



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

President's Pen

Dear Piedmont University Community,

I am delighted to welcome you to the first edition of our quarterly university newsletter. In these pages, we aim to keep you informed about exciting developments, accomplishments, and initiatives that continue to shape our institution's future. As we progress in our journey toward academic excellence and student success, it is my pleasure to share with you the remarkable stories and achievements of our alumni, students, faculty, and staff. Together, we are building a brighter future for Piedmont University.

Sincerely,

Marshall M. Criser, III

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Dr. Ayers-Berrong is pictured here with Dr. Octavius Mulligan, Dean of the College of Education.

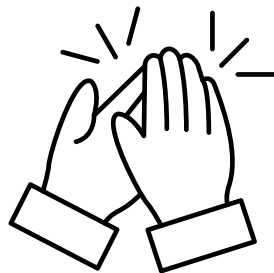
Outstanding Alumni Receive Awards

Piedmont University celebrated four outstanding alumni at the Alumni Awards and Sports Hall of Fame Induction on October 14, 2023. Dr. Marilyn Ayers-Berrong, '76, winner of the Distinguished Alumni Award, retired from a career in public education and returned to her alma mater to spend the next 23 years making a difference in the lives of future Piedmont educators. The Excellence in Education Award was presented to Ashley Dodd Jones, M'15, EdS'16, whose dedication to creating inclusive and engaging learning environments for all her students is a hallmark of her teaching philosophy.

For his focused achievements in process improvement in his work at the University of Georgia and his personal life, Dr. Roswell Lawrence, Jr. '09, received the prestigious Pacesetter Award.

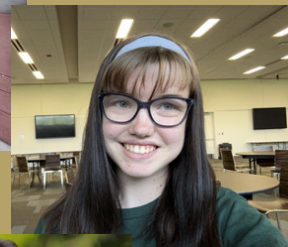
Piedmont Athletic Hall of Fame's newest inductee is Laura Goodwin Winters, '14, M'16. Laura played soccer at Piedmont from 2010-2014, was named the school's second-ever Capital One Academic All-American, and is the current record-holder of most assists in Piedmont Women's Soccer history.

Join us in celebrating all four of these special alumni who make us Piedmont Proud!



Piedmont Biology Professor Dr. Julia Schmitz and students Addie Bowen, Imani Vincent, and Shay Bataille have been selected to participate in the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) Scholars Transforming Through Research (STR) program. The team is just one of 41 that will travel to Washington D.C. November 5th and 6th for in-person training and congressional meetings.

These teams will participate in a six-month program aimed at developing their communication and advocacy skills which will empower them to convey the power of the high-impact practices of undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative inquiry experience to diverse stakeholder groups.





Piedmont Athletics awarded the inaugural CCS Commissioner's Cups

This fall, Piedmont Athletics was awarded the inaugural CCS Commissioner's Cups after the first year of competition in the Collegiate Conference of the South. The Lions delivered a clean sweep of the three cups, taking home the women's, men's and overall titles after an impressive 2022-23 season in the newly formed league. Piedmont bookended the academic year with CCS titles, as women's cross country crossed the line first in October, while baseball put an exclamation point on the season with its run to a ring in May.



The spring brought more success, as on the same weekend, women's track and field and women's tennis took home titles in dominant fashion to run the women's total to four. Women's tennis also ran the table, with a perfect regular season to take home the regular season crown. The Piedmont men saw a fantastic close in the spring championship season, with men's track and field cruising to the championship while baseball made a dramatic tournament run, punctuating the 2022-23 season.



Men's golf and men's tennis each delivered runner-up finishes while men's soccer and men's basketball each won a CCS postseason game. Piedmont University's athletic prowess was on full display during the 2022-23 season as it clinched six postseason championship titles.

"As we draw the curtains on this inaugural year for the CCS, it is a privilege to present the Men's, Women's, and Overall Commissioner's Cups to Piedmont University, a testament to their unwavering commitment to the principles of NCAA Division III," said Beth Vansant, Commissioner of the CCS. "The prowess of their student-athletes and the tireless passion of their athletics staff illuminate a path towards excellence that will inspire generations to come."



Staff Spotlight: Lotter Comes 'Home' to Piedmont as Assistant Athletic Trainer



Gabriella "Gabby" Lotter joined the Piedmont University athletic training staff as an assistant athletic trainer in January. While a graduate student, Lotter was an athletic trainer with the softball program, which brought home the 2022 USA South tournament championship. Lotter's role included evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation.

Now, she is back at Piedmont as the athletic trainer for the university's men's soccer, baseball, and basketball teams and track throwers. She covers practice and games, provides emergency care and first aid, and creates rehabilitation plans.

"It has been awesome going from being a student to an employee at Piedmont. I love giving back to the programs that built me into the person I am today," Lotter said. "Piedmont athletics feels like home," Lotter said.

As a four-year women's soccer team member at Piedmont, Lotter helped lead the Lady Lions to two USA South Championships during her career. Lotter also suffered her fair share of injuries. That inspired her to pursue athletic training.

"After I tore my ACL and was doing physical therapy, I knew I wanted to do something in a similar field to help athletes get back to their sport and encourage them along the way," Lotter said.

Lotter earned two degrees at Piedmont: a bachelor of science in exercise and sports science in 2019 and a master of science in athletic training in 2022.

Lotter is a certified and licensed athletic trainer. She is also a National Athletic Trainers' Association member and a certified strength and conditioning specialist.

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

11/2-11/16 Nick Morris exhibit

11/7 Chamber Ensembles

11/9 Piedmont University Singers

11/11 Conservatory Strings

11/16 Piedmont University Wind Ensemble

DECEMBER

12/1 35th Annual Service of Lessons & Carols

12/2 35th Annual Service of Lessons & Carols

12/15 Fall Commencement

To view the full events calendar, please visit [here](#).



We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our Yonahian Society and alumni 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.

Thank You

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as of 7/1/2022

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