

CLAS News

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Nurse Practitioner Program Nearing Approval for Fall 2018 Start

The Department of Nursing is pleased to report successfully meeting all stated goals and objectives regarding the *Planning the Dual-Track Nurse Practitioner Program in Western Maryland* grant project. The grant was funded by the Nurse Support Program II (NSP II) beginning July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017. As the final deliverable, a Nurse Practitioner proposal document was developed by Dr. Kelly Rock, Dr. Heather Gable, and Professor Jill Buterbaugh in accordance with policies and procedures at FSU. The proposal successfully passed through all internal governance channels. The proposal was then submitted to the University System of Maryland Board of Regents.

On March 28, 2017, the Nurse Practitioner proposal was defended by Dr. Kelly Rock, Dr. Heather Gable, and Professor Jill Buterbaugh during the Board of Regents Committee on Education Policy and Student Life meeting. It was unanimously approved without opposition. Faculty warmly received words and sentiments of encouragement and support by many of those in attendance. The proposal is scheduled for final approval by the Maryland Board of Regents and the Maryland Higher Education Commission on April 21, 2017. This is the final proposal that will be required prior to the anticipated start of the program in the fall of 2018.

Dr. Rock submitted a preliminary application to the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for funding to support a skills lab and simulation center. She was invited to submit a full application, which was developed and written in collaboration with Dr. Gable and Professor Buterbaugh.

This project received full funding from the ARC, matched by FSU totaling \$200,000. Over the course of one year, funds will be used to purchase materials to renovate two classrooms in Lowndes Hall and to purchase high-fidelity, wireless simulation equipment and skills lab supplies to be used in the Nurse Practitioner program.

Dr. Rock and Dr. Gable, in consultation with Professor Buterbaugh, submitted a grant application to financially support the first five years of implementing the Nurse Practitioner program to NSP II in January, 2017. Originally, a final determination was expected in May. The most recent communication from NSP II staff indicates a final determination in mid-June, 2017. If approved, Dr. Rock will serve as project director on the 3.8+ million dollar project to begin July 1, 2017.

Health science is becoming a growing area at FSU, with 150 students now enrolled in the B.S. in Health Science major. Planning continues for a collaborative Physician's Assistant program to be offered with University of Maryland, Baltimore in Hagerstown, MD. Advertising is underway for a PA program director, with an anticipated start date for the first class slated for summer, 2019.

CLAS Faculty, Staff Members To Retire in May



The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will be losing two of its faculty this spring, as Hank Bullamore (Geography) and Martha Dolly (English and Foreign Languages) are set to retire in May. In addition, long-time administrative assistant Wendy Miller will also retire from the Departments of Chemistry, and Physics and Engineering.

Hank Bullamore is retiring after a thirty-one year service to Frostburg State University. He was the recipient of FSU Presidential Award in 2016 and Faculty Achievement Award in Service in 2000. Dr. Bullamore was instrumental in the creation of several academic programs. He proposed and taught most of the upper level Geography courses for the Urban and Regional Planning Program. Dr. Bullamore also held several administrative responsibilities at Frostburg State University. He served two-terms as the Chair of the Geography Department (1993-1999), Director of Research and Sponsored Programs (1987-1990) and Summer 2003, Interim Director of the Center for International Education (2004, 2007 and 2009), and Coordinator of Urban and Regional Planning and the Sustainability Minor.

Dr. Bullamore was the recipient of two Fulbright Core Scholar grants to teach in Finland (2000) in the Department of Geography at Turku University and Japan (2008) in the Faculty of Economics at Tohoku University. He also successfully wrote a scholar in residence grant to bring a Fulbright faculty member to the College of Education at FSU, Dr. Egon Hedegaard from Denmark, and arranged for a short visit of a Fulbright Scholar from Ghana to FSU.

Dr. Bullamore served on the Faculty Senate for fourteen years and had additional responsibilities as Secretary of the Senate, Chair of Faculty Concerns, and Institutional Priorities and Resources Committees.

Dr. Bullamore's Community and Outreach service includes over 20 years of service to the Cumberland Historic Preservation Commission; Board Member of the Foundation for Frostburg; Guest Lecturer for Princesses, Celebrity, Disney, and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines; and Judge at the Maryland Geography Bee.

Martha Dolly has been with FSU since 1983 and was converted to a tenure-track position in 1987. For thirty-four years, she has taught in the English department, and according to one of the veteran faculty members, "I have never known of, nor even heard of, a student or a colleague who didn't like Martha Dolly!"

