

Distinguished Award Recipients for 2007 Honored

Five business executives were honored May 4 as the Moore School's 2007 Distinguished Award recipients.

The awards were presented at the school's 12th annual Business Leadership Dinner and Awards Program, held at The Zone at the University of South Carolina's Williams-Brice Stadium. This was the 22nd anniversary of the awards themselves.

Recipients of this year's Distinguished Alumni Awards are William R. Horton (BS '73), and D. Roger Nanney (BS '80, MACC '82). The Distinguished Young Alumni are Kellie Cooper Johnson (MBA '91) and J. Chad Odom (BS '92). M. Edward Sellers received the Distinguished Service Award.

William R. Horton is president and chief operating officer, Government Programs Division, BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, the state's largest private-sector employer. Under his leadership, BlueCross's government sector businesses have grown tenfold since 1993, generating nearly \$1 billion in revenue in 2006. Horton is the senior executive responsible for four BlueCross subsidiary companies that are nationally recognized for expertise in administering the Medicare and Tricare federal health benefit programs. A licensed certified public accountant, he heads up the BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina internal fundraising campaign for the Moore School of Business. Horton joined the company as a financial auditor in 1974. He held several professional and management positions prior to his executive appointment in 1985.



Horton

D. Roger Nanney is vice chairman and regional managing partner, Mid-America, for Deloitte & Touche USA LLP. He also has leadership responsibility for the organization's marketing and business development function, including its operations in India. A member of the first class to complete the Moore School's professional accountancy program in 1982, Nanney has 25 years of experience in professional services. He is a certified public accountant and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, and the Institute of Management Accountants. He recently served as a member of the



Nanney

leadership team responsible for developing Deloitte & Touche's "refreshed people strategy" and related initiatives. He recently led a trade delegation to China sponsored by the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce, the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Dallas Asian-American Chamber of Commerce.

Kellie Cooper Johnson is senior product manager for GlaxoSmithKline. Based in Research Triangle Park, N.C., she is responsible for the strategy group on the Boniva brand team. (Boniva is a prescription product for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women.) Johnson has also led the direct-to-consumer efforts for Flonase nasal spray and Advair. Previously, she worked for Bayer Consumer Care; she has also worked for an advertising agency and as a finance manager for several magazines.



Johnson

J. Chad Odom is CEO for Innovative Container, Palmetto Restorations, and Pickwick Pharmacy—all based in Greenville, S.C. A member of the Board of Advisors for the Moore School's Business Partnership Foundation, Odom in 2001 started his own company, Innovative Container, which manufactures and reconditions industrial containers. The company was named the fastest-growing company in South Carolina in 2003; in 2004, Odom was named Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year for manufacturing and services. In 2005, Odom started another company, Palmetto Restorations, which specializes in automotive restorations, particularly on "muscle" and classic cars. His third business is the family business, Pickwick Pharmacy. Odom and his brother Kelly are the third generation of the Odom family to own and manage The Pickwick, where they are bringing back the soda foundation that was a popular fixture in the 1940s and '50s.



Odom

M. Edward Sellers is chairman and CEO of BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina and The Companion Group of Companies, positions he has held since 1987. He is responsible for general management of the various businesses of BlueCross BlueShield and Companion, including health insurance, admin-

istrative services contracting, Medicare intermediary functions, Department of Defense TRICARE intermediary functions, a life insurance company, a property and casualty insurance company, computer technology businesses, and an HMO. The company has more than \$3.5 billion in revenues and more than 13,000



Sellers

employees in 11 states. Before coming to BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, Sellers worked for The Boston Consulting Group and Westinghouse Electric Corporation. He is chairman of the South Carolina Council on Competitiveness, former chairman of The Palmetto Business Forum, vice-chairman of The Palmetto Institute, a member of the S.C. State Chamber of Commerce Board of

Directors, a trustee of the ETV Endowment of South Carolina, a board member of the National Institute for HealthCare Management, and a director of The National Bank of South Carolina. He was named 2002 Business Leader of the Year by the S.C. State Chamber of Commerce.

Seeking Nominees for 2008 Distinguished Alum Awards

We're seeking nominees for the 2008 Distinguished Alumnus/ Alumna Awards of the Moore School of Business, to be presented next spring at the school's annual Business Leadership Dinner.

Those nominated should have a history of outstanding achievement in business, academia, government, or other not-for-profit organizations; have made outstanding contributions to society directly through civic organizations or other means; or have made outstanding contributions to the Moore School of Business and the University of South Carolina.

Candidates for next year's Distinguished Young Alumnus/ Alumna Awards should fit the same criteria as mentioned above, except they must be 40 years of age or younger.

Nominations for all awards must include a letter of recommendation from the nominator. A resume of the candidate is helpful, but not required. Alums may nominate themselves.

All nominations will be kept confidential and should be sent by Nov. 1, 2007, to: Ellen Moore, Director of Business Relations, Moore School of Business, University of South Carolina, 1705 College Street, Columbia, SC 29208.

Four Alums Recognized Among "20 Under 40"

Four of the Moore School's own were recognized earlier this year by *The State* newspaper in the feature, "20 Under 40", which recognizes young business and community leaders.

Among this year's honorees are **Nathan Leaphart** (BS, Accounting, '01), chief financial officer and corporate controller, Glassmaster Co., in Lexington, S.C. Leaphart previously served as an accountant with C.C. McGregor & Co. and as a senior accountant at Elliott Davis. For two years he has served as treasurer of Lexington Race Against Hunger, a fundraiser for organizations that feed the hungry.

Eric Jenkins (BS, Economics, '94), has risen through the ranks of banking, beginning as a teller with C&S Bank, to now hold the position of president, Palmetto Health Credit Union. Under his leadership, the credit union has grown from \$5 million in assets to \$50 million. He also serves on the Lexington 1 School District Parents Advisory Council.

Jason Caskey (BS, Accounting, '90), is a partner at Elliott Davis and chairman of the accounting firm's executive committee. He was previously a partner at Tourville, Simpson & Caskey. He serves on the board of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and is a member of the USC Business Partnership Foundation Board of Advisors.

Daniel Wallick (BS, Finance, '91), is owner of Wallick Investments. He previously served as a proposal analyst with BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina and as a broker with Merrill Lynch. He is a soccer coach in the Columbia United Football League and is treasurer of Cub Scouts Pack 733 and Knights of Columbus.

Michelle Childs Now a Circuit Judge

Michelle Childs, JD/MHR '91, is now Judge Childs. She was elected by the South Carolina General Assembly last spring to an at-large Circuit Court seat formerly held by Reginald L. Lloyd, now the U.S. Attorney for South Carolina.

Although African-Americans such as Childs make up nearly 30 percent of South Carolina's population, they hold just 6 percent of the state's trial court seats.

Childs was formerly a state Workers' Compensation commissioner and Deputy Director of the Division of Labor at the S.C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. Before that, she was a successful lawyer with Nexsen, Pruet, Jacobs & Pollard in Columbia, the first-ever minority female to make full partner in a major South Carolina law firm in 2000.

Childs received a South Carolina Bar Compleat Lawyer Award in 1997 and a USC Outstanding Alumna Award in 2000. A native of Columbia, she earned her undergraduate degree in management from the University of South Florida in Tampa.



Childs