

Profiles

Shepherd University

Faculty and Staff Professional Activities • Spring 2018

College of Business

DR. CINDY VANCE, assistant professor of accounting, attended the West Virginia Council of Accounting Educators Conference in Charleston in the fall. She is the advisor of the Shepherd University Accounting Club and serves as a member of the Core Curriculum, Admissions and Credits, Scholarships and Awards, and Graduate Council committees. She serves on the Shepherd University Alumni Association board of directors and finance committee and on the McMurren Scholars Association advisory board. She is a member of AICPA, VSCPA, and ACFE. She maintains her CPA license and serves as a consultant in the accounting field.

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

DR. CHIQUITA HOWARD-BOSTIC, associate professor of sociology and chair of the Department of Sociology and Geography, was elected as chair of the strategic planning committee of the executive board of WVU Medicine-Berkeley Medical Center and Jefferson Medical Center in January.

In February, Howard-Bostic provided a training at the Advanced Training Center in Harpers Ferry for 50 staff and officers at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. The training, titled "Uncovering Coercive Exploitation: A Transformational Mandate for Trafficking Enforcement," explored new ways to understand human trafficking across issues of culture, power, privilege, and oppression. Howard-Bostic challenged participants to assume a leadership role in ensuring and promoting human rights.

Howard-Bostic was the featured speaker at a February 28 Berkeley County Schools program titled "Entrepreneurship: A Black History Celebration," which showcased male and female black entrepreneurs in the community. Howard-Bostic also provided leadership and social justice training to 80 students in Berkeley County. Her Help Bridge Empowerment project, a two-day training, is now offered in both middle and high schools to cultivate leadership through multiculturalism.

In March, **DR. RICHARD STEVENS**, acting dean of graduate studies, and Howard-Bostic presented "Navigating Civility Issues: Tools to Engage Students in the Moment" as a spring 2018 Focus on Student Learning (FOSL) session. The FOSL provided transformative learning tools to confront behaviors that compro-

mise healthy learning environments. On April 7, **DR. ROBERT ANTHONY**, assistant professor of sociology, and Howard-Bostic presented a paper titled "Teaching Race and Racial Inequality in Online Classes" at the annual meeting for the North Central Sociological Association in Pittsburgh.

Howard-Bostic is currently participating in web-based training as part of a COPLAC Digital Mellon Foundation grant. She will use asynchronous online tools in SOCI 402: Criminology during summer and in SOCI 399: Social Chronicles, a COPLAC digital history course offered next fall. Howard-Bostic has been welcomed as a new adjunct faculty member in Shepherd's CSDA graduate program. This summer, she will teach CSDA 599: Transformational Multicultural Leadership to explore decision-making strategies for authentic, purpose-centered, internally directed, and externally open leadership.

DR. LINDSEY LEVITAN, associate professor of psychology, has an article in press: Kline, R., Levitan, L. C., Bankert, A., and Kraft, P., "Introducing multilevel meta-analysis to political science: An application to personality and prosocial behavior," *Political Science Research and Methods*. She presented a paper in March, along with student Lauren Duckworth, titled "Network heterogeneity: Social influences on media exposure and prejudice," at the Eastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. At the same conference, she and student John Michaels presented "The role of social network attitudinal heterogeneity in weakening prejudice." Levitan supervised two senior theses presented at the conference: "Risky behavior: The roles of depression, openness to experience, and coping," by Rachel DiLima, and "Rape myth acceptance differences between LGBT+ and heterosexual students," by Caroline Shamberger.

DR. STEPHANIE A. SLOCUM-SCHAFER, associate professor of political science and co-coordinator of gender and women's studies, revised a short article titled "Morality Policy" for *Federalism in America*, published by the Center for the Study of Federalism. This piece describes the significant developments in the area of morality policy in the United States relevant to federalism in the last few years. Slocum-Schaffer also attended the American Po-



Dr. Cindy Vance



Dr. Chiquita
Howard-Bostic



Dr. Lindsey Levitan



Dr. Stephanie A.
Slocum-Schaffer



Dr. Jason Best

litical Science Association's 15th annual Teaching and Learning Conference in Baltimore, February 2-4.

