

Here's to the Next 75 Years!

WILKES UNIVERSITY HAS WEATHERED MANY storms over the years – not just the catastrophic Agnes flood, but the challenges of the Depression, war and economic instability. It continues not only to survive but to thrive as both an educational institution and a vibrant member of the communities it serves.

The University's success stems from its unique and deep commitment to community. That commitment is what attracted me to Wilkes, and such commitment will define the quality of successful institutions in the future.

Many initiatives have demonstrated this commitment over the years: engineering programs founded to support the region's electronics industry; pre-medicine, pharmacy and nursing programs vital to serving medical needs;

environmental science studies crucial to healing scars left by mining; and graduate education to enhance K-12 teaching and administration. Wilkes is also committed to providing each undergraduate student with a strong foundation in the liberal arts and sciences, which are essential for success in a constantly changing world.

I came to Wilkes because of its capacity to look beyond self-interest and because of the small classes that allow students to develop close relationships with faculty and staff mentors. And as we chart the course for the future, we remain faithful to these values.

To succeed and flourish in the long-term, we must broaden our sense of whom we serve and where. We must grow to meet lifelong education needs through graduate and adult programs. As students' needs change, we will need to change as well.

Interest in web-based programs is exploding, especially as the energy crisis comes upon us, and we must be prepared to meet that demand. And we must continuously explore new academic opportunities, as we are with the law school.

At the end of the day, we must offer a set of programs that balances the ups and downs of demand while increasing our profile and prominence in the region. However, our dedication to the student will not change.



University President Tim Gilmour
PHOTO BY KIM BOWER-SPENCE

Dr. Tim Gilmour
Wilkes University President

WILKES MAGAZINE

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Wilkes University is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to academic and intellectual excellence in the liberal arts, sciences and professional programs. The university provides its students with the experience and education necessary for career and intellectual development as well as for personal growth, engenders a sense of values and civic responsibility, and encourages its students to welcome the opportunities and challenges of a diverse and continually changing world. The University enhances the tradition of strong student-faculty interactions in all its programs, attracts and retains outstanding people in every segment of the University, and fosters a spirit of cooperation, community involvement, and individual respect within the entire University.