Jim Newsome (HCB '76, '77), president and CEO of the South Carolina Ports Authority, was presented with the Haslam Global Supply Chain Institute’s Distinguished Service Award.

Barry McCall (HCB, '82) was recognized in Forbes’ Best-In-State Advisor list for the State of Tennessee.

Brian Foley (HCB, '96, '97), national tax partner at EY, was Haslam’s 2020 spring graduate commencement speaker.

Hobbs DeWitt (HCB, '98) is now vice president of supply chain at TruGreen, the largest U.S. provider of lawn care and tree and shrub services.

Paul Kivela (PEMBA, '00) is now a faculty member in the Department of Emergency Medicine with University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Christian Clevenger (EMBA, '12) is CEO of Integrity Laboratories, which is one of only a handful of companies approved by the FDA to perform rapid testing for COVID-19.

Nadya Ally (ProMBA, '19) recently became a program analyst at Allegheny Science & Technology supporting the Department of Energy’s Vehicle Technologies Office.

Todd Eugene Carter (PEMBA, '18) is now chief anesthesiologist at Arctic Slope Native Association and professor of Clinical Anesthesia at the University of Cincinnati.

Matthew Castillo (ADMBA, '19), was recently promoted to colonel in the United States Air Force.

Russell Kenneth Chan (PEMBA, '18) is now an emergency medicine physician at Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville, GA.

Jerry Blackwell (PEMBA, '14) was named president, chief medical officer, and board member for MedAxiom.

Kevin N. Brown, Sr. (PEMBA,'14) was appointed chief of neurology at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center.

Christian Clevenger (EMBA, '12) is CEO of Integrity Laboratories, which is one of only a handful of companies approved by the FDA to perform rapid testing for COVID-19.

LTC George “Trey” P. Lachicotte (HCB, '00), was appointed as the department chair and professor of military science and leadership at the University of Notre Dame in 2018.
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**UPDATE ////////// ALUMNI NEWS**

**Gordon Cohen** (PEMBA, ’10), founded the telemedicine company 89point6, which was recently featured in *Healthcare Dive* and is on the forefront of the coronavirus outbreak response, providing primary care for those self-isolating.

**Carmen Colitz** (DVM, ’93, EMBA-SL, ’19) was honored as a distinguished alumni by the UT College of Veterinary Medicine in May.

**Will Daniel** (PEMBA ’15) is chief medical and quality officer and William T. Solomon Professor in Clinical Quality Improvement at UT Southwestern in Dallas.

**Neeraj Desai** (PEMBA, ’16) is director and interventional pulmonology fellowship director at Chicago Chest Center.

**Kevin Dooley** (AD MBA, ’19) was promoted to F-35 software expert for Joint Task Force ODIN.

**Jonathan Ford** (ProMBA, ’19) joined Waupaca Foundry as production control manager.

**Lawson George** (ProMBA, ’19) is senior manager of gulf coast supply for Pilot.

**Patrick Godwin** (PEMBA ’16) is now chief of hospital medicine at Chicago’s Jesse Brown VA Medical Center.

**Shane Groves** (AD MBA, ’19), lead equipment engineer at Robins AFB, recently presented his research and work in the field of robotics, which is based in part on his Haslam Organizational Action Project, to Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp.

**EnergySolutions recently made Joe Heckman** (ProMBA, ’18) president of the Waste Management Group.

**S. Ryan Hoffman** (HCB, ’11) is now a partner in the law firm of Bass, Berry & Sims.

**Monica Jones** (PEMBA, ’11) became chief medical officer at Chattanooga’s Erlanger East Hospital.

**Jennifer Monroe** (ProMBA, ’18) became director of patient financial services for Ortho Tennessee.

**Vikash M. Negandhi** (PEMBA, ’13) is now CEO of Trust USA Home Health, LLC, in Sunrise, FL.

**Michael Hostetter** (AD MBA, ’19) was recently promoted to group director of the 76th Maintenance Support Group at Tinker Air Force Base.

**Meg Hutchinson’s** (HCB, ’19) floral work through her company, the Florista, received national exposure when her arrangements were featured at the Teen Vogue Summit in Los Angeles.

**BAE Systems, Inc. promoted Kenita Rainey** (AD MBA, ’18) to site executive for its new Huntsville Business Center.

**Emran Rouf** (PEMBA, ’15) is the health plan medical director and interim director of provider relations and contracting with Seton Health Plan in Austin, TX.

**Monica Jones’s** company, Sey Tec, was recognized by NASA astronaut Jeanette Epps for its contributions to the 2024 manned Artemis Lunar Exploration program.

**Grant Taylor** (HCB, ’17) recently started a nonprofit, Freedom Rings, which is dedicated to fighting human trafficking.

**Stephen Stack** (PEMBA, ’17), an adjunct faculty member for PEMBA, was named Commissioner of Public Health for the State of Kentucky.

**Arconic recently promoted Robert Watkins** (ProMBA, ’19) to senior staff electrical engineer.

**Amanda Winkler,** (AD MBA, ’18) was promoted to research training officer at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. She will also start Officer Training School for the United States Air Force in Summer 2020.
Earning a degree in statistics from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is a tradition in Kara White’s family. White, of Kingsport, is a newly minted alumna of the Department of Business Analytics and Statistics in the Haslam College of Business, and part of a three-generation legacy.

“Both my grandfather and father have degrees in statistics from UT,” White says. “Also, my brother is a soon-to-be sophomore majoring in statistics.”

While her father and grandfather went to work for Eastman Chemical Company, White’s career path lies along a different trajectory. She plans to relocate to Raleigh, North Carolina, where she will join UnitedHealth Group as a data scientist in their Early Careers program. She hopes to pursue her passion for complex problem-solving while promoting a more egalitarian workplace.

“I love being part of the healthcare industry, as the medical field and healthcare systems are some of the areas that affect our lives most deeply,” White says. “I’m excited to be in a field that has a large opportunity to fight for inclusivity within data-driven decision making, and I’m inspired by trying to find solutions within this space that improve diversity, equality, and others’ well-being.”

While White garnered her share of academic-related achievements at UT, such as being a member of the Smith Global Leadership Scholars program, president of the Business Analytics Society, and finishing as a finalist with her team in the Champion Analytics Case Competition at Elon University in 2020, she also spent considerable time volunteering with a national nonprofit. She started a chapter of the Girls Who Code club at Emerald Academy in Knoxville. White calls it one of her most rewarding experiences.

“The past two years I have operated this club along with my peers to encourage and support third to fifth grade girls in STEM,” she says. “We meet once a week to do activities together. Some of my favorites have been creating bracelets using binary code for the bead colors, researching important women tech pioneers, and programming our class robot to dance.”

White’s academic accomplishments and her concern for others has not gone unnoticed in her department.

“Kara is an exceptional student,” Julie Ferrara, assistant department head of business analytics and statistics, said. “She cares about being a good representative of the university, which makes us proud. Kara also is such a caring person that you can’t help but be happy when you’re around her. She will go on to great achievements after graduation.”

White is appreciative of what the program offered her.

“Business analytics gave me an education focused on end-to-end analytics,” she says. “It is special that the program cultivates technical skills, like programming, and softer skills, like communicating results to stakeholders. Haslam has given me a valuable network of peers that I constantly learn from and admire. I’ve made some of my best friends through classes and programs there.”

—Scott McNutt