

School of Education and Professional Studies

DR. Mary E. Hancock, assistant professor of nursing education, presented her research "Male Registered Nurses and Employment Choice" at the Washington Regional Nursing Research Consortium at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., November 2015 as a poster presentation. She presented her poster at the 2016 Unity Day in Charleston, hosted by the West Virginia Nurses Association in February. Hancock also presented her research as a podium presentation at the Seventh Annual Nursing Research Conference at Shepherd University in November 2015. She will be presenting her research at the AWHONN Virginia Section annual conference in April in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Her research focus is gender equality in the nursing profession.

Hancock's article, titled "Focus Group Data Saturation: A New Approach to Data Analysis," was accepted for publication in *The Qualitative Report*. She reviewed the assessment of fetal well-being content for the F.A. Davis publication *Essential Nursing Content and Practice Questions for Maternal-Newborn Nursing* by Whitworth and McMullan. Hancock was selected recently to serve on AWHONN's Section Advisory Committee.

Dr. Sharon Mailey, professor of nursing education and chair of the Department of Nursing Education, received the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Advocate of the Year Award March 20 during the organization's annual spring meeting. The award is given each year to a member who has done a good job promoting AACN's priorities in Congress.

Mailey serves as West Virginia's grassroots liaison and organizes visits with members of Congress twice a year for nursing school deans and directors from across the state.

Mailey, who finds visiting Capitol Hill energizing, said one of her goals is to encourage the strengthening of the federal investment in nursing education, research, and practice and to involve Shepherd students in that effort. The nursing department sends senior students to Capitol Hill every spring and fall. Forty-five will visit with members of Congress this semester.

Mailey also represented AACN when President Obama visited Charleston in October 2015 to highlight the state's opioid problem.

In a letter notifying Mailey of the award, Dr. Eileen Breslin, AACN board chair, said, "Your rapport with your legislators is highly esteemed. Your responsiveness to our Action Alerts was among the highest in 2015. Your passion for nursing advocacy serves as an inspiring example for other AACN members."

DR. KARIN H. SPENCER, assistant professor of education, has had her article, "Practitioners as Architects: Constructing High-Quality Environments for Physical Activity in Inclusive Early Childhood Settings," accepted for publication in the DEC Recommended Practices Monograph Series–Environment Recommended Practices. Recommended Practices focuses on physical activity in early childhood. The Division for Early Childhood is the major organization for early childhood special education and its topical monographs are widely read.

School of Arts and Humanities

Sonya Evanisko, professor of art and coordinator of the painting and drawing program, was named the West Virginia Professor of the Year during a banquet held in the Great Hall of the Culture Center in Charleston on Wednesday, March 30. The award was presented by the West Virginia Humanities Council's Faculty Merit Foundation.

Evanisko was selected to exhibit her painting work at the Continuum exhibition, which highlights the work of West Virginia professors who teach art and their successful alumni who are now practicing artists. The exhibit runs through April 3 at Tamarack Fine Arts Gallery in Beckley.

Evanisko has exhibited work at the following venues: A Solo Sabbatical Exhibit—Like Moss Between the Cracks, Phaze 2 Gallery on campus; Faculty Art Exhibition, Phaze 2 Gallery; and Traveling Sketchbook Project, in which the work traveled to Ideas City, New Museum, New York City; Ponce City Market, Atlanta, Georgia; Perez Art Museum, Miami, Florida; Umlauf Sculpture Museum, Austin, Texas; LA County Museum of Art, California; Oakland Art Murmur, California; The Yard at Mission Rock, San Francisco, California; Seattle Art Museum, Washington; Chicago Loop Alliance, Illinois; and The Distillery, Toronto, Ontario.

