

# UC NEWS

## ALUMNI FROM THE NEST

OFFICIAL UC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER / November 2025 / VOLUME VI ISSUE XI



Dear Alumni and Friends,

As the days grow shorter and the year winds down, I find myself reflecting on the many reasons we have to be thankful — and you are certainly one of them. This fall has been fantastic with our growing enrollment, engaging homecoming weekend and the many events we have held here on campus and downtown. Your generosity, involvement, and belief in our mission *to educate each student for a life of productive work,*

*enlightened living and community service* continue to inspire everyone here at the University of Charleston.

Each gift, each act of support, each note of encouragement helps us do more for our students, faculty, and community. You remind us that this work isn't just about programs or buildings — it's about people coming together to make something meaningful happen.

As we look toward the end of the year, I invite you to stay part of that story. A year-end gift to the University of Charleston keeps the momentum going — opening doors, creating opportunities, and ensuring that our shared vision continues to grow.

From all of us, thank you for being a vital part of our community. May this season bring you warmth, peace, and moments of deep gratitude.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Gail Carter

VP of University Development



**UC Men's Soccer is the #1 Nationally Ranked NCAA DII Team and MEC Champions!**

On Wednesday evening this week, the UC Men's Soccer team finished up their regular season at home with a tie game against Concord University. In celebration of their outstanding season, supporters and alumni gathered for a tailgate ahead of the game.

Pictured above are Michelle Marlowe ('05), Susan Duernberger ('73), and Greta Leighty ('74). Thanks for rooting on your Golden Eagles!

Stay tuned for dates and times of tournament play!



**More than 95% of our students receive some form of financial aid.** This month, students will visit the Office of Advancement to write Thank You cards to scholarship donors. Scholarships are an important recruiting tool and make the UC experience a reality for so many deserving students.

**THANK YOU** to scholarship donors who have played a role in the enrollment growth at UC. We are able to recruit and retain students because you provide the financial support students depend on to have a wonderful Golden Eagle experience.

**We are BURSTING with pride!**

**Please join us in wishing the best of luck and congratulations to Maliah McCann-Coles, who's been named a Rhodes Scholarship Finalist.** Next week, she travels to Detroit for final interviews, where she'll compete for the world's most prestigious academic honor.

McCann-Coles is just the second University of Charleston student to advance to the Rhodes Scholar finalist stage, joining Ryan Moran, who reached this level in 2012.



Read more of Maliah's story here > <https://www.ucwv.edu/.../uc-senior-maliah-mccann-coles...>

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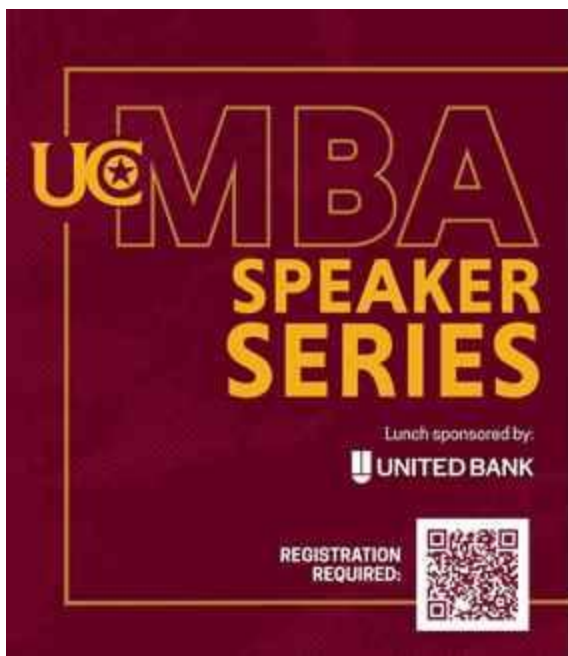
The graphic features a dark red brick wall background on the left. At the top left is the University of Charleston (UC) logo, a gold 'UC' with a star inside the 'C'. Below it, the text 'BUY A BRICK' is written in large, bold, gold letters. Underneath that, 'SUPPORT THE ANNUAL FUND' is in smaller gold letters, followed by '\$250' in large white letters. Below the price, it says '4X8 BRICK - 3 ENGRAVED LINES' and '20 CHARACTERS PER LINE' in white. A 3D rendering of a white brick is shown with the text 'University of Charleston', 'Class of 2025', and 'Congratulations!'. On the right side, there is a photograph of a sidewalk with a brick being laid. A callout box points to the brick with the text '#WINGSUP! LYNN & MARTY ROTH'. Below this, it says 'For more information and to donate:' followed by a QR code.

