

Profiles

Faculty and Staff Professional Activities

Spring 2014

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.

School of Arts and Humanities

DR. MARY ELIZABETH ELLZEY, professor of English and chair of the Department of English and Modern Languages, was named first runner-up in the West Virginia Humanities Council's 2013 Faculty Merit Foundation Professor of the Year. Dr. Ellzey, who specializes in Old and Middle English language and literature and Medieval and Renaissance drama, is the director of The Rude Mechanicals and Medieval and Renaissance Players, a theater company performing Medieval and Renaissance drama, which she created 15 years ago in her Medieval literature class. It has performed across the country and in Europe.

Previous winners of the Professor of the Year from Shepherd are **DR. ED SNYDER**, professor of environmental and physical sciences; **DR. SYLVIA SHURBUTT**, professor of English; and **DR. LINDA TATE**, former English faculty member. Previous finalists include **DR. SCOTT BEARD**, professor of music; **DR. LAURA CLAYTON**, professor of nursing education; and **DR. JERRY THOMAS**, professor emeritus of history.

DR. DAVID GONZOL, associate professor of music, director of music education, and graduate coordinator for the M.M.M.E. program, was invited to be the guest conductor of the Washington County, Maryland, Public Schools 2013 Elementary Arts Festival Chorus, made up of 119 5th grade students, on October 3, 2013 at North Hagerstown High School. On November 8, 2013, Dr. Gonzol played in the trombone choir for Richard Wagner's "Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral" during Kristin Monroe's senior recital. On November 12, 2013, he gave a recital of Baroque recorder music as part of the Shepherd University Department of Music's Salon Series with pianist **DR. LAURA RENNINGER**, professor of music. The program included sonatas by Benedetto Marcello and George Frideric Handel, as well as preludes by Jacques Hotteterre.

On December 11, 2013, he conducted the 15 children of the Shepherd Preparatory Chorus in a concert titled *The Future: What Will Happen?* Angela Weaver was the assistant conductor. They were assisted by 21 Shepherd University students dancing and playing instruments. The program included John Lilly's "They Tore the Cabin Down." Lilly attended the concert and visited the chorus beforehand. They also gave the world premiere of Dr. Gonzol's "Rain Rondo." As part of the Let's Talk Music Discussion Series sponsored by the Maryland Symphony Orchestra and the Washington County Free Library, Dr. Gonzol gave a lecture on February 6, at the library. *What Comes Next? What's a Musician to Do?* was designed to teach four of the pieces the orchestra was performing on February 15 and 16, including Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet," Harold Arlen's "Over the Rainbow," Frank Loesser's "Luck Be a Lady," and the overture to "Die Fledermaus" by Johann Strauss II. Dr. Gonzol was invited to be the guest conductor of the District 14 Elementary Honor Choir, with 174 students in concert at Clarke County High School, Berryville, Virginia, February 22-22. He was granted a sabbatical for the spring semester of 2014.

As the vice president of membership and finance for the Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW), **DR. HEIDI M. HANRAHAN**, associate professor of English, has initiated or been part of several initiatives to help the organization grow and foster collaboration between current members. She has set up an online payment system for new memberships and renewals and, along with another officer on the executive board, created an online directory that allows members to search for scholars with similar interests. Both initiatives have led to an increase in membership.

ED HERENDEEN, professor of theater and producing director of the Contemporary American Theater Festival, has been invited by the Newberry Cultural Committee of DARCOR (Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired) to a reception in his honor where he will give a lecture on the cultural richness of CATF at the DARCOR Bacon House, in Washington, D.C., May 21.

DR. MATTHEW J. KUSHIN, assistant professor of mass communication, recently published a co-authored study titled "Social Media and Mobiles as Political Mobilization Forces for Young Adults: Examining the Moderating Role of Political Expression in Political Participation" in *New Media and Society*. He also has a forthcoming co-authored study in *New Media and Society* titled "Motivations for Video Game Play and the Social Capital Potential of Video Games." He is a co-author on two entries, "Predictive Analytics" and "Twitter Diplomacy," in the recently published *Encyclopedia of Social Media and Politics*.

