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*Ursinus College*

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*Report of the Dean on Faculty and  
Student Professional Achievement  
2017-2018*

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## Message from the Dean

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Dear Ursinus colleagues and friends,

Ursinus College is an institution on the move, launched from traditions dating back to its founding stretching forward to the more recent curricular innovation of the past couple of decades. This, in a nutshell, is what you have taught me over this past year, my first year at Ursinus. It is an inspiring story that speaks of some exceptional opportunities. At the same time as we are initiating a revolutionary approach to residential liberal education, we are also dealing with critical financial challenges—not unique to Ursinus, but challenges that have focused our energy and reinforced our determination to create a transformational experience for all of our students and to gain national recognition for our efforts. The college's approach to our financial challenges is a bold one, of emphasizing innovation, and investing strategically—the “strategic pivot”—rather than attempting to budget-cut our way to a better financial situation. This is a strategy that has strong support at all levels—faculty, administration, and most importantly among the trustees as well. It is still very early in these efforts, in particular the academic slice of the “strategic pivot” pie, but we are already beginning to see some positive effects. In what follows, this report will detail many accomplishments, but in this brief prologue, I want to emphasize our preparation for the future.

### *Prologue*

Higher education literature speaks frequently of the demographic challenges facing colleges over the next decade. There are several dimensions to these challenges, and for small colleges like Ursinus, they have been particularly well articulated and analyzed by Nathan Grawe in his book *Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education*. Most often cited are trends in diversity; before long the US will be a “majority minority” nation, and among 18-year olds, this will happen before the end of the next decade. However there are several other important trends that complicate the situation. First, population growth overall is concentrated in the south and west, and not in the mid-Atlantic and Northeast, the traditional stronghold of Ursinus recruiting. Second, when the bottom fell out of the U.S. economy in 2008-2009, many Americans chose to postpone having children. As a result, there will be a significant drop—about 10-15%—in the number of high school graduates around 2026-27.

What schools will survive the coming decade well? Of course colleges with generous endowments will have a financial cushion. But additionally, those schools with a national, highly selective draw will have a different form of cushion. These highly desirable schools can recruit students effectively from the remaining growth areas because of their national reputations, and can compensate for a dwindling pool by accepting more students. Additionally, schools with robust international recruiting also will have another avenue to maintain enrollments. While none of these characteristics currently describe Ursinus well, they are all within our ability to achieve. And we have a tool right at hand to help us gain these characteristics; we have the tremendous advantage of an excellent program of residential liberal education that is amplified by the excitement of our new core curriculum.

We have heard from our alumni how CIE, the Common Intellectual Experience, has transformed many lives. The new core curriculum will further advance this transformative education. But what we are already seeing happen is how the four open questions will unify the full residential liberal education experience. Reflection on the four questions goes beyond the classroom to include all aspects of the Ursinus experience: residential life, athletics, service, internships, study abroad, campus jobs, and more. If we are successful in integrating the repeated reflection on those questions for all students, and helping them develop the skill of using those reflections to advocate for themselves in opportunities for jobs, for graduate school, and for fellowships, we will simultaneously reinforce the transformation inherent in the residential liberal arts experience

and give students the skills to mobilize those experiences to open doors of opportunity after graduation. The Office of Career and Post-Graduate Development will be playing a critical role here, bridging on-campus experiences and post-graduate achievement in a way that reinforces the new core and the four questions. These are goals that all liberal arts colleges identify as inherent in their education, but that few if any really achieve universally. If we do this well, and are not shy about telling our story, people will notice, and prospective students will be drawn to us.

This will mean change for Ursinus—not the sort of change makes us unrecognizable, but change that makes us more ourselves. This change continues the core identity of the institution as a small college that offers a genuine transformative experience in the form of a residential liberal education that challenges students to be more than they thought they could be—in the classroom, or studio, or laboratory, or on the athletic field or in community service. While we are not afraid of using technology, or data, or innovative pedagogy to achieve these ends, we recognize that the core of everything we do must be the kind of learning and growth that comes from close interactions with one another, asking the difficult questions, and not being content with simplistic answers. This basic recipe has not changed, nor will it change with the new core; we merely commit to doing it more fully, more universally, and better.

In parallel with these efforts that directly affect what we do in the classroom, faculty and others in Academic Affairs are deeply involved in efforts to advance the Ursinus-150 Strategic Plan in large and small ways. I'll point to two different areas of work—facilities, and campus climate. At the end of the past year, one new building came on line, the Innovation and Discovery Center, and another began construction, the Commons. Particularly the IDC project, already a hit with faculty and students alike, was shepherded along carefully by a group of faculty and staff led by Chemistry Professor Vic Tortorelli; they deserve a great deal of credit for the way it reflects the engaged community that is characteristic of Ursinus. These projects are the vanguard of a deeper study of the state of facilities through a Campus Master Planning process that started in 2018, and will help the college chart a path for the campus landscape, infrastructure and buildings over a multi-decade timeframe.

In terms of climate, significantly improving the level of trust, comfort, and inclusion on a college campus is a task that takes years, and must include efforts at all levels. While nearly everyone recognizes the sense of community on campus, there are also well recognized schisms as well around socially imposed fault-lines of politics, race, religion, not to mention our own internal divisions of faculty/staff/student, and divisions within the college. With help from many directions (trustees, administrators, staff, faculty, students, and alumni), we have made explicit efforts to heal divisions through Community Conference, through diversity related readings and trainings, and to celebrate diversity openly, particularly during the week following Martin Luther King Day. We continue weekly informal Conversations About and Across Difference throughout the year. Less visible are smaller changes in policy and practice that emphasize the role of inclusion and support students, faculty, and staff: enhanced support of students through the Institute for Student Success and the Institute for Inclusion and Equity, more attention to valuing diversity experience in faculty searches, greater support for faculty in transition through mentoring, and an effort to keep questions of inclusion and community in the forefront in decision making and in communication with the community.

I wish I could take even small credit for these exciting developments at Ursinus, but they were essentially fully formed before my arrival. My role has the benefit of my ignorance, which has allowed me to see with fresh eyes the uniqueness of the path you have already charted. For those of you who have labored years on its development, familiarity may hinder your ability to see the potential of what you have initiated, so I feel it is my responsibility to remind you of how important this work is, to celebrate its accomplishment, and whenever possible to bring the resources that will help it become a reality. We also need to adopt this pedagogy for our own

development, by asking ourselves the four questions with sincerity, and thereby we will change how we think about all of the auxiliary elements of the institution—how we become more inclusive and collaborative, how we help faculty and staff develop professionally, how we remain innovative, and how we model for our students the informed, ethical decision-making that is at the heart of the new core.

### *Transitions*

On our campus, we recognize exceptional teaching, scholarship, and advising: two examples include tenure and promotion and year-end awards. Jeanine McCain, Theater and Dance, Jennifer Stevenson, Psychology, and Anthony Nadler, Media and Communication Studies, were awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor; Kelly Sorensen, Philosophy & Religious Studies, and Thomas Carroll were promoted to Professor. At Commencement, three faculty members were recognized for their exceptional achievement: Holly Hubbs (Music) received the Laughlin Award for outstanding scholarly work, Jon Clark (Sociology) received the Lindback Award for outstanding teaching, and Julin Everett (French) received the H. Lloyd Jones, Jr. Award for excellence in mentoring and advising. We all congratulate these individuals, and I recognize that their exceptional work grows out of a dedication that typifies the work of the Ursinus faculty.

We note the retirement of three faculty members; the college has benefitted significantly from their combined 94 years of service. Those include: Carol Cirka, Ph.D., Professor of Business and Economics (17 years), a founding director of the U-Imagine Center, Jay Miller Ph.D., Professor of Media and Communication Studies (34 years), founder of the MCS department, and Ross Doughty, Ph.D., Professor of History (43 years) who set an exceptional standard of teacher/scholar dedicated to department and institution.

The Office of Academic Affairs welcomed new members to the office and the division this academic year. Meredith Goldsmith, Professor of English, joined the office as Associate Dean previously serving as Assistant Dean in 2013-2014. Dr. Goldsmith recently spent a year as a Visiting Faculty Fellow in the Duke University Humanities Writ Large Program. She then held the position of Special Assistant to the President at Ursinus and joined our office in January. Meredith's position focuses on faculty development, diversity, and grant support, among other projects.

Whitney Hawkins, Assistant Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, joined Ursinus in 2017 after graduating with her M.A. in Higher Education and Student Affairs from The Ohio State University. During her time in graduate school she worked on data-driven retention initiatives in the First Year Experience Office and served on the research team for the Study on Collegiate Financial Wellness. She has also worked in admissions at several institutions and served as a college access advisor in AmeriCorps.

Nicole Smith also joined the office as administrative assistant. She not only supports the members of the Dean's Office, but also the Institutional Review Board and the academic departments of Mathematics and Computer Science and Physics. She graduated with a B.A. from Albright College in 2014 and previously worked in a drug and alcohol rehab hospital in the Quality Management department.

After a national search, Sharon Hansen was appointed Director of the newly named Office of Career and Post-Graduate Development (still CPD). Sharon has led employer relations for the office for a number of years prior to assuming the role of interim director in 2017. The office is energized by her leadership, which will play an integral role in the reflective efforts of the new core curriculum.

At the same time, we said farewell to Will Caverly, Corporate and Foundations Relations, who has been a tremendous support to many faculty with individual grants as well as to the Dean's Office for invaluable support for institutional grants.

### *Projects and Initiatives*

Before turning to individual departments, let me highlight a few of the accomplishments and progress that the division of Academic Affairs has to report over the past year. It has been an exceptionally busy year, and it would be impossible to do justice to all of the efforts of the division, so I must preface this with apologies for inevitable omissions.

On April 4, 2018, the Ursinus College faculty voted overwhelmingly to approve a major overhaul of the Core curriculum, which had been in place since the mid-nineties. The new curriculum, dubbed the "Open Questions Curriculum," deemphasizes conventional distribution requirements and shifts the focus towards inquiry. The Open Questions core centers on four key questions, namely:

- What should matter to me?
- How should we live together?
- How can we understand the world?
- What will I do?

The Open Questions core makes reflection, integration across disciplines, and experiential learning central to the Ursinus student experience.

During the 2017-2018 year the Dean's Office, Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, and the Steering Committee supported the work of seven working groups comprised of staff, faculty and administrators, each of which drafted a chapter for the self-study document required for our re-accreditation. With the first round of drafts complete in May 2017, the Dean's Office started the work of creating a finished product for the re-accreditation team visit to take place in March 2019. Drafts of the chapters will be shared with the campus in summer and fall 2018 for feedback.

The Philadelphia Experience program ("PhillyX") ran for its second year. In the Fall 2017 semester, eleven students were able to study, work, and live in Philadelphia. These students came from majors ranging from Biology and Computer Science to English and MCS. They completed internships at places like the Wilma Theater, NBC10, and the Philadelphia Film Society. The CPD and alums helped students find internships. Prof. Florka and Prof. Fleeger generously offered courses in Philadelphia ("Race and Ethnicity in Philadelphia," and "Philly on Film," respectively), taking advantage of the cultural and intellectual resources there. Honoring the tradition of communal liberal arts education, the students took a "Philly 101" course together that featured readings, discussions, museum trips, and sports events.

