

WP



Leading the Charge in Public Health

The University's program is actively rooted in the community and beyond



Fall 2019
William Paterson University



The Magazine of William Paterson University

WP Inside

Leading the Charge in Public Health

From research on important public health topics to the scores of alumni employed in New Jersey and beyond, the University's program is actively rooted in the community



DEPARTMENTS

- 4 Newsbeats
- 13 Sports
- 29 Alumni Connections
- 36 Parting Shot

INSIDE BACK COVER

Events

Arts, Entertainment & Lectures



7

Back cover: Jackson Burris, a master's degree candidate in jazz performance, in the Living Jazz Archives

19 Breaking News: Two WP Grads Have Major Media Impact

If you watch TV news, you've seen content produced by Christine Cataldi '98 and Steven Baker '04

22 Celebrating 50 Years of Family

The Educational Opportunity Fund Program, celebrating a milestone anniversary, helps students from educationally and financially disadvantaged backgrounds succeed

24 Keeping the Music Alive

Students and faculty benefit from the treasure trove of music by jazz greats housed in the University's Living Jazz Archives

26 Meetings of the Minds

Psychology professor Michael Gordon travels the world to pick the brains of the most influential scholars in his field



24

Yu Nishiyama, a graduate student in jazz studies and arranging, looks at a collection of CDs in the archive

Hobart Manor Holiday Keepsake Ornament



Just in time for the holidays!

Purchase a pearl glass ornament featuring an image of Hobart Manor, the University's National Historic Site.

Ornaments are \$15.

Purchase online at wpunj.edu/ornament.

To purchase in person on campus, please call the **Office of Institutional Advancement** at 973.720.2478 for an appointment; appointments are available

Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Your purchase is tax deductible to the extent of the law and benefits the Hobart Manor Restoration Fund.

We welcome letters to the editor.


Send correspondence to:
Editor

WP, The Magazine of
William Paterson University
P.O. Box 913, Wayne, NJ 07474-0913
or feel free to drop us a note by e-mail at
wpmag@wpunj.edu
or tweet us @wpunj_edu

Follow the University at:

 facebook.com/mywpwpu

 twitter.com/wpunj_edu

 instagram.com/wpunj

 youtube.com/WilliamPatersonU

Shape the University's Future with a Charitable Gift Annuity



"Encouragement from William Paterson's Communication Department led to my late husband Mike and me establishing an industrial film business fueled by a passion for railroads. The faculty, including "Doc" Maltese, helped us meet challenges with innovative ideas. This inspired me to give back by creating the Michael and Marianne Autorino Endowed Scholarship in Communications and serving on the Hobart Manor Revitalization Committee. Recently, I decided to make a donation to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) that provides me with income now and, ultimately, benefits Hobart Manor."

—Marianne Autorino, MA '78

We are grateful to Marianne and all of our Hobart Society planned giving members. They allow us to celebrate their philanthropy during their lifetime and establish their legacy to benefit the University and future generations of students.

If you are looking for a way to support WP and receive a steady income stream, a CGA may be your answer. To learn more and receive a personalized proposal at the current rates, please contact Judy Linder, director of development and planned giving, at **973.720.2309**, or at linderj@wpunj.edu. Visit us also online at wpunj.giftplans.org.



EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Stuart Goldstein
Vice President for Marketing and Public Relations

MANAGING EDITOR

Mary Beth Zeman
Senior Director, Public Relations

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Domenico Di Maio '97, *President of the Alumni Executive Council*
Janis B. Schwartz, *Executive Director of Alumni Relations*
Sharon Ryan, MEd '96, *Assistant Director, Alumni Relations and Communication*
Rodney Cauthen '97, *Alumni Associate*
Gina Buffalino, *Alumni Specialist*
Mary Ann Cooper '70, *Contributing Editor*

MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

EDITORIAL: Jaclyn Antonacci '14, MA '16, Heather Brocious, Maria Karidis Daniels, Christine Diehl, Theresa E. Ross '80, Ken Sinatra
DESIGN: Nadia Esposito '04, Bob Verbeek '95
DIGITAL MEDIA: Yuri Marder
PUBLICATION DESIGN: Brandspa, West Orange, NJ
Allan Gorman, *Art Director*; Suzanne Giovanetti, *Designer*
PHOTOGRAPHY: Bill Blanchard, Bob Elam, Nadia Esposito '04, Kate Ferraro '20, Rich Green, Roy Groething, George Kemper, Larry Levanti, Tim Miller '20, Sharon Ryan, MEd '96, Jessica Talos '16, Bob Verbeek '95, Shutterstock.com

WP is published by the Office of Marketing and Public Relations. Views expressed within these pages do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors or official policies of the University. © 2019 by The William Paterson University of New Jersey. www.wpunj.edu

ADVERTISING AND EDITORIAL OFFICES

WP, The Magazine of William Paterson University
Office of Marketing and Public Relations
William Paterson University
300 Pompton Road, Wayne, NJ 07470-2103
973.720.2971
wpmag@wpunj.edu

SEND CHANGES OF ADDRESS TO:

Office of Alumni Relations, William Paterson University
The Allan and Michele Gorab Alumni House
42 Harmon Place, North Haledon, NJ 07508
973.720.2175

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Richard J. Helldobler, *President*
Joshua Powers, *Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs*
Stephen Bolyai, *Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance*
Pamela L. Ferguson, *Vice President for Institutional Advancement*
Miki Cammarata, *Vice President for Student Development*
Reginald Ross, *Vice President for Enrollment Management*
Allison Boucher-Jarvis, MA '89, *Vice President for Human Resources*
Patrick DeDeo, *Associate Vice President for Governmental Relations and External Affairs*
Laura Hertzog, Esq., *General Counsel to the University and the Board of Trustees*
Shelley Bannister, *Chief of Staff to the President and Board of Trustees*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Michael Seeve, *Chairperson*
John Galandak, *Vice Chairperson*
Robert Guarasci, *Secretary*
Zachrey Barr '22, Lourdes Cortez, Frederick L. Gruel, Dylan Johnson '21, Kevin Lenahan '90, Brad Neilley '80, Linda Niro '76, William J. Pesce '73, Henry J. Pruitt, Jr., *Trustee Emeritus*, Joseph Velli '80, Deborah Zastocki



Dear Friends,

At William Paterson University, we are deeply involved in expanding access to a great college education for more New Jersey students, while also creating the support systems that remove roadblocks and help more of them graduate on time. As we go about this important work, it is both informative and inspirational to look at the progress that's been made and consider how we can build upon earlier efforts.

A great example is the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program, which this year celebrated its 50th anniversary in New Jersey and at William Paterson. Last spring, we marked the anniversary by welcoming to campus Governor Phil Murphy and former Governor Tom Kean—who, as a state assemblyman, helped create the EOF Program—for a discussion of its history and success. In this issue of *WP Magazine*, we hear the personal stories of some of the thousands of accomplished William Paterson alumni who benefited from the program, which provides state-funded financial aid and academic support services to educationally and economically disadvantaged students.

What stood out to me in all these stories is how the alumni benefited from the social bonding and mentoring that they experienced in the program. These types of support networks are critical if students are going to stay enrolled, handle the inevitable challenges of college life, and persist in working toward and receiving their degrees. That is why we have made them a fundamental element of our current efforts to increase all measures of student success.

Our new first-year experience program joins all freshmen in cohorts that take required classes and our new Will. Power. 101 workshop together. The stories we're hearing of instant friendships, dedicated study groups, and other forms of peer bonding are very much by design.

Similarly, the Center for Diversity and Inclusion and the Black Cultural Center, both of which opened in September, will achieve their goal of enhancing racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity, in part, by giving students from traditionally underrepresented populations a place to come together for mutual support and understanding. We are now focusing on ways we can better support Latinx and LGBTQA students. I look forward to sharing the outcomes of these conversations soon.

Fifty years ago, our state leaders had the vision to recognize that enabling more of its residents to attend and complete college would make New Jersey stronger. Today, in a much more diverse and complex world, William Paterson is building on the success of the Educational Opportunity Fund by asking what supports or systems are needed, and what barriers must be removed, for more of our students to be successful, walk across the Commencement stage, and earn that degree. Because the more that happens, the better off these students, their families, and all of New Jersey will be.

Richard J. Helldobler, PhD
President

Newsbeats

University Establishes Center for Diversity and Inclusion and Black Cultural Center

A new Center for Diversity and Inclusion, designed to promote cultural awareness, knowledge, and inquiry among all students, has been established at the University this fall. Under its auspices, a new Black Cultural Center also provides space, resources, and advocacy for black student success.



At the ribbon-cutting for the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, from left: Dena Janos '21, president, Student Government Association; President Richard J. Helldobler; Zhada Stamps '20, LaShauna Dean, associate professor of special education and counseling; Chance Smith '21, executive chairman, Black Student Union; Brittany Anderson '19; Yolany Gonell, director, Center for Diversity and Inclusion; Miki Cammarata, vice president for student development; and Jean Fuller-Stanley, associate dean, College of Science and Health

"We are very proud of our diverse community, and are committed to ensuring a rich and positive environment for all students to learn and thrive," says Miki Cammarata, vice president for student development. "We heard from a number of students about the importance of creating such a center, and we agreed with President Richard Helldobler when he arrived on campus a year ago that its establishment would be a priority. We look forward to the Center's development and programming this year, and engaging the campus in celebrating our wonderful diversity through a variety of initiatives and activities."

Yolany Gonell, a higher education administrator with more than 15 years of leadership and vision in the areas of diversity and inclusion, social justice education, leadership development, and other student development areas, serves as the Center's inaugural director. Gonell comes to the University from the New York Institute of Technology, where she served as director of student engagement and was a core member of that institution's inaugural diversity, equity, and inclusion task force.

The establishment of both the Center for Diversity and Inclusion and the Black Cultural Center are part of an ongoing University initiative to meet the needs of diverse groups on campus. During the 2019-20 academic year, the University will explore ways to better serve Latinx and LGBTQ students, as well as the need for a prayer space.

“At the preschool level, especially, you need to have a special education background. Children come in with so many different needs, and this is their first experience in a school setting.”

UNIVERSITY PROGRAM HELPS PRESCHOOL TEACHERS NAVIGATE INCLUSIVE CLASSROOMS

A group of Bergen County preschool teachers will be able to better serve their students, thanks to a \$135,000 grant from the Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation that is providing them the opportunity to earn a Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TSD) endorsement from the University free of charge.

Eight preschool teachers—four of whom are alumni—began taking courses in summer 2019 and are expected to complete the 21-credit program in one year. Half of the teachers work in Hackensack and half in Garfield—districts selected because they serve a diverse student population and families with financial need.

“This project, generously funded by the Taub Foundation, enables teachers to earn their Teacher of Students with Disabilities certification, and to do so in a way that doesn’t conflict with their busy lives as teachers,” says Amy Ginsberg, dean of the College of Education.

According to Ginsberg, preschool classrooms are an amalgamation of young children who may or may

not qualify in the future for special accommodations. “Thus, preschool teachers must be able to serve all children, creating tremendous need for early childhood educators to be knowledgeable and skilled in



servicing children with disabilities,” she adds. “Well before parents and children may be aware of differences in learning, teachers need to be attuned to how to connect with each child.”

William Paterson partners with about 50 area schools through its Professional Development Schools Network, sharing innovative teaching methods and resources based on evidence-based practices. Through that partnership, Ginsberg says, our professors often field questions about how districts could better adhere to New

Jersey Department of Education recommendations to fully integrate special needs students into general education classrooms.

Gosia Downes '17, a William Paterson graduate with degrees in early and elementary childhood education, is one of the Hackensack preschool teachers in the program. About one in five of her students, she says, has special needs.

“When I found out about this opportunity to become certified in special education, it was hard to say no, because we have so many students with special needs in our classroom,” Downes says. “At the preschool level, especially, you need to have a special education background. Children come in with so many different needs, and this is their first experience in a school setting.”

In addition to coursework for teachers, University professors are offering inclusive workshops in both Hackensack and Garfield for the parents of preschool students. The workshops provide fun, at-home activities to improve math and fine motor skills.



Professor Fulfills Longtime Dream: Volunteering for the Peace Corps

Madhuri Mukherjee just set off on an adventure she has dreamed about for years. On September 9, she journeyed nearly 9,000 miles to Madagascar, an island nation in the Indian Ocean off the coast of East Africa, to serve as a Peace Corps volunteer for the next 27 months.

For Mukherjee, an associate professor of languages and cultures, the opportunity to serve in the Peace Corps is something she has thought about for decades. A native of India, she studied French at the Universite Lyon II in Lyons, France and the Universite de la Sorbonne Nouvelle in Paris, France, before coming to the United States in the early 1990s to study at Rutgers University, where she earned master's and doctoral degrees in French.

"Besides one's qualifications, the Peace Corps has two requirements: You must be 18 or older, and you must be an American citizen," she says.

"When I became a citizen in 2000, I had a young family and was beginning my teaching career, and the time was not right. But now, my children are grown and independent, and my family is very supportive of me pursuing this dream. I am very grateful to the University administration for granting me the leave of absence and giving me the chance to give back on behalf of my adopted country."

Madagascar, the second largest island nation in the world, and the fourth largest in terms of land mass, is a land of enormous biodiversity; 85 percent of its plants and animals are found nowhere else (including the now-famous lemurs). It is also one of the world's 10 poorest countries.

A requirement of the Peace Corps is that you learn the language of the host country, so for Mukherjee, who teaches French at William Paterson—and already speaks four languages fluently—Madagascar, a former French colony, was attractive. "I would have gone anywhere in the world," she says. "I did want the challenge of learning a language, and to also be somewhere related to my expertise. Although French will come in handy in Madagascar, I will still have to learn its national language, Malagasy, and possibly one of the 18 or so different dialects."

Mukherjee is spending the first three months in training, learning the language and culture while living with a local family.

Once her training is complete, she will be placed somewhere in the country to teach English to middle school and high school students. As part of her Peace

Corps service in Madagascar, Mukherjee will be certified as a Teacher of English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) by the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, DC, and she hopes to use this new credential in some curricular capacity at William Paterson when she returns to the United States.

The Peace Corps provides an allowance for food and housing that enables volunteers to live at the same level as their host communities. "It is a developing country so there will be some challenges; there might not be access to running water or consistent electricity," Mukherjee says.

"I will certainly have to ride in packed buses or walk five miles to school or haul water, which will be physically demanding," she adds. "But I am prepared to embrace every new experience that comes my way." Mukherjee plans to write a blog about her experience, posting as Internet access permits, and hopes to collaborate with academics there and perhaps translate works from Malagasy into English or French.

She is excited to raise awareness of the importance of the Peace Corps and other service opportunities in general, and to encourage William Paterson students to consider such opportunities following graduation.

"When you grow up in a country that is not overflowing with riches, as I did, and see how people live, you become sensitive to issues of inequality. I am privileged to have the life I've lived, and to now be of service," she says.

FINANCIAL PLANNING STUDENT WINS TD AMERITRADE SCHOLARSHIP, HELPS RING NASDAQ CLOSING BELL

Michele Boyle, a senior majoring in financial planning, was awarded a \$5,000 TD Ameritrade Institutional NextGen Scholarship to be applied toward her degree. She was among 12 talented

students from across the country chosen for the scholarship. An Honors College student, Boyle is president of the Financial Planning Club on campus. TD Ameritrade Institutional invited the

winners to visit New York City and the NASDAQ MarketSite in Times Square on July 23 to help ring the closing bell.

