



NEWSLETTER

President's Pen

APRIL 2024

Dear Piedmont University Community,

Spring is blooming all around us and we are counting down the days until Spring Commencement. It is an exciting time to be at Piedmont University!

I encourage us all to embrace the opportunities that come our way. Whether it's pursuing another year of academic excellence, making your first career steps, or supporting one another daily, let's approach each day with enthusiasm and dedication.

Spring is not just a season of renewal but also a time for us to reflect on our accomplishments and set new goals. Together, let us continue to foster a culture of excellence, inclusivity, and innovation that prepares our students to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Sincerely,
Marshall M. Criser, III

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Legacies of Learning: Honoring 40 Years of Service

Dr. Carlos Camp

by Caden Nelms



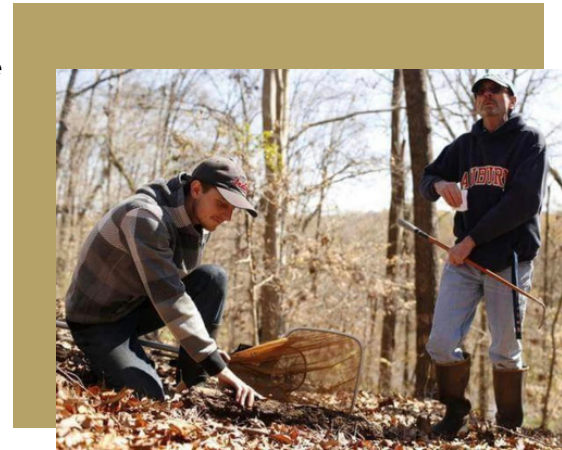
Dr. Carlos Camp is a Biology professor at Piedmont University, but many may not know that Dr. Camp has taught at Piedmont since 1983. He credits the location of Piedmont as one of the reasons he has stayed at the university for the last 41 years.

"Not only is it reasonably close to family, but the proximity to the mountains has enabled me to continue to research the animals I have always loved," said Dr. Camp.

He loves teaching his Honors Research courses because he works extensively with passionate students one-on-one. He works with them on designing and conducting research projects, analyzing the data, and presenting their hard work at professional conferences.

"I love interacting with students at a level that genuinely changes their life trajectory," said Dr. Camp.

A lot has changed at Piedmont in the 41 years Dr. Camp has worked here. When he started in 1983, Piedmont had 16 faculty members, five staff members, and less than 300 students. There have also been many memories made over the years. Dr. Camp recalled a time when Stewart temporarily had an impromptu ice feature on the staircase due to a 19-degree temperature causing water pipes to burst in the stairwell's ceiling.



When looking back on his time at Piedmont, Dr. Camp said he was most proud of how his students have followed his path in becoming research biologists at multiple higher education institutions. He also had some helpful advice for aspiring academics.

"Make student success the priority," said Dr. Camp. "Not simply getting through a class or getting a degree, but succeeding in the steps that follow Piedmont."



Dr. Camp 's legacy at Piedmont is in his students who have gone on to other institutions and, ultimately, pass on the knowledge he gave to them to future generations of students.

Piedmont is grateful for Dr. Camp and his continued dedication to the university. If you see Dr. Camp around campus, be sure to congratulate him on over 40 years of teaching and changing students' lives.

Stay tuned next quarter as we feature Dr. Albert Pleysier's 40 years at Piedmont.

(If we can pin him down to write it!)



MEET THE TEAM



MIRA
HAYLIE COLLINS



RANI
DAKOTA ROSE CHEN



AMOS
TOMMIE SIRMANS



HANNAH/ONLOOKER
DELYNA FULLER



DAHLIA/ONLOOKER
LAURANA LAYTON



WRITER/DIRECTOR
SOF DELGADO



STAGE MANAGER
AVA KERPICS



STAGE MANAGER
JAZZ MOTE

Sof Delgado, a senior Non-Profit Theatre for Youth Major, was selected to perform twice at the inaugural Atlanta Lavendar Fest this summer. Delgado, whose production is a senior capstone project, is directing and producing *You Are Not Your Face*.

