GREAT TO WORK FOR

Chronicle of Higher Education Names Belhaven University in the Top 42 Nationally

INSIDE: FITZUGH HALL TRANSFORMS | GREAT TO WORK FOR | DR. BILLY KIM INTERNATIONAL CENTER FORMER PRESIDENTS LEAVE LASTING LEGACY
I am honored to sit in the chair that has been occupied by only three other men during the past 50 years at Belhaven University. This fall, two of those leaders, Dr. Newt Wilson and Dr. Howard Cleland, went home to be with the Lord. The third, Dr. Verne Kennedy, still serves on Belhaven’s Board of Trustees.

Newt Wilson and Howard Cleland were great advocates for Belhaven even in their retirements. Through these years, we have been able to “talk shop” on many occasions and I have learned from them much about Belhaven’s past and our heartbeat for the future.

They shared with me the inside stories of some of the challenges they faced as presidents.

• They shared dreams of both measurable successes and the unseen progress that mattered even more.

• They shared the backstory of their trials and burdens, and their response to challenges from shifting cultural pressures beyond their control.

• They shared their deep love for students and their commitment always to put students first—and the complexities they faced of loving and caring for faculty and staff, while still being their “boss.”

I followed Newt Wilson in office, so I knew him the best. I took over his “in basket,” and we shared a wonderful collegiality that I will forever cherish. He was genuine throughout—through and never wavered in his support for the University—he even helped recruit the president that took his place. He was deeply committed to everything it meant for Belhaven to be a Christ-centered college, and his legacy was assured that vision in every aspect of the school. I was especially honored that Newt Wilson joined our Board of Trustees on the 10th anniversary of his retirement. While Dr. Guy T. Gillespie served more years as president (33 years), no president had a longer connection with Belhaven than Newt Wilson—47 years as a student, faculty member, dean, president and board member.

When I first arrived at Belhaven, Howard Cleland opened his heart and his history to help me—especially during my early years when he was more active. As president he built significant buildings, brought the school through an accreditation crisis and built the enrollment substantially. But I was impressed with how anxious he was to give all the credit away to others, and that was a good model to follow. He loved Belhaven—and he loved education in Jackson, having come from the public school arena. There have been few educators in this state who could match the years of Howard’s investment in Mississippi education.

Because these are different days, I cannot walk in the shoes of my friends Newt Wilson and Howard Cleland. But I can see their footprints nearly every day all across this campus. Every presidency is different because of the circumstances of the times. God was good to Belhaven to send these two wonderful presidents at times when their unique gifts were needed the most. Neither of them worried about what others had done in the past or might do in the future. They were wholly committed to fulfilling Galatians 6:4 “Be sure to do what you should, for then you will enjoy the personal satisfaction of having done your work well, and you won’t need to compare yourself to anyone else.”

Thank you Newt.
Thank you Howard.

“Well done, good and faithful servants.”

Robert Lee Parris
When the devastating news that the east wing of Fitzhugh Hall was structurally unsound and would have to be evacuated immediately arrived in November of 2012, there was no way to know how the Lord would use this crisis to shape the University. However, as is the case in so much of life, what appeared to be a crushing blow to the Jackson campus became an immeasurable blessing.

In only 18 months, Fitzhugh Hall’s east wing was demolished, rebuilt, renovated, upgraded and given a new purpose. Like a phoenix rising from the demolished rubble, Fitzhugh Hall is now complete and bursting with life as students fill its classrooms once again.

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s,” said Calvin Wells, Chairman of the Belhaven University Board of Trustees. President Roger Parrott noted, “We are already well known in so many areas, but with this building the sky is the limit for our science programs. God has been very kind in bringing Fitzhugh into a significant opportunity for Belhaven’s future. I never imagined we could create a state-of-the-art science building that looks 100 years old, and do it with such careful stewardship. Those who know science are shocked at how much better able to get for what we spent.”

Over the summer, science faculty and student volunteers made the move from the Irby Complex building to the newly expanded east wing of Fitzhugh, which is now the home of the School of Science and Mathematics. These five programs of distinction—that include biology, chemistry, sports medicine, exercise science and mathematics—have put Belhaven on the map of universities that are recognized for excellence in the sciences.

The science faculty members played a very active role in the planning and design of the new east wing, and it shows. They partnered with architects to determine how to best utilize every inch of space. One of the areas on the top of their priority list was the procurement of modern lab and classroom equipment, in order to give each student the best resources to learn. Their desire is to see students graduate with applicable skills as well as conceptual understanding through the hands-on use of research-grade technology and instrumentation.
The School of Science and Mathematics is one of a few programs in the area capable of accommodating students with a variety of physical disabilities. Dr. Bishop points out that all of the labs were designed to meet the most stringent Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements making Belhaven’s labs fully accessible to wheelchairs.

The building supports Belhaven’s environmentally conscious (green) science programs and was built to meet requirements in energy saving. Lights are set on a timer and turn off when no one is active in the building. Students can refill their water bottles at dispensers that give them a tally of the plastic waste eliminated from the environment.

