



**OFFICIAL UC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER / December 2023 / VOLUME IV ISSUE XII**



Dear Alumni and Friends,

This past Saturday, we celebrated the end of another wonderful fall semester with Commencement. We welcomed alumnus Sam Scott ('16), Associate Director of Young Life Kanawha Valley to give the invocation. Roger Hanshaw, 58<sup>th</sup> Speaker of the WV House of Delegates, shared remarks as our guest commencement speaker and received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

It is always special to host families from near and far as they celebrate their student's accomplishment. Their accomplishment is in part made possible

through the continued support of our Golden Eagle alumni and friends. Your generous donations to the UC Scholarship Fund, new academic programming, capital funds and more allow the University to provide wonderful experiences for our current and future students.

This time of year is always filled with the spirit of generosity. As you prepare your end-of-year gifts, we hope you will remember the University of Charleston and the impact your gift has on the lives of our wonderful students and institution.

On behalf of the University of Charleston Advancement staff,

Happy Holidays!

Gail



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## From international festivals to beautiful music, we've been celebrating the Holidays at UC!

Our international students and their director, Violetta Petrosyan, filled the Rotunda with the Global Christmas Market. Students and staff were invited to experience holiday traditions, sample food, and visit with Santa.

The first weekend in December brought beautiful music to the Rotunda and Geary Auditorium. The UC Singers, directed by Chris Brown, and the UC Band, directed by Josie Fisher, shared their holiday concerts and honored their graduating members with cords to be worn with their commencement regalia.

Our UC Builders rounded out the first week of December celebrations with their annual Holiday Dinner. Guest authors Charlie Ryan and Mitch Evans presented insights to their new book, "Lives Intertwined - The Legacy of Murder on Staunton Road." The excitement around the book and the holiday season brought a crowd to fill the ballroom.

We hope you are enjoying some of your own holiday traditions with your loved ones.



*Happy  
Holidays*





This year has been filled with moments that fulfill our mission to prepare students for a life of productive work, enlightened living, and community involvement. Here are a select few moments that are worthy to highlight one more time!

**LEARFIELD DIRECTOR'S CUP**

**#14**

**OVERALL**

**#5**

**UC Athletics receives highest ranking yet!**  
Director of Athletics Dr. Bren Stevens stated, "We have experienced the best year in our university's history, as it applies to our highest finish in the prestigious Learfield Cup. Our athletics department finished in 14th place out of 308 NCAA II institutions."



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### 100% PA Pass Rate!

The University of Charleston Physician Assistant Program Class of 2023 has achieved a pass rate of 100% for first-time test-takers on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE). The program graduated 29 students in April.



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### UC Downtown Innovation Hub Grand Opening!

This summer, we officially opened the DIH. Not only will this location allow UC to have a great presence downtown, we are offering our expertise through a program for small businesses to accelerate their growth and contribute to economic development in the region.



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### Give Day 2023 Project Complete!

The UC Football locker room renovations will be a wonderful recruiting tool for Head Coach Quinn Sanders. The student athletes, coaching staff, and entire UC community are grateful for the support received to make the upgrades possible. Photo taken during the ribbon cutting ceremony on September 21, 2023.



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### Homecoming and Family Weekend 2023 was a PARTY!

The perfect weather weekend was filled with dedications, dinner on the lawn, tailgates and reunions!

We were thrilled to have so many of our Golden Eagle alumni on campus for this very special time.

# GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



**Have you made your 2023 gift to UC yet?**

As you are making your end-of-the-year donations to your favorite organizations, remember there is still time to make your gift to UC in 2023. Give to the Annual Fund, a specific scholarship fund, special project, an athletic team or an academic program. Your gift, regardless of the amount or where it's directed, makes an

immediate impact on today's Golden Eagles.

We are so grateful for the support we receive throughout the year from alumni, friends, parents and community members. We hope you will help us wrap up a successful 2023 by making a gift in support of our students before the year ends.

You can make your 2023 gift today at [www.ucwv.edu/giving/give-now/](http://www.ucwv.edu/giving/give-now/)

**The Downtown Innovation Hub** is looking for businesses interested in growth and development to join the next cohort that begins in January. The business accelerator delivers programming and expertise to companies with six proven in-person business models offered at the Hub. Each module involves one day of group instruction followed by personalized touchpoints. The modules utilize best-in-class programs such as Profit Mastery, Digital Marketer, and Lean Ninja.



The cohort of selected businesses will have industry diversity. Applicants should roughly fit into the parameters of 1 year in business, more than one employee, and more than \$250,000 in annual revenue. For information about the program, contact David Ramsburg, Executive Director of Innovation, at [davidramsborg@ucwv.edu](mailto:davidramsborg@ucwv.edu)



# Athletics

## *CORNER*

JANUARY 2, 2024

*JOIN US IN* NEW JERSEY!

UC MEN VS GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY

GAME TIME - 2:00 PM  
LAKEWOOD, NJ



RSVP FOR YOUR FREE TICKET TO THE GAME!  
ADDITIONAL EVENT INFO COMING SOON!