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

DR. JASON BEST, professor of astronomy and astrophysics and director of strategic research initiatives, served on national peer review panels for both the National Science Foundation and the American Council on Education. In addition, he served as a mentor for the Frederick County (Virginia) Public Schools Gifted Independent Study program, overseeing the research of a graduating senior who will be attending college this fall as an astrophysics major. Best also participated in an advisory meeting of the West Virginia Science Public Outreach Team as a member of the steering committee.

DR. MOHAMMADREZA GHAHREMANI, assistant professor of computer engineering, published two articles: A. Aslani, M. Ghahremani, M. Zhang, L. H. Bennett, and E. Della Torre, "Enhanced Magnetic Properties of Ni₅₁Mn_{33.4}In_{15.6} Heusler Alloy," *IEEE Transaction on Magnetics*, 53, 12 (2017), and M. Ghahremani, A. Aslani, M. Hosseinnia, L. H. Bennett, and E. Della Torre, "Direct and indirect measurement of the magnetocaloric effect in bulk and nanostructured Ni-Mn-In Heusler alloy," *AIP Advances* 8, 056426 (2017).

He received a \$20,000 instrumentation grant from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission's Division of Science and Research in January to purchase a vacuum arc melting furnace. The instrument will be used in synthesis of desirable magnetocaloric materials to design and develop the first scalable, commercially viable, compressor-free magnetic refrigerator system.

DR. JOHN C. LANDOLT, Research Professor of Biology Emeritus, is co-author of a research paper, "A New Classification of the Dictyostelids," appearing in the November 2017 issue of the journal *Protist*. *Protist* is the international forum for reporting substantial and novel findings in any area of research on protists. This paper proposes a substantial revision of the taxonomy of this group of organisms ("social amoebae") that had previously been based primarily upon morphological characters. The use of DNA sequence characteristics and other molecular characters provides the basis for this new classification.

Landolt also conducted a workshop on myxomycete, plasmodial slime molds, for the Master Naturalist program of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society. Landolt continues research on novel species of slime molds from Madagascar, South Africa, and Thailand and is assisting two students at the University of Arkansas in their graduate research projects.

JASON MILLER, visiting assistant professor of computer science, published a paper titled "Analysis of the *Aedes albopictus* C6/36 genome provides insight into cell line utility for viral propagation." The paper appeared in the journal *GigaScience*, January 10,

2018 (doi: 10.1093/gigascience/gix135). The paper presented the genome sequence of a mosquito-derived cell line that is commonly used for research on Zika and other RNA arboviruses. The DNA sequence was assembled with the CANU bioinformatics software that Miller helped publish in 2017. He transferred \$51,000 of funding to Shepherd University for the development of RNA sequence analysis software capable of detecting parental imprinting in plants. The grant is part of project MOLBAR, an international collaboration investigating plant hybridization barriers and their epigenetic mechanisms. Miller spoke at the project's kick-off meeting in Norway, September 2017.

DR. SYTIL MURPHY, assistant professor of physics, received a \$19,921 grant from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission's Division of Science and Research to buy a DJI Matrice unmanned aerial vehicle. The drone will be used to collect data to be analyzed by students in the environmental sciences, particularly the new environmental geomatics concentration.

DR. CAROL PLAUTZ, professor of biology, was named one of five finalists for the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia 2017 Professor of the Year.

DR. RALPH WOJTOWICZ, associate professor of mathematics, served as a judge at the Jefferson County and Berkeley County Science Fairs. He also served as a reviewer for the CogSci 2018 conference. At the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Day at the state capitol in Charleston on March 1, Wojtowicz presented a poster and computer simulations to market the Shepherd University data analytics programs.

