

# Profiles

Shepherd University

Faculty and Staff Professional Activities • Fall 2020

## College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

**DR. JAMES J. BROOMALL**, associate professor of history and director of the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War (GTMC), received the Ray and Madeline Johnston Endowed Chair in American History for the 2020-2021 academic year. He recently published through the Organization of American Historians a historic resource study titled “*The Stars Fought From Heaven*”: *Race and Slavery in the Shenandoah Valley From Early Settlement to Jim Crow*. The scholarship in this report is being used to generate interpretive and educational programming for the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park. Additionally, Dr. Broomall wrote a featured book review for the *American Historical Review*’s June 2020 issue on Joseph P. Reidy’s *Illusions of Emancipation: The Pursuit of Freedom and Equality in the Twilight of Slavery*. He also published a book review of Megan Kate Nelson’s *The Three-Cornered War: The Union, the Confederacy, and Native Peoples in the Fight for the West for the Civil War Times*, April 2020.

Because of the ongoing pandemic, many programs have gone online. Dr. Broomall participated in a series of highly popular livestream roundtables, “Zoom Goes the History,” hosted by the American Battlefield Trust. Additionally, he conducted battlefield/historic site tours or interviews with *Civil War Times*, The Tattooed Historian, the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, the American Battlefield Trust, and Civil War Pittsburgh. In June, he presented virtually before the Gettysburg Civil War Round Table and in August presented in-person before the Petersburg Civil War Round Table.

To help support the GTMC’s operations and staff, Dr. Broomall applied for and won a CARES grant through the West Virginia Humanities Council. Through this funding and the support of Shepherd University, he helped conduct nearly 20 livestreamed programs that featured scholars, public historians, and Shepherd faculty, undergraduates, and alumni. Using the GTMC’s Facebook page (and later posted on YouTube), several of these programs had live audiences of more than 100 participants and after-views that reached thousands. The most popular program, “My Pen, My Voice, My Vote,” featured a group of African American public historians who discussed how they interpret race and slavery before popular audiences through living history demonstrations and cos-

tumed interpretation. More than 8,600 people have since viewed the program. Finally, using the CARES support, the GTMC created a video series, “Uniquely Civil War,” that is being premiered throughout the fall semester.

**DR. RACHEL CARLSON**, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities, had her article “Teaching Sight-Reading to Choral Ensemble Singers” published in the book *The Choral Conductor’s Companion*, edited by Brian J. Winnie. Dr. Carlson was also named president-elect of the Maryland/D.C. chapter of the American Choral Director’s Association and will become president of the chapter in July 2021.

**DR. LARRY Z. DAILY**, associate professor of psychology, published “The Relationship of Leisure Occupation, Personality, and Well-being: A Comparison of Model Builders and Visual Artists” in the *Journal of Occupational Science* (<https://doi.org/10.1080/14427591.2020.1815074>). The article was co-authored with former students Rachel DiLima, Worcester, Massachusetts, Aimee Street, Inwood, and Kellen Healy, Towson, Maryland.

**DR. AMY DEWITT**, professor of sociology, presented findings from her data analysis of Guiding Eyes for the Blind’s Puppy Raiser Survey at Shepherd University’s Faculty Research Forum this past February. Having raised two puppies for the organization, she explored the emotional toll of returning a young dog for guide training. Her article, titled “Returning a Puppy for Dog Guide Training: Factors that Affect Grief in Puppy Raisers and the Decision to Foster Again,” was published in the *American Foundation for the Blind’s Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness* 114 (4): 289-300 (2020).

**DR. DAVID J. GONZOL**, professor emeritus of music, composed two tunes that are being published this fall in the new worship and song collection, *Voices Together*, for the Mennonite Church USA and the Mennonite Church Canada, by the publisher MennoMedia in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The collection is designed to succeed the 1992 *Hymnal: A Worship Book*. For this new collection, many submissions were invited, but music editor Benjamin Bergey issued nine different hymn texts with a call for compos-