Since 2010, students from the University's financial planning

program have garnered top awards in national competitions. In 2013 and 2014, four William Paterson students were selected to receive TD Ameritrade Institutional NextGen scholarships.



Michele Boyle helps ring the NASDAQ closing bell



UNIVERSITY GALLERIES TURNS 40

William Paterson is celebrating a special milestone this year—the 40th anniversary of the founding of its University Galleries—with a special exhibition of works on paper by the late New Jersey social-realist artist Ben Shahn, the namesake of the Ben Shahn Center for the Visual Arts where the galleries are located.



The World Through My Eyes: Celebrating the Legacy of Ben Shahn, on view through December 11, 2019, showcases Ben Shahn's works from the University's art collection as well as loans from public and private collections. It also commemorates the 50th anniversary of Ben Shahn's death in 1969.

"Ben Shahn was perhaps the most important social-realist artist to have emerged in the early 1930s in the United States," says Kristen Evangelista, director of the University Galleries, of the prolific painter, photographer, and printmaker. "As our namesake, he has left an indelible mark on our institution and reminds us of the ongoing importance of civil rights, political and religious freedom, and democracy."

The University Galleries' permanent art collection includes numerous works on paper by Shahn. One of the collection's highlights, *This Is Nazi Brutality* (1942), raised awareness of the Germans' destruction of a Czechoslovakian village.

The Galleries launched an online database in September to celebrate its noteworthy exhibition history and mark this special anniversary. The first digitized records include the first 40 exhibition catalogues and 40 works of art from the permanent collection on view in fall 2019 exhibitions. Eventually, this database will include the entire archive of more than 75 exhibition catalogues and 3,400 collection items, digitized by staff and student assistants, and fully accessible for the University community and the world.



Above: Ben Shahn in his studio;
Right: Detail of a mural painted by Ben Shahn at the community building, Hightstown, New Jersey

PROFESSOR JEAN LEVITAN CELEBRATES RETIREMENT WITH GENEROUS GIFT TO PIONEER FOOD PANTRY



Throughout her 41 years of teaching at William Paterson, Jean Levitan, professor *emerita* of public health, always took an interest in her students' wellbeing. For years, she sporadically brought granola bars to class and would stash them in her office to share with students. "A few times they were so hungry, they would ask for two," she says, noting that many students live on a food plan and sometimes run out of money.

Levitan, who retired in July, decided to celebrate that milestone with a very generous gift to the University's Pioneer Food Pantry, which helps students who are in need of food and basic necessities. She has also encouraged her colleagues and friends to support the food pantry by making a donation.

"We are so grateful for the generous donation from Professor Jean Levitan," says Miki Cammarata, vice president for student development, noting that there were more than 600 visits to the pantry during the 2018-19 academic year. "Food insecurity is a reality for many of our students and donations like this help us to ensure that it does not become a barrier to their success."

"I've always been concerned with students' hunger," says Levitan. She was glad to learn that the University was establishing a food pantry, which is now commonplace on many campuses.

Now that she has retired, Levitan has strengthened her connection to the pantry by serving as a volunteer. "I want students to be able to learn and not be distracted by their basic needs. That's really the key," she says.

Center for Chinese Art Celebrates 10th Anniversary



Present at the 10th anniversary celebration were Zhiyuan Cong, director, Center for Chinese Art; Zhipeng Ding, president, Shanghai Leci Pension Enterprise Management Co. Ltd., China; President Richard J. Helldobler; President Emerita Kathleen Waldron; Ping Huang, consul general, People's Republic of China; and Xilong Xu, CEO, Shanghai Jiefeng Investment Management Co., Ltd., China

The University's Center for Chinese Art—the first nonprofit center for Chinese art in the United States that aims to academically promote cultural and artistic exchanges between the two countries—celebrated its 10th anniversary on September 9 with a special program and reception in honor of the exhibition, *Lines Crossing: Contemporary Chinese Printmaking*, in the University Galleries.

"Since it was launched a decade ago, on this very day in 2009, the Center has firmly established itself as a leader in advancing the study and appreciation of Chinese art in the United States. It remains the only center of its kind housed at an American

university," said President Richard Helldobler during a ceremony commemorating the anniversary.

Among the distinguished guests was Ping Huang, consul general, Consulate General of the People's Republic of China, who paid tribute to the center. "The Center for Chinese Art plays an important role in helping the American people understand the importance of cultural exchange and Chinese culture," he said. "On behalf of the consulate I want to congratulate the University and the center

at this important moment."

Established on September 9, 2009, through a generous donation from Margaret Lam and David Yen, the Center for Chinese Art has, over the past decade, offered courses, symposia, and exhibitions of Chinese art, presented numerous

demonstrations and talks by renowned Chinese artists, and provided study abroad programs in China focused on Chinese art and culture. Under the leadership of Zhiyuan Cong, a William Paterson professor of art and its founding director, the Center has gained international recognition in art circles in both the United States and China.



The University Galleries presented an exhibition of works by 20 contemporary Chinese printmakers in celebration of the anniversary



Jennifer Santiago, talent acquisition manager, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, speaks at the event

STUDENTS NETWORK WITH ALUMNI BUSINESS LEADERS AT 5TH ANNUAL BUSINESS BOOT CAMP

More than \$30,000 in scholarships were distributed to undergraduate and graduate business students who participated in the four-day intensive business boot camp held this summer by the Cotsakos College of Business. The annual event is free and every one of the more than 30 students who attended all four days received scholarship money generously donated by the participating speakers and their companies.

Established in 2015, the Crux of Industry Niche (COIN) Boot Camp featured nearly 15 professionals, most of whom are alumni. They talked about the inner workings of their industry, their firm, and their own personal career path.

"My experience at the COIN bootcamp was very motivating," said Carlos E. Calderon-Lopez, a business major. "I listened to several speakers and learned what they have done with their lives. I feel that if they can do amazing things, I can do amazing things."

Among the speakers were Kevin Lenahan '90, a member of the University's Board of Trustees and senior vice president, chief financial officer, and chief administrative officer of Atlantic Health Systems; and Jeffrey Millar '80, managing director, Global Subsidiary Banking at MUFG (Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group).

PLEDGE 4 SUCCESS

INITIATIVE HELPS STUDENTS BRIDGE FINANCIAL GAP

The University has launched a new initiative to provide grants to incoming first-year students that make up the difference between federal and state aid and tuition so that they can attend without occurring any additional costs.

Titled Pledge 4 Success, the program makes up the difference between what a student receives if eligible for full New Jersey TAG and federal PELL grants, and what he or she owes in tuition and fees. This means that a student who is eligible for full state and federal grant support will not need to pay any additional costs toward tuition. Housing, books, and other expenses are not covered. Pledge 4 Success supports incoming first-year students who are New Jersey residents and are eligible for New Jersey TAG and federal PELL funding.

“Pledge 4 Success is part of our continuing commitment to serving our low-income students, while reducing their need to take on student loan debt,” says President Richard J. Helldobler. “At William Paterson, we are proud to provide proactive programs that support our students as they reach their personal and academic goals on the path to college graduation, career success, and community leadership.”

When fully implemented, based on current costs and student demographics, the University expects more than 1,000 William Paterson students will benefit from the new Pledge 4 Success program.



The University recently celebrated the opening of its brand-new, cutting-edge, suite-style residence hall. Skyline Hall provides numerous open spaces with natural light, as well as community areas that include a modern oversized kitchen, social lounges with televisions and gaming areas, group and private study areas, a meeting room, and a classroom. Residents of Skyline Hall live in semi-suites—two bedrooms with a shared bath—arranged in “clusters” on each floor.

NEW ECO-FRIENDLY RESIDENCE HALL OPENS ON CAMPUS

“Skyline Hall was designed to enhance students’ overall community building as well as their academic success,” says President

Richard J. Helldobler. “Programming such as facilitated group study sessions and skill building and success workshops will take place in the building throughout the academic year. We strive to create an environment where residents will be comfortable working together both socially and academically, inside and outside of the classroom.”

Along with its bold contemporary interior design, featuring a color palette selected by students, the five-floor, 282-bed facility continues

the University’s longstanding commitment to sustainability and becoming a “green” campus, featuring environmentally friendly interior finishes such as paint and flooring and energy-efficient windows and LED lighting. More than 100 trees have been planted adjacent to the building.

“William Paterson University students truly benefit from being part of our vibrant residential community, to which we are beyond excited to add Skyline Hall,” says Miki Cammarata, vice president for student development. “We enjoy contributing to and witnessing the personal growth students attain by living on campus, and, with facilities as beautiful as Skyline Hall, hope to create the best home away from home possible.”



Above: A view of Skyline Hall; Left: Students in Skyline Hall’s large social lounge



DEAN KARA RABBITT NAMED AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION FELLOW



Kara Rabbitt, dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, has been named an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow for the 2019-20 academic year.

Rabbitt, who is spending her fellowship year at Sonoma State University in California, has served as dean of humanities and social sciences since 2011, and previously served as interim dean from 2009 to 2011 and associate dean from 2006 to 2009. A professor of languages and cultures and a specialist in Francophone Caribbean literature and 19th century French poetry, Rabbitt joined William Paterson in 1997.

Established in 1965, the ACE Fellows Program is designed to strengthen institutions and leadership in American higher education by identifying and preparing faculty and staff for senior positions in college and university administration through its distinctive and intensive nominator-driven, cohort-based mentorship model.

COMMUNICATION PROFESSOR RECEIVES NATIONAL, STATE JOURNALISM AWARDS



Nick Hirshon, assistant professor of communication, has been honored by the Society of Professional Journalists on both the national and state levels for his support of budding journalists.

Hirshon received the 2019 David Eshelman Outstanding Campus Adviser Award from the national organization; the award is given annually to the nation's top adviser of a campus chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. He also received the 2019 New Jersey Journalism Educator Award from the New Jersey Society of Professional Journalists in recognition of his role in founding and

advising the University's campus chapter, as well as for organizing a variety of events including a monthly series of discussions on campus for students with professional journalists.

Rob Quicke, professor and chair of the University's Department of Communication, noted the significance of the awards, particularly on the national level. "In its 41-year history, the national award has almost exclusively been granted to advisers at universities with enrollments at least double William Paterson's size, and largely what would be considered the nation's most prestigious journalism programs," he says.

The Society of Professional Journalists, the nation's most broad-based journalism organization, is dedicated to encouraging the free practice of journalism and stimulating high standards of ethical behavior.

Office Building Purchase Provides Space for Revenue-Generating Programs

William Paterson has expanded its facilities with the purchase of an office building at 1800 Valley Road in Wayne. The new location provides much-needed space for a range of revenue-generating programs including those of the School of Continuing and Professional Education.

The 56,000-square-foot building, situated on 11 acres adjacent to the University's building at 1600 Valley Road, was purchased for \$1.75 million through funds set aside for capital improvements. The building, which was recently completely renovated by the previous owner, will provide additional classrooms and other academic spaces that will alleviate classroom and seminar room capacity issues in the University's 1600 Valley Road building.

"Given the surplus of commercial office space in close proximity to the University, we saw the availability of this building as an extremely affordable opportunity that would support current and future strategic directions," says President Richard J. Helldobler.

In addition to housing the School of Continuing and Professional Education, the building will be the site for adult education and high school dual enrollment initiatives. Other potential uses include a child development center, which would provide an academic learning environment for future teachers.



Celebrating the opening of 1800 Valley Road, from left: Kevin Garvey, associate vice president for administration and finance; Pamela Ferguson, vice president for institutional advancement; John Galandak, vice chair, Board of Trustees; President Richard J. Helldobler; Bernadette Tiernan, executive director, School of Continuing and Professional Education; Amy Ginsberg, dean, College of Education; Stephen Bolyai, senior vice president for administration and finance; and Joshua Powers, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs



NEW MASTER OF EDUCATION CONCENTRATION TO HELP K-8 TEACHERS “STEAM” AHEAD

The University’s master of education in curriculum and learning program is now offering an innovative concentration in STEAM, which adds the arts to K-8 science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) instruction. William Paterson is the first and only institution in New Jersey, and one of only a few universities nationwide, to offer STEAM education at the graduate level.

“Research shows that arts integration in elementary and middle school STEM coursework can bolster student engagement and learning,” says Amy Ginsberg, dean of the College of Education. “Adding the arts makes STEM more accessible to more K-8 students, particularly those that sway heavier to such interests and skills or those who have previously faced inequities in STEM education due to socio-economic, racial, or linguistic factors, among others.”



The new concentration is geared toward previously certified K-8 teachers, aiming to enhance their competence and confidence to adequately teach and guide STEM subjects for all learners, according to Professor Heejung An, director of the master of education in curriculum and learning.

The 33-credit program, which can be completed in 24 months, employs project-based learning, an inquiry-based research study, and leadership development courses so that candidates are prepared to meet the evolving needs of schools and districts in positions as STEAM teachers or coordinators, instructional leaders, or curriculum developers.

The addition of a STEAM concentration to the University’s graduate education program falls in line with the U.S. Department of Education’s call for a new vision in pre-college STEM education, according to Ginsberg.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSORS NAMED FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

Nicole Davi, professor of environmental science, and David M. Freestone, assistant professor of psychology, have been named Fulbright Scholars for the 2019-20 academic year.



Davi will conduct research on tree rings from high-altitude sites in Colombia from January through June 2020 that will contribute toward an understanding of climate variability and dynamics in the region. She will work collaboratively with Colombian scientists at EAFIT University’s Department of Earth Sciences and Universidad EIA to identify research sites where annual tree rings are prevalent in local tree species and to develop tree-ring chronologies using novel low-cost methods that rely on high-resolution scans of tree-core samples.

“Tree-ring chronologies are particularly scarce in Colombia,” says Davi. “In addition to contributing an extended understanding of climate variation in this region, tree-ring chronologies from Colombian *Polylepis* trees could also provide insights into how forests are responding to climate change, which can inform the evolution of the country’s forest management policies.”

During her time in Colombia, Davi will work with undergraduate and graduate students in the field and the laboratory, give public lectures, and give a faculty workshop on tree-ring science.



Freestone will spend four months during summer 2020 at the Universidade Federal do ABC in Sao Paulo, Brazil conducting research focused on developing and testing a new experimental design to study how animals learn time intervals. He also will develop and teach a graduate-level cognitive science course there.

A specialist in cognitive neuroscience, Freestone builds mathematical models of learning and decision-making to try to understand the structure and organization of the brain. “A typical experiment will ask humans and mice to predict the time at which a reward will be delivered. They learn the time intervals through experience, which allows us to study both learning and decision-making,” he explains.

His proposed experiments in Brazil will discover whether the memory for a previously learned interval can be used flexibly in a new situation, which bears heavily on the question of where memories are stored and how they are constrained. He hopes his Fulbright award will spark a long-term international collaboration in cognitive neuroscience between William Paterson and Universidade Federal do ABC.

University Honored as an Environmental Leader



In recognition of its ongoing commitment to becoming a fully green institution, William Paterson received an Environmental Leadership Medal from the Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey earlier this year.

The University was honored during *Commerce's* inaugural awards ceremony designed to highlight a wide range of organizations for their leadership in areas from recycling and green building design to energy conservation and community impact.

William Paterson has moved steadily towards its goal to become a fully green campus through conservation, efficiency, and education. Its Green Team, endorsed by President Richard J. Helldobler and comprised of faculty, staff, administrators, and students, helps guide the University toward sustainability.

