

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**ALABAMA**<sup>®</sup>

*Culverhouse*  
College of Business



# 2021 ALUMNI REPORT

*Culverhouse Dean Kay Palan  
stands in the atrium of Hewson Hall.  
Construction of the \$60 million building  
started in fall 2019 and was completed in  
time for the fall 2021 semester.*

*For more information on Hewson Hall,  
please visit [culverhouse.ua.edu/hewson](http://culverhouse.ua.edu/hewson)*



**WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR** makes! About this time in 2020, we were in the middle of our fall semester, tinged by the pandemic. Yet despite that, we pulled off a significant feat: we were determined to teach as many of our courses as possible fully in-person, scheduling 69% and 87% in-person, for the fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters, respectively. Fall semester was a challenge, with many students opting to stay remote despite the in-class offerings. By spring, though, most students attended in-person classes.

It took an incredible amount of work on the part of the team here at The University of Alabama and the Culverhouse College of Business, but we made it happen. I am grateful for their efforts and the commitment of our students who valued those efforts and demonstrated as such by returning to us for this year.

And how they have returned to Culverhouse! Our enrollment this fall for 2021-2022 is a record 9,641 undergraduate and graduate students, a 5% increase over the previous academic year.

The contributions of our alumni and friends over the past year were also especially critical to our success. We asked you to help us with student recruitment, retention, mentoring, and professional development, and you responded by giving back, whether it was through a gift, working with our students, or both. We are grateful.

Recently, we have had many exciting things happen here at Culverhouse and The University of Alabama. In early September, we officially opened our newest building, Hewson Hall, with a grand celebration that many of you were able to attend. At the same time, UA announced the Rising Tide Capital Campaign, which aims to raise \$1.5 billion. The Rising Tide is well on its way there: the tally so far is just a bit above \$951 million.

Our College has its own \$200 million goal as part of the Rising Tide and I am proud to say that we are over halfway there with \$114 million raised thus far.

In other news, we are launching an executive education program here in the College that will be of interest to many of you. Featuring ongoing learning opportunities in business cybersecurity, data analytics, and leadership, among other topics, it is designed to work with your busy schedules to help you achieve your professional goals.

Be well and thank you for your support of the Culverhouse College of Business and its students. We cannot do everything we do and be all we can be without all of you.

Roll Tide!



Dean Kay M. Palan

[kay.palan@culverhouse.ua.edu](mailto:kay.palan@culverhouse.ua.edu)

Culverhouse College of Business

## HEWSON HALL GRAND OPENING

*The Culverhouse College of Business hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 9 to celebrate the opening of Hewson Hall, the newest addition to the business College. The building is named in recognition of a \$15 million gift from UA alumni Marilyn and James Hewson and sits on UA's Stadium Drive adjacent to Bidgood Hall, Mary Hewell Alston Hall, and Angelo Bruno Business Library.*

*UA leadership, alumni, staff, faculty, students, and community and corporate partners attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony.*

*The \$60 million, 108,000 square-foot facility features numerous spaces designed to connect Culverhouse faculty, staff, and students. Hewson Hall can accommodate classes, study groups, executive meetings, professional development events, and more with 31 collaboration rooms, 22 classrooms, three conference rooms, and an executive board room, as well as a collection of other meeting rooms and flex spaces.*





**ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS OF HEWSON HALL** include the Alabama Business Hall of Fame, a Hall of Honor that showcases stories of excellence from across the College, and a space dedicated to first-generation students to gather and connect known as The Spot.

The advanced technology present throughout Hewson Hall reinforces Culverhouse's dedication to establishing itself as a renowned business school through giving its students, faculty, and staff access to the latest resources.