Dr. James J. Broomall



Dr. Rachel Carlson



Dr. Larry Z. Daily



Dr. Amy DeWitt



Dr. David Gonzol

ers to submit new tunes for them. For one of those hymns, “Faith Begins by Letting Go” by renowned hymnologist Carl P. Daw Jr., Dr. Gonzol had his four-voice tune, “Fides incipit,” chosen. In addition, a four-voice round on the word “Alleluia” by Dr. Gonzol was also accepted for the collection. With the tune name “Rothlisberger” (named after the dedicatee Rod Rothlisberger, a colleague in Minnesota), that round begins with the four-note motive that Wolfgang Amade Mozart used to begin the last movement of his final symphony, the “Jupiter,” K. 551. With 760 songs and hymns, as well as 307 worship resources (including 12 visual art pieces), *Voices Together* is a sizable collection at 1,024 pages. A challenge to publish in a pandemic year, the digital products are being released mid-October, while the shipping of the print products is being delayed until November. A planned launch event via Zoom is now scheduled for December 13. In addition, from 2018 through 2020, Dr. Gonzol served as a hymn text researcher for the collection. He found the original hymn texts and translations (as nearly as could be had in some cases) for 61 hymns, so that the text committee could consider how to include these historic texts.

As he ended his musical service and leadership this year at Stephens City Mennonite Church, Dr. Gonzol and flutist Larissa West gave first performances of three hymn preludes for flute and piano that he had newly composed, on the hymn tune “Antioch,” on “O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem,” and on “Aurelia.” He and West also gave the first performance of his new prelude on the tune “Faithfulness” for flute and oboe, in August.

**DR. HEIDI M. HANRAHAN**, professor of English, presented a paper, co-authored with **DR. AMY DEWITT**, professor of sociology, during the November 2019 Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association (MAPACA) which won the Ralph Donald Award, which recognizes the most outstanding paper and presentation given at the annual conference. The paper, titled “The Asylum is Waiting for You: Analyzing Trans Allegheny Lunatic Asylum’s ‘Criminally Insane’ Tour,” was published in MAPACA’s journal, *Response*. In November, Dr. Hanrahan will present her paper, “The Scandal of Storytelling in Dorothy Allison’s ‘River of Names,’” at the South Atlantic Modern Languages Association convention, originally scheduled to be held in Jacksonville, but will be a virtual conference due to COVID-19.

**DR. CHIQUITA HOWARD-BOSTIC**, associate professor of sociology and chair of the Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Criminal Justice, was appointed associate vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusivity in the Office for Diversity and Equity. Dr. Howard-Bostic also completed Harvard University’s edX Certification Foundational Principles of Exercising Leadership. In August, she received \$4,917 from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission to start WISE Mentoring, a new program

to boost academic achievement and assist participating students from underrepresented groups with textbook costs. On September 5, Dr. Howard-Bostic and **DR. LINDSEY LEVITAN**, associate professor of psychology, presented their study, “Breaking Resistance: Gender Revolution” at the Virtual Intercontinental Meet on Gender and Sexuality Studies.

On October 15, Dr. Howard-Bostic partnered with Jefferson and Berkeley county schools to host “Multiple Sides of the Human Story,” an inclusivity leadership workshop that was open to the community. The workshop featured a keynote address with J.C. Faulk, founder of Circles of Voices, LLC, and breakout sessions about race, gender, social justice, spirituality, and collegiality with diversity and inclusion professionals. On October 23, Dr. Howard-Bostic joined the Rotary Clubs of Shepherdstown and Martinsburg as a panelist at the annual World Affairs Seminar. She presented to student leaders from six area high schools to address/engage in dialogue about constructive engagement in improving race relations. In an international partnership with faculty at Instituto Brasiliense de Direito Publico in Brasilia-Brazil and the University Center Christus in Fortaleza, CE-Brazil, Dr. Howard-Bostic, Denise Almeida de Andrade, and Monica Sapucaia Machado published the article “Women and Engineering: Brazil and the United States Pathway, A Closer Look” in the *Brazilian Journal of Political Studies* (Revista Brasileira de Estudos Politicos).

**DR. MATTHEW J. KUSHIN**, associate professor of communication, joined the Bonnie and Bill Stubblefield Institute for Civil Political Communications as Senior Fellow of Communications, Student Programs, and Scholarships. He also serves on the Stubblefield Institute’s Board of Advisers and is the advisor of the newly formed Stubblefield Institute Student Advisory Council, which aims to increase civility and political and civic engagement among Shepherd University students. He is also the advisor of the Shepherd University chapter of the National Millennial Community. Dr. Kushin served as a subject matter expert, developing ancillary materials including syllabi, activities, and discussion questions for Dr. Karen Freberg’s 2020 textbook *Discovering Public Relations*. The textbook is aimed at introductory public relations courses and is published by Sage. Students in his COMM 322 Social Media course are participating in the Hootsuite Academy university program and the Facebook Blueprint Educator’s Portal program.

