



OFFICIAL UC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER / August 2025 / VOLUME VI ISSUE VIII



Greetings from UC!

I hope everyone is enjoying a great summer filled with family, friends, rest, relaxation, laughter, and delight. Whether you are traveling, catching up on reading, tackling a project, hiking, seeking an elusive hole-in-one, or simply taking a well-deserved break, this season offers a

chance to step back and gain fresh perspective.

As we look ahead, the start of the new academic year is now just two weeks away. Soon our Charleston and Beckley locations and our online community will be filled with the energy and excitement of returning students and the promise of new beginnings for our incoming class. Behind the scenes, the dedicated UC team has been hard at work preparing courses, finalizing syllabi, updating systems, readying residence halls, and ensuring every detail is in place to welcome our students with excellence and care. I dare say that we are ready!

While this is an exciting time filled with anticipation for students, families, faculty, and staff, it also continues to be a challenging time in higher education. UC is navigating many demographic, competitive, regulatory, and industry trends. Fortunately, through our innovation and hard work, we are maintaining and growing enrollment in a declining market. It has never been more vital to have the unwavering support of alumni and friends who know the positive impact a UC education can have on individuals, their families, and the communities where they work and live.

Our best work will be necessary to stay ahead and avoid the pitfalls of less successful colleges and universities. We must continue to stay focused, flexible,

and steadfast to our mission to educate current and future students for lives of productive work, enlightened living, and community involvement.

In these remaining weeks of summer, I hope you find moments of respite and rejuvenation – preferably somewhere with air conditioning and iced coffee within reach. May your sunscreen be strong, your Zoom calls few, and your voice messages full of joy!

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to our university's mission. Your support plays an essential role in ensuring that UC students thrive academically, personally, and professionally.

Marty



Homecoming is on the Horizon!

September 19 & 20 will be here soon and we have an exciting lineup of events ready for you! Follow the link to see a full schedule and RSVP for the individual events you plan to attend! Your registration reserves your free T-shirt!

[Click HERE to RSVP for Homecoming and Family Weekend Events.](#)



PLEASE JOIN US FOR

HOMECOMING AND FAMILY WEEKEND 2025

SEPTEMBER 19 & 20

FRIDAY

9.19

- 9:00 am UC Golf Team Scramble Fundraiser
Berry Hills Country Club
- 3:00 pm Campus Tours
Admissions Office
- 4:00 pm UC Men's Soccer Development Team vs Salem University
Welch Athletic Complex
- 4:00 pm Golden Reunion Happy Hour
Boat House
- 5:00-8:00 pm Dinner and Pep Rally
UC Lawn
- 6:30 pm Golden Eagle Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner
Ballroom (limited availability, reservation required)

SATURDAY

9.20

- 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Homecoming Tailgate
UC Stadium
- 1:00 pm Homecoming Football Game
UC Stadium
- 5:00 pm Alumni Happy Hour
Recovery Sports Grill, 600 Virginia St. E., Charleston

SUNDAY

9.21

- 1:30 pm UC Men's Soccer Development Team
vs Point Park University
Welch Athletic Complex

Contact the UC Alumni Office with any questions!
Christina Carr, Director of Alumni Relations
christinacarr@ucwv.edu | 304-357-4734

Visit www.ucwv.edu/alumni/homecoming
for all your Homecoming & Family Weekend details.



Support Our Future PAs — One White Coat at a Time

This month, we're proud to launch the UC PA White Coat Campaign, supporting students in the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program as they take the next step in their journey to becoming healthcare providers. Your \$150 gift sponsors a white coat for a student transitioning from the classroom to clinical rotations—a powerful symbol of their dedication and compassion.



Join us in celebrating this milestone and investing in the future of healthcare.

[Donate to the White Coat Campaign HERE.](#)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Bethany Meighen has returned to the mountain state as president of our fellow Mountain East Conference institution, Concord University.

Meighen was involved in student affairs from the time she was a student herself. Doug Walters, '65 alumni and former UC Dean of Students, mentored her to be

involved with student organizations, step into leadership roles, and encouraged her to explore a career in student affairs.

Doug shared, “Bethany stood out from the very beginning and exuded confidence with a pleasant smile. She had a tremendous work ethic—which is something we picked up on very quickly. It was nice to know her as both student and colleague. She will do a great job at Concord, and we are all very proud of her.”

Meighen graduated from UC in 2001 as an English major and stayed on campus to work in student affairs as a graduate assistant with Susan Spangler. After a year in that role, she assumed the Director of Alumni and Parent Relations position. Before leaving UC in 2012, she earned her master’s degree in human resources (’05) and also held the titles of Director of Marketing and Alumni, and—her favorite—Dean of Students.

“During my professional time at UC, I was fortunate enough to have a great mentor, Dr. Ed Welch. I was there when we brought back football, established the pharmacy school, and built three residence halls. He had this wonderful plaque in his office—it was the word ‘nothing’ carved into a stone. Get it? ‘Nothing is written in stone.’”

Many special relationships were formed during Meighen’s time at UC. Jenny Adams even earned the title “Gammers” not long after their introduction in 2001. Jenny was a Morris Harvey College graduate - Class of 1944, wife of former Golden Eagle Coach Sparky Adams, Golden Eagle Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, and Alumnus of the Year in 2002.

“There was a period of time I was driving from our system office to Wilmington on Tuesdays, and I would spend an hour of that drive on the phone with Jenny. She was my ‘ride or die,’ and we had a very special bond.”

“I owe UC a lot, and I am excited to be back home. My career has been focused on education access, so I am thankful to be at a public institution that is serving that need for higher education in southern West Virginia—producing social workers, educators, and leaders for our community.”