UC  
ALUMNI

[Register HERE](#)



## Did you miss the Alumni Day at UC Basketball Games?

Not to worry, we are going to do it again! Please join us on February 10th for the second Golden Eagle Alumni Day at the UC Basketball Games! UC will take on Frostburg State University, the women play at 2:00 pm and the men at 4:00 pm. Tickets are FREE for alumni and you are invited to enjoy food and drinks in the hospitality room between the games!

Register [HERE](#) for this fun event!



Pictured are some alumni who gathered on the first Alumni Day at UC Basketball held on December 2nd. It was great to see you, Bill Grizzell, ('69), John Roberts ('74), and Dick Williams ('71).

**Count 'Em Up! Our student athletes and the UC coaching staff racked up FIVE MEC Conference Championships this fall! 1- Men's Soccer, 2- Women's Soccer, 3- Football, 4- Men's Cross Country, and 5- Women's Cross Country.**

In addition to the five conference titles, here are just a few more highlights of how far our teams advanced this fall athletic season...

-Men's Soccer finished the season with an impressive overall 19-1 record and advanced to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Tournament before losing 2-1 against a tough Gannon University team.

-Women's Soccer had a perfect 18-0-3 overall record heading into the first round of the NCAA Atlantic Region Playoffs but would fall to the Gannon Golden Knights in the second round.

-Football's historic season came to an end during the second round of the Super Region playoffs. Despite losing 33-32 to Kutztown University, the squad possessed an incredible 10-2 overall record and went 8-1 in the Mountain East Conference.

-Men's and Women's Cross Country concluded their season at the NCAA Cross Country Championship where the men finished in seventeenth place with 495 points and the women finished in twenty-ninth place with 679 points.

-Women's Volleyball finished their season with a 24-10 overall record and was ranked 2nd in the MEC conference before tournament play.



## MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

**Interested in being a mentor to a current UC student?**

We will be pairing students and mentors at the beginning of the spring semester. You can impact a student's life no matter where your wings have taken you. If you are interested in being part of this program, please contact Christina Carr.

christinacarr@ucwv.edu or 304-357-4734



**The 2023-2024 NEW UCAA Swag has arrived!! Now is the time to join and renew your membership.**



The UC Alumni Association is a great way to stay engaged, help plan alumni events, network with other alumni, and give back from wherever your wings have taken you!



**The Gold Level** requires a \$100 membership donation and includes a decal, key chain, tumbler, invitations to special VIP events, discounts, and more.

**The Gold Renewal** requires a \$100 membership donation and includes alumni tote, holiday ornament, invitations to special VIP events, discounts, and more.

**The Maroon Level** requires a \$25 membership donation and includes our decal, alumni koozie, invitations to special events, discounts, and more.

**The Maroon Renewal** requires a \$25 membership donation and includes an alumni holiday ornament, invitations to special events, discounts, and more.

**The next UCAA Zoom Meeting will be THURSDAY, February 1st @ 4:00 pm EST.**

**[Click HERE to join or renew TODAY!](#)**

**Thank you to those who joined or renewed their membership this past month** - John Rider, Robert Benson, Dean Emig, Kevin Fulmer, Allyson Clark, CJ Bagwell, Michael Jolley, William Stanton, Carrie Clendening, Ned Lehmann, and Jonathan Caldwell.

## ***In Memorium***

***Remembering Golden Eagle Alumni who have passed away in the last month.***

Regina Penn Daniels, '71

Garrett Hatch, '66

David Morris, '62

Joan Power, '77

Desingu Raja, '09

Ralph Burchett, '67

Linda Lively Hankins, '74

Byron Stump, '69

William Hylton, '75

Donald Taylor, Jr., '72

Annette Tabit Reynolds, '91

**Please note: This list includes updates provided by family members, newspapers, and other sources. These dates reflect the period during which UC received and processed the information, not necessarily the dates that the individual passed away.**



You're invited to campus!

**Jan. 2** - Join us in NEW JERSEY! UC Alumni gathering at Georgian Court University, game time is 2:00 pm. [RSVP HERE](#)

**Jan 15** - Enlightened Living Day 2024

**Feb. 1** - UCAA Zoom Meeting, join the UCAA [HERE](#)

**Feb. 8** - Give Day 2024

**Feb. 10** - Alumni Day at UC Basketball Games [RSVP HERE](#).

For a full UC Athletic schedule, click [HERE](#).

The UC Bookstore is closed for renovation through January 5, 2024. Get your last minute holiday gifts or new UC gear for yourself by shopping online!



[Shop the UC Bookstore Online HERE!](#)

# LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently changed jobs? Did you and your family make a big move? Do you have exciting news to share with your alumni family? We want to hear about it! Update your alumni record so that we can share your successes with the rest of the Golden Eagle family. Keep soaring to new heights!

[Update Your Information HERE](#)



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