**DR. LINDSEY LEVITAN**, associate professor of psychology, gave an oral presentation, co-authored with **DR. CHIQUITA HOWARD-BOSTIC**, associate professor of sociology and chair of Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Criminal Justice, at the Intercontinental Meet on Gender and Sexuality Studies virtual conference. The conference presentation, “Breaking Resistance: Gender Revolution,” discussed the effectiveness of the Breaking Resistance Peda-



Dr. Heidi M. Hanrahan



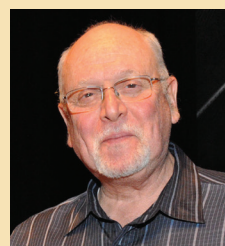
Dr. Chiquita  
Howard-Bostic



Dr. Matthew J. Kushin



Dr. Lindsey Levitan



Dr. James A. Lewin

gogy in reducing gender-bias on college campuses. Dr. Levitan was a panelist for the campus Teach-In on Police Reform, hosted by the Department of Political Science, Global Studies, and Geography on June 29. During the teach-in, she discussed some of the psychological underpinnings of prejudice, how they can play out in behavior, and how prejudice can be reduced.

A 7,500-word review essay by **DR. JAMES A. LEWIN**, professor emeritus of English who retired from Shepherd in May 2018, has been accepted for the spring 2021 issue of *MidAmerica*. It is on three biographies of Nelson Algren, who received the 1950 National Book Award for *The Man with the Golden Arm*, an author who remains now perhaps more relevant than ever.

**DR. TIMOTHY K. NIXON**, professor of English, has authored an essay that has been accepted for publication. The essay, "Making Sense of 'Corn silk': Identifying the Intertextual Nature of Randall Kenan's Short Story," explores the literary influences of Dostoevsky's *Notes from Underground* and Ellison's *Invisible Man* on Randall Kenan's perplexing—and, frankly, off-putting—short story. Dr. Nixon's essay will appear in the next edition of the *North Carolina Literary Review*. Sadly, Randall Kenan died unexpectedly and prematurely in the second half of this year, so he will not be able to see his work discussed in this essay.

**DR. STEPHANIE A. SLOCUM-SCHAFER**, associate professor of political science, published an article titled "Is it REALLY All That? The Impact of the Digital Textbook in Introductory Political Science Classes" in the *Journal of Political Science Education* in June. In addition, Dr. Slocum-Schaffer was a featured speaker on a panel focused on "Women's Equality Day: Reflecting on the 100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote and Discussing the Mountains Left to Climb," for the Frederick County, Maryland, Chamber of Commerce's S.H.E. Week Program in August. She also served as the moderator for a Teach-In on Police Reform for the Department of Political Science, Global Studies, and Geography in June.

## College of Business

**DR. MICHAEL LYNCH**, assistant professor of business administration, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Harpers Ferry Park Association at the group's September (virtual) Annual Meeting. The HFPA is a 50-year-old 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation that works as a cooperating association with the National Park Service and has more than 200 members. The organization's charter is to "support the educational, scientific, historical, and interpretive activities of the National Park Service." In addition to the HFPA, several members of Shepherd University faculty, and especially the College of Business, have forged a working relationship with

the merchants association in the town for the purpose of providing student internships, class group projects, and, in a few cases, employment prospects after graduation. Both the merchants group and the Harpers Ferry Park Association have expressed their appreciation of this connection with Shepherd University.

**DR. JANINE SAM**, assistant professor of business administration and financial planning program director, assisted in planning and hosting the first virtual conference of the Academy of Financial Services (AFS) this year. As president of AFS, Dr. Sam organized and coordinated efforts between the Financial Planning Association (FPA) and AFS in hosting virtual conferences for both organizations. The AFS and FPA conferences were held jointly September 30-October 2. Dr. Sam also served as a moderator for several AFS conference sessions. Dr. Sam is currently the faculty advisor for the financial planning club and works with students to promote financial literacy on campus.