Though the principal gift from the Hewson family was instrumental in the groundbreaking structure, Hewson Hall was made possible by an abundance of additional gifts and contributions from Culverhouse alumni, faculty, staff, and friends. Each of these donations are recognized in distinct named spaces, such as the C.T. and Kelley Fitzpatrick Auditorium on the ground floor, Cooper Café and Terrace, and the Dr. J. Barry Mason Classroom, named in honor of the College's seventh dean.

The Hewson Hall building committee, co-chaired by Marillyn Hewson and C.T. Fitzpatrick, chief executive officer and chief investment officer of Vulcan Value Partners LLC, inspired many of these gifts.

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, several Culverhouse Board of Visitors committees held meetings in the new space

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(L-R) Kay M. Palan, Dean of Culverhouse College of Business, C.T. Fitzpatrick, Marillyn and James Hewson, and Dr. Stuart Bell moments after the Hewson Hall Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

before enjoying tours of the building. That evening, the crowd returned to the building for a gala celebration attended by BOV members, University of Alabama leadership, members of the building construction team, and friends. Culverhouse Dean Kay Palan, Fitzpatrick, and the Hewsons took to the stage to share remarks.

“Our vision for this building is to create an environment that will enable success for generations of students and faculty. We hope it will help students to hone the skills they will need to compete for rewarding and fulfilling jobs and seize the exciting opportunities that the world of business offers,” Marilyn Hewson said. 

Clockwise:

Terry and Nina Roberts; Hewson Hall prior to the Grand Opening Ceremony; CT, Kelley and Trantum Fitzpatrick; Trumpet Players

Next page, clockwise from left:

Young Boozer and Myles Ward; Hewson Hall Grand Opening Dinner; UA President Dr. Stuart Bell; Ryan Coleman; Corrine Jenkins, Vanessa Smith, Jennie Northam, Christin Spencer; Will, Alison, James, Marilyn and David Hewson





## AT THE SPOT

*With the grand opening of The University of Alabama's newest building on campus, Hewson Hall, came the unveiling of a new space on the third floor dedicated to first-generation students: The Walker and Bill Jones First Generation Spot. Made possible by a gift from Culverhouse alum Walker Jones and her husband Bill, The Spot provides first-generation students with a place to collaborate, connect, and create a community.*



(L-R) Guadalupe Moncivais, Ruth Tolen, Asiriah Williams, Bran Apgwilym, Samantha Noyes, Peter Do, Dr. Amy Salazar, Quoc Hoang

This space will serve as a hub for the growing number of first-generation students within Culverhouse to find support and resources during their time at the Capstone.

“I have been amazed at the great work UA has done with this incredible program benefiting first-generation students from across the state of Alabama,” Walker Jones said.

The Joneses hope that first-generation students find a “home away from home” in The Spot. Their interest in first-generation initiatives stems from Bill Jones’ own experience as a first-generation student.

“Bill and I support first-generation scholarship programs, because Bill was the first to go to college in his family. We know the benefits of a strong support program for these students,” Walker Jones said.

Quoc Hoang, director of experiential learning for Culverhouse, oversees The Spot. Through facilitating multiple focus groups with first-generation students, speaking with Culverhouse faculty and staff, and being a first-generation student himself, Hoang understands multiple perspectives regarding the first-generation experience.

According to Hoang, it is difficult to encapsulate the first-generation experience, because first-generation status is not some observable trait or physical attribute. He believes that The Spot can go a long way in fostering support and growth among first-generation students.

“As we build stronger connections with first-gen programs and resources across UA and create greater visibility for the great work being done by Culverhouse faculty and staff, my hope is that more first gen students will...experience the benefits of being part of a community that’s committed to their success,” Hoang said.

For first-generation students like Bran Apgwilym, identifying shared experiences with others has been quite impactful on their time at UA. Apgwilym, graduating December 2021 with both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in marketing through Culverhouse’s Accelerated Master’s Program, has learned that relationship-building is a continual process that requires considerable self-reflection.

His freshman year, Apgwilym felt immense pressure to fit in. Over the next few years, however, he learned the benefits of being his most authentic self.

