

CLARION

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

SPRING 2019



The Inauguration of

Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson

Seventeenth President of Clarion University



OF QUARTZ, I LOVE CHEMISTRY

Proving that one can be neither too young nor too old to learn, kindergarteners through retirees took part in Clarion University's Crystal Growing Competition this spring. Dr. Jacqueline Knaust, professor of chemistry, organized the competition.

"We aimed to introduce students and chemistry enthusiasts to the exciting world of crystallization," Knaust said. "The study of crystals is very important in the field of chemistry, because it helps scientists understand how atoms and molecules interact."

READ MORE AT
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Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings!

This year sped by like greased lightning! Our college on the hill held many grand events and earned many honors, and though I have not even passed the one-year mark of my presidency, I feel right at home at Clarion. Folks have gone out of their way to make Bob and me feel welcome when going about town, traveling in the region and on our beautiful university campus – all of our campus sites included.

Last fall, I charged a core group to gather input from constituents across the campus, and, from it, to develop university priorities on which to focus. The 19-person task force established five working groups, to tackle the project. In the end, more than 50 individuals participated in five working groups and they gathered input from hundreds more.

By the end of March, I received the True North Initiative Task Force Report, the culmination of a five-month, university-wide, encompassing study. We will use this report to set our path for the future. We have strength in our diversity of perspectives at our university; now, it is time to make sure our collective compasses point in the same direction.

The True North Initiative Committee completed their comprehensive project and delivered strong recommendations for six areas in which to focus our energy. These include Student Success; Academic Programming; Affordability; Student Engagement and Citizenship; Clarion Brand and Promise; and our Venango campus.

There is more work to do. As we move ahead over the next few months, you will learn more about the timing and details of these priorities. You can see the full report at www.clarion.edu/truenorth. That page provides a form alumni and friends can use to leave feedback. We want to hear from you!

Clarion University is a place that focuses on students – it is our strength and always has been. Thank you for inviting me to be president of this fine institution of higher learning.

In your service,

Dr. Dale

President, Clarion University



BEICHERN NAMED *top* ROTC NURSING STUDENT

Clarion University has something neither Princeton nor Harvard has: Aryn Beichner (left), the number one nursing student in the Army ROTC cadet corps for the northeast United States and the number two nursing student in the entire United States Army ROTC cadet corps.

The criteria includes overall GPA, leadership, physical fitness, performance at various cadet summer trainings, extracurricular activities and the professor of military science's ratings of overall performance. In the United States, there are more than 20,000 Army ROTC cadets at 274 universities with 1,600 to 1,700 partnered universities and colleges.

"It is an outstanding achievement to be named the number one nursing cadet in 2nd Brigade and the number two cadet in United States Army Cadet Command," said Capt. Hamid Conteh, Clarion University ROTC. "Aryn is a tremendously gifted student with exceptional aptitude for military service."

Beichner is a senior from Reynoldsville.

STUDENTS COMPETE FOR *business* START-UP FUNDS

Three student entrepreneurs have a jump start on launching successful businesses after participating in Clarion's first BizPitch competition last fall and PASSHE's Business Plan Competition this spring. Through both competitions, students developed business plans and competed for start-up or expansion funds.

BizPitch winners were: First place, senior management major Andrew Frederick for AFC Signals, an existing business that provides hand-crafted, flush mount turn signals for select European motorcycles; second place, junior accounting and human resources majors Taylor Mahan and Tatem Mielewski for TNT Silicon, LLC, which will manufacture and install solar awnings; and third and fan favorite, junior accounting and finance major Samantha Schlak for Sassy Girl, a company that will help women organize, set priorities and goals and become empowered.

Frederick, Mahan and Schlak were semifinalists in PASSHE's Business Plan Competition, and Frederick and Schlak advanced to the final round.



'LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS' staged AT CU

Audrey (Betsy Novotny) and Seymour (Justin Baumgarten) feed and nurture the young plant "Twoey" in Little Shop of Horrors in February in Marwick-Boyd Little Theatre. Chris Taylor, a 2000 Clarion University theatre graduate, directed the production.



LITERARY JOURNAL publishes LANDERS' FICTION

Ali Landers, an English major and technical theatre minor from Philadelphia, had a piece of short fiction published in "The Rectangle," the literary journal of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society. Publication in "The Rectangle" is highly competitive.



FELFEL WINS AWARD FOR *international* PROGRAM PROMOTION

Kareem Fefel was the student presenter for Cultural Night as part of Clarion University's Academic Excellence Series. Fefel took the audience on a tour of his home country of Egypt through pictures and anecdotes.

Fefel won the Sitzman Award, a scholarship given to international students who embrace academic achievement and work to promote international programs and services.



NOYSZEWSKI *honored* FOR SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Veronika Noyszewski received Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association's 2019 Undergraduate Student Award in the Area of Direct Service and Leadership. She was presented a check for \$200 and a plaque at the PRA Professional Development Institute luncheon April 18.



MAGOLIS RECOGNIZED FOR COMMUNICATIONS excellence

David Magolis ('03) received The Kerby Confer Faculty Fellowship for Communications from the Department of Mass Communications at Bloomsburg University, where he is employed. He specializes in media literacy and developed a new major and minor called Emergent Media in Mass Communications, based on media literacy principles.

His primary areas of research include media literacy education, multimedia communications, privacy and emerging media technologies. Magolis was named the 2017 Outstanding Volunteer for the National Association for Media Literacy Education, of which he is part of the Leadership Council. His work has been published in several journals including The Journal of Media Literacy Education.

Magolis received a master's degree from Clarion University, a bachelor's and a master's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a doctorate from Penn State University.



PENDOCK NAMED TO DELTA ZETA'S '35 under 35'

Chelsey Donegan Pendock ('05) was recognized as one of Delta Zeta's "35 Under 35." Pendock is managing partner of Innovision Advertising. She founded NYC Marketing Resource Group, a networking group of 20 entrepreneurs in the marketing field.

The "35 Under 35" program highlights outstanding young professionals who have achieved success by making a significant impact in their industry. Candidates are women who have demonstrated leadership, initiative and dedication to their careers, are motivated by challenges, serve as volunteers in their communities and are role models for their peers.



FRANCETTE EXCELS IN medical RESEARCH

Alex Francette ('18) is in a molecular cell and developmental biology Ph.D. program at the University of Pittsburgh. He plans to finish his graduate degree in an accelerated six years.

He attended Clarion on a full, four-year scholarship, awarded for his academic merit. Francette was a member of the Honors Program, served as treasurer and president of the Translational Research/Medicine Club, and wrote for the Molecular Biology Journal Club.

Francette continues to work alongside his Clarion research advisor, Dr. Doug Smith, in a project examining blood stem cells.

HESS IS PART OF JORDANIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK TEAM

Dr. Trina Hess ('91) traveled to Jordan in July as part of a community archaeology work-team at the Tall Hisban site of the Madaba Plains Project. Hess was part of a group whose 50-year history has helped improve standards for excavating complex stratigraphic contexts and in-field and laboratory processing and recording of finds. Together, the group represented 19 nationalities.

As Jordan's longest continuously running archaeological research endeavor, the Madaba Plains Project is instrumental in engaging the local community as partners in protecting, preserving and presenting archaeological sites. The Tall Hisban Archaeological Park has revolutionized understanding of the impact on rural communities of successive Islamic empires. Tall Hisban is recognized as a type-site of research on rural communities under the 14th century A.D. Mamluk period.



WILLIAMS LISTED AMONG DELAWARE'S '40 UNDER 40'

Kelly Williams ('15) has been named to Delaware Business Times' 40 under 40 list. Williams partners with organizations to host hiring and networking events in support of the veterans and intelligence communities. Since 2003, she has cosponsored more than 500 events that have helped break down search and recruitment barriers and strengthen labor-management relationships. In 2017, Williams formed Cannadigm Ventures, the first female-owned consulting firm in Delaware established to provide business and policy advisory services in the cannabis industry. Cannadigm works with local advocacy groups, state legislators and national subject matter experts to ensure the future implementation of industry best practices. Williams' long-term vision is to open an integrated health and wellness center, combining conventional medicine and fitness with alternative treatments to help address the opioid epidemic in Delaware.



LOGUE ADMITTED TO CLARION COUNTY BAR

Christy A. Logue ('14) was admitted to Clarion County Bar Nov. 20 in a ceremony presided over by Judge James Arner. Sara J. Seidle-Patton of Seidle Law PC, Clarion, who petitioned the court for Logue's admission, also attended.

Logue is a May 2018 graduate of the Duquesne University School of Law in Pittsburgh. She passed the bar examination in July 2018 and was admitted in October to the Pennsylvania Bar by Judge Daniel Regan of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Family Division, for whom Logue worked as a clerk.



SHEEHAN HONORED AS MUSIC EDUCATOR

Scott Sheehan ('96) was one of 10 finalists for the 2019 Grammy Music Educator Award, which recognizes current educators of students in kindergarten through college who have made a significant and lasting contribution in the field of music education. The finalists, selected from among 2,800 nominations from all 50 states, represent the nation's elite music educators. Sheehan is director of bands and music department chairperson at the Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School.



(Front row, from left): Students Aaron Ritsig, Erica Cornell, Alexa Chaikowsky, Kinsey Green and Brianna Higgins, volunteer Jenna Paratore, students Alex Vaughn and Andrew Ritsig; (back row) student Trelyn Nelson, residence life coordinator Catelynn Fleming, students Saira Walker, Jocelyn Whitman and Lauren Yeager, and CU Serve advisor Casey McVay ('10).

CU SERVE SPENDS *spring break* IN NOLA

During spring break, members of Clarion University – Venango’s CU Serve club explored the history and culture of New Orleans and assisted with service projects.

Students helped prepare a festival for more than 10,000 people at Los Islenos Fiesta. They were able to interact with the last living vestige of Islenos ancestors, who arrived in Louisiana during 1778. At ARC of Greater New Orleans, CU Serve sorted thousands of pounds of Mardi Gras beads and trinkets for recycling. The group also toured the St. Louis Cemetery #1, the French Quarter and Cajun swamps.



Student Jamie Mills delivers totes.

OFF TO A *great* START

Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society members delivered 200 totes, each containing items focused on reading, writing, mathematics, art, science, history and fitness, to area Head Start programs. Behind the scenes, this project brings together children of all ages from toddlers to college students, as well as local nursing home residents to assist in preparing the totes for distribution.

The Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society’s Totes for Tots project was created in 2008 as an educational venture that aims to join members of all generations in Venango County in order to inspire a new

generation of learning. This year the project directly benefited 10 different pre-kindergarten Head Start classrooms in Oil City, Clintonville, Franklin and Seneca.

The project is made possible through donations and grant funding.

Chapter advisor Dr. Tammy Dulaney noted that “due to this funding, we have once again had the opportunity to serve the Venango County Head Start programs. In the future, we hope to continue to positively impact the local Head Start students and all of the community while emphasizing the importance of education.”



\$1.1 MILLION *grant* AWARDED TO STIMULATE WORKFORCE

Clarion University, in partnership with regional entities, will receive a \$1.1 million grant through Appalachian Regional Commission’s Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization to improve educational and economic opportunities.

The grant’s objectives are to:

- Prepare students for postsecondary education and the workforce;
- Develop and support career-specific education and skills training for students and workers;
- Identify new market opportunities and the growth of businesses, particularly in the advanced manufacturing and energy sectors.

The university, which will administer the grant, and its partners – Keystone Community Education Council, Venango Technology Center and Community College of Allegheny County – will offer four new certificate programs based on regional industries’ needs. Additional partners are Northwest PA Oil & Gas HUB, Steel Valley Authority and the Regional Superintendents of Schools.