The west wing of Fitzhugh Hall had no structural damage and is the last remaining section of the original building. Fitzhugh Hall was not in our plans, God’s plans have reshaped Belhaven’s future. The more than 100 year journey of Fitzhugh’s east wing. The evacuation floor of Fitzhugh’s east wing. The evacuation floor of Fitzhugh’s west wing. The west wing of Fitzhugh Hall had no structural damage and is the last remaining section of the original building. Fitzhugh Hall was not in our plans, God’s plans have reshaped Belhaven’s future.
University Ranks 12th in Best Online Bachelor’s Programs for Veterans by U.S. News and World Report

Belhaven University was ranked 12th for Best Online Bachelor’s Programs for Veterans by U.S. News and World Report. Belhaven, as well as the other colleges on this year’s list, has taken steps to improve the higher education experience for veterans. These new rankings are designed to help veterans and people in the armed forces find programs that best suit their needs.

“Our military professionals and military veterans make tremendous sacrifices for our country,” noted Vice President of University Advancement Kevin Russell. “We want to do everything in our power to make furthering their education as simple and as cost effective as possible. We love helping them succeed!”

Forrest and Ame Berry Make Red Cross Building Gift

Belhaven Board Member Forrest Berry and his wife Ame have long held a passion for helping youth and young adults find ways to grow in their faith. “When you visit with Forrest and Ame, you quickly see that helping your younger generation develop a strong and abiding faith is what really drives them,” noted President Roger Parrott.

The option to purchase the former Red Cross Building on Riverside Drive gave Belhaven a wonderful opportunity to seek the Berry’s support to expand the University’s fast-growing sports administration degrees. The Berry’s loved the vision of impacting today’s youth through training up Godly coaches and athletic administrators. “Christian coaches can impact today’s youth in ways that shape a young person’s life for the longterm. We were in great need of a facility that allowed us to expand our Christ-centered Sports Administration offerings and to house our football operations,” Forrest and Ame’s love of sports and impacting youth for Christ made this a perfect fit,” added Dr. Parrott.

Belhaven helps and supports military personnel in their goals for higher education and makes attending more affordable by providing the Yellow Ribbon Program as well as grants and other incentives. Belhaven Online fits into the busy and mobile lifestyles of military personnel and also provides a flexible schedule for them to earn a degree.

Biblical Studies Expands

Belhaven University now offers three new degrees. Students can earn their Bachelor, Associate, or Certificate in Biblical Studies online or on-campus. Students who earn a degree through these programs can go into ministry positions that include working with children or youth, counseling, therapy, teaching, missions and more.

The Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies is available online and on-campus and is an in-depth study and application of the Bible. The Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies online is designed for students who want to further their study in biblical ministry. This degree can lead to future studies of the Bible and is a gateway to a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies.

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BELHAVEN NAMES NEW HEAD FOOTBALL COACH HAL MUMME

Belhaven University and the Department of Athletics announced that Hal Mumme will be the next Head Football Coach at a press conference held on January 21. Video footage of the event can be found at www.belhaven.edu/news. Mumme comes to Belhaven from Southern Methodist University, where he served as an Assistant Coach and Passing Game Coordinator under Head Coach June Jones in 2013.

“I heard for years Hal Mumme’s reputation as a football genius and innovator,” said Belhaven President Dr. Roger Parrott. “Then when I got to know him personally, I was amazed at how well as football fans see on the field is just the tip of the iceberg of this remarkable coach and leader. I am excited for our students, our players, and our community, because Belhaven football is going to the ‘Air-Raid’ and soar, with Mumme coming to be our head coach.”

Under the coaching of Mumme, SMU quarterback Garrett Gilbert set multiple single game and single season records during the 2013 season. Gilbert racked up 635 yards of total offense against Temple, seventh most in a game in NCAA history. Gilbert also recorded single season school records, second for most total offensive yards (3795), second in passing yards (5328), and first in completions (355). As a team, the Mustangs recorded 522 total yards with 4.297 of those yards coming through the air in 2013.

Mumme spent four seasons at McMurry and led the team to a 22-16 record, including three consecutive winning seasons. Mumme resurrected the McMurry program that had lost 13 consecutive games and had not had a winning season for eight years prior to his arrival. In 2011, Mumme posted a 9-3 record with the team and secured McMurry’s first postseason victory since 1991. In 2012, Mumme led the Tigers to the playoffs in 1992, moved on to NCAA Division II Valdosta State, Iowa Wesleyan (NAIA), and most recently McMurry (Division III and now Division II).

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Mumme began his coaching career in the NAIA at Iowa Wesleyan in 1988 and led the Tigers to the playoffs in 1991. In 1992, he moved on to NCAA Division II Valdosta State and then to Kentucky in the SEC where he coached Number One NFL Draft Pick Tim Couch. In 1998, the Wildcats went 7-5 and played in the Outback Bowl, becoming the first coach to take the team to a New Year’s Day bowl game since Bear Bryant in 1951. He is the only coach in the modern era at Kentucky to beat Alabama and numerous college head coaches are part of his coaching tree, including current Washington State Head Coach Mike Leach.