An experience that paved this way of thinking for Apgwilym was participation in Legacy Scholars, a first year experience for first-generation students at UA. He started in the program as a freshman and continued on to a mentorship role over the next few years.

Apgwilym hopes to return to UA and invest in the first-generation community after he graduates:

“[The first-generation community] has been an incredible part of my life, so I want to be able to give back to it in any way possible.” 

## FAYARD GIFT WILL ENHANCE FIRST-GENERATION SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT AT CULVERHOUSE

Gary and Nancy Fayard expect their most recent commitment to the Culverhouse College of Business will create a lasting impact on students as they navigate their lifetime of learning.

The \$1 million Fayard First Generation Business Scholars Endowed Scholarship will provide financial support for first-generation business students from the state of Alabama. The Fayards also made a \$2 million gift to UA's College of Education to support the Fayard Endowed Chair in Literacy Education.

Gary Fayard, a 1975 graduate of UA's Culverhouse College of Business, and Nancy Fayard, a 1975 graduate in education, said that these gifts are aimed at creating a solid path toward higher education for students throughout the state.

Gary said his involvement with the Coca-Cola First Generation Scholars Program in his role as the CFO and executive vice-president of Coca-Cola is what initially introduced him to many first-generation students.

“Once a year, I attended a luncheon that the University would host for those scholars,” Gary said. “It was the best experience I had the entire year. You see these kids who have phenomenal achievements throughout high school, but most of them would not be able to attend college without some kind of scholarship.”

“So many potential first-generation students and their families view the college experience as inaccessible due to financial constraints. The Fayards understand that and have made a substantive investment to effect change and level the playing field,” said Dean Kay Palan of Culverhouse.

For the Fayards, their gifts are not only an investment in people and students, but also a lasting investment in The University of Alabama. 





Nancy and Gary Fayard in the Mary  
Hewell Alston Hall Parlor.



Division of  
Student Life  
First Year Experience and Retention Initiatives

## A First-Generation Celebration

On November 8, 2021 Culverhouse College of Business faculty, staff, and students participated in the First Generation College Celebration hosted by The University of Alabama Division of Student Life. First-gen students were invited to **#celebratefirstgen** by sharing their stories, participating in various activities, and learning more about the first-year experience.



*#CelebrateFirstGen*

## KNIGHT OF HONOR

Two students are the first beneficiaries of the Knight Family Annual Scholarship at Culverhouse, made possible by a gift from a dear friend of the College, Peter A. Knight and his family.

The scholarship, oriented toward a junior or senior in excellent academic standing at Culverhouse, supports those who have faced hardships or would not otherwise be able to attend The University of Alabama owing to financial need.

Peter Knight's roots are from rural Arkansas and on one side, the Bryant family. Peter's great-grandmother was Jewel Bryant, Coach Paul Bryant's first cousin. They grew up near each other just outside of Fordyce, Arkansas: Jewel in Smith Chapel and Paul in Moro Bottom. "My family grew up dirt poor as my parents and grandparents would always tell me," Knight explained.

Knight's parents were the first generation of their families to attend college, both at

The University of Arkansas.

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***“My life has been a journey filled with experiences that have taught me how lucky I have been and that because of it, I have an obligation and responsibility to give back in any way I can.”***

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Given his lineage, he grew up both a Razorback fan and a Crimson Tide fan. That continued throughout his life even though he attended Syracuse University where he majored in finance and economics. After a career in finance and real estate, "I knew it was important to give back to The University of Alabama."

After seven years of contributing to his football scholarship, he knew he wanted to

do more to empower young people in the Culverhouse College of Business.

"My life has been a journey filled with experiences that have taught me how lucky I have been and that because of it, I have an obligation and responsibility to give back in any way I can."