### **There's Room for More Bricks!!!**

For \$250, you can purchase a personalized brick that will be placed on the sidewalk between Riggleman Hall and the Geary Student Union. This is a unique opportunity to leave a lasting legacy on the University of Charleston campus. Bricks will be installed in Spring 2026, and your contribution will directly support UC's continued growth through the Annual Fund. Secure your brick today and become a permanent part of UC's history!

Thank you for your support! Click [HERE](#) to learn more and donate!

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## CHYRESS OBREGON

Chick-Fil-A Owner/Operator  
and UC Graduate, Class of 2016

### MY JOURNEY FROM STUDENT ATHLETE TO ENTREPRENEUR

Tuesday, November 18, 2025  
12 p.m. | Erma Byrd Gallery



### Our next MBA Speaker Series presenter is one of our own!

We are excited to welcome Chyress back to campus. We will be taking this opportunity to present her with the alumnus honor as she was not able to attend the Homecoming and Family Weekend events.

Please join us in person or online!

RSVP [HERE](#).

# ALUMNI

# SPOTLIGHT



### **Kelton Boblits '25**

A proud Golden Eagle, Kelton Boblits graduated from the University of Charleston this past spring with a double major in business management (entrepreneurship concentration) and political science (public policy concentration). Originally from Fayetteville, West Virginia, Kelton attended UC as a Presidential Scholar and immersed himself in campus life throughout his undergraduate experience.

Kelton demonstrated exceptional leadership as a student, serving two terms as Student Government Association President and President of the Innovation Scholars. He was also an active member of the Student Activities Board and participated in multiple honor societies, including Gamma Beta Phi and Pi Gamma Mu.

In his final semester, Kelton was awarded the prestigious Herndon Fellowship, completing a legislative internship with the West Virginia State Senate. Following graduation, he continued to expand his professional experience through an internship with the West Virginia Division of Economic Development.

Kelton has returned to UC to pursue his Master of Business Administration, set to complete in Spring 2027. He chose to continue his education at UC because of the strong mentorship and support he received as an undergraduate, sharing that UC professors “go above and beyond for their students.”

Dedicated to the UC mission pillar of Community Involvement, Kelton serves as President of the UC Lions Club. Most recently, he led a resource bag initiative providing food, water, socks, and a community resource guide for individuals experiencing homelessness in Charleston.

Outside of his academic and service commitments, Kelton enjoys making music around town with fellow Golden Eagle and current Presidential Scholar, Tiago “James” Romano. The duo performs together as *The Two Roommates*.

Kelton also joined the UC Office of Advancement & Alumni Relations staff in August 2025. "Working as a Graduate Assistant in the Office of Advancement has allowed me to pursue my MBA while developing practical skills in fundraising, event coordination, and connecting people around a shared mission. This experience is preparing me for the career I want to have and is shaping me into the kind of leader I aspire to be: one that uplifts and strengthens Appalachian communities through leadership, economic development, and meaningful service."



Through his own experiences and close relationships within the UC community, he has witnessed the meaningful impact of the UC Student Supply Fund. Inspired to give back, he recently launched his first fundraising campaign to support this initiative. His goal is to ensure that no student must choose between focusing on their education and accessing basic necessities—empowering every Golden Eagle to reach their full potential. (See how to support this campaign below.)

We are proud to call Kelton one of our own and look forward to all he will accomplish as both a student and alumnus continuing to make a difference at UC.

[Help Kelton Restock the Supply Fund HERE!](#)

### **Ready to Return as a UC student like Kelton?**

If you are considering a graduate degree, UC now offers a tuition discount for our alumni. The discount is 20% off the published tuition for the selected degree program.

The following UC graduate degrees are eligible for the discount: Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Business and Data Analytics, Master of Science – Strategic Leadership, Master of Science – Cybersecurity, Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner, and the Doctor of Executive Leadership (DEL).

Students must have earned a degree from the University of Charleston and be admitted to one of the approved graduate degrees to be eligible for the discount. The discount cannot be combined with any other tuition discounts (e.g. military/law enforcement discount, etc.) with the exception of athletic scholarships. For more information, please contact the UC Admissions Office at [1-800-995-4682](tel:1-800-995-4682) or [admissions@ucwv.edu](mailto:admissions@ucwv.edu).