The Melrose Center for Global Civic Engagement was established in July 2016 and named in honor of the late U.S. Ambassador Joseph H. Melrose Jr. '66. The Melrose Center seeks to continue Ambassador Melrose's dedication to combining academic study with professional networking and hands-on experiences with volunteer organizations, government agencies and international institutions as well as study abroad. The Melrose Center was created to provide a nexus for civic engagement and global opportunities for students and faculty, incorporating Bonner Leaders, Scholars in Service, UCARE, Model UN, Peace Corps Prep and a new Melrose Fellows program as well as support for lectures, events and workshops both on campus and in the community.

In the fall, the Melrose Fellows regularly met for dinner before attending the international documentary film festival, sharing good food and conversation. During the Spring semester, the

2020 cohort of Melrose Fellows enrolled in a newly designed course on intercultural perspectives and global education and studied Nicaragua's history, culture and politics in preparation for a 10-day trip to work with a school in a low-income community outside of Granada, Nicaragua. Discussions of academic works on Nicaragua's current political system took on a whole new meaning when anti-government protests erupted over a proposed pension reform in mid-April. Unfortunately, a violent response to the protests led the U.S. embassy in Nicaragua to evacuate nonessential staff and the State Department elevated the travel warning to Level 3 ("Reconsider Travel"). Forced to cancel their plans, the group scrambled to find an alternative service opportunity. With the help of alumnae Mary Holmcrans ('17) and Angela Upright ('17), the group got in touch with SBP, an organization that began in St. Bernard Parish in New Orleans, which was completely devastated by Hurricane Katrina. SBP has been working in Houston, Texas, to help families affected by last year's Hurricane Harvey to return to their homes. Seven Melrose Fellows joined adviser Rebecca Evans on a 10-day trip to Houston where they removed walls, floors and appliances, treated for mold, installed new insulation and dry wall, prepared walls and ceilings for painting. The group got to meet the homeowner and looks forward to participating virtually in her welcome home party, which will be almost one month earlier than scheduled thanks to our volunteer efforts. The Melrose Fellows hope that the situation stabilizes soon for the people of Nicaragua and looks forward to visiting the school outside of Granada next year. In the meantime, money raised through a Melrose Fellows' fundraiser was sent to the school to help purchase needed supplies.

Together with the International Relations Club and the Department of Politics & International Relations, the Melrose Center sponsored lunch talks in which students, faculty and staff were invited to participate in conference calls with guest lecturers from the Council on Foreign Relations. Speakers included Samantha Power, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and author of *A Problem from Hell*, and Shannon O'Neil, senior fellow for Latin American studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. The Melrose Center also co-sponsored a number of speakers during the year, including Edgar Pérez, President of DESGUA (Desarrollo Sostenible para Guatemala), an organization working with Guatemalan immigrants in both the United States and Guatemala; James Sciutto, national security correspondent for CNN who spoke about "Covering National Security in the Age of Trump"; award-winning author and journalist Mark Bowden, who spoke about his latest best-seller, *Huê 1968: A Turning Point of the American War in Vietnam*; James Ketterer, Dean of International Studies at Bard College and former director of an educational organization that sought to strengthen cultural ties between the US and the Middle East, who spoke on Egypt before and after the Arab Spring; a debate over critical issues concerning the state of Israel between J.J. Goldberg, editor at large of the *Jewish Daily Forward*, and Jonathan Tobin, opinion editor at *JNS.org* and a *National Review* contributor; and a dinner and talk by Carolina Contreras ('09), a natural hair advocate and founder of the non-profit salon Miss Rizos in the Dominican Republic.

In addition, the Melrose Center also co-sponsored a visit to campus by Reyna Grande, author of the memoir *The Distance Between Us* (2012), who shared her experiences traversing boundaries as an undocumented child immigrant from Mexico, as the first in her family to graduate from college, and as an award-winning Latina author. The conversation continued afterwards with an "Immigration Talk Back" organized by Melrose Fellows in conjunction with Economic Ambassadors and the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program. Student panelists offered different perspectives on immigration, including topics such as Immigration and Politics in the Age of Trump, The Economics of Immigration, and Experiences with Immigration in Spain. Student discussion facilitators provided brief overviews and invited informal conversation and attendees were invited to move around the room in 30-minute intervals in a speed-dating format.

In April, the Melrose Center hosted its second annual conference, "Religion, Peace, Social Justice and Peacemaking," featuring a workshop on community organizing, lunch with

representatives of several social justice and religiously based service organizations and an evening lecture on religion and human rights. The workshop was led by Shakiya Canty '11, a Bonner alum and graduate of Vanderbilt Divinity School, who is a community organizer working with churches in the Bronx on progressive causes. Lunch panelists included representatives from Mercy Corps, Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Quaker Voluntary Service, Repair the World and Peace Corps. The conference keynote speaker was Dr. David Little, a research fellow at Georgetown University's Berkley Center. Dr. Little is a leading authority on the history of religious freedom, ethics and human rights and delivered a talk entitled "Religion and Human Rights: Friends or Foes?" Little retired in 2009 as T.J. Dermot Dunphy Professor of the Practice in Religion, Ethnicity, and International Conflict at Harvard Divinity School. He was senior scholar in religion, ethics, and human rights at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) and a member of the Advisory Committee to the State Department on Religious Freedom Abroad. His most recent book is *Essays on Religion and Human Rights: Ground to Stand On* (Cambridge University Press, 2015).

The Melrose Center hosted information sessions on the Peace Corps and the college's Peace Corps Prep Certificate program in the fall and spring. In May, the first cohort of Ursinus students earned certificates of completion from the Peace Corps. This program prepares individuals for work with an international development organization like the Peace Corps by ensuring that they acquire the skills, experience and academic training to make them competitive applicants and successful volunteers. Peace Corps Prep students must complete advanced foreign language coursework as well as intercultural competence and sector-specific courses. Peace Corps Prep students must also gain significant practical experience related to their chosen sector track. Seniors who earned their Peace Corps Prep certificates are: Mary Atta-Dakwa (Development Economics), Sarah Becker (Environment), Skyler Gailing (Health), Sydney Godbey (Environment), Roseangela Hartford (Education), Elizabeth Hilt (Health), Evan Hunt (Environment), Sinéad O'Callaghan (Health), Amanda Otto (Health), Christopher Tan (Development Economics), Danielle Uibel (Health). In addition, Mary Holmcrans (Class of 2017) was accepted as a new Peace Corps Volunteer. Mary will serve in Benin.

In April, 17 Ursinus students traveled to New York City with faculty advisor Johannes Karreth for the National Model United Nations conference. In their role as Moroccan diplomats, the Ursinus delegation negotiated solutions to current global issues with more than 5,000 fellow delegates from colleges and universities in the United States and around the world. They were briefed on Morocco's policies at the Moroccan Mission to the United Nations and met with Ursinus alumna Carolyn Smith Strainic (Class of '11), Advisor, U.S. Department of State, who works at the U.S. Permanent Mission to the United Nations. The Ursinus contingent earned four awards during the summit, including best position paper and honorable mention for best delegation. The members of the Ursinus College delegation to the 2018 National Model United Nations conference shared their conference experience and negotiation outcomes in a poster session at CoSA: Mary Atta-Dakwa (head delegate), Garrett Bullock, Paul Cottam, Anna Crowder, Jake Detweiler, Hannah Engber, Jacob Kang, Clara Kiss, Charlotte Rohrer, Rosina Shipman, Daan Slaats, Roumaissaa Tailassane, Christopher Tan, Chelsey Thomas, Nadia Tsao, Brendan Werner and Justin Zheng.

This past year, the Ursinus Center for Advocacy, Responsibility and Engagement (UCARE) worked to promote a campus culture of thoughtful, responsible service and social advocacy. Through more than 30 non-profit community partnerships, students engaged in weekly volunteer service with soup kitchens, after-school programs, a hospice, and more. UCARE also sponsored campus-wide events on topics relating to social justice, such as discussions about health disparities and a Lincoln-Douglas style debate on mass incarceration, which featured two student debaters who incorporated student-provided evidence along with their own research into their arguments. Further, the Bonner Leaders and Scholars in Service Programs continued to highlight their commitment to relationship building and high-impact service partnerships,



creating change on the individual student, campus, and community level. Bonner Leaders are required to complete ten hours of community service each week (amounting to 300 hours of service per academic year), while Scholars in Service are required to complete five hours of community service each week (amounting to 150 hours of service per academic year). The Bonner Leaders continued their tradition of exploring international perspective as part of its mission to educate student leaders engaged in sustained community service initiatives. In March, the first-year Bonner Leaders, Bonner Interns and faculty members Christian Rice and Julin Everett went on the 9th annual spring break service trip to Beeston Spring, Jamaica, where they assisted with community projects, building two homes, painting, and spent time working with disabled individuals at a care facility. In April, 11 new Bonner Leaders and 6 new Scholars in Service were selected: Bonner Leaders: Nathan Antwi ('22), Jennifer Berrios ('22), Kelsey Blake ('21), Emily Cid ('21), Melissa Hoff ('21), Jane Krol ('21), Thea Pastras ('21), Jadidsa Perez ('21), Aliyah Stephens ('21), Siannah Vesslee ('21), and Carver Wolfe ('21) Scholars in Service: Madison Tillmann ('22), Benjamin Antill ('22), Nareen Babaian ('21), Shelsea Deravil ('21), Erin Mathews ('21), and Autumn Murphy ('21).

The Parlee Center for Science and the Common Good completed its sixth year, its first year after the end of grant support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. The Parlee Center speaker program included a series in the fall of 2017 on genetically modified plants and the challenge of feeding 10 billion people by 2050. Speakers included Nina Fedoroff, PhD (Penn State Univ., Sept. 12), Dave Mortensen, PhD (Penn State Univ., Sept. 25), Mitch Hunter (Penn State Univ., Oct. 11), Food Evolution (a documentary on GMOs produced by the Institute of Food Technologists, Oct. 23), and Richard L. Wallace, PhD (Ursinus College, Nov. 8). Spring speakers included two speakers who exemplified non-traditional career paths in science (Ian Simon, PhD, Science and Technology Policy Institute, Jan. 29; Jayatri Das, PhD, Franklin Institute, Feb. 15) and two others on the opioid crisis (Patrick Radden Keefe, Staff Writer, The New Yorker, March 14; Ronald Lamb, City of Philadelphia, Department of Behavioral Health, April 11). Twenty-two new student Fellows of the Parlee Center were inducted: Nyrobi Barnes ('20), Aiden Baltz ('21), Ryley Bennett ('21), Nicole Bryce ('21), Emily Cid ('21), Micah Cloward ('20), Sabrina Doherty ('21), Matt Fontanese ('21), Erin Fowler ('20), Melissa Hoff ('21), Kyumin Lee ('21), Haley Liebenberg ('21), Hannah Merges ('21) ENV, Chase Opperman ('21), Benjamin Sallavanti ('21), Julian Schwartz ('20), Jenna Severa ('21), Aliyah Stevens ('21), Siannah Vesslee ('21), Rebecca Warren ('21), Maddy Wert ('21), and Adam Zucker ('21). Six students from underrepresented backgrounds participated in the Parlee Center FUTURE summer research program: Alana Huynh ('22), Kevin Brown ('22), Cassandra Bowman ('21), Rahsaan Sailes ('22), Siannah Vesslee ('21), Elijah Ward ('22). Each partnered with an upperclass student and a faculty mentor to conduct original research for four weeks. In addition to conducting research in biology, biochemistry and molecular biology, chemistry, psychology and health and exercise physiology, the three incoming freshman and three rising sophomore students completed a 1-credit course on Science and Society. The students also toured research facilities at the University of Pennsylvania and the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia. To conclude their four week research experience, each student presented their research results in a final symposium on July 13, the last day of the program.