College of Education and Professional Studies

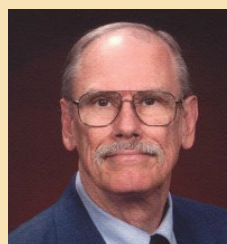
DR. DAWNE RAINES BURKE, professor of education, received the 2018 Shepherd University Storer College Faculty Award, presented to a member of the faculty each year who incorporates diversity and social justice in the classroom, research, scholarship, and interaction with students. The winner is selected by Shepherd's Diversity and Equity Committee and receives a \$1,000 stipend to be used toward professional development. Burke is the author of the book *An American Phoenix: The History of Storer College from 1865-1955*.

College of Arts and Humanities

DR. KEITH ALEXANDER, assistant professor of history, worked with **DR. JULIA SANDY**, associate professor of history, to plan and present at the Humanities and the Environment conference in October 2017. Supported by a grant from the West Virginia Humanities Council, the Humanities and the Environment conference brought together writers, historians, filmmakers, and scientists to discuss the role of the humanities in educating general audiences about today's environmental challenges. By focusing on the ways in



Dr. Mohammadreza
Ghahremani



Dr. John C. Landolt



Jason Miller



Dr. Sytil Murphy

which hard science can be communicated in cultural, societal, and artistic terms, the conference facilitated public engagement with those challenges. The program included presentations by featured speakers, a film screening, and breakout sessions where audiences interacted with experts and each other to discuss the themes that emerged during the symposium.

In his capacity as the George Washington Institute of Living Ethics scholar, Alexander convened a panel titled Intervention and Addiction—An Ethics Dialogue. The discussion examined the best ways to truly help addicts and our society's ethical obligations to addicts. The panel was co-sponsored by the Common Reading Program, the George Washington Institute of Living Ethics, and the Jefferson County Harm Reduction Clinic.

Alexander received \$4,400 from the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation Helen Parker Willard Jefferson County Historic Cemetery Grants program. The grant funds will be used to purchase supplies and equipment for his ongoing service learning efforts involving cemetery documentation and preservation.

DR. JAMES J. BROOMALL, assistant professor of history and director of the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War, co-organized the 2017 Civil War Christmas weekend, which began on November 30, 2017. Broomall opened the event with his lecture, "Civil War and the Environment." Hundreds of participants visited the weekend's events, which included a performance by the Village Brass, a keynote address from Dr. Stephen Goldman, and living history events with the Shepherd University Living History Club, Shepherd University history students, and community volunteers. The weekend was featured in *West Virginia Executive Magazine* in an article written by Broomall (<http://www.wvexecutive.com/civil-war-christmas/>).

On January 12, Shepherd University hosted the Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars and Secondary Educators National Security Policymaking Institute, a program of the U.S. Department of State administered by the University of Delaware. Broomall and Shepherd alumnus Dennis Frye '79 addressed the group as part of the program for the second year in a row. Broomall also presented a lecture before the Frederick Civil War Roundtable in January titled "The Materials of War: Confederate Cloth and Clothing from Home and Abroad."

Broomall published several book reviews. The inaugural issue of the *Journal of the Shenandoah Valley During the Civil War Era* featured his review of Luis-Alejandro Dinella-Borrego's *The Risen Phoenix: Black Politics in the Post-Civil War South*. In the winter 2018 edition of the *Society of Civil War Historians Newsletter*, Broomall published a review of *Bushwhackers: Guerrilla Warfare, Manhood, and the Household in Civil War Missouri* by Joseph M. Beilein, Jr. The 2017 volume of the *Michigan War Studies Review* featured

Broomall's review of R. Gregory Lande's *Psychological Consequences of the American Civil War*.

KEVIN DARTT, FASTenER Lab 3D fabrication manager, had an exhibit titled Physical Information featured at the Engine Room Art Space, Hagerstown, Maryland, in November and December 2017. The work in the exhibit consisted of five wall-size reliefs that Dartt made using computer-aided modeling techniques and a CNC router.

SONYA EVANISKO, professor of art and coordinator of the painting and drawing program, had a solo exhibition of her painting work at the McGuire Gallery in Frederick, Maryland. Evanisko also exhibited her work in the Bodice Project, an exhibit of sculptural forms that utilizes art to assist in the dialogue and healing of individuals and families dealing with breast cancer. The exhibit moved to Chicago in April and was exhibited during the American Cancer Researchers Conference at the McCormick Center April 15. Evanisko traveled to Chicago to assist other individuals in starting a project of this nature in their communities.

She also exhibited her work and the work of her students in a community pop-up art shop in which students got experience in making work to sell in public venues; packaging, pricing, and labeling art for sale; and working with contracts and the public.

In March, Evanisko organized a participatory experience for a group of art students and herself to work on a large scale art installation at the Philadelphia Flower Exhibit. The students spent four days working with a designer from Wish Unlimited Design studio of Delaware. The art installation was awarded a bronze medal. The students worked on a permanent 27-foot-long mural in New York City with the same design studio. While in NYC, Evanisko traveled with students in the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater to the Scope Art Fair, Armory Show, and Volta Art Fair.

Evanisko worked on a collaborative project with art students, the Department of Music, and the community, curating and installing a veterans art exhibit at the Frank Center Gallery on display during a March 27 concert. The project honored National Vietnam War Veterans Day and offered a series of events to explore a unique experience of the Vietnam War and the creation of art for personal expression.

This spring, Evanisko organized a field trip and traveled with 30 students to the American Craft Council Exhibit in Baltimore to explore careers and visit the Baltimore Museum of Art. Evanisko served as a juror for Tamarack's fine artist jury. After the daylong jurying process, she met individually with the artists to provide critical feedback on their professional practices.

In the community, Evanisko serves as a juror on the American Conservation Film Festival (ACFF) film selection committee. She is currently reviewing and scoring conservation-themed films from around the world and selecting the work to be highlighted in the



Dr. Carol Plautz



Dr. Ralph Wojtowicz



Dr. Dawne Raines Burke



Dr. Keith Alexander



Dr. James J. Broomall

October 2018 film festival. The ACFF is dedicated to promoting outstanding films and the arts to educate and inspire people to become engaged in conservation.

At the invitation of the Eastern Panhandle Music Teachers Association, **DR. DAVID GONZOL**, professor of music, presented “Orff Schulwerk for Keyboards and More” at the District VI Fall Festival, held at Shepherd University on October, 15, 2016. The day after, he gave a lecture in the Let’s Talk Music series of the Maryland Symphony Orchestra and the Washington County Library. The lecture, “Utterly Lovely: The Pastoral in Music,” was about Rossini’s overture to *L’italiana in Algeri*, Beethoven’s Symphony No. 6 in F Major (“Pastoral”), and Vaughan Williams’s Concerto for Oboe and Strings, for which Fatma Daglar was the soloist on the orchestra’s following concerts.

Gonzol conducted 70 children of the fifth-grade chorus from Stonewall Jackson High School at the Shenandoah County, Virginia, All-County Choir Festival, April 7, 2017. At the Mountain Lake Colloquium for Teachers of General Music Methods in Pembroke, Virginia, May 21-24, 2017, Gonzol presented “The New Ideas of Otto Ortmann: Revising Our View of Our Ecosystem of General Music Teaching.” On October 6, 2017, he presented “Introduction to Kodály: ‘The Music Belongs to Everyone,’” parts 1 and 2, at the Delaware State Arts Conference, Dover High School. Gonzol was invited by the Kodály Educators of Southern New England chapter of the Organization of American Kodály Educators to the University of Hartford, Connecticut, on October 21, 2017, where he presented “From Cuckoo to the Renaissance: Recorders in the Classroom.” This included a morning of music-making and recorder teaching techniques ranging from beginner level through more sophisticated levels. In November 2017, Gonzol composed a chorale prelude on “Wachet auf,” Philipp Nicolai’s 1599 composition, sometimes referred to as the king of chorales, for piano and flute. Flutist Larissa West and Gonzol gave the first performance on November 12, 2017, at Stephens City Mennonite Church, Virginia.