Evanisko gave a public presentation about her painting work



Dr. Sharon Mailey



Sonya Evanisko



Ed Herendeen



Dr. Matthew J. Kushin



Dr. Timothy K. Nixon

at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown, Maryland, as part as an exhibition of educators/artists of Shepherd University. This June, she will present to the public a discussion on her sabbatical work with contemporary kokedamas as part of the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts focus on the arts of Japan. The kokedama work will also be highlighted in an exhibition in Shepherdstown's Back Alley Garden Tour in May.

Evanisko and a group of 50 art students and faculty traveled to NYC for two days to visit galleries and museums. In February, she organized a trip for her Professional Practices students on career exploration in which they traveled to Baltimore to see the American Craft Council Exhibition and the American Visionary Museum.

In the community, Evanisko is serving as a juror on the American Conservation Film Festival (ACFF) film selection committee. The committee reviews conservation-themed films from around the world and selects the work to be highlighted at the October 2016 film festival. The ACFF is dedicated to promoting outstanding films and the arts to educate and inspire people to become engaged in conservation.

Dr. David J. Gonzol, associate professor of music and director of music education, presented "Content Integration: True or False?" at the conference Full Steam Ahead: Including the Arts in Content-Based Literacy, at Shepherd University, March 28, 2015. Gonzol and Larissa West, flutist, gave the premiere of his hymn prelude on T. Tertius Noble's "Ora labora," at Stephens City Mennonite Church, Virginia, October 2015. Gonzol and Dr. Jeffrey Groff, associate professor of physics, presented their research, "Ortmann and the Physical Forms of Sound," at the American Association of Physics Teachers National Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 9-12.

ED HERENDEEN, professor of theater and founder and producing director of the Contemporary American Theater Festival, accepted an Organizational Medallion for Excellence in Support of the Arts during the Governor's Arts Awards Gala at the Culture Center in Charleston on March 10. CATF is one of 50 organizations from across West Virginia that received an etched glass medallion as a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts. This is the third time CATF has received a Governor's Arts Award.

Dr. Matthew J. Kushin, assistant professor of communication, recently published a co-authored scholarly research article in the *Journal of Public Relations Education* titled "Hootsuite University: Equipping Academics and Future PR Professionals for Social Media Success." He recently co-authored a scholarly research article published in the *International Journal of E-Politics* titled "Conflict as a barrier to political participation for young adults? A look at political participation and disaffection in an era of Web and mobile connectivity." In addition, he recently published a co-authored

scholarly research article titled "Attachment to Facebook and the Civic Lives of Minority College Students in the United States" in *First Monday*.

Kushin earned a \$500 Professional Development Mini Grant for academic conference travel. He is serving on the editorial board for a special issue of *Communication Teacher* on the theme Assessing the Impact of Social Media for the Communication Classroom. He is serving as co-chair of the social media committee of the Public Relations Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

He recently traveled to Budapest, Hungary, to present on social media campaign planning for mobile applications on behalf of the Optometric Extension Program Foundation.

His Public Relations Principles class is participating in the CisionPoint University certification plan, an online education program in the Cision public relations software. Students who complete certification can use this as a résumé builder.

Shannon McCarthy, visiting assistant professor of art, had her work included in the exhibition Unassigned at Colby-Sawyer College which featured independent works of art, craft, and design by practicing designers and design instructors January 28-February 23. Invited artists exhibited experimental videos, photography, books, posters, collages, prints, letterpress broadsides, installations, and systems.

DAVID R. MODLER, assistant professor of art and coordinator of art education, facilitated a professional development workshop for art educators in Prince George's County, Maryland, Public Schools on using the visual journal as a component in their curriculum in August 2015. In September 2015, Modler installed an interactive art installation titled "Draw and Play Here: tet[r]ad Session #1" at Shelf Life Gallery in Greensboro, North Carolina, which invited the greater community to participate not just as art viewers but also as art makers. In November 2015, he gave a keynote address and conducted a workshop for art educators at the Arizona Art Education Association Conference in Prescott, Arizona; exhibited his work at the Elberson Fine Arts Center at Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and gave three different presentations at the Virginia Art Education Association Conference in Roanoke, Virginia.