“Everyone who knows football realizes Coach Mumme is bringing excitement and successful experience to our program,” said Belhaven Vice President for Athletics Scott Little. “I’m also thankful for the shared vision we have for developing young men in the arena of Christ-centered higher education and championship athletics. We welcome Hal and June to the Blazer family.”

Chad Harman and Joey Nelms sat gazing at their computer screens, pointing and saying things like, “We should probably fix that” or “That background looks great.” By the look on their faces one might think they were looking at a rare jewel. The “rare jewel” was their very first mobile game app called Rails, to be released by their video game development company called Cryogenic Studios.

Harman founded Cryogenic Studios when he was only a sophomore in October of 2011. Nelms shared Harman’s dream of a video game development company team offered services as CEO and Art Director. The duo then recruited other talented students to help with art and programming.

A team of Belhaven students and faculty have joined as contributors. Jon Tyson is a Belhaven faculty member who also works as their COO and Art Director. Laura Joy VanMilen and Peter Davis are both artists for Cryogenic Studios who graduated from Belhaven with visual art degrees. Harman and Nelms also manage a team of programmers in Hattiesburg.

Rails will be released on iPhone and Android devices in 2014 and will be their first legitimate move toward a future, complete with employees, programmers, artists and a multi-purpose building.

“Rails is a puzzle game where you play as a spinning wheel that is very similar to the gyro toys you probably played with as a child. Players can spin around on magnetic rails and use the accelerator tool on the iPhone and Android to gain speed and try to collect orbs to get to the next level,” said Harman.

The team at Cryogenic Studios is currently working on a video game called Lennie that will still be released on major console devices like Xbox and PlayStation. Nelms is a video game Harman thought up when younger and has always wanted to make. Harman comments, “Lennie was the catalyst that got us to where we could start making other games and have a video game development company. We were planning on Lennie being the launch into the game world because we thought it would be a small, short and easy project, but Lennie has ended up being a bigger game that is requiring more resources to produce.”

Nelms attributes much of their success to the education Belhaven has given them. “My thoughts on the creative process have been expanded by nearly everything I learned at Belhaven from ideas class with Dr. Wynn Kenyon to hearing Bob Pennebaker talk about art for hours,” Harman adds. “For me it’s great to watch the things you learn in class become real life experiences. You go to class to learn about marketing and then you have to go out and actually do it. Being able to reinvest on what you are being taught is really great to see.”
In April 2013, Belhaven University officials along with a delegation of Korean visitors broke ground on an exciting new international center. The Dr. Billy Kim International Center will be an 18,000-square foot facility located in the center of campus and is projected to cost $4 million. The international center will be built to highlight the importance of global perspectives in higher education and to celebrate the relationship the University has with South Korea.

Dr. Kim is a broadcaster, pastor and influential speaker as well as an international Christian statesman who has advised former presidents of South Korea.

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In the modern history of the Church, there have been few leaders who have had as much influence as Dr. Billy Kim,” said President Roger Parrott. “Although not as well known in the United States, the ministry of Dr. Kim in Asia has been of the scope and significance of leaders like Billy Graham, Bill Bright, and Rick Warren. Belhaven is overwhelmed to be the only university in America that will have a building named in honor of the global impact of Dr. Kim.”

Dr. Kim built an international media network at Far East Broadcasting Company-Korea where he serves as Chairman of the Board and he became the first Asian to serve as the president of the 45 million-member Baptist World Alliance.

The two-story international center will be a home away from home for international students and a hub of activity for the broader campus. The lower level’s core function will include diverse study, gathering and learning spaces. This level will also include a learning center for both the International Studies and English as a Second Language majors. The Judy Kim Kitchen, named in honor of Dr. Kim’s wife, will allow students to prepare special meals from their home countries. The upper level will be a dynamic conference facility that can allow variations of theatre style seating for 300.

“We currently have 27 countries represented in our student body, and with this center named for Dr. Billy Kim, we expect that number to grow. It is important for us to bring the world to Mississippi, so they can learn with us, and for us to learn from them. Every student’s education is enriched when they build friendships with students from other regions of the world,” adds Dr. Parrott.
REMEMBERING DR. HOWARD CLELAND (1918-2013) AND DR. NEWT WILSON (1942-2013)

This past year, Belhaven lost two former presidents who saw an integral part of what made the University what it is today. Dr. Howard Cleland and Dr. Newt Wilson served faithfully, inspired daily, and will forever be remembered as men who loved this university in the heart of Mississippi.

Dr. Cleland passed away in October 2013 at the age of 95. Dr. Cleland diligently served the university for 27 years, making him the third longest serving president. Dr. Wilson served for nine years and is Belhaven’s ninth president. He passed away at his home in April 2013. Both supported the students, staff and faculty selflessly and were committed to cultivating Belhaven’s mission of preparing students academically and spiritually. They both have left a lasting legacy.

The Cleland Years

Dr. Howard Cleland’s five-year success as a school administrator both at Bailey Junior High School and at Murrah High School made him a unanimous choice by the Belhaven Board of Trustees to assume the Belhaven Office of President duties on July 1, 1961.