She has been instrumental in teaching students in multiple majors: English, foreign languages, and education. In the classroom, she is known for her patience and compassion, as well as for the broad range of her expertise. Moreover, Martha has been a pioneer in online learning. More recently, in the past 7 years or so, Martha started Exploring ESL in Western Maryland, a group whose goal is to support recent immigrants (e.g., from China and Mexico) in the region. This group partnered with volunteers from FSU, ACM, the public schools, the health department, and the larger community. Dr. Martha Dolly has quietly served the needs of non-native English speakers on campus and in the community, as well as those preparing to teach them, for several decades. In terms of professional development, she regularly presents her research at conferences. In addition, she wrote a textbook for her field. She updated the textbook last year and is now using her very own *On Purpose: A Writer's Guide to Rhetorical Situation* in her online writing classes.

Wendy Miller retires with 37 years of service to the Departments of Chemistry and Physics and Engineering. She played an instrumental role in running the Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students within Physics and Engineering, as well as organizing the annual department banquet. She supervised many student workers and provided a stable presence in running day-to-day operations for both departments over many years.

Best wishes to all of our retirees!

J. Glenn Beall Institute Helping to Inspire Students to Public Service

From his small office in the Political Science Department, Tim Magrath is facilitating a wide range of programs and opportunities to foster public service in the minds of Frostburg students.

Magrath serves as Executive Director of the J. Glenn Beall Institute for Public Affairs, established in 2003 by former President Catherine Gira and former U.S. Senator J. Glenn Beall. A native of Frostburg, Beall originally proposed a scholarship to get young people involved in government and public service. Gira suggested instead a nonpartisan institute for public affairs, using Beall's contacts in Washington and Annapolis to create a student internship program, outreach programs, and more.

Since its 2005 dedication, the Institute has hosted a number of elected officials at campus events. It has also placed nearly 50 Frostburg students with Maryland and U.S. lawmakers as "Beall Interns." The institute helps to fund stipends, transportation and housing costs for the students to work and live near their internship sites.

Magrath is constantly looking for new ways to inspire students to consider careers in public service. Most recently, he worked with the Office of Student and Community Involvement to organize a day trip to Annapolis, where students met with the western Maryland delegation,

toured the State House, and sat in on an Appropriation Committee hearing.

The institute also organizes programming on campus to promote civic responsibility among college students. In collaboration with the Office of Civic Engagement, a series of Town Hall meetings were held this academic year centered largely around the presidential election. Debate viewing parties were held, along with post-election dialogue where students were able to voice their concerns in a respectful and constructive manner.

Several Town Hall meetings have focused on campus and community issues in Frostburg, leading to implementation of some new ideas. According to Magrath, during one Town Hall meeting, some of the students indicated that they had never dined at any of the local Frostburg restaurants. This led Commissioner Woody Getz to create the Taste of Frostburg event, providing coupons and inviting students to dine at local restaurants on that day.

"All these meetings, debates and other efforts like Turbo Vote have facilitated student engagement. FSU was recognized nationally, as well as statewide this year, as one of two Maryland universities who facilitate student voting," said Magrath. "This is a result of not only our efforts but those of our partners, including the Office



FSU students pictured on a recent trip to Annapolis to meet with state legislators. The trip was sponsored by the Beall Institute and Office of Civic Engagement.

of Student and Community Involvement, Office of Civic Engagement, and the Leadership Minor."

Development of a new student organization, the National General Assembly, is underway. This will be an innovative student-led group that will conduct action-oriented research and advocacy on matters of local, state and national importance. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ngafrostburg/>.

Theatre Students Win at Regional Festival

Students from the Department of Theatre and Dance attended the Kennedy Center's Region II American College Theatre Festival from January 3 – 7 at Montclair State University in New Jersey, where they participated in the prestigious Irene Ryan Acting competition, portfolio presentations, countless workshops and performances, and a keynote address by Liesl Tommy, the first woman of color to earn a Tony nomination for Best Direction of a Play.

During the festival, three FSU Theatre majors focused in the Design and Technology track competed in and won the regional Tech Olympics. Competing with over five teams comprised of five technicians each, the FSU cohort consisted of just three technicians: Rachel Saylor, Shawn Zupancic, and Habtamu Anderson.

During the challenge, the team had to switch properties, stage manage actors, perform costume quick changes, mend

torn costumes, and find missing costume pieces, all in fifteen minutes and in the dark. Teams performed one at a time, and were given one mini-flashlight to share among their group.