"It would break my heart to see worthy young men and women not able to pursue their dreams starting at the Culverhouse College of Business due to hardship and financial need. After meeting with Associate Dean James King and Dean Palan, I knew the annual scholarships were what I wanted to do now and for many years to come."

Knight's scholarship was established in 2021. "In the fall of 2021, I was able to meet both of my recipients."

"Their hard work, dedication, and passion for success in all its forms inspires me every day."

One of the inaugural Knight Scholarship students, Zachary Collins, a junior from Montgomery, Alabama majoring in accounting and finance, said, “I deeply appreciate the generous scholarship award from the Knight Family.”

“This act of kindness is humbling, encouraging, and beneficial to my educational pursuit at The University of Alabama. Not only does the Knight family’s spirit of giving drive me to pursue excellence in my academic career. It also motivates me to continue to contribute to the University and the greater community through service and mentorship.” 



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Peter Knight, flanked by Zachary Collins and Aliayah Coleman, the first recipients of the Knight Family Annual Scholarship.

## UA “LEGEND” FIRST RECIPIENT OF J. BARRY MASON ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

An endowed fund from Dr. Gail and Ralph Cassell established the J. Barry Mason Endowed Distinguished Alumni Award. The Cassells have also recently established an Endowed Chair in Marketing and a Global Healthcare Management Internship.

Dr. Cassell, a retired Eli Lilly executive is now a senior lecturer in the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School. In 1968, Mr. Cassell obtained his B.S. in marketing and management from UA and joined Exxon/Humble Oil and Refining. In 1970, he obtained an MBA from Samford University and joined Central Bank, now known as BBVA USA, where he spent the next 28 years.

As a senior executive, he played an important role in shaping the bank’s strategy as it pioneered the multibank holding concept. In 1987, the bank acquired First National Bank of Crosby, Texas to become the first Alabama bank to own a financial institution out of state and the first out-of-state bank to own a bank in Texas.

Mr. Cassell served as the bank’s first president. He was later named senior vice president of national consumer banking – Compass

Bancshares; city president, Compass Bank of Birmingham; executive vice president, community banking, and regional executive (Alabama) Compass Bank.

Named after the Culverhouse’s longest-serving dean – its seventh since its founding in 1919 – the J. Barry Mason Endowed Distinguished Alumni Award biennially recognizes a distinguished graduate of the College who has demonstrated outstanding achievement after graduating from the Capstone.

On Monday, October 25, 2021, the first J. Barry Mason Endowed Distinguished Alumni Award winner, Samuel DiPiazza, Jr., gave a stirring lecture to the Culverhouse community. Mr. DiPiazza, a graduate of our accounting and finance programs, is former CEO of the firm now known as PwC and served as chair of the board of trustees for the Mayo Clinic. He is also a University of Alabama “Legend” and an internationally recognized author and commentator in fields such as corporate reporting, transparency, anti-corruption, and sustainable development. 



Sam DiPiazza, Jr. chats with students after his October 25<sup>th</sup> lecture in Hewson Hall.



ALUMNI REPORT 2021 | THE RISING TIDE



# THE RISING TIDE™

A CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®

The scene at the Rising Tide Capital Campaign kickoff event at Coleman Coliseum on Friday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>.

## RISING TIDE TO ELEVATE UA, CULVERHOUSE

Over the past decade, there has been a shift in how a business school should convey knowledge and assert itself as a voice within society.

Our obligation is not just to prepare future business leaders for rewarding careers, but also to instill in those students a sense of ethics and values.

We must conduct research that adds to greater understanding and find ways to leverage those findings to grow our reputation and attract the best talent.

And we are tasked with a responsibility to make our community, region and society better through outreach initiatives with direct impacts and to support those students with the greatest need.

On Friday, September 10, The University of Alabama launched the \$1.5 billion Rising Tide Capital Campaign to support all areas of campus from student scholarships and faculty research to campus facilities and athletics. It is an incredible plan that will usher in a new chapter for the University's legacy. And alumni and friends of the Capstone have responded with enthusiasm: so far over \$960 million has been raised in total.

