

# CONQUER & PREVAIL

## WOFFORD COLLEGE



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## Hall's summer project puts students at the forefront of AI research



Dr. Kimberly Hall is the college's leading voice on AI.

Five students have joined forces with Dr. Kimberly Hall this summer to discover how artificial intelligence can more effectively be incorporated in a college setting.

Susann Breazele '26, an English major from Pickens, South Carolina; Maggie Head '26, a chemistry and philosophy double major from Lexington, South Carolina; Kate Podrebarac '26, a computer science and applied mathematics double major from Friendswood, Texas; Sam Turnipseed '25, an English and philosophy major from Columbia, South Carolina; and Rivers West '25, an environmental studies major from Oak Ridge, North Carolina, signed up to take part in Hall's research project "Developing Undergraduate Humanistic AI Research Capacity at a Small Liberal Arts College."

Hall, an associate professor of English who leads the college's AI Working Group, says current research focuses on how faculty and administrators view generative AI — a platform like ChatGPT for instance. She is making sure student perspectives are included.

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## Runyans carves path to volunteer internship in genetics



Maddie Grace Runyans '25 analyzes samples with Dr. Mike Friez, left, and Dr. Steve Skinner '76 at the Greenwood Genetic Center.

Maddie Grace Runyans '25 knew she wanted to pursue genetics.

Seeking hands-on experience, Runyans, a biology major from Laurens, South Carolina, applied for an internship at Greenwood Genetic Center in Greenwood, South Carolina.

Initially, things didn't go according to her plans — she wasn't selected.

"It wasn't that people didn't look at her credentials," says Dr. Mike Friez, director of GGC's diagnostic laboratories. "We just received a lot of applications."

Runyans didn't give up. She reached out to Dr. Steve Skinner '76, GGC's president and CEO. Skinner connected her with Friez, which led to an opportunity for Runyans to work as a volunteer intern this summer.

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## Schmitz shares insights at Upstate higher ed roundtable



From left, Dr. Timothy Schmitz, Jennifer Hulehan, Dr. Erin Smith, Dr. Beth Pontari and Paul Bell. Photo by Amy Randall Photography.

In June, Dr. Timothy Schmitz, provost, joined four other Upstate higher education leaders in a roundtable discussion hosted by Integrated Media Publishing.

The group discussed programs that boost workforce readiness, partnerships with regional businesses and industries, and more.

[READ THE FULL DISCUSSION](#)



## Clayton's consulting venture takes off



Bowdre Fortson Clayton '12 found her “perfect fit” — Wofford.

Now, she's leading students to their dream schools and building Bowdre Consulting, the education admissions consulting venture she started three years ago.

Clayton is channeling her decade of experience in admission work to guide clients through the complex and often daunting process of finding their perfect academic fit and, ultimately, unlocking their full potential.

“We go through the smallest details,” Clayton says. “I’m going to uncover exactly which school checks all of the boxes for you and your family.”

Clayton's passion for admissions is inspired by her experience at Wofford, where she found community, completed her bachelor's degree in religion, served as team manager for a run of formidable men's basketball teams and was part Delta Delta Delta sorority.

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## Red Sox event frames HR pro Llorente's outreach pitch



The Red Sox went on a 5-0 tear, and these Terriers and other were there (left to right): Armando Llorente '78, Lauren Llorente, Jean Krapfel and Richard Krapfel '78.

Armando Llorente '78 has been tenacious in his efforts to strengthen the Wofford community and connect alums in the Northeast — and he's having a ball doing it.

“Our first Wofford Boston Red Sox gathering occurred some 17 years ago,” says Llorente. “I was living in the area and thought we should get a group of people together to go to Fenway.”

Llorente, owner/manager of Llorente HR Consulting LLC, thrives on building meaningful connections. From serving on the alumni board to returning to campus and speaking with students about his experience in human resources, Llorente has made giving back to Wofford a priority.

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## Turner returns to Grace Animal Hospital as veterinarian



Dr. Ashlynn Turner '14 is back where her passion for veterinary medicine began — at Grace Animal Hospital in Lexington, South Carolina.

While at Wofford, Turner interned at Grace. The experience inspired her to go to veterinary school. Studying abroad in Australia and South Africa piqued her global interest.

“Although I hadn’t yet applied to veterinary school, the Grace team treated me as a future veterinarian, involving me with patients and cases.” Turner reflects. “I loved the study abroad experiences so much that I decided I wanted to pursue a career with global reach, and this led me to join the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps.”

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## Athletics updates

Women's basketball unveils schedule.

Men's basketball announces schedule.

Men's soccer begins practice.

Terriers earn preseason all-conference honors.

Baseball announces staff updates.

Cross Country announces 2024 schedule.

Football reports for practice.

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