with Metropolitan Nashville Government.

1981 Ramona Rhodes of Nashville recently was named president of Centerstone Foundation. Rhodes has 29 years of experience in behavioral health care fundraising and marketing. She previously served as the nonprofit's executive vice president of marketing and chief operating officer of the foundation and has been with Centerstone since 1989.

1982 Carmel Chaffin Cordero of Knoxville, Tenn., is a teacher with Knox County Schools.

1983 Cindi Bradley of Owens Cross, Ala., is the HR assistant for ZF Technologies.

1984 Daniel Clayton of Nashville received recertification from National Board of Trial Advocacy as a civil trial advocate.

Fred Davis of Lebanon is an optometric physician with Lebanon Eye Clinic.

Karen Green Frost of White House is a photographer with Karen Green's Photo Journey.

1985 Daniel Walker of Decherd is assistant vice president and commercial relationship manager at FirstVision Bank's Franklin County office.

1986 Lisa Ammons Chambers of Mount Juliet, Tenn., is a broker with Benchmark Realty LLC.

Joy Woodhouse Hart of Pottstown, Pa., is learning support coordinator of Coventry Christian Schools.

1988 Mark Lackey of Birmingham, Ala., announced the Centaur Records release of "Fairy Tale," an album of original solo and chamber music paired with electronic remixes, in November.



1991 Maggie Mason of Chapmansboro was named 2017-2018 District Wide High School Teacher of the Year for Cheatham County School District.

1993 Nancy Denning-Martin of Nashville is president and chief executive officer of Bridges for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the co-founder and board chair for Transformation Nashville.

Shane Hooper of Saltillo, Miss., took office May 8 as president of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning for Mississippi public colleges and universities. He was first appointed to the college board in 2012.

Chris Lee of Franklin is publisher of VandySports.com.



2018 Lipscomb Honors recipients

At a special dinner during Homecoming, Lipscomb University's Office of Alumni Relations recognized the 2018 recipients of the Lipscomb Honors Award, the highest honor conferred on Lipscomb alumni. The award recognizes the inspiring ways Lipscomb alumni are making a profound impact in the world. This year's honorees are (left to right, as pictured):

Jim ('68) and **Linda (Shackleford) Allen** ('70) of Destin, Florida. Jim Allen, founder and operating partner of Meritage Private Equity as well as a veteran communications industry executive for 40 years, served as vice president for business affairs at Lipscomb and on the Board of Trustees from 1998-2017. Linda Allen is a member of the Associated Women for Lipscomb. The Allens funded construction of the Allen Bell Tower in memory of their late son, Michael, and gave one of the largest gifts in university history toward the construction of Allen Arena.

Steve Groom ('73), of Nashville, is an attorney with Neal & Harwell. He has practiced law for more than 38 years, spent 11 years in execu-

tive and general counsel roles with SunTrust Banks and spent more than 16 years with CoreCivic. Groom has been on the Board of Advisors and the adjunct faculty of Lipscomb's Institute for Conflict Management since the program's inception in 2006. In addition, Groom has served as executive-in-residence for the Business as Mission program.

MarGo Patton (MED '12, EDD '17) is an alumnus of the world-renowned Fisk Jubilee Singers and has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the White House and the historic Ryman Auditorium. An educator for more than eight years, Patton is one of the founding music business instructors at Pearl-Cohn Entertainment Magnet High

School, home of the first student-run record label. Through Jusreall Music Group, Patton offers consultation and vocal coaching to independent artists who seek self-publishing and creative development.

James Netterville ('76), of Nashville, director of head and neck surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He is an international leading authority of treating head and neck cancer and is one of the world's experts in the treatment of skull base tumors. Netterville attended Lipscomb from elementary school through college. In addition, he has made 25 global health education and surgical mission trips around the world and 15 humanitarian missions in Central America.

Brian Pitts of Brecksville, Ohio, recently was promoted to corporate vice president, chief financial officer and treasurer of Lubrizol Corporation.

1994 Lori Crownover and Karl Kahley were married in Sewanee on Oct. 7, 2017. Lori teaches at Tusculum Elementary School, and Karl is a respiratory therapist. They live in Nashville.



Melissa Prichard Lester of Birmingham, Ala., has been named managing editor of Victoria magazine.

1995 Jeremy Locke of Mount Juliet is a finance business partner for Risk & Analytics with Willis Towers Watson.

1996 Jason Havens of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., is senior counsel and vice chair of nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations team at Holland & Knight LLP.

1997 Bret Morris (MDIV '18) and **Summer Morris** (MDIV '18) live in Arlington, Texas, where he is worship and communications minister with **North Davis Church of Christ**.

2000 Kerry Meacham of Wheaton, Ill., is vice president of sales and marketing for Bush Hog.