During the 2017-2018 academic year, the Library and IT organization (LIT) worked to facilitate the use of information and technology throughout the academic, administrative, and co-curricular activities of the college. Because this was the first year of phasing out the student laptop program, reshaping our systems and capabilities were amongst our highest priorities for the year; nearly 35% of the students no longer used Ursinus laptops (the first year class did not receive them and many students of the upper classes opted out of the program early). In particular, we needed to work on creating access for courses that required specialized software or computer connections to specialized lab equipment, and we needed to help support connecting a variety of "bring your own devices" (BYOD) owned by the students to a variety of Ursinus resources. In particular, we found that students were able to access most resources,

but that our student printing solution and access to our centralized file storage system were far too difficult (both situations were improved before the start of classes in late-August). With this additional work and ongoing improvements across our digital infrastructure, the phase-out of the student laptop program (which will reach over 60% of all students in 2018-2019 with BYOD technology) is well on its way.

In the area of Library services, LIT has Reviewed and updated our Library database of resources in preparation for our new Library system (OCLC WMS to be launched in late-December), and replaced the Library's "Discovery Tool" for searching library resources, databases, and electronic journals. We continued our book weeding project, sending all unneeded books to either Better World Books or the Opportunity House shelter in Reading, and we removed shelving to create additional student study spaces. We also began a new section within the Ursinus Digital Commons entitled "Historical Society of Trappe, Collegeville, Perkiomen Valley" which currently features digital copies of the area's historical newspapers starting with the Providence Independent Newspaper, 1875-1893; the newspaper project will be completed over a three-year period.

In the area of digital infrastructure, LIT upgraded the wireless network, replacing about 60% of its wireless access points across campus that had reached their end-of-life. In partnership with the Institute for Student Success and College Communications, we also developed the new Student gateway page on the website to bring together 40 functions/services that students regularly need. We also upgraded the sound and video system in Bomberger Auditorium with a professional sound system and larger projection screen, replaced the Macintosh Lab in Ritter Hall and upgraded 7 existing classroom AV systems; through our classroom work, we added 20 new Solstice Systems for wireless connection to classroom projection. In addition to guiding the overall technology installation in the new Innovation and Discovery Center, we added four new classroom AV systems there and developed the touch screen information kiosks near the two major entrances.

Finally, LIT welcomed two new staff members: Greg Skinner is our new Director of Enterprise Information and Sue Ragusa is our new Performance Technology Engineer in the Kaleidoscope.

In 2017-18, the Teaching & Learning Institute (TLI) flourished under the co-Directorship model, led by Professor Abby Kluchin and Diane Skorina from LIT. The TLI maintained a strong Student Consultant Program, hosted a Reacting to the Past Workshop/mini-game, coordinated traditional Learning Circles and instituted a new Faculty-led model for two of them, awarded hundreds of dollars in grants for pedagogical innovation to faculty members from a wide-range of disciplines for an increasingly competitive grant program, and piloted the first Pedagogy Lightning Lecture Faculty Salon, which will return in the future by faculty request. The TLI also administered the Arthur Vining Davis grant received through the PCLA. As part of this program, three administrators and one department chair partnered with three student consultants. These partnerships represent an important step in the development of the roles of student TLI consultants and in the direction of the TLI more broadly speaking. In particular, successful partnerships resulted in: 1) an expansion of the TLI's role into the First-Year Advising program; 2) valuable student input to academic departments' ability to foster inclusive learning environments; and 3) consultation to members of the Student Affairs team and Dean's Office staff regarding inclusiveness and diversity within the campus community, with special attention to issues of disability and gender and sexual identity.

The CIE program, in conjunction with the Center for Writing and Speaking, held the second annual CIE Essay Contest. From the twenty-one entries, which included much excellent and thought-provoking work, a committee of faculty members and Writing Fellows chose Shayna

Kushner and Thea Pastras as winners and Matt Paulus for honorable mention. All three winners read their essays at CoSA.

The Center for Writing and Speaking continues to provide programming to fulfill its mission of supporting students and faculty in all their writing and speaking endeavors and encouraging campus-wide awareness of best practices in written and spoken communication. In addition to the over 600 appointments Writing Fellows held with students at the Center, Writing Fellows also worked with over 600 more by pairing with 39 courses, including CIE, Communication Theory and Research (MCS 292), Myth and Fairy Tale (ENGL 104), Foundations of Education (EDUC 210), Current Trends in Health (HEP 232), Modern Physics (PHYS 207), Globalization (ENV 242), and Methods in Literature (ENGL 290). In November, the Center hosted a month of writing events, including a series of short, fun essay prompts with weekly winners. Thirteen students were selected as new Writing Fellows and completed the 4-credit course Writing, Pedagogy, and Society, all from the class of 2020: Garrett Bullock, Jake Detweiler, Katie Hudick, Sophia King, Madison Kuklantz, Domenico Mazzeo, Madison McColgan, Madison Moses, Madison Rodak, Emily Shiplett, Kyung Son, Gabriel Tenaglia, and Daniel Walker. Finally, the Center administered a survey to students who visited the Center or had a Writing Fellow paired with their classes. 100% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the statements “My essay or presentation is better because of my visit to the Center for Writing and Speaking” and “My Writing Fellow did an excellent job.”

The U-Imagine Center for Integrative and Entrepreneurial Studies congratulates Dr. Cirka on her retirement and enters its sixth year of operation with Dr. Jaroff Founding Director and Maureen Cumpstone Entrepreneur-in-Residence. The Center was founded in 2013 to develop a sustainable campus-wide entrepreneurial spirit and is guided by its mission to “challenge students to identify opportunities and take action using ethical, entrepreneurial thinking.” During the 2017-2018 year, the U-Imagine Center continued to build a foundation for sustained and integrative programs that offer students multiple opportunities to develop a 21st century entrepreneurial mindset.

IMPACT is the Center’s curricular component for developing entrepreneurial mindset skills. IDS 050 Topics in Entrepreneurship has been offered for the last five semesters and enrolled 19 students in 2017-2018. Faculty Innovators is the “grass roots” strategy to engage faculty across the disciplines in the development of a curriculum with an entrepreneurial focus. It has produced a total of six courses, with two in the humanities offered during Spring 2018. The EIR team-taught modules in collaboration with faculty from Psychology, Environmental Studies and Sustainability. IDS 110 Marketing in a Digital World successfully ran twice, enrolling a total of 44 students. Four students participated in independent study during 2017-2018.

The BEAR Competition Series provides students with opportunities to develop entrepreneurial thought and action skills. The Competition Series is student led under the mentorship of the EIR. Fifteen students have lead programs for the Center. The #talkupthebears Social Media competition attracted 19 students from 8 different majors and all 3 class years in Fall 2017. Four teams comprised of 10 students progressed to the finals. The Spring 2018 BEAR Innovation Competition kicked off with an all-day boot camp in January 2018 and continued through the competition in April 2018. Twelve students participated in boot camp and 8 teams comprised of 24 students made it to the final BEAR Innovation Competition. The Schellhause Ethics essay attracted 36 student submissions.

The INSPIRE series connects students on and off campus with entrepreneurial thinkers and doers demonstrating paths to opportunities. This year, the U-Imagine Center hosted three INSPIRE Events for students to engage with accomplished entrepreneurs on and off campus. Randy Nelson, a serial entrepreneur, author and successful business leader and Kate Watts, President of HUGE, a digital marketing firm were brought to campus to engage with groups of

students, speak, visit classes and to provide one-on-one mentoring. INSPIRE attracted over 200 students and 30 Faculty and Staff. Philly INSPIRE took 13 students into Philadelphia to visit 6 entrepreneurial alums at their places of work and networked with over 30 area alumni at an evening reception hosted by an alum.

UC Digital Spark enables students to participate in an immersion experience whereby they work with local small or startup businesses to solve problems using a project-management approach. Summer 2018 saw the fourth student cohort of the UC Digital Spark program. Sixteen students were placed with 12 businesses to lend their digital marketing expertise. In January 2018, 13 students were partnered with local businesses to provide digital marketing support on a part-time basis. Fifty-seven students have been partnered with 40 local businesses since program inception.

The U-Imagine Center continues to make meaningful community connections both on and off campus. The U-Imagine Center, in collaboration with CPD, presented a workshop #Snapshot: What will I do? that reached 200 first-year students (50% of the first-year class). The EIR collaborated with Advancement to develop and moderate a workshop for the Alumni Career Day Workshop. The U-Imagine Center co-sponsored a workshop with SCORE, Grow with Google that brought 60 community members and students together. Four women U-Imagine student leaders went to Temple's League for Women Entrepreneurship conference and a student start-up team of three went to Quorum at the University City Science Center. The EIR did a poster presentation on the Center's distinctive UC Digital Spark program at the Deshpande Symposium for Innovation & Entrepreneurship in Higher Education.

Avenue V, a seed-funding program for students, graduated seniors, faculty and staff, which provides financial support for entrepreneurial action, was launched in Summer 2017. The U-Imagine Center continues to develop programs that "find the ember and light the spark" across campus.

The accomplishments described above must be set against the backdrop of a routine set of activities that seem to this newcomer's eye to be far from routine, as described by these numbers:

- The April 2018 CoSA (Celebration of Student Achievement) was the largest CoSA event ever, with a record number of 417 distinct student participants. New this year were an electronic music event and a field hockey demonstration.
- Sixty-six students participated in the 2018 Summer Fellows program, including a high percentage of underrepresented students. The Summer Fellows program also supported six FUTURE students this year.
- Human subjects research is of growing importance to our faculty and students. The Institutional Review Board reviewed and approved 44 new protocols, 28 continuing protocols, and 13 protocol revisions, which is consistent with research done in the previous academic year.
- We celebrated faculty members who produced 45 publications, all of which were placed on display at our annual Celebration of Faculty and Student Scholarship, Creativity, and Achievement.

The completion of the Innovation and Discovery Center has been anticipated all year. Everyone welcomed the slow removal of barriers and construction equipment, and the first glimpses of the building over the summer brought considerable excitement to well more than just science faculty and students. The promise of a truly interdisciplinary facility appears bright.

On a personal note, I want to thank all of the faculty, staff, and students who have welcomed me to Ursinus over the past year, and been patient with me as I learned about the college and was often too slow to respond to e-mail. My ability to continue to look competent has depended to a great deal on the unfailing support and coverage of everyone in the Dean's Office: Kelly, Nathan, Stephanie, Meredith, Nicole, and of course, Val.