In March, Modler provided art-making workshops on visual journals and mixed media processes at the Art and Soul Mixed Media Art Retreat in Portland, Oregon. He facilitated three different workshops, delivered a presentation, and participated in a book signing at the National Art Education Association Convention in Chicago, Illinois. This summer, he has scheduled various art-making workshops for the Art and Soul Mixed Media Art Retreat in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Art Unraveled in Phoenix, Arizona.



Rhonda Smith



Dr. Robert Tudor



Dr. Aart Holtslag



Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic



Dr. Richard A Stevens, Jr.

Dr. TIMOTHY K. NIXON, associate professor in the Department of English and Modern Languages, presented a paper titled "A Spring Sunday' and Its Place in the Oeuvre of Sarah Orne Jewett" at the 2015 conference of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers in Philadelphia, November 2015. In addition, Nixon chaired a panel on Sarah Orne Jewett.

RHONDA SMITH, professor of art and chair of the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, was the focus of a recent Art-VoiceWV, an online video series that profiles artists and explores the creative process behind their work. She was featured in the October 2015 segment discussing her art and demonstrating the printing process in the Center for Contemporary Arts Phase I printmaking studio. Smith incorporates printmaking and collage into her finished pieces. When ArtVoiceWV producers Jack Kelly and Marla Carr of 78 Degrees West Films of Berkeley Springs shot video, Smith was tasked with demonstrating a part of the process. The video title is "Journeys and Talismen"—a nod to the influence travel, particularly to Africa, has had on Smith's work. Four trips to Africa inspired Smith to begin incorporating talismans, objects worn by tribe members that are believed to provide good luck or protect from harm, into her art.

Dr. John E. Stealey III, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, attended the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association, November 12-15, 2015, in Little Rock, Arkansas. Attendance afforded him the opportunity to keep abreast of developments and trends in various historical fields, to discuss current projects with publishers, to renew old friendships, and to make a few new acquaintances.

The reprint in paperback of Stealey's 1993 volume, *The Antebellum Kanawha Salt Business and Western Markets*, by the West Virginia University Press, is scheduled for fall 2016. He has been working on the various editorial details involving this project.

In the public history area, Stealey collected, selected, and described the historical photographs from various archives and assembled the 2016 Jefferson Security Bank wall calendar. The work included historical scenes of Berkeley and Jefferson counties, West Virginia, and Washington County, Maryland.

DR. ROBERT TUDOR, associate professor of music and chair of the Department of Music, was one of 23 professors from schools that belong to the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) who traveled to Cuba, December 13-19, 2015. COPLACuba was sponsored by the government organization Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello (Cuban Institute of Cultural Research). The group stayed at the Casa Sacerdotal Juan María Vianney in Havana, a retreat center run by the Catholic Church. The program focused on economics, cultural influences, politics, science, art, and the socioeconomic situation Cubans face today.

School of Business and Social Sciences

Dr. Aart Holtslag, assistant professor of political science, presented a paper titled "How United Are Nations When Peoples Challenge States? Indigenous Peoples' Advocacy at the International Labor Organization" at the International Studies Association Southern Region Annual Meeting in Tampa, Florida. At this conference, Holtslag was named the program chair for the 2016 annual meeting bringing the International Studies Association Southern Region Conference to Shepherd University in October 2016. Holtslag was elected vice president of the International Studies Association Southern Region Organization.

At the International Studies Association (National) Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, he presented a paper titled "Indigenous Peoples' Representation at the International Labor Organization: Advocacy for Indigenous Rights and Convention 169." Both papers were based on research funded by the Shepherd University Foundation through a Summer Research Grant of the Faculty Senate. At the International Studies Association Conference in Atlanta, Holtslag was discussant on the panel Colonial Legacies in International Organizations and the panel International Law from a Sociological Perspective, and served as chair on the panel Legalize This: International Organizations and the Law.