**DR. CINDY VANCE**, associate professor of accounting and chair of the Department of Accounting, participated in various continuing professional education (CPE) virtual conferences and self-studies as required to maintain her CPA license during the summer: Virginia Society of CPAs Leaders' Summit, Accounting Educators' Roundtable, and Accounting Educators' Exchange; Not-for-Profit symposium; Modernizing the Audit for the Future webcast; Inside the Fraudster's Mind self-study; and ICAT's Cost Accounting for Government Contractors self-study. Additionally, she led the Shenandoah Valley Chapter of the VSCPA in hosting virtual CPE events for local CPAs: Virginia-Specific Ethics Course 2020 webcast and a Zoom Virtual Lunch and Learn (Five Tips for Making Better Decisions in a Connected World). Dr. Vance is the advisor of the Shepherd University Accounting Club, a faculty senator, a member of the Admissions and Credits and Scholarships and Awards committees, a member of the Shepherd University Alumni Association Board of Directors, and the president of the Shenandoah Valley Chapter of the VSCPA. She maintains her Virginia CPA license and serves as a finance consultant as needed.

**DR. YUYING (JOEY) XIE**, professor of economics, published a co-authored peer-reviewed article titled "Channel structure and differential pricing strategies in dual-channel e-retail considering e-platform business models" in the *IMA Journal of Management Mathematics* in August.

## College of Nursing, Education, and Health Sciences

**DR. JASON ALLEN**, assistant professor of education, was selected to take part in the Holocaust Institute for Teaching Educators (HITE) awarded by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in



Dr. Timothy K. Nixon



Dr. Stephanie  
Slocum-Schaffer



Dr. Michael Lynch



Dr. Janine Sam



Dr. Cindy Vance



Washington, D.C. As part of the program, Dr. Allen attended the museum's Belfer Nation Conference for Educators in July to discuss and share instructional approaches when teaching difficult historical topics in the K-12 classroom. Also in July, Dr. Allen attended the U.S. State Department's Global Teaching Dialogue Conference. The purpose of this gathering was a sharing of "best practices for globalizing curricula, implementing virtual exchanges, and sharing educational strategies with colleagues in other countries." In May, Dr. Allen was nominated by Berkeley County Schools for and awarded with an Honorary Golden Horseshoe Award from the State of West Virginia. This award recognizes service related to the curriculum, instruction, and advancement of West Virginia studies in state middle schools. In September, Dr. Allen was selected to serve on the College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) review panel for the National Technology Leadership Initiative Fellowship Award. CUFA is an affiliate group of the National Council for the Social Studies.

**DR. ARNETTA FLETCHER**, assistant professor and nutrition program director, was appointed as delegate for the Maryland Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. She was also certified as a program reviewer for the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics in June. In July, Dr. Fletcher and adjunct faculty member **TRACY WILLAUER**, along with a cohort of Shepherd faculty, completed a two-week, Quality Management Workshop, which focused on developing improvement plans for online courses. Dr. Fletcher was one of 10 members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics selected to participate in the Eighth Annual International Conference on Nutrition in Medicine, August 6-8. She shared regional insight on the exploration, integration, and clinical application of plant-based diets within the medical field.

In September, Dr. Fletcher served on a panel to discuss nontraditional career pathways for students at the University of Delaware. This event served as an excellent chance to promote Shepherd's program in nutrition and regional career opportunities in nutrition and dietetics. She was also selected to serve on a special task force charged with proposing options for increasing diversity of perspectives by underrepresented groups in nutrition and dietetics for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' House of Delegates.

## College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

**PAM GOODMAN**, adjunct faculty in chemistry, led a panel—Does the Parable of the Lost Sheep Provide Insight for the College Classroom Today?—with three former students at the Caritas Veritas Symposium at Dominican University, September 22. The panel examined how the pandemic and the protests against racial in-

equality have prompted a critical examination of the relationships between faculty and students.

**DR. JEFFREY R. GROFF**, professor of physics and chair of the Department of Environmental and Physical Sciences, was named the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia 2019 Professor of the Year. In addition to his teaching duties, Dr. Groff has been heavily involved in helping develop infrastructure at the Shepherd University Agricultural Innovation Center at Tabler Farm. He received grant money to have solar energy production installed on the roof of the Scarborough Library and at Tabler Farm. He has served on board of directors of National Conservation Film Festival and remains involved with the festival. Dr. Groff also keeps and does research on honeybees, a pastime that has taken him to conferences and beekeeping organizations throughout the area.