Mark Schneider  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Dean of the College

## The Professional Achievement of Faculty

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### Summaries of Departmental Achievement and Activity

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#### *Anthropology and Sociology*

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In May 2018, Dr. Jonathan L. Clark received the Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award, and in December 2017 he published "Consider the Vulture: An Ethical Approach to Roadkill," on the Discard Studies blog. Dr. Jasmine Harris gave two conference presentations. In August 2017, at the Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting, in Montreal, Canada, Dr. Harris presented "Sex Games: Sexual Health, College Hook-Up Culture, and the Ideological Construction of Risk," which was based on her research project on sexual health practices. In April 2018, at the Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, in New Orleans, Dr. Harris presented "Uncomfortable Learning, Uncomfortable Teaching: Power, Pedagogy, and White Supremacy in the Trump-era Classroom," which was based on her research project on uncomfortable learning pedagogy. In June 2018, Dr. Harris's pedagogical research paper analyzing the use of discomfort to teach racism was published as a chapter in a volume titled *Difficult Subjects*. Dr. Harris contributed to the NPR affiliate radio-show *Fly Over with Kerri Miller* in October and December 2017 to discuss issues of race and gender in growing U.S. social movements. Dr. Harris also published two essays on race and higher education pedagogy on *InsideHigherEd.com*. The first, published in November 2017, is titled "Surviving Institutional Racism in Academe," and the second, published in May 2018, is titled "The Emotional, Uncomfortable Classroom." Dr. Lauren Wynne was the keynote speaker for the 2018 Greater Philadelphia Latin American Studies Consortium Conference. Her talk, titled "Through the Lens of Food: Pleasure and Suffering in Contemporary Yucatán," was based on her ongoing ethnographic research in rural Mexico. She also presented at two conferences. Her paper at the annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology/Society for Medical Anthropology analyzed alcohol consumption in her research site in Mexico. During the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, she presented with a co-researcher and with an Ursinus student, Megan Burns. That paper is part of a second project that examines the pregnancy and childbirth experiences of women in Central New York. Professor Kate Davis presented two conference papers. At the 36th Northeast Conference on Andean and Amazonian Archaeology and Ethnohistory, in Philadelphia, Prof. Davis presented "House for the Living, Home for the Dead: Mortuary Activity in the Muru Ut Pata Area, Tiwanaku." And at the 83rd Conference of the Society for American Archaeology, in Washington, DC, she presented "Construction of Social Capital in Tiwanaku Residential Spaces through Faunal and Ceramic Material." Professor Jose Maria Lopez Bejarano published "The Inca Sacred Landscapes in the Titicaca Basin," a contribution in *The Oxford Handbook of the Incas*, published by Oxford University Press. Dr. Margee Kerr co-authored an article titled "Voluntary arousing negative experiences (VANE): Why we like to be scared," in the journal *Emotion*. Dr. Kerr and co-writer Linda McRobbie sold their non-fiction book proposal on pain to Bloomsbury Press. "OUCH: The New Science of Pain" is scheduled for publication in the summer of 2020. Dr. Kerr continued to travel and give guest lectures at universities across the country, including Dickinson College and Utah State. She was also an invited speaker at the TedX Foggy Bottom, where she discussed how we can reclaim our fear.

#### *Art and Art History*

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The faculty members of the Department of Art & Art History have had a very productive year that includes displaying their work at 3 solo/two-person exhibitions and 9 group exhibitions, along with the publications of several artist statements. Sarah Kaufman's work was selected by blind jury review to be featured in a permanent public art display at the Philadelphia Convention Center. Our newest faculty member mentored two students who presented their papers at the Art History Symposium at Lycoming College, and presented her 5th annual lecture series at the Pennsylvania Chautauqua at Mt. Gretna.

## *Biology*

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The Biology Department is pleased to report a brief summary of achievements during the 2017-2018 academic year. Several faculty published manuscripts including Dr. Ellen Dawley in *Herpetological Monographs*, Dr. Carlita Favero in *Impulse- the Premier Undergraduate Neuroscience Journal*, Dr. Denise Finney in *Agricultural and Environmental Letters, Conservation, Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Environment*, and *Journal of Applied Ecology*, Dr. Kathryn Goddard in *J. Penn. Acad. Sci.*, Dr. Rebecca Lyczak in *Developmental Biology*, Dr. Rebecca Roberts in *Mediators of Inflammation*, and Dr. Cory Straub in *Current Opinion in Insect Science*. We congratulate grant awardees Dr. Rebecca Lyczak for her NIH-R15 (AREA) grant and Dr. Rebecca Roberts for two NSF IUSE grants. Drs. Jennifer Round and Carlita Favero continue their work as co-PI's on the NSF-STEM award while Dr. Kathryn Goddard serves as the co-PI of an NSF grant promoting inclusive excellence in STEM education. Finally, our faculty continue to engage our students in meaningful research experiences and have presented at local, regional and national meetings.

## *Business and Economics*

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Three faculty published articles in their respective fields. Scott Burns published *Go with the Flow: An Emergent Free Banking Approach to Stabilize Nominal Spending*, in *Cosmos and Taxis*. Scott Deacle co-authored *Federal Home Loan Bank Advances and Bank and Holding Companies*, in *Real Estate Economics* with Elysa Elyasiani. Jennifer Van gilder was successful in publishing two papers with John Robst. *Salary and Job Satisfaction among Economics and Business Graduates: The Effect of Match between Degree Field and Job in International Review of Economic Education* and *The relationship between faculty characteristics and the use of norm- and criteria-based grading in Cogent Economics and Finance*. Jenn Van Gilder also was awarded a grant from the PCLA for programing on campus. Olga Nicoara was invited to present her research at the Association of Private Enterprise Education, and the BB&T Conference on Measurement of Success.

## *Chemistry*

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The Chemistry Department, led by Ryan Walvoord, was the recipient of a \$214,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to acquire an NMR spectrometer, which was installed during spring break. The instrument has already been used by numerous students and faculty to support their research and teaching efforts. Mark Ellison published an article in the *Journal of Physical Chemistry C*. Brian Pfennig supervised an honors thesis student. Amanda Reig published a book chapter describing Parlee Center's successful FUTURE program. Victor Tortorelli has been heavily involved in the IDC building project and Eric Williamsen continues his work as co-coordinator of the BCMB program.

## *Education*

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Stephanie Mackler presented a paper, "Cliches and Other Crimes Against Humanity" (to be published next year), at the Philosophy of Education Society Annual Conference in Chicago. Dr. Mackler also led a panel on "Montessori's Philosophy of Education: the Work of Becoming Human", served as an invited participant in a panel on hermeneutic education, and served as an invited participant in a panel on filmic representations of child-rearing. John Spencer continued research on a book project about school reformer Theodore Sizer, presenting at a conference of the Academy for Educational Studies in Portland, Oregon and in his Baden lecture at Ursinus. Seamus Mulryan published an article, "Toward Deep Liberation: A Gadamerian Correction to Critical Pedagogy," in *Philosophy of Education 2016* and served as an invited respondent to Karl Joyner at the Philosophy of Education Society annual conference in Chicago ("Competing Pretenses: Using Irony to Move Beyond Aporia").

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## English

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This report focuses on the accomplishments of our creative writing faculty, all of whom have been recognized for their outstanding artistic accomplishments and scholarship this past year.

Jon Volkmer, Professor English and Director of the Creative Writing Program: *Nebraska Presence*, an anthology of poetry by Nebraska poets containing three of Jon's works, was chosen as the 2018 selection for the One Book Nebraska Program. Jon took his scholarship on poet Alexander Wilson to the UK, presenting his work at a prestigious cultural heritage conference. He will continue his project of mapping the Wilson trail during his Fall 2018 sabbatical, while working on various essays, poems and short stories.

Nzadi Keita, Associate Professor of English: Nzadi, Pew Fellow at the Pew Center for Arts and Heritage, was the featured poet (with Nathalie Anderson) at the Dead Bards Reading Series in Manayunk last July and at the Scribe Video Center's Street Movies Series in Germantown in August of 17. Nzadi read "Libations for the One Hundred Years of Sistah Gwendolyn Brooks at "A Centennial Celebration of Gwendolyn Brooks" by Moonstone Arts Center at the African-American Museum of Philadelphia. In addition to several other readings throughout the year, Nzadi published a poem in *The Maine Review* from *Second Person*, her manuscript-in-progress, which she will develop during her Spring 2019 leave, supported by a generous grant from the Pew Center.

Anna Maria Hong, Visiting Assistant Professor of English: Anna Maria's second poetry collection, *Fablesque*, won Tupelo Press's Berkshire Prize for a first or second book of poetry. She accepted a tenure-track job at Bennington teaching undergraduate and graduate students, which she will begin in August 2018.

## Environmental Studies

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Dr. Hurley continued his service as the chair of the Environmental Studies department during the 2017-2018 year, offering his regular load of four courses while chair. Among his courses, two stand out for their success in moving learning outside the traditional classroom. Dr. Hurley offered his rotating version of the departmental capstone focused on applied problem-solving in the area of urban sustainability (ENV 454W). Beyond his regular teaching activities, Dr. Hurley continues to work with and mentor students in his People and Urban Forests research program. This approach to research has borne fruit through publicly available findings and academic publications. With Meredith Goldsmith, Dr. Hurley is a co-PI on an NEH Humanities Connection grant, "Trajectories of Transformation," a year-long planning grant to develop interdisciplinary coursework for the new core curriculum.

Following a year in which Dr. Joseph worked to support the renewal of the Office of Sustainability (2016-2017), a departmental priority given its institutional importance and the many applied learning opportunities it creates for ENV students, in 2017-2018 Dr. Joseph offered two natural science lab courses, the major introductory course, and offered one of the department's two sections of CIE. On the research front, Dr. Joseph continues to incorporate Ursinus students into her research program and to provide them with new opportunities for professional development, on and off campus. Dr. Joseph worked with a Summer Fellows student in summer 2017, who continued her project as an independent study through the end of 2017.

Following a successful sabbatical year in 2016-2017, Dr. Wallace returned to his full complement of five courses for 2017-2018, which included reengaging with students at all levels of the curriculum, ranging from the major's introductory course to its course in advanced critical thinking for upper-level majors. Building on his sabbatical activities prior to, during, after sabbatical, Dr. Wallace's research continues its impressive output.





## *Health and Exercise Physiology*

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The Health and Exercise Physiology (HEP) Department continues to be a vibrant and active member of the campus community. Student enrollment and interest in the discipline remains strong and has grown to its historical high of 172 declared majors. Further, students continue to report rigorous and positive experiences within the department which is praiseworthy given the faculty changes which have occurred as a result of retirements in recent years. The department initiated a new monthly Journal Club Meeting in the spring semester which was attended by the vast majority of the students in the department. Each month a faculty member was able to present some of the latest research within our field of study to further draw connections between the academic community and the outside world of science.

Opportunities for research continue to expand; students now have the opportunity to work in the HEART Lab under Dr. Feairheller who enters her 6th year of teaching, the Skeletal Muscle Lab under Dr. Carpenter who is starting her 4th year of teaching, the Patient Safety in Medicine Work-Group with Dr. van de Ruit who starts her 3rd year of work in the department, the Heart & Muscle Metabolism Lab under Dr. Kolwicz who is entering his 2nd year of instruction and a student teaching experience in Health and Physical Education with Dr. Engstrom who is entering his 26th year of service to the college. The department is further served by a strong group of part-time faculty members, however, Professor Pam Chlad has retired from teaching and two long-time adjunct professors Kristin Paisley and Tracy Harper retired as well. These individuals will be difficult to replace.