The institution is a signatory of the national Climate Leadership Network-Carbon Commitment. Its 3.1 MW solar panel



Kevin Garvey, associate vice president for administration and finance; Anthony Russo, president, CIANJ, and James Shelley, director, physical plant operations

installation ranks among the largest at a four-year institution in the U.S. and supplies 15 percent of energy needs. Over the past decade, the University has increased in size by 704,000 square feet while lowering consumption of electricity by 30 percent, natural gas by 50 percent, and carbon emissions by 1,260 tons. Strategies include food waste composting, energy-efficient lighting and HVAC systems, recycling initiatives, resource conservation, electric charging stations, and more. Recent building projects have earned a LEED Gold Award from the U.S. Green Building Council, three Green Building Design Awards, and an EPA recognition for carbon reduction.

SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR'S RESEARCH AIMS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY EATING IN LOW-INCOME FAMILIES



Professor Jennifer Di Noia (fourth from left) with her research project team

Consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables is consistently associated with a lower risk of cancer. Those fruits and vegetables are also consistently missing in the diets of low-income populations.

Professor Jennifer Di Noia, sociology, is hoping to change that fact for some at-risk people living in New Jersey. Through a prestigious \$310,000 grant from the National Cancer Institute of the National

Institutes of Health (NIH), Di Noia is testing an education and intervention initiative geared to low-income pregnant and postpartum women served by the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

Di Noia's feasibility study combines behaviorally focused nutrition education with the establishment of a WIC-based farmers' market, staffed with trained nutrition educators in place of farmers.

The Farmers' Markets Nutrition Program (FMNP) was established by Congress in 1992 to improve WIC participants' access to fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables, and to expand awareness, use of, and sales at farmers' markets. In 2017, 1.7 million WIC families received FMNP benefits nationwide, but only 55 percent of FMNP vouchers were redeemed that year.

Why? According to Di Noia, many low-income populations may have limited farmers' market-related knowledge and skills—for example, not

knowing about local foods and how to select, store, and prepare them.

Di Noia arranged monthly trips to the Paterson Farmers' Market this fall, with free door-to-door bus transportation. On the buses and at the market, nutrition educators provided study participants with instruction on how to navigate the market and communicate with farmers, and offered informational and emotional support for healthy eating. The nutritionists also conducted fruit and vegetable recipe demonstrations and tastings to increase awareness of and preferences for unfamiliar foods.

To determine whether her intervention created a positive outcome, Di Noia is examining participants' fruit and vegetable intake, as well as their FMNP voucher redemption. "Ethnic and racial minorities are disproportionately affected by cancer and other diet-related diseases," Di Noia says. "I'm hoping we can say, 'Here's a program that is one option for long-term health gains.'"



Athletic Hall of Fame Adds Five Individuals, One Team to its Ranks

BriAnna Lucas '13, women's basketball; Robert Matthew '54, posthumous, men's basketball; Joel Rivera '13, football; Ali Ruddy '13, women's soccer; Joe Strawman '11, MBA '13, men's soccer; and the 1994-95 Pioneer women's basketball team became the newest inductees into the William Paterson University Alumni Association Athletic Hall of Fame when they were enshrined on October 6.

One of the most decorated athletes in program history, Lucas (2008-12) was named to the 10-member 2010-11 Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-America Team, the 2010-11 D3hoops.com All-America Third Team, and the 2011-12 WBCA All-America Honorable Mention. She was the 2010-11 and 2011-12 New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) Defensive Player of the Year, as well as the 2010-11 ECAC Metro Region Player of the Year and NJAC Co-Player of the Year.

Matthew (1950-54) managed to pour in more than 1,000 career points from 1950-54, an era that did not feature a three-point line, shot clock, or expanded game schedule. A team captain, he was an intimidating interior defender for Paterson State Teachers College.

Rivera (2006-09) owns every single Pioneer receiving record—career receptions (159) and yards (2,209), single-season catches (74, 2008) and yards (965, 2008), and single-game receptions (16,



Joining President Richard J. Helldobler (far right) at the Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony were, front row, left to right, Joe Strawman '11, MBA '13, BriAnna Lucas '13, Robert Matthews '58 (accepting for the late Robert Matthew '54), Ali Ruddy '13, and Joel Rivera '13; rear, left to right, Keith Woods, assistant coach, Mary Dean '90, assistant coach, Carolyn Rom Gifford '97, Eileen Sharkey '96, Keira Haines Shust '96, Erin Shaughnessy Monahan '91, head coach, Bridget Brennan Jones '98, Maureen Marz Mooney '96, JoAnne Mabes Detwiler '96, and Kathy Sinram '99

9/27/08) and yards (226, 9/27/08), earning spots on the 2008 D3football.com All-East Region Second Team and the 2008 and 2009 All-NJAC First Teams.

A dominant force in the center of WP's back line, Ruddy (2007-10) was awarded second-team all-America certificates by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) and D3soccer.com after being named the 2010 NJAC Defensive Player of the Year. A member of the NSCAA All-South Atlantic Region and All-NJAC First Teams as a senior, she also picked up second-team all-conference laurels in 2008 and 2009.

Strawman (2007-11) was the 2009 NJAC Co-Defensive Player of the Year, a two-time member of the NSCAA All-South Atlantic Region First Team (2008, 2009), and a selection to the 2008 and 2009 All-NJAC First Teams.

Reeling off victories during 18 of its final 19 regular-season games, the 1994-95 women's basketball team used that momentum to help propel the program to its first NCAA Tournament Elite Eight appearance. Named the New Jersey College Basketball Association (NJCBA) Team of the Year, WPI finished 24-5 overall and 16-2 in league play to establish a program record for wins.

Baseball Assistant Coach Bob Lauterhahn Retires

William Paterson baseball assistant coach Bob Lauterhahn announced his retirement this summer after 39 memorable and successful seasons with the Pioneers. The baseball team posted a 755-333-10 record during Lauterhahn's 27 seasons serving under Head Coach Jeff Albies (1981-2007), and a 257-207-5 mark during his 12 seasons assisting Head Coach Mike Lauterhahn (2008-19),

Bob's son, for an overall record of 1,012-540-15. During his time at William Paterson, the Pioneers captured two NCAA Division III National Championships (1992, 1996), made seven World Series appearances, earned 16 NCAA Tournament berths, and captured 11 NJAC Tournament titles.



SANDY FERRARELLA CLAIMS 700TH VICTORY



Head volleyball coach Sandy Ferrarella '75, already the all-time winningest coach in NJAC history, added another milestone achievement to her remarkable tenure when she collected career win number 700 on September 7.

"It has been such an amazing journey from my first day of coaching to reaching the 700 milestone," she says. "The best part about this accomplishment was hearing from my family, friends, and so many William Paterson alumni. So many kind words and so many stories about how they treasured their time playing and how many went into coaching/officiating because of their love for the game."

During her 41 seasons on the Pioneer sideline, Coach Ferrarella has guided her teams to 20 seasons of at least 18 wins and three conference championships. With her 700th win, Ferrarella, who also serves as an assistant director of admissions at the University, becomes just the 17th Division III coach to reach that mark and only the ninth to accomplish it at one school.

"It makes you realize how truly special these last 41 years have been and the lives you have touched," Ferrarella adds. "It doesn't get any better than that."

Hallie Cohen Announces Retirement after 25 Seasons in WP Dugout

After a 40-year career as one of the nation's most accomplished Division III softball head coaches, including the last 25 seasons in the William Paterson dugout, Hallie Cohen has announced her retirement effective February 1.

Cohen, who finishes her career ranked 10th all time in Division III softball coaching victories (855-503-5), has produced an impressive list of accomplishments at WP since her arrival in 1995. She is the University's all-time leader in victories (660-348-4), guided William Paterson to four NJAC Tournament championships, and secured two NCAA Tournament East Regional titles to advance to the Championship Finals as one of the country's top eight teams. Also the Pioneers' field hockey head coach for nine years (1995-2003), she led WP to its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance in 2000.

"It has been a privilege and an honor to have been the head softball coach at William Paterson for the last 25 years," Cohen says. "I have had the incredible opportunity to work with so many outstanding student-athletes, administrators, assistant coaches, and support staff. It has been amazing to see my student-athletes blossom and grow throughout their time here, and to be able to follow their lives after they graduate."

Assistant coach John McClain will serve as the interim head coach for the Pioneers' 2020 spring season, and the University will launch a national search in May for its new head softball coach.



Student-Athletes Volunteer for AIDS Charity



William Paterson student-athletes Gillian Grahame and Sara Haller could have chosen to spend their summer breaks relaxing in the comfort of their own homes.

Instead, they decided on a more adventurous path—volunteering for the sports medicine team at the annual AIDS Life Cycle charitable event in California.

Grahame, a senior field hockey forward,

and Haller, a junior diver on the University's swimming team, served on the Roadie Community, a 650-member team that provided care and treatment for the 42,000 riders trekking down the Pacific Coast to raise awareness for the ongoing HIV/AIDS epidemic. Both athletic training majors, Grahame and Haller worked alongside fellow volunteers to treat all acute injuries ranging from soft tissue mobility to joint taping.

The AIDS Life Cycle is a seven-day, 545-mile bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles,

which co-benefits the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles LGBT Center. Since the first race in 1993, the event has raised over \$200 million.

Through their volunteer efforts, Grahame and Haller have met William Paterson's charge to expand the boundaries of knowledge in and outside of the classroom. Their hands-on experience not only helped to advance their own expertise, but also made possible the journeys of thousands of others along the way.

Leading the Charge In Public Health

BY THERESA E. ROSS '80



Professor Corey Basch, chair of public health, and public health graduate assistant Nasia Quinones

As a regulatory health project manager with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration, Rodney Hammond's job is to review new tobacco product applications. He then puts together the scientific team that will determine if a product meets the regulatory requirements set by Congress.

Hammond, a 2012 graduate of William Paterson University's public health program, gained a great deal of experience as a student

research assistant to Corey Basch, chair and professor in the University's Department of Public Health. One of their papers focused on cigarette and e-cigarette advertising and was published in a peer-reviewed journal. Three months into his current position, his supervisor was doing research online and came across the study. She was pleasantly surprised to discover that Hammond was a co-author—an unusual opportunity for a recent graduate.

Hammond works in the FDA's office of tobacco products. "What I do here is collaborate, so I have to bring a team together," he explains. "And Dr. Basch exposed me to that same aspect of collaborating with others in public health."

After immigrating from Ghana in 2004, Hammond graduated *magna cum laude* from the University's program. He went on to graduate school and accepted a prestigious two-year fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control



Rodney Hammond '12

and Prevention. He now has an impressive resume that details the nine published papers he co-authored with Professor Basch, along with a few conference presentations.

"I think our program in public health at William Paterson is the best program in the country, by far," he says.

Hammond is one of scores of William Paterson alumni who are leading the charge in public health. They are employed by federal agencies, hospitals,

industry right now. Within the past 15 years, enrollment in each annual cohort has grown from 10 to 20 students to nearly 100. Both the private sector and grant-funded programs have been a great employer of William Paterson students."

The department is actively

2016, it was among the first eight standalone bachelor's degree programs to earn accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Accreditation for undergraduate public health programs was new that year, and it was an honor to be

And very differently, Marlene Kalayilparampil '13 is the manager of governmental relations for New Jersey's largest physician membership organization that advocates for physicians. She analyzes a broad range of policies and legislation and serves as lobbyist for physicians in the state.

Meanwhile, Jan Michael Quintin Ramos '09 works as a data analyst at a substance abuse agency in Bergen County. He makes sure the data they use for grant applications is the most current.

"The reason people aren't familiar with the field of public health is because when we are doing our jobs, it's silent and in the background," Kernan explains. In a municipality, for example, public health workers are making sure that restaurants are safe so people don't get food poisoning. They are making sure that water systems are safe and do not contain *Legionella*. And they're overseeing safety measures like working traffic lights. "Those are all public health people working in the background to prevent disease and injury before it happens," he says.

Each of the full-time, doctoral-trained faculty members specialize in areas such as health education, community health, and socio-medical sciences. Additionally, dynamic adjunct faculty help bring the textbooks to life. In the 2018-19 academic year, the department was awarded 10 external grants and contracts, and published 37 scholarly publications that included seven students or recent alumni as co-authors.

Kernan is currently overseeing the evaluation of a grant that will fund a study on food waste in the Paterson school system. "It's an opportunity for six to eight of our students to go into the Paterson school



Professor William Kernan and Andrea Pereda '19, a part-time assistant for United for Prevention in Passaic County, and sophomore public health major Karen Calix discuss Kernan's research

organizations, and in private industry. At the county level, numerous graduates are employed as environmental health specialists, health educators, and health officers.

"Nearly every county health department in New Jersey employs one or more William Paterson graduates," says William Kernan, professor and former chair of the department. "And we know that our program is highly regarded when it comes to hiring for internships and jobs. Our students are known for being prepared. Some graduate as co-authors of several research publications. And those who work on grants are graduating with community-based health experience."

Enrollment in the program has grown dramatically, reports Kernan. "Public health is a huge

rooted in the community. One key example is United for Prevention in Passaic County, a health agency physically situated in the University's Department of Public Health. Initiated in 2012, it represents William Paterson's long-standing commitment to collaborate with the community on the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse in Passaic County. Glen Sherman, associate vice president and dean of student development, serves as its administrative director, and Kernan is research director. Currently supported by six grants, it provides internship and research opportunities for the University's public health majors.

William Paterson's bachelor's degree program in public health was established nearly 40 years ago and is one of the oldest in the country. In

among the few selected.

Because the field is so diverse, the main question incoming students ask is, "What is public health and what can I do with a degree in it?" The answer, say faculty, is that public health is *everything*. Every industry has some intersection with public health. As a way to answer the question, the department keeps track of its alumni and showcases their varied careers.

Among those alumni are Chiara Marababol '11, a hospital administrator who combined her two loves, health education and graphic design. She ensures that all of the information distributed to patients and doctors throughout the hospital is consistent with the hospital's compliance standards. In

cafeterias as paid public health nutrition researchers,” he says. “The goal is to get young people to think about where their food comes from, how much of it gets thrown away, and the environmental impact of food waste.”

Marianne Sullivan, another professor in the department, focuses her research on environmental issues. “When people think about health, they think about behaviors like healthy diet and exercise,” she says. “The fact is that the air that we breathe, the water we drink, and the quality of our environment is inseparable from our health as well.” During her recent sabbatical, Sullivan traveled to Germany and Australia to study how those countries are addressing the problem of lead in water. “Germany began replacing all of their service lines a couple of decades ago, and the work is nearly completed,” she says. “Looking at what they did could be a model for the United States as we deal with old infrastructure that contributes to health hazards, primarily for infants and children.”

Sullivan is also an active member of the Environmental Data and Governance Initiative, a group of international researchers working to document the Trump administration’s

“Nearly every county health department in New Jersey employs one or more William Paterson graduates...”

PROFESSOR WILLIAM KERNAN

impact on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Her group recently released a major report that shows a decline in the enforcement of environmental regulations that could affect basic things like safe drinking water and clean air. As a result, the



Professor Naa-Solo Tettey (far left) with students learning CPR

group was asked to testify before Congress. “This was a big achievement for our little group that was just formed a couple years before, to obtain recognition for our work and tell the American people what is going on,” she says.