**DR. JOHN C. LANDOLT**, Adjunct Research Professor Emeritus of Biology, has co-authored a paper, "Additional new species suggest high dictyostelid diversity on Madagascar," published online in October by the international journal, *Mycologia*. The paper will also appear in an upcoming print edition of the journal. Dr. Landolt is engaged in additional ongoing research on the ecology of slime molds on Madagascar and dictyostelids in microhabitats of the Ozark plateau.

## School of Graduate and Professional Studies

**DR. SYLVIA BAILEY SHURBUTT**, director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Communities, and **MONICA LINGENFELTER**, executive vice president of the Shepherd University Foundation, received full funding from the West Virginia Humanities Council to support the Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence series for fall 2020. These programs centered around the work of Dorothy Allison, the One Book, One West Virginia Community Common Read author and her ideas about class, race, and gender issues in the region. The Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence committee worked with Allison throughout the summer to bring these programs to Shepherd, including the West Virginia Fiction Competition. Dr. Shurbutt and **MADGE MORNINGSTAR**, director of sponsored programs, have submitted a \$25,000 grant to the West Virginia Humanities Council to hold a 2021 summer teacher institute at Shepherd to follow the BRIDGE pilot. This grant will bring 20 West Virginia teachers from across the state to study West Virginia history, culture, and literature.

The University of Kentucky Press will publish in early 2021 a manuscript exploring on the work of writer Silas House, *The Glimmering Knot before Him: The Writing of Silas House*. Shurbutt edited and wrote sections of the book, while Appalachian Heritage



Dr. Yuying (Joey) Xie



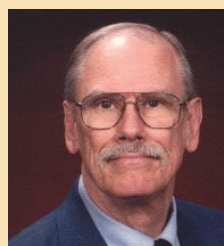
Dr. Jason Allen



Dr. Arnetta Fletcher



Dr. Jeffrey R. Groff



Dr. John C. Landolt

Writer-in-Residence colleagues Adam Booth, Dave Hoffman, and Natalie Sybolt made contributions to the collection along with other Appalachian studies scholars in the region. The book will explore the fiction, nonfiction, and dramatic writing of House, who has served a Shepherd's Heritage writer and has been involved in all the NEH and West Virginia Institutes at the Center.

## Administration

**ESPERANZA ALZONA**, operations manager, School of Music, had a sculpture selected for the Washington Sculptors Group juried exhibition, *Sculpture Now 2020*, at the McLean Project for the Arts, McLean, Virginia, September 17-November 14. The cast aluminum work, titled *Hearing Room*, is a commentary on the hollowness and deterioration of modern discourse. The juror was Nancy Sausser, curator and exhibitions director of the McLean Project for the Arts. Alzona also had a sculpture, *Nevertheless She Persisted*, selected for the nationally juried show, *SHE: an expression of womanhood*, at the Kay Daugherty Gallery at Annmarie Sculpture Garden and Arts Center in Solomons, Maryland, February 14-September 27. The juror, Camy Clough, senior program manager, Office of Audience Engagement at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, reviewed more than 500 works of art (and artist statements) that were submitted for this show. The work, cast in aluminum, is a pair of bare feet plunging through the wall, representing the naked strength and determination of the female spirit penetrating the barriers placed upon them by society.

**CYNTHIA COPNEY**, director of TRIO programs, is the immediate past-president of the West Virginia TRIO Association. She also serves on the TRIO regional board, the Mid-Eastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel, which includes all TRIO programs in the states of West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Delaware as well as Washington, D.C. She led the initiative of writing Shepherd's 2019-2020 Student Support Services grant competition and was awarded \$1.3M in federal grant funding for the next five years. Copney also received a certificate of appreciation for presenting a professional development workshop, *Rising to Leadership in TRIO*, at the 2019 annual conference of the West Virginia Association of Student Personnel Administrators and West Virginia TRIO Association.

**DR. MARY J.C. HENDRIX**, president and a Fellow of the American Association of Science (AAAS), was selected by NCATS (National Center for Advancing Translational Research) Chemical Genomics Center Collaboration Program to work in partnership on a project, titled "Screening pharmacological agents with the first humanized anti-Nodal mAb for combinatorial therapy." This molecular screening approach will identify the most effective combination of known drug agents that will synergize with a novel anti-Nodal therapy to target aggressive cancer. This work is based on a portfolio of 17 patents in the area of cancer therapy.

## Shepherd UNIVERSITY

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Dr. Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt



Esperanza Alzona



Cynthia Copney



Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix