

# link

THE MAGAZINE OF WILMINGTON COLLEGE



## FROM THE PRESIDENT



*Jim Reynolds  
shoots a  
Homecoming selfie  
with Quakerman.*

Dear Wilmington College Alumni and Friends:

The beginning of a new year always brings promises of what is to come in our lives. It may be new professional opportunities or the hope of new relationships; for our students, it often is the chance to return to campus after a long break and begin with a “clean slate.” For each of us, a new year brings a chance for renewal and reconciliation, a chance to begin afresh and to live our very best lives.

As I spent some of my time away from campus during our holiday break, my thoughts were often drawn to the work we have accomplished over the past year and the possibilities that the future holds for our College.

Almost six years ago, as I listened to the report of a trusted advisor who we had asked to prepare an assessment of the readiness of our alumni and friends for a fundraising campaign, I admit that I wasn’t focused on “possibilities.” Our advisor had met with a group of alumni and friends to determine the size and scope of the comprehensive fundraising campaign we were hoping to begin and his report was not as positive as I had hoped. His belief was that we would be able to raise approximately \$12 million, based on his data and experience.

That was a turning point for me – I realized in those moments that we were going to have to believe in the possibilities rather than just the data. If we were to make good on some of the promises that we had made, we were going to have to step out in faith and do something that hadn’t been done before at Wilmington College – challenge our supporters with a vision that wasn’t undergirded with the necessary data. We were going to have to believe in “possibilities” as if they were “certainties.”

Over the past six years, we have come to many of you with our vision and asked for your support. Many alumni and friends of the College have acted in a sacrificial way and have provided us with funding and commitments to help us achieve many of the goals we have set for this phase of our fundraising. The

support from many of you has been overwhelming and humbling – many have gone beyond what we could have imagined in their giving but every gift was a meaningful gift to the College. Each gift was and will be used for our mighty purpose – to educate students for lives of service and success.

As you’ll read in this issue of *The LINK*, we finished our comprehensive campaign at the end of 2017. As I write this on a very cold morning in early January, our final totals aren’t fully tallied but we have exceeded our audacious goal by raising over \$21.2 million – almost \$10 million more than was predicted we could raise. It’s through the generosity of alumni and friends of the College that we were able to accomplish this historic milestone and I don’t have the words to convey my great thanks and appreciation for the willingness you have had to support Wilmington College.

In just over two years from now, the College will celebrate another milestone – the 150th anniversary of the founding of Wilmington College. From an \$11,000 price paid for 53 acres of land and a building at auction in 1870, your College has grown and flourished because of your support. Over the coming months, new possibilities will emerge and we will pursue them with our usual vigor. But, nothing will change about our mission. We are privileged to educate the daughters and sons of parents and guardians who want them to have something more than they have had in life.

I hope that each of you know how much we appreciate your support and look forward to seeing many of you back on campus as we continue to believe in possibilities!

With great respect for you all,

Jim Reynolds  
President



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## LINK Staff

**RANDY SARVIS**  
Managing Editor

**MITCH BLANKESPOOR**  
Dir. of Athletics Communication

**GARY STOVER '12**  
Website/Social Media Manager

**MICHELLE MONTGOMERY**  
Class Notes

## ON THE COVER

*Students in this fall's Collegiate Relay for Life traverse the course along the newly installed, colorful banners featuring the College's core values. Those along with banners portraying WC's logo and tagline ("Hands-on Learning. Hands-on Living") line the sidewalks and parking lots from College Hall to the Center for the Sciences and Agriculture.*



### [P. 3] VICTORY!

*The College's epic, seven-year, \$21.2 million comprehensive campaign known as Leave Your Mark concluded Dec. 31 with fundraising totals exceeding the ambitious goal.*



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### [p.44] EMMY AWARD

*2003 alumnus Jamar Black received an Emmy Award for his breaking news coverage of the fatal shooting of a police officer in St. Louis.*

Your comments are welcome.

Please email [rsarvis@wilmington.edu](mailto:rsarvis@wilmington.edu) or write LINK editor, Pyle Center Box 1265, 1870 Quaker Way, Wilmington, OH 45177 | 937.382.6661 | [www.wilmington.edu](http://www.wilmington.edu)

Wilmington College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission: [info@hicommission.org](mailto:info@hicommission.org) 230 North LaSalle St., Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1411 or 312.263.0456 or 800.621.7440

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*Students are the greatest beneficiaries of the College's successful Leave Your Mark fundraising campaign.*

# VICTORY!

## Epic campaign exceeds \$21.2 million goal

Wilmington College's historic Leave Your Mark Campaign — the largest in the institution's history — concluded Dec. 31 by surpassing its \$21.2 million goal.

While the final numbers may change slightly as outgoing gifts are factored in, the College raised a record \$21.3 million from some 3,500 donors during the campaign's duration.

The seven-year comprehensive campaign included funding for such major capital projects as the Center for the Sciences and Agriculture and the Center for Sport Sciences. In

addition to new facilities and the renovation of Bailey Hall into an academic building, the fundraising endeavor also provided support for current operations and investing in people, programs and infrastructure through such areas as student scholarships, international study, campus technology and career services.