The FSU students won the "golden hand-truck" award based on the overall quality of their performance, and were told that they demonstrated "poise and grace" while dealing with this difficult series of events.

The students gave a nod to their Theatre training at FSU in helping them win the title. Saylor commented, "You have to be involved in productions to know how to deal with complicated situations, and FSU gives you that opportunity."

Upon returning from KCACTF, the students dug into their theatre training at FSU for the spring semester. Within the department, Rachel Saylor serves as the Costume Shop 1st Hand. She also designed Sound for *Father Comes Home from the Wars, Parts 1, 2 & 3* and served

as

Assistant Director/Dramaturg for *She Stoops to Conquer*. Shawn Zupancic serves as the Master Electrician for the department. He designed Lights for *She Stoops to Conquer* and is assisting with the Lighting Design class. And, as both a designer/technician and actor, Habtamu Anderson performed the role of Tony Lumpkin in *She Stoops to Conquer*.

As a result of winning the competition, the team must return to the Region II festival next year to design and host the 2018 Tech Olympics.

Twenty FSU students attended the 2017 festival with faculty member Gordon Duguid, and were supported, in part, through a President's Experiential Learning Enhancement Fund grant.



Walk, Read, and Write

Thanks to the support of a creative placemaking grant from the Allegany Arts Council, the Center for Literary Arts is working in collaboration with the Graphic Design 207 class to create large-scale literary window installations along two walking routes in the Arts and Entertainment and Historic Districts of Frostburg. The project is called “Walk, Read, and Write” and features posters that are designed to illustrate poetry and prose submitted by regional writers. The posters displayed are participatory in the sense that viewers are invited to respond to them. The writers whose work is illustrated “curate” responses, possibly adding these to the installations with the hope of creating a sense of dialogue.

Graduate News



Megan Carr, '15 ethnobotany graduate, was accepted into the Ph.D. program in the Department of Plant Sciences and Landscape Architecture at University of Maryland.

Geography and Sustainability Students Attend AAG Meeting

Thirteen Geography and Sustainability Studies students spent four days in Boston, MA for the American Association of Geographer’s (AAG) Conference. These students had the opportunity to select from over 6,900 presentations, posters, workshops, and field trips by leading scholars, experts, and researchers.

Three of the students competed as members of the Middle Atlantic Division (MAD) Geography Bowl team, along with others from George Washington and Towson universities. The team placed third at the World Geography Bowl competition. Ten teams representing geography departments from across the nation competed in nine rounds of competition.

Participating on the MAD regional team was quite an honor for FSU undergraduates Ben Allston, Michala Garrison, and Wyatt Rudasill, as the



Students shown above with Geography faculty Tracy Edwards and Tianna Bogart

majority of competitors are graduate students.

This trip was made possible thanks to funding from PELEF, the Sustainability Fee, Faculty Development, and the Department of Geography.

Cindy Herzog Named Honorary Alumna

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Associate Dean Cindy Herzog was presented an Honorary Alumna Award at the inaugural FSU Alumni Awards Ceremony held on April 8. The award was presented by Lynn Ketterman, Development Research Analyst in University Advancement.

“As the Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Dr. Herzog has been a tireless advocate for our students, and an active supporter of the Office of University Advancement and its programs,” stated Ketterman. “She has served on the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award Selection Committee on multiple occasions and included the FSU Foundation on her priority list for philanthropic support. She generously supports the Cultural Events Series, Theatre & Dance, Music, WFWM Radio, and Bobcat Baseball. Dr. Herzog also established an endowed scholarship in honor of her family, all of whom were present at the award presentation.”

“One can frequently find Dr. Herzog attending a variety of campus and alumni events, not required by her position as associate dean, but because of her genuine love for our students, alumni and this Uni-

versity,” said Ketterman.

“She has always been someone the Alumni Office can count on as a positive advocate. Though she has faced many personal trials in her lifetime, she deeply possesses a positive attitude about everything – approaching each challenge with grace, courage, and above all – humor!”

Congratulations, Cindy!