## *History*

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Despite continued loss and major change, in 2017-2018 the four History Department faculty were productive and recognized in their fields. Dr. Lori Dagggar was awarded a prestigious two-year fellowship at the Bright Institute (Knox College), which includes annual seminars as well as \$9,000 in research funds. Drs. Dagggar and Onaci both signed book contracts with highly respected academic presses while Dr. Susanna Throop is completing two books under contract. Dr. Glenda Chao was invited to serve as co-chair of Columbia University's esteemed Early China Seminar beginning in August 2018. All faculty gave conference papers and invited talks, engaged in service to the profession, and published (and/or secured publication of) journal articles. Drs. Chao and Throop received funds to employ student research assistants, and Dr. Throop supervised an honors student. Dr. Edward Onaci led community engagement events in the region and Dr. Throop led the execution of Ursinus's Reacting to the Past Endeavor Challenge Grant.

## *Mathematics and Computer Science*

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The Math and CS department is active and engaged both inside and outside of the classroom. Professor Lisa Grossbauer was honored to deliver the convocation address. Professor Ann Marie Schilling served as Adviser to the Women in Technology and Science club. Professor Alvin Grissom published paper on Japanese language processing and mentored three students and took one to a workshop. Furthermore, along with Professors Kara McShane and Meredith Goldsmith, he received a PCLA Opportunity grant for a one-day workshop. Professor Christopher Sadowski published a paper in the Journal of Algebra, submitted 3 other papers, and presented his work at three conferences. Miss Wendy Heberlein completed a course on Basic R programming and participated in one TLI study group. Professor Nicholas Scoville was invited to give lectures at 10 universities and published a paper in the Journal of Complex Networks. Olena Kozhushkina revamped her senior level analysis course and, most importantly, gave birth to her first child Norah.

## *Media and Communication Studies*

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The Media & Communication Studies Faculty have had a productive, varied year, serving the field through scholarship and sharing our expertise in public venues. Collectively, we gave 12 conference presentations, organized and ran several panels, and spoke at libraries and film institutes. We've shared our research through popular publications such as *Wired*, and top tier journals such as *Television and New Media* and *Columbia Journalism Review*, with 8 publications in total. MCS faculty have also successfully secured book contracts, been awarded research grants from Arthur Vining Davis and The Tow Center at the Columbia University, and mentored student scholars through honors research, conference participation, and summer fellows research. As lifelong learners, we live what we teach by developing new areas of expertise, both as scholars and as media makers. We are thankful that the College values our intellectual and creative work, recognizing its partnership with pedagogy.

## *Modern Languages*

Dr. Julin Everett, Assistant Professor of French, published a monograph titled *Le Queer Impérial: Male Homoerotic Desire in Francophone Colonial and Postcolonial Literature*. Dr. Óscar Useche, Assistant Professor of Spanish, published an article titled "Laureano Calderón's Social Foundry: Industrial Imagination and Social Prescription in Restoration Spain." With Cari Freno of the Art Department, Dr. Everett co-curated an exhibition about identity titled "Seen/Unseen," which was installed throughout the campus. Department faculty who gave conference presentations on their research include Dr. Jose Cornelio, Assistant Professor of Spanish (3); Dr. Céline Brossillon, Assistant Professor of French (NTT) (2); Dr. Everett (2); Dr. Useche (3); Dr. Juan-Ramón de Arana, Associate Professor of Spanish (1); and Matthew Mizenko, Associate Professor of Japanese (1). Dr. Cornelio served as a peer reviewer, and Dr. Useche published a book review and mentored a student whose paper was published in an undergraduate journal.

## *Music*

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Music Department faculty continued to engage in professional endeavors during the 2017-2018 academic year. Holly Hubbs, currently in her third year as Department Chair, performed at the International Saxophone Symposium (George Mason University) in January and performed an on-campus solo recital, also in January. Hubbs was also admitted to the Amherst Early Music Festival as one of eight recorder players accepted into the Festival's Advanced Recorder Ensemble (Festival and public concert taking place in July 2018). Dr. Hubbs served on numerous college committees and working groups in 2017-2018, including the Student Conduct Committee (Chair), College Planning and Priorities Committee, First-Year Advising Working Group, Digital Liberal Arts Working Group, First-Generation Students and Faculty Working Group, Campus Master Planning Committee (CPPC representative) and Student Commons Planning Committee. In addition, Hubbs was awarded with the college's Award for Outstanding First-Year Advising in August 2017 and received the Laughlin Professional Achievement Award at Commencement in May 2018.

## *Neuroscience*

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Tenure was awarded to Jennifer Stevenson, who had a productive year with four publications (in the journals: *Autism*, *Perception*, *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, and *Perceptual and Motor Skills*). Joel Bish was a coauthor with Stevenson on the article published in *Perception*. Stevenson and Bish also presented with a student at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society. Bish and Carlita Favero each had publications with students in *IMPULSE – The Premiere Undergraduate Neuroscience Journal*, and Bish has a publication in press in *The Journal of Psychology and the Behavioral Sciences*. Favero and Jennifer Round

presented, along with two other Ursinus faculty members, at the annual meeting of the American Society of Cell Biology, and Favero had another presentation at a workshop of the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience Education and an invited research lecture at the College of William and Mary.

### *Philosophy and Religious Studies*

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The members of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies have been very active in scholarship and professional work. Stew Goetz published a book, *C. S. Lewis*, with Blackwell and Kelly Sorenson edited a volume, *Kant and the Faculty of Feeling*, for Cambridge University Press. In addition, faculty in the department published more than half a dozen articles in professional journals and presented their work at conferences more than half a dozen times. Stew Goetz received a grant from the Templeton Foundation.

### *Physics*

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We successfully completed a national tenure-track search and are delighted to welcome Dr. Kassie Martin-Wells to the Department. Physics Faculty members co-authored a total of 5 papers with 11 student co-authors, gave 7 conference presentations with 3 student co-authors, and mentored 6 summer research students. Students in our research groups gave 6 conference presentations, and one graduated with distinguished honors in Physics. Dr. Martin-Wells worked with the Stone Independent High School in Lancaster, PA to develop innovative, “project-based” pedagogies for introductory physics. Dr. Casey Schwarz brought 4 speakers to campus with TLI and Arts and Lectures support and won a grant from the Ceramic and Glass Industry Foundation (CGIF) funding a materials summer science camp for high school students from groups underrepresented in STEM fields and outreach by Ursinus students in local middle schools. Drs. Thomas Carroll and Lewis Riley were supported by grants from the National Science Foundation. Dr. Carroll continued to serve the College as lead CIE coordinator.

### *Politics and International Relations*

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Rebecca Evans presented a paper on women's rights in Latin America at the Northeast Political Science annual conference, served as a Fulbright screening committee member, and participated in a conference for coordinators of Peace Corps Preparatory programs in Washington DC. She also led a group of eight student volunteers on a service trip to Houston where they assisted in ongoing hurricane recovery efforts. Gerard Fitzpatrick was one of thirty participants in a seminar titled “The 20th Century American Presidency,” jointly sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, conducted by Professor Emeritus Robert Dallek of the University of California at Los Angeles, at the Stanford University Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Center, in Washington D.C. The program included a \$500 support grant. Ann Karreth's co-authored book, *The 25 Issues that Shape American Politics: Debates, Differences, and Divisions* was published by Routledge in October. Johannes Karreth's co-written book, *Incentivizing Peace*, was published by Oxford University Press. His article, “The Political-Economic Leverage of Intergovernmental Organizations in Interstate Disputes,” appeared in *International Interactions*. Jonathan Marks wrote in 2017-18 for the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *InsideHigherEd*, the *Wall St. Journal*, and other outlets. Paul Stern's book, *Dante's Philosophical Life*, was published by the University of Pennsylvania Press.

### *Psychology*

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In 2017-2018, the department welcomed Dr. Terry Winegar as a full-time faculty member, who supervised numerous student research projects across two sections of Advanced Research Methods in Developmental Psychology. In only her second year at Ursinus, Dr. Vanessa Volpe published three articles, gave numerous presentations, secured a teaching and learning grant, and earned several other accolades. Dr. Jennifer Stevenson was awarded tenure and promoted

to associate professor, and she continued to add to her list of publications. Dr. Cathy Chambliss continued to add to her list of publications, specifically the publication of *Empathy Rules*. Dr. Brent Mattingly published a chapter in the edited volume, *Self-Concept Clarity*. Dr. Joel Bish continued to supervise student research which resulted in conference presentations. Lastly, Dr. Kneia DaCosta also supervised student research and collected data in preparation for her sabbatical.

### *Theater and Dance*

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The Department of Theater and Dance staged the largest production in recent Ursinus history, the musical *Hair*, combining Theater, Dance, and Music programs with over 60 students working on the production. Prof. McCain's fall dance concert evolved our concept of Ursinus dance, weaving professional and academic work into one cohesive whole. The department also continued its development of new course, adding a 2-credit performance option to the existing 1-credit, deepening our students' opportunities for experiential learning. Dr. Brodie initiated a new Senior Capstone model. Students researched and created their own 'Living Newspaper,' combining scholarly and artistic studies into a cohesive, timely, and thought-provoking theater work. In the realm of engagement with the larger community, we partnered with the Collegeville Economic Development Corporation for 'Dinner & Show' promotion on all 3 spring productions. Finally, Prof. Scudera led a month-long theater group for alumni and parents. This year's iteration doubled the participants from last year.

## The William Wilson Baden Faculty Lecture Series

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*This series is supported by the income from a fund established in 1987 by W. Wilson Baden ('19) to honor his father William Wilson Baden, who was Professor of Modern Languages at Ursinus from 1914 to 1924.*

**Jennifer Stevenson, Psychology**

“Can we reliably assess autistic traits in college students?”  
Thursday, September 21, 2017

**Anthony Nadler, Media and Communication Studies**

“Conservative News and Post-Broadcast Democracy”  
Thursday, October 5, 2017

**Jeanine McCain, Dance**

“Performing Personal Histories: Body, Landscape, and the Digital Image in Dance Performance”  
Thursday, October 26, 2017

**Lew Riley, Physics**

“Gone pear-shaped: octupole vibrations and other adventures in nuclear structure”  
Thursday, November 16, 2017

**Rebecca Lyczak, Biology**

“When two mutations are better than one: suppression of pam-1 lethality”  
Thursday, November 30, 2017

**Susanna Throop, History**

“Adventures in Feedback: Unexpected Connections between Teaching, Scholarship, and Public Engagement in the Humanities”  
Thursday, February 8, 2018

**John Spencer, Education**

“From ‘Covering’ Subjects to ‘Using One’s Mind Well’: TheodoreSizer and the Struggle to Revitalize High School Learning, 1960s-Present”  
Thursday, March 1, 2018

**Richard Wallace, Environmental Studies**

“Yellowstone’s Uncertain Future: Is Education the Answer?”  
Thursday, March 29, 2018

**Catherine Chambliss, Psychology**

“Empathy Rules:  
The Role of Freudenfreude and Schadenfreude in Depression”  
Thursday, April 12, 2018

## Pre-Tenure Leaves

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**Deborah Feairheller**

Health and Exercise Physiology

“Exercise Training to Improve Cardiovascular & Vascular Health”

Fall 2017

**Edward Onaci**

History

“The Fruition of Black Power”: The Republic of New Afrika, Black Territorial Nationalism, and Lifestyle Politics”

Fall 2017

**Jennifer Round**

Biology

“Investigation of Slitrk Intracellular Signaling in Nervous System Development”

Fall 2017

## Sabbatical Leaves

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**Chisu Teresa Ko**

Modern Languages

“Argentina: Race in a Raceless Nation”

Academic Year 2017-18

**Jonathan Clark**

Anthropology and Sociology

“Roadkill: An Ethnographic Account”

Fall 2017

**Amanda Reig**

Chemistry

“De Novo Protein Models of Binuclear Metalloenzymes”

Fall 2017

**Nicholas Scoville**

Mathematics and Computer Science

“Discrete Morse Theory and Knot Theory”

Fall 2017

**Deborah Barkun**

Art and Art History

“Tangled Web: Global Contemporary Art, Textile, and the Performance of Labor”

Spring 2018

**Dale Cameron**

Biology

“Ribosome-associated regulation of yeast prion formation”

Spring 2018

**Mathew Kozusko**

English

“Shakespeare’s Missing Sex Joke”

Spring 2018

**Paul Stern**

Politics

“Turning Around of a Soul’: The Worth of Liberal Education”

Spring 2018

**Jennifer VanGilder**

Business and Economics

“An Analysis of Faculty Decisions: To Leave or To Work”

Spring 2018



## The Professional Achievement of Students

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### Student-Faculty Publication

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Bish, J., Boas, R.\*, Brodowski, M. ('17), Harsch, J. ('17), Oakes, T. ('17). Executive Control in Concussed Versus Non-Concussed Individuals. To be published in the Journal of Psychology and the Behavioral Sciences.