Lavender Fest, hosted by Out Front Theatre, accepted two hundred applicants, and selected just nine shows for the festival.

The cast of *You Are Not Your Face* include Piedmont students Haylie Collins, Dakota Rose Chen, Tommie Sirmans, Delyna Fuller, and Laurana Layton.

Piedmont student technicians assisting with production include Ava Kerpics as Stage Manager, Jazz Mote as Stage Manager, Dante Wilson as Lighting Designer, Eleanor Quinlan as Props Designer, Aubrie Burrell as Sound Designer, and Lyric Rogers as Music Director.

Show description: *Within the inner city live the Onlookers. As the highest class of society, Onlookers are the only people allowed to own mirrors and see their own faces. Rani, the daughter of the head of state, is deeply unhappy within this world, finding her fellow Onlookers vain and selfish. When Rani meets a musician from the outer villages, Mira, her world is turned upside down and a beautiful relationship begins to unfold. Mira and Rani navigate the challenges that come with being from two opposite worlds in this "play-with-music-not-musical".*

Additionally, this play contains music written by Delgado that was musically directed/styled by Piedmont student, Lyric Rogers. The playlist is [here](#).

WE'RE GOING TO

LAVENDER FEST
lighting
Queer Stories

OFFICIAL SELECTION

JUNE 19TH 6:30PM
JUNE 21ST 9:30PM

999 BRADY AVE NW,
ATLANTA, GA 30318

Tickets are available for purchase [here](#).



Piedmont Athletic Lions (PAL) Games



The seventh annual Piedmont Athletic Lions (PAL) Games were held on March 22 in the Mize Athletic Center on the Demorest campus. The PAL Games is a group project created by Piedmont students in 2015 to provide a special day of camaraderie and competition for Piedmont University students and elementary school students with special needs.



Thanks to donations and sponsorships, 82 elementary school students were able to participate this year, along with over 100 Piedmont student volunteers. Each elementary school student was paired with a Piedmont 'pal' for the event. The activities included lacrosse, basketball, soccer, corn hole, face painting, and minion bowling.

The project continues a growing commitment from Piedmont students and athletes to both become and stay involved with the local community while making a difference in the lives of those around them. These students give back to the local schools and extend their love for sports and their educational studies.



Group dance to songs familiar to the students is always a big hit, especially when Leo the Lion, Piedmont's mascot, participates in the festivities.



Click [here](#) to watch a very special video on the event.

Alumni Valentine's Tea



Calendar of Events

APRIL

- 4/19 Chamber Ensembles
- 4/24 Disaster Drill
- 4/27 Great Composers Concert
- 4/27 Baseball Alumni Recognition Day
- 4/27 Alumni Plaza Dedication

MAY

- 5/3 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 5/10 Commencement

JUNE

- 6/3 36th Annual Coach Cave Golf Tournament @ The Orchard

For event details, or to view the full calendar, please visit [here](#).



On Sunday, March 10, alumni and other friends were invited to campus for a special Valentine's Tea at the Mason Scharfenstein Museum of Art. We had many special visitors, but one family especially warmed our hearts.

Stephen Giddens came to Piedmont to play golf and pursue his business degree. Merissa majored in chemistry with a minor in quantitative analysis and was a Piedmont cheerleader. While on a spring break trip to Panama City Beach, Florida, the two were introduced by a mutual friend and started dating. Stephen graduated in 2009, and Merissa in 2010. On March 16, 2019, they finally tied the knot.

Stephen and Merissa came to the Valentine's Tea event to visit their alma mater, where it all started, and brought our youngest guest, Logan, born in November 2022. They loved their time at Piedmont, and the Valentine's Tea was the perfect opportunity to come back for a visit.





We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our Yonahian Society and donors. Your generosity and support have made a significant impact on Piedmont University. Your contributions have enabled us to continue our work, reach our goals, and make a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.

ANNUAL GIFTS of \$1,000 OR MORE
7/1/23-4/1/24

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To donate, please visit <https://piedmont.edu/giving>