He recently presented a Focus on Student Learning workshop titled *How Being Active on Social Media Outside the Classroom Can Benefit Professors* through the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Dr. Kushin was awarded a Professional Development Mini-Grant to present a co-authored scholarly paper titled “The Politically Demobilizing Role of Conflict Avoidance for Participation, Efficacy, and Attention to Information Sources” at the annual conference of the International Communication Association in Seattle this May. He also was awarded an Assessment Mini-Grant from the Center for Teaching and Learning to assist in creating an assessment plan for the new strategic communication concentration in the department of communication.

DR. CARRIE MESSENGER, assistant professor of English, will be a resident fellow at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts for three weeks this May. She received a grant from the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation to support this residency. The VCCA is located in Amherst, Virginia, at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and serves roughly 350 artists a year. She will be working on a story collection of speculative fiction. “In the Amber Chamber,” a story from this collection that appeared in *The Literary Review* in 2013, was recently nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

DAVID R. MODLER, assistant professor of art and coordinator of art education, has maintained an active schedule of lectures, presentations, and workshops during of the past few months. In November 2013 he presented a lecture on his research examining academic and artistic freedom at the Virginia Art Education Association Conference in Falls Church, Virginia. Also in November, Modler facilitated two workshops for artists at Art of the Carolinas in Raleigh, North Carolina. Modler gave a presentation on the importance of promoting visual literacy and authentic meaning making to art educators at the Memphis College of Art in Tennessee in December.

In January Modler installed a display of his current studio work titled All 1 Process at the Center for Contemporary Arts II’s Phase 2 Gallery. In February he visited the St. Mary’s Hall School in San Antonio, Texas, to provide a visual journals workshop for more than 150 high school art students. Also while in San Antonio, Modler gave a keynote address and conducted a workshop for art educators at the McNay Art Museum as part of the Evening for Educators: WordArt event.

In March he facilitated a workshop, delivered a presentation, chaired a discussion panel, and participated in a book signing at the National Art Education Association Convention in Fort Worth, Texas. Coming up this summer are workshops and presentations for the Journal Fodder Junkies Retreat in Ashburn, Virginia, and Art Unraveled in Phoenix, Arizona.

DR. SYLVIA BAILEY SHURBUTT, professor of English, submitted a West Virginia Humanities grant for the 2014 Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence. Working with Dr. Shurbutt on the grant were the grant’s co-applicant **MONICA LINGENFELTER**, executive vice president of the Shepherd University Foundation, along with **RACHAEL MEADS**, assistant director of the Student Center; **DR. CARRIE MESSENGER**, assistant professor of English, **ANN WATSON**, dean of the library, and others. The grant will bring the beloved West Virginia author Homer Hickam to the Eastern Panhandle, and it will support a series of programs around Hickam’s work, particularly the *Coalwood Trilogy*—*Rocket Boys*, *The Coalwood Way*, and *Sky of Stone*.

Dr. Shurbutt and several others in the Professional Education Unit planned and implemented a successful workshop on the Common Core Standards. Dr. Robert Hull, associate superintendent of West Virginia Schools, was plenary speaker to the several hundred teacher education students and community members attending the workshop.

At the March 28-30 Appalachian Studies Conference, Dr. Shurbutt stepped up as president of the national association scheduled to come to Shepherd in 2016 for its national conference.

The *Anthology of Appalachian Writers, Frank X Walker Volume VI*, will be out in several weeks and will feature poets and fiction and nonfiction writers from across the country, including the work of Kentucky Poet Laureate Walker and West Virginia Poet Laureate Mark Harshman.

DR. JOHN E. STEALEY III, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, discussed his recent book about West Virginia during the Civil War era at the Author’s Café of the annual conference of the West Virginia Library Association, held at the Clarion Inn, Shepherdstown, in October 2013. On the same occasion, **DR. DOROTHY E. HIVELY**, associate professor of special education, also presented her work on the pictorial history of Shepherd University.