President Jim Reynolds is elated with the successful conclusion to "this historic campaign" and expressed his appreciation for each gift and the donors' belief in Wilmington College.



“Many alumni and friends of the College have acted in a sacrificial way in providing us with funding and commitments to help us achieve this goal,” he said, noting the extraordinary support from many is both “overwhelming and humbling,” and represents a strong belief in the College’s mission and vision for the future.

“Each gift was and will be used for our mighty purpose – to educate students for lives of service and success.”

Reynolds noted how a campaign feasibility study of potential donors and the College’s philanthropic history indicated that – based upon empirical data – the College could expect to raise a maximum of \$12 million.

“That was a turning point for me,” Reynolds added. “I realized in those moments that we were going to have to believe in the possibilities rather than just the data. We were going to have to believe in possibilities as if they were certainties.”

If the comprehensive campaign were a marathon, then it exhibited a strong finishing kick on the bell lap as it brought in some \$1.6 million during its final six months to put it over the top as it crossed the finish line Dec. 31.

Matt Wahrhaftig, vice president for advancement, said a number of alumni and friends stepped up in the campaign’s waning months to ensure its success.

“This was a comprehensive campaign so all gifts – large and small, restricted and unrestricted – counted toward the total, including planned gifts and those given for The Wilmington Fund,” he said, noting how encouraged he was when some donors offered additional gifts that served to achieve and exceed the \$21.2 million goal.



*Senior Daniel Hall works with Dr. Doug Woodmansee, professor of biology, on a student/faculty research project in one of the biology labs in the Center for the Sciences and Agriculture.*

The campaign realized a record six gifts of \$1 million or more, 30 of \$100,000 or more and 151 exceeding \$10,000. The total gift amount represents a record for any fundraising campaign in the College’s nearly 150-year history.

“We greatly appreciate the generosity shown by stakeholders of Wilmington College to be a part of this historic endeavor on behalf of our students – current and future,” he added.

## WC SETS #GIVINGTUESDAY RECORD AT \$50K

Students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of Wilmington College marshaled forces on #GivingTuesday to more than double last year’s record amount of gifts received in the 24-hour period.

The College raised \$50,386 from 285 donors on #GivingTuesday, the day in which persons across the nation give to their favorite charities and not-for-profit organizations and institutions. It’s the philanthropic brother to the popular Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions following Thanksgiving.

WC’s #GivingTuesday more than eclipsed last year’s efforts, which brought in a then-record \$23,615.

Matt Wahrhaftig, vice president for advancement at WC, expressed his elation with the support the College received from its stakeholders.

“Several of our leadership donors made challenge gifts in which they agreed to fund special projects if support achieved certain thresholds for giving amounts and/or number of donors,” he said.

Indeed, #GivingTuesday support “helped to unlock” such challenge gifts as a mobile charging station for the student center, two iMac Pro computers for the Communication Arts



Dept., a large format plotter printer, \$700 to underwrite the cost of printing *Woodhouse* literary magazine, \$5,000 for the Peace Resource Center to create a fund in support of student engagement in peace and nonviolence activities, and special assistance for the newly formed Quaker Thunder Pep Band.



Students gained empathy for the plight of refugees in a several-hour exercise called Passages. Pictured are blindfolded refugees corralled in a holding area while some await word of family members' fate.

# 'WELCOMING THE OTHER'

Westheimer Peace Symposium examines refugee crisis

Randy Sarvis

Nearly 100 blindfolded students were packed like livestock into a makeshift corral on Collett Mall as belligerent guards barked out orders in multiple languages, often inexplicably taking away "family members" from their loved ones without explanation.

Does that scenario sound confusing, chaotic and terrifying? Those visceral feelings were intended as students, faculty and staff participated in an exercise known as Passages, which sought to simulate the plight of many refugees placed in holding camps on their journey to what they hope — with no guarantee — will be a safe and stable life.

Another activity in the three-hour "game" involved a simulation of crossing the border into the unknown via crawling under what might be a razor wire or electrified fence.

The exercises evoked such questions as, "How did you feel being in a confined space, in the dark and not knowing what was going on?" and "How would you feel discussing with your family the prospect of returning to the inescapable terror in your village or crossing the border fraught with peril into the unknown?"

This hands-on learning experience provided a focal part of the 27th annual Westheimer Peace Symposium, which examined the theme, "Welcoming the Other: An Exploration of Diversity and Inclusion through the Experiences of Refugees."

President Jim Reynolds described the daylong-plus program as providing "a space where important voices can be heard" and a signature event in which students encounter

**The 3.8 million Syrian refugees are a microcosm of the 66 million displaced persons worldwide to which the solution is "waging peace with the same ferocity and passion as those who wage war." — JIM KEADY**



the College's core values.