CLARION ESTABLISHES PET-FRIENDLY *housing*

Until recently, heading off to college has meant leaving Fido or Fluffy at home, but this fall, Clarion University upperclassmen will be permitted to bring their pets with them. The university has established an animal-friendly living learning community that welcomes cats, dogs, birds, fish, chinchillas or small reptiles, to name a few. For the 2019-20 academic year, Brooke Trout in Reinhard Villages will host the new LLC. For information go to www.clarion.edu/LLC.



CURRICULUM ADDITIONS OFFER NEW *opportunities*

Clarion University will offer five new academic concentrations and has reorganized its liberal studies major to provide more flexibility for students. The new concentrations – condensed matter, geochemistry, global studies, and math and science – will better prepare students for work and/or continuing education and will satisfy workforce demand for graduates.

The Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies program is being renamed the Bachelor of Science in Integrative Studies. Offered through the College of Arts, Education and Sciences’ Department of Social Sciences, the major enables students to explore a range of academic skills and disciplines. Students can select from among several concentrations or design a program specific to their needs.

ASN PROGRAM EXPANDS TO *somerset* COUNTY

Clarion University will begin offering its Associate of Science in Nursing degree in Somerset County Education Center this fall. Clarion will offer core nursing classes and general education, Penn Highlands Community College will teach general education and support courses, and Somerset Hospital will be the primary clinical training site.

CU EARNS *military* FRIENDLY STATUS FOR 10TH STRAIGHT YEAR

Clarion University has been named a Military Friendly® School for the 10th consecutive year, this year earning the Silver Designation. The Silver Designation is awarded to schools who meet certain criteria; only a select group of institutions achieve this honor.



In the nine months since she became the head Golden Eagle, Dr. Dale has greeted 1,630 alumni and friends at 25 alumni events. In doing so, she has traveled more than 9,100 miles in five states, all while maintaining her presence on campus and in the community. Her “Pehrsson in Person” alumni tour has included the cities of Pittsburgh, Erie, Cleveland and New York, as well as visits to Virginia and Florida.





THE INAUGURATION OF DR. DALE

AN EXCERPT FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

My husband and I arrived in Clarion close to Independence Day and began unpacking in earnest. Together we've worked and taught in over a dozen different universities. This is what I call the culmination of experience in a wonderful place to land.

We chose Clarion, and Clarion chose us. We looked at this town, we looked at this campus, and we looked at the people who teach and work here. The people are friendly, and they really care about our students. We had good initial impressions; we were right. This is the best place to land.

After my interview, I started to meet with various groups on campus; students, faculty, staff, people in the county, downtown, in economic development. There was all of this interest, and I don't think it was interest just in meeting the new president. I think it was interest in Clarion University and the ability for us to be progressive. One thing was clear: the passion, the absolute passion. I would go to a faculty meeting and they would come at me with all these ideas and this passion. They apologized if they were overwhelming me, but they didn't need to apologize. What they were doing was exactly what they were supposed to be doing: Fighting for the best things for our students.

Clarion University – little Clarion University – had three Fulbrights last year; one was a student. We – the school that had no pool – won again, for the second year in a row, a national championship in diving. Little Clarion. Our ROTC students are wonderful. One of them was named the top nursing cadet in the eastern region and number two in the nation – little Clarion University.

Our faculty are engaged in research with students and service activities that abound. I went to a presentation in the science building before the holiday break. Students were doing research on sustainability, on all kinds of things. Our faculty and our staff have programs that help our students grow, question, learn – make a better planet. We want our students to be well educated. We want them to have a good, liberal education at the core. By liberal I mean understanding and being a thinking person, able to vote, able to question, to engage, to analyze problems, being a person who understands the liberty of the United States and gives back to be a good citizen.

The biggest thing we did this year, aside from changing how we recruit our students and taking back our back yard, was something called True North. A group of people from all over the university were given the charge to see where we are and to come up with five to six priorities, things we can act on in the next three or four years. They looked at our areas of great strength, and areas where we need to do a little work. This is a time to take stock and say what do we want to do better? And we do want to be better.

Student Success – Our first priority is student success. We developed an overarching definition to help us all go in the same direction.

Academic development – People brought up structural issues. One of the suggestions was that the School of Education become a freestanding unit, responsible for K-12 regional development. We're also looking at developing a learning center in which faculty can develop current pedagogies.

Affordability – we're working to change the structure for next year. This is something everyone knows is important. We can't continue to charge high rates for our students who live in an economically depressed region. We have to do better, and we will.

Student engagement and citizenship – We've got so many things going on on this campus, but an underlying thread is the importance of giving back as a citizen. Our students

do a fantastic job at this. Our recent Relay for Life had a \$40,000 goal, but raised \$47,000. The only college that beats us out is Penn State.

The Clarion brand and promise – We sell a great product. We tell students they'll have all these great things when they get here. We have to be very clear on the promises we make our students, and we have to deliver on every promise. I've had students tell me they feel like there have been broken promises. That should never, ever happen again.

Venango Campus – We have a campus in Venango that has delivered and changed many different kinds of programs over the last 50 years. Work groups identified Venango's needs and brought them to True North. I told them that it's not Venango Campus – it's Clarion University. It was recommended that we put a director in place to help develop workforce training and initiatives, and we will go forward with that.

In the next couple of weeks, we'll be putting things into action. There is low-hanging fruit – things we can fix right away – then there are bigger initiatives that we have to work on. This is the foundation. These are our values. This is what we want to provide for our students and the community, and that will influence how we go forward.

We have a bright future, we have hard-working people who are passionate and willing to do what's needed to bolster Clarion and uphold our promise to our students.

We work for the public good, each and every one of us. If we're careful in our planning, are strategic and use our energy in the right ways, and most of all maintain optimism and humor, we will deliver quality education that focuses on our regional needs and the educational needs of our communities for the success of our students.

Our alumni do great things and are giving back. The number of donors and amounts of their gifts are at a six-year high. They know Clarion and believe in Clarion, and they know we're going in the right direction. We have to put Clarion back on the map in a really good way. We have to talk about how proud we are of our students.



Oath
I, Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson, do solemnly pledge to commit faithfully my ideas and efforts to the goals of Clarion University of Pennsylvania and to Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, that they may better serve the individual and community educational endeavors for the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

I have met with many alumni, from all over the country, and whether they were 28 or 88, they said to me, “Clarion transformed my life. If it weren’t for Clarion, I would never have had the kind of life I’ve lived.”

I know that education is transformational. It has done that for me, it has done that for you, and it is doing just that for our students.

That’s what we do. That’s our product.



THIS IS MY *promise* TO YOU:

I will work hard. I will be honest. I will work hard for the community. I will do everything in my power to provide a successful educational experience for our students and a solid university for our future.



ACADEMIC ATTIRE

The academic costume worn at American college exercises today dates back in its essential features to the Middle Ages. The oldest universities of northern Europe, such as Paris and Oxford, grew out of church schools. Students and faculty wore clerical garb, largely borrowed from the monastic dress of their day.

The head covering of the academic costume developed out of the skull cap worn by the clergy in cold weather. In the universities, the skull cap acquired a point on top which gradually evolved into a tassel.



THE COLORS FOR ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES, ESTABLISHED BY THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

- | | |
|--|--|
| White: Arts, letters and humanities | Green: Medicine |
| Drab: Business administration, commerce and accountancy | Pink: Music |
| Crimson: Communication and journalism | Apricot: Nursing |
| Copper: Economics | Silver-gray: Oratory |
| Light blue: Education | Dark blue: Philosophy |
| Brown: Fine arts | Sage green: Physical education |
| Purple: Law | Peacock blue: Public administration |
| Lemon: Library science | Golden yellow: Science |
| | Citron: Social science |
| | Scarlet: Theology and divinity |



THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

The presidential medallion debuted April 15, 2011, at the inauguration of President Karen M. Whitney. The central piece of the medallion is the president’s medal, which bears the university’s official seal. The medal is suspended from a chain of office with links that record lineage by displaying the names of Clarion University’s previous 16 presidents and the years they served. The medallion, which symbolizes the office of the president, is a gift from a private donor. It is worn at ceremonial occasions, particularly commencements and convocations.

THE UNIVERSITY MACE

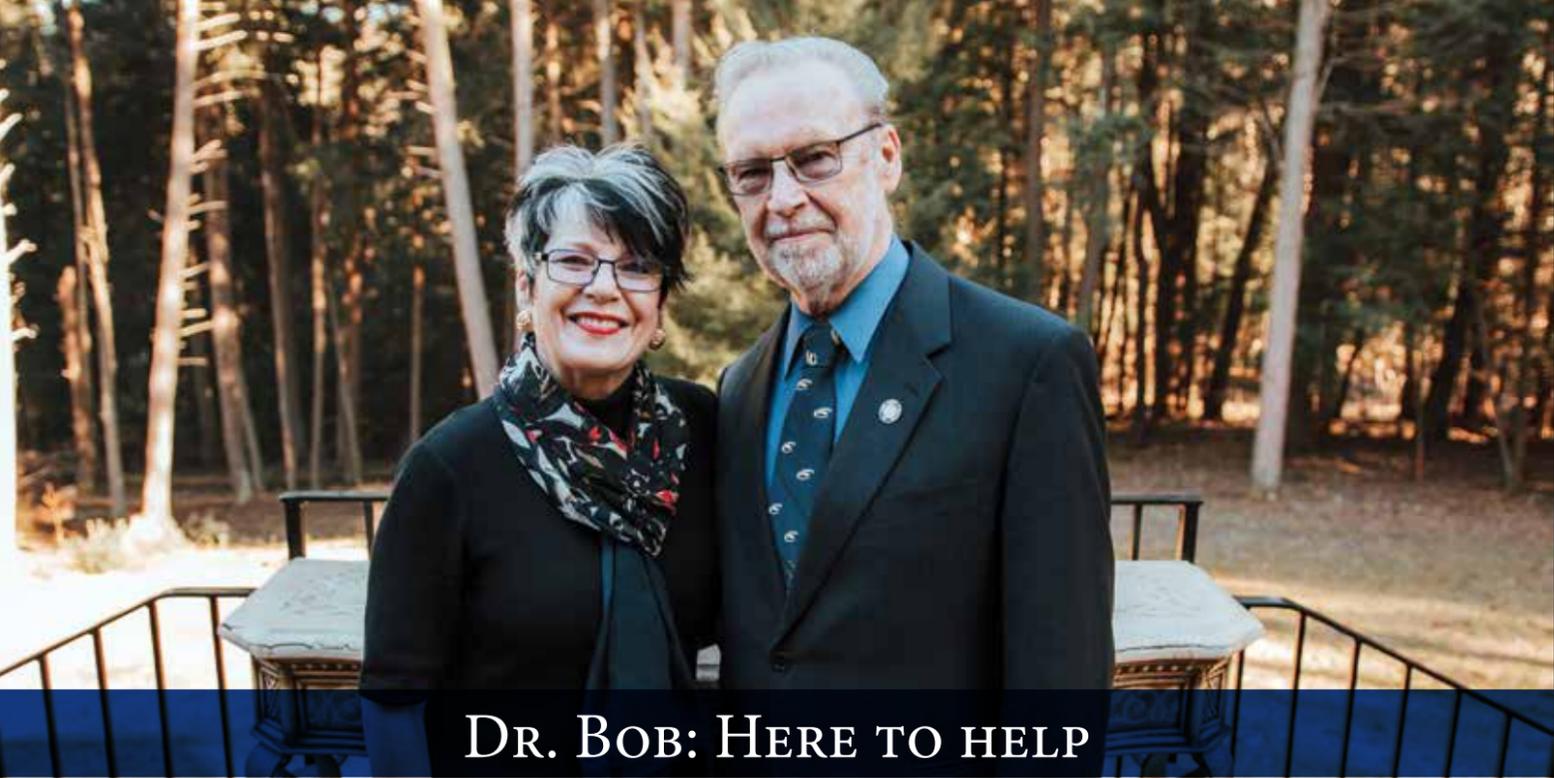
In medieval times, the mace was a weapon held ready to protect the dignitary in a procession. Early in the history of the academy, the mace was borrowed from royalty and utilized to symbolize the power of the rector of the university, a power shared with the faculty. Over time, symbols of learning were incorporated into the mace, transferring the power from a person to the process of education. The position of mace bearer is one of honor given to a senior member of the faculty.