Dr. Stealey attended the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association in St. Louis, Missouri, October 31-November 3, 2013. He attended sessions and discussed his current research and writing projects with university press editors. The acquiring editor of the Kent State University Press hosted a luncheon celebrating the appearance of Stealey’s recent book.

From October 2012 through February 2014, Dr. Stealey served on the search committee for the dean of West Virginia University Libraries. This lengthy, two-phase search concluded with the appointment of the dean by the provost of West Virginia University. The new dean of the WVU Libraries, whose duties began in March, heads several library entities: Main/Downtown (Wise), Law, Agriculture/Engineering, Health Sciences, and a major off-campus storage facility. The WVU Libraries have approximately 145 faculty and staff members, and the total annual budget is more than \$14 million. Dr. Stealey has chaired the Visiting Committee of the West Virginia University Libraries since 1984.

In the public history area, Stealey collected, selected, and described the historical photographs from various archives and assembled the 2014 wall calendar for the Jefferson Security Bank. The work incorporated historical scenes of Berkeley and Jefferson counties, West Virginia, and Pleasant Valley, Washington County, Maryland.

School of Education and Professional Studies

JOSH KLINE, lecturer in recreation and leisure studies and assistant football/strength coach, was named the 2013 FootballScoop Division II Coordinator of the Year, presented by ProGrass, for his work with Shepherd’s defense this past season. Kline directed the Rams defense that ranked second nationally in total defense and first against the run—with respective averages of 244.8 yards per game and 48.3—among a collection of high national rankings for the unit as Shepherd advanced to the Super Region I championship game and had an 11-1 season.

Kline just completed his third year as a defensive coordinator and 11th year overall as an assistant at Shepherd. He joined Shepherd’s staff after his graduation in 2003.

DR. BONNIE PARKER, assistant professor of nursing education, has been selected as the editor for the American Holistic Nurses Association e-newsletter. The AHNA e-Newsletter will provide timely notices concerning education and certification, upcoming conferences, symposiums and grant opportunities, and learning programs for holistic nurses, including invitations to make presentations or to submit articles for publication in the AHNA magazine *Beginnings* (published bi-monthly), and the quarterly *Journal of Holistic Nursing*. Dr. Parker has been committed to holistic nursing throughout

her 32-year nursing career. For many years she served in appointed positions with the American Rehabilitation Nurses Association, including serving as its education chair from 1989-1991 and writing several chapters for the association's publications. A Reiki master for five years, she has learned that the value of this health intervention benefits both the patient and the provider.

DR. JENNIFER L. PENLAND, assistant professor of education, published an article titled "The Invisible Populous of Appalachia: Seeking Statutory Recognition" (<http://intercontinentalcry.org/invisible-populous-appalachia-seeking-statutory-recognition/>) in *IC Magazine*, a publication which examines the challenges, struggles, and successes of approximately 520 indigenous nations and peoples around the world.

DR. LAURA PORTER, assistant professor of education, and her colleagues, **DR. KARIN SPENCER**, assistant professor of education, and **DR. JARED ANDROZZI**, assistant professor of physical education, attended the Southern Education Childhood Association in Williamsburg, Virginia, in January. They presented two different sessions during the conference. During the first session the three professors conducted a panel presentation format to discuss the different research topics each had studied about the importance of physical activity for young children. The second session, Pumping Resilience, was an interactive session with the participants that demonstrated movement activities for young children.

Drs. Porter and Spencer presented a session, Early Education and the Common Core, at the morning workshop, The Common Core in Light of Common Day: Clarifications, Explanations, and Implications for the Teacher Education Program at Shepherd University in March.

School of Business and Social Sciences

DR. KATHLEEN CORPUS, assistant professor of family and consumer sciences, successfully passed the qualifying exam and earned the Certified Personal and Family Finance Educator (CPFFE) credential from the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. The certification, an assessment-based certification for personal and family finance educators developed by National Financial Education Leaders, is consistent with the U.S. Department of Treasury Financial Education Core Competencies and National Standards in K-12 Personal Finance Education created by the Jump\$tart Coalition. The CPFFE requires ongoing professional development and documentation through quality training experiences on a three-year certification cycle.