The first day he took office he proclaimed that the college would provide a balanced educational program with special emphasis on academic excellence and Christian principles. He quickly recognized the need to expand facilities, increase enrollment and faculty and institute a faculty retirement program.

Dr. Cleland’s leadership was noted as being quite enthusiastic and optimistic about the future of Belhaven and that was evident in the vigorous building program that began in 1963. Through his efforts, six major structures were built, changing the appearance and capacities of the college to a more modern educational institution able to accommodate the growth in enrollment and student services. The six structures include: Wells Hall, a men’s dormitory; Caldwell Hall, a women’s dormitory; the Heidelberg Gymnasium; Robertson Hall, a second men’s dormitory; Warren A. Hood Library; and the H. C. Bailey Student Center.

In order to provide for a growing student body and for an ambitious building program, Dr. Cleland had to devote much effort to the college’s financial growth. He was responsible for growing the school’s annual budget from $346,528 to more than two million dollars by the end of his tenure. Part of the increase came from the student population, which tripled during his presidency.

Also during his tenure, a significant change in church relations happened in June 1972, when the Synod of Mississippi turned over all titles to Belhaven property (land and buildings) to the college’s Board of Trustees.

One of Dr. Cleland’s greatest contributions included Belhaven’s accreditation through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). He also brought in many young professors to make Belhaven’s academic standing stronger and invested in the university’s long-term growth.Upon his arrival in 1961, Belhaven offered only two degrees. Additional degree offerings were made available in art, science, business and education by the end of his presidency in 1978.

Dr. Cleland had an intense love of the arts and sports. He supported music events by bringing world famous artists to perform on campus and he was responsible for starting a literary series that brought in distinguished authors to speak to students. Late in life, he could still be found at Belhaven athletic events and was inducted into the Belhaven Sports Hall of Fame for his dedication to athletic excellence.

“Howard leaves a great legacy behind,” said Dr. Roger Parrott, President of Belhaven University. “He was a wonderful Christian leader who cared deeply for students, and invested his life in thousands. I’m glad that now, in heaven, he can fully see the fruits of his labor for the Lord.”

The Wilson Years

Dr. Wilson’s enthusiastic love for Belhaven was evident from his first day as a Belhaven student to his last day on this earth. Since his arrival as a freshman in 1963, he filled more roles with Belhaven than anyone in its history. During his 45 years at Belhaven, he served in such positions as student body president, director of Christian ministries, academic dean, professor of Christian education, dean of students, executive vice president for administration and finally president.

Dr. Wilson was the second alumnus to take the role of president at Belhaven. In June 1986, he stepped into his leadership role with lofty goals and eager anticipation, but with numerous hurdles to overcome. His nine-year term saw enrollment grow from just over 600 students to 1,000. By 1995, over 80 percent of Belhaven’s faculty held doctoral or equivalent degrees. Dr. Wilson also played a central role in the reversal of the university’s financial standing. During his presidency, an operating deficit was retired and Belhaven enjoyed a balanced budget for the last four years of his term. During his tenure he also made it a priority to extend Belhaven’s outreach to nontraditional venues, with expanded course offerings for adult and evening students.

When Dr. Wilson retired as president, James W. Hood, Chairman of the Belhaven Board of Trustees at the time, had this to say about him, “Newt worked tirelessly for the school he loved since he was a student here. No person has served Belhaven with more dedication and passion, and his leadership has caused the college to experience one of its highest enrollments in its history.”

Through the leadership of Dr. Wilson, Belhaven received regional and national recognition for its accomplishments. At the time, Belhaven was named to the John Templeton Foundation Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges, and received the rating of “competitive plus” by Barron’s Profiles of American Colleges. U.S. News and World Report also recognized Belhaven as an Outstanding Southern Liberal Arts College.

“I thank God for the wonderful life of our friend Newt Wilson,” said Dr. Roger Parrott. “It hurts to imagine him no longer walking this campus, being at football games and being our first champion for Belhaven University. Everyone who loves Belhaven is significantly better off because of Newt. Even if you didn’t know him, you can see his handprints all over this campus and in the lives of thousands of Belhaven alumni.”

Belhaven remembers Belhaven faculty and staff have many fond memories of both Dr. Cleland and Dr. Wilson. Please enjoy these few from our Legacy of Learning Faculty whose tenure extended over both presidencies.

Dr. William Penn

Professor of Economics and Business

A though I did not know Dr. Cleland when he was President of Belhaven College, I did get to know him during his later years as a friend and strong advocate of “the Haven.” He was always asking me about how things were progressing at Belhaven, and I could tell that special feeling he had was always present. In addition, Dr. Cleland was a musician who delighted in showing me his roses. I was especially interested because I had a few rose bushes of my own, and enjoyed discussing the cultivation of roses with a man of his expertise.