"Our Quaker heritage places peace, nonviolence and social justice at the heart of the institution's mission," he said. "These values shape what we do and inform who we are — they are fundamental to teaching and learning at Wilmington College."

Keynote speaker Jim Keady said seeing the much-publicized photo of a lifeless Syrian boy washed upon a Turkish beach led him to volunteer on the Greek island of Lesbos, which has become a popular refuge and staging destination for Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan refugees fleeing their homelands.

"It's the greatest refugee crisis since World War II — all these people want is to be safe," said Keady, who first became a well-known human rights advocate when he went undercover in an Indonesian Nike shoe factory.

He shared the story of meeting Jafar, a 20-year-old professional soccer player who fled the Taliban's brutal rule in Afghanistan. When the Taliban attacked Jafar's neighborhood, his mother warned him, "Don't ever come back here. You'll never be safe."

Jafar, who is now in Germany, was one of the lucky ones who survived the perilous journey through Iran to Turkey, where the Turkish mafia — for a price — smuggles refugees to Lesbos, often sending dozens into treacherous seas aboard 16-man rafts.

Keady said the refugee crisis stems from the geopolitical realities in places like Syria, where the populace is caught in the middle of Bashar al-Assad's tyrannical rule, Isis terrorism and the freedom fighters — and the powers that support those entities: Russia, Iran and the American coalition.

Keady said the 3.8 million Syrian refugees are a microcosm of the 66 million displaced persons worldwide to which the solution is "waging peace with the same ferocity and passion as those who wage war."

He urged college students to get involved. In fact, they have a "moral responsibility" to the other 99 percent of this



*Jim Keady returned to Wilmington College, this time to share first-hand knowledge of the refugee crisis. He assisted refugees who left their homes in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, and successfully navigated the perilous journey to the Greek island of Lesbos.*

planet.

"You have tremendous power to change these situations," he said in posing them with such questions as: How do I get involved? What's my calling? How do I use my passion to leave the world a better place than I found it?

"Pick something and really dig into it," Keady added. "You've been given such a gift studying here in an incredible community with an awesome set of values. Go out and make a difference with your lives!"

Other Peace Symposium activities featured Dr. Catherine Roma, emeritus professor of music, bringing the Yellow Springs-based World House Choir back to WC, where they performed such numbers as "Lead with Love," "Room at the Table" and "I Stand for You."

Also, an inter-faith panel concurred that their collective religions call upon them to welcome the "other."

"When I read in the Scripture that Jesus was a refugee, that gives me the lens on how to view my brothers and sisters who are refugees," said the Rev. Canon Manoj Zacharia, vice dean of Christ Cathedral in Cincinnati. "We are called upon to see the other as another human being and child of God."

Sandra Spinner, with the Hebrew Immigration Aid Society in Cincinnati, considers two Afghan refugees as her "spiritual daughters." She said that helping refugees is part of her Jewish upbringing and understanding, while "treating refugees as the enemy is an insult to God."

Dr. Ashraf Traboulsi, a Cincinnati pharmacist associated with that city's Islamic Center, concurred with Zacharia that, "All major faith figures — Jesus, Moses and Mohammad — were all refugees and they became people who changed the world. From a faith perspective, (welcoming refugees) is our responsibility."



*The Rev. Canon Manoj Zacharia (RIGHT), vice dean of Christ Cathedral in Cincinnati, and Sarah Spinner, with the Hebrew Immigration Aid Society in Cincinnati, speak about the faith community's imperative to care for refugees.*



*An enthusiastic crowd had lots to cheer about for much of the Homecoming game as fans wave their lime-colored rally towels in response to a Fightin' Quakers' touchdown.*

## Alumni return to alma mater for Homecoming

Sunny skies and almost balmy temperatures enhanced an idyllic campus backdrop as several hundred Wilmington College alumni and friends renewed the annual autumn tradition of Homecoming Oct. 13 and 14.

Bolstering the number of former students on campus was WC's annual Alumni Reunion Weekend, which was held concurrently with the Homecoming festivities and featured the Class of 1967's 50th anniversary reunion.

Seniors Brandin Williams-Johnson and Brittany Montgomery were crowned Homecoming king and queen. He is an athletic training major from Cincinnati and she is a criminal justice major, also from Cincinnati.

The Fightin' Quakers football team treated fans to an exciting, high-scoring football game that kept fans in the stands until the final gun, although Marietta College got away with a 43-33 decision. That evening, the men's soccer team overcame a 2-1 second-half deficit to beat Marietta 3-2 in overtime.

Other home sports included Friday's #Jenna Strong Cross Country Fall Classic at which some 800 runners traversed through the College's course.

Students competed in traditional events throughout the weekend, including the Men's Volleyball Club coming out on top in the Mud Volleyball Tournament, the Delta Tau Sigma/DTS Lil Sis team winning the Greek Bed Races and the Wilmington College Chorale taking first place in the Homecoming Banner Contest.

Other highlights included the presentation of alumni awards and the Athletic Hall of Fame induction. Alumni citations for "Outstanding Professional Accomplishments" went to Stephenie Eriksson '97 for her celebrated teaching career and Paul Moke '75 for his scholarship and work for social justice.

The 2017 Hall of Fame class features: Nicole Woods Hurley '02, women's soccer; Steve Magoteaux '75, football; Alex Van der Sluijs '07, men's soccer; Mike Wallace, football coach; and Ashley Johnson Wolf '07, track and field.

Also, Homecoming revelers enjoyed a pre-game concert by Coastal Club and a Food Truck Rally. Reunions of numerous College affinity groups were held throughout the weekend.

Top Left: Freshman Cameron Phelps of MVC (Men's Volleyball Club) takes a swipe at the volleyball while engulfed in oozing mud in the Student Alumni Association's annual Homecoming Mud Volleyball Tournament, which MVC won.



Top Right: Catching up at the Concerned Black Students/Black Student Initiative reunion are, from the left, Aaron Day, Ivory Elms '14 and Fred Taylor '11.



Middle Left: The Wilmington College Chorale proved they are not only aurally talented but also artistic as they won the Homecoming Banner Contest.



Members of the winning Delta Theta Sigma/DTS Lil Sis Homecoming bed racing team are, from the left: FRONT ROW – Brooke Weeks, Kayla Love and Zach Dirmeyer; and BACK ROW – Emily Brautigam, Ethan Foley and Harrison Patton.



Enjoying an informal reunion while tailgating at Homecoming are, from the left, Taylor Scott '17, Chris Hein '17, Leevi Stump '17, Tim Wiederhold '15, Erin Wollett '15, Jonathan Crook '10 and Matt Bates '12.



Seniors Brandin Williams-Johnson and Brittany Montgomery reigned over Homecoming festivities as king and queen.



FERTILE GROUNDS

*Coffee & Roastery*

# 'WE ROAST, WE BREW, WE ROAM'

## Prof goes to great lengths for a good cup o' joe

*Randy Sarvis*

Dr. Corey Cockerill was especially excited at the end of fall semester. She had secured a batch of Tanzanian coffee beans and was close to having perfected their roasting.

"It's really good," she said with a sparkle in her eye. "It has a sweet cocoa, caramel smell and it's very smooth."

The associate professor of communication arts and agriculture fulfilled a lifelong dream in 2017 by opening Fertile Grounds Coffee and Roastery, a side business in which she not only roasts beans for retail sale but also takes the show on the road to rural locations desiring some of the best coffee in the land. The stainless steel trailer emblazoned with the Fertile Grounds logo was a summertime fixture in Clinton and neighboring counties as it hopped from outside city buildings and fitness centers to farmers' markets and farmers' fields, and even joined the food truck rally at Wilmington College's Homecoming, where she enjoyed "a non-stop line" of friends, students and alumni.

"In rural southwest Ohio, you have to go where the people are," she said.

Indeed, Starbucks may claim a store on every street in major cities, but not in rural locales where finding good coffee can be as difficult as the proverbial needle in a haystack.

"For so long, I saw our farmers stand around the gas station coffeepot — it's usually bad coffee," Cockerill said in sharing her observation on how coffee — good or bad — is often a common denominator in facilitating a sense of community among farmers and other rural inhabitants.

Enter a self-proclaimed "coffee snob."

At age 19, Cockerill worked on a coffee farm in Costa Rica for four months. That experience "enlightened" her to what constitutes great coffee and instilled an appreciation for how it's produced. She had easy access to some of Columbus' best coffee shops while completing her undergraduate and graduate studies at Ohio State University. However, subsequently marrying Tate Cockerill '03 and moving to Highland County, coupled with joining the faculty at Wilmington College, in some ways, cut her off from her beloved daily elixir.

"I've sought out good coffee since living in Costa Rica," she said, noting the combination of "really missing" her espresso drinks and realizing that farmers all drink coffee led her to share an idea with Tate.

"We should open up a coffee shop with a drive through window high enough for farmers' combines to use," she said. But the Cockerills' real jobs and rearing two young children at least put that fantasy on hold. "So I tucked away

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**That experience "enlightened" her to what constitutes great coffee and instilled an appreciation for how it's produced.**



that life dream.”

Around Christmas 2016, Cockerill, then nearly 40 and contemplating the new year, decided the time was right: “It’s now or never if we’re going to have fun with this.” She purchased a roaster and began roasting beans in her garage, but quickly realized coffee bean roasting is both an art and a science.

“We had flubs. We burned beans. Our garage smelled like burnt popcorn in a microwave,” Cockerill recalled. She and Tate researched YouTube videos, solicited advice from knowledgeable persons and continued roasting by trial and error before they finally produced a brew that was “drinkable.”

“You have to know the bean before you roast it — the geography, characteristics, personality and nuances of each bean, and you have to follow the science,” she said.

Cockerill mentioned factors like temperature curves, first crack and second crack — influences that release the beans’ oils and sugars, in essence, its flavor. “Most of the time now, I go by sounds and smells.”

She soon sold bags of her roasts through area specialty shops, small restaurants and the newly opened Kava Haus in Wilmington. Demand quickly exceeded her expectations, but something was missing: that up-close-and-personal connection to the persons who inspired her venture in the first place: those farmers that chatted over coffee at 5 a.m. and the many others found in the heart of rural America with whom she closely identifies.

**“We should open up a coffee shop with a drive through window high enough for farmers’ combines to use.”**

– COREY COCKERILL

“People liked my beans and I thought, ‘I wish we could brew the beans too,’” she said, adding that, since it wasn’t yet feasible to open her own coffee shop with set hours and costly overhead, “What if we got something like an ice cream truck and drove around with our coffee?”

Summer coincided with the purchase of the Fertile Grounds trailer, which led to the motto: “We roast, we brew, we roam.” She used social media to direct her clientele on where to find her mobile coffee shop with its Costa Rican, Sumatran and Peruvian roasts, lattes, espresso, chai, iced tea and cappuccino.

Harkening country life, Cockerill’s specialty drinks boast names like Early Frost (white chocolate/caramel latte), Cream of the Crop (chai with half-n-half), Nut Brown Cow (hazelnut vanilla cold brew) and Farmer’s Tan (salted caramel chai with espresso).

“It’s just fun,” she said. “I can’t believe how good coffee makes people feel.”



Corey Cockerill and her 10-year-old daughter, Lila, take a quick time out from serving the “non-stop” flow of customers at WC’s Homecoming food truck rally in October.

# 'AG-VOCATES'

Agriculture students find their voice through Capitol Hill lobbying experience



*Sophomore Sara Pope is pictured on the National Mall with the U.S. Capitol in the background.*

*Randy Sarvis*

Fewer than two percent of Americans are responsible for growing the nation's food — and that number is shrinking, which means those in agriculture must be front and center in contributing to the country's farm policy.

Wilmington College is providing its agriculture students with tools to accomplish this feat by facilitating their ability to lobby elected officials.

WC's Spring Lobby Weekend in Washington, D.C. — long a signature hands-on learning activity — has expanded to feature agriculture-focused, lobbying instruction and experiences each fall in the Nation's Capital.

Dr. Monte Anderson, professor of agriculture, said the lobby trips directly address the College's core value of civic engagement, as well as its hallmark for hands-on learning.

"The past three years, the agriculture students have taken seven trips to Washington to learn and advocate for issues that impact food security, production and safety," he said.

"The faculty members who accompany them are always amazed how the students truly start to learn and understand the issues and are then able to articulate their points of view, as well as appreciate the other side of the issue," Anderson added. "These trips reinforce the value of hands on learning and living."

Dr. Corey Cockerill, associate professor of communication arts and agriculture, explained why the College places a premium on providing its agriculture students with this distinct opportunity.

"The lobby experience is really about helping students find their voice," she said, noting that ag students already understand issues at the farm level more intimately than the other 98 percent. "Helping students understand how to bring forward those issues and experiences into public and political realms is a priority of ours as faculty."

Cockerill said WC's agriculture students are used to the College's learning-by-doing philosophy through activities at the College Farm, in labs and other outside-the-classroom experiences, so traveling to Washington to lobby has become a much-anticipated component of their education.

"Ag students are hands-on by nature and necessity," she said. "This experience teaches them how to be hands-on advocates — what we call 'ag-vocates' — for a stable food system now and into the future."

The students learn from insiders about an agricultural issue followed by intensive sessions on how to lobby from the Friends Committee on National Legislation's expert

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**"Being there was fascinating. I realized, 'Wow, I want to have an impact in the future.'"**

— SARA POPE



staff. Some even prepare for the excursion by taking an optional practicum course in agricultural policy.

This fall, 51 agriculture students in two groups went to Washington. First, new students made the trip in which they lobbied on the Farm Bill facing Congress, followed several weeks later by a cadre of lobbying veterans for advanced sessions highlighting trade while meeting with FCNL and staff and stakeholders at various embassies.

One of those veterans from a previous trip was Sara Pope, a sophomore from Sunman, Ind., majoring in agricultural policy and education. Her trip as a freshman in fall 2016 was literally life changing.

“My interest in the policy side of agriculture came out from that lobby trip,” she said, noting that it prompted her to change her major to include ag-policy, which features an approved curriculum unique to her interests.

“I want to be an agriculture teacher but I also want to have that background in ag-policy,” she added. “I loved lobbying and being in Washington, D.C. I felt like I made a difference and could continue to make an impact. The experience helped me find my voice and get me out of my comfort zone.”

A highlight of that experience was lobbying her Congressman, Rep. Luke Messer (R-6th District), with whom she discussed the 2016 lobbying topic of pollinators in the habitat. Following their meeting, she had the opportunity to view the House of Representatives in action debating a bill on the floor of the U.S. Capitol.

“We sat in Congress watching the process unfold,” she recalled. “Being there was fascinating. I realized, ‘Wow, I want to have an impact in the future.’ There are so many hot topics in agriculture like the Farm Bill. It’s important to share your views, feelings and hopes with your elected representatives.”



Wilmington College agriculture students pose in front of the U.S. Capitol.



Planning their presentation are, from the left, Nicholas Yirak, Ashley Dailey and Aryn Copeland at American Farm Bureau Federation headquarters.

That immersion into politics a month into her freshman year led to Pope returning to Washington in March for WC’s annual Spring Lobby Trip. With that experience under her belt, she took on the responsibility of being a student leader on the 2017 fall trips for agriculture students. She worked with the College, Ohio Farm Bureau and FCNL in handling the numerous logistics required for several dozen students to have the fulfilling experience she enjoyed.

“It was fun to see all the planning and organizing we did unfold over those three-day trips – it was stressful but a lot of fun. I slept really well when it was over.”

Another factor in her sleeping well upon returning to the College might have been the nearly 25 miles she walked over those three days not only on lobbying business, but also visiting the monuments, memorials and museums.

“Sometimes those three days feel like a marathon, but I’m hooked on Washington, D.C., and on lobbying after being there four times in the last year,” she said.

Pope noted how one of WC’s trip leaders told students that Washington was built to intimidate them with its grandiose buildings, impressive monuments and “important people” scurrying around in doing the nation’s business.

“At first I thought, ‘Why would my Congressman want to talk to me?’ Now I’m aware that they want to talk to their constituents and get to know what’s important to them. Lobbying should be important to everybody.”

Pope relishes the experiences she’s already gained not even halfway through her sophomore year: a growing interest in agriculture policy that prompted her to change majors, her expanding sphere of interests, leading two trips and her newfound ability to confidently navigate both Washington, D.C., and the halls of Congress.

“All because of three days my first semester at Wilmington College!”

# FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

Senior holds summer internship with Quaker organization in Moscow



Red Square with St. Basil's Cathedral and the Kremlin dominate the Moscow skyline.

Randy Sarvis

Anna Belokur didn't quite know what to expect when she embarked upon her summer in Russia, yet she was up for the challenge in a nation that's often portrayed in the West as "aggressive, menacing and corrupt."

"The United States and Russia have had a far from friendly relationship in the past century, and it's reflected in our popular culture," she said. "Most of us grow up thinking of Russians as Bond villains, mad scientists and stone-faced Olympians, when, in reality, Ivan Drago (the steel-eyed Russian prizefighter from *Rocky V*) depicts the everyday Russian as much as Indiana Jones depicts an everyday American."

Ultimately, she found Russians overwhelmingly "kind, generous, funny and open-minded," a far cry from the popular characterization on her daily newsfeed.

Belokur is a senior from Towanda, Pa., majoring in biology. Her family heritage is Ukrainian, so her interest in spending time in Russia went beyond her intrepid and independent nature. Years ago, she enrolled in an intensive, eight-week

immersion course to learn the Russian language at Middlebury College in Vermont — so what better place to use those language skills than during a summer in Moscow?

She followed her mother, 1979 WC graduate Ruth Tonachel, to Wilmington College, where political science professor Michael Snarr learned about her Ukrainian background. He pointed her in the direction of having an internship with the Quakers' humanitarian presence in Russia. Friends House Moscow (FHM) is an organization that supports grassroots programs geared toward nonviolence, equality and social justice in Russia. Snarr further enticed her with the College's Isaac Harvey Fund, which assists students when traveling to participate in programs that align with Quaker values.

"FHM seeks to build peace in Russia's highly militarized society," Belokur said, noting she was able to use her Russian language skills to translate documents into English and proofread an academic paper on pacifism written in "broken English." Among other projects, she also reorganized FHM's extensive library, which, to her surprise, provided insight into the international impact of her College.

"I never failed to be amazed at the authors I came across who were alumni of Wilmington College — 5,000 miles

**"It's a beautiful, incredible, albeit highly militarized, city."**

— ANNA BELOKUR



Before leaving for Russia, she was concerned her iPhone and Nikes would readily identify her as an American, only to find those popular culture items are just as prevalent in Moscow.



away!" she said. "I now have a far deeper appreciation for the role that my school and the local community play in the global Quaker community."

Outside of her internship, Belokur had ample opportunity to experience Moscow — from sharing a tiny apartment with a 90-year-old woman with "a Soviet view of the world" and meeting young Russians with their Nikes and iPhones to visiting world class art galleries and exploring the "very international" city she compares to Washington, D.C., for its culture, cosmopolitan sensibilities and accouterments of the federal government.

"It's a beautiful, incredible — albeit highly militarized — city," she said. "You'll see retired people from Michigan walking around with binoculars and a lot of Europeans — it's a hub for people from a lot of different places."

Muscovites also were curious about what motivated a young American woman to spend the summer in Russia and they shared their fascination with America. "I repeatedly heard people say things like, 'My cousin visited Miami and liked it' or 'I always wanted to drive Route 66.'"

At times, conversations touched upon each country's government and politics — Donald Trump's America and Vladimir Putin's Russia.