**Culverhouse's fundraising responsibility for The Rising Tide is \$200 million, with \$114 million raised thus far.**

Now is the time to get involved with The Rising Tide. Visit [risingtide.ua.edu/Culverhouse](https://risingtide.ua.edu/Culverhouse) or contact the Culverhouse office of development at [giving@culverhouse.ua.edu](mailto:giving@culverhouse.ua.edu) or by calling **205-348-2929**. 📞

## *New Developments In Culverhouse*



**Matt Abney** joined The University of Alabama in August 2017 as a regional development officer and transitioned to Culverhouse in February 2021. Abney was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky and is an alum of Eastern Kentucky University.

He started his career with the Lincoln Heritage Council, Boy Scouts of America, where he would eventually discover a passion for philanthropy. In his free time, he enjoys cheering on the University of Kentucky when they're not playing The University of Alabama, movies, exploring walking trails, and travel.

Contact Matt at **205-348-4837**  
or **[mrabney@culverhouse.ua.edu](mailto:mrabney@culverhouse.ua.edu)**.



**Justin Slaton** joined the Culverhouse College of Business as an associate director of development in July 2021. Prior to returning to the Capstone, where he earned a bachelor's degree in communication and information sciences, he worked as a general manager at two Jimmy John's locations in the Tuscaloosa area and served as the main catering contact for the franchise.

Slaton served as the assistant director of athletic marketing at Florida State University and Texas A&M University where he oversaw marketing, promotional, and social media efforts for multiple sports.

Contact Justin at **205-348-5815**  
or **[jslaton@culverhouse.ua.edu](mailto:jslaton@culverhouse.ua.edu)**.



**Emily Weed** is an assistant director of development at Culverhouse, having joined in September 2021. She grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio and graduated from The University of Alabama in 2015, where she earned a bachelor's degree in human environmental sciences.

Before joining Culverhouse, she worked in Atlanta in the insurance, sports management, and home building industries.

Contact Emily at **205-348-1260**  
or **[eweedy@culverhouse.ua.edu](mailto:eweedy@culverhouse.ua.edu)**.

## *Farewell To Our Friends*



Dr. Brian Gray, left, and Dr. Dave Heggem, right, flank Culverhouse Dean Kay Palan at the retirement party recognizing their service and contributions to the College.



Dr. Bill Rabel with a commendation given to him from Alabama governor Kay Ivey at the 2021 Alabama Insurance Day symposium for his extensive contributions to risk management and insurance education and research

## **FIXTURES OF CULVERHOUSE RETIRE**

**THREE MAINSTAYS OF THE CULVERHOUSE** College of Business retired this year after combined decades of service to the College and The University of Alabama.

Over the course of their respective careers, Dr. Dave Heggem, the associate dean for students, Dr. Brian Gray, a professor of statistics, and Dr. William Rabel, the John & Mary Louise Loftis Bickley Endowed Teaching Chairholder in Insurance & Financial Services, forged personal connections with students, established working relationships with industry partners, and provided consistent, steadfast leadership in their respective areas.

On an individual level, they all imprinted unique stamps upon the College.

Thanks to Heggem's oversight of the Asa H. Bean Undergraduate Student Services Center, all Culverhouse students received careful attention and guidance along their academic journey. He also helped establish the College's Business Honors Program.

In the case of Gray, he also served as associate dean of Manderson Graduate School of Business and interim dean of Culverhouse before the arrival of Dean Kay Palan in 2016.

Rabel has played an important role in elevating Culverhouse's reputation for risk management and insurance research and education. Furthermore, his leadership in planning the annual Alabama Insurance Day, or I-Day, event has brought national recognition to the College regarding insurance industry matters.

The Culverhouse College of Business is grateful to all for their contributions and wishes them well on the next stage of life's journey. 