At Shepherd, Holtslag moderated the Model United Nations Shep Talk, a TED Talk-like event organized by the Shepherd University Model United Nations, and a Teach In on the 2016 United States Presidential Elections panel discussion organized by the Department of Political Science.

Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic, assistant professor of sociology and chair of the Department of Sociology and Geography, was featured on a READ Poster in the Scarborough Library where she showcased a book that has greatly influenced her academic experience, *The Consequences of Modernity* by Anthony Giddens. An article about Howard-Bostic's service to the community and to veterans appeared in the October 2015 issue of *Women of Distinction Magazine*.

Howard-Bostic will collaborate with Martinsburg's chapter of Mom's Club and Shepherd's Office of Multicultural Student Affairs to host The Mom Prom, a ladies' night out for charity on Saturday, April 16 from 7-11 p.m. in the Storer Ballroom. All proceeds will be donated to the KidsPak Program to provide packaged meals for children in need in Berkeley and Jefferson counties.

In December 2015, as an editor for McGraw-Hill Education, Howard-Bostic reviewed "Chapter 3: Culture in Sociology" in Sociology and Your Life with POWER by Rick Schaefer and Robert Feldman. In addition, Lexington Books of Rowman & Littlefield Publishers has accepted Howard-Bostic's book for publication. Female-Perpetrated Intimate Partner Violence: Why She Became Physically Violent examines women's physical and emotional experiences of victimization and perpetration of intimate partner violence.



Cindy Vance



Dr. Jason Best



Dr. Clarissa Mathews (l.)



Dr. Colleen Nolan

Howard-Bostic demonstrates various relationships between external factors and women's motivations for intimate partner violence perpetration. She also examines distinctions between controlling and non-controlling behavior exerted by female perpetrators of intimate partner violence.

Howard-Bostic participated as a panelist during the event, Liberty and Justice for All: An Unfinished Global Order, hosted by Harambee Conference, LLC, February 20. She participated in Shepherd's Focus on Student Learning (FOSL) Series on March 28, presenting her findings from surveys conducted last fall at her From Diversity to Multiculturalism Workshop. On April 1, Howard-Bostic and Shepherd students Millicent Aubee, Lisa Carden, and Rachel Tysor will present additional findings from a study titled "Assessing Multicultural Workshops: Engaging Faculty, Staff, Students, and the Community" at the 42nd Annual Conference of the East Coast Colleges Social Science Association (ECCSSA) in Herndon, Virginia. Howard-Bostic will share a second FOSL presentation highlighting best practices from workshops at the Great Teacher's Seminar in Cairo, West Virginia, April 11.

Howard-Bostic attended the End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI) Training in Washington, D.C., March 22-24. She received training in the areas of sexual assault and domestic violence to support a new Title IX research project on Shepherd's campus. On July 30-31, Howard-Bostic will attend the Third International Conference on Advances in Women's Studies (AWS) in Buffalo, New York. She will present her manuscript, "Conceptualizing Control When Women Hit Their Violent Partners."

DR. STEPHANIE A. SLOCUM-SCHAFFER, associate professor of political science and chair of the Department of Political Science, presented her latest work in the area of women's representation and policy outcomes at the 87th annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in January. The paper, titled "Exerting Leverage: How Access and Institutional Structure Shape Women's Influence on Policy Outcomes," focused on evaluating the impact of women's access to both parliament and cabinet, along with government structure, on policy outcomes of importance to women.

Slocum-Schaffer also had a brief, co-authored piece on different aspects of teaching research methods explored at the American Political Science Association's Teaching and Learning Conference published in the July 2015 volume of PS: Political Science and Politics.

Dr. Richard A. Stevens, Jr., associate professor and program coordinator of the Master of Arts in College Student Development and Administration program, was awarded the Storer College Faculty Award in February. He is the second recipient of the annual award that recognizes Shepherd University faculty who have integrated diversity and social justice into their teaching, service, and scholarship.