The mace, introduced in 1997, was designed and created by Kaersten Colvin-Woodruff, associate professor of art. The shaft was crafted by university maintenance staff member Terry Byerly, while the production of ceramic molds for its head and its casting were done by Franklin (Pa.) Bronze.

The head structure consists of three cupped units, each one raised slightly above the other. Each unit is made from highly polished yellow brass alloy and is molded from various thin, randomly positioned brass leaves, which replicate leaves gathered on campus, symbolize intellectual and cultural diversity, as well as the physical beauty of its campuses. The university’s seal is embedded in the upper cupped unit.

The shaft is made of black cherry hardwood, native to western Pennsylvania. It is finished with a brass ornament, creating a chromatically balanced piece. The length of the mace is a traditional three feet.





DR. BOB: HERE TO HELP

His business card says, “Dr. Bob Pehrsson, Associate of the President.” Dr. Bob says he should have the title of “Dr. Dale’s helper.”

“I’m here to help in any way I can,” he said of his role as the president’s husband. “If we have an event at the house or a social event, I definitely participate.”

Otherwise, “I deliberately am not getting involved,” he said.

His attention is on the town.

“By my focusing on the community and economic development and Dale focusing on the university, we’re trying to make a bridge. We want unity.”

Dr. Bob easily could be active with the university. He was involved in higher education from 1975, when he became an associate professor at Long Island University, Greenvale, N.Y., until 2018, when he concluded six years as a visiting research professor for Central Michigan University. His academic expertise is in literacy, for which he was awarded professor emeritus status at Idaho State University.

His business experience goes back even further. In 1966 Dr. Bob, an expert in antiques, opened his own shops on Long Island. Through the years, he and Dr. Dale also owned a clinic for adults and children with special needs, a coffee shop and bookstore, and a restaurant.

“I did community development work in Idaho. We had businesses, so I know business,” he said.

In Clarion, Dr. Bob is a member of Rotary Club, Clarion Blueprint Community and Clarion County Economic Development Corporation.

“I love Main Street. I’d like to see more traffic. The more traffic, the slower the cars go, and they might notice there are stores,” he said. “My focus, in terms of economic development, is development on Main Street. We need attractions. We don’t have enough.”

One spot he thinks is ripe for development is the old jail behind the courthouse. He loves the picturesque courthouse, and he thinks the jail has the potential to be a beautiful restaurant or other attraction.

“We need for people to get off of I-80, beyond Walmart, and come to Main Street,” he said.

Dr. Bob’s schedule is increasingly full with his work in the community, but he continues to pursue his research interest in hermeneutics, the science of interpretation.

“My focus is interpretation and misinterpretation or spinning: How it is that we come to understand and misunderstand,” he said.

In his leisure time, he enjoys reading, particularly nonfiction. He loves to write, and, in addition to his scholarly writing, he has penned two fictional novels, “Peanut Butter Fridays” and “On the Stoop,” both available through Amazon.





A VENTURE IN SUSTAINABILITY

What do you get when you cross two departments in two different academic colleges with a trip overseas? A unique study abroad experience in which students can gain up to six college credits and invaluable experiences.

Four years ago, the College of Business Administration and Information Sciences and the College of Arts, Education and Sciences joined to take students on a trip to a new destination each summer. Students have traveled to Belgium, Italy, New Zealand and Portugal. Next summer, they'll team up for an experience in Iceland.

The idea for this shared learning experience came to Dr. Phil Frese, dean of the College of Business Administration and Information Sciences, after a social discussion with geoscience professor Dr. Anthony Vega.

They were discussing the importance of business profits, in particular, making a profit without draining the world's natural resources. From there, the idea was born to combine the disciplines for an international learning opportunity.

Vega was skeptical at first; however, the interdisciplinary component immediately made sense to the professors and the students when they immersed themselves in a different culture.

Dr. Chad Smith, professor of administrative sciences, taught the business class, and Vega taught the science class, against the backdrop and practices of Portugal.

Smith would hear Vega's lecture, and it would often involve the same topic he had planned.

"I'm amazed at how close we are at what we do," Smith said.

Vega agreed. Each day he chose a general topic regarding the environment and sustainability efforts, and Smith had already discussed those same topics from a business standpoint in his classes.

"It was like we synced everything together," Vega said.

Smith and Vega believe study abroad experiences are important for students.

"As far as I'm concerned, there are two things a business student should do: One is complete an internship, and two is travel," Smith said.

The students who attended the trip echo those sentiments.

"I would highly recommend taking one of these trips if possible. I met people on this trip that I will cherish forever," Mielewski said. "Traveling in Europe is an awesome experience in itself. I recommend this trip to anyone who is even the slightest bit interested."

Since very few of the students had ever traveled outside of the country, new discoveries were abundant, whether it was the food they ate or the sights they saw, Vega explained.

"Every bit of these trips is a learning experience," Vega said. "It's life altering."

Students can gain a three-credit International Business Seminar (BSAD 437) class and a three-credit Earth Science: Special Topics class, or opt for just one of the two classes. The classes begin with the two-week summer trip and continue into the fall semester with students writing papers and creating a mock business.





Junior Olivia Keltz, who triple majors in marketing, business management and human resource management, was nervous about the language barrier when she went to Portugal.

“When we got there, we were thriving,” Keltz said.

Keltz said she and her fellow students enjoyed talking to people and “stepping outside our comfort zones.”

They also observed how businesses operate.

“Traveling to Portugal enhanced my learning experience by giving me real-life examples,” Mielewski said. “You learn all sorts of stuff in class, but to me, it’s kind of meaningless until I give it a real-world application. It was cool to see what we’ve learned in a classroom and see it applied to real companies.”

Frese said no matter which country they visit, they always visit the chambers of commerce and businesses to see how businesses function on foreign soil.

Keltz said getting to experience the culture firsthand was a good teacher. “Businesses run differently in a different culture,” she said.

“In a normal classroom, we give an exam. You don’t actually see how they’ll use (the material),” Vega said.

As part of their coursework, the students were instructed to team up and form a mock company with a product that has an emphasis on environmental sustainability. The teams pitched their product to a panel of mock investors, just like the TV show “Shark Tank.” Each investor had a mock budget of \$250,000.

“You are able to invest on your own, join in with other investors, or make no investment at all,” Smith instructed the judges. “The key to the business is to be profitable and economically sustainable, but at the same time address how they will be protecting the environment and provide environmental sustainability.”

The judges included Derek Fairman (venture capitalist), Cindy Nellis (director of the Small Business Development Center), and professors Dr. Miguel Lujan-Olivas, Dr. Jeff Eicher and Dr. Valentine James.

The students are sophomores, juniors and seniors with a wide variety of majors and skillsets. Much of the work the students complete is on a senior level.

Groups answered questions about their business models, competition and profit margins, and explained what they were seeking from investors and what the investors, in turn, would gain.

Brandon Bolha, Tanner Corbett and Morgan Douglass pitched Solar Solutions, a consulting and design firm which turns rooftops of hotels and restaurants into patios with the use of amorphous silicon materials.

Mandi Droney, Mark Liu and Keltz pitched Tap Tap Aqua, water dispensing machines with reusable water bottles.

Mielewski and Taylor Mahan pitched TNT Silicon, which manufactures solar awnings that gather clean energy.

Sabrina Perilli, Ray Dalton and Joshua Thruston pitched Zoom, a drone rental service.

Each group picked up investors, but Tap Tap Aqua had the biggest bidding war.

“The students have taken seriously what they’ve learned in the classroom,” Smith said. “I couldn’t be prouder of them.”

The hope is that other disciplines will combine their efforts as well. Frese said the trend in education is a cross-fertilization of disciplines.



COMMUNICATION *careers* START HERE

Students get hands-on experience using tools of the trade.

The Department of Communication launches successful graduates by using a mix of communication theory with hands-on learning in the TV studio, radio station, student newspaper and in its state-of-the-art computer lab.

To keep students within industry standards of equipment and software, the communication faculty knew it needed multiple upgrades to every area, explained Dr. Lacey Fulton, assistant professor in the communication department and advisor for Eagle Media Production House, commonly known as Eagle Media Productions.

Dr. Myrna Kuehn, department chair, said the department would save to make some upgrades each year, because they've always known what students need to be successful.

However, over the course of the past couple of years, each media area has received a major overhaul.

This past summer, upgrades were made to the radio station, 91.7 WCUC, in the control and talent rooms, including new furniture, paint, carpet, soundproof foam and microphones, Fulton said. The talent room now has a rectangular table that can accommodate five on-air talents.

Another marked improvement was the replacement of the radio transmission tower.

"We have a stronger signal over the areas we already covered," Fulton said.

Renovations to the radio station have been taking place for the past two to three years with the implementation of a scheduling system, which is essentially a playlist maker, and an automation system which gives the station 24/7 programming, allowing WCUC to keep its format. WCUC FM also streams on Tunein.com, an online listening site.

"That's what a lot of professional radio stations are doing," Fulton said of those systems.

Fulton said teaching students on the latest software and modern equipment makes them ready for a professional career in radio.

"It has allowed us to run our show more smoothly," said Benjamin Fye, a sophomore communication major who has a freeform radio show with three of his roommates.

In recent years, CU-TV has received some crucial upgrades including a new teleprompter, studio pedestal, cameras upgraded to HD, relocation of the control room, and 21 new JVC cameras which record in high definition with 10 of those rendering in 4K; in other words, some are recording images better than HD.

"We're trying to future-proof with our cameras," Fulton said.

Having new cameras has been beneficial to student Kelly Beveridge, a junior digital media and sport media minor, who is most comfortable behind a camera.





“Having the new equipment has helped me. As a freshman, we had cameras that didn’t have HD,” Beveridge said.

The hope is that there will be a lighting upgrade for next academic year, along with remodeling the sets and keeping up with industry standards regarding the green screen, which has been repainted and must be kept clean.

Kuehn said lighting is the most expensive piece in the TV station with upgrades costing \$90,000-\$150,000. She said that lighting also requires more than just lamps, as a new compatible board and grid are required to support it.

Senior Taylor Zalus experienced the upgrades to the television studio, a valuable part of his education since he wants to become a technical engineer.

“It’s keeping up to the television industry,” Zalus said. “It was great for me as a student to see the IT side of things.”

As for the Clarion Call, updates were made this past summer. The Call office is now cross-platform, meaning both Mac and Windows-based computers are used together to create the student newspaper, Fulton said. The Clarion Call also has the capability of creating video content with the addition of Nikon cameras with video capabilities.

The communication department now boasts a Media

Production Suite with five large-screen monitors which were added this past summer.