DR. MAX GUIRGUIS, associate professor of political science, presented a paper titled "War Powers in the American Constitutional Scheme" at the annual meeting of the Kentucky Political Science Association in March. This year's conference was held at Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky.

Dr. Guirguis will present a paper titled "Houseguests and the Reasonable Expectation of Privacy under the Fourth Amendment" at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association which will be held at the Harrisburg campus of Penn State University in Middletown, Pennsylvania, in April.

DR. CHIQUITA HOWARD-BOSTIC, assistant professor of sociology, presented a paper titled "Women's Emotional Responses and Female-Perpetrated Intimate Partner Violence" at the Academic and Business Research Institute (AABRI) Criminal Justice and Legal Research Conference in San Antonio, Texas. At the East Coast Colleges Social Science Association 40th Annual Conference

Roundtable at the Center for Innovative Technology in Herndon, Virginia, she presented research titled "The Innovative Hybrid Course Model: A Taxonomy-focused Pedagogy in a Learner-Centered Culture."

Her publications include "Aggression and Violence in Teen Girls," a book chapter in volume 2, section 1 of *Crime and Criminal Justice: Black Girls and Adolescents: Facing Life Challenges* (forthcoming 2014). Dr. Howard-Bostic's article titled "Is Mutual Violent Combat (MVC) A Gender Neutral Conceptualization of Intimate Partner Violence?" was published in volume 6, issue 2 of peer reviewed journal, *Conference of the International Journal of Arts & Sciences*.

DR. CHRIS LOVELACE, assistant professor of psychology, presented a poster titled "Startle eyeblink modulation as a novel measure of sensory processing in multiple sclerosis" at the annual meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research in Florence, Italy, September 2013. He will be the program chair for the 2014 meeting to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, in September. He is co-author on the following new papers: "The time course of face processing: Startle eyeblink response modulation by face gender and expression" published in the *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, "Classification of body movements based on posturographic data" published in *Human Movement Science*, and "Functional neuroimaging of dressing-related skills" published in *Brain Imaging and Behavior*.

DR. JOSEPH W. ROBBINS, assistant professor of political science, has submitted for review four articles during the academic year. Two of these projects continue his work on East European party systems. The first article examines presidential strength and party system development in East Europe. The paper challenges a number of important findings from existing work. In particular, the study finds that the effect of presidential strength warrants reconsideration in light of these results. The second article, a collaborative piece, explores subnational voter turnout in Russia and concludes that the puzzling variation in regional turnout levels is a function of the presence of the country's dominant party (United Russia). Meanwhile, the other two collaborative projects continue his work on electoral systems. One project examines how electoral system components shape variations in military spending in democracies spanning 1975-2005. The fourth, and final, project assesses how interstate conflict is influenced by the incentives derived from electoral systems. Specifically, Dr. Robbins and his co-author report that electoral systems that more directly hold legislators accountable exhibit a decreased propensity to engage in interstate conflict. This project has been revised and resubmitted to *Conflict Management and Peace Science*.

In addition to these projects, Dr. Robbins also has prepared and submitted two federal grant proposals. The first submission was prepared for the National Science Foundation's Research at Undergraduate Institutions (NSF RUI) Request for Proposals. In this project, Robbins requested grant monies over a three-year span to fund his research on electoral volatility in East Europe with the help of Shepherd University undergraduate students. If funded, the grant would provide financial support for the faculty member and the undergraduate students to cover research expenses and the costs associated with presenting their research findings at national conferences. The second submission, titled "Through the Glass Darkly: the Soviet Union and Film," was prepared for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Institute Program. This submission would enable Shepherd University and Dr. Robbins to host a summer institute for secondary teachers to improve their knowledge of developments in the Soviet Union

(and later, Russia) and how films can be used to communicate important developments.