DR. DAVID B. GORDON, professor of history and chair of the Department of History, helped organize the course East Asia: A Seminar for Teachers with optional educational professional development credit. He co-taught the course in fall 2017 over the course of five Saturdays together with Dr. David Kenley, Elizabethtown College. The course, which met on the Shepherd campus, is aimed at public school teachers who seek to enhance the Asia-related content of their courses in history, social studies, and other subjects. There will be a follow-up session in April, once the teachers have had the chance to implement lesson plans based on course material. Funding is provided by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia, a program of the Freeman Foundation. Gordon aims to continue to provide iterations of this course to area teachers in the coming years.

An article by **DR. HEIDI M. HANRAHAN**, associate professor of English, titled “‘This was a place for the lost’: Appalachian Noir in Ron Rash’s *Raising the Dead* and *One Foot in Eden*” will be published in the winter 2018 issue of *Appalachian Journal*. As the faculty sponsor of Shepherd’s chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society, Hanrahan wrote a proposal for a project grant and was awarded \$450 to host a Poetry Festival in March. The event was open to the community and to local high school students. The chapter received additional travel funds of \$350 for presenting a report on the festival at the Sigma Tau Delta International Convention in March. The chapter also hosted a regional conference in November 2017, drawing about 25 participants from 11 colleges and universities from across the region. **DR. LOIS JARMAN**, director of the intensive English language program, gave the keynote address “The ‘Unknown’ Lens and the Humanities.”

DR. MATTHEW J. KUSHIN, associate professor of mass communications, will travel to Portugal in May to give the keynote at the 2018 Internet Day celebration at the Universidade de Aveiro. This speech will focus on his research and pedagogy in social media. During his trip, he will also visit the Universidade Nova, Faculty of Science and Technology, in Lisbon. He will speak on his research on social media, civics, and politics. These invited talks are funded and supported by the American Corners University program of the United States Embassy and Consulate in Portugal.

Kushin recently traveled to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to the Vision-X Conference in his service role as the director of ICBO One and Global Digital Strategy to promote the upcoming International Congress of Behavior Optometry in Sydney, Australia.

In March, Kushin presented to the Digital Pre-Professional Pedagogy group at Washington & Lee University on the topic of social listening software and social analytics. In his role as the advisor to the Shepherd University chapter of the National Millennial Community, Kushin traveled with two communications students to Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., over spring break. The trip enabled Shepherd students to help change the national conversation around the millennial generation and afforded key networking opportunities for students to meet with executives at major brands and in government, including Comcast NBCUniversal, Lockheed Martin, Nestlé, PBS, and the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. This trip was funded through a generous grant by the Shepherd University President’s Club.

In the classroom, his COMM 321 Public Relations Principles students are participating in the Ketchum Mindfire Challenge. In this program, college students from across the United States submit ideas aimed at addressing business challenges for clients of Ketchum, a global public relations agency.

Kushin was recently named a top digital marketing professor by the Hubspot Academy. He serves as co-chair of the social media



Kevin Dartt



Sonya Evanisko



Dr. David Gonzol



Dr. David B. Gordon



Dr. Heidi M. Hanrahan

committee of the Public Relations Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

DR. JAMES LEWIN, professor of English, presented a paper titled “Authority, Sovereignty, and Time in Shakespeare’s ‘Lucrece’” at the 41st annual Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference on the campus of the Baldwin Wallace University in Berea, Ohio, October 2017. The moral imperative of society subjected to tyranny, from a radical perspective, underlies “The Rape of Lucrece,” written during the plague years of 1593-94, when the Elizabethan theaters were closed and the authorial identity of the poet was in early stages of development. In notable ways, “Lucrece” foreshadows the deeper concerns of Shakespeare’s greatest tragedies, including the vulnerability of the good, the persistence of evil, and the role of art in confronting mortal suffering. Democracy cannot survive without literature for both depend on what Derrida in *Given Time* calls “the altogether bare device of being-two-to-speak (etre-deux-a-parler) there always being more than one voice.”