A computer lab is where you’re likely to find Tyree Mitchell, a senior digital media communication major. Mitchell works heavily in the TV studio on sports productions and sports remotes.

He said he used to be worried about the costs associated with attending college, but because of the equipment experience he’s received, he thinks college costs are well worth the experience Clarion’s communication majors get working with expensive and modern equipment.

“College is a good investment,” Mitchell said. “You use it (the equipment) every single day. I’m going to miss this when I graduate. I’ll be ahead of others.”

While much emphasis has been placed on renovations, the communication department hasn’t forgotten about its roots and supports a Film Camera Club with a fully functional darkroom in Becker Hall.

“It’s a faculty-driven initiative,” Kuehn said referring to the faculty who frequently stock the dark room.

The value is it teaches students the differences in style and form from film cameras to today’s digital, Kuehn explained.

Fulton stressed that all of these upgrades have been a team effort between the department’s careful budgeting, Tech Fee project funding and the funding from the College of Arts, Education and Sciences interim dean, Dr. Steven Harris.

“It really takes a village,” Fulton said.

“It’s not fallen on deaf ears,” Kuehn said of the administration, which has been supportive of their efforts.

A fund also has been established through the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., for the communication upgrade effort. To donate, visit: www.clarion.edu/Communications-Upgrade

Learning how to operate equipment and software related to their craft gives communication majors a unique opportunity to hone skills and gain valuable experience before they graduate. Whether these graduates are working in television or radio broadcasting, journalism, public relations, advertising, social media, web design, photography, videography or somewhere within the entertainment industry, they all learned the basics at Clarion.

And the good news is students can get involved in student-run media from the time they are freshmen, which is what attracted graduates Mike Miller (’92) and Larry

Richert (’81) to Clarion in the first place.

“You got into the radio or TV stations and started to contribute right away,” said Miller, who now serves as head football coach at Westminster College. “I thought that was important.”

Miller said as a freshman he was able to have access to radio and television equipment and help cover Golden Eagles sporting events. “I think that’s a real game changer,” Miller said.

Kuehn said knowing how to operate equipment makes Clarion’s students “capable and resourceful,” and she’s received many reports of Clarion graduates making good first impressions while interviewing for jobs because they already know how to use and, sometimes even fix, the equipment.

Richert, who has been a KDKA-TV and radio broadcaster in Pittsburgh since 1988, says he considered going to a bigger school but quickly realized he’d get experience right away at Clarion – something he wouldn’t have had at a bigger school.

“You didn’t have to wait to be an upperclassman to participate,” Richert said.

The experience pays off for CU students.



communication and theatre major before speech communication merged with communication several years ago. She's an anchor for WGAL News 8 in Lancaster.

"The biggest thing I learned there was to sort of get out of my comfort zone," Lemon said.

Lemon said because you report about anything, "you know a little bit about everything. You have to be a curious person."

Lemon's hope is that curiosity will make today's communication majors try things as students that put them outside of their comfort zones and have positive effects on their communication skills, whether it be through a theatre production or by joining the debate team.

Richert would like today's communication majors to understand the great responsibility that comes with using today's technologies and still getting one's point across.

"It's about creating an effective message," Richert said.



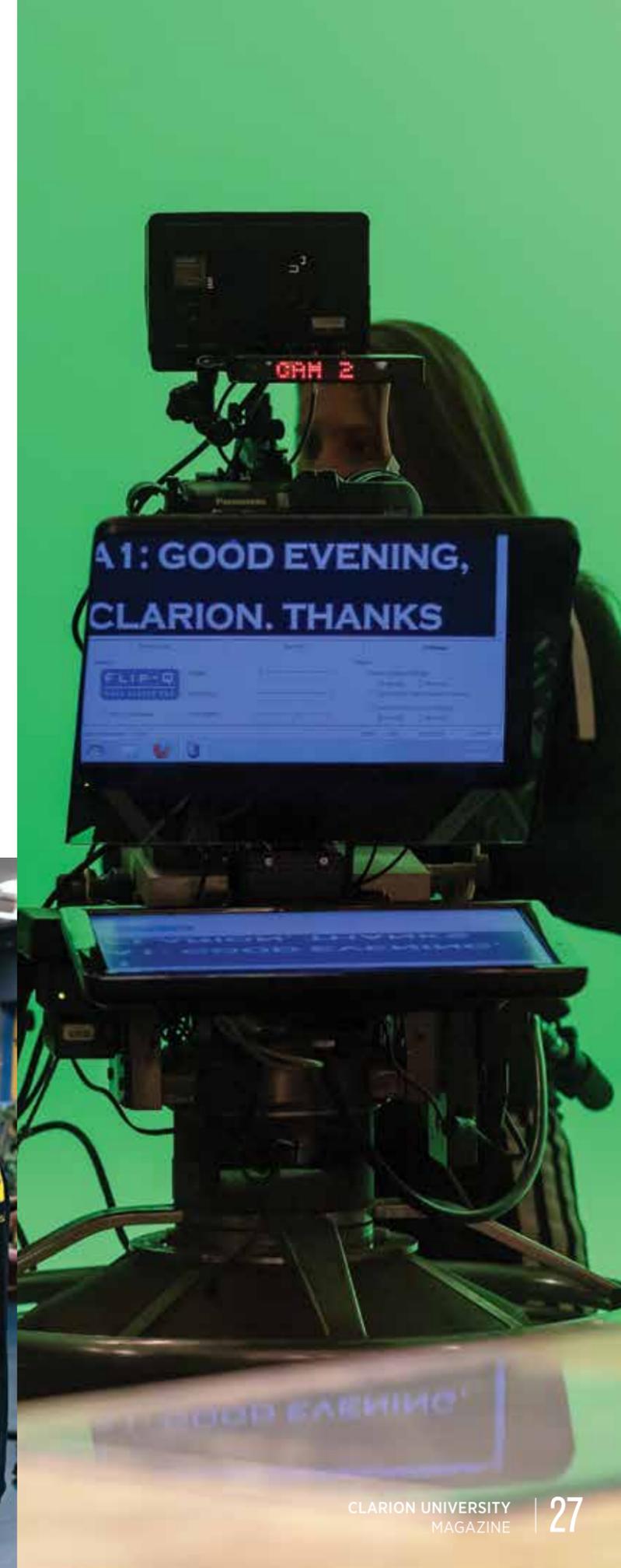
"During my time at CU as a comm major, I was very active in campus media," said Ron Sylvester ('85), owner of RS TV in Hollywood. "I was first attracted to the TV studio and worked on almost every show we produced. By my senior year, I was station manager and sales manager and executive produced and directed several of the shows on the schedule, including University Square, the first college-produced soap opera in the country. I also was involved in WCUC as a newscaster and very much enjoyed learning about radio. My classes and course work was simply something I did in between my TV work."

"Communication majors tend to be well-rounded students who have the top skills employers are seeking, including public speaking skills, group work and creative thinking," Kuehn said.

"My work in production at the TV studio clearly put me head and shoulders above any other graduate when looking for a job," Sylvester said. "I left college with a very professional demo reel, full of great stuff that impressed potential employers."

In addition to basic employable skills, communication majors become adept impromptu speakers and use their curiosity to their advantage.

Kim Lemon ('78) was a graduate of the speech





Peruvian cloudforest is just right

Every single day, somewhere in the world, somebody discovers something. Last fall, in the Montane Forests of the region Junin, Peru, Sean McHugh was that somebody. The something was the yellow-tailed woolly monkey, not previously known to inhabit the Colibri cloudforest of Peru.

McHugh ('13) is a research biologist with Rainforest Partnership, an international nonprofit organization based in Austin, Texas. The group's mission is to protect and regenerate tropical rainforests by working with the forests' indigenous people to develop sustainable livelihoods that empower and respect both people and nature.

In Peru, McHugh, along with filmmaker Jasmina McKibbin, used trail cameras in 28 locations to document at least 25 mammal species.

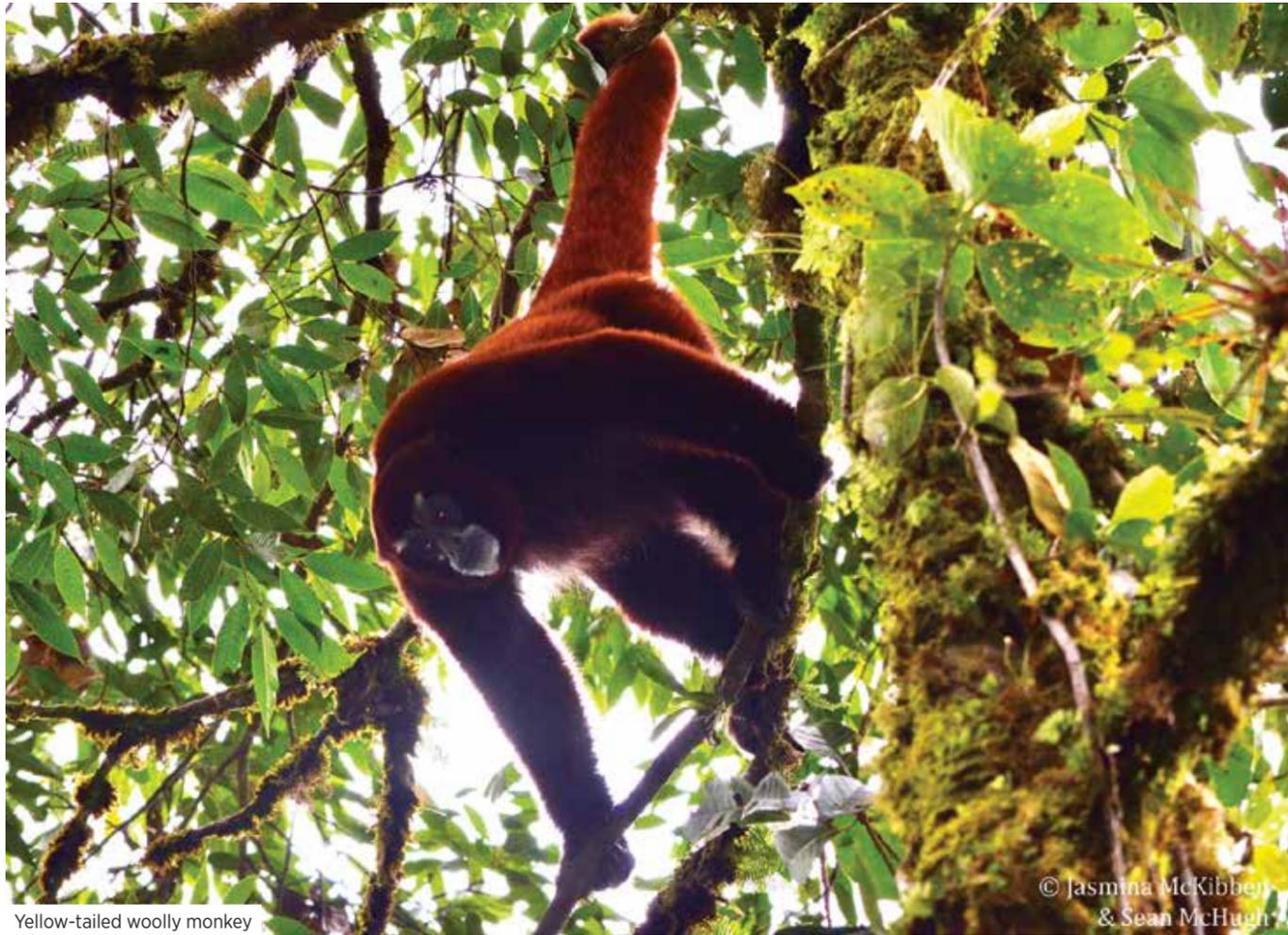
"The current scientific literature suggests that much of the mammal communities we discovered in these central Peruvian cloudforests were actually not supposed to be in our study area," McHugh said.

The findings are redrawing the maps on the range of several of these mammals, from the first recording of spectacled bears in the Junin region of Peru, to the discovery of a never-before-seen population of woolly monkeys related to one of the rarest primates in the world, hundreds of miles from its known range. McHugh said the monkeys he observed have unique characteristics that distinguish them from other woolly monkeys, and they could constitute another species.

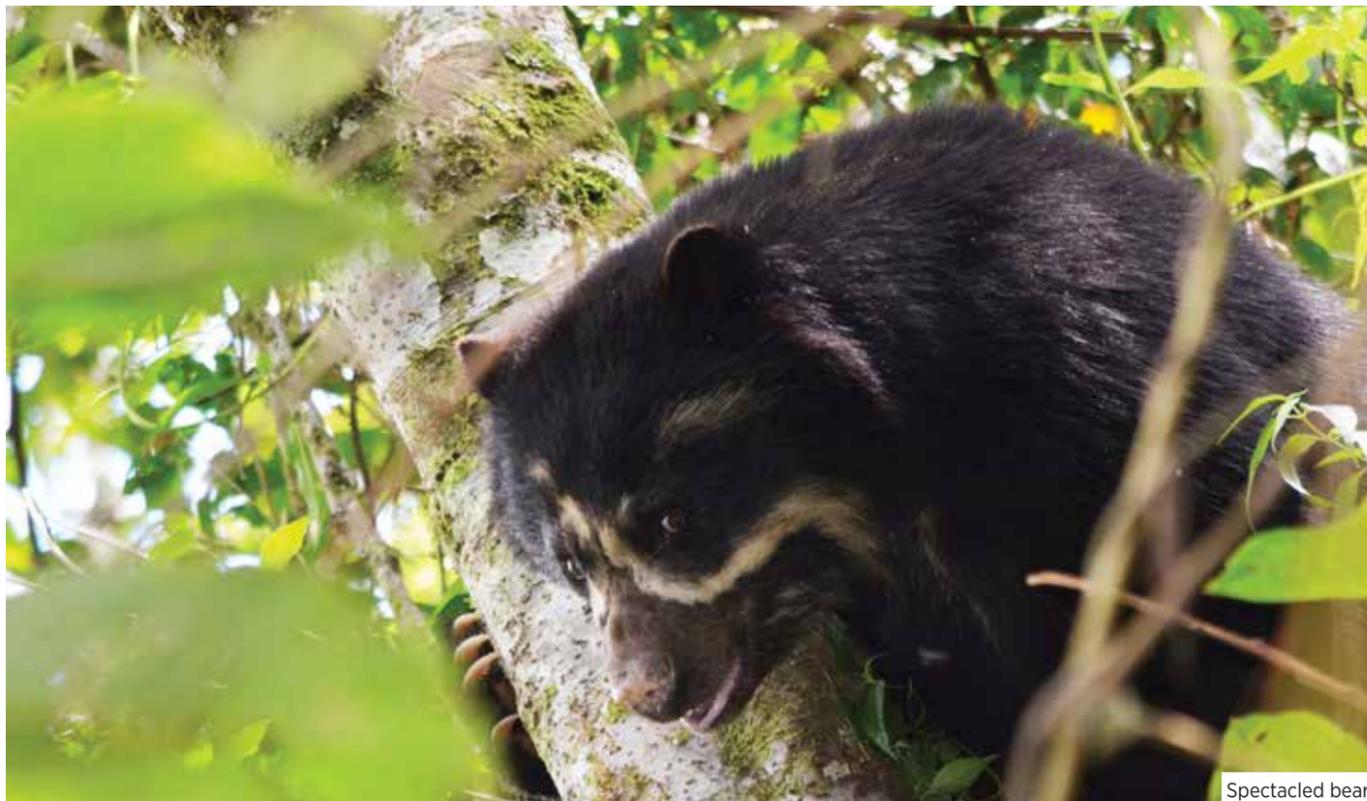


Sean McHugh

Jasmina McKibbin



Yellow-tailed woolly monkey



Spectacled bear



“You can’t protect what you don’t know,” said Niyanta Spelman, CEO of Rainforest Partnership. “This project is important in so many ways, from informing and educating the community and every level of government in Peru, additionally adding to the scientific knowledge about the range which these fascinating mammals occupy, something that is not part of the recorded science for this area.”

“It is absolutely imperative to further study and protect these forests before they are degraded permanently,” McHugh said.

The cloudforest he studied was at an elevation that was favorable to air plants, diversity of animals, and tree growth.

“Half an hour up the mountain, there were no trees. Half a mile down the mountain was tropical rainforest,” McHugh said. “It was perfect elevation.”

The spectacled bear thinks so, too. It found an elevational niche, where it doesn’t have to compete with puma and jaguar.

“Of eight species of bear, it’s the only one in South America. It’s the second most herbivorous bear,” McHugh said. “It mostly eats air plants.”

McHugh and McKibben also observed a Junin red squirrel, a red brocket (type of deer), a southern naked-tailed armadillo, a pacarana (a large, rare rodent), a collared peccary, a brown agouti and a pair of neotropical otters. The cameras also captured wild cats, including the ocelot, margay and white-fronted capuchin.

For more information, visit seanmchughinfo.com.

SCHOOL with no POOL

On the first day of the NCAA Swimming & Diving championship finals, it is customary to introduce each of the eight divers competing in the evening session, usually with a brief note of their credentials. As such, this year it seemed almost academic that senior Christina Sather's introduction would mention that she was the reigning national champion in the event, having won the title at the 2018 meet. But Sather demurred, and instead told diving coach Dave Hrovat to write his own introduction.

"Going into it, I asked Christina 'Do you want me to put that you're the returning NCAA champion?' and she told me no," Hrovat said. "I told her I had a funny one in mind, something that would loosen her up before the event."

When Sather took the platform for introductions, the public address announcer began by noting she is a senior education major before stumbling over his words in the next sentence. He certainly could not be blamed for being caught off guard. How often do you mention that an All-American diver and reigning national champion comes from "the school with no pool?"



Christina Sather

When the plans to renovate Tippin Gym and Natatorium became reality, it displaced student-athletes and coaches and created challenges involving practice times, training sessions and competitions. The weight room and athletic training room moved to the basement of Ralston Hall. Batting cages made their way to Harvey Hall, and locker rooms moved to Givan Hall. Teams needing gymnasium space either had to fill tight timeframes in the Student Recreation Center or at Clarion Area High School.

Unfortunately for the men's and women's swimming & diving programs, there are no spare pools lying around campus. Hrovat and head swimming coach Bree Kelley were faced with a dual challenge: not only did they need to locate a pool suitable for swim training, but also training facilities for the divers. To make matters even more complicated, finding one nearby facility that fit both of those criteria would be next to impossible.

"When we were looking at facilities, we had to factor in travel time, the availability, the cost, and still work around our athletes' class schedules," Kelley said. "There are a lot of variables that come into play when you're looking at a team with roughly 40 people, especially when we have to coordinate with someone else and don't get to make the final decision."

The decision was made to have the swimmers practice at Oil City High School. With the team boarding a school bus, the swimmers made the hour-long trek five days a week, alternating between 4:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. departures. The early morning practices forced the team into a time crunch as they hurried to be out of the pool before high school students arrived. On a *good* day, the team could be in the water a little before 6 a.m. but had to clear the building by the first bell, at 7:20 a.m.

"There were times we would get on the pool deck and have to set up the equipment, which eats up 5-10 minutes," Kelley said. "If we arrived before 6 a.m., we could get it all set up in time for us to get an hour and a half before we bused back to campus."

Evening practices meant more time in the water, but often the team did not make it back to campus until 10:30 p.m. Combined with class schedules, meals, travel time and studying, the schedule took its toll as time went on.

"The morning practices the day after an evening practice - those were the quietest bus rides," Kelley said. "It was just silence. Everyone was asleep."

What concerned Kelley most about the adjusted training schedule was the effect it would have on the team's academics. With both the men's and women's teams historically earning national all-academic team honors, she feared that the grueling routine would hurt her student-athletes' grades. At times, accommodations had to be made to allow students to miss workouts to focus on schoolwork.

"We've been very successful academically for many years, but we've been even better over the last few years," Kelley said. "I was worried that would fall to the wayside. I would get text messages from kids saying they had to make it to study groups or group projects and needed to stay back. I never said no, and they knew I was trusting them to use that time productively."

As it turns out, that is exactly what they were doing. The women's team finished the fall semester as a College Swimming Coaches Association of America Scholar-Athlete team, and the men's squad finished just percentage points shy of reaching the mark as well.

Unique circumstances call for unique solutions, and Kelley tried her best to come up with new training plans to get the most out of her beleaguered athletes, including extra dry land exercise sessions.

"I don't believe that dry land work can necessarily replace pool work, but we tried as hard as we could to use them to ensure we didn't fall as far behind as we could have," Kelley said. "We took these high-interval training circuits that didn't take longer than 20 to 25 minutes a day and did them a few days a week in place of a double. Our kids were in the best shape they've ever been in. They were stronger and leaner, but it's still tough to make up for lost time in the pool."



Emma Kehn



Cary Johns



Mary Clare Smith



Becca Yonek



Josh Thurston



Joseph Folz

There was attrition, as well. The travel schedule and long hours took their toll on the roster as athletes started leaving the team. By the time PSAC Championships rolled around in February, the women's team had just 21 swimmers, the men only 11. That the women matched their finish – fourth place – from a year ago and the men managed to top teams at the conference meet is an amazing feat in its own right.

“For the first week, everyone's having fun, enjoying the bus ride, but after a while it got to be too much for some people,” Kelley said. “I knew at the beginning we would lose some people, but it hit a little harder than I thought it would. I was so proud of the people that stuck through it, and I was very happy with the way they finished, considering the circumstances.”

“Do I expect and want more?” Kelley asked herself aloud. “Yes. Do I expect even more next year? *Oh yeah.*”

While Kelley and the swimmers were boarding school buses before sunrise, Hrovat and his comparatively smaller diving squad had its own set of challenges. Somehow, their daily drive was even longer than Kelley's, as the only suitable diving well nearby was at Westminster College, more than an hour away. And unlike the swim team, Hrovat was driving the team himself, using a number of rental vans and SUVs over the course of the season to transport his team. As if some higher power decided that it was perhaps time to offer *some* relief to the squad, the team was able to avoid treacherous road conditions for almost the entire season.

“I was worried about the weather, but we sort of lucked out there,” Hrovat said. “We only missed two practices all year because of the weather. Other than that, we didn't miss a beat practicing.”

Hrovat and the divers left from campus every day in the middle of the afternoon, in part waiting for Sather to finish her day as a student teacher so that she could hop in the van with her teammates. From there it was an hour down the road for practice, followed by the long trip home. Like their swimming counterparts, the divers under Hrovat's tutelage continued to excel academically.

“They stepped up big time and didn't let it become a distraction,” Hrovat said.

Including this year's competitions, Hrovat has won 28 CSCAA Diving Coach of the Year awards, and has coached 48 individual national champions as well as 293

All-Americans at Clarion. In short, he's pretty good at identifying and developing talent. This season tested his ability to get the most out of his athletes physically while keeping them in a good place psychologically.

“I knew we were talented, but we were cutting our time in the water in half and replacing it with dry land workouts on campus,” Hrovat said. “A lot of what we had to do was convince these kids, psychologically, that they were getting what they needed with half the reps they normally get.”

The on-campus base of operations was an unused racquetball court in Gemmell Student Complex, complete with a bungee harness, a dry land diving board and portable pit. That allowed the team to work on takeoffs and balance on campus, but entries were limited to the times they traveled to Westminster.

“The very first year I was here, in 1990, the pool was down for a month,” Hrovat said. “We had to put the kids in a van and drive to IUP every day for a month, so I had a little bit of experience working with travel. And you always have to try and get inside the kids' minds and make them believe, but this year it was really important to show positivity.”

By the end of the year, four divers – Cary Johns and Mikey Allison on the men's side, and Sather and Emma Kehn on the women's – qualified for the national meet in Indianapolis, and all advanced from the prequalification meet to the preliminaries of each event. Sather added another national championship to her mantle, winning the 3m dive, and took third in the 1m dive to give herself eight All-American honors in four years. Kehn was the national runner-up in the 1m dive and took fourth in the 3m dive. For the men, Johns placed in the top eight in both the 1m and 3m dives to earn All-America status, while Allison placed in the top 16 in each to earn All-America Honorable Mention.

It has become a rite of spring to see the Golden Eagle divers atop the podium at the national meet, to the point that the weight of the accomplishment almost becomes minimized because it's so...*common*. This year's team? Anything but.

GRIT, DETERMINATION *overcome* FICKLE HAND OF FATE

Wrestling is, by definition a combat sport. As such, athletes will suffer some degree of injury. Some years the injury bug doesn't bite too badly, others it comes back with a vengeance. For the Golden Eagles wrestling squad, this year was one of the latter. But thanks to a singular philosophy that ran from the top down and a "no excuses" approach, those setbacks did not define the season.

Since head coach Keith Ferraro took the reins of the program, the team has incrementally improved every year, ramping up the level of competition on the schedule and building quality depth on the roster. The team went from no NCAA qualifiers in Ferraro's first year to 10 over the last four years, including four during the 2017-18 season. With three of those athletes returning for this season and a number of talented athletes on the roster, it looked like the team was poised for a breakout in 2018-19.

The Golden Eagles opened the year with a dominating win against Gardner-Webb and saw individuals shine at the Clarion Open in November. When three wrestlers placed in the top-eight at the prestigious Cliff Keen Invitational at the beginning of December, it seemed like the start of a special season.

Then the injury bug reared its ugly head. Three-time NCAA qualifier Brock Zacherl defeated a number of nationally ranked opponents at Cliff Keen before suffering a season-ending injury, a fate that also befell 2018 qualifier Taylor Ortz. Fellow 2018 qualifier Greg Bulsak and other wrestlers in the starting lineup were also hampered by injury. By the time the team hosted nationally ranked Pittsburgh later in the month, they were without five wrestlers who earned starting spots at the beginning of the season.

The Golden Eagles buckled down and showed just how well the program has grown in recent years. They opened the 2019 calendar year with three straight wins, including home wins over Bloomsburg and George Mason in EWL action. Clarion battled in a series of closes matches, closing out the conference dual match season with their first win over Edinboro since 2010-11. That win clinched at least a .500 record for the year, the first time the Golden Eagles posted two straight seasons at .500 or better since 1994-95.

The hits kept coming, with numerous wrestlers going down to injury along the way. By the end of the year, nearly a third of the roster had required surgical procedures, which made what happened at the beginning of March all the more remarkable.

Clarion qualified multiple wrestlers for the NCAA Championships, including senior Evan DeLong and Bulsak for the fourth straight year. DeLong punched his ticket with a win over nationally ranked Colston DiBlasi at the EWL Championships, a catharsis to reach the national championships in his final season of eligibility after coming up just short in previous years. Bulsak earned an at-large bid, the culmination of a strong season that saw him defeat some of the best in the country.

Wrestling in front of a capacity crowd at PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh, Bulsak and DeLong fought but were unable to advance in the championship brackets. Despite that, the season will remain as one to remember, when grit and determination overcame the fickle hand of fate.



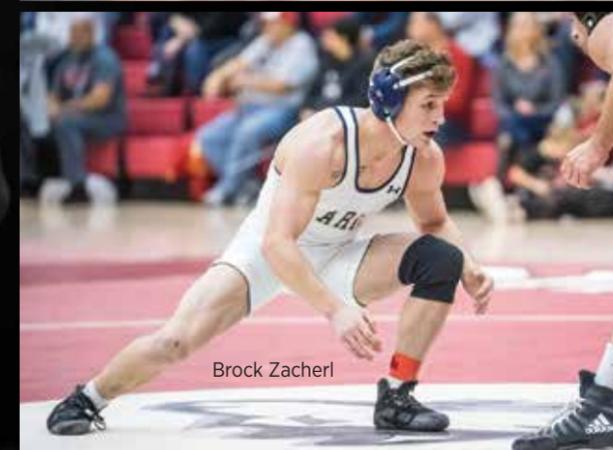
Toby Cahill



Taylor Ortz



Greg Bulsak



Brock Zacherl



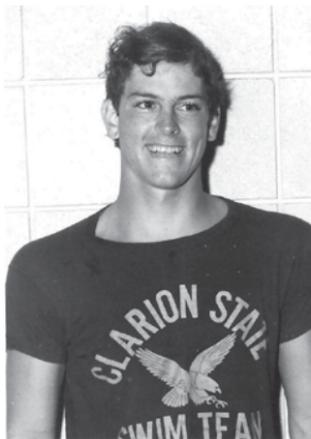
Evan DeLong



BOB BETTS ('82)

Bob Betts ('82) was one of the most talented wide receivers to ever wear the Blue and Gold. Playing for the Golden Eagles from 1977-1981 under Hall of Fame coach Al Jacks, Betts finished his career with 108 catches, 1,619 yards and 10 touchdowns.

In 1981, his senior year, he caught 49 passes for 674 yards and five touchdowns, and was named Associated Press All-American Honorable Mention, First Team ECAC, PSAC West, NAIA District 18 and Pittsburgh Press honoree. Betts helped the team to a PSAC title and the Lambert Cup as the ECAC Team of the Year in 1980, as the Golden Eagles finished 9-2 overall and defeated Kutztown 15-14 in the PSAC title game at Memorial Stadium. He led the team with 37 catches for 498 yards and three touchdowns that season and was named Associated Press All-American Honorable Mention, as well as First Team ECAC, PSAC West, District 18 and Pittsburgh Press.



D.J. BEVEVINO ('77)

An eight-time All-American diver at Clarion from 1974 through 1977 under the tutelage of former diving coach and Clarion Sports Hall of Fame Inductee Don Leas, D.J. also had an outstanding track and field and cross country coach career at Clarion. In his

diving career at Clarion, Bevevino was a top-six placewinner at PSAC Championships in the 1m and 3m Dives throughout all four years, with a top finish of third place in the 1m Dive in 1976. The Golden Eagles won the PSAC Swimming and Diving team championship all four years under Hall of Fame coach Chuck Nanz. At the national level, Bevevino placed fifth in the 1m Dive and eighth in the 3m Dive at the 1975 NAIA Nationals, fifth in both dives in 1976, and 11th in the 1m in 1977. He also excelled in NCAA competition, taking sixth in the 1m Dive in 1974, fifth in 1976 and ninth in 1977. Bevevino is currently the Associate Athletic Director at Clarion.



SUSIE FRITZ ('88)

Fritz was an outstanding tennis player at Clarion from the 1984-85 through 1987-88 seasons and aided a remarkable program turnaround that turned a losing team into NCAA Placewinners and PSAC champions. She won the No. 2 singles title at the 1987 PSAC Championships and was runner-up in the same spot in 1988, helping the Golden Eagles win two straight PSAC team titles. She was also part of two PSAC championship doubles teams in her career, teaming with 2000 Hall of Fame inductee Lisa Dollard Warren to win the No. 1 doubles title in 1988 and with Lynne Fye to win the No. 2 doubles championship the year before. Fritz was a two-time selection to the

NCAA Division II championships in doubles, earning spots in 1987 and 1988. The 1988 Golden Eagles posted a 15-0 dual meet record, won the PSAC Team Title and placed eighth as a team the NCAA Division II National Championships, while the 1987 team won its first ever PSAC team title. Fritz finished her career with a 51-13 singles record and a 45-8 overall doubles mark.



DON WILSON ('75)

A two-time NAIA Basketball All-American, Don Wilson helped lead a remarkable turnaround of Clarion basketball fortunes from a 4-16 record in 1970, to PSAC West Champions and the NAIA Playoffs in 1971 in his first basketball season at Clarion. He reached 1,000 career points in just three seasons – due to the NCAA rule restricting true freshmen from playing at the time – scoring a bucket against Alliance in the penultimate game of his career despite missing the previous five games with an injury. Playing for head coach Ron Galbreath, Wilson led the Golden Eagles to a 16-9 overall record and a 7-1 mark in conference action as a sophomore, marking a 12-win improve-

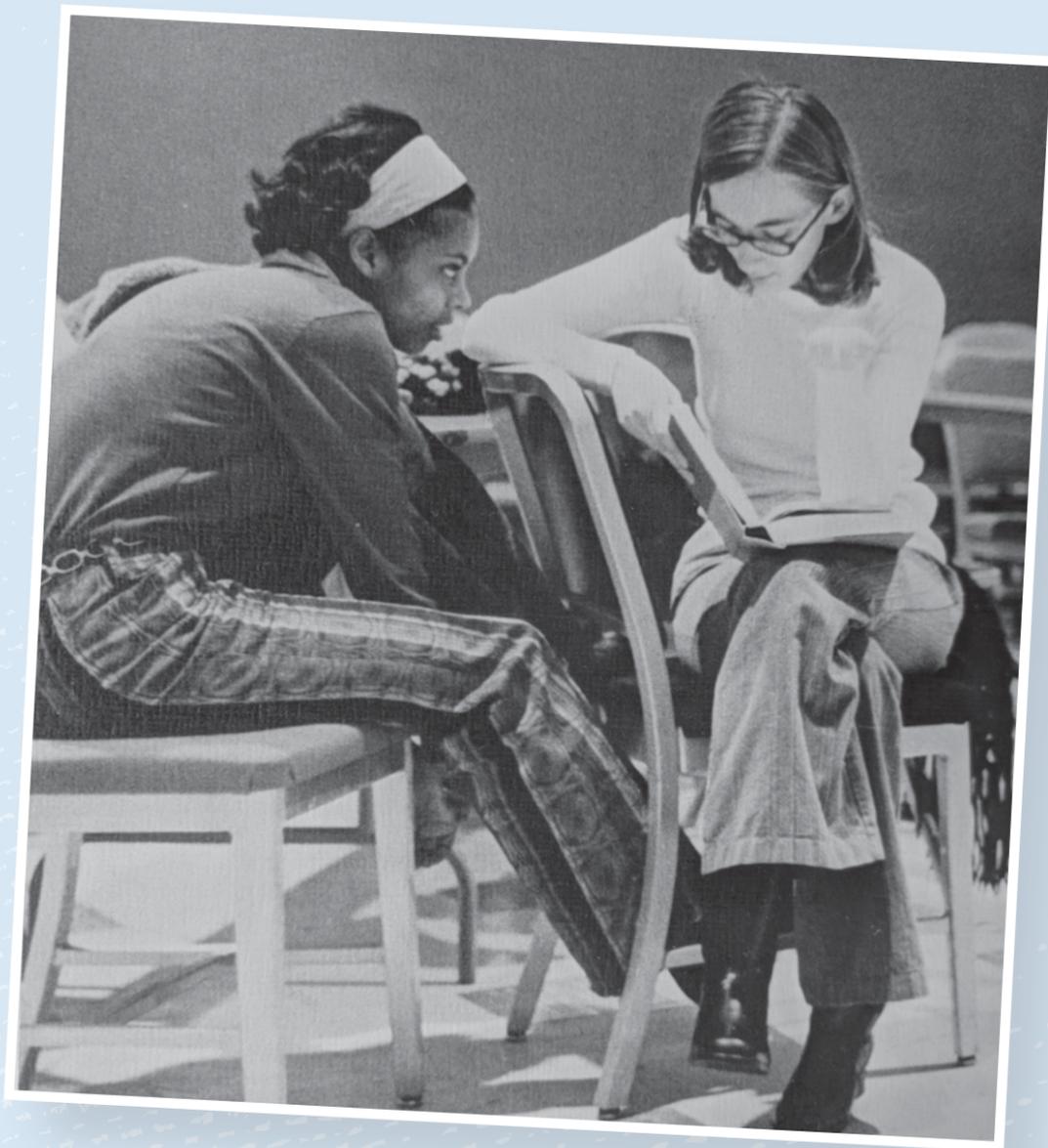
ment from the previous season. As a senior in 1973, Wilson led the Golden Eagles to a 19-6 record, the PSAC West title and their second straight spot in the NAIA playoffs, earning All-American honors in the process. Wilson finished his career with a 47.1 field goal percentage and was the program's all-time leader in free throw percentage at 80.8 percent.