Center for Literary Arts Engaging Community in Participatory Projects

The Center for Literary Arts is housed in the English Department; however, many of its programs happen because of collaboration with other FSU departments and with organizations in the wider Western Maryland community. Partnership with the History Department brought the historian Russell Shorto to campus to discuss America's Dutch influence. The playwright Jeff Keilholtz visited to workshop and stage a new play through the efforts of Darrell Rushton and students in the Department of Theatre and Dance. The poet Michael Blumenthal will read on campus in the Lewis J. Ort Library. The Center's community writers workshops happen because Rob Spahr volunteers to facilitate them, and the veterans' writing workshops happen through the support of Danielle Dabrowski of the Veterans Services Office and the FSU Foundation.

Beyond the borders of FSU, the Center has been engaging the community with the literary arts in two participatory projects. In January, the Community Journal Project began. This is a partnership between the Frostburg Museum and the Center for Literary Arts to document daily life in Frostburg in 2017. Fifty journals, which feature a cover design hand-printed by Amber Haning, were left in locations around Frostburg with the hope of recording as many different participant voices as possible. Anyone who finds a

journal is asked to write in it for a few days and then pass it along to someone else. Journals that have been filled with writing can be dropped into the book depository at the Frostburg Public Library on Main St. Snippets from the journals will be posted to a website, and the physical journals will be stored as part of the permanent collection of the Frostburg Museum.

Another ongoing community-focused and participatory literary arts project is Walk, Read, and Write. Sponsored by a creative placemaking grant from the Allegany Arts Council, Walk, Read, and Write features literary installations in windows along a walking path through Frostburg's Arts and Entertainment and Historic districts. Local authors submitted poetry and prose. Nine works were selected, and students in Susan Dodge's graphic design classes created large-scale posters pairing text and image. Community members are invited to walk to each of the installation sites, read the poetry and prose, and write their responses to it, sharing their writing with social media tags. The project authors may then "curate" those responses into the display windows. The installations will be on display through April, National Poetry Month. Thanks to Lea Messman-Mandicott and Conrad Maust, two of the installations may be seen on FSU's campus at the Lewis J. Ort



"Lines" by Anthony Tagliaferro. Artwork by FSU student John Huizer, senior Law and Society/Political Science major.

Library and the Performing Arts Center.

Between now and October, the Center looks forward to bringing more high-quality literary arts programming to Frostburg, particularly during the Nightsun Summer Writers Conference, the Western Maryland Independent Literature Festival, and our One-Act Play Festival.

CLAS Departments Host Conferences

The Departments of Biology and Mathematics both hosted large conferences for their professional societies this spring.

The Department of Mathematics will host the Spring 2017 meeting of the Maryland-District of Columbia-Virginia Section of the Mathematical Association of America on April 28 – 29. The MD-DC-VA Section is the regional affiliate of the national organization, and has 1,900 members. The event kicks off with a workshop on inquiry-based learning by Cassie Williams (James Madison University), Amy Ksir (US Naval Academy), and Mitch Keller (Washington and Lee University), followed by an evening address by Laura Taalman of James Madison University. The conference will include talks from several invited presenters as well, such as Paul Humke of St. Olaf and Washington & Lee University, and Alissa Crans of Loyola Marymount University.

The Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta) Biology Honor Society NE-3 District Convention was held at FSU on April 8, 2017 in the Compton Science Center. The convention featured 16 oral presentations and 27 poster presentations of biological research completed by undergraduates from 12 colleges and universities in the northeast. In total, 114 students and faculty advisors attended. Dr. Joseph Hoffman, Dr. Rebekah Taylor (FSU Tri-Beta advisor), Dr. Olivia Long (NE-3 District Tri-Beta Director), Dr. Steve Ropski (National Tri-Beta President), and Picard Johnson (FSU Tri-Beta Chapter President) gave welcoming remarks. A plenary session entitled: Spotted-necked otters and Rubondo Island National Park, Tanzania: An Ideal Combination for Developing a Conservation Flagship?" was presented by Dr. Thomas Serfass, FSU Professor of Biology, and attendees were

treated to a planetarium show in the Multimedia Learning Center given by Dr. Ying Zheng. Dr. Karen Keller, among other visiting faculty, served as session moderators. FSU's Lambda Nu Chapter of Tri-Beta was awarded second place in the scrapbook (historian) competition. Most impressively, Eugenia Asare, a senior Biology student and secretary of the Lambda Nu chapter, was the first-place winner of a poster session competition! Eugenia may now attend the National Tri-Beta Convention in Santa Barbara, CA in May of 2018. Her project is entitled "Creation and Phenotypic Characterization of Mutations in the Hfq3 Protein of *Bacillus anthracis*."



