



President's Column
by
Marla Mercer Cole



Director's Column
by
Carolyn Jagers

I am excited about the start of this year and all that has been planned. As I'm sure you know, we have an incredible team who have worked hard to prepare a great year for you. It is with eager anticipation that we focus on our mission and look to expand our membership. The knowledge base we have to offer as mentors to SNU students is amazing. The hope is that more ASP members will volunteer for the mentoring opportunities through Laura Sylvester's volunteerism office.

On a personal note, I am looking forward to getting to know you better. As a relatively new ASP member, I have been amazed to hear those who have been introduced in the "Get Acquainted" segment. What lives you all have led! The experiences you have had, the places you have lived, and the stories you have to tell have all helped me to know you better. I am so thankful you have shared your life with us. Additionally, the "SNU Connections" segments led by Howard Culbertson have been equally enlightening. Having only attended SNU for my Master's Degree, I have not known the majority of those who have been interviewed. It has been a delight hearing from professors about their doctoral research projects.

I'm looking forward to ASP's 2019-2020 year. Here's to a wonderful year of significant community together. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or suggestions.

With joyful anticipation,
Marla Mercer Cole

The SNU campus bubbles with excitement and anticipation at this time of year. That's because the start of a new school year brings chances for new friendships, new beginnings, and new opportunities. Traditional students arrived back in mid-August. After a five-day orientation for new students, fall semester classes began August 21st. These are exciting days in the life of Southern Nazarene University in its traditional programs as well as in its professional and graduate studies areas.

Last January, SNU launched its first-ever doctoral program with a Doctor of Education (Ed.D) degree in Administration and Leadership. This research-based program is a perfect fit for professionals who wish to affect their institutions, organizations, or communities through sound leadership principles based on a Christian worldview. New cohort groups will begin at regular intervals.

This fall, SNU will be launching a new master's program in Exercise Science. The first cohort group in that program gets underway in September. The recipients of that degree will be prepared to serve in leadership roles in government, community organizations, and health-care settings.

Today, Southern Nazarene University strives to continue fulfilling its mission of making Christlike disciples through higher education across several different modalities. Please pray for SNU faculty, staff, and students as they work to refine Character, mold Culture, and to serve Christ.

*Call for
Volunteers*



SNU Admissions office has invited members of ASP to write notes to prospective students. We meet Friday mornings for about an hour beginning at 10 a.m. in an upstairs conference room at the Marchant Center.

MERCER ADAMS

FUNERAL SERVICE

BEFORE *live* DURING *live* AFTER™

We understand the language of comfort.

LUNCHEON SPONSOR

**3925 N. ASBURY AVE
BETHANY, OK 73008
405-495-4363**

2019-2020 Luncheon Sponsors

Sept 9, 2019: Mercer-Adams Funeral Service

Oct 14, 2019: Legend at Council Road

Nov 11, 2019: United Pharmacy of Yukon

Dec 9, 2019: Southern Plaza Retirement

Community

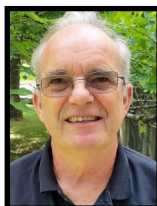
Jan 13, 2020: Concordia Life Care Community

Feb 10, 2020: TBD

Mar 9, 2020: Legend at Rivendell

Apr 13, 2020: Spanish Cove Life Care Retirement Community

May 11, 2020 Tinker Federal Credit Union



**SNU Connections
by
Howard Culbertson**

Our September SNU Connections Moments will feature Dr. Doug Samples, chaplain for SNU’s College of Professional and Graduate Studies as well as professor in the university’s School of Theology and Ministry. Doug has been teaching at SNU and directing the school’s ministerial internship program for over 20 years



He did his bachelor’s level studies at Olivet Nazarene University and earned a Master of Divinity from Nazarene Theological Seminary. His D.Min. is from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA. Early in life Doug Samples had thought God was calling him to foreign missionary service. However, he eventually settled on pastoral ministry and, before coming to SNU, spent 20 years pastoring Nazarene churches in Ohio and California.

Even after moving to SNU, he kept involved in local church ministry, serving for a while on the staff of Oklahoma City First Church of the Nazarene and then becoming pastor of the Lake Overholser congregation for a number of years while continuing to teach at SNU.

In 2001, he authored a small book aimed at young people titled *Call Waiting: Connect with God’s Plan for Your Future* which was published by the Nazarene Publishing House (now called The Foundry).

For Doug Samples’ support of the school’s student athletes, the SNU athletic department honored him with the 2018 “Faculty MVP” award.

On Monday, September 9, maybe he’ll talk some about the collection of more than 80 rhinos that he has in his office in the SNU religion building.



May Re-Views
by
Hal Swinhart



Obituaries
by
Vicki Sacket



Thanks to John Martin for his year as ASP President, 2018-2019.



Looking forward to being with all our ASP friends and acquaintances at the new 2019-2020 ASP Luncheons.



Ronald Perry Dech spent 30 years as a Nazarene pastor. He was also a retired high school math and history teacher, as well as a history professor at Randall University (formerly Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College). He passed away unexpectedly on July 2, 2019, in Tennessee while doing what he loved – traveling and researching family history.