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®



CULVERHOUSE

# WOMEN BUSINESS

CONFERENCE

**MARCH 25-26, 2022**

**Panels | Networking | Professional Development**

**Join us for our signature women's event!**

Connect with a community of alumnae, professional women, and current female students in an event designed to inspire, support, and develop women in business.

Get involved at [diversity.culverhouse.ua.edu](https://diversity.culverhouse.ua.edu)



**Culverhouse**  
College of Business  
Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

## *Connect with Culverhouse in 2022*

### **Capstone Student Investment Conference (CSIC)**

**March 5** | Hewson Hall, The University of Alabama

### **Culverhouse Women's Conference**

**March 25-26** | Hewson Hall, The University of Alabama

### **Culverhouse Board of Visitors Spring Meeting**

**March 31-April 1** | Pursell Farms, Sylacauga, Alabama

### **Culverhouse Faculty and Staff Awards**

**April 21** | Hewson Hall, The University of Alabama

### **Culverhouse Alumni Awards**

**April 22** | Hewson Hall, The University of Alabama

### **Alabama Business Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony**

**November 10** | Haven, Birmingham, Alabama

Contact Emma Bliss at [eb bliss@culverhouse.ua.edu](mailto:eb bliss@culverhouse.ua.edu) for more info.

\*Culverhouse Executives Society events are not yet scheduled.