LOGAN PEARSALL ('10)

Mentored by outstanding coach Dave Hrovat from 2009-11, Pearsall competed for three seasons and made six total performances at the NCAA Division II Nationals, winning four NCAA Division II national championships, two College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Division II Male Diver of the Year awards, and posting two NCAA Division II runner-up finishes in his three years. Pearsall won the 3m Dive every year from 2009-11 and took home the gold in the 1m Dive in 2010 to become just one of five NCAA Division II divers to ever win four national championships, joining Clarion's Mike Zucca and Shawn Colten. His 3m Dive at the 2010 champion-

ships broke a 16-year-old record. Pearsall is currently in his fifth year as the head diving coach at Colorado Mesa University.



1973 Sequelle

ALUMNI NOTES *Spring* 2019

1966

Dorothy Harris recently published a book with Amazon titled 1951 From Khaki to Air Force Blue. She has four children: Patty, Jayme, Harold and Brian. Dorothy resides in Grapevine, Texas.

1968

Jill-Ann (Norris) Bryant is an organist, pianist and vocalist for Memorial U.P. Church, Xenia, Ohio. She is a retired teacher and has two children, Craig, and Scott. Jill-Ann resides in Dayton, Ohio.

1971

Dr. Linda (DeCapua) Rhen received the Penn State Harrisburg Faculty Diversity Award. She is a full-time faculty member at Penn State Harrisburg, where she teaches special education courses and directs the career studies program for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Dr. Rhen resides in Camp Hill, Pa.

1975

Theresa (Fulton) Kelly recently had photographs published in the McBane Insurance Calendar. She has won best of show at a major competition in Steubenville, Ohio, and won the Atwood Lake Festival competition for two consecutive years. Theresa resides in Salineville, Ohio.

Deborah (Duke) Abbott is a private school teacher and gymnastics official. She received a M.Ed. from The College of

William and Mary and a Ph.D. from Regent University. She and her husband **Robert ('71)**, reside in Suffolk, Va. They have three children: Temarie, Tracey and David.

1978

Linda Bair is an associate director of marketing for Merck & Co., Inc., North Wales, Pa. She resides in Lansdale.

1984

Dr. Michael P. Gabriel, a professor of history at Kutztown University, appeared on C-SPAN's "Lectures in History" series. The program, which first aired in January, featured a class he taught about military engagements during the American Revolution from April 1775 to July 1776. Michael has authored three books on the Revolutionary War. He lives in Blandon.

1986

Barbara (Pelkington) Lewandowski is director of public affairs for Arlington National Cemetery. She resides in Manassas, Va.

1988

Wayne Harris is a senior learning specialist for Independence Health Group, Philadelphia. He resides in Elkins Park.

1991

Denise (Reilly) Ross is an early intervention preschool teacher for Riverview Intermediate Unit 6, Clarion. She resides in Sigel with her husband, Earl, and children: Cheyanna, Joshua and Jarren.

1994

Brian Briscoe is a library director for Putnam County Public Library, Greencastle, Ind. He resides in Greencastle with his wife, Linnea.

2001

Kim (Zager) Payne is a teacher for Lee County School District. She resides in Sanibel, Fla.

Jonathan Longwill is a vice president of communications and media relations for First Commonwealth Bank. He resides in New Kensington with his wife, Cristina, and son, Tyler.

WE WANT TO *know about* YOU!

And so do your Clarion classmates. It's easy to share your latest personal milestones and professional accomplishments in the pages of Clarion University Magazine. Just send us a note!

Visit www.clarion.edu/alumni-update

2004

Lindsay (Sterner) Veres is a self-sufficiency program director for Community Progress Council, York, Pa. She resides in York.

Lindsay (Brown M.S.'05) Bowser is a speech pathologist for Winston Salem Forsyth County Schools. She resides in Lewisville, N.C., with her husband, Jesse and their children: Levi, Lyla, and Abby.

2006

T.J. (M.B.A '08) and Halee (Schnur '07, M.Ed.'11) McCance reside in Butler with their son, Isaac. T.J. is an associate vice president for Hefren-Tillotson, Inc., Butler.

Dr. Chris Tingley is an assistant professor of marketing and strategy for Utica College, Utica, New York.

2009

Stephanie (Desmond) Couillard is an office manager for Home Instead Senior Care. She resides in Pittsburgh with her husband, Matthew.

2010

Rich Eckert is president and chief executive officer for Beardstown Savings, Beardstown, Ill. He resides in Beardstown with his wife, Ashley, and daughter, Reese.

Echo Roggenkamp is a deputy city clerk with the City of Blue Earth, Minn. She resides in Blue Earth.

Corey and Mary (Ferrara) Sterntal reside in Sharpsville with their sons, Beau and Deacon. Mary is a fiscal manager for Mercer County Head Start, Farrell.

2012

Amanda Jackson is a marketing specialist for Comcast. She resides in Mechanicsburg.

2013

Allison Hawrylak is a principal for St. Sylvester School, Pittsburgh. She resides in Pittsburgh.

2015

Kelly Williams has been named one of Delaware Business Times 40 Under 40. As the founder of Noble Territory, Kelly partners with organizations to host hiring and networking events in support of the veterans and intelligence communities.

Katrina Verdone is a milieu therapist with Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Pittsburgh. She resides in Trafford.

MARRIAGES

Matthew Kuhn '16 and Megan Mullen '17,
Sept. 22, 2018



1950s

Ronald R. Green ('50)
March 8, 2019

Shirley A. (Arner '51) Frycklund
Nov. 1, 2018

Robert James Starr ('54)
Oct. 22, 2018

Herbert E. Radaker ('57)
Nov. 25, 2018

Samuel Thomas Vivano ('58)
Jan. 29, 2019

Philip J. Delansky ('59)
Nov. 19, 2018

1960s

Carolyn J. (McKinney '60) Motter
Nov. 7, 2018

Charles R. Zerbe ('63)
March 6, 2019

Kenneth I. Woodall ('63)
March 10, 2019

Edward J. George ('64)
Nov. 14, 2019

Ruth Ann (Land '64) Casaro
Nov. 25, 2018

John Joseph Kleck ('64)
Jan. 1, 2019

Regina A. Wichrowski ('66)
Feb. 7, 2019

John J. Bellizia ('67)
Nov. 24, 2018

G. Catherine Palo ('67)
Jan. 20, 2019

John Clare Ward ('67)
Feb. 27, 2019

DeWayne E. Hilton ('68)
Jan. 14, 2019

Judith P. (Sobey '69) Banas
Dec. 9, 2018

1970s

Deborah Kay (McBride '73) McAllister,
Jan. 1, 2019

Rayburn D. Smith ('73),
Jan. 18, 2019

James E. Fresch ('75)
Oct. 11, 2018

Raymond C. Szalewicz ('75)
Jan. 18, 2019

Gary L. Daum ('76)
Feb. 2, 2019

Barry L. Karns ('77)
Nov. 16, 2018

Judith E. (Yates '78) Snyder
Jan. 16, 2019

Pamela Jo Poindexter ('79)
March 5, 2019

1980s

Tanya Elizabeth (Moore '85) Smith
Dec. 9, 2018

Donald L. Winger ('87)
Dec. 7, 2018

Shirley (Parsons '87) Lahr
Jan. 26, 2019

Dennis J. Shaffer ('89)
Nov. 6, 2018

1990s

Kenneth Eugene Schuckers ('90)
Feb. 6, 2019

Carolyn Sue Williams ('91)
Feb. 3, 2019

Terry J. Kline ('93)
Jan. 27, 2019

Beverly Louise Jordan ('95)
Jan. 25, 2019 (retired staff)

Albert M. Erka ('96)
Feb. 26, 2019

Wendy C. Green ('97)
Feb. 3, 2019

Sharon M. (Hoover '99) Gilligan
Jan. 21, 2019

2000s

Christopher Bruce Francisco ('03)
Dec. 25, 2018

Carolyn Elise (Angros '05) Sprague
Feb. 21, 2019

2010s

Keasha Loren Daniels ('16)
Jan. 4, 2019

Student

Jason Anthony Poor
Feb. 27, 2019

Friends

David L. Johnson, Nov. 5, 2018

David S. Kapp, Nov. 22, 2018

Syed R. Ali-Zaidi, December 2018
(trustee)

Kenneth Bondra, Dec. 2, 2018

Daniel K. Shirey, Dec. 3, 2018
(retired faculty)

Ralph Bowersox, Jan. 16, 2019

Russ Campbell, Jan. 17, 2019

Lloyd R. Fike, Jan. 22, 2019

George A. Karg, Feb. 1, 2019

Michael Padalino, Feb. 7, 2019

Alberta K. Nelson Cole, April 3, 2019
(retired faculty)

CLARION UNIVERSITY BABY EAGLES



Our gift to baby Eagles of Clarion alumni is a dashing new bib!

To receive a bib, visit www.clarion.edu/babybib and complete the online form. Once you receive your bib, take a picture of your Eaglet putting the bib to use, and email a high-resolution photo to us for inclusion in Clarion University Magazine.

For more information, call the Office of Alumni Engagement at 814-393-2572.



William Judson Dulniak, son of Craig and Julia Dulniak, born Sept. 22, 2017. DeBorah Spicer-Sanders ('76) is grand nanny.