Criminal justice reform has always been of interest to Naa-Solo Tettey, an assistant professor in the department. Last year, students were trained to be volunteers for the Petey Greene prison tutoring program, helping to tutor inmates in English and math. “Working with the inmates is always a very powerful experience for them, and I see it in their reflection papers,” she says. As advisor to the Public Health Club, Tettey and students have organized a clothing drive for the NJ Reentry program, collected

500 books on campus for a prison literacy program, and held a panel discussion on prison reform.

Other faculty include Zoe Maleo-Erwin, assistant professor and a qualitative researcher who is exploring how individuals make the

our department is really committed to that and will help students with their graduate applications, with their essays, with letters. And because our students are grateful, they stay in touch,” she adds.

Ashley Clark '17, who like Hammond was also a research

decision to have weight loss surgery and their pre- and post-surgical experiences. Professor Michele Grodner has spent her career focused on nutrition education and how nurses play an important role for patients in implementing wellness and medically nutritious dietary patterns. Alex Kecojevic, assistant professor, combines quantitative and qualitative research methods to study substance abuse, including HIV/AIDS, especially among high-risk youth. He is leading an effort to make William Paterson a tobacco-free campus.

Faculty commitment to students extends beyond the classroom. “We want our students to succeed,” says Sullivan. “I think that every faculty member in

assistant to Basch, is one of those alumni. “I have called Dr. Basch before interviews and she has calmed my nerves. Her positive attitude and ‘go get ‘em’ speeches have pushed me farther and helped me reach a managerial role just two years after graduation,” she says.

Basch finds that the benefits of involving students in her research is often reciprocal. “The students have kept me so fresh in terms of ideas, especially when it concerns social media. They have their pulse on things that are so relevant to college students. And they work hard,” she adds. “Involving my students has propelled me to keep going forward and exploring different ideas.”

What makes the department special? “It’s the relationships we build,” says

Christie Jaimie, internship site coordinator, adjunct professor, and a 2009 graduate of the program. Every student majoring in public health does an internship during their last semester. “The University has a set of loyal partnerships with local health departments, hospitals, and non-profit organizations,” she explains. “They partner up with us year after year, especially since they know the caliber of our students. Some supervisors will only work with WP students. We prepare our students well so that when they’re in the field, they not only represent themselves but they represent the University. Many of them get hired.”

Jaimie organizes internship and career panels every fall and invites alumni to speak with students. Clark, now a manager for a health consulting company, has been one of those speakers. “My advice to soon-to-be graduates is, apply everywhere, and don’t let fear stand in the way because someone will give you the chance to shine,” says Clark.

“I am grateful to have been part of our public health program,” she adds. “And most of all, I’m grateful to Dr. Basch for taking me under her wing and teaching me research skills along with basic professional skills to guide me through life.”

“I stay in touch with all of these students,” says Basch. “I’ve bonded with them and this is our common thread. I’ve invested in them and they’ve invested in me, and our University and our program. We’re all in it together so it feels great.”

FACULTY ADVANCING RESEARCH AND REFORM IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Each full-time faculty member in the public health department is actively involved in research and/or community service. They often include students and alumni as co-authors on their research, giving the program one of the most-respected reputations in the state.

Working collaboratively with the community, they are at the forefront of today’s biggest public health concerns, from battling the opioid crisis to researching ways to reduce the lead levels in our drinking water.

COREY BASCH has focused her research on cancer education, cancer screening, and health education. One line of inquiry is assessing strategies for increasing public health benefits of colorectal cancer screening in low-income urban minority populations. Her work has a theme of putting disease prevention and health promotion knowledge into practice to reduce health disparities among these populations. Basch has gained national media attention for her many research studies, such as exposing the hazards of distracted pedestrians at busy intersections and the dangers of bikers wearing headphones in New York City.



MICHELE GRODNER has spent her career specializing in nutrition and health with an emphasis on nutrition education for nurses. Early on, she explored disordered eating issues, serving on the board of a national eating disorder association; researching and reviewing educational publications, and organizing campus events for students and staff. In recent years her focus has shifted to nutrition and medical nutrition therapy for nursing students. Since 1996, as lead author of *Nutritional Foundations and Clinical Applications: A Nursing Approach*, now in its 7th edition, Grodner continually explores the relationship of nutritional healing and wellness through the lens of the nursing profession.



ALEX KECOJEVIC uses community-based approaches, combining quantitative and qualitative research methods, to study substance use and sexual health among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and other at-risk youth populations. His goal: to develop a deeper understanding of the disparities among subgroups of youth by analyzing underlying social determinants of health inequities such as homelessness, unemployment, poverty, and lack of social support. In addition, Kecojevic is leading efforts at William Paterson to adopt a 100 percent tobacco-free campus policy. He is a member of the University’s Cannabis Research Institute.

WILLIAM KERNAN is an applied health researcher who studies community-based health education programs. For more than 20 years, he has been at the forefront of developing collegiate and community-based substance abuse prevention programs. He serves as research director for United for Prevention in Passaic County, a county-wide substance abuse prevention coalition housed at the University. One current project aims to reduce opioid use disorders

among young athletes, a particularly vulnerable group due to the high prevalence of sports-related injury. In another project, a diverse group of community leaders in the city of Passaic are developing interventions to reduce youth alcohol and marijuana use. He is a member of the Cannabis Research Institute.



ZOË MELEO-ERWIN is a qualitative health researcher. She has examined the ways in which digital technologies facilitate the creation of both identity and community around health and illness. Her primary research explores how individuals decide to have weight loss surgery, pre- and post-surgical experiences of embodiment, and the post-operative relationship between weight loss surgery patients and their home surgical clinics. Her research interests include health disparities, structural determinants of health, weight-based stigma, food-based health movements, and decision-making around vaccination.



MARIANNE SULLIVAN is an interdisciplinary public health researcher focused on understanding causes of environmental health problems and their solutions. She is an active member of the Environmental Data and Governance Initiative (EDGI), a group of international researchers working to document the impact the Trump administration is having on U.S. environmental policy, particularly at the Environmental Protection Agency. Her 2014 book, *Tainted Earth: Smelters, Public Health and the Environment*, explores the history of toxic metal exposure/poisoning and environmental devastation caused by lead and copper smelting in the U.S.

NAA-SOLO TETTEY is a leading voice in community health education and health disparities. She is the creator of HeartSmarts, a cardiovascular health education research program which educates high-risk, underserved communities about heart disease and prevention. Also active in criminal justice reform, Tettey has inspired WP students to participate in the Petey Greene Program, which prepares volunteers, primarily college students, to provide free, quality tutoring and related programming to support incarcerated people. As advisor for the Public Health Club, Tettey has helped students participate in various criminal justice initiatives.

BREAKING

NEWS

TWO WP GRADS HAVE MAJOR MEDIA IMPACT

By Maria Karidis Daniels

If you watch television news, chances are you've seen content produced by William Paterson University graduates Christine Cataldi '98 and Steven Baker '04.



Cataldi is the executive producer for content planning at NBC News. She routes network news stories to NBC affiliates across the country, and coordinates major cross-platform coverage initiatives—those that simultaneously require NBC News resources on television and the web. She was instrumental in the development of NBC News NOW, the network's streaming news service, which has been averaging one million views per month since its official launch this summer. Prior, she was co-executive producer of NBC's *TODAY*, where her almost-decade of work for the weekday morning news and entertainment show resulted in three Emmy awards for Outstanding Morning Program, and record total viewership.



Baker is the executive producer of ABC's *Nightline*. In 2017, at age 35, he became the youngest to ever lead the late-night news feature program, which hooked an average of 1.3 million viewers per episode last broadcast season. He recently launched an initiative at *Nightline* to produce longform documentaries for the web and streaming TV platforms. As of this writing, his team's documentary about the 2017 mass shooting in Las Vegas hit more than 6.3 million views on YouTube. He has earned two Emmy awards for news coverage, as well as one for his work with CBS's *Entertainment Tonight*, for which he served as associate director/supervising producer for two years.

MORNING MAESTRO



Christine Cataldi '98, executive producer of content planning for NBC News

WHAT'S THE BEST PART OF WORKING IN TV NEWS?

"The best part is the creativity, and the fact that no day is the same. When I walk into work for the day, I never know what's going to happen," Cataldi says.

WHAT'S THE HARDEST PART OF WORKING IN TV NEWS?

"The fact that you never know what's going to happen," she responds without hesitation.

"I always had my eye on *TODAY* because it was the gold standard. That was my goal from college," says the Parsippany, New Jersey native. To help get her there, after receiving her associate's degree from County College of Morris, Cataldi transferred to WP.

"I wanted to go to the best local school for communication, because knowing New York City was the No. 1 media market, I wanted to stay close and have the first chance to intern in the city while I was in school," she adds.

In the spring of 2009, after 12 years in television with roles at MSNBC and The Food Network—which she landed through connections made at her very first internship—Cataldi hit the target she set for herself in college: She was hired to be coordinating producer of the fourth hour of *TODAY with Kathie Lee and Hoda*. Cataldi eventually moved up to the role of senior producer and then co-executive producer of the same hour.

When Cataldi joined *TODAY*, co-hosts Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb had only been on air together for a year. Cataldi was with them through their growth and "what became the cultural phenomenon of Kathie Lee and Hoda," as she describes it.

"It was amazing and scary at the same time," she recalls of her early days on the show. "Scary because the stakes are so high. At that time, *TODAY* was the No. 1 show for at least a decade in morning TV, and that run lasted for 16 years. You're part of a legacy and you want to do right by that legacy."

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR TV CONTENT SEEN BY THE MASSES?

"That's one thing you can't think about: You, along with a small group of people, are deciding what millions of people are watching. It's heavy," Cataldi says. "But that's why you want always, always to be accurate and well-sourced, no matter what your segment is, and make sure whatever information you're putting forward has been checked and rechecked."

Quick thinking, Cataldi adds, is also paramount in live television.

"One day, we were in the middle of *TODAY*, and all of a sudden, there's no audio. Not even crickets. Willie Geist kind of mimed to viewers that we're going to commercial. That gave us three minutes. We threw in an NBC promo for another

30 seconds. So, we had three minutes 30 seconds to figure out why our entire audio died. It was the most insane three and a half minutes of my life; my heart was pounding...This is the *TODAY* show—how do I not have audio? There is no fix for this; there's no tape to plug in; it's live...In that three minutes 30 seconds, we came up with 18 different plans to rush people to different studios, and we had every NBC engineer in the place."

Luckily, Cataldi didn't have to enact any of those 18 plans. Someone discovered one single electrical plug had come loose from its outlet.

After close to a decade with *TODAY*, Cataldi decided to move on, although it was a decision she did not take lightly. "I felt like I played shortstop for the New York Yankees and was giving it up. It was unbelievable to have been a part of that group," she says. "But I was in the market for a new challenge."

In June 2018, she started a yearlong project to help build the infrastructure of what is currently NBC News NOW, the network's streaming service, which produces eight hours of live, original news programming daily. By September 2019, just a few months after the service went public, viewers were already using it for a combined 300,000 hours per month.

Following that success, Cataldi transitioned into her current role of executive producer for content planning. As such, she works as a sort of go-between for the broadcast and digital sides of NBC News, giving coverage across different mediums a cohesive look and feel. Her work on the network's Pride50 initiative, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall rebellion, created a large impression online. Pride50 videos on NBCNews.com earned an average of 100,000 views each, she says.

Cataldi also embarked on a new role outside of producing this past year: becoming a mentor in William Paterson University's Pesce Family Mentoring Institute, which matches current students with professionals who help prepare them for their intended careers. Cataldi is mentoring two communication students this semester, one of whom recently interned at NBC.



Steven Baker '04, executive producer of ABC's *Nightline*

WHAT'S THE BEST PART OF WORKING IN TV NEWS?

"Telling stories that matter. I think that facts and news matter more now than ever, and I'm so happy that we get to be a part of that conversation," Baker says.

WHAT'S THE HARDEST PART OF WORKING IN TV NEWS?

"The number of mass shootings that we've seen recently...It starts to wear on us," Baker responds. "We have to get so involved in the humanity of it—seeing people suffer—knowing there's not much we can do to help them except tell their story, which is incredibly powerful."

Harnessing that power is something that Baker and his team at *Nightline* do very well.

For several weeks prior to his interview with *WP Magazine*, *Nightline* beat its time slot's top competition, late-night comedians James Corden and Seth Meyers, in ratings for viewers ages 18 to 49. "I think that we're seeing a renaissance in people's interest in news and longform journalism," Baker explains. "There are so many documentaries streaming on Netflix and Hulu; people really want that deep dive, and we're doing it every night."

The Vernon, New Jersey native thanks WP communication professor John Rhodes for getting him started in TV news, as he helped Baker land his first internship, at Fox News, in 2003. Two years later, after

a second internship at ABC News, Baker was hired as a production assistant at *Nightline* and began what would be a whirlwind of an upward trajectory.

In his early days, he co-produced a single-topic episode of the show alongside Academy Award-nominated documentarians Tim Hetherington and Sebastian Junger. Their episode, titled "The Other War," provided an intimate portrait of U.S. soldiers serving on the front lines in Afghanistan. The work took home an Overseas Press Club Award and The Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, considered one of the most prestigious awards in journalism.

Before he turned 30, Baker produced *Nightline* pieces for the legendary Barbara Walters.

He executive-produced *Nightline*'s first-ever digital-only broadcast following the 2016 Orlando nightclub shooting; he developed a short-form storytelling strategy on social media that increased his show's Facebook video views by 260 percent, led *Nightline* to No. 1 in the ratings numerous times, and eventually was promoted to the head role: executive producer of the show.

"I think the stories we most look back on are stories that impacted our culture," Baker responds, when asked if he has a favorite story he's produced. "I think all the work we did around the #MeToo movement left a lot of impact. I'm really proud of the

stories we told last year and continue to tell there—Rose McGowan's interview, the Bill Cosby case, the gymnasts—all of that, I think, had a tremendous impact."

Earlier this year, Baker's team premiered the critically acclaimed documentary *After Parkland* at Tribeca Film Festival, Hot Docs Film Festival in Toronto, and AFI Docs in Washington, DC, and it continues to appear on the festival circuit. Currently, Baker's team is working on a documentary about what's happening at the United States/Mexico border. True to Baker's vision for *Nightline* documentaries and long-form stories that rely on "immersive storytelling," his team was embedded with local people all over South America, Mexico, and stateside. Baker expects this work, too, will have a strong impact on viewers.

In addition to his work with *Nightline*, Baker has organized and led ABC News' Pride speaker series for the past two years.

Variety named Baker to its "New Power of New York" list in 2018, a list of 50 "movers and shakers who are changing the face of the five boroughs and beyond," that includes politico Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, pop star Cardi B, and supermodel Gigi Hadid. *Broadcasting & Cable Magazine* named him in its Top 40 under 40 among New York City TV pros.

But Baker hasn't forgotten his roots.

"I majored in communication and minored in political science, and I was in the Humanities Honors Program," he says proudly. His sister, Kimberly Ruiz '03, studied nursing at William Paterson.

Reflecting back on his time at WP, Baker says what sticks out most for him is the student body. "The diversity of the campus was enlightening and helped kind of expand my mind," he explains. "I think it helped everybody grow in that sense."

That real-life education continues to serve him well.

"Being at *Nightline* has been such an honor—being able to interview some of the biggest newsmakers of our time, from former Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama to music superstars Mariah Carey and Madonna," Baker says. "It's just been such a great experience, and I'm never short on dinner conversation because of it."