Mr. Charles E. Adair	Mr. Frank D'Amico III	Mr. G. Thomas Hough	Ms. Angi Meyers	Mr. Harvey L. Snider, Jr.
Mr. Garry Adams	Mrs. Kate Danella	Mr. Daniel Hughes	Mrs. Karen R. Miller	Mr. Matthew Spearing
Mrs. Anita Allcorn-Walker	Mr. Richard Davis	Mr. Doug Hulsey	Mr. James H. Miller III	Ms. Christin Spencer
Mr. Harry L. Anderson	Ms. Leigh Davis	Mr. William C. Hulsey	Mr. Mark Millsap	Mr. Daniel A. Staley
Mr. Owen W. Aronov	Mr. G. Hilton Dean	Mr. J. Scott Hunter	Mr. Harris V. Morrisette	Mr. William H. Stender, Jr.
Mr. Michael Bailey	Mrs. Jill Deer	Mr. Donald M. James	Mr. Ryan Nast	Mr. Dave Stewart
Mr. William Barnhill	Mr. Samuel A. Di Piazza, Jr.	Ms. Corinne Jenkins	Mr. Larry E. Newman	Mrs. Julie Stewart
Mr. William M. Barto	Mr. J. Mark Dunning	Mr. Joseph H. Johnson	Ms. Jennie Northam	Mr. Joe Stough
Mr. Brian Barze	Mr. Claude Edwards	Mr. Lawrence Johnson	Mrs. Susan O'Dwyer	Mr. William R. Stroud
Mr. John Baschab	Ms. Rebekah Elgin-Council	Mrs. Hope H. Johnson	Ms. Leslie O'Harrow	Mr. Timothy E. Stuart
Mr. Walter P. Batson, Jr.	Mr. Tom Epperson	Mr. Robert Jolly	Mrs. Lily Overton	Mr. Yamah Tabibi
Mr. Ted Baudendistel	Mrs. Wendy Evesque	Mr. James R. Jones	Mr. Timothy M. Parker, Jr.	Mr. John R. Thomas
Mr. Jeffrey Bayer	Mr. Gary P. Fayard	Mr. Patrick Jones	Mrs. Beverly C. Phifer	Mr. R. Waid Thompson
Mr. Christopher A. Bayham	Mr. Clement Trantum	Ms. Caitlin Jones	Wingard	Mr. C. Reynolds Thompson III
Mr. Daniel E. Beggs	Fitzpatrick	Mr. Carl E. Jones, Jr.	Mr. J. Jordan Plaster	Mr. Brandon Thrasher
Mr. Matthew Benak	Mr. Andrew Fowler	Mr. D. Paul Jones, Jr.	Mr. David Popwell	Mr. Ken Douglas Tidwell
Mr. Donald W. Birdwell	Mr. James Fowler	Mr. Timothy F. Kelly	Mr. William M. Proctor	Mrs. Candice Todd
Ms. September Blain	Mrs. Linda Gallagher	Mr. James M. Kemp, Jr.	Ms. Jennifer Reid	Mr. R. Neal Travis
Mr. John Bochnak	Mr. Russ Gambell	Mrs. Jenifer Kimbrough	Ms. Susan O. Rheney	Mr. John M. Turner, Jr.
Mr. Young J. Boozer III	Mr. Johnny Garrison	Mr. Taylor Knott	Mr. John H. Roberts	Mr. William T. Ventress, Jr.
Ms. Wendy Boyd	Mrs. Leslie Gattuso	Mr. Arie Kouandjio	Mr. Terry Roberts	Mr. Reginald J. Walker
Mr. C. Clayton Bromberg	Mr. Ted W. Giles	Ms. Christine Lassister	Mr. Darryl T. Robinson	Mr. Myles Ward
Mr. William W. Brooke	Mr. Wayne H. Gillis	Mr. Chad Lavender	Mr. Richard H. Robinson	Mr. Wade Weeks
Mr. Ronald G. Bruno	Mr. W. Stanley Gregory	Ms. Sherrie LeMier-Potts	Mr. Michael D. Ross	Mr. Palmer G. Whiting
Mr. Kyle Buchanan	Mr. Alan Grissom	Ms. Cathy Leonhardt	Mr. David Ruggles	Mr. George E. Wilbanks
Mr. Stephen Buko	Ms. Ann Haas	Mr. Derek Lewis	Mr. Matt Salmonson	Mr. Charles Wilkinson
Mr. Richard A. Burch	Mr. O. B. Grayson Hall, Jr.	Mrs. Karole F. Lloyd	Mr. Ernest Scarbrough	Mr. Duncan F. Williams
Mrs. Karen Jones Campbell	Mrs. Teresa Harmon	Mr. Peter L. Lowe	Mr. William O. Scroggins	Mr. Thomas J. Willings
Mr. Todd Hinton Carpenter	Mr. William T. Heard III	Mr. W. Davis Malone III	Ms. Alma Gates Scroggins	Mr. Nicholas Willis
Mr. J. Weldon Cole	Mr. William Hewson	Mr. Marvin L. Mann	Mrs. Lana Sellers	Mr. Huey Wilson
Mr. Ryan Coleman	Mrs. Marilyn A. Hewson	Mr. Allen Mayer	Mr. Gerry E. Shannon	Mr. Kemmons Wilson, Jr.
Mr. Stephen R. Collins	Mr. Peter T. Hodo, III	Ms. Betsy McAtee	Mr. Dennis W. Shuler	Mr. Spence Wilson, Jr.
Mr. David J. Cooper, Sr.	Mr. James S. Holbrook, Jr.	Mr. Thomas E. McMillan III	Mr. Mark Smith	Mr. Steve Wyatt
Mr. Doug Cox	Mr. Jamie M. Holman	Mr. Thomas E. McMillan, Jr.	Mr. Mark Clay Smith	
Mr. Chandler F. Cox, Jr.	Ms. Kathryn Hornsby	Mr. Christopher C. Melton, Sr.	Mr. Phillip D. Smith	
Mr. Bruce Culpepper	Mr. Kamal Hosein	Mr. D. Stephen Menzies	Ms. Sara Snider	

# Board of Visitors

## SEVEN INDUCTED INTO THE ALABAMA BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

**THE ALABAMA BUSINESS HALL OF FAME** inducted seven new members for 2021 in a black-tie ceremony October 7 at Haven in downtown Birmingham. The event, originally scheduled for 2020, was delayed to 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The 2021 inductees, all of whom have deep connections to the state of Alabama:

### **Robert O. “Bob” Baron**

Bob Baron is the CEO and founder of Baron Weather, an industry leader in weather forecasting and warning systems. He is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and was named Entrepreneur of the Year by UT’s Haslam Business School in 2011.