Dr. William Penn was the first man I interviewed with before being asked to apply for a faculty position at Belhaven. I had come to Jackson for the annual Reformed Theological Seminary board meeting (in Clinton) as a representative of my church in Baltimore, Md. Newt stressed the importance of applying intellectual principles in the classroom in a Biblical framework, and that really impressed me. He helped Belhaven through a difficult period of declining enrollment in the area of traditional students in the late 1980’s and early 1990’s due to declining high school graduates. He was also at the forefront of the development of the Adult Studies Program in Business Administration for working adults which contributed greatly to the college’s financial stability and influence.”
Dr. Joseph M. Martin
Professor of Christian Ministries
Chair of the Biblical Studies and Ministries

After Dr. George Hunsberger left Belhaven for Western Seminary, Helen and I applied for the position that opened up. Through Dr. Wilson’s support, we were hired as a couple to fill that one position. We had both worked together, and he saw the value of that, and was gracious enough to make room for both of us (though that was very unusual). Dr. Wilson, in all the years I knew him, was always the same courteous, thoughtful, humble person. I first met when he was a Belhaven student needing a place to stay for a conference. He never played the role of ‘the head man,’ but was rather the friend who needed a friend. He was, in every situation, I saw him in, the same leader who led by example, not by flaunting authority.

Dr. Alfred Chestnut
Professor of Biology

I came to Belhaven in the fall of 1980 and there were four of us that met together once a week and Newt was one of them. He had a heart for the gospel. He also had a heart for racial reconciliation, which everyone one knew. Right off the bat I met with the group from Voice of Calvary and Newt was the one that brought them to this campus.

He took over the presidency at a very difficult time. He cried out to the Lord as the one he saw as the leader and in a sense the head of this university. Newt led me through some very difficult years. I only knew Dr. Cleland years after he had left Belhaven. I came to know him well during the last 5 to 6 years of his life when he was in a Sunday school class that I frequently taught at First Presbyterian Church. His instant rapport with people was obvious then and I knew that had existed throughout his life. When he was with you, you were the only one there. He loved people and people loved him in return.

Bettey Quinn
Associate Professor of Education
Director of Elementary Education

We got our first SACS accreditation under Dr. Cleland. When the SACS committee came to visit, they were meeting in the cafeteria and a fire started in the basement. No one was hurt in the fire, but the committee had to leave. So Dr. Cleland invited them to his home and it had been running for several days and they were sitting in his den and all of a sudden a water fall fell through the roof into the lap of the Chairmen of the SACS committee (Dr. Wes Bushbee). We were still accredited, but it was through fire and flood the Lord made Belhaven an accredited institution.

Dr. Wilson was a true counselor who would listen to and work with students. I think the students realized that he was an advocate to the administration if there were any problems in those days.

Once time, they wanted to raise money for the alumni house and I made three huge cans of cheese straws and the men got in a bidding war over them. Newt outbids them all and paid $900 for my cheese straws. So I felt compelled all my life to make him cheese straws every time he visited Jackson. He used to joke that as long as I made him cheese straws I still had a job.

He was the quintessential Belhaven person. He knew Belhaven from every angle. Dr. Wilson’s greatest contribution was that he wanted to be sure that Belhaven maintained and enhanced the Christian World and Life View. He wanted to be sure that Belhaven maintained and enhanced the Christian World and Life View. He knew Belhaven from every angle.

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Dr. Wilson was a true counselor who would listen to and work with students. I think the students realized that he was an advocate to the administration if there were any problems in those days.

Once time, they wanted to raise money for the alumni house and I made three huge cans of cheese straws and the men got in a bidding war over them. Newt outbids them all and paid $900 for my cheese straws. So I felt compelled all my life to make him cheese straws every time he visited Jackson. He used to joke that as long as I made him cheese straws I still had a job.

He was the quintessential Belhaven person. He knew Belhaven from every angle. Dr. Wilson’s greatest contribution was that he wanted to be sure that Belhaven maintained and enhanced the Christian World and Life View. He wanted to be sure that Belhaven maintained and enhanced the Christian World and Life View. He knew Belhaven from every angle.

I only knew Dr. Cleland years after he had left Belhaven. I came to know him well during the last 5 to 6 years of his life when he was in a Sunday school class that I frequently taught at First Presbyterian Church. His instant rapport with people was obvious then and I knew that had existed throughout his life. When he was with you, you were the only one there. He loved people and people loved him in return.
Belhaven University ranked as one of the top 97 colleges to work for in the nation, according to a survey by The Chronicle of Higher Education. Based on Belhaven’s outstanding performance in the survey, The Chronicle of Higher Education further designated the University in its top tier as an Honor Roll institution. A distinction shared by only 42 other colleges and universities around the country and one of only three Christian and private universities in the southeast.

According to President Roger Parrott, Belhaven’s culture is what sets the university apart. “We hire highly gifted people who have a passion for our mission, and then we give our faculty and staff the freedom to do what God has called them to do. This makes for a winning formula. Unlike most of higher education, we do not build policies and procedures to restrict creativity. Instead, we free our employees to be used by God to contribute to our vision as a Christ-centered university.”

A random sample of Belhaven’s 370 full-time employees were anonymously surveyed by The Chronicle of Higher Education for the study. Bob Fennelker, Associate Professor of Art and Chair of the Belhaven Art Department, said, “What makes Belhaven a great place to work for are the people: students, faculty, and staff. Within the entire Belhaven family, there is a genuine and authentic love and passion for what we are doing here.”

