

Recognition of Faculty and Staff for Years of Service

15 Years +

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| Christopher Hanks* | 2003 |
| Brian Turner* | 2004 |
| Wanda Haynes* | 2005 |
| Travis Williams* | 2005 |
| Virginia Henderson | 2006 |
| Celia Wilkerson | 2007 |

20 Years +

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Donna Gourley | 1998 |
| Kevin Harden | 1998 |
| Susan Osborne* | 1998 |
| Laura Hartman | 1998 |
| Carl Bradsher | 2000 |
| Angela Bowers | 2000 |
| Diane Gosney* | 2001 |
| Joel Nester* | 2001 |

25 Years +

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|---------------------|------|
| Jackie Finney* | 1994 |
| David Rosenberg | 1995 |
| Richard Breen* | 1996 |
| Marion Breen | 1997 |

30 Years +

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Patricia Bowman | 1989 |
| Gary Tucker* | 1991 |
| Danny Miller* | 1992 |
| Marietta Sanford* | 1992 |
| Brenda Williams | 1992 |
| Susan Huckstep* | 1992 |

35 Years +

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|-------------------|------|
| Peggy Wright* | 1987 |
| Anne Lewis | 1987 |
| Barbara Kushubar* | 1987 |
| Janet Roberson* | 1987 |

40 Years +

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Kathie Tune* | 1979 |
|--------------|------|

45 Years +

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|---------------------|------|
| Laura Meder* | 1977 |
|---------------------|------|

50 Years +

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Robert Marsh | 1969 |
|--------------|------|

*Averett Alumnus



AVERETT
UNIVERSITY

— SINCE 1859 —

Founders' Day

Violet T. Frith Fine Arts Center
February 3, 2022

Founders' Day Celebration

One Hundred Sixty-Third Session

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| *Processional | <i>"Promenade"</i> by Amy Marcy Beach Dr. Anne Lewis, piano <i>Professor of Music & Department Chair</i> |
| *Welcome & Invocation | Rev. Dr. Timothy E. Fulop <i>Vice President for Academic Affairs</i> |
| Introduction to Founders' Day | Dr. Tiffany M. Franks <i>President</i> |
| Averett Singers Selection | Gaudeamus Hodie (Let Us Rejoice Today) by Donald Moore |
| Introduction of Speakers | Ms. Melissa E. Wohlstein <i>Vice President of Philanthropy</i> |
| Reflections from Graduates | Mr. James Contreras '18 Dr. Roberta Thayer-Smith '74 Ms. Libby Westphal '01 |
| Charge to Students | Ms. Morgan Dearing '23 <i>Junior Class SGA President</i> |
| *Alma Mater | Dr. Gary Tucker '85 <i>Professor of Mathematics</i> <i>Division Chair</i> |
| *Benediction | Rev. Dr. Fulop |
| *Recessional | <i>"Scherzo"</i> by Clara Wieck Schumann Dr. Lewis, piano |

*Audience standing

Alma Mater

Hail to thee, our Alma Mater,
Proudly now we sing,
Faithful to thy name forever,
Let our praises ring.

O, dear Averett, we are thankful
As we sing to thee,
For honor, friendship, and real wisdom,
Thou dost hold the key.

Averett University
Memories dear we'll hold
We'll remember now and ever,
Our dear blue and gold.

Academic Regalia

The faculty's academic robes and hoods, worn for special occasions such as this, indicate the degrees they have earned and the universities where they earned them. Professors have worn distinctive regalia since medieval times.

The gowns are designed to rate the highest degree earned by the wearer (Bachelor, Master, or Doctor), and the hoods have particular colors for the specific degrees and universities. The lining notes the official color, or colors, of the college or university conferring the degree (Averett's colors are blue and gold). The color of the edging (two, three, and four inches for the Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctor's respectively) shows the discipline to which the degree pertains, for example: Arts – white; Business – drab; Education – light blue; Fine Arts – brown; Law – purple; Music – pink; Nursing-apricot; Philosophy – dark blue; Physical Education – sage green; Science – golden yellow; Social Work – citron; Theology – scarlet. In recent years, many universities have incorporated the university's colors into academic robes and hoods.

The University mace is carried by an honored faculty member.

The international flags on display represent many of the international students whom we are proud to have at Averett University.

Alumni Speakers



James Contreras '18 is a member of the United States Marine Corps stationed at MCAS Cherry Point as the budget officer. He played men's basketball while attending Averett and graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting. James lives in New Bern, N.C. with his wife, Hannah Contreras '18.



Dr. Roberta Thayer-Smith '74 of Yorktown, Va. serves in the capacity as a Virginia Commonwealth University faculty member, working with the Virginia Department of Education as a State Virginia Tiered Systems of Support Coach. She graduated from Averett with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. Her career includes serving as a teacher, curriculum writer and administrator in Australia for 22 years. She has hosted Averett events in Yorktown and in Danville, was an adjunct professor in the Averett Online program and has served Averett as an active member of the Averett University Alumni Association Board. She recently was awarded the Mary Jo Davis Outstanding Alumni Award.



Libby Westphal '01 is a four-time ovarian cancer survivor, military veteran, serial entrepreneur, veteran advocate and community volunteer. In 2001, she graduated from Averett Online with a master's in business administration. Libby dedicated over a decade to active duty service in the Air Force as an Intelligence Analyst. After service, she held research and development positions where she conducted leading edge research on computer science projects and led marketing efforts. Afterwards, Libby explored entrepreneurship and became a successful marketing consultant to small government contractors. After her battle with ovarian cancer, Libby changed careers to become a National Academy of Sports Medicine – certified personal trainer to help others get healthy and fit. Libby is a nationally recognized fitness professional and business leader. She has been married to her husband, Chris, for 21 years. They have a son, Fletcher, a Power 5 football recruit, living in Leesburg, Va. She is a world traveler having visited 46 states and over 30 countries. Libby is the former Mrs. USA, Top 5 Mrs. Virginia and was Mrs. Leesburg.