



ASBURY UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH
& MATHEMATICS

DEAN'S NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2020



A Message from the Dean

DR. VINS SUTLIVE

Dean, School of Science, Health & Mathematics

vins.sutlive@asbury.edu

In this Dean's letter, I want to address our newest group of alumni, the Visionary Class of 2020. Your class is distinctive because, through no fault of your own, you had to leave campus at mid-semester, complete your bachelor's degrees online and your commencement ceremony was postponed. Please keep in mind that you are in the thoughts and prayers of all our faculty and staff.

One of these days, when things return to some level of normalcy, you might have an opportunity to visit another country. If you should happen to travel to England, try to visit Canterbury and its famous cathedral. A particularly moving space in the cathedral is the Chapel of Saints and Martyrs (ironically, it also called the Corona Chapel). Among others,

the chapel honors the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of San Salvador. Two Americans are honored: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Jonathon Daniels. Jonathon Daniels attended the Virginia Military Institute (VMI), graduating as valedictorian in 1961. In March 1965, while in seminary, Daniels heard the plea of Dr. King for clergy to go to Alabama to help complete the civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery. Daniels went, but unlike many clergy who returned to their home churches, he stayed in Alabama. That August, Daniels and several others were arrested for trying to register African-American voters. They spent the night in a county jail and after their release walked to a small grocery to buy cold drinks. A man named Tom Coleman barred their entry to the store. Coleman leveled a shotgun at 17 year-old Ruby Sales. Daniels stepped in front, trying to shield her. The shotgun blast killed him instantly. Now, you are probably wondering why I shared this story. Well, in his 1961 valedictory address at VMI, Jonathon Daniels offered his classmates three wishes, and I want to share those same wishes with you.

I wish you the joy of a purposeful life. Some of you have a clear sense of purpose and calling; others are not so clear. Some of you spent your time at Asbury pursuing a call to be a doctor, a trainer, a teacher, a scientist, an engineer. Some of you spent your time at Asbury wondering what it is you are supposed to do next. Not to worry. Purpose has a way of finding you. God has a plan, and it may take a while to understand fully your life's purpose. When you do, you will know it. Keep in mind a simple thought that is true for anybody's calling: Love God and serve our fellow human beings (Micah 6:8). I wish you the joy of a purposeful life.

I wish you new worlds and the vision to see them. New worlds (let me call them opportunities) are among God's greatest gifts. There is always an element of risk when we try something new or when we travel to some place where we have never been. I have found that my own reluctance to take advantage of certain opportunities is not simply the risk. It is more often a comfortable status quo. In Mark 10, Jesus encountered a wealthy young man. Despite his wealth, the young man made it clear he did not have a satisfying life. His life was without fulfillment, without purpose. Jesus offered an opportunity: come follow me. He considered Jesus' offer, but the young man chose the safety of the status quo and turned away. New worlds can present some risk, so be prayerful and seek counsel, but know that most opportunities are not there for long. I wish you new worlds and the vision to see them.

I wish you the decency and nobility of which you are capable. If you want a sense of your own decency and nobility, look for decency and nobility in others. Dr. Bill Jones, pastor of the Williamsburg (VA) United Methodist Church puts it like this: God's grace always comes to us on the way to someone else. That idea echoes throughout the gospels. One reason Paul was so successful as a missionary was that he leveled the playing field at a time when perhaps four out of five people were slaves, women were considered property, and when injustice toward the poor and those with disabilities was the norm. He wrote: one and the same Spirit was given to us all to drink! (1 Corinthians 12:13). If you want to have a sense of your own decency and nobility, then look for decency and nobility in others.

So, I wish you the joy of a purposeful life. I wish you new worlds and the vision to see them. I wish you the decency and the nobility of which you are capable. These will come to each of you, by the grace of God, and with the maturity and experience that you will acquire through a variety of callings on far-flung fields of endeavor. Today, I encourage each of you to remember a unique aspect of your own life: your future. God does have a plan for your life, but your future is the part that of the plan waiting to be discovered. Today, tomorrow, or simply the next time you walk out your door, lean into the wind and greet the unseen with a cheer.

Congratulations to you all! Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

The University's Equine program announced two student teams who qualified for the 2020 Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium. The competition highlights the abilities of retire racehorses. Asbury's Equine program has two teams consisting of three students training racehorses purchased from the Secretariat Center. The teams will participate in the hunter/jumper events. Students who will be representing the program will be Hope Beers '20, Josie Wooldridge '21, Martha Bruckner '21, Charlotte Copeland '21, Jessie Maggi '22, and leader Emma Forsyth '23.

Award Winners this Year:

Elizabeth Pottinger

Outstanding Senior in Biology

Harrison Williams

Outstanding Senior in Mathematics

Alexis Ruffing

Kenyon Science & Mathematics Award

Clara Quade

Outstanding Senior in Equine

Young Koh

Outstanding Senior in Chemistry

Bryce Forry

Outstanding Senior in Biochemistry

Andrea Bussell

Outstanding Senior in Allied Health

Catherine Daflucas

Outstanding Senior in Adventure & Education Leadership

For more information about the School of Science, Health and Mathematics, visit:

asbury.edu/science-health-math

For upcoming events, visit:

asbury.edu/calendar

To update your contact information or to share a class note, please contact the Alumni Office:

alumni@asbury.edu



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:
Dr. Ketrell McWhorter

Assistant Professor (on tenure track) and Public Health Program Coordinator in the School of Science, Health and Mathematics, Dr. Ketrell McWhorter holds an MBA from Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH, and a Ph.D. in Molecular Epidemiology from the University of Cincinnati. Dr. McWhorter gains gratification from incorporating biblical principles into her epidemiology research, public health and health education. Educating others about the importance of faith integration into fitness and public health is her goal.

"I have learned that Public Health is in direct line with what we have been called to do as Christians, to care for the sick, poor, disenfranchised, the elderly, mothers, and children. There are many examples in the Bible that support the fundamentals of Public Health and why it is an essential part of our society."

Her advice to alumni, "become more involved in public health, not only on a community level, but on a personal level" and to get "families and friends involved."



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:
Andrea Bussell '20

Physical Therapy is a way that Andrea feels she can live out her calling. She recognizes the transformation and healing that takes place within a person both physically and mentally. This is how Andrea experiences physical therapy.

As we are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus, serving others with love through physical therapy is how she plans to continue to serve the kingdom and others. While watching patients gain confidence in themselves is rewarding, it also requires patience, kindness and understanding, all achievable through love. While pursuing a career, Andrea understands that providing therapy with patience and kindness to all is a gesture of Christ's love without expectations of getting a return. This fall, Andrea plans to attend Washington University's School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO, to further her education in Physical Therapy.