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF FAMILY

BY MARIA KARIDIS DANIELS

SPEND A SHORT TIME IN THE OFFICE OF THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND (EOF) PROGRAM ON CAMPUS, AND YOU'LL QUICKLY UNDERSTAND WHY MORE THAN 6,000 STUDENTS OVER THE PAST FIVE DECADES HAVE REFERRED TO IT AS

“HOME.”

The State-funded program, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in New Jersey and at William Paterson this year, provides academic support services and financial assistance to approximately 450 students annually who come from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

“Our students are highly motivated, but due to various circumstances in their lives, they typically graduate high school with a grade point average that doesn’t always reflect their capabilities,” explains EOF Program Executive Director Carmen Ortiz ‘88, MEd ‘90. “We are an access program, so we want to know the full story behind students’ grades, for example, why does someone have excessive absence or lateness, or why does someone keep failing math, but gets A’s in other subjects? If a student was in foster care and changed schools three times, for example, or if a student is working and acting as head of household, that’s going to affect them in class. Life happens.”

To help get them ready for college, first-year EOF students participate in a six-week Summer Academic Institute—from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. five days a week—that requires them to live on campus for those weeks and provides instruction in writing, reading, and mathematics; select core curriculum courses; workshops to assess their skills, learning styles, and career interests; and both group and individual counseling sessions about health and wellness, motivation, and interpersonal relations. A team of 11 peer leaders are assigned to the EOF students 24/7 for those six weeks.

Additionally, special support and courses in anatomy and physiology are offered for students interested in pursuing careers in STEM. About 25 percent of today’s EOF students pick a major in those fields, according to Paulaska Ramirez ‘08, EOF assistant director and program coordinator for science and health.

Once the fall semester begins, and for the entirety of their undergraduate careers, EOF students are required to attend



Secretary of Higher Education Zakiya Smith Ellis, Governor Phil Murphy, former Governor Tom Kean, and Carmen Ortiz, executive director of EOF and academic achievement, during the EOF panel discussion on campus last March

regular, personal academic advisement sessions with their assigned EOF counselor, as well as group meetings for freshman/sophomore or junior/senior cohorts, and seminars on topics such as transitioning to college life, campus involvement, and career readiness.

“I think what the EOF program and what the staff offers for ‘me’ as a student and ‘me’ as an individual is amazing. Students come into the office simply because they can find a familiar face here. That constant student presence, and having the support of the staff, has a big impact,” says Mariela Aguilar ‘17, who attended WP through the EOF Program. The Passaic native earned her degree in sociology and is currently pursuing her master’s in professional counseling at the University. She works part-time as an academic coach in the EOF office. “Being part of the EOF Program definitely fostered that interest, that environment, for me to pursue a career in higher education and remain at this university to do it.”

This past spring, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, former Governor Tom Kean, and Secretary of Higher Education Zakiya Smith Ellis co-hosted a roundtable discussion on campus to honor the EOF Program’s 50th year. Kean helped create the Program when he was a state assemblyman. “Today, we pay tribute to former Governor Kean’s legacy by renewing our commitment to EOF and boosting funding in our proposed budget so more hardworking students may reach their goal of a college degree,” Murphy announced at the campus event.

As Ortiz and Ramirez spoke with *WP Magazine*, smiling students frequently popped into the office as though they were visiting a good friend. Some had questions; one wanted to schedule an appointment; many simply said hello. Next door, two graduate assistants worked on computers, asking each other for advice along the way, coordinating tasks and finishing one another’s sentences like sisters would. In the main lobby, two students comfortably worked on a course assignment together, stopping briefly to chat with every passerby as they did; a third student mentioned an indecision about how many credits to take next year when an EOF counselor appeared with joyful teasing and a direct, “Show me your transcript.”

“It’s the family approach we have here that really helps our students succeed and take risks they wouldn’t have otherwise taken, like studying abroad,” Ortiz says, with a proud smile.

“For me, it was, ‘This is home,’” adds Ramirez. She graduated via the EOF Program and returned to campus two years later to work there.

EOF alumni, Ortiz says, are employed in a wide range of fields, including education, law, medicine, public health, nursing, politics, business, and the non-profit sector. Many of them choose to seek employment on campus, she notes, “to pay it forward.”

ALUMNI REFLECT ON THE EOF PROGRAM AND ITS IMPACT



KODY GUEDES '19

"I was really nervous going to college, and going through the EOF Program was a great transition. It was the first time I really felt like I fit in somewhere. It gave me a great sense of home, and it was my first experience of having someone who wasn't in my family really care about me and want to see more for my future," says Kody Guedes

'19, of New Brunswick. "I want to be able to be 'somebody' for someone else, and show them that anything is possible."

For that reason, the May 2019 graduate is now pursuing a master's degree in higher education student affairs at Salem State University in Massachusetts.

The care he received from his EOF family, Guedes says, steered him onto the right path academically and instilled in him the confidence to get more involved in campus and community life. He was Student Government Association president and executive president of the Greek Senate—among his very long list of extracurricular roles on campus—and volunteered his time and talent to such causes as the Boys and Girls Club, community soup kitchens, and food pantries.

Guedes was one of 218 students in the nation and one of only five in New Jersey to receive the 2016 Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellows award for civic engagement, and last spring, he earned the Exemplar Achievement Award—the highest award bestowed by the University's Office of Student Development—for significant contributions to campus life through leadership, service, and academic achievement.



NORMAN GREENE '98

Norman Greene '98 graduated with an accounting degree from William Paterson. He lives in Washington, DC with his wife and three daughters, and works as deputy national political director of finance and operations for Service Employees International Union, a labor union representing almost 1.9 million workers in more than 100

occupations in the United States and Canada. He handles the money and compliance reporting for one of, if not the largest, union-run political programs in the country.

Greene is the treasurer of a public charter school in DC, treasurer of an urban farm in his neighborhood, and carves out time to actively volunteer at his daughters' schools, where he previously served as PTA president.

He also previously served as deputy director of finance for the White House during the four years of former President Barack Obama's first term. Greene was instrumental in the contracting process to upgrade all of the technology in the White House, including moving all White House staffers from flip phones to smartphones and changing the newswire technology that White House staff use to consume and disseminate information about breaking news events.

This successful alum, who hails from Jamesburg, New Jersey, is an EOF Program graduate. Were it not for that program, Greene says he may have never been accepted

into a four-year institution, would not have been able to play college soccer and basketball—because he would have had to work fulltime instead—and would have never served as the elected student representative to the University's Board of Trustees—because he would have lacked the confidence to run in the first place. That position, he notes, is how he met fellow alumnus Roy Garcia '99, who helped Greene get his first job in Washington, DC politics.

"With EOF, first and foremost, what was most helpful for me was being able to engage with other students in a very intentional way that allowed us to build relationships and form bonds," Greene says. "It also required a decent amount of involvement with adults on campus in a way that was less professor-student focused—the staff of the Program, or Financial Aid, for example. EOF taught me not to be afraid to make connections, to ask people for advice and help, and to be confident and ask for what you want."



DR. FREE N. HESS '00

Dr. Free N. Hess '00 works as an attending pediatric physician in the emergency room of the University of Florida. Her husband, Christopher Hess '01, is a neurologist at the same hospital. They were wed 16 years ago on campus, in a ceremony in Hobart Manor, and they live in Gainesville, Florida with their nine-year-old daughter. When she

isn't busy in the hospital or with her family, Hess conducts and publishes research on child safety, with a special focus on child self-harm and suicide, and social media's role therein—a topic inspired by what she encounters in the ER.

A year ago, she launched a child safety website, leveraging her experience as a pediatrician, researcher, and mom. PediMom.com has blown up in popularity, and cast Hess in a national and international light. This fall, she is launching the highly anticipated PediMom Podcast, and she has been interviewed by *The Washington Post*, *Woman's Day Magazine*, and the BBC, among others.

That popular, passionate, well-spoken doctor in the media is an EOF Program graduate.

continues on page 28



William Paterson EOF students gather for a recent state EOF conference held on campus. Back row, left to right: Reginald Smith, Tianna Sahou, Syeda Nahar, Marilyn Maison, Wilnell Martinez, Caroline Sorber, Caryn Miller; front row, left to right: Kristoffer Givens, Anthony Figueroa, Ariela Colon, Marguerite Elysee, Sanaa Bentley, and David Carpio



KEEPING THE MUSIC ALIVE

University's Living Jazz Archives provides access to works of jazz greats

Above: Professor David Demsey, curator of the Living Jazz Archives, looks at a manuscript with Sklyer Hagner, a master's degree candidate in jazz studies and arranging; Below: Clark Terry's trumpet

BY MARY BETH ZEMAN

When the late Grammy Award-winning jazz saxophonist Michael Brecker wanted to perfect his playing of a piece of music or remember another jazz artist's improvised solo, he would write the music down in his personal practice journals.

Brecker, who died in 2007, was known for his collaborations with dozens of jazz and rock artists, including pop/rock icons James Taylor, Paul Simon, and Joni Mitchell, and leading jazz musicians from Herbie Hancock and Chick Corea, to his numerous recordings with his brother Randy Brecker.

"Those journals document what Michael practiced from the time he was in college all the way through some production notes he made just three weeks before he died," says David Demsey, professor of music and coordinator of jazz studies. "For someone who wants to know how to be an improviser at that level, they are the Holy Grail."

Brecker's journals—900 pages' worth of notes and transcriptions that provide

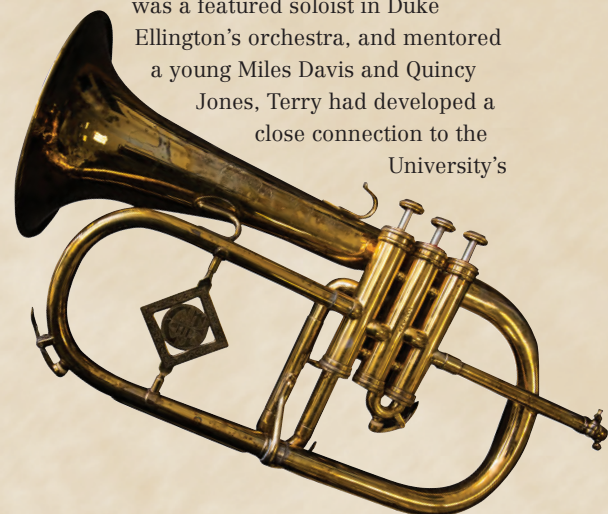
an intimate glimpse into the thought process of one of his generation's most influential musicians—are among the tens of thousands of musical scores, arrangements, recordings, videos, photographs, tour itineraries and posters, instruments, and memorabilia contained in William Paterson University's Living Jazz Archives.

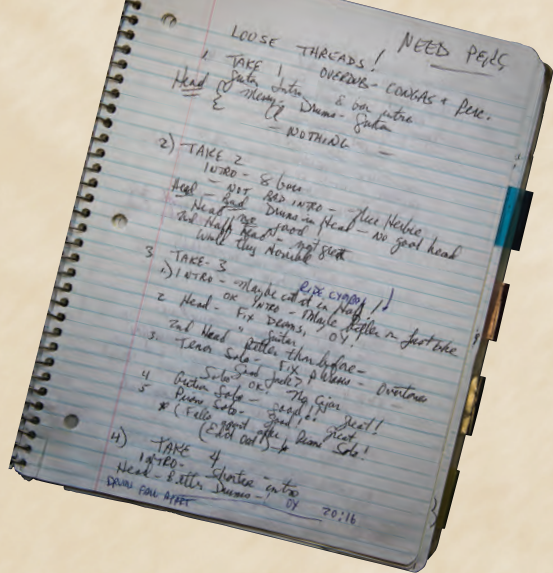
Students and faculty benefit every day from the archive—whether for class projects, research, or just to browse or look at a specific piece of music. It is truly a "living" archive, open and accessible, with visitors able to view its treasure trove of priceless materials that document the legacy of some of jazz's greatest legends, as well as the University's own internationally acclaimed Jazz Studies Program, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2023.

"Most jazz archives, such as those at the Library of Congress, are not connected to a college or university; they are repositories and research

centers," says Demsey, who serves as curator. "This archive is deeply connected to our program, a source for our teaching and musical performances, which really brings it to life."

The archives were born in 2004 when the late jazz trumpet player Clark Terry decided to donate his extensive archive to the University, adding his materials to a group of Thad Jones's scores that had been stored in the Cheng Library's archive room. Terry, a major figure in jazz history who played with Count Basie, was a featured soloist in Duke Ellington's orchestra, and mentored a young Miles Davis and Quincy Jones. Terry had developed a close connection to the University's





A page from one of Michael Brecker's personal practice journals

performer with the New York Philharmonic and Metropolitan Opera; and the Martin and Joann Krivin Jazz Program History Collection.

Just recently, the University received the archive of the late trumpeter and flugelhorn player Art Farmer, well-known for his lyrical solo style and his co-leadership with Benny Golson of the Jazztet.

The archive, says Bill Charlap, the Grammy Award-winning pianist and current director of jazz studies, "is a jewel in the crown of William Paterson. These musicians came to us because of the reputation of our program, and knowing that our students will be playing this music."

For example, Charlap says, as part of the Jazz Studies Program, students engage twice each semester in "dialogue days"—an opportunity for them to play in small groups for each other and the faculty. After each performance, a member of the jazz faculty moderates an open-ended critique, ranging from the technical to the philosophical aspects of the performance. This semester, one dialogue day was devoted to the music of Thad Jones, using numerous unpublished manuscripts from the archive. "Thad Jones is one of the most important jazz composers and improvisers," Charlap adds. "That history is right here."

Faculty member Pete McGuinness, who teaches a graduate jazz studies class, Topics in Jazz Arranging, brings his class to the archives to look at Thad Jones's hand-written original scores as part of their study of his work. "The students see the actual, unedited work by these masters close up. This is both extremely educational and inspiring," he

says. "Individual students often go to the archives themselves and study scores of the other important composers whose works we house."

One such student is Yu Nishiyama, a second-year graduate student completing a master of music degree in jazz composition and arranging. Nishiyama learned of the archive after taking a



Thad Jones, the trumpet player and first director of the University's Jazz Studies Program, teaching on campus in the 1970s

course in research technique, which requires that students develop a proposal for an academic conference presentation.

"I decided to compare Jim McNeely's style of arranging for the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra to his work for European jazz orchestras, so I went to the archive to look at all of his scores," she explains. "By looking at the scores, I could also read all the notes he wrote for himself in terms of conducting the works, which is helpful to me as a composer. I could see the process of how he actually writes."

Nishiyama, a saxophonist who performs in the Schuyler Wagner Big Band, says she visits the archive every week. "I would go every day if I could," she adds. "Having access to the scores, and to things like Michael Brecker's notebooks, are what I need to really be a musician."

The archive has been a labor of love for Demsey, who has carefully preserved and cataloged each document, from Clark Terry's horns and Michael Brecker's saxophone mouthpieces to a sketch of Thad Jones used on the covers of his arrangements published by Kendor Music, and James Williams's 2,000-album collection. Trained as an archivist as a doctoral student at the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester, where he worked on the archive of

internationally acclaimed Jazz Studies Program, teaching and mentoring students in it.

"Clark wanted his music to be as accessible as possible, while also making sure it was preserved and protected," says Demsey. "He wanted the music stored at the highest archival level, but with copies available and on students' music stands."