Dr. Robbins is scheduled to present two papers and serve as a discussant on two separate panels (and to chair a different panel) at the upcoming Midwest Political Science Association's Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois. In one paper, Dr. Robbins and Chelsea Walters, a Shepherd University political science major, investigate the connection between gender representation and electoral volatility rates in Europe. In the second study, Robbins and Lance Hunter have conducted an examination of countries' response to terrorist attacks. More specifically, the authors find that a decrease in civil liberties occurs in the wake of serious attacks—a plausible, though rarely substantiated, finding.

Dr. Robbins also has served as a peer-reviewer for *Political Behavior and Political Research Quarterly* during the academic year.

DR. STEPHANIE A. SLOCUM-SCHAFFER, associate professor of political science, presented a paper titled "Two Birds with One Stone? Using the Political Science Capstone Course to Enhance Student and Departmental Learning" at the American Political Science Association's annual Teaching and Learning Conference in Philadelphia, February 7-9.

CINDY VANCE, assistant professor of accounting, continued her doctoral studies at Northcentral University to obtain a doctor of philosophy in business administration with a specialization in advanced accounting. She attended the West Virginia Council of Accounting Educators Conference in Charleston last fall. Additionally, she is the advisor of the Shepherd University Accounting Club and a member of the Core Curriculum and Graduate Council committees. She maintains her C.P.A. license and serves as a finance consultant for a non-profit agency in Virginia.

School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

DR. JEFFREY GROFF, assistant professor of physics, presented a poster with **DR. SYTIL MURPHY**, assistant professor of physics, titled "Using Arduino and a Microphone to Listen for Time" at the winter meeting of the American Association of Physics Teachers in Orlando, Florida, on January 6. Dr. Groff also presented "From Gravity to Gradients: The Nanoscale Physics of our Cells" at the Shepherd University Faculty Research Forum on February 12.

West Virginia EPSCoR awarded more than \$250,000 in research, innovation, and instruction grants to four faculty members in the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. The recipients are **DR. SHER HENDRICKSON-LAMBERT**, assistant professor of biology, who received a \$40,000 innovation grant; **DR. JACQUELYN COLE**, assistant professor of chemistry, and **DR. LAURA ROBERTSON**, assistant professor of biology, who each received \$20,000 instrumentation grants; and **DR. COLLEEN NOLAN**, dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, who received a \$180,000 student undergraduate research experiences grant to be awarded \$60,000 a year for three years.

Dr. Nolan will use her grant to provide support for students to do research over the summers and during the academic year under the direction of faculty members. It will provide funding for student stipends, research supplies, and travel funding for students to attend professional meetings to present their research results.

Dr. Hendrickson-Lambert will use her innovation grant to establish the Laboratory of Genomic Diversity-Shepherd University (LGD-SU) which will include a bioinformatics computational lab where faculty and students can utilize the most recent techniques in computing and analysis of large biological datasets and

a curated genetic repository of tissues, blood, DNA and cell-lines from regional animals that is part of a larger network of LGDs including LGD-Puerto Rico and LGD-China and has full support of the San Diego Frozen Zoo. The genetic bank will provide material for a multitude of different in-depth research studies and class projects focusing on genomics, taxonomy, conservation, and population genetics. Hendrickson-Lambert received the only innovation grant awarded.

Dr. Cole and Dr. Robertson will use their grants to purchase state-of-the-art equipment that is essential to their research and teaching. Cole will use her grant to purchase a liquid chromatography instrument to complete a liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (LC-MS) which she will use as her primary research instrument doing proteomics and metabolomics research.

EPSCoR is a university-oriented program with the goal of identifying, developing, and utilizing academic resources that will lead to increased research and development.

DR. JOHN C. LANDOLT, adjunct research professor emeritus of biology, co-authored a paper titled "Costa Rican dictyostelids, with notes on the taxonomy, phylogeny and ecology of *Dictyostelium discoideum*" that has been accepted for publication in *Sydowia*, an international journal of mycology. The paper will appear in volume 66 of the journal later this year.

