

# alumni news

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### 2017

Congratulations to **William Anderson**, a freshman at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, who made the men's varsity rowing team as a walk-on. Well done, William!

**Olivia Reiber** has been awarded the Kimbrell (Distinguished) Centennial Scholarship at NC State University, where she is studying fashion and textile management. While Olivia says she recognizes the financial difference the scholarship will make in her undergraduate expenses, she also feels it has given her confidence as she enters college. "It has reassured me of my ability to be a leader, even in such a new and unfamiliar environment." Congratulations, Olivia!



**Melissa Moore** hit the open seas in September and will return in late December after spending 108 days traveling the world as part of the Semester at Sea college credit program.



Melissa and her classmates have been studying onboard and stopping along the way for multi-day excursions in Spain, Ghana, South Africa, India, Myanmar, Vietnam, China, Japan and Hawaii.

### 2013

**Lukas Stewart** is completing his first semester as a graduate student at The State University of New York at Albany. Lukas received a 4-year assistantship/scholarship to complete his Master's and Ph.D. in

Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences.

**Richard Pickett** has been awarded a 2-year fellowship to complete his Master's Degree in Biology at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, where he also received his Bachelor's Degree in Physics with a concentration in Biophysics.

### 2012

Congratulations to **Adelaide Weiss** and Stephen Guin, who were married on November 11, 2017 at the Laboratory in Lincolnton, NC. Adelaide and Stephen are living in Belmont.

### 2011

**Al Hall** (Va. Tech '15, Engineering Science and Mechanics, with a minor in Biomedical Engineering) was the lead author of an article entitled "Nanonet force microscopy for measuring forces in single smooth muscle cells of the human aorta," published in the journal *Molecular Biology of the Cell*, a publication of the American Society of Cell Biology. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5541840/> He is completing his Master's in Mechanical Engineering this fall at Virginia Tech, where he says "the core of my work is developing a test method for disease that can be used in diagnosis as well as drug testing. Through a collaboration with our partners at the University of Pittsburgh, we have focused on cardiovascular disease. . . For my work, we developed a method to evaluate the health of single cells in heart tissue. Future work will look into the effects of disease and use for drug testing."

**Brooke Conrad** will receive her accelerated BSN Degree from Jefferson College of Health Sciences in Roanoke, VA when she graduates on December 8, 2017. Brooke has been the recipient of numerous academic scholarships, and has been a Dean's List student every semester. She hopes to work in emergency room or NICU nursing after graduation.

### 2010

**Molly Gibson Mays** has re-joined Rizzy Home as the new manager of home textiles. Molly was a design associate with Rizzy while attending High Point University, where she graduated with a degree in interior design. She returns to Rizzy after working with Boyles Furniture & Rugs, International Rug Group and Amer Rugs. Molly and her husband Conner live in Charlotte.

Congratulations to **Ryan Kane** and Savannah Mzingo, who were married in July 2017 in Charleston, SC after Ryan's third year of medical school at MUSC. He is currently working on his Master's in Public Health and Nutrition at Harvard University.



**Lauren Toole** is a second year law student at the UNC School of Law, and plans to work as a public defender in NC following graduation. She spent the past summer in the criminal defense practice of a public defender's office in the Bronx, and will be working at the Mecklenburg County Public Defender's office next summer. Lauren has been active with the law school's pro bono program, working on innocence claims

and drafting financial and healthcare powers of attorney for people in low-income areas in North Carolina. Lauren also reports: "I'm the organizer of an annual auction that the Carolina Public Interest Law Organization hosts every year to raise money for law students who take unpaid or underpaid summer internships in the public sector. "If GDS alumni are interested in donating to the auction, please let me know!" You can reach Lauren at [lgoole@gmail.com](mailto:lgoole@gmail.com) if you'd like to help.

**Crawford Rhyne** and John Torell became engaged in April 2017 at their alma mater, Washington & Lee University, and are planning a summer 2018 wedding in Belmont. Crawford and John currently live and work in New York. Congratulations, Crawford and John!

## 2009

Ashley Hicks teaches 10th and 12th grade English at the Warlick Academy, Gaston County's alternative school. "I love what Warlick does for the community, and I love the creativity I have to use when teaching a more challenging student body." Ashley received her BA in Literature from UNC-Asheville, and has been at the Warlick Academy since January 2016.



**Elizabeth Noblett** is in her second year at NC State's College of Veterinary medicine, specializing in swine veterinary medicine, and has been selected to present at the March 2018 meeting of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians. Her topic: Comparison of serological responses

in traditional and parity segregated flows for *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* and *Lawsonia intracellularis*. As an undergraduate, Elizabeth was active in the Animal Science Club, Women in Science and Engineering, Sigma Alpha, and the NC Cattlemen's Association, and worked as a teaching assistant.



## 2003

Congratulations to **Mary Liz Billings Cameron** and her husband Matt on the birth of their son, Winston Wayne Cameron, on July 8, 2017.

## 2000

Congratulations to **Dr. Alisha Frank Palliser** and her husband Brian on the birth of their daughter, Kinsley Susan, on September 10, 2017. Alisha and Brian also have a son Carter, and are living in Myrtle Beach, SC.



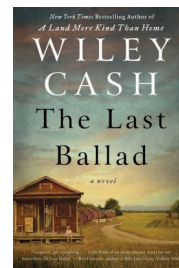
## 1997

**Will White** is a Special Trial Attorney, Large Business & International, with the IRS Office of Chief Counsel in Dallas, TX. Will and his wife Natalie, also an attorney, have a 5-year-old son Owen, who started kindergarten this fall.

**Dr. Jeremy Herskowitz** is an Assistant Professor and the Patsy W. and Charles A. Collat Scholar of Neuroscience at the University of Alabama Medical School in Birmingham, where he heads up the Herskowitz Lab for research in Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Herskowitz earned a B.S. from UNC Chapel Hill and his Ph.D. from the Emory University School of Medicine. For details on his lab and their research, visit <http://herskowitzlab.com/research>.

## 1996

**Wiley Cash**, the New York Times best-selling author of *A Land More Kind Than Home* and *This Dark Road to Mercy*, has published his third novel, *The Last Ballard*, based on the life and death of Ella May Wiggins and the events surrounding the textile labor strike of 1929 in Gastonia. "Beautifully and evocatively written, *The Last Ballard* should take a place on the honor roll of Southern fiction that will stand the test of time. . . One powerful and haunting story." - *Greensboro News & Record*. Wiley is a writer-in-residence in the English department at UNC-Asheville.



## 1995

**Ken Perkins**, who has been a successful character designer and storyboard artist in LA for the past 15 years, is currently storyboarding *The Jungle Cruise* movie at Disney starring Dwayne Johnson. "My dream job as a little kid was to work on *Star Wars* and last year I got to storyboard on two of them, *Rogue One* and *The Hans Solo Movie* that comes out next May." You can check out Ken's work at [www.kennybob.com](http://www.kennybob.com). Ken and his wife Andrea are expecting twins later this year.



## In Memoriam

**H. Monroe Whitesides**, Class of 1977

**Hunter L. Stubbs**, Class of 1988

**Austin C. Chowdhury**, Class of 2011