Dr. Donald Hubele, Associate Professor of English and Chair of the Belhaven English Department, paints a picture of the University’s uniqueness. “Belhaven is one of the most culturally, socially, racially, and economically diverse Christian schools in North America. This is indicative of our entire campus operations: faculty applauding the efforts of maintenance crews; coaches, housekeeping staff, students, administrators, and faculty—collectively creating a wide swath of enriching diversity.”

Dr. Reid Bishop, Associate Professor of Chemistry, contrasts Belhaven with other schools. "As a newer faculty member and having worked at other colleges, the level of involvement and support at Belhaven University instantly struck me. We all share a common vision to support each other. That ultimately gives our students a deeper learning experience,” said Bishop.

Dr. Elaine Hayes-Antony, Chair of the Communication Department, attributes Belhaven’s success to the faculty, staff and administration, and their focus on the University’s goals and objectives. “I think much of it is our Christian mission and our Worldview Curriculum. In terms of our mission as professors, we are teachers first, and we definitely put our students first,” said Hayes-Antony.

Commenting on Belhaven’s distinction, Dr. Al Lopez, president of the polling organization, reported, “Perhaps the most remarkable result from our perspective is the scores that represent your faculty. Based on my recollection, this is the highest score of any faculty group in our survey’s history.”

The Chronicle of Higher Education based its “Best Colleges to Work For” award on 12 sets of criteria, ranging from confidence in senior leadership to job satisfaction. Belhaven was named to the Honor Roll of best colleges by excelling in the following categories:

- Professional/Career Development Programs
- Teaching Environment
- Job Satisfaction and Support
- Work/Life Balance
- Confidence in Senior Leadership
- Department-Chair Responsibility
- Respect and Appreciation
- Tenure Clarity and Process

“In higher education, faculty and staff can chew up much time and energy in meaningless committees and on tension-filled politics,” Parrott said. “We have created a culture that minimizes those issues so our team can focus their energy outward and toward the students, rather than inward toward the process. This type of culture takes many years to build because higher education has grown dependent on normal structures, but we have many faculty and staff who want to come here simply because we operate so differently.”

The Chronicle of Higher Education’s “Great Colleges to Work For” program is in its sixth year and has become one of the largest and most respected workplace-recognition programs in the country.

A cross-section of faculty and staff that use their distinct talents to fulfill Belhaven’s mission:

(BACK LEFT TO RIGHT) Greg Hawkins—Dean of Student Life, Dr. Wes Buehner—Professor and Chair of the History and Political Science Department and Division of Humanities, Levi Patton—Head Coach Men’s and Women Tennis, Danny White—Assistant Football Coach, Dr. Robert Wallace—Professor of Biology

(FRONT LEFT TO RIGHT) Dennis Palmer—Maintenance, Greg Fennelker—Associate Professor of Music, Madeline Crone—Assistant Director, Sherry Collins—Director of Accounting, Dr. Melissa Hause—Dean of the Honors College, BK Tice—Server Manager, Dr. Howard Bartee, Jr.—Assistant Professor and Chair of Sports Administration
BELHAVEN MOURNS
THE LOSS OF COACH WILLIE HEIDELBERG

Willie Heidelberg, a long-time fixture in the local sports community, passed away on October 16, 2013 after a battle with cancer. Heidelberg served as the coach of the Belhaven University baseball team from 1999 until his death. He was known for his passion for the sport and his dedication to his players.

Heidelberg began his coaching career at Belhaven in 1999, where he led the baseball team to numerous regional and national championship appearances. He was also a beloved teacher and mentor to many students over the years.

Carroll Parrott, President of Belhaven University, said, “Heidelberg was a humble man of few words but with a life of untold impact.”

Coach Heidelberg was a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, where he was a member of the softball team.

He served 25 years (1973-1998) as a coach and teacher at Murrah High School in Jackson. During his tenure with the Mustangs, Coach Heidelberg coached football, track, and basketball, with two years coming as head football coach and 14 years as head track coach.

Heidelberg began his career with the Blazers in 1999, coaching the running backs and wide receivers and serving as running backs coach this year. Prior to arriving at Belhaven, Coach Heidelberg served 23 years (1975-1998) as a coach and teacher at Murrah High School in Jackson. During his tenure with the Mustangs, Coach Heidelberg coached football, track, and basketball.