Dr. Landolt and Shepherd University have entered into a transfer agreement with the University of Wisconsin by which a systematic transfer of a collection of cellular slime mold specimens from Shepherd University may occur. This collection consists of more than 2,000 isolates accumulated by Dr. Landolt over his years of active research.

Teaching, Learning, and Instructional Resources

CYNTHIA COPNEY, director of the TRiO/Student Support Services Program and clinical faculty member, has been selected to serve as the chair of the West Virginia TRiO Association's Scholarship Committee. This association is comprised of members representing Bluefield State College, Concord University, Glenville State College, Marshall University, Shepherd University, Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College, West Virginia State University, West Virginia University, and West Virginia University Institute of Technology. Annually, this committee awards two pre-college and two postsecondary competitive scholarships to deserving TRiO students to help further their education.

YILDIZ NUREDINOSKI, full-time stretch English clinical faculty member, presented "Writing to Join the Conversation" at the Community College of Baltimore County's Writing in the Disciplines/Across Communities Writing Exchange Regional Conference January 17. The presentation highlighted the conference's theme, Writing to Learn, by demonstrating a myriad of writing activities instructors in various disciplines can use to help students better understand or learn about a given topic. The presentation demonstrated how rethinking concepts including thesis statements, synthesis, and reflection, as a conversation allows students to demonstrate critical thinking and delve deeper into any given topic.

Administration

DON ROHEL, director of the Student Center, received the 2013 Christine A. Chergi Leadership Award at the Association of College Unions International-Region 4 annual conference at Frostburg State University November 1 and 2, 2013. The award honors and recognizes a longtime student union or student activities professional of a Region 4 member institution who has made exceptional

contributions and demonstrated a long-term commitment to the profession on his or her campus. The recipient of the award is selected based on the following criteria: a demonstrated long-term volunteer service to Region 4 and the college union/student activities field and a minimum of 10 years relevant career experience in the college union/student activities field. The recipient must currently be involved in or recently retired from a member-affiliated institution of ACUI in Region 4.

The ACUI is one of the oldest associations in higher education and has become a knowledge-based association for campus community builders. Its mission is to support its members in the development of community through education, advocacy, and the delivery of services.

TRACY L. SEFFERS, registrar, completed the 2012-13 HERS Institute for women in higher education leadership, held at Wellesley College in April 2013 (www.hersnet.org). Her leadership project, "DegreeWorks: A Collaborative Implementation," is currently in-progress at Shepherd.

Also in April 2013, Seffers was part of a group that launched a new chapter of Team River Runner, a national program affiliated with Wounded Warrior and Disabled Sport USA that since 2004 has offered recreational and adaptive kayaking to veterans in rehabilitation and recovery. Team River Runner-Shepherd is among the newest of 40+ chapters across the country, is the only chapter in West Virginia, and is one of only four chapters hosted by a university (<https://www.facebook.com/TeamRiverRunnerShepherd>). Since the April kick-off, the chapter has offered or participated in 34 training or outreach events; has served 21 veterans from the university, community, and VA Medical Center in Martinsburg; and has welcomed and trained 40 volunteers, who together offered more than 600 hours of service.

In August 2013, Seffers was selected to attend the 36th annual Appalachian Writers' Workshop at the Hindman Settlement School in Hindman, Kentucky (www.hindmansettlement.org). Her work focused on poetry and music during the week-long workshop. Two of her recent poems (one of which was workshopped at Hindman) will be published in the spring 2014 edition of *Backbone Mountain Review*.

Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies

MARC LEVITT, adjunct professor of history and director of archives at the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies, will present his findings on the archiving of constituent electronic records for Senator Robert Byrd at the 2014 annual conferences of the Society for History in the Federal Government in April, the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress in May, and the Congressional Papers Roundtable of the Society of American Archivists August.

Levitt also created, in conjunction with his staff, the exhibit, Senator Robert C. Byrd: An Introduction, which was displayed in the Scarborough Library at Shepherd University this past January.