Terry's donation put William Paterson on the map for other jazz artists seeking to associate their archives with a major jazz studies program. Fifteen years later, the archive has grown to include the archives of Brecker; the late trumpeter/arranger Thad Jones, a founder of the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra and the first director of the Jazz Studies Program; and the late pianists James Williams and Mulgrew Miller, both of whom also served as directors of the University's program.

The archive also includes the collections of pianist and composer Jim McNeely, a world-renowned arranger and longtime member of the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra; trombonist and arranger Don Sebesky; saxophonist Al Regni, a founder of the American Saxophone Quartet and veteran



Clark Terry (far right) with the Count Basie Orchestra, in a photo that is part of his archive

continues on page 28

MEETINGS OF THE MIND


Professor Michael Gordon travels the world to interview the most influential scholars of modern psychology

By Maria Karidis Daniels

DO GREAT MINDS REALLY THINK ALIKE?

"There are some commonalities," says William Paterson University psychology professor Michael Gordon. He returned to campus this semester after a year-long sabbatical wherein he journeyed across four continents to pick the brains of 71 of the most influential scholars in his field.

From Boston to Montreal, Sydney, London, and many places in between, Gordon traveled almost 60,000 miles, interviewing the likes of Albert Bandura (the Canadian-American social clinical psychologist known for his famous "Bobo doll" experiments and international media campaign to improve health behaviors), Dorothy Bishop (a British developmental psychologist whose



59,780 miles traveled
370 nights away from home
146 hours of interviews recorded
2,829 sources consulted
414 photos taken for book
139,368 words posted to blog

groundbreaking research and advocacy hinges on language learning impairments), and David Barlow (a revolutionary American clinical psychologist who pioneered many of the modern approaches to cognitive-behavioral therapy).

Though his interviewees are a very diverse group, Gordon says many of them share distinctive qualities. There is "a desire to be wrong...[they] seem particularly interested in being the one to disprove their own renowned theories," as well as "a resistance, and sometimes even a clear embrace, of ideas and methods that are



Professor Michael Gordon

rejected." Additionally, they tend to "read broadly;" that is, pay attention to ideas and research that stretch way beyond their discipline. "Many incredibly innovative ideas for psychology were developments adopted from related fields in epidemiology, sociology, and biology," he adds.

Gordon, a cognitive psychologist and director of the audiovisual perception laboratory at WP, interviewed the notable scholars in his field about their lives, training, influences, and the context surrounding the development of their research. He will be compiling material from each of these conversations for a book about the history of modern-day psychology, anticipated for release in late 2020 by Political Animal Press.

"These are the people that have created the most cited findings in psychology, presided over the critical organizations, and steered our field scientifically and organizationally over the last 75 years. Their stories are the stories of psychology, and I hope I can help preserve that for our field's history," Gordon says.

"IF YOU CAN HELP PEOPLE THAT ARE MORE VULNERABLE THAN YOURSELF, THERE'S A MEANING AND A PURPOSE IN YOUR LIFE, AND IT'S VERY VALUABLE."

Barbara Sahakian, University of Cambridge

BRIDGING THE GAP

In the early 20th century, Gordon explains, the field of psychology was fairly small, and psychologists published articles in a handful of major journals. "Moreover, when those early psychology scholars would publish, they would often comment directly to each other about how their work fit into the developing

"I'VE SPENT A LOT OF TIME TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THINGS THAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND. ALMOST EVERY QUESTION LEADS ITSELF AWAY FROM BEHAVIOR INTO NEURONS, NEUROSCIENCE, INTO GENETICS, AND THEN EVOLUTION."

*Michael Corbalis,
University of Auckland*

landscape of our knowledge. If one reads those early 20th century psychology articles, one can almost reconstruct the conversations they were having," he says.

"I'VE ALWAYS SAID TO MYSELF, 'IF SOMEONE LEFT ME A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY – SO THAT I WAS INDEPENDENTLY WEALTHY – WOULD I STOP DOING THIS?' AND THE ANSWER IS, 'NO.' SO I TELL THE UNDERGRADUATES, 'TRY AND GET A JOB LIKE THAT.'"

Max Coltheart, Mac

"Over time, the field of psychology grew much larger with many more people, more sub-disciplines, more journals, more societies, and so on. We also endeavored to become more objective in our writing, with an emphasis on removing the personal voice of the author from the reporting and increasing the scientific rigor in our publications."

Therefore, if you really want to hear the stories behind modern psychological research, you generally need to talk to the researcher. Or, thanks to Gordon, you can read his forthcoming book.

Though he expects the book will most attract readers with an interest in psychology, Gordon hopes the popular success of some of his interviewees will broaden that base.

When he first decided to pursue this project, many people asked why he bothered to travel across the world for in-person meetings, and didn't simply email or call his interviewees.

"JUDGES WOULD CLAIM, 'YOU DON'T NEED AN EXPERT TO TELL THE JURY THE SUN RISES IN THE MORNING ... SO THAT STARTED ME AND, ALL THESE OTHERS, ON WHAT IS IT JURORS KNOW? WHAT IS IT THEY THINK? ... YOU CAN SEE NOW A SLEW OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES BY ME AND OTHERS ON COMMON KNOWLEDGE.'"

ELIZABETH LOFTUS, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-IRVINE

"I trust in the research suggesting that there is something important to being in the same place and time for improving communication and creating greater conversational intimacy," Gordon says. In noting how he'd be speaking to people about their personal stories, he adds, "I think that intimacy was critical." He also

consulted William Paterson journalism professors to discuss protocols for making interview requests, interviewing techniques, and communication strategies overall.

The effort seems to have paid off. Gordon says he was taken aback by how candid and welcoming the scholars were during his meetings.

WRITING HIS-STORY

"I've heard stories of families fleeing the Nazis and oppressive regimes, high school dropouts who serendipitously came back to their education only to grow into newfound lovers of science, iconoclasts of all kinds, and brilliance," he says.

Gordon notes many stories on the path to scholarly success that involved "weird bits

ideas come from people who have life experience, training, colleagues, and a whole host of good and bad events that may have led them to certain possibilities."

Gordon has his own great stories to tell thanks to his journey, which he chronicled on a blog, www.journey2psychology.com. He made the year-long journey with his wife, who is a travel photographer, and 13-year-old son, who enrolled in an accredited online school for the occasion.

They sold their home in anticipation of the trip, and in late July 2018, the trio filled 51.2 cubic feet of their station wagon with all the possessions they would need and set out on an adventure. (Multiple airplane trips later, they pared those possessions down to 39.8 cubic feet.) They traveled across four

"I'M REALLY GLAD TO HAVE LIVED ON THE STREETS AND BEEN POOR. TO HAVE HAD \$30 AND A BACKPACK ... BECAUSE I'VE NEVER LOST SIGHT OF HOW HIGH UP ON THE MOUNTAIN I AM HERE."

Daniel Gilbert, Harvard University

of luck—not always good luck," such as that of Laura Carstensen of Stanford University. As a teen, she was in a serious car accident that landed her in a hospital's rehab unit for months, where she shared a room with older women. "The relationships she formed with those women opened up her interests and totally redirected what became her life's work," he says. "Her research program on

continents, and visited 75 cities.

Gordon conducted one interview on Waiheke Island—"an incredibly beautiful island in the bay adjacent to Auckland, New Zealand"—where Michael Corbalis has his summer home. He conducted another at Dane County Airport in Madison, Wisconsin, with Morton Ann Gernsbacher, who was just flying in from one speaking engagement and preparing to head to another. He enjoyed lunch at the University of Cambridge's opulent Fellows Hall, and was struck by the fact that students were wearing fine suits and tuxedos. Gordon later learned that formal dress is required at Cambridge during exam weeks.

"After more than 10 months of travel and reading, thinking, meeting, and talking with these tremendous scholars, this has been the most intellectually inspiring year of my career," Gordon said this summer—from Dublin, Ireland as he prepared for a flight to Dallas, Texas. "It has given me much to think about, and I hope that I can return to my discipline some of the excitement, creativity, and insight that I've recorded in conversation during these travels."

late adulthood and aging has been critical to our understanding of late life and been important in directing policy directives for governments and NGOs (non-governmental organizations) working with the elderly.

"Of course everyone has stories," he continues. "Incredible research and ideas never come out of a vacuum; those

In Memoriam

THE UNIVERSITY MOURNS THE PASSING OF FOUR MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY...



Elizabeth "Betty" DeGroot, professor *emerita* of English, died on July 1, 2019. She was 91. DeGroot taught English literature at William Paterson, retiring in 1997. She was also a correspondence instructor at Crossroads Bible Institute, Michigan for 10 years. Passionate about reading and books, she was a member of several literary societies, including the C.S. Lewis Society and Friends of Dickens, both in New York City. She also loved traveling, and made a number of trips to England in connection with her teaching. DeGroot held a doctorate from New York University.



Barbara M. Grant '54, professor *emerita* of curriculum and instruction, died on July 21, 2019. Grant began her career as an elementary school teacher in Glen Rock before joining the University faculty in 1963. She was a specialist in reading and language arts, and co-authored two books: *The Teacher Moves* (Teachers College Press) and *Content and Craft: Written Expression in the Elementary School* (Prentice Hall). A founding member of the *Beta Chi* Chapter of *Pi Lambda Theta* at William Paterson, she held a leadership role the organization for many years, speaking at national conventions as a representative of the University. Following her retirement in 1998 after 35 years on the faculty, Grant continued to be closely involved in the University. She

established the Barbara M. Grant Scholarship for a student in the College of Education and was a member of the Hobart Manor Revitalization Committee. In 2008, she was honored with the Faculty Service Award at the annual Legacy Gala. A graduate of William Paterson, she held a master's degree from the University of Virginia, and a doctorate from Teachers College, Columbia University.



Harold Mabern, a longtime adjunct faculty member and internationally renowned jazz pianist, died September 17, 2019. He was 83. Mabern joined William Paterson in 1981 and had just begun his 39th year of teaching piano and small ensembles in the University's Jazz Studies Program. He played with many of the greatest jazz legends of all time, including Miles Davis, Sonny Rollins, and Lionel Hampton, was an accompanist for Joe Williams, Sarah Vaughan, Dakota Staton, and others, and was often at the helm of his own small groups. Two of his best-known William Paterson students were saxophonist Eric Alexander and drummer Joe Farnsworth, who gave hundreds of performances with him, internationally and in New York. "He loved this music and lived its history, and he loved his students enough to tell them about it all. All of us in the William Paterson Music Department have been truly blessed to be around him and known him, to have heard him perform and in some cases performed with him, and felt his personal and musical presence for so many years," says David Demsey, professor of music and coordinator of jazz studies.

Esther Martinez, associate professor of languages and cultures, died on March 19, 2019. She was 73. Martinez, who joined the University in 1992, taught courses in Spanish language and literature, and also served as chair of the Department of Languages and Cultures from 2015 until her death. She was a specialist in medieval literature, and conducted research on the representation of religious minorities in medieval Spain supported by a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. A graduate of New York University, she held master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Michigan.

50 Years of Family - continued from page 23

"I totally credit the EOF Program with getting me to where I am today. I'm not so sure that I would have even had the opportunity to go to college if it wasn't for EOF," says the Wayne, New Jersey native. She's visited the campus and the Program several times through the years, and even served as the keynote speaker at the EOF Commencement celebration in 2010.

Hess says the EOF Program was particularly instrumental when she, a psychology major who planned on going to graduate school to further her education in that field, changed her mind—at the very last minute. With her name already in the Commencement program for the Class of 1998, Hess showed up in the EOF office to say she wanted to go to medical school instead. Program staffers made arrangements for her to stay on campus for another two years to complete the science and math courses required for acceptance to medical school.

"If there's ever been a place on William Paterson's campus that was totally open to having somebody walk in the door at any time and just plop down and start talking, where there is always someone there willing to listen and where fellow students will rally for you, too, EOF is that place," Hess says. "That, in itself, makes such a world of difference. It really is more of a family than a program."

Keeping the Music Alive - continued from page 25

composer Alec Wilder, Demsey says such archives are critical. "We need to retain the priceless materials of this generation of jazz artists who were part of that amazing period of jazz in the 1950s and early '60s," he says.

The archive has also spurred his own research. During a recent sabbatical, he notated 85 unpublished small group compositions by Thad Jones. "Most of the paper manuscripts are lost, either left behind after recording sessions or mislaid," Demsey explains. He found copies of handwritten sketches, incomplete by nature, for 25 of the compositions at the Library of Congress, where he was granted rare access to the copyright side of their collection. The bulk of his project involved transcribing the compositions by ear from albums in the archives.

"My aim is to give younger, inexperienced students as well as seasoned professionals all of the information they need to recreate the original recordings from these compositions," he says. Demsey is currently working on a book that will include the compositions, a discography, and a source for each composition.

Whether for a student or a seasoned performer, the archive always offers something to discover. "Having the opportunity to look at music by these jazz greats is like looking at the works of Bach, Beethoven, or Gershwin," Charlap says. "It's like our own little Smithsonian."

WP

Alumni Connections

Alumni Celebrate on Homecoming and Family Day 2019

The University once again welcomed alumni, family, and friends back to campus for Homecoming and Family Weekend 2019 on October 5 and 6. Saturday events included tailgating near Wightman Stadium, the Pioneer Carnival with food, games, prizes and fun activities, Homecoming football vs. The College of New Jersey, and a women's soccer match, also against The College of New Jersey. *Tau Kappa Epsilon* fraternity (large photo) received the inaugural President's Cup for having the most alumni return for Homecoming. On Sunday, the newest members of the Athletic Hall of Fame gathered for an induction ceremony (see page 13).



RISING PIONEERS

By Jaclyn Antonacci '14, MA '16

William Paterson's young alumni are already making an impact in a wide range of careers. Here are two Pioneers who are on the way up.



Naima Ricks '11 with students at the College of Saint Elizabeth

Naima Ricks '11: Cultivating the Next Generation of Leaders

As the director of student engagement at the College of Saint Elizabeth, Naima Ricks '11 is responsible for planning, implementing, and promoting cultural, social, and educational activities. "So, in my own way of putting it," she laughs, "I am in charge of keeping the campus fun and engaging!"

For Ricks, fun is serious business. Her work is guided by her belief in the importance of extracurricular activities and their ability to provide opportunities for students to grow as leaders.

"We know that students who are actively engaged outside the classroom are more likely to be successful after college," she says. "It's very rewarding to see the students that I work with leave college and be prepared from the experiences they had outside the classroom."

And Ricks is no stranger to extracurricular activities. After transferring to William Paterson in 2008, Ricks quickly

became the sophomore class president. The following year, she was elected Sociology Club president, and the next, Student Government Association president.

It was through her involvement in leadership positions on campus that Ricks says she found her purpose. "Once I became SGA president I realized that this was something I could do forever," she says. "All the trainings they gave us, learning to work in groups, dealing with conflicts—those things prepared us for life."

In 2014, Ricks went on to run for the Board of Education in Roselle where she was elected vice president by her colleagues and became the youngest elected official in town. Today, Ricks also holds leadership positions in the Union County Young Democrats Black Caucus, the Girl Scouts Heart of NJ, and *Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.* She has been named to *InsiderNJ's* African American Power List for four consecutive years and received the 2019 Roselle Chapter NAACP Role Model Award.

Ricks, who also teaches a student leadership course, says that her goal in life is to grow her students into the next generation of dynamic leaders. "Having these leadership opportunities and principles instilled in me made me want to give them back to the world," she says.