Bish, J., Guzman, S.\*, Harvey, C.\*, Luben, A.\*, Olafunmiloye, T.\* Differences in Brain Activity EEG Between Concussed and Non-Concussed Groups in Problem Solving Tasks. To be published in IMPULSE-the Premier Undergraduate Neuroscience Journal.

Carroll, T., Kang, X.\*, Rowley, Z.\*, Gregoric, V., Liu, Z., Noel, M. Quantum control via a genetic algorithm of the field ionization pathway of a Rydberg electron. Published in Physical Review A.

Chambliss, C., Gartenberg, C., Honrychs, D., Elko, M., March, R., McGill, S., Watters, M., Bayer, K., Boylan, C., Hanson, A., Hawley, B., Ventura, D., & Boss, R. (2017). Distracted by Binge-watching: Sources of Academic and Social Disruption in College Students. *ARC Journal of Pediatrics*, 3(1), 14-17.

Favero, C., Karliner, J.\*, Nagy, M., Yeagley, N.\*, Barnett-Ohuri, Z., D'Ortona, L.\*, Lawrence, J., McNamara, R.\*, Boas, R.\*, Brubaker, H.\*, Collopy, S., Nolan, J. Low-dose prenatal alcohol exposure modulates weight gain and eliminates fractalkine expression in e14.5 mouse embryos. Publication in *Impulse: The Premier Journal for Undergraduate Publications in the Neurosciences* 2017.

Getty AK, Wisdo TR, Chavis LN, Derella CC, McLaughlin KC, Perez AN, DiCiurcio WT, Corbin M, Fairheller DL. Effects of Circuit Exercise Training on Vascular Health and Blood Pressure. *Preventive Medicine*. Under Review.

Getty AK, Lenzo JM, Wisdo TR, Aichele KR, Oakman JE, Neal MP, Cromwell CM, Hill JA, Chavis LN, Fairheller DL. Blood Pressure and Cardiovascular Health in Young and Middle-aged Adults. *International Journal of Exercise Science*. 2017;10(5):798-806.

Maccaroni, M.\*, Fillian, T., Hurley P., McKinnon, I., Myles, C. Uneven urban metabolisms: Toward an integrative (ex)urban political ecology of sustainability in and around the city. Accepted for publication in the journal *Urban Geography*.

McClelland JM, Fowkes Godek S, Chlad PS, Fairheller DL, Morrison KE. The Effects of Cardiovascular Fitness and Body Composition on Maximal Core Temperature in Collegiate Football Players During Pre-Season. *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*. 2017. Doi:10.1519/JSC.0000000000002027.

Oakman JE, Perez AN, Neal MP, Lenzo JM, Cromwell CM, Aichele KR, Bye NL, Santaniello EL, Hill JA, Evans RC, Wisdo TR, Chavis LN, Thiele KA, Getty AK, Fairheller DL. Lower Extremity Joint Angle and Range of Motion are Associated with Cardiovascular Health. *Physical Therapy in Sport*. Under Review

Requa, E\*, K. Much\*, J. Bell\*, K. Bemis\*, L. Cappa\*, S. Ordog\*, P. Chi and K. Goddard. Geographical distribution of metazoan parasites of *Rhinichthys atratulus atratulus* and *Fundulus heteroclitus* throughout the suburban-urban watershed of the Darby Creek, Pennsylvania. *J. Penn. Acad. Sci.* December 2017, in press.

Saturno, D.\*, Castanzo, D.\*, Williams, M.\*, Parikh, D.\*, Jaeger, E., and Lyczak, R. Sustained centrosome-cortical contact ensures robust polarization of the one-cell *C. elegans* embryo. *Developmental Biology* 422(2):135-145.

Wager M, \*Nelson A, \*Flake C, \*Eaton D, Bailey B. Cardiac Hypertrophy and Myocyte Remodeling are Exacerbated with Multiple Pregnancies. *FASEB J.* 31: Supp 688.7, 2017.

## Student Conference Presentations

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Allwein, B.\*, Cameron, D. Characterization of SUP35, RNQ1, and URE2 Cotranslational Prion Aggregation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. University of Maryland Baltimore County's 20th Undergraduate Research Symposium in the Chemical and Biological Sciences, Baltimore, Maryland, October 14, 2017.

Allwein, B.\*, Cameron, D. Characterization of Sup35, Rnq1, and Ure2 Cotranslational Prion Aggregation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. American Chemical Society National Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Allwein, B.\*, Cameron, D. Characterization of Sup35, Rnq1, and Ure2 Cotranslational Prion Aggregation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. Experimental Biology meeting, Chicago, IL.

Allwein, B.\*, Cameron, D., DiCioccio, M.\* Characterization of Sup35, Rnq1, and Ure2 Cotranslational Prion Aggregation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. University of the Sciences Undergraduate Research Symposium, Philadelphia, PA.

Altemose, Q. Solution processing and properties of dip-coated chalcogenide alloy films. 2018 Glass and Optical Materials division Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, May 21, 2018.

Beacham, A., Olafunmiloye, T. Racial Discrimination and Health. Chicago Minority Health Conference, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL, February 22, 2018.

Bennett, J., Choice, K. Optimizing an electron's path to ionization using a genetic algorithm. American Physical Society's Division of Laser Science conference, Washington, D.C., September 7, 2017.

Bennett, J.\*, Carroll, T., Gualtieri, B.\*, Gregoric, V., Noel, M., Rowley, Z.\* Simulations of directed field ionization. 49th Annual Meeting of the APS Division of Atomic, Molecular & Optical Physics, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, May 2018.

Benton, D.\*, Lee, Z.\*, Kilner, A.\*, Kimble, A.\*, Jaeger, E. and Lyczak, R. Suppressor screening to identify new regulators of anterior-posterior axis establishment in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. American Society for Cell Biology Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.

Buczek, C.R.\* and L.H. Joseph, 2017. Paleoclimate of Quaternary Costa Rica: Analysis of Sediment from ODP Site 1242 in the Eastern Tropical Pacific to Explore the Behavior of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) and Oceanic Circulation. Accepted for presentation and as a published abstract. Presented as a poster at national Fall 2017 American Geophysical Union, New Orleans, LA.

Budny, A., Malones, R. Childhood Traumatic Loss and Grief. ADEC 40th Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, April 18, 2018.

Burden, D., Daring, J., Jean-Baptiste, K., Butts, J., Cinalli, J., Jordan, D., Clemente, K. (faculty mentor). Social Deception. American College Dance Association (ACDA), West Chester University, West Chester, Pennsylvania, March 2018.

Burns, M., Wynne L. (faculty mentor). What's in a name? The Use and Meaning of "Natural" in the Birth Experience. Eastern Sociological Society 2018 Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, February 2018.

Cameron, D., Kelly, C., Taddeo, J.\*, Tessitore, T.\* The Ribosome-Associated Complex Suppresses [PSI+] Prion Formation in Yeast. American Society for Cell Biology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Cameron, D., Kelly, C., Taddeo, J.\*, Tessitore, T.\* Exploring a role for the ribosome-associated complex in the interplay between environmental stress and prion formation in yeast. American Chemical Society Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting, Hershey, PA.

Cameron, D., Kelly, C., Taddeo, J.\*, Tessitore, T.\* The Ribosome-Associated Complex Suppresses [PSI+] Prion Formation in Yeast. Experimental Biology meeting, Chicago, IL.

Carpenter, A., Rafferty, R.\* The Effects of RICE on Skeletal Muscle Repair. Experimental Biology 2018, San Diego, California.

Cope, S.\*, Cooper, M.\*, Pastorino, J.\*, Taranto, L.\*, Yeagley, N.\*, Bish, J. Long-Term Neuropsychological and Neurophysiological Deficits of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury. Association for Psychological Science, San Francisco, CA, May 2018.

Corbin ME, Derella CC, McLaughlin KC, Getty AK, Chavis LN, Wisdo TR, Roberts CK, Fairheller DL. Blood Pressure and Cardiovascular Responses to Emergency Calls in Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians. *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*. 2016;49(5) Supp. World Congress on Exercise & American College of Sports Medicine. Denver CO. 2017.

Cutler, W., Chambliss, C., & Kolter, J. (2017). Wellness in Women: Long Term Freedom from a Diagnosis of Invasive Breast Cancer, Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions, March 2017, San Diego.

Druker, G.\*, Luksic, W.\*, Walvoord, R. Development of a Reaction-Based Chemical Sensor for the Detection of Atrazine. University of Maryland Baltimore County's 20th Undergraduate Research Symposium in the Chemical and Biological Sciences, Baltimore, Maryland, October 14, 2017.

Esposito, M.\*, Pfennig, B. Evidence of Next-Nearest-Neighbor Electronic Coupling in a Series of Cyano-Bridged trans-Fe(II)Pt(IV)M(II) Asymmetric Trimers (M = Fe, Ru). 82nd Intercollegiate Student Chemist Convention, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, April 7, 2018.

Esposito, M. Evidence of Next-Nearest-Neighbor Electronic Coupling in a Series of Trans-Fe(II)-Pt(IV)-Ru(II) Cyano-Bridged Timers. Undergraduate Research Poster Conference, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, April 17, 2018.

Farrell, E.\*, Novak, C.\*, Volpe, V. The impact of spiritual coping and private regard on heart rate during recovery from racial stress. 2017 American Psychological Association's Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.

Franklin, G. Research focused on situating teen suicide clusters that have afflicted the Oglala Sioux Pine Ridge reservation periodically since 2010 within the context of history. Phi Alpha Theta Pennsylvania Eastern Regional Conference, King's College, Pennsylvania, February 24, 2018.