LINCOLN
Lincoln Samson Kopnitsky, son of Dylan and Samantha (Stupak '13) Kopnitsky, born Aug. 17, 2017



BRANNING
Branning Nathan Ewing, son of Nathan ('05) and Lindsay (Swab '05) Ewing, born Aug. 23, 2017



KAYLEIGH
Kayleigh Suzanne Ritton, daughter of Brian and Michelle (Sherman '08, '12) Ritton, born Sept. 14, 2017



DANIEL
Daniel Luke Linamen, son of Rob ('12) and Liz Linamen, born Nov. 8, 2018



COLTON
Colton James Ealy, son of Aaron and Autumn (Hall '11) Ealy, born Aug. 3, 2018



REESE
Reese June Fleming, daughter of Andy and Kristen (Pavlina '08) Fleming, born Aug. 17, 2018



MADDOX
Maddox Ryan Carr, daughter of Ryan ('13) and Lauren (Nesbit '13) Carr, born Aug. 20, 2018



BRYNNLEY
Brynnley Jane Dolby, daughter of Chad ('10) and Breanne (Biemesser '10) Dolby, born Oct. 2, 2018



JENSEN
Jensen Kelly Whitaker, son of Erik ('10) and Megan ('08, MS '09) Whitaker, born Jan. 3, 2018



ELIZA
Eliza Louise Fitzpatrick, daughter of Joel ('09, '11) and Lindsay (Pingor '10) Fitzpatrick, born Feb. 2, 2018



NOAH
Noah Timothy Keppler, son of Dustin ('04) and Jessica Keppler, born March 31, 2018



REBECCA
Rebecca Mae Shields, daughter of Charles and Shela (Sunderland '12) Shields, born April 23, 2018



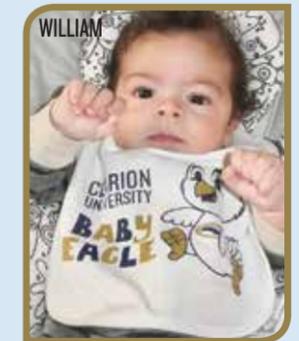
JACK
John "Jack" Michael Santa III, son of John ('06) and Jill (Lunardini '07) Santa, born Oct. 9, 2018



CADEN
Caden James Oaks, son of Randall ('10) and Amber (Seslar '11) Oaks, born Oct. 15, 2018



ANDREW
Andrew Reid Amon, son of Paul ('18) and Amy (Hummel '15) Amon, born Oct. 30, 2018



WILLIAM
William Anthony Biggins, son of Michael Biggins ('00) and Ana Cedeno, born Nov. 5, 2018



EMMA
Emma Margaret Holt-Bailley, daughter of Brittany Holt ('13) and Andrew Bailley, born May 17, 2018



CARALINE
Caraline Elizabeth Currie, daughter of Amber and Tony ('03) Currie, born May 20, 2018



JOSEPHINE
Josephine Alice Depew, daughter of Michael ('06) and Jamie (Burgun '04) DePew, born July 2, 2018



LILLIAN
Lillian Adele Kneepfel, daughter of Reuben and Hannah (Turner '08) Kneepfel, born July 15, 2018



ARALIA
Aralia May Piqueira, daughter of Joseph ('17) and Samantha Piqueira, born Dec. 1, 2018



JACOB
Jacob Thomas Armstrong, son of Cassie Huether ('12) and John Armstrong, born Jan. 22, 2019



BONHAM **LONDON**
Bonham Samuel Acres (left), son of David and Lauren (Fortnoff '06) Acres, born July 19, 2018, with Landon Matthew Pugliese, son of Jordan and Leslie (Mills '03) Pugliese, born Nov. 11, 2018

BY THE *numbers*

By analyzing the position of planets, sun and moon at the moment of a person's birth, astrology can give us a glimpse into a person's basic characteristics, according to astrology-zodiac-signs.com. If it seems that Clarion is teeming with creativity, it could be because more of the current student body was born under Leo than any other sign. Below, see the strengths that each zodiac sign brings to the student body and how many students share your sign.

There are 12 zodiac signs, each with its own *strengths*:

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

Progressive, original, independent, humanitarian

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):

Compassionate, artistic, intuitive, gentle, wise, musical

Aries (March 21-April 19):

Courageous, determined, confident, enthusiastic, optimistic, honest, passionate

Taurus April 20-May 20):

Reliable, patient, practical, devoted, responsible, stable

Gemini (May 21-June 20):

Gentle, affectionate, curious, adaptable, ability to learn quickly

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Tenacious, highly imaginative, loyal, emotional, sympathetic, persuasive

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):

Creative, passionate, generous, warm-hearted, cheerful, humorous

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept 22):

Loyal, analytical, kind, hardworking, practical

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):

Cooperative, diplomatic, gracious, fair-minded, social

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):

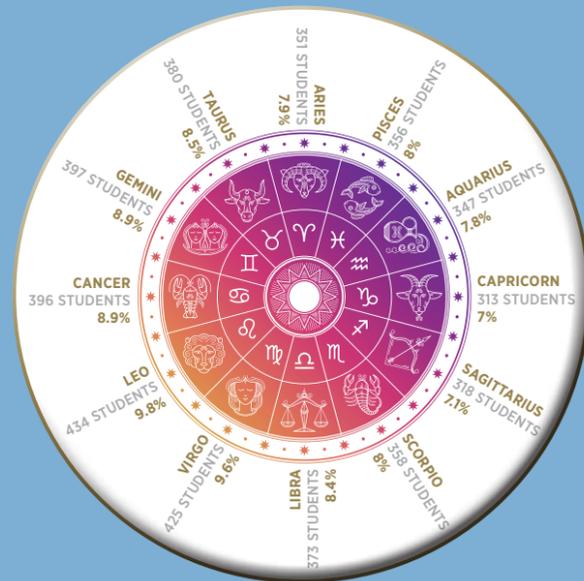
Resourceful, brave, passionate, stubborn, a true friend

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):

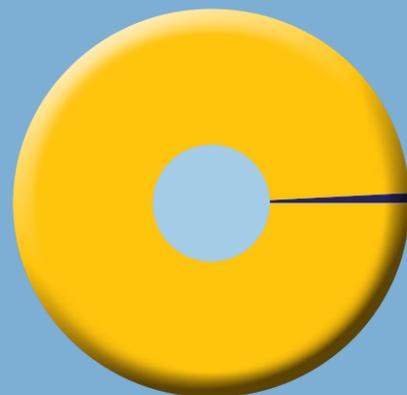
Generous, idealistic, great sense of humor

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

Responsible, disciplined, self-control, good managers



9%
of the student population is 40 or older this year.



25
members of the student population haven't reached their 18th birthday.



42%
of the student population was born 1997-99.

alumni ESTABLISH CHAPTERS

An alumni chapter is a grassroots organization for alumni to connect with one another, engage with the Alumni Association, and stay connected to the university through leadership and volunteer opportunities, student outreach, local events, and social and professional networking. Find your chapter on Facebook at the Clarion University Alumni page.

PHILADELPHIA

There are over 2,300 Clarion alumni living in the Philadelphia area. The steering committee strives to provide opportunities for alumni to network, assist in student recruitment, and participate in community service and social activities.

Steering Committee members include: co-chairs Shannon (Fitzpatrick '92) Thomas and John Taylor ('86); Jessa Kuestner; Nickolas Latta ('02); Michael Robinson ('82); Jim Levey ('68); Jason Ashe ('03); Dawn (Jackowski '04) Lastowka; Christina Meehan ('04); Karen Toth ('85); Sherrell Gangas ('99); Kari (King '95) Hill; Jeff Douthett ('79); Larry Thomas ('93).

To join the steering committee, email the chapter leaders at phillyclarionalumni@gmail.com.

PITTSBURGH

There are over 13,000 Clarion alumni in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area and its suburbs. The steering committee is excited to launch a series of events and programs to support alumni, current and prospective students, friends and family in the areas of professional networking, student recruitment, social engagement, community service, and more.

Officers are: chapter and communications co-chairs, Bradley Jones ('01) and Michelle Vensel ('89); community service chair, Kelley DeAugustino ('09); student recruiting and retention chair, Laurie Andrews ('79); and career and professional development chair, Amanda Wade ('15).

The chapter seeks someone to lead social activities (sporting events, family outings, happy hours, etc.). Contact Vensel at mvensel@gmail.com or Jones at jonesb@pghfdn.org.



Pittsburgh alumni's first community service project benefited Light of Life Rescue Mission.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For a full schedule of events, visit clarion.edu/alumnievents.

June 7-9: 6th Annual Alumni Weekend

June 22: Alumni Day at Waldameer Park & Water World – Erie, PA

June 28: Venango Chapter Night at Theater

July 19: Pittsburgh Chapter Alumni Night at the Pittsburgh Pirates

Aug. 3-4: Pittsburgh Chapter Cranberry Softball Tournament

August: Philadelphia Chapter Philly Summer Send-Off

Oct. 4: Distinguished Awards

Oct. 4-5: Homecoming Weekend

Nov. 2: Party for a Purpose, King of Prussia, PA

VENANGO

The Venango Chapter includes individuals who attended the Venango campus, or who attended any Clarion campus and reside in Venango County. The steering committee has focused its efforts on enhancing the student experience on the Venango campus with welcome activities for new students and stress relief programs during finals.

Officers are: co-chairs Will Price ('09, '11) and Deb Lutz ('93, '04, '09); communications chair Hope Lineman ('07, '10, '16); events co-chairs Robin Murray ('81) and Kathy Hoffman ('92).

Chapters are forming in Washington, D.C./Baltimore (includes northern Virginia), Harrisburg and Cleveland. To serve on one of the steering committees or to form a chapter in your area, email alumni@clarion.edu or call 814-393-2572.



Venango Alumni Chapter brought Pizza & Dogs to campus to provide students a study break and some stress relief during finals week.

COURAGEOUS *endeavors*

TOM BROWN

IF YOUR HEART IS THERE, YOU'LL FIND A WAY



As **Tom Brown ('18)** sat in cap and gown at December commencement, he might have thought that the speakers' messages of confidence, perseverance and compassion were directed solely at him. His time as a Clarion University student exhibited all three.

Brown could have been the one delivering the messages. Since he lost his eyesight in second grade, those qualities have defined his life. As a result of a genetic disorder, tumors formed on his optic nerve endings, leaving him able to see only light and dark in one eye, with a 20/500 field of vision in the other eye.

Brown remained in public school, using a device that enlarges print until grade 7, then using Braille and computer technology to complete his school work.

When it came time for college, Brown delayed enrolling so he could complete a nine-month program that trains visually impaired people how to navigate the world, both physically, through learning "cane travel," and practically, through learning to be independent.

"I knew I couldn't live on my own without the training," he said.

He enrolled as a communications major at Edinboro but realized his passion was in rehabilitative sciences, and he transferred to Clarion.

"I wanted to get into rehab and teaching visually impaired people how to be independent," Brown said.

For the past two summers, Brown has returned to the program to teach cane travel to others.

"The first day, some of the kids are frightened to be on their own. They don't have someone there to guide them - you give them a cane, and they don't know how to use it. It's rewarding to watch their transformation to using a cane, traveling around town, being independent."

Brown loves to travel; he does so frequently, and he does it alone. He's learned the layout of Pittsburgh International Airport, and if he needs help there - or anywhere - he simply asks.

His impairment doesn't keep him from doing anything he wants to do.

"If your heart is there, you'll find a way," he said. "I really don't need any special treatment. I'm confident and independent. My blindness is part of me."

Your gift *matters* to Kadijah.

Name: Kadijah Dickson

Major: Communications

Year: Senior

Hometown: Queens, NY

What are your career plans?

My career plans include starting several nonprofit organizations.

How are you funding your education?

Scholarships given by generous alumni and friends will allow me to graduate college free of debt.

Why should alumni and friends give back?

Alumni and friends should give back because they can help change the lives of many students, ultimately benefiting the Clarion community and the world. Scholarships enable students to succeed through a Clarion University education.



YOUR GIFT TO CLARION UNIVERSITY CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS LIKE KADIJAH.

No matter which department or scholarship you support, no matter the size, your gift makes a difference.

To make a gift today, go to clarion.edu/yourgiftmatters.



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**alumni
weekend**

June 7-9, 2019

www.clarion.edu/alumniweekend