Spring 2017 SUST.155 students visited FSU's Recycling Center to assist with sorting of ~ one week's worth of #1 and # 2 plastics, and removal of bottle caps. Spring SUST.155 student projects will be on display at the end-of-semester Sustainability Reflection Reception on Monday, May 15 from 11 AM - noon (Room TBD).

CONTACTS

Dr. Joseph M. Hoffman
Dean,
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
JHoffman@frostburg.edu
301.687.4120

Dr. Cindy E. Herzog
Associate Dean,
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
CHerzog@frostburg.edu
301.687.4142

Dr. R. Scott Fritz
Associate Dean,
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
RFritz@frostburg.edu
301.687.7020

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
& SCIENCES
241 COMPTON SCIENCE CENTER
FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
101 BRADDOCK ROAD
FROSTBURG, MD 21532-2303

301.687.4120 PHONE
301.687.3084 FAX
www.frostburg.edu/colleges/clas

Have any interesting news items about faculty, staff, or students in your department? Submit them to Linda Steele (lsteale@frostburg.edu) for the next issue.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



Communication Leadership Lab Takes Off

Just a few semesters ago, the Communication Leadership Lab was just an idea. Now, the Lab convenes sessions each semester and provides Communication Studies (CMST) students with Capstone and classroom experiences. Dr. Elesha Ruminski, who managed the Sustaining Campus and Community Dialogue Series from 2012-2015, applied for and was accepted into a learning exchange with the Kettering Foundation during her sabbatical in Fall 2015. The exchange was focused on learning how to create a "center for public life" that matches the Kettering mission to inspire democracy in communities and cooperative research on democracy. The vision behind the Lab is to "help facilitate opportunities for enabling our students and regional citizens to navigate the complexities and contradictions of our changing world by process to expert, educational, and technological resources that support communication leadership development." The Lab allows CMST Capstone students, also known as Lab assistants, the opportunity to become civically engaged communication practitioners on and off campus.

Since the Communication Leadership Lab's existence, CMST and LEAD students, with the guidance of CMST faculty members, have assisted with facilitating dialogue and deliberation sessions that have played a huge role in bridging the gap between individuals with different cultural backgrounds as well as the campus and community. The Lab has supported student and community development of communication leadership through the intersection of the dialogue and deliberation events and the annual Leadership Studies Residency program. For the 2017 Leadership Studies Residency program, a dialogue on "Rural and Urban Values" convened on Wed., April 19 at the Frostburg Community Center. Leaders-in-residence Dayvon Love and Lawrence Grandpre of the Baltimore grassroots thinktank Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle attended; and

invited facilitators included Tara Taylor of the Maryland Civil Rights Commission and Dr. Diane McMahon, Allegany College of Maryland.

Lab assistants are currently working to finalize the details for the second annual "Eat, Learn, Shift" event, scheduled for Mon., May 8th from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at the Frostburg Community Center. The session will feature a buffet dinner catered by Shift Farm-to-Table Eatery and a deliberative discussion about ways to sustain our food system and healthy eating in the Frostburg area. The session will also feature a National Issues Forum guide titled *Land of Plenty: How Can We Ensure that People Have the Food They Need?* that was developed through a national research process, including input from locals in the Frostburg region.

Community-wise, Lab assistants are also collaborating with the recently formed Community Strengthening Coalition (CSC), which is a diverse network of individuals and organizations in Allegany County that connects people to one another and to resources. Through discussion and networking, the Coalition strives to empower community members to better their community. As an outgrowth of efforts by the NAACP, the interfaith community, and Frostburg State University's Communication Leadership Lab to strengthen police-community relations, the focus of the Coalition now is to network community members and partners who are interested in working together to face the challenges of the local opioid addiction crisis. The Coalition's next community-wide forum will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 from 6-8 pm at First Presbyterian Church (11 Washington Street, Cumberland MD).

The Communication Leadership Lab has worked to foster cross-disciplinary collaboration on campus and has begun taking requests from the community to help facilitate sessions off campus more.

Watch for other sessions in upcoming semesters at the Sustaining Campus and

Seven CLAS Faculty Granted Tenure

CLAS is pleased to announce that seven faculty were recently approved for tenure: Jamison Odone (Visual Arts), Mary Beth McCloud (Nursing), Stefanie Hay (Nursing), John Raucci (English and Foreign Languages), Matthew Crawford (Chemistry), Sheri Whalen (Communication) and Xunyu Pan (Computer Science and Information Technologies). Congratulations!