As an active WP alumna, she continues to give back to the Pioneer community in a myriad of ways, including serving on WP's Alumni Executive Council and as vice president of the Young Alumni Chapter. "I've always been passionate about spreading Pioneer pride," she says. "If you cut me open, I still bleed orange and black."

As a student, Ricks was a recipient of an alumni scholarship, a gift she says greatly impacted her experience as a student and inspired her to pay it forward. "In that moment, in my mind, I knew I wanted to give back one day," she says. "I feel it's so important and I encourage all of my fellow alums to give back and donate to support our students so that they can have a chance to graduate without money being such a burden."

Looking ahead, Ricks says she hopes to continue to develop as a leader as she pursues a PhD in higher education leadership, management, and policy from Seton Hall University. "It's always been important to me to never give up," she says. "Remember that as a William Paterson alum you always have that Will. Power. behind you."

Emeriti Faculty Return for Homecoming Brunch

Fifteen *emeriti* faculty and librarians returned to campus for a special brunch on Homecoming Day hosted by President Richard Helldobler (front, far right). Also joining in the festivities was President *Emeritus* Arnold Speert (front, second from right). In attendance were: top row, left to right, Anne Ciliberti, Cheng Library; Kevin Walsh, educational leadership; Michael Principe, political science; second row, left to right, Bernadette Tiernan, executive director, School of Continuing and Professional Education; Edith Wallace, biology; Jean Levitan, public health; Michael Sebetich, biology; Joshua Powers, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs; Yvonne Roux, Cheng Library; third row, left to right: Alan Lazarus, art; Stuart Lisbe, public health; Virginia Overdorf, kinesiology; front row, left to right: Arlene Holpp Scala, women's and gender studies; Tina Leshner, communication; Carole Sheffield, political science; Susan Godar, marketing and management sciences, and Sidney Berman, communication.



Peter Vasquez '08 seeing a patient at Virginia Hospital Center

Peter Vasquez '08: Changing the World One Patient at a Time

It was a desire to change the world that drove Peter Vasquez '08 to become a doctor.

"As a kid, I wanted to help as many people as possible," he says, "and a career in medicine seemed to be where the biggest and most direct impact could be made." Now in his fourth year as a primary care physician at Virginia Hospital Center, Vasquez is fulfilling his childhood dream.

"I really value the opportunity to be the quarterback of someone's care," he says. "I'm able to see a patient from the initial presentation of their disease through the treatment and then, hopefully, the resolution of their issue."

As a biology major at William Paterson, Vasquez, who also serves as an assistant clinical professor at Georgetown University, says his pre-med classes in the sciences helped successfully prepare him for his medical entrance exams and the tough realities of life in the medical field.

However, Vasquez says it was a wide range of courses across the curriculum that provided him with a holistic educational experience that would prepare him for a career full of diverse interpersonal interactions.

"I credit William Paterson for providing me with a well-rounded education because I learned things like the basics of cultural anthropology and how someone's environment, their history, their culture, can affect your interactions with them," he says. "I see many people from diverse backgrounds, and that's been very useful to me in the day to day of my professional work."

When a Spanish-speaking patient who had not seen a doctor in many years made an appointment to see Vasquez, he was able to provide care in the patient's native language, quickly building trust and establishing a relationship that resulted in the early detection of prostate cancer. The patient went on to receive treatment and make a full recovery. It was an experience that Vasquez considers a highlight of his professional career.

"You could be the smartest person in the room, but unless you're able to develop meaningful relationships with the people you're taking care of, it will all be for naught," he says.

Vasquez says his experiences as a healthcare provider also served as the inspiration to pursue an MBA in healthcare administration at George Washington University. "Practicing independently, you see first-hand the barriers of care that patients must overcome," he says. "For me, it really seemed that the best way to address those barriers was not going to be in a one-on-one visit to the office, but by looking at the system as a whole."

Vasquez hopes the program will prepare physicians for leadership roles in healthcare where they can serve as patient advocates.

"The voices of physicians, the ones providing care, aren't necessarily always in the room when high-level decisions are being made," he says. "It made me feel that it's important to have physicians in positions where they're able to lend their clinical perspectives to the decisions that impact healthcare."

Vasquez sees the program as an extension of the mission he's had since childhood. "The program advances the initial motivation that got me into medicine," he says, "which is to try to impact as many lives as I can."

Alumni Connections

Class Notes

1966 ARTHUR RITTENHOUSE is a licensed life, accident, and health insurance agent. He is also president of the Sayreville Historical Society and a commissioner on the Sayreville Housing authority and the Sayreville Shade Tree Commission.

1971 DICK VITALE, MED, was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Sports presented by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences at the 40th Annual Sports Emmy Awards. Vitale, one of the most well-known basketball analysts, is in his 40th year with ESPN. He is the 30th sports personality or executive, and only the second analyst, along with John Madden, to be honored with this award.

1976 STAN BINDELL, the media teacher at Hopi High School in Polacca, AZ, has been nominated for the Arizona Interscholastic Press Association Forest R. Martin Award, the top award in the state for a journalism teacher. Bindell has been teaching media there for 22 years, and the school's newspaper, radio, and video programs have won numerous awards.

1977 KAREN L. CISCO, current president of the Wanaque First Aid Squad, received an award for 45 years of service to those with medical emergencies in Wanaque Borough. She retired after 37 years as executive director of Camp Hope, a Passaic County-based agency serving children and senior citizens.

1978 JACK KING has retired as police chief of Melbourne Village in Brevard County, FL. King served as police chief there for 15 years. MAUREEN (CASCINO) PERSI and her husband, Merlindo Persi, were selected to serve as co-grand marshals for the 28th annual Columbus Day Parade and Italian Festival in Ocean County. Persi, a retired Glen Ridge teacher and principal, was inducted into the Italian American National Hall of Fame in 2018.

1980 MARGARITA BIANCO, a professor of education at the University of Colorado Denver, was saluted by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* as one of the magazine's "Top 35 Women in Higher Education." Bianco is the founder and executive director of Pathways2Teaching, a pre-college program designed to encourage high school students of color to enter the teacher workforce. JOAN

BRAUNLIN-WARNER received the New Jersey Speech-Language-Hearing Association's 2019 Distinguished Professional Service Award. She has been employed by West Milford Township Public Schools since 1983. ANTHONY PUCCIO has been promoted to the position of chief financial officer at Heath Village, a retirement community in Morris County.

1981 REGINA CIESLAK was honored as a 2019 Woman of Achievement by the Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson in New York. She has worked as a teacher at the federal prison in Otisville and with a variety of other organizations in Orange County. SUZANNE REYNOLDS celebrated 42 years as a nurse. She was recently profiled in her local newspaper in honor of National Nurses Week. She currently works for Wellcare.

1982 STUART BLANK was promoted by the Mahwah Police Department to the title of executive officer and second in command. Blank has the rank of captain. CATHERINE WINTERFIELD is a financial administrator at Seton Hall University. She is active in community organizations in her hometown of Pequannock.

1983 JACK HICKEY was promoted to the rank of lieutenant by the Livingston Police Department. He began his career there in 1977.

1984 JENNIFER TIRITILLI RANU held a celebration at the Paterson Museum to launch her new book, *Italians of Greater Paterson*. Her book, part of Arcadia Publishing's "Images of America" series, focuses on the experiences of Italians in Paterson beginning in the early 1900s.

1985 JOSÉ FONTAIA is a full-time artist living in Fairview. He is known for his vibrant abstract paintings and geometrically inspired compositions.

1986 EDDIE ROSADO is the deputy director for the United States Army Reserve Command Installation Management Directorate at Fort Bragg, NC. He has oversight over 1,100 Army Reserve facilities across the United States.

1987 RICK DEBEL has joined Peapack-Gladstone Bank in the newly created position of executive vice president for deposit solutions. He previously served as a regional vice president at Wells Fargo. He has more than 35 years of experience in the banking industry.

1988 JIM DUFFY is vice president of marketing for a leading global provider of business outsourcing and human capital management solutions and serves on the Dean's Advisory Board for the Cotsakos College of Business at William Paterson. He also serves on the Chester Township Environmental Commission in his hometown.

1989 DAVID WIKSTROM, an attorney with Javerbaum, Wurgaft, Hicks, Kahn, Wilkstrom & Sinins, was included in the Top 100 2019 New Jersey Super Lawyers List.

1990 ERIC ALEXANDER, a prominent jazz tenor saxophonist, has released his new album, *Leap of Faith*, featuring bassist Doug Weiss and drummer Jonathan Blake. JOSEPH CATALDO, a managing partner of IronRidge Wealth Management Group, and his partners have joined Raymond James Financial Services, the firm's independent broker dealer.

1992 ED HANEWALD stepped down as lead training instructor for the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Union County after 10 years. JIM JEFFREYS, MFA '04, was profiled in *The Record*, which focused on his participation in a benefit wheelchair basketball game. Jeffreys, a photographer and comic book author, plays in the National Wheelchair Basketball League. SCOTT WARNASCH presented a lecture about the iron coffin mummies of New Jersey and New York at the Historical Society of Bloomfield. Warnasch, a forensic archaeologist, is writing a book about three such mummies he discovered. CYNTHIA (SCHOTTER) WHITTENBURY is a processor in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at William Paterson.

1993 MARIE TRAMONTANA was promoted to the position of assistant vice president at Atlantic Stewardship Bank. She has been with the bank for 20 years.

1994 VIN DOWNES, an acoustic guitarist, performed on the 2019 Gathering4Guitars program at the Bankhead Theatre in Pennsylvania. KAT ESQUICHE has been appointed director of education for the Passaic County nonprofit organization Global Emergency Response and Assistance. She will lead its efforts to provide ESL and education programming. CHRISTINE (SENTE)

GABBARD received a 2019 Women in AI Award from IBM. She was honored for being a pioneer in artificial intelligence. CORA TAYLOR was sworn in as chief warrant officer for the Bergen County Sheriff's Office.

1995 JENNIFER LEACH was named the 2019 Teacher of the Year for Randolph. She is a special education teacher at Shongum Elementary School.

1996 GREGG CARUSO, an associate professor of philosophy at SUNY Corning Community College, was part of a discussion at SUNY on the state of America's prison system. He is the author of several books. LORI ROTHÉ YOKOBOSKY was elected partner at the tax and advisory firm, CohnReznick, LLP. She has more than 20 years of experience in public accounting.

1997 KATHLEEN (BROWN) BARRAGAN has published her first children's book, *Wished For Me*. A literacy coach at Frances A. Desmares Elementary School in Flemington, she began writing the book to better understand the writing process and provide meaningful feedback to her students. ANNA (BONAVITA) CARISSIMO was the 2019 recipient of the Rotary Club of Westfield's Philhower Fellowship for outstanding teaching at the elementary school level. She is a fourth grade teacher.

1998 ALEXIS COLE, vocalist, appeared at the Westchester Collaborative Theater in Ossining, NY where she presented her one-woman show, "Canary in Combat Boots: Memoir of a Jazz Diva in the Army." The show reflects on her unique perspective as she went through Army basic training in 2009.

1999 JOE MAZZOCCHI, director of audience coordination at CBS Television, won his first Daytime Emmy for Outstanding Informative Talk Show for his work on the *Rachael Ray Show*. DIANA (GAVIRIA) WEITZ was appointed to the board of directors for the Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra in Johns Creek, Georgia. She is a learning team manager at State Farm Insurance.

2000 JONATHAN BLAKE, a jazz drummer, was profiled in the May 2019 issue of *DownBeat Magazine*. ANGELA CLEVELAND is the co-author of *50+Tech Tools for School Counselors, How to Be More Engaging, Efficient, and Effective*. VIDAL OLIVO was appointed

Athletic Hall of Fame Touchscreen Unveiled

A new Athletic Hall of Fame Touchscreen was unveiled at the Sports and Recreation Center on October 5, Homecoming Day 2019. The Athletic Hall of Fame, which inducted its first honorees in 1978, recognizes and honors those who have made significant contributions to intercollegiate athletics at William Paterson. The state-of-the-art display showcases the athletic accomplishments of each inductee. Among those present for the unveiling were (left to right) Erin Shaughnessy Monahan '91, head coach, women's basketball; BriAnna Lucas '13, 2019 inductee, women's basketball; and Kareen Moon '10, 2013 inductee, football. The Touchscreen can also be accessed online on the WP Athletics website, wpupioneers.com, by clicking on the Hall of Fame link at the bottom of the page.



principal of the Middle School Campus of Palm Bay Academy in Brevard County, Florida.

2001 KATE KRAMER was selected as the 2019 Teacher of the Year at Fruitville Elementary School in Sarasota County, Florida. She is the exceptional student education liaison there... **CHARLES MITROS** was promoted to supervisor at the Livingston-based accounting, consulting, and financial planning firm Levine, Jacobs & Company. Mitros was previously staff accountant with the firm.

2002 STEPHANIE PRIMAVERA, MED '06, was appointed principal at the Henry B. Milnes Elementary School in Fair Lawn. She previously served as principal of Aphsawa Elementary School in West Milford.

2003 STEPHEN BERTONASCHI was promoted to senior managing director for FTI Consulting's tax advisory group. He specializes in federal, state, and local tax.

2004 JAMEEL ROBERTS, a music producer, earned a spot at the top of the iTunes U.S. song charts for his work on three songs on Ariana Grande's latest album, *thank u next*... **JILL WOLAK**, a Byram Township School District guidance counselor, was recognized as one of the district's recipients of the Governor's Educational Services Professional Award.

2005 TODD DARBY was sworn in as acting police chief in North Haledon. Darby was appointed captain in 2011... **KEN FOWSER**, a tenor saxophonist, has released *Right on Time* for Posi-Tone Records. He wrote all 10 tracks on the album... **ARUP GHOSH** was promoted to assistant treasurer-senior commercial loan servicing specialist at Lakeland Bank in Oak Ridge. He joined Lakeland in 2014 as a commercial loan processor.

2006 NICOLE ARIAS was inducted into the Trenton Softball Hall of Fame. She is an assistant coach of Princeton University's softball team... **DEBORAH MERRILL** is the director of special education services for the Vernon Township School District. She previously spent 18 years at Kittatinny Regional High School.

2007 KIMBERLY BATTI-VALOVINA's ceramic sculpture, "Rabbit," was exhibited in St. Catherine of Bologna's 20th Annual Festival of

the Arts and received first place recognition in the category of sculpture... **ALAN HICKS** won a Best Music Film Grammy as co-writer and co-director for *Quincy*, a documentary about Quincy Jones... **CHERYL PASQUALE** has been named to the newly created position of STEM coordinator for the Hawthorne School District. She is the lead math teacher at Hawthorne High School.

2008 JOHN TRANCULOV was hired as a police officer in Hillsborough. He attended the Ocean County Police Academy.

2009 CHRISTOPHER BRANCATO, development director for Catholic Charities, was honored at the St. Mary's High School Spring Scholarship Gala for his long record of service to the organization... **A.K. NEELY** has written a psychological thriller, *Our Father*, about a veteran returning from the Middle East and readjusting to life in America. He drew on his own five-year military experience, including two deployments to the Middle East.

2011 VIVEK AGNIHOTRI, DNP '14, received an Institute of Nursing award for his contributions to nursing and patient care. He is a professor of nursing at County College of Morris... **LINSAY B. HEARNS** has formed a nonprofit organization, the Hearn & Oliver Foundation, that seeks to empower women and children faced with homelessness.