Ron was born February 21, 1949, in Great Falls, MT. He graduated from Putnam City High School and from Bethany Nazarene College in 1971 with a degree in religion. He later earned a Master of Ministry Degree from Southern Nazarene University.

He married Linda Kay Patterson in 1970 and thus they just missed celebrating their 50th anniversary. Throughout his life, Ron joined community groups feeling strongly that God called us to minister outside the walls of the church, meeting people where they are. Visiting friends, preaching, and teaching, he traveled all over the US and to Central America, Saudi Arabia, and Bulgaria.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents and older brother, Andrew George Dech. He is survived by his wife, Linda Kay Dech of Oklahoma City; daughters, Kara Kay and husband James DePaul of Bells, TX, Christi-

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

na Marie and husband Jeff Nantze of Beggs, OK, and Sabrina Ruth and husband Scott Wells of Harrah, OK; sons, Samuel Perry and wife Bethany Dech of Piedmont, OK, and Alexander Owen and wife Evangeleen Dech of Dupont, WA; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild; his younger brother Dwayne Leslie and wife Sandra Dech; and sister-in-law Sharen Dech.



Book Discussion
by
Barbara Culbertson

Here we are again, ready to increase brain power! At a psychology conference I recently attended, we were told that anything having to do with words helps prevent brain function decrease often associated with old age. So, pull out your library cards or fire up Amazon to find those books!

Our first book discussion will be October 14 in the President's Dining Room on third floor of the Commons. At that October meeting, we will discuss *Goodbye My Darling, Hello My Dear*, written by ASP member C. Dale German. Dale has graciously agreed to lead our dialogue on that date.

The book discussion group meets monthly at 9:30 a.m., prior to the ASP luncheons. In order to actively participate in the discussion, we ask that you have read that month's book selection. However, since you can still listen, you are encouraged to attend even if you have not read the book.

For the coming months, I would like feedback about books you believe would be of value to us. We will alternate between fiction and non-fiction, with our choice for November being non-fiction. Here are some possibilities:

Book Discussion Group



October Discussion book by C. Dale German will be available for purchase at the September Luncheon for \$10.

- Non-Fiction:** *Surprised by Joy* (CS Lewis)
The Story of My Experiments with Truth (Gandhi)
God Hides in Plain Sight (Dean Nelson)
Seven Glorious Days (Karl Giberson)
Humility (Andrew Murray)
All the Places to Go (John Ortberg)

- Fiction:** *The Great Divorce* (CS Lewis)
Arabian Nights (Anonymous)
With You Always (Jodi Hedlund)
Wonder (R J Palacio)
When the Bluebonnets Come (John Dwyer)
Deadly Opposition (Tiffany Gobble)



2019-2020 Officers and Committees
Officers

Carolyn Jagers, Director
 Marla Mercer Cole, President
 John Martin, Immediate Past President
 Emmalyn German, President-Elect
 Vicki Sacket, Secretary
 Gary Lance, Treasurer
 Nancy Cauthron, Member Representative
 R. T. Bolerjack, Member Representative

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Shirley Mears, Programs
 John Martin and Frank Dewey, Bylaws and Organization
 Linda Carley, Membership and Calling

Special Committee and Activity Leaders

Vicki Sacket, Historian
 Barbara Culbertson, Book Discussions
 Renda Brumbeloe, Music
 Marla Mercer Cole, Get-Acquainted Moments
 Howard Culbertson, SNU Connections



Monday September 9, 2019
 10:00-11:00 a.m. Shuttle Service from the Sawyer Center lot (41st and Donald) to the Webster Commons
 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Luncheon Meeting in the Heritage Room
 1:00—1:30 p.m. Shuttle Service to the parking lot
 1:15-2:15 p.m. Administrative Council Meeting

The Academy Perspective

- - -Publication Board- - -

Production Editor	Emmalyn German
Copy Editors	Howard Culbertson Barbara Culbertson Joan Dozier

- - -Columnists- - -

President’s Column	Marla Mercer Cole
ASP Director	Carolyn Jagers
Book Discussions	Barbara Culbertson
Speakers	Shirley Mears
Obituaries	Vickie Sacket
Photography	Hal Swinhart

- - -Communications Policy- - -

We value correspondence from our readers.
 By mail:

The Academy Perspective (TAP),
 Southern Nazarene University
 6729 NW 39th Exp.
 Bethany OK 73008

By fax: (405) 491-6381

- - -Newsletter Subscription Information- - -

Annual subscription — ***The Academy Perspective***:
 Non-members—\$10 per year
 Members—Included in membership dues

- - -Contributions- - -

To make tax-deductible contributions to the Academy of Senior Professionals, mail to:
 Gary Lance, Treasurer
 Southern Nazarene University
 6729 NW 39th Expressway
 Bethany OK 73008

Website Information

ASP Information
<http://asp.snu.edu>

SNU Sports Activities
 Football Game information

[https://snuathletics.com/schedule.aspx?
 path=football](https://snuathletics.com/schedule.aspx?path=football)

Women’s Soccer Information

<https://snuathletics.com/schedule.aspx?path=wsoc>

Men’s Soccer Information

<https://snuathletics.com/schedule.aspx?path=msoc>