At the invitation of the editor of *MidAmerica*, Lewin submitted a 5,000-word review-essay on recent biographies of Bob Dylan, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature 2016 “for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition.” His article, “Dylan’s Destiny: Legends and True Lies,” will be published in a forthcoming issue. In addition, the Oxford Encyclopedia for American Literature has asked Lewin to update his article on Isaac Bashevis Singer for the peer-reviewed online publication.

DR. CARRIE MESSENGER, associate professor of English, won the Brighthorse Prize for short fiction this fall. Her short story collection *In the Amber Chamber* will be published by Brighthorse Press. Her short story “The Transylvaniess” appeared in the literary magazine *Grimoire* in October 2017. Messenger was the folio guest editor for *Pleiades* magazine’s feature on myth and fairy tale retellings in 2017. In December 2017, she served as a judge for Boonsboro, Maryland, High School’s Poetry Out Loud competition.

DAVID R. MODLER, associate professor of art and coordinator of art education, presented *The Visual Journal: Philosophy and Practice*, a content-focused professional development workshop for K-12 art educators teaching in the Jefferson County Public Schools in December 2017. In January, Modler installed an exhibit called Tet[r]ad: Draw and Play Here Session #6 in the gallery of the Institute for Visual Studies at James Madison University. This interactive site-responsive art installation invited the greater community to participate not just as art viewers but also as art makers. In March, he facilitated a Visual Journal Workshop for National Art Honor Society students at Roxbury High School in Succasunna, New Jersey. Also in March, Modler attended and presented at the Na-

tional Art Education Association Convention in Seattle, Washington. The Tet[R]ad: Draw and Play Here project was featured during a roundtable discussion as part of the research preconference Making Knowledge/Moving Knowledge and was part of the preconvention workshop sessions. During the regular schedule of the convention, Modler presented his soon-to-be-published paper “The Visual Journal as Preservice Document and Dialogical Tool.” Additionally, in collaboration with professors from the University of Minnesota and University of California Long Beach, Modler will be co-presenting an interactive discussion titled “Sketchbook/Visual Journal Speed Dating.” He will also be co-facilitating two hands-on art making workshops, The 7 Deadly Sins-Mixed-Media Abstract Collaboration Art Workshop and Community Sculpture: A Project-based Learning Model.

Modler facilitated a professional development workshop for K-12 art educators teaching in the Harford, Maryland, County Public Schools, in March. Lectures and hands-on activities focused on Choice-Based Approaches to Art Education.

In mid-April, he will discuss the Tet[R]ad: Draw and Play Here project and his research involved in his paper “The Visual Journal as Preservice Document and Dialogical Tool” during sessions at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting in New York City.

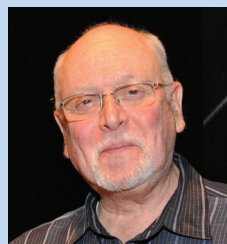
Over the summer, two more Tet[R]ad: Draw and Play Here sessions will take place as interactive installations at the Art Mission Gallery in Binghamton, New York, and in the gallery of the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies at the University of Rhode Island in Providence.

DR. TIMOTHY K. NIXON, professor of English, chaired a panel titled “Gertrude Stein: Expatriate Women in Paris” at the Society for the Study of American Women Writers conference in Bordeaux, France, in July 2017. He also presented his essay “Germans as Seen through American Eyes: Anti-Immigrant Discourse in the Works of Dunbar-Nelson, Stein, and Cather” at the same conference.