"Russians seem to have much less of a belief the government is the be-all and end-all of their lives," she said in hearkening the eras of the Soviet Union, glasnost /pere-

stroika and Russia of 2017. "They're a little more que sera sera than we are about their government because they've been through so much."

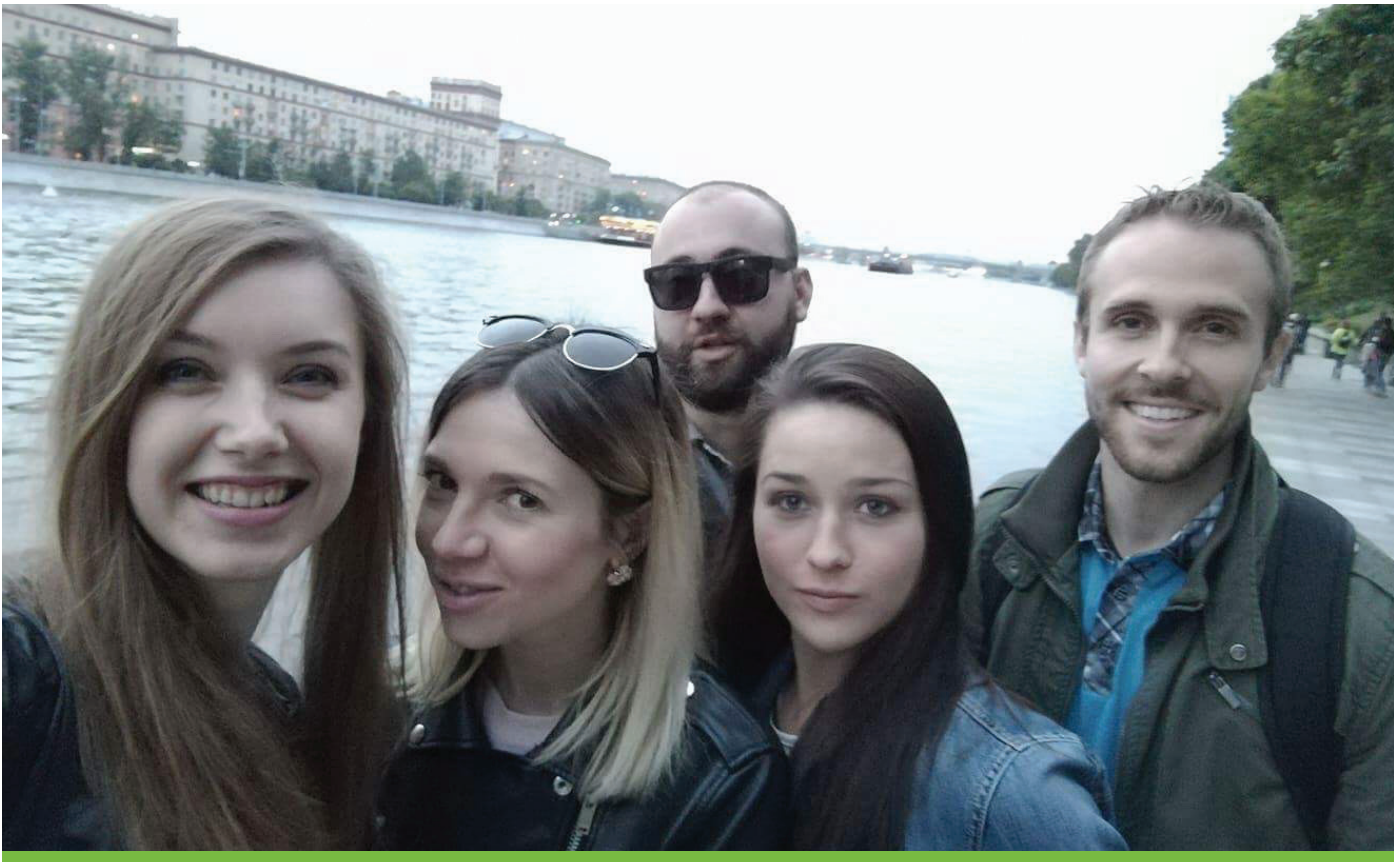
Recalling her Russian experience from the vantage point of midway through her senior year, Belokur relishes her journey of time, place and self-discovery to a land many Americans view with trepidation.

"It's not like going to France or elsewhere in Western Europe, which a lot of college students do," she said in alluding to her destination as perhaps more edgy or daring than where many students travel. "I have a greater sense now that safety is more of an internal coping ability than anything external. It's you who decides how safe you are in 99 percent of circumstances.

"I had outdated ideas about safety — stereotypes versus reality," she added, noting that the same "stereotypes versus reality" argument can be made for what she discovered about the Russian people.

"I found myself welcomed by so many people," Belokur said, "Although it can't be denied that there are significant cultural differences between our two countries, it's worth noting that Russians are often portrayed in news and film as being fundamentally different from Americans in character and nature — this is a complete fabrication.

"The overwhelming majority of the people I met in Russia were kind, generous, funny and open-minded."