2013 SCOTT DEMATTEO joined the University of Pennsylvania's soccer program as an assistant coach. Most recently, he served as head coach at Manhattanville College and was named the 2018 Mid Atlantic Conference Freedom Coach of the Year... **PETER LIN**, a jazz trombonist and educator, has released a new album, *New Age, Old Way*... **CHARLIE SIGLER**, a guitarist, performed at Groove on Grove as part of Jersey City Fridays events... **ANDREW WOLTERS** was promoted to assistant treasurer — senior credit analyst for Lakeland Bank in Oak Ridge. He joined Lakeland in 2014 as a junior credit analyst.

2014 NIC CACIOPPO, drummer and composer, performed on the jazz album, *New Age, Old Ways*... **MARIA J. MOREL CRUZ** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio Lackland in San Antonio, Texas. She is

a U.S. Air Force National Guard Airman... **NICK GONALEZ** was sworn in as a patrolman with the Vernon Police Department. He previously served as a specialist with the U.S. Army National Guard... **DOMINIC MULIERI** is the new football coach for Indian Hills High School in Oakland. He is a health and physical education teacher at the school... **STEVEN SHAWGER** was sworn in as a police officer for the Newton Police Department... **LUCY YEGHIAZARYAN**, jazz vocalist, performed on the "Jazz by the Sound" concert series in Rye, New York. She was one of 10 finalists selected for the International Monk Jazz Competition in 2015.

2016 PAIGE LUCAS has been appointed as a trustee of the Sparta Education Foundation. She is the media center assistant at Sparta High School and serves as director of the Sparta Middle School musical and choreographer for the Sparta High School musical.

2017 CHRIS JOHNSON has joined the WENY News team as a multimedia journalist... **ANDREW MOORE** was part of a concussion symposium in East Hanover on a panel discussing youth concussions. He is a certified strength and conditioning specialist and a certified sports performance coach... **CHRISTOPHER ROZEWSKI, MBA**, vice president, head of data and analytics at Peapack-Gladstone Bank in Bedminster, has been named by *Independent Banker* as one of its "40 Under 40: Emerging Community Bank Leaders."

2018 PATRICK MORAN was hired as a patrolman for the Barnegat Township Police Department. He is the second Barnegat High School graduate to join the agency.

Wedding bells for...

2012 AISHA MIAN to Ziyed Khan, October 26, 2018

2014 JESSE ADAM MOEHLING to Katherine Ann Henderson, July 20, 2018

William Paterson sweethearts Nancy '90 and Brian Valhalla '92; Jennifer Sudol '08



Monique Staffieri '12

Alumni Root on New York Jets

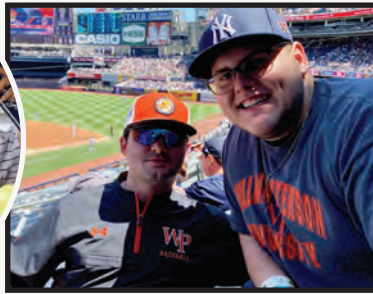
WP alumni headed to MetLife Stadium on September 8 for the New York Jets home opener against the Buffalo Bills. They enjoyed tailgating prior to the game, and several lucky alumni won the chance to be on the field for the National Anthem and team introductions.





Group Takes in Yankees Game

Alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends enjoyed a fun-filled outing on July 13 as the New York Yankees played the Toronto Blue Jays at Yankee Stadium. Attendees received a special New York Yankees hat with the William Paterson University logo as a souvenir.



Top: Tracy Fudge '20 and Madison Kinney '21
Left: Meredith Cooper '99 and Mary Ann Cooper '70
Above: Bryan Kopko '18 and Dylan Johnson '21

Alumni Association Incentive Grants Fund Important Academic, Student Support Initiatives

This year, the William Paterson Alumni Association has awarded more than \$52,000 in grants to fund a variety of important University initiatives focused on academic and student support. These grants were made possible, in part, through the generosity of alumni gifts to The Fund for WP. Grant support for the 2019-20 academic year includes:

- \$30,000 to the Pioneer Retention Grant program. The program awards grants to students at risk of leaving the University due to a small amount of financial need, providing them with up to \$1,000 in support during the academic year.
- \$7,764 to provide funds for the Garden State-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Summer Research Internship. This program seeks to increase the number of under-represented minority students pursuing degrees in the sciences and mathematics. The alumni grant will support additional funded internships for University students in the sciences during summer 2020.
- \$7,236 to support a faculty/student research project led by Sonia Bierbower, assistant professor of biology, focused on the effectiveness of certain drug treatment combinations on brain injuries.
- \$5,000 for a nursing peer mentoring program.

Former Pioneer Student-Athletes Return to Campus as Police Officers



Tom Romeo '15, Andrue Leguerre '10, Kim Fryer '17, and Michael Arp '04

After spending much of their time as students representing William Paterson on the athletic fields, Michael Arp '04, Andrue Leguerre '10, Tom Romeo '15, and Kim Fryer '17 have all returned to campus as members of the University's police force.

The opportunity to return to their *alma mater* presented a unique and rewarding chance for these former Pioneers to give back.

"Every year new students from near and far join the William Paterson University family," comments Arp, a former football player. "As a University police officer, I get to interact with these young adults and be a part of their educational process."

For Fryer, a two-time all-conference selection in softball, being able to serve the university she attended is a measure of pride when she is on patrol. "Making the campus safe and secure and providing that same sense of security that I experienced is my top priority," Fryer says.

While the rigors and duties of a police officer can be daunting, past athletic experiences and lessons are often drawn upon to excel and overcome professional obstacles.

Romeo, a football alumnus, credits being a student-athlete at WP with helping him prepare for his career in law enforcement. "Athletics taught me how to work hard, always persevere, and to work together with others to achieve a singular goal," he says.

Laguerre, a three-year contributor in baseball, adds, "Being a student-athlete helped mold me into the person I am today. It teaches you how to work with people from diverse backgrounds to achieve a common goal."

William Paterson is fortunate to have these four individuals serving such an important role in its community. Together, with students and alumni working together on campus, #WeAreWillPower.

SAVE the DATE!

FLORIDA ALUMNI RECEPTIONS

Sarasota, Florida TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

Boca Raton, Florida THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Alumni Reconnect at Annual Summer Bash

University alumni enjoyed an annual Jersey Shore tradition on August 3: the Alumni Summer Bash at the Beachcomber Bar and Grill in Seaside Heights. The fun day at the beach featured an all-you-can-eat buffet, games, prizes, music, dancing, and lots of WP giveaways!



Alumni and friends at the Annual Summer Bash

Joan Brosnan '62 and her daughter, Rosanne C. Pillera '95



Mourning the loss of . . .

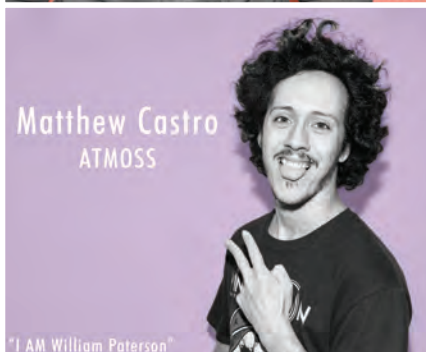
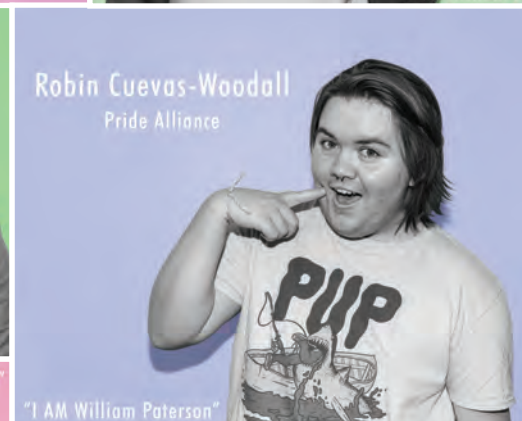
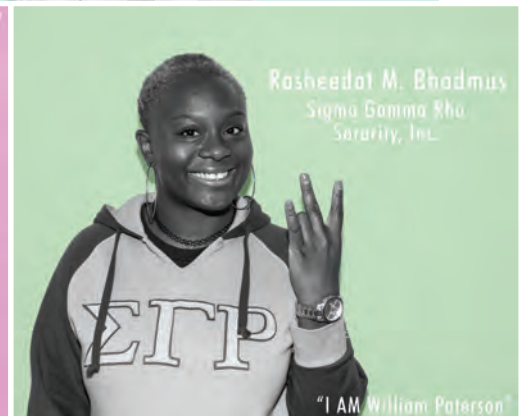
- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| '43 KATHLEEN (MCMULLAN) PULIS*
Isle of Venice, FL
March 1, 2019 | '69 DOROTHY BLEICH LEHMAN
Boca Raton, FL
December 5, 2018 | ROBERT A. DEROSA
Bloomfield, NJ
March 28, 2019 | '80 LOUIS SIMONI
Sarasota, FL
January 18, 2019 |
| '54 JANE (KEARNS) CHIAPPARA
Venice, FL
March 28, 2019 | RAYMOND J. MCCABE
Forks Township, PA
February 11, 2019 | FRANK P. DINO
Longmont, CO
June 13, 2019 | '81 STEPHEN KUPICH, MA '85
Gettysburg, PA
March 5, 2019 |
| '60 ANN (HENION) PURDIE,
MED '76
Butler, NJ
March 28, 2019 | CAROLYN WANSCHER
Winston-Salem, NC
March 25, 2019 | '74 STEWART RESNICK
Cedar Grove, NJ
May 4, 2019 | '82 PATRICIA (PILSON) SCOTT
Parsippany, NJ
December 15, 2018 |
| '61 PATRICIA (MILSOP)
WILLIAMS
Warminster, PA
March 24, 2019 | '70 MARGARET MORIARTY
GARDNER
Verona, NJ
April 14, 2019 | '75 EILEEN SHANNON
HALLORAN
Hamilton Township, NJ
March 29, 2019 | '86 NANCY RUTHERFORD
LAFRANCE
Orleans, MA
June 27, 2019 |
| '62 JEAN (FRARY) WALSHE
Woodbury, CT
February 13, 2019 | KATHERINE GREGOR
Salem, OR
April 9, 2019 | PATRICIA M. MCGOVERN
Scranton, PA
May 5, 2019 | '02 SEAN DOLAN
Long Valley, NJ
January 19, 2019 |
| MEE LON YEE, MA '70*
Saddle River, NJ
May 3, 2019 | '71 MARIA (MCCOY) GERNITIS,
MED '92
Cape May, NJ
January 26, 2019 | '77 ROBERT N. ADAMS
Hamburg, NJ
May 31, 2019 | DOMINIC FESTANTE
White Township, NJ
May 13, 2019 |
| '65 PAT JOSEPH RUSSONIELLO*
Parsippany, NJ
April 7, 2019 | '72 JOYCE (CLAES) KYRITZ
Paramus, NJ
April 4, 2019 | '78 DOLORES JORDAN KOJAK
Succasunna, NJ
July 3, 2019 | '03 GABRIEL MUTH
Fort Lee, NJ
June 14, 2019 |
| | '73 BRYAN E. BURKE
Hackettstown, NJ
February 16, 2019 | '79 THOMAS P. PFAFF
McGaheysville, VA
April 28, 2019 | '08 MARIA (MORAN) SULLIVAN
River Edge, NJ
May 21, 2019 |

**Heritage Society Member:
loyal donor who has given to the University for 20
or more years, no matter the giving level*

Parting Shot

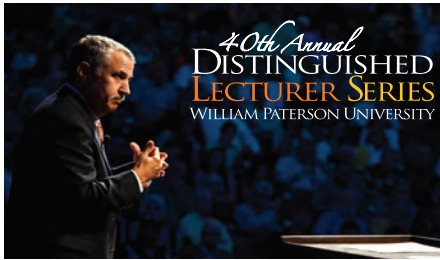
"I Am William Paterson"

To celebrate its opening this fall, the new Center for Diversity and Inclusion launched a photo campaign, "I Am William Paterson," featuring images of 134 dynamic student leaders affiliated with cultural clubs, identity-based organizations, and social justice student activists. The images, all taken by student Kaitlyn Ferraro '20, are meant to instill a sense of pride throughout the William Paterson community. "These images serve to make a statement that representation matters," says Yolany Gonell, inaugural director of the Center. "We seek to transform how students see themselves and inspire students to get involved." Here is a small sample; all the images are displayed on the second floor of the Machuga Student Center.



WP Events

Lake Hopatcong from
the series "Waters of My
Childhood", 2019
Inkjet on mylar
18 x 24 inches



December 3, 2019
7:30 p.m. • Shea Center
Distinguished Lecturer Series
An Evening with Tom Friedman, Pulitzer Prize winner and New York Times foreign affairs columnist
"The Big Trends Shaping the World Today: Economics, Technology, and Geopolitics"



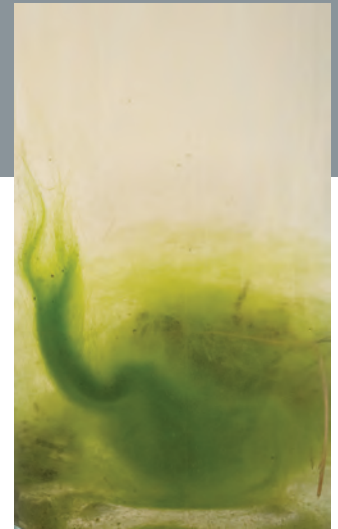
December 6, 2019
3:00 to 7:00 p.m. • Hobart Manor
Hobart Manor Holiday Showcase
See this campus centerpiece, recognized on the National and New Jersey Registers of Historical Places, "dressed" for the holidays; funds generated benefit the Hobart Manor Restoration Fund.



Through December 11, 2019
University Galleries
The World Through My Eyes: Celebrating the Legacy of Ben Shahn
In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the University Galleries, this exhibition commemorates the important social-realist artist Ben Shahn, the namesake of the University's Ben Shahn Center for the Visual Arts.



December 15, 2019
4:00 p.m. • Shea Center
The Jazz Room
John Pizzarelli and Catherine Russell: Nat King Cole and the Ladies of Song
Inspired by Nat King Cole's TV show, guitarist John Pizzarelli and vocalist Catherine Russell pay homage to him and his amazingly talented guests.



January 27 to May 6, 2020
University Galleries
Solo Exhibition: Marion Wilson
New Jersey artist Marion Wilson presents new work that integrates art and science based on research by William Paterson environmental science students on water sustainability and hydrology.



April 24 and 25, 2020
7:30 p.m. • Shea Center
Orpheus in the Underworld
This comic operetta by the French composer Jacques Offenbach, in a new English translation, is a satirical treatment of the classic Greek myth of Orpheus, a musician who seeks to rescue his dead wife from the underworld.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Alumni Events: Office of Alumni Relations, 973.720.2175, wpunj.edu/alumni

Art: University Galleries, 973.720.2654, wpunj.edu/coac/gallery

Conferences: School of Continuing and Professional Education, 973.720.2463, wpunj.edu/cpe

Music, Lectures, Theater & Comedy: Shea Center, 973.720.2371, wp-presents.org

➤ **UNIVERSITY CALENDAR:** wpunj.edu/calendar

WILLIAM
PATERSON
UNIVERSITY

Office of Marketing and Public Relations
300 Pompton Road, Wayne, NJ 07470
<http://www.wpunj.edu>

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
WILLIAM PATERSON
UNIVERSITY



24 Keeping the
Music of Jazz
Greats Alive