Stevens also is a 2016 Annuit Coeptis—Senior Professional award winner. This international award recognizes on-going contributions to service, teaching, administration, and scholarship within the field of student affairs. This award is given to three professionals annually by ACPA—College Student Educators International. Stevens accepted his award in March at the annual convention in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Stevens served as keynote speaker at the Maryland Organization of Community College Registrars and Admissions Officers and presented "Visibility, Normalcy, and Equity for LGBT Students." He made two presentations at the 2015 ACPA Convention, "ACPA/NASPA Professional Competencies to Frame Learning Assessment and Graduate Program Improvement" and "ACPA Faculty Summit: Administering Graduate Preparation Programs with Limited Faculty." At the 2016 ACPA Convention, he presented "my-PROfolio: Developing a Professional Development Plan Focused on ACPA/NASPA Professional Competencies."

Stevens currently serves as the Credentialing Implementation Team chair for ACPA–College Student Educators International and was named director-elect of professional development and will serve in that role as a member of the executive board of ACPA.

CINDY VANCE, assistant professor of accounting, continued her studies at Northcentral University to obtain a Ph.D. in business administration with a specialization in advanced accounting. She attended the West Virginia Council of Accounting Educators Conference in Charleston in fall 2015.

She is the advisor of the Shepherd University Accounting Club and a member of the Core Curriculum, Scholarships and Awards, and Graduate Council committees. She serves on the Shepherd University Alumni Association Board of Directors and is a member of the AICPA and VSCPA. She maintains her CPA license and serves as a consultant in the accounting field.

School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

DR. JASON BEST, professor of astronomy and astrophysics and 2015-2016 American Council on Education Fellow, is serving as the Shepherd representative on a five-year, \$20 million National Science Foundation grant awarded to WV EPSCoR. This grant, which links researchers at numerous West Virginia higher education institutions and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Green Bank, has as one of its two major focus areas the support of basic and applied research in gravitational wave astronomy.

Dr. Jonathan Gilkerson, assistant professor of biology, co-authored a paper published in the journal *Science* in October 2015. The report, titled "Ubiquitin facilitates a quality control pathway that removes damaged chloroplasts," describes a new cellular pathway that selectively degrades chloroplasts, the organelles in plant cells that use energy from the sun to convert carbon dioxide into



Dr. Carol Z. Plautz (r.) and Hannah Williams



David Gansz



Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix



Rhonda Jackson (l.) and Jess Lanciano

sugars. The pathway allows for the selective destruction of chloroplasts that have been damaged and can no longer function. A similar system operates in animal cells to degrade damaged mitochondria, which when allowed to accumulate results in Parkinson's disease.

DR. CLARISSA MATHEWS, professor of environmental studies and chair of the Institute of Environmental and Physical Sciences, provided talks on organic stink bug management at the National Entomological Society of America Meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in November 2015 and the Northeastern Plant, Pest, and Soils Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in January. Mathews co-authored the paper "Identifying a Potential Trap Crop for a Novel Insect Pest, *Halyomorpha halys* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae), in Organic Farms," published in *Environmental Entomology*. She continues to serve on the Northeastern IPM Center Steering Committee and Advisory Council.

Dr. Colleen Nolan, professor of biology and dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, was named by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin to serve on the Science and Research Council of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission to a term ending June 30, 2018.

The Science and Research Council works to increase the capacity of West Virginia and its colleges and universities to attract, implement, and use cutting-edge, competitive research funds and infrastructure. Members of the council provide expertise and policy guidance on federal and state programs including EPSCoR, the West Virginia Research Trust Fund, and the Research Challenge Fund.