Coach Heidelberg was a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, where he was a letterman running back for the Golden Eagles during the 1970 and 1971 seasons. On October 17th, 1970, Heidelberg helped lead Southern Mississippi to a 30-14 upset victory over Archie Manning and the ranked Ole Miss Rebels. Heidelberg also played football at Pearl River Community College (1968-1969). He is a member of the Pearl River CC Sports Hall of Fame. "Coach Heidelberg was a humble man of few words but with a life of untold impact," said Belhaven University President, Carroll Parrott. "He is a man who lived out his faith. His passion for football was only exceeded by his desire to succeed and his desire to serve his Lord and country."
FOOTBALL
The Belhaven Football team entered 2013 surrounded by preseason excitement, including a top 25 national ranking. While the Blazers were favored to win the Mid-South Conference’s Western Division, a slew of injuries derailed those dreams, and Belhaven finished with a 3-8 overall record. Belhaven planned to enter the 2014 season as a major factor in their offense, so it should come as no surprise that 16 Blazer received carries this season. Rashad Wynees highlighted the rushing carousel with 456 yards and 4 touchdowns. Because of the injury bug, each of Belhaven’s three quarterbacks received multiple starts. Senior Ian McGinnis emerged as the primary passer in 2013. He completed 12 touchdown passes and surpassing 1200 yards in the air. In addition, he connected on 12 touchdown passes in 2013, including six that found the end zone. Kenyon led a group of 15 Blazers that caught passes in 2013, and Belhaven finished with a 3-8 overall record. The Belhaven Women’s Soccer team began their season with a perfect 6-0 record in non-conference play, the best start in program history. The team went on to post a 9-8 season record that included a 3-8 mark in the Southern State Athletic Conference (SSAC). The Belhaven Women’s Soccer team began their season with a perfect 6-0 record in non-conference play, the best start in program history. The team went on to post a 9-8 season record that included a 3-8 mark in the Southern State Athletic Conference (SSAC). The Blazer men finished 8th out of 11 teams in the SSAC Championships. The team went on to post a 9-8 season record that included a 3-8 mark in the Southern State Athletic Conference (SSAC). The Blazer men finished 8th out of 11 teams in the SSAC Championships. The team went on to post a 9-8 season record that included a 3-8 mark in the Southern State Athletic Conference (SSAC). The Blazer men finished 8th out of 11 teams in the SSAC Championships. 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EUGENE DICKERY (‘64) retired in June of 2013 from Warner Electric / Altra Industrial Motion Corporation in Michigan where he worked as a national Account Manager. He has recently had the wonderful addition of two grandchildren, Peyton and Karley!

JOHN M. WARREN, JR. (‘83) was honoredly retired as a pastor in Warner Presbytery, Presbyterian Church in America, effective July 1, 2013.

70’s

JOHN BOLES (‘73) and his wife, Jan, celebrated 31 years of marriage last June and are currently in residence at First Presbyterian Church in Camden, Ala. Their older son, David, is a manager in Montgomery, while their younger son, Jeff (‘69) is enjoying Wilson Academy.

KATHY GRIFFIN STEWART (‘75) is heading back to Tanzania for a week to spend time with partners there (10th trip in 11 years). She loves her coaching job, as well as being an executive assistant for a sports lawyer and sales reps. Her three grandchildren are delightful and live just a mile away. She and Jim recently celebrated 33 years of marriage.

80’s

MARK JOHNSTON’S (‘80) first novel was published recently, a fantasy entitled A Tellus of Fate.

BENJAMIN BOWDEN (’84), Partner at Vauughn and Bowden, PA., Attorneys, Gulfport, Miss., is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Southern Mississippi. He and Julia have been married for 22 years. Their daughter, Avalon, is in the 10th grade at UMS-Wright Preparatory School in Mobile, Ala. and plays 1st chair violin in the Mobile Symphony Youth Orchestra having won first place in the Mississippi Youth Orchestra auditions in the 7th grade.

DE'BRA WOODS DE’BRA (‘84) was a successful business woman in the mid-90s and a part of the entrepreneurial wave of that era. She sold her business and has decided to run a 501c3 Nonprofit with a mission to share the joy of being with animals. She has been volunteering at the Humane Society of Mobile, Ala. for the past year and has recently joined the organization as a board member.

PERRY COMES (‘84) is the President of TechSpring, an office that provides technology consulting services. Perry is married to Carla and has three children: David,17; Catie, 17; and Bailey, 14.

LAUREN MORRIS GOODMAN (‘02) and husband, Drew, announced the arrival of Luke

AMANDA LONG CARLSON (‘07) and husband Daniel Carlson welcomed Joshua Paul Carlson born July 1, 2013 weighing 7lbs. 5 oz.


700’s

SULA WALTERS-WILLIAMS (‘86) married Joseph Leman Williams, Ill. on October 12, 2013. The couple reside in Lucedale, Miss.

MATTHEW NASEKOS (‘93) and his family recently moved north of Houston, Texas. Matthew is serving as Director of THE WILD with Carol新区 Christian Camps – a summer camp and conference center reaching over 30,000 people each year with the goal of Jesus Christ. He and his wife, Joy, have four children: Hannah, Avery, Jacob, and Caleb.

SARAH (DAVIS) BOTTON (‘98) and her husband Todd, have recently relocated to Hattiesburg, Miss. Todd is a pediatrician with Hattiesburg Clinic while Sarah is still homeschooling their four children: Elise (8), Layne (6), Cade (3) and Olivia (2).

Michael Dukes (’98) has been named the Director of Development for the College of Engineering at the University of Georgia, beginning January 2, 2014. He and the family will be moving to Athens, Ga. in late December.

DEBRA JAMES-DESLATTE (‘98) welcomed baby Joseph Lyman Williams, III on October 6, 2012. The couple had a traditional ceremony in their hometown of Hattiesburg, Miss. before receiving their marriage license. The couple is relocating back to the Northeast and will announce plans for a formal ceremony at a later date.

