’70s

Ed Pershing (HCB, ’74), co-founder and CEO of PYA, retired from the firm at the end of 2019.

Michael T. Strickland (HCB, ’77), founder and chair of Bandit Lites, won the 2020 Parnelli Visionary Award, a lifetime achievement award presented to him by Garth Brooks.

’90s

Raul Montalvo (PEMBA, ’99) received the America’s Physician Groups Ambassador Award at the APG’s 2019 colloquium.

’00s

Gary L. Berlin (PEMBA, ’04) was named medical director at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Jody Crane (PEMBA, ’04) was appointed chief medical officer at Team Health.

Sean Healy (EMBA-SL, ’02) is now a director with Amazon North America.

Former Lady Vols basketball star Kara Lawson (HCB, ’03) joined the coaching staff for the Boston Celtics as an assistant coach. She is now the third full-time female assistant coach in the NBA.

Brooks McLeyea (HCB, ’06) was admitted into the Ernst & Young, LLP, partnership as a tax partner in the Atlanta office.

Bryan Mattice (HCB, ’08) has been named manager in LBMC’s Audit division.

The Latino Center on Aging’s board of directors presented Enelda Roldan (PEMBA, ’03) with the 2019 Academic Excellence Golden Age Awards.

Chris Salvage (EMBA-SL, ’05) is now a senior project engineer at SWM International.

Ross Ungerleider (PEMBA, ’06) is now co-director at Whole Brain Leadership for Healthcare.

PepsiCo recently announced that Dena vonWerssowetz (HCB, ’07, ’09), senior director of marketing for PepsiCo Foodservice, will run all innovation for beverages launched outside of the United States.

’10s

United Technologies/Collins Aerospace promoted DeWayne Allen (ADMBA, ’17) to senior director of corporate strategy and development.

Dell hired Amanda Beavers (HCB, ’19) as outbound logistics manager.

Nick Brown (HCB, ’17) is now a data scientist at Pilot Flying J.

Gordon Cohen (PEMBA, ’10) is director for Cardon Children’s Heart Program at Banner Health.

Amanda Gentry (ADMBA, ’13) is now director of engineering, Air Force LCMC.

Tania Ghosh (PEMBA, ’17) has been appointed medical director for Envision Healthcare.

Kendall Grafton (EMBA-SC, ’19) is now an operations leader for SC Johnson.

Andrea Hardaway (EMBA-HCL, ’15) is now enterprise leader for provider data management at Evolent Health.

Rob Headrick (PEMBA, ’14) received the Key Contact of the Year award from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons at their 55th annual meeting.

Cassandra Howard (PEMBA, ’18) was selected as brigadier general in the position of assistant for mobilization and reserve affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Defense Health Affairs.

Meg Hutchinson (HCB, ’19) won $10,000 with her company, The Florista, in Victoria’s Secret PNK GIRL Project.

Matt Jesse (ADMBA, ’17) became head of business development for distribution business – global at Satair.

Pankaj Kumar (PEMBA, ’17) is now hospitalists medical director at Wake Forest Baptist Health, High Point Medical Center in North Carolina.

Lauren Latture (HCB, ’14) was named the Haslam College of Business Smith Global Leadership Scholars Alumnus of the Year.

Collins Aerospace made Ryan Miller (EMBA-SL, ’15), VP and CFO of avionics.

Karmyn Norwood (HCB, ’15) vice president for AMMM International Programs at Lockheed Martin, received the 2019 NMA Executive of the Year award at their national conference in October.

Rick Sayegh (PEMBA, ’15) is now interim CMO at MyHealth Technologies Inc. and is a partner with YARDY Ventures.

Maddie Strange (EMBA-SL, ’12) is now McDonald’s senior director of global learning.

Peter Takacs (PEMBA, ’14) and his fellow cohort members wrote a business plan during PEMBA, for which the Economic Development and Innovation Operational Program Grant of the European Union approved funding. They now have a patented, commercially available product in the EU.

Dynetics, Inc., promoted Steve Thomas (ADMBA, ’18) to vice president of financial planning and analysis.

Amrit Vashist (PEMBA, ’13) was named chief clinical officer at Ballad Health.

Chris Walker (HCB, ’18) was profiled in Forbes Magazine.

Chuck Wethington (EMBA-GSC, ’16) is now president of Akros Logistics Company.

Jennifer Welsh (PEMBA, ’18) is now regional medical director with Baylor Scott and White Health.

Lia Winter (HCB, ’19), CEO and founder of Winter Innovations, LLC, was named a graduate finalist in the 2019 Collegiate Inventors Competition sponsored by the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Her invention, the Easy Whip, has won top prizes at nine pitch competitions.

The Smith Global Leadership Scholars class of 2017 alumni group held a reunion in Charleston, South Carolina, this spring.

If you have news for a University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Haslam College of Business alumnus, please submit it to us at Haslam@utk.edu using “Alumni News” in the subject line.

This update reflects information known as of Oct. 30, 2019.