DR. CAROL Z. PLAUTZ, associate professor of biology, recently published an article in the *Journal of Visualized Experiments (JoVE)* with Shepherd undergraduate researcher and biology major Hannah C. Williams and collaborator Dr. Robert M. Grainger of the University of Virginia. *JoVE*, the first peer-reviewed scientific video journal, is devoted to publishing scientific research in a visual format to help researchers enhance reproducibility and reduce the time and labor intensive nature of learning new experimental techniques. The article is titled "Functional Cloning Using a Xenopus Oocyte Expression System" and includes both a video (shot in Plautz's laboratory at Shepherd) and a manuscript.

Scarborough Library

Having many years ago separated his songwriting talents into the separate endeavors of poetry (earning an M.F.A. in creative writing and publishing widely) and solo acoustic guitar playing, David Gansz, dean of the library, has finally recorded a CD of his guitar compositions spanning the 30 years from 1982-2012. *Approaches to the Silence and the Light* (available exclusively online via Reverb. com) includes 22 tracks, 18 of which are originals written by Gansz and four of which are medleys of traditional tunes. He is greatly



Profiles • Spring 2016

Profiles, Faculty and Staff Professional Activities is published each semester by the Office of University Communications. Send information about your professional activities to Valerie Owens at vowens@shepherd.edu.

relieved that this music has been recorded for posterity, as it was taking up much of his "random access memory" to retain all of it.

Administration

President Mary J.C. Hendrix is the senior author of findings published in the journal *Cell Cycle* about the molecule Nodal, which holds promise as a novel target in treating aggressive cancers, especially triple-negative breast cancer.

Triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) is an aggressive, difficult to treat form of cancer that lacks expression of key growth factors and does not respond to therapies that target these growth factors. As a result, patients diagnosed with TNBC must rely on traditional systemic neo-adjuvant chemotherapy, which is intended as a first-line treatment that sets the stage for subsequent therapies. Triple-negative breast cancer often relapses with metastatic involvement, at which point responses to therapy are poor. In order to effectively treat this aggressive cancer, it is critical for new therapeutic targets to be identified.

Hendrix is part of the team whose preliminary data show that Nodal is highly expressed in TNBC, and that treating Nodal expressing TNBC cell lines with an anti-Nodal antibody reduces the viability of cells that had been previously treated with a chemotherapeutic agent. The group's investigation indicates that when exposed to doxorubicin followed by anti-Nodal antibody, cellular stress and repair pathways are significantly impacted, resulting in cell death. These findings offer support for a combination therapy that can overcome TNBC aggressiveness and relapse.

The first author of this potentially groundbreaking research, Dr. Thomas Bodenstine, completed his postdoctoral training in the Hendrix Laboratory at the Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute, part of Northwestern University, where Hendrix served as the president and chief scientific officer until assuming the Shepherd University presidency in February.

Hendrix served as the moderator for the panel How We Treat Cancer, February 25 in Chicago. The panel was sponsored by the Chicago Council on Science and Technology, a not-for-profit, membership-based organization that takes researchers and scientists out of the lab and brings them to the public.

Shepherd's collaborative program with Shenandoah Women's Center in preventing sexual assault and interpersonal violence was highlighted during a national webinar in February. Rhonda Jackson, counselor, Jess Lanciano, residence hall associate, and Katie Spriggs, Shenandoah Women's Center program manager, conducted a class through the PreventConnect webinar series sponsored by the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault. They discussed initiatives on campus and how Shepherd and Shenandoah work together to educate students on the prevention of sexual assault and interpersonal violence.

Through the collaboration, Shenandoah Women's Center helps Shepherd respond to incidents and provides free counseling to students who don't want to use services on campus. Jackson's office also sponsors 3D Thursday every week at Shepherd, where students, staff, and faculty are encouraged to intervene and call for help if they witness interpersonal violence.

Jackson and Lanciano highlighted the creative ways Shepherd has found to offer a program that isn't too costly by collaborating with the Shenandoah Women's Center, the art department, student affairs, academics, and students who are passionate about spreading the message.