### **We have a NEW benefit to offer our Golden Eagle community!**

At the University of Charleston, we believe preparation is the foundation of success, whether it's helping our students plan for their futures or helping you plan for yours. Having an up-to-date will is one of the simplest ways to:

- Create peace of mind for you and your loved ones
- Make sure your assets go to the people, pets, and causes you care about
- [Name someone you trust to make healthcare decisions on your behalf if needed](#)

To help, we've partnered with FreeWill, a secure, free online tool that guides you through [creating or updating your will](#) in just 20 minutes, from the comfort of home. It's an easy, trusted way to care for the people and causes closest to your heart.

[Create Your Free Will Here!](#)

Many members of the UC family also choose to include a gift of any size to the University of Charleston in their plans, a lasting way to help future generations of students thrive. This step is completely optional, but we're honored to share the opportunity with you.

This week, [plan ahead for your future](#) — and enjoy the peace of mind that comes with it. Thank you for being part of the UC community!

P.S. If you've already included University of Charleston in your will, [we'd love to hear from you](#) so we can thank you personally.



Fall 2025 Golden Eagle Athletics Updates:

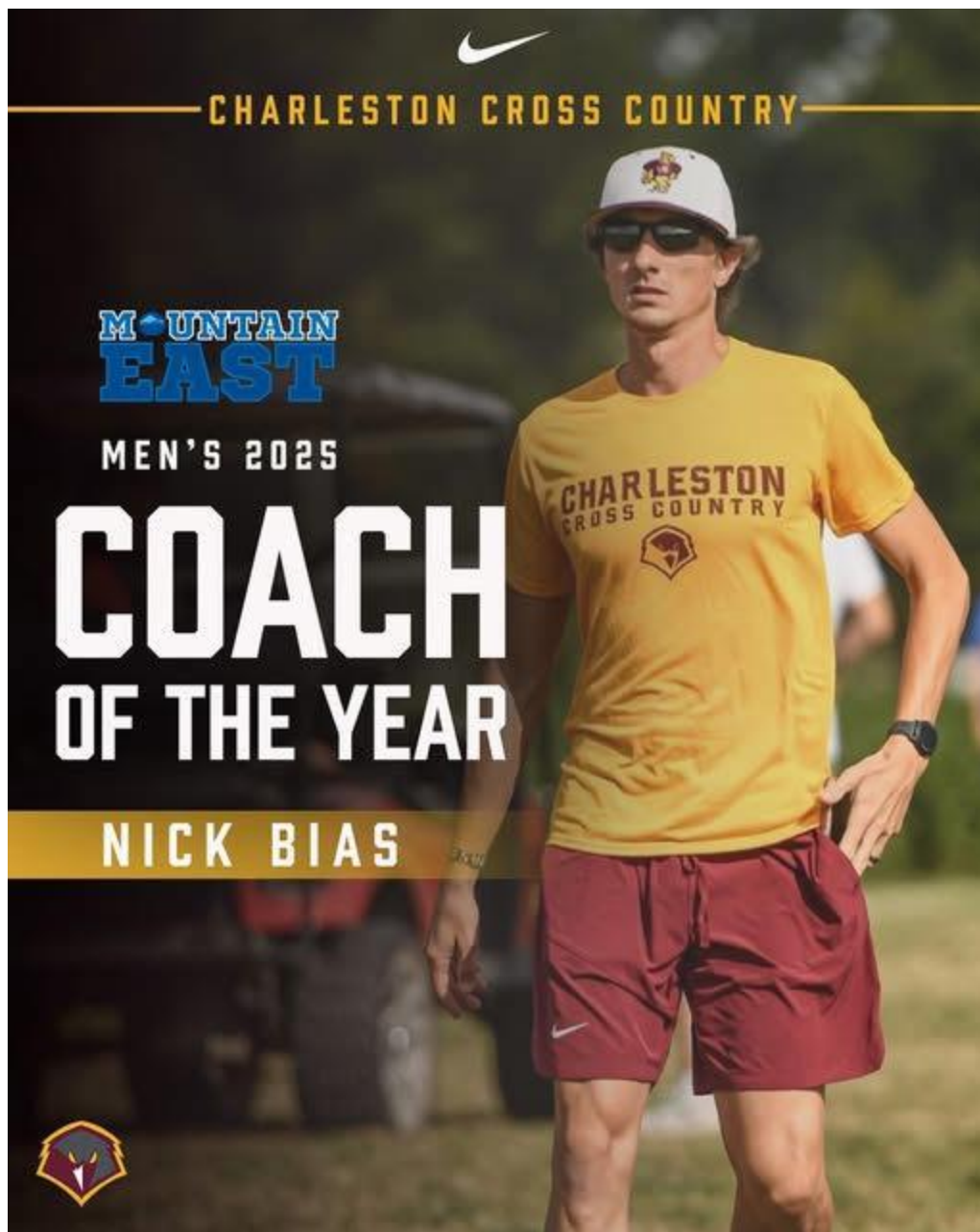
**Women's Volleyball-** Coach Adam Hamad's squad enters the match with an impressive 18-11 overall record and is currently tied for first place in the MEC standings with an 9-3 conference mark. Come out to support our team as they battle for the top spot, they will complete their home game schedule on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**Football-** QB Matt Frye and the rest of the Golden Eagle football squad rolled past WV Wesleyan last week with an impressive 69-15 victory! The team returns home this Saturday at 1:00 pm to take on West Liberty University. Coach Tesch's group enters the matchup with a strong 6-3 overall record and a 5-1 mark in MEC play, sitting tied with Frostburg State heading into the weekend.