### **Cecil Batchelor**

Cecil Batchelor was the chairman of CBS Banc-Corp and chairman emeritus of CB&S Bank, based in Russellville, Alabama. He was deeply committed to the community of Russellville and was twice-honored as that city’s Citizen of the Year and was a 72-year member of the local club of Civitan International.

### **Dr. Marcus Bendickson**

Dr. Marcus Bendickson is the retired CEO and former chairman of the board of Dynetics, Inc., a leading provider of high-technology, mission-critical services and solutions to government and commercial customers. Throughout his career, he has advocated for the benefits of employee stock ownership plans or ESOPs.

### **Jay Grinney**

Jay Grinney is the former president, chief executive officer, and director of HealthSouth Corporation, now known as Encompass Health. He led the company through a highly successful turnaround effort that increased shareholder confidence and led to a period of unmatched growth.

### **Dr. Lonnie Johnson**

Dr. Lonnie Johnson is a lifelong serial entrepreneur and innovator. Growing up in Mobile, his innate scientific curiosity led him down a path that would include inventing advanced defense and aerospace technologies as well as the Super Soaker water gun. He is an ardent supporter of youth STEM programs.

### Joe Ritch

Joe Ritch is an entrepreneur and attorney in the firm of Dentons Sirote and a civic leader who has done much to elevate the Huntsville area. Among many prominent roles, he has chaired the board of the Tennessee Valley Authority, or TVA, the first Alabamian in the organization's history to do so.

### Stancel "Stan" Starnes

Stan Starnes is the executive chairman of ProAssurance Corporation, and was its CEO from 2007 to 2019, and president pro tempore of The University of Alabama System Board, representing the Sixth Congressional District. He is also an extraordinarily accomplished lawyer, named among the country's best for over 20 years.

The award of inductee Mr. Cecil Batchelor, who passed away on August 17 of this year, was accepted on his behalf by his children Rebecca Reeves and Greg Batchelor, who said of his father's induction to the Alabama Business Hall of Fame, "He was so proud to be associated with such a prestigious group of people." •



## NOMINATE AN INDUCTEE

*The Alabama Business Hall of Fame recognizes those who have brought fame and honor to the state of Alabama through not only their achievements as business leaders and entrepreneurs, but their ardent commitment to civic leadership, philanthropy, and humanitarianism.*

*All inductees are heavily committed to their communities, serving in leadership roles on boards, donating their time and resources to causes, and inspiring future generations of business leaders.*

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To nominate someone to the Alabama Business Hall of Fame, contact Courtney Miller at [cmiller@culverhouse.ua.edu](mailto:cmiller@culverhouse.ua.edu). The criteria are:

1. A candidate must have by his or her business accomplishments, whether they occurred in Alabama or not, brought fame and honor to the state of Alabama.
2. He/She should have made a significant impact on the development of their community and state by promoting the free enterprise system and entrepreneurship; by demonstrating civic leadership, philanthropy and humanitarianism toward fellow citizens.
3. All candidates must have been in retirement at least three (3) years, except those who are 65 years of age and older prior to the date of induction and who are still active in their careers

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**Top row, clockwise:**

Dr. Marcus Bendickson

Jay Grinney

Lonnie Johnson and family

**Middle Row:**

Joe Ritch, Kay Palan

**Bottom Row (L-r):**

Bob Baron and friends

Stancil "Stan" Starnes and family

Rebecca Reeves, Kay Palan, Greg Batchelor



ALABAMA BUSINESS  
*Hall of Fame*