WILL MORGAN (‘04) has served as a historian at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History for over eight years. Recently he cowrote and coproduced a documentary in partnership with Mississippi Public Broadcasting featuring interviews with pilots and widows of the Dutch air forces that trained in Jackson during World War II. The full-length documentary will air on MPB on November 25, 2013.

CHRIStIAN PATTerson (’04) was promoted from the rank of major to Lt. Col. in the Mississippi Army National Guard in an official ceremony at the Joint Force Headquarters, Mississippi National Guard on Jackson on Friday, May 31, 2013. He is currently assigned as the Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs Officer.

REBECCA GEIGER (‘05) is marrying Amir Atashbaran in 2013. Amir is an architect by trade and the couple will make their home in the San Francisco Bay Area.

710’s

PAUL HUBBARD (‘82) is serving as the Campus Coordinator for Belhaven University at the Memphis Campus and teaching Bible classes. He recently married Jane Kelly Howland from Brandon, Miss. They reside in Memphis, Tenn.

KATHERINE “KATIE” YOUNG CLARK (‘00) is a new member of the Craftsmen’s Guild of Memphis, Tenn. After graduating in 2000 from Belhaven with a BFA in Dance, she has worked as a freelance dancer in Nashville, Tenn., as well as runs individual rehearsals. Hope has since become a teaching artist in Nashville and has a business called FincherDance.

DENITA JONES (’53, ’09) is currently a 3rd Year Ph.D Candidate in Public Policy & Administration at Jackson State University (2013-2014) and Dwight Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Recipient.

REX BRADSHAW (‘11), a history/creative writing honors graduate, recently graduated from George Mason University with a Master’s in History. At the end of November he and KIRSTEN CALLAHAN (‘12), an English/ creative writing honors graduate, will be married in a ceremony presided over by Dr. Donalde. Demaricus Akeem Suggs (’92), who graduated with a BFA in Dance is dancing professionally with the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company in Dayton, OH.

DARREN TERPSTRA (‘11) has a business startup called KowConnect.com that is set to launch in spring of 2014. It is a social connection site helping you find local groups and events devoted to the things you love to do. Our tagline is “Find Awesome People, Do Awesome Things.”

CASSANDRA MOORE (’12) is a graduate with an associate’s degree and reenrolled in February to finish with a degree in social services. Cassandra has since become a published author of Refreshing Waters, a compilation of inspirational short stories. It can be found on Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble website as well as Tare Publishing.com.

HOPE BERGHUIS (‘12) graduated with a BFA in Dance. She was offered the position of Assistant to the Artistic Director at the Saratoga. Their daughter in Peachtree City, Ga. who teaches ballet classes, assists in rehearsals as well as runs individual rehearsals. Hope is the director of the Early Education program which serves as an introductory to the concepts of classical ballet training for children ages 3-8.

TereNce STRIngeFAll (‘13) graduated with a BS in Sports Administration and a minor in Business. He is now working in the Office of Alumni and Development at Belhaven serving as the Associate Director of Athletic Giving.
BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL ENROLLMENT
3,886
FALL 2013

TRADITIONAL ENROLLMENT
1,154

ADULT AND GRADUATE ENROLLMENT
2056

ONLINE ENROLLMENT
676

605 ONLINE
71 HIGH SCHOLARS

24 AVERAGE ACT
3.3 AVERAGE GPA

55% FEMALE
45% MALE

27 COUNTRIES
25 STATES

16% HOMESCHOOLED

15 ATHLETIC TEAMS
425 STUDENT ATHLETES

250 RECOGNIZED FOR 3.0 GPA OR HIGHER

$53 MILLION BUDGET

$10.3 MILLION AWARDED INSTITUTIONAL AID

$4 MILLION RAISED IN 2013

768,328 WEBSITE VISITORS A YEAR
9,113 FACEBOOK FRIENDS
1,287 TWITTER FOLLOWERS

605 ONLINE STUDENTS

TRADITIONAL STUDENTS
Fall 2013

2056 ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

36 MAJORS
8 MASTER DEGREES
18,736 TOTAL ALUMNI
376 FACULTY AND STAFF

101 ATLANTA
42 DALTON
83 DESOTO
131 CHATTANOOGA
220 HOUSTON
971 JACKSON
348 MEMPHIS
160 ORLANDO

10% ATLANTA
4% DALTON
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ALUMNI NEWS Beth Whitney

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EMERITUS

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EMERITUS

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY IS ON INSTAGRAM
SHOCKING, WE KNOW.

FOLLOW US

THE BELHAVEN TARTAN
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2013 Alumni Awards Recipients

(Left to Right) Church Service Award–Danny Massie ('68),
Legacy of Learning faculty member–Geoffrey Goldsmith,
Alumni of the Year–Larry and Sally Mills ('61), Jim Park Business Award – Dan Marks ('98),
Legacy of Learning faculty member–Rob Waltzer,
Bettye Quinn Education Award–Lois Hayes ('67), Legacy of Learning faculty member–Paul Waibel

Spirit of Belhaven Award - Virginia Morris '67 (not pictured)
Class of 1963 inducted into the Fifty Year Club