**Women's Soccer-**Coach Sarah Leiby's squad holds an impressive 8-7-3 overall record and a 7-5-3 mark in MEC competition, currently sitting at #3 in the South Division standings. The Golden Eagles will then hit the road to Frostburg on Sunday for a 1:00 p.m. MEC First Round matchup. Let's wish them the best as they begin their postseason journey!

**Cross Country-** The Men secured another MEC Championship! Nick Bias, MEC Coach of the YEAR, and his teams will travel to Lockhaven, PA to attend the NCAA Atlantic Regional. The top three teams to finish in the regionals on both the men's and women's side will advance to the National Championship in Kenosha, Wisconsin. A nice and chilly run for the title.

Also.. Congratulations to Will Johnson and the UC **Golf** teams. The Men and Women claimed MEC Champions in October!



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

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Golden Eagle Basketball SEASON TICKETS now available!!

# TICKET LEVELS

## MAROON

**\$125**

One ticket for General Admission seating for all home games.

## GOLD

**\$250**

One ticket for Reserved Chairback seating for all home games and access to three Hospitality rooms.

## PRESIDENTIAL

**\$500**

One ticket for Reserved Chairback seating for all home games. Pullover or Polo UC Basketball shirt. Access to President's Box for basketball games and one Football game. Access to one practice (RSVP).

## CORPORATE

**\$2,500**

Five tickets for Reserved Chairback seating for all home games. Pullover or Polo UC Basketball shirt. Access to President's Box for basketball games and one Football game. Access to one practice (RSVP). Dinner with coaches.



### 2025-2026 HOME OPPONENTS



[Click HERE to purchase your Golden Eagle Basketball Season Tickets!!](#)

# SAVE THE DATES ALUMNI GATHERINGS

AT THE UC BASKETBALL GAMES

**DECEMBER 10, 2025**

UC VS WEST LIBERTY  
WEHRLE ARENA



**FEBRUARY 7, 2026**

UC VS FROSTBURG STATE  
WEHRLE ARENA



**JOIN TODAY!**  
**UC ALUMNI**  
ASSOCIATION

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 November 19, 2025 @ 4:00 pm EST.**  
**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 -**  
David Albert, Diane Clements, John Rider, and Charles Wilson.

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### ***In Memorium***

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

William J. Jean, '02

John R. Brown, '66

John W. Thompson, '53

**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.**

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# UC EVENTS

You're invited to campus!



Please join us for lunch with award winning poetry author and professor of English,

**SARA HENNING**

**Wednesday, December 3, 2025**  
11:30 a.m. | Meet and Greet  
*with special music provided by  
UC graduate student, Kelton Boblits*

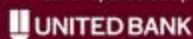
Noon | Meeting and Luncheon  
Erma Byrd Gallery | Riggleman Hall

RSVP on or before Monday, November 24  
to [christinacarr@ucwv.edu](mailto:christinacarr@ucwv.edu) | 304-357-4734.

[RSVP for the Builders Luncheon HERE!](#)

# UC MBA SPEAKER SERIES

Lunch sponsored by:



REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED:



## CHYRESS OBREGON

Chick-Fil-A Owner/Operator  
and UC Graduate, Class of 2016

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# 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](#)



Gail Carter

VP for University Development

304-357-4849

[gailcarter@ucwv.edu](mailto:gailcarter@ucwv.edu)

Christina Carr

Director of Alumni Relations

304-357-4734

[christinacarr@ucwv.edu](mailto:christinacarr@ucwv.edu)

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