Greyson, B.\*, Lee, A.\*, Normil, N.\*, Pantel, J.\*, Yhap, C.\*, Ellison, M. Graphene Oxide as a Delivery Agent to Antibiotic-resistant Bacteria. 254th ACS National Meeting and Exposition, Washington D. C., August 21, 2017.

Hartford, R. Investigating Female Indigenous Leadership in Latin America. GPLASC conference, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 20, 2018.

Hurley, P., Emery, M., Detweiler, J.\*, Becker, S.\*, Fernandez, V.\*, McGillis, K., Hanscom, M. Assessing the Material Benefits of Philly's Urban Forest. 2018 Annual Meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 7, 2018.

Inverse-kinematics proton scattering from 41P, B.R. Klybor\*, S.D. Gregory\*, E.B. Haldeman\*, L.A. Riley, L.M. Skiles\*, P.D. Cottle, K.W. Kemper, D. Bazin, J. Belarge, P.C. Bender, B. Elman, A. Gade, S. Lipschutz, B. Longfellow, E. Lunderberg, T. Mijatovic, J. Pereira, R. Titus, D. Weisshaar, J.C. Zamora, and, R.G.T. Zegers, Bull. Amer. Phys. Soc. 62, No. 11 EA.00172 (2017).

Javes, V., O'Callaghan, S., Neumann, T. Gender Differences in Long-Term Impulse Control Problems Following Concussion. North American Brain Injury Society (NABIS) Conference, Houston, Texas, March 16, 2018.

J. Lachowicz\*, S. Parikh\*, C. Leahy\*, A. Kopera\*, E. Frees\*, J. Saunders\*, A. Goldstein\*, and R. Roberts. The effects of bisphenol A (BPA) and BPA structural analogs on metastasis of the MCF-7 breast cancer cell line. American Society of Cell Biology annual conference. Philadelphia, PA. Dec. 2-6.

Karliner, J.\*, Stephens, A.\*, Drebusenko, L. ('14), Round, J. Exploring the role of the Slitrk2 protein in neurogenesis. Haverford College Undergraduate Science Research Symposium, Haverford College, Haverford, PA, September 23, 2017.

Larese, M. Finding Ishi through the Oral Traditions of Survivance. Phi Alpha Theta Pennsylvania Eastern Regional Conference, King's College, Pennsylvania, February 24, 2018.

Makuc, Joseph. Public and Private: the Gender of Medieval English. Phi Alpha Theta Pennsylvania Eastern Regional Conference, King's College, Pennsylvania, February 24, 2018.

McLaughlin KC, Chavis LN, Dickinson R, Reeve E, Roberts CK, Fairheller DL. Analysis of Dietary Intake in Volunteer Firefighters. *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*. 2016;49(5) Supp. World Congress on Exercise & American College of Sports Medicine. Denver CO. 2017.

Olafunmiloye, T. Examining How Social Barriers Shape Physical Barriers to Healthcare within the Black Community. 76th Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society, Louisville, KY, March 7-10, 2018.

Osborne, V. Motherhood and the fulfillment of self in Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* and *Villette*. EAPSU (English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities) Conference, Lock Haven University, March 23, 2018.

Otto, A.\*, Uibel, D.\*, Saturno, D.\*, Stephens, D.\*, Jaeger, E. and Lyczak, R. Suppressors of pam-1: Uncovering the role of PAM-1 in regulation of anterior-posterior polarity in the one-cell *C. elegans* embryo. American Society for Cell Biology Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.

Polekoff, S.\*, A. DiCaprio\*, M. Dougherty\*, M. Franklin\*, and K.A. Goddard. Effect of dam removal on the macroinvertebrate community in the Darby Creek, Delaware Co., PA. Pennsylvania Academy of Science Annual Meeting, April 2017. Wilkes Barre, PA.

Rafferty, P. Cryotherapy Reduces Macrophage Infiltration and Inflammatory Mediators Following Muscle Injury. Experimental Biology, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, California, April 21- April 23, 2018.

Rathi, R.\*, Maley, C.\*, Goldstein, A.\*, Carver, J.\*, Simpson, A.\*, Ellison, E. Single-walled Carbon Nanotubes as a Delivery Agent to Antibiotic-resistant Bacteria. 254th ACS National Meeting and Exposition, Washington D. C., August 20-24, 2017.

Sheraden, C. Power to the Privileged: How Power Imbalances Create and Justify Terrorism. Phi Alpha Theta Pennsylvania Eastern Regional Conference, King's College, Pennsylvania, February 24, 2018.

Sloat, E. A Fractured Family and Its Heirs: Seljuq Power and Sunni Revival in the Middle East, 1000-1200 CE. Phi Alpha Theta Pennsylvania Eastern Regional Conference, King's College, Pennsylvania, February 24, 2018.

Stoeber, J.\*, Hergenr, C., Ellison, M. Electric Field Control of Ion Motion through Carbon Nanotube Nanopores. 254th ACS National Meeting and Exposition, Washington D. C., August 20-24, 2017.

Torres, C., Flood, M., Bey, A., Ragomo, I., Joell, I. Performance of *In the Underworld: A darkly comic operetta* written by Germaine Tillion. The Remember the Women Institute, New York City, New York, April 15, 2018.

Van Dyke, B.\*, Worthington-Kirsch, S.\*, Reig, A. Modifying De Novo-Designed Due Ferri Single-Chain (DFSC) Proteins to Model Coupled Binuclear Copper Proteins. Undergraduate Research Symposium in the Chemical and Biological Sciences, Baltimore, MD, October 14, 2017.

Van Dyke, B.\*, Reig, A. Modeling coupled binuclear copper enzymes using de novo designed Due Ferri single chain (DFsc) proteins. 82nd Intercollegiate Student Chemist Convention, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, April 7, 2018.

Van Dyke, B.\*, Reig, A. Modeling coupled binuclear copper enzymes using de novo designed Due Ferri single chain (DFsc) proteins. 255th ACS National Meeting and Exposition, New Orleans, LA, March 18-22, 2018.

Volpe, V., Patel, V.\* What are "safe spaces" anyway? The Steve Fund's "Young, Gifted, and @Risk, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 14, 2017.

Volpe, V.V., Rahal, D.,\* & Holochwost, S. (2017). Stress and coping revisited: The racial discrimination to health process for Black adolescents and respiratory sinus arrhythmia. Poster presentation at the 2017 Society for Research in Child Development's Biennial Meeting. Austin, TX.

Walters, D. 15th National Conference on Hydrocephalus, Orange County, CA, June 28-30, 2018.

Wehrs, W. Ibn Rushd and St. Thomas Aquinas: Two Men and Two Different Worlds. Phi Alpha Theta Pennsylvania Eastern Regional Conference, King's College, Pennsylvania, February 24, 2018.

Wisdo TR, Getty AK, Hill JA, Polimeni AN, Chavis LN, Perez AN, Jasinski RM, Derella CC, Close SN, McLaughlin KC, Corbin ME, Couch K, Donahue S, Brubaker HA, Winay BL, Dickinson R, Baker C, Reeve E, Roberts CK, Fearheller DL. Comparison of 4 Weeks of Circuit Training Versus Resistance Training in MiddleAged Adults. *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*. 2017;49(5) Supp. World Congress on Exercise & American College of Sports Medicine. Denver CO. 2017.

Worthington-Kirsch, S.\*, Van Dyke, B.\*, Reig, A. Altering the de novo De Ferri single chain protein to mimic the structure and reactivity of coupled binuclear copper enzymes. 255th ACS National Meeting and Exposition, New Orleans, LA, March 18-22, 2018.

Yeagley, N.\*, Stevenson, J., Bish, J. Expertise Matters in Evaluating Students' Organization of Neuroscience Concepts. 25th annual meeting for the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA, March 24-27, 2018.

Yeagley, N.\*, Stevenson, J., Bish, J. Expertise Matters in Evaluating Students' Organization of Neuroscience Concepts. Psi Chi Research Day, St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 2018.

Yeagley, N. Expertise Matters in Evaluating Students' Organization of Neuroscience Concepts. The Undergraduate Research Poster Conference, Harrisburg, PA, April 17, 2018.

Yeagley, N., Mastrangelo, A., Daly, M. Measuring Motor Learning Differences between High and Low Autistic Trait Individuals Using Single and Double Modality Serial Reaction Time Task via Eye-Tracker. Stockton University Conference, Galloway, NJ, April 20, 2018.

## Departmental Honors

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### *Distinguished Honors*

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**Biochemistry & Molecular Biology: Benjamin Allwein**

“Prion Protein Aggregation in Yeast: Molecular and Cellular Implications”

Adviser: Dale Cameron

**Chemistry: Brian D. VanDyke**

“Modeling Coupled Binuclear Copper Enzymes with de novo Designed Due Ferri Single-Chain Protein Variants”

Adviser: Amanda Reig

**Physics and Astronomy: Quentin D. Altemose**

“Solution processing and properties of dip-coated chalcogenide alloy (Ge-Sb-Se-Te) films”

Adviser: Casey Schwarz

### *Honors*

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**Anthropology & Sociology: Megan A. Burns**

“Where Trying to Conceive becomes a Community Effort: A Digital Ethnography of Online Infertility Forums”

Adviser: Lauren Wynne

**Anthropology & Sociology: Sydney Dickson**

“An Ethnographic Exploration of the Outcomes of Accumulated Economic, Social, and Cultural Capital through Ursinus' Summer Fellows Program”

Advisers: Lauren Wynne and Jasmine Harris

**Anthropology & Sociology: Sophia Driscoll Gamber**

“Millennial Culture and Epistemology: Exploring the Meaning-making Discourse of an Emerging Generation”

Advisers: Jasmine Harris and Lauren Wynne

**Anthropology & Sociology and French: Helen Agnes Brabant-Bleakley**

“Veiled Identity: Republicanism and the Franco-Muslim Woman”

Advisers: Julin Everett and Lauren Wynne

**Biology: Dorothy Benton**

“Identification and Phenotypic Analysis of the Iz5 suppressor of the pam-1 mutation in *C. elegans*”

Adviser: Rebecca Lyczak

**Biology: Adam G. Dykie**

“Assessing Sox2 Expression in the Spinal Cord of *Ambystoma mexicanum* During Single and Multiple Regeneration Periods”

Adviser: Ellen Dawley

**Biology: William A. Foss**

“The Effect of Age on Spinal Cord Regeneration in *Ambystoma mexicanum*”

Adviser: Ellen Dawley



**Biology: Jordyn S. Karliner**

“Exploring the Role of Slitrk2 in Embryonic Neurogenesis”

Adviser: Jennifer Round

**Biology: Robert Colin McNamara**

“The Effects of Multiple Pregnancies on the Reversibility of Cardiac Hypertrophy in the Murine Heart”

Adviser: Beth Bailey

**Biology: Amanda M. Otto**

“Identification of the role of the Iz4 suppressor of pam-1 in polarity establishment in the single-celled *C. elegans* embryo”

Adviser: Rebecca Lyczak

**Biology: Thomas Tessitore**

“Understanding the Function of the Chaperone Protein Zuo1 in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*”

Adviser: Dale Cameron

**Biology: Rachel M. Weil**

“Morphology and Contractility of the Murine Heart: Are Changes in Pregnancy-Induced Cardiac Function Exacerbated After Two Pregnancies?”