A special installation celebration will take place for Dr. Meighen in February 2026.

Read Bethany's full story [HERE](#).



Bethany is pictured here with Jenny Adams and Drs Ed and Janet Welch.



The Meighen Family, Drew, Bethany, Luke (19), Kyle (15) and Clayton (7).



Calling all Band, Choir, and Dance Team Alumni!

Get ready to relive the glory days and show your Golden Eagle pride at this year's Homecoming Football Game on Saturday, September 20th.

For pregame festivities, choir alumni will join current UC choir students for powerful performances of the National Anthem and Alma Mater.

Band and Dance Team alumni are invited to join the Squadron of Gold Athletic Band and Dance Team to kick off the football game with the Fight Song then stick around to take center field for a special halftime performance! You're also invited to play in the stands or dance on the sidelines throughout the game.

Don't miss this chance to reconnect, perform, and be part of the UC tradition once again!

For more info and to RSVP to participate, contact Director of Music Activities, Josie Fisher, at josiefisher1@ucwv.edu or Christina Carr, Director of Alumni Relations at christinacarr@ucwv.edu.

Let's make some noise, Golden Eagles!





Athletics

CORNER

Join us on Thursday, August 28th at 7:00 pm for the first home football game of the 2025 season!

🦅 Drinks and snacks will be provided under the alumni tent 5:30 - 7:00 pm.

🍷 You are also invited to join in the annual first game steak dinner provided by UC Catering at the stadium. Cost for dinner is \$12, cash only.

[RSVP HERE!](#)

Tickets for the game can be purchased at the gate with cash only (\$10 adults, \$5 children).



These athletes and coaches will be celebrated during Homecoming and Family Weekend (September 19 & 20). Congratulations to Sean Teepen (men's soccer, '15), Lindsey Kentner (women's basketball, '11), Xavier Humphrey (men's basketball, '14), and Coach Nick Bias (track and field, cross country). Look for more details on how to get your ticket to the Hall of Fame dinner set for Friday evening of the annual weekend.

[RSVP for the Hall of Fame Dinner HERE.](#)



UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON
HALL OF FAME JACKETS



FOR UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON
HALL OF FAME
INDUCTEES **\$150**

VISIT WWW.UCGOLDENEAGLES.COM FOR ORDERING INFORMATION

Speaking of the UC Athletic Hall of Fame....

If you were inducted prior to 2022, and would like to purchase a Hall of Fame jacket, here is your opportunity.

Jackets are \$150 and must be ordered before Aug. 22, 2025. You can pick up your jacket Homecoming Weekend or have it shipped to your home for a small fee.

Call Shari Reed with any questions, 304-357-0019.

[Order Your Jacket HERE.](#)

Be a Fan in the Stand! Click [HERE](#) for a full athletic schedule.

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2025 is set for September 19 & 20. We partner with several Charleston hotels to offer alumni discounts. Make your reservations for Homecoming or any visit today!

UC ALUMNI SPECIAL OFFERS

The following hotels have partnered with UC to provide discounted rates for UC Alumni. Make sure to call the hotel to receive your "UC Alumni Rate".

Four Points Sheridan Charleston: 304-344-4092

Holiday Inn & Suites Charleston West: 304-744-4641

Fairfield by Marriott Charleston: 304-744-4444

Hampton Inn Charleston Southridge: 304-746-4646



Now taking Nominations!!

Follow the link below to submit your nominations for the two 2025 Alumni Awards. The recipients will be honored during the Homecoming & Family Weekend celebrations. Nominations are due on or before August 22, 2025.

Alumnus of the Year Award

The award is given to honor an alumnus who distinguished themselves in their profession and/or community and has reached the pinnacle of success in their chosen field. This individual has proven to have a profound positive impact on their industry and/or community.

Criteria

- Graduate of Morris Harvey College or University of Charleston
- Made significant contributions to UC and/or their community on a local, state, national, or international level through professional service, public service, or civic activities.
- Demonstrates the ideals of the University's mission by living a life of productive work, enlightened living, and community involvement.
- Exceptional service in support of the advancement and continued excellence in education of the University of Charleston.

Rising Alumni Award

The award is given to honor an alumnus who is surpassing the expected standard in their field and identifiable as an emerging leader through their professional achievements and/or community involvement. This individual is proving to be an innovator with rational, modern, and well-informed ideas that will have a positive impact on the future of their professional field and/or community.

Criteria

- Graduated from the University of Charleston within the last 15 years
- Made notable contributions to UC and/or their community on a local, state, national or international level through professional service, public service, or civic activities.
- Demonstrates the ideals of the University's mission by living a life of productive work, enlightened living, and community involvement.

[Submit a Nomination HERE!](#)



The '25-'26 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 UC lunch cooler and UC icons lanyard, 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 a UC icons lanyard, invitations to special events, discounts, and more.

The next UCAA Zoom Meeting will be September 18, 2025 @ NOON EST. We will be joined by President Roth with a campus update and kick off Homecoming Weekend! Watch your email for an invite and Zoom link.

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

Thank you to those who joined or renewed their membership this past month - Dean Emig.

In Memorium

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

John Fairless, '62

Sarah Gilchrist Johnson, '67

Hope Reitz, '90

Robert Elmore, '16

Stephen Brown, '70

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.

UC **EVENTS**

You're invited to campus!



RSVP [HERE](#).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025

12-1 pm | UC Downtown Innovation Hub

MARK BURDETTE

Deputy Director WV Small Business Center

THE ENTREPRENEUR'S EDGE

HOW THE WV SBDC AND BUSINESSLINK HELP YOU MOVE FORWARD

*Lunch is free; registration is recommended;
seating is limited.*



See a full schedule and RSVP [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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