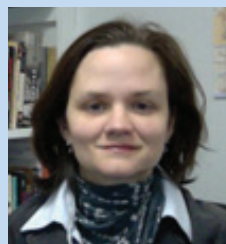
DR. SYLVIA BAILEY SHURBUTT, professor of English and coordinator of the Appalachian studies program, served as the senior editor of the *Anthology of Appalachian Writers, Charles Frazier Volume IX* and facilitated a reading from the book in Cincinnati at the 41st Appalachian Studies Conference April 6. Readers included West Virginia Poet Laureate Marc Harshman, Weatherford Award-winning novelist Gretchen Moran Laskas (2013 Appalachian Heritage Writer in Residence), and short-story writer and West Virginia Fiction Competition Winner Jessica Salfia. The anthology is jointly published by the West Virginia Center for the Book and Shepherd University. Editors of the 2017 anthology included English major Hannah Badley, a May 2017 graduate. This year’s student editor is Brianna Maguire, who wants to go into the editing field after



Dr. Matthew J. Kushin



Dr. James Lewin



Dr. Carrie Messenger



David R. Modler

graduating in May. Other editors are writer and teacher Natalie Sybolt and scholar, public school administrator, and alumnus David O. Hoffman '06. Several of Shurbutt's students were invited to present at the ASA Conference: Breanna Gladden, a communications major from Shepherdstown, presented a paper titled "Finding John Henry: Examining the Legend, the Ballad, and the Man," and Cameron Mallow, a history major from Cabins, presented a paper titled "The Swamp Dragon Home Guard and the Civil War in West Virginia." Ellen Georgi of Adamstown, Maryland, who participated in the 2017 Voices from the Misty Mountains National Endowment for the Humanities Institute at Shepherd and who is pursuing the Appalachian Studies certificate, presented a paper that came out of her institute teacher project, "Women's Work: Appalachian Quilting." Shurbutt presented a paper titled "Wiley Cash and the Gastonia Novels: The Ties that Bind and the Prominence of Place."

Shurbutt and JESSICA KUMP have proposed a 2019 NEH Summer Institute and grant for Voices from the Misty Mountains and the Power of Storytelling. The 2019 Institute will feature Weatherford Award winner Karen Spears Zacharias, novelist Silas House, and Affrilachian poet Frank X Walker. Zacharias will serve as Shepherd's 2018 Appalachian Heritage Writer in Residence. Also involved in the 2019 grant and institute are DR. BENJAMIN BANKHURST, DR. JAMES BROOMALL, ADAM BOOTH, ED HERENDEEN, and RACHAEL MEADS. The institute will partner with the Contemporary American Theater Festival.

Shurbutt has been asked by WVU Press to edit a collection of essays on the fiction, nonfiction, and dramatic art of Silas House: *Silas House and the "Shimmering Knot" Before Him: Essays on House's Fiction, Journalism, and Nonfiction Writing*. The collection will be out later this year.

Work by RHONDA J. SMITH, professor of art and chair of the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, will be included in

the ArtVoiceWV invitational group exhibit at the Ice House Gallery in Berkeley Springs, June 1-July 15. Her Travel as Talisman solo exhibit was featured at Terrace Gallery, Black Rock Center for the Arts, Germantown, Maryland, from January 13-February 24. This exhibit was reviewed in the Sunday, February 11 edition of *The Washington Post* which featured a photo of one of her works.

At the 2018 Cumberland Valley Juried Exhibit, Smith was the winner of the Washington County Arts Council Award. The exhibit took place at the Washington County Fine Arts Museum, Hagerstown, Maryland, in January and February. Jack Rasmussen, vice chair of the Maryland State Arts Council, served as juror.

Center for Teaching, Learning and Instructional Resources

CYNTHIA COPNEY, director of TRiO programs, was chosen president-elect of the West Virginia TRiO Association during its fall conference November 2, 2017, in Charleston. Copney will become the 2018 president of the association and will serve as immediate past president in 2019.

Administration

DR. MARY J.C. HENDRIX, president of Shepherd University, has published the following:

Margaryan NV, Seftor EA, Seftor REB, and Hendrix MJC, "Targeting the stem cell properties of adult breast cancer cells: Using combinatorial strategies to overcome drug resistance," *Curr Mol Bio Rep* 3:159-164, 2017, PMID:28877938.

Zhang M, Hendrix MJC, Pemberton PA, Sakr WA, and Sheng S, "An essential role of Masp1 in embryogenesis and tumor suppression-response," *Cancer Res* 77(18):5208-5210, 2017, PMID:28877938.

