

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

Rhodes Community,

I want to begin this month's newsletter with a heartfelt expression of gratitude. Brian Foshee, our Director of Physical Plant, is retiring March 1 after 37 years of remarkable service to Rhodes, and we are going to miss him very much. He has led the way in the construction of many of our buildings and the maintenance of our beautiful campus, and has always served our community with extraordinary grace, dedication, and good humor. I hope you will take a moment to express your gratitude to him and wish him the best on a very well-deserved retirement.

Brian has also played a major role in working with our students to develop a new walking trail around campus. Claire Kiernan '24, student body president, proposed the trail earlier this year, and we cannot wait to get it open. The unpaved trail will be approximately 1.5 miles and will go around the interior perimeter of campus. Nine posts featuring points of interest will mark the trail and a QR code on each post will allow access to an interactive map. It will open in March. [Here's a map](#) showing where the trail will be located.

February is Black History Month. We have [several events](#) coming up that have been developed by the Rhodes College Black Student Association. I hope you can participate in one or more of these as we continue to celebrate the achievements of our Black students, faculty, staff, alumni, and other members of the greater Memphis community.

I am very pleased to announce that Rhodes is creating the [Spence Wilson Center for Interdisciplinary Humanities](#). As many of you know, Mr. Wilson has been a longtime benefactor of the College, and he served on our board for more than 40 years, including nine as chairman. He has been a steadfast advocate for the humanities at Rhodes. A decade ago, we established the Spence L. Wilson Distinguished Chair in Humanities. We are now taking that a step further by creating a Center in his name. While the Center's many benefits are outlined in today's announcement, we know the impact

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Rhodes has received two national accolades that I want to share with you. We were recently named among the nation's [leading institutions for study abroad](#), according to the Open Doors 2023 Report on International Educational Exchange. Rhodes ranked highly for its number of graduates participating in study abroad programs, for the number of students participating in short-term programs, and for participating baccalaureate colleges. These rankings are based on participation during the 2021-22 academic year.

Additionally, the magazine Diverse: Issues in Higher Education and ACPA-College Student Educators International named Rhodes one of the "Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs." Only 22 institutions (not numerically ranked) made [this list](#) so we are very proud of that accomplishment and very grateful for our outstanding student affairs team.

I want to share with you some wonderful videos created by our faculty in collaboration with Marketing and Communications. These videos will be housed on the Rhodes webpage and our YouTube channel and will be shared with prospective students and their parents. Thank you to the faculty who are participating in these videos. We will add more throughout the year. Our faculty are so impressive, and I think you will agree that they do a terrific job of telling our story. Here's the [link](#).

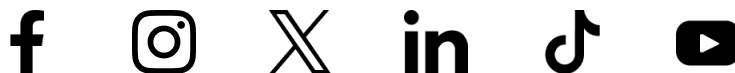
Our men's and women's swimming and diving teams both won SAA conference titles last weekend! The women were [repeat champions](#), and the men were [first-time champs](#). We would also like to celebrate Steve Webb who was named SAA Coach of the Year for men's and women's swimming and diving (two separate awards). Congratulations to all these student-athletes and their coaches. You continue to make us very proud in the classroom, as well as in your respective sports. We also want to wish our men's and women's basketball teams good luck this weekend. The men's team is on the road Sunday for the first round of the SAA Tournament, and our women's team will be playing at home at 2:00 this Sunday. I hope you will join me in the gym on Sunday in support of these athletes as they begin competition for the SAA title. Both opponents will be announced tomorrow night.

Finally, our hearts are breaking over the tragedy in Kansas City yesterday, where a community who had gathered together for a joyous celebration instead became the latest community suffering the terrible impacts of a mass shooting. As I have written to you before, I pray we find the will and the way to end this horrific scourge of gun violence.

Jennifer Collins

President

Rhodes College



Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)