Adviser: Beth Bailey

**Business & Economics and International Relations: Mary Atta-Dakwa**

“Aiding to Repair: An Analysis on the Impact of Foreign Aid in Rwanda After the 1994 Genocide”

Adviser: Ann Karreth

**Chemistry: Michael C. Esposito**

“Evidence of Next-Nearest-Neighbor Electronic Coupling in a Series of Cyano-Bridged trans-Fe(II)-Pt(IV)-M(II)(M=Fe, Ru) Asymmetric Trimers”

Adviser: Brian W. Pfennig

**Creative Writing: Robin Gow**

“Maybe she found me in a poem”

Adviser: Michelle Nzadi Keita

**Creative Writing: Albert Soojong Hahn**

“You, Me, and the Reaper: Meditations on Death”

Adviser: Jon Volkmer

**East Asian Studies: Rosendo Lopez-Duran**

“In the Shadow of Japanese Identity”

Adviser: Mathew Mizenko

**Education: Kara E. Travis**

“Better Aims for English: An Inquiry into What it Means to Teach English in a Democratic Society”

Adviser: Stephanie Mackler

**English: Robin Gow**

“The Bird That Flew Backwards”

Adviser: Meredith Goldsmith

**Environmental Studies: Jenna Quinn Detweiler**

“Furs: Functionality, Fashion, and Franchise”

Adviser: Richard L. Wallace

**French: Michael C. Esposito**

“La création du monde: voix féminines et identités transnationales dans la littérature beur et la littérature pied noir”

Adviser: Julin Everett

**Gender & Women's Studies: Paige Athena Szmodis**

“Riot Grrrl and Girl Zines: Intersectional Feminist Art in Action”

Adviser: Rebecca Jaroff

**Health & Exercise Physiology: Alexandra Rose Puryear**

“The Feasibility of the Mediterranean Diet”

Adviser: Deborah Fairheller

**Health & Exercise Physiology: Patrick John Rafferty**

“The Effects of Wfs Deletion in Macrophages on Muscle Repair”

Adviser: April Carpenter

**History: Elijah Sloat**

“Academia's Past Boundaries in the Present Future”

Adviser: Susanna Throop

**Media & Communication Studies: Madison A. Bradley**

“Living in the Liminal: Representation of Transgender and Nonbinary Identity in 'Steven Universe'”

Adviser: Louise Woodstock

**Media & Communication Studies: Emily Dee Jolly**

“Getting Bi: Perceptions of Bisexuality Amongst Young Adults”

Adviser: Louise Woodstock

**International Relations and Spanish: Roseangela Graziana Hartford**

“Los matices varios del feminismo en las comunidades indígenas de América Latina: Yorkín, Costa Rica y Santa Anita, Guatemala”

Advisers: Jole Eduardo Cornelio and Rebecca Evans

**Philosophy & Religious Studies: Sophia Driscoll Gamber**

“Reinhold Niebuhr's Christian Nation: The Theology of White Supremacy in Liberal White American Christianity”

Adviser: Christian Rice

**Philosophy & Religious Studies: Haley Alexandra Zorger**

“What about Moral Motherhood? An Exploration into the Maternal Body as an Object and Subject”

Adviser: Abigail Kluchin

**Politics: Lily Alice Talerma**

“From Democrats to “Deplorables”: The Trumpization of the Republican Party”

Adviser: Gerard Fitzpatrick

**Politics: Callie Terris**

“Rethinking Privacy: An Examination of the Fourth Amendment and Communications Technology”

Adviser: Gerard Fitzpatrick

## Student External Grants, Fellowships, Scholarships, and Distinctions

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Allwein, Benjamin '18 was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship which will allow him to spend one year at the Translational Health Science & Technology Institute in Delhi to research antibiotic-resistant tuberculosis.

Armstrong, Tom '20 had his film, *Tune Out: A Comedy Musical Film about Depression*, screened at the historic theater in Phoenixville on February 11, 2018.

Baqai, Usman '18 won a fellowship to do research on Islamic Bioethics this summer with Dr. Aasim Padela. Usman prepared a publication about the research he did with Dr. Padela this summer, and it appears as a co-authored article in a recent issue of Islamic Horizons.

Beacham, Alexa '19 won a very competitive internship opportunity in the Johns Hopkins Summer Internship Program. Alexa applied to Hopkins to work in the area of community health, with a focus on science communication for socioeconomically disadvantaged communities of color. Alexa is particularly interested in infant mortality rates, and the relevance to those rates of physician neglect in acknowledging social determinants of health.

Cooke, Allison '18 and Heath Hidlay '18 (faculty mentor Patrick Hurley) won first place with a \$3,500 prize for their idea to implement a 3-acre Food Forest at WERS. WERS is an 11-acre facility dedicated to experimental approaches to sustainable agriculture and food systems learning, where student will be able to help plan and work at the facility. The \$3,500 award will fund the Fall 2018 phase one planting of the food forest at WERS.

Fong, Rebecca (ENV, '15) is a finalist in the National Geographic Chasing Genius Contest. Rebecca's submission video: <http://www.natgeochasinggenius.com/video/2573>.

Hartford, Roseangela '18 and Hickey, Doug '15 earned the first Charles Rice Postgraduate Research Fellowship where they will explore the intersection of religion and social justice during separate trips abroad.

Jones, Bryanna '19 was one of 25 students to participate in Diversifying Clinical Psychology Weekend at the University of North Carolina from October 26th to the 28th. The program, held at the Chapel Hill, N.C., campus, presents an opportunity for talented ethnic and racial minority undergraduate students and recent college graduates invested in pursuing doctoral-level training in clinical psychology.

Jones, Bryanna '19 has been selected as a 2018 Active Minds Emerging Scholar. The Emerging Scholars Fellowship, which is open to both undergraduate and graduate students, is a program of Active Minds and is supported by the Scattergood Foundation for Behavioral Health and the Steve Fund. The program is dedicated to supporting behavioral health research by college-aged scholars.

Makuc, Joseph '18 as awarded a scholarship by the Great Barrington Rotary Club on behalf of its Rotary Scholarship Committee and Rotary Student Assistance Fund, Inc.

Schaefer, Serena '19 was awarded the 2018 Adobe Research Scholarship for Women-in-Technology.

Schaefer, Serena '19 was awarded a scholarship from Upsilon Pi Epsilon – the international honors society for computing and information disciplines.

Zelaya Rivera, Susana '19 was selected for a competitive Jefferson University/ University of the Sciences summer research program (Summer 2017) on health disparities: “Developing Researchers who Improve Healthcare and Equity.”

## Notable Post-baccalaureate Plans

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Altemose, Quentin '18 will begin a Biomedical Engineering Master's program at Brown University in Fall 2018.

Caven, Shawn '14 accepted a position at Philadelphia Electric and Technology Charter teaching 11<sup>th</sup> grade civics.

Ferrari, Marisa '17 is a biology teacher at the Pennington School.

Fisher, Zachary '17 accepted a teaching position at Warren Hills Regional High School.

Gailing, Skye '18 has accepted a fully-funded (with stipend) offer of admittance into the MA/PhD program in Historical Anthropology at The College of William and Mary.

Gustafson, Henry '18 is working as an electrician intern at a professional theater in Texas.

Hageman, Samantha (Theater, 2018) was accepted into and attending Steinhardt's Embedded Master of Arts in Teaching (EMAT) residency program at NYU.

Haldeman, Ethan '18 obtained a job working as systems engineer at Vencore in King of Prussia.

Johnson, Kelly '17 was awarded \*both\* a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship to Mexico, and a "Princeton in Latin America" fellowship to Bolivia. She's accepting the second one.

Kelly, Corey '17 has accepted a Long-Term Substitute teaching position in the Perkiomen Valley School District.

Knowles, Kelsey '16 is employed as an English teacher at Franklin Towne Charter High School.

Kohout, Amy '17 is a Long-Term Substitute teacher at Garnet Valley Elementary School and an Assistant Varsity Lacrosse Coach at West Chester East High School.

Leipold, Brian '17 is an English teacher at Collegium Charter's High School.

Morreale, Giancarlo '16 is attending Alvernia University to obtain a master's degree in occupational therapy.

Nonack, Henry '16 is a physics teacher at Springbrook High School.

Ostrum, Jordan '17 is working as a coordinator for Wyoming Equality's Gay-Straight Alliance Network. He was featured in *The Advocate* as Wyoming's 2018 Champion of Pride (<https://www.advocate.com/people/2018/5/22/champions-pride>).

Rheault, Tom '17 is working as a Long-Term Substitute English teacher at Cedar Creek High School and is an assistant coach in wrestling and baseball.

Rudich, Jason '16 obtained a position as a mathematics teacher at Hillsborough High School.

Sierzega, Amanda '16 is teaching English at Villa Maria Academy High School.

Talerman, Lily (Politics, 2018) is an intern at the office of U.S. Senator Edward J. Markey.

Tan, Christopher (Applied Economics, International Relations, 2018) will enter the Accelerated Development Program at Vanguard.

Terry, Vincent '17 has accepted a teaching position at Spring-Ford Middle School's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Center.

Travis, Kara '18 has accepted a full-time teaching position at Landisville Middle School in Hempfield School District. She will be teaching seventh grade English Language Arts.

Vukas, Sara '18 has obtained a Long-Term Substitute position at Souderton High School.

Walters, David '18 has been accepted into City Year mentor program in East Harlem, Fall 2018. City Year works to bridge the gap in high-poverty communities between the support students actually need, and what their schools are designed to provide. AmeriCorps team members help students reach 10th grade on time and on track, making them three times more likely to graduate.

## Examples of Acceptances to Graduate and Professional Schools

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### *Graduate Schools*

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| Adelphia University                 | New York University                 |
| Arcadia University                  | North Carolina State University     |
| Arizona State University            | Northeastern University             |
| Brandeis University                 | Northwestern University             |
| Brown University                    | Pennsylvania State University       |
| California Polytechnical University | Princeton University                |
| Central Michigan University         | Rutgers University                  |
| Chestnut Hill College               | Saint Joseph's University           |
| College of William and Mary         | Salus University                    |
| Columbia University                 | Temple University                   |
| Drexel University                   | Thomas Jefferson University         |
| East Stroudsburg University         | Tufts University                    |
| Florida State University            | University at Albany, SUNY          |
| Gannon University                   | University of California            |
| George Mason University             | University of Cincinnati            |
| George Washington University        | University of Delaware              |
| Gwynedd Mercy University            | University of Florida               |
| Harvard Divinity School             | University of Illinois              |
| Jacksonville University             | University of Maryland              |
| Jefferson University                | University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| Johns Hopkins University            | University of Pittsburgh            |
| Kutztown University                 | University of the Sciences          |
| Laney Graduate School               | Villanova University                |
| Liberty University                  | West Chester University             |
| Marywood University                 | Widener Delaware Law School         |
| Millersville University             | Wilmington University               |
| Montgomery County Community College |                                     |

### *Medical Schools*

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| Cooper Medical School of Rowan University            | Rowan University School of Osteopathic<br>Medicine |
| Drexel University College of Medicine                | Temple University School of Podiatric<br>Medicine  |
| Geisinger Commonwealth School of<br>Medicine         | Touro College of Dental Medicine                   |
| Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine<br>(LECOM) | Weill Cornell Medicine                             |
| Philadelphia College of Osteopathic<br>Medicine      |  |