Malchenko, S, Sredni S, Boyineni J, Bi Y, Margaryan N, Guda M, Kostenko Y, Tomita T, Davuluri R, Velpula K, Hendrix MJC, and Soares M, "Characterization of brain tumor initiating cells isolated from an animal model of CNS primitive neuroectodermal tumors," *Oncotarget*, 2018, in press.

Hendrix, MJC, Seftor, EA, Margaryan, NV, and Seftor, REB, "Heterogeneity and plasticity of melanoma: Challenges of current therapies," In: *Cutaneous Melanoma: Etiology and Therapy* (W.H. Ward, J.M. Farma, eds.), Codon Publications, Brisbane, Australia, pp. 57-66, 2017.

Hendrix was awarded seven patents, which have been recently licensed to TaiRx, including Diagnostics and Therapeutics of Vascular Mimicry (US 6524787); Nodal as a Therapeutic Target (US 7666423); Lefty as a Cancer Therapy (US 8106004); Nodal as a Diagnostic Biomarker (US 7666423); Targeting Notch4 as a Reg-

Shepherd UNIVERSITY

Profiles • Spring 2018

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Dr. Timothy K. Nixon



Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt



Rhonda J. Smith



Cynthia Copney

ulator of Nodal (US 8669239); Developing therapeutics to target Nodal and Notch4 (AUS 279205); and Lefty as a Cancer Therapy (JAPAN 5693004).

She organized the Shepherd University and Research!America Symposium on West Virginia Research and Innovation: A Catalyst for Better Health and Economic Growth, held October 2017 at Shepherd, which featured remarks by Senators Joe Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito.

Hendrix serves as a member of the board of directors for Annenberg Center for Health Sciences at Eisenhower Medical Center; member of the External Advisory Committee, Center of Biomedical Research Excellence, University of Kansas Medical Center; member, Melanoma Research Foundation Scientific Advisory Committee; member, board of directors for The Chicago Council on Science and Technology; member, Tumor Microenvironment Working Group; chair, board of directors for National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI); member, Research!America Board of Directors; member, AACR Finance Committee; member, Northwestern University Center of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence External Advisory Panel; and member, executive board for The Martinsburg Initiative to Prevent Opioid Addiction, Build Strong Families and Empower Communities.

JIM KLEIN, director of the Martinsburg Center, was appointed by the Berkeley County Council to the board of directors of the Eastern Panhandle Transit Authority and sworn in on February 8. He also serves as chair of Eastern West Virginia Regional Airport Authority.

DR. THOMAS C. SEGAR, vice president for student affairs, was the keynote speaker for the Virginia Association of College and University Housing Officers Resident Assistant Conference hosted at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, November 4, 2017.

He served as one of eight group facilitators for the Aspen Institute Youth and Engagement Programs “Civil Discourse in a Fractured Age” in Washington, D.C., November 7-8, 2017. The event, which included 80 experts in technology, education, research, and nonprofit organizations, focused on preparing young people to engage in civil discourse and developing strategies that can be implemented throughout the world.

Segar served as an expert in residence for the Mid-Atlantic Association of College and University Housing Officers annual conference at the University of Maryland, November 15-17, 2017. In this role, he was a featured conference speaker focusing on diversity issues within college and university housing and met one-on-one with housing and residence life professionals to discuss diversity-related issues.

CHAUNCEY WINBUSH, vice president for athletics, was named to the NCAA DII Men’s Golf Regional Advisory Committee, Atlantic region. The Atlantic region is one of eight regional committees that report to the national committee. In this role, Winbush will provide information regarding teams in Shepherd’s conference and sports region to assist the national committee in the evaluation and rankings process, submit rankings of regional teams, provide information regarding facilities of potential hosts during the bid evaluation process, and serve as a site representative at preliminary round events.



Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix



Jim Klein



Dr. Thomas C. Segar



Chauncey Winbush