*Anna Belokur is pictured with Russian friends during her three months in Moscow last summer.*



# FALL EVENTS COMPLEMENT THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

*Freshman Kiona France views the eclipse through special safety glasses, which were generously shared as students, faculty and staff gathered throughout Collett Mall viewing the solar/lunar phenomenon.*

## Semester opens with spectacular solar eclipse

While Wilmington was a few hundred miles north of the total solar eclipse path, it was close enough to provide for a fascinating scenario on the first day of fall semester classes, Aug. 21. The campus community came together in sharing this amazing moment as students, faculty and staff shared special viewing glasses and more rudimentary methods for seeing the celestial phenomenon – witness a breakfast cereal box with a hole punched in it – with those traversing Collett Mall that afternoon.

## *Avenue Q* uncovers new frontiers

WC Theatre took on the challenge of incorporating puppets when it presented in November the Tony “Triple Crown” Award-winning musical, *Avenue Q*, in which Princeton and his newfound friends struggled to find jobs, dates and their ever-elusive purpose in life. *Avenue Q*, directed by Wynn Alexander with puppet handling assistance by Kari Shelton Gipson '99, was described as an “adult version of the beloved children’s show in which puppets are friends, monsters are good and life lessons are learned.”



*This scene from WC Theatre’s Avenue Q, the Musical features Joshua Woodward as Princeton and Jessica Fair as Kate Monster. Princeton is seeking his purpose in life.*

The cast featured, among others, Joshua Woodward as Princeton, Jessica Fair as Kate Monster, Andrew Hall as Rod and Keni Brown as Christmas Eve.



Ellen Nilback, a freshman from Sweden, shares a favorite food item in Denmark at the International Club's semiannual International Festival. The specialty, which is called *Danskt smørrebrød* (Danish sandwich), is made with smoked salmon, hard-boiled eggs, mayonnaise and a squirt of lemon on a hard cracker.

## International students share diverse cultures at fall events

The semiannual International Festival and annual Holiday Traditions program provided insight into the College's international students, which this year came to WC from Sweden, Norway, Czech Republic, Costa Rica and Brazil.

The International Club's festival gave the campus an opportunity to sample foods, music and images from a host of foreign nations that also included Denmark, Italy and Korea, while the Holiday Traditions, which is co-sponsored by the offices of Campus Ministry and Diversity and Inclusion, brought to light a host of intriguing traditions.

Families in the Czech Republic enjoy a walk together after a Christmas Eve lunch of borscht soup while Swedes enjoy watching Mickey Mouse cartoons at 3 p.m. sharp and, in Costa Rica, families exchange handmade gifts.



Chip Murdock (RIGHT), director of diversity and inclusion, explains some of Kwansaa's finer points along with Black Student Initiative members Kelly Angevine and Sterling Clark, the latter of whom is holding a ceremonial *skekere*, a rhythm percussion instrument from Africa.

Roman Kirschner, a sophomore from the Czech Republic, was interested to learn that many Americans place the main focus of their Christmas holiday activities on Dec. 25, Christmas Day, while his country celebrates on Christmas Eve. After the borscht and walkabout, his family reconvenes in the evening for a dinner of fried fish or chicken and potato salad, after which young children open gifts from "baby Jesus."

While Kirschner said Santa Claus as Americans recognize him doesn't exist in Czech, Eric Lundquist, a sophomore from Sweden, said Scandinavians know Santa very well, complete with reindeer, the red suit and "ho, ho, ho." Swedish families enjoy traditional foods like meatballs, sausages, potatoes and pickled herring for Christmas Eve dinner, the festivities of which also include older family members singing songs followed by tastes of schnapps. The audience was fascinated to learn that literally every Swedish household tunes in at 15:00 (3 p.m.) to watch cartoons, *Mickey Mouse and Friends* (in Swedish).

"I've seen it for every year of my life," Lundquist said.



Allison Pierce, a junior from Troy, views the early fall Harcum Gallery exhibit by Andrew Yakscoe. This 2017 oil, pastel and graphite on canvas is titled "It Takes a Lot of Guts."

## Gallery exhibits offered something old, something new

Harcum Gallery was the focal point for art when Andrew Yakscoe presented an exhibit of his paintings, titled "It Takes a Lot of Guts," which he described as "reminiscent of Surrealist Automation, stream-of-consciousness writing and other mindful play activities. I employ physical and digital mark-making techniques as studio-based research into historical and contemporary modes of human expression and perception."

Later in the semester, the recently retired Terry Inlow, emeritus assistant professor of art, offered an exhibit of familiar, albeit diverse works he titled "A Mostly Humorous Retrospective." His exhibit featured "social commentary pieces that consist of a key image that is supported by a glyph (title or phrase) that is an inherent part of the piece. These 'commentaries' use humor as a vehicle to deliver their statement," he said.

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES WELCOMES 6 NEW MEMBERS



Elizabeth Garvey



Shannon Isaacs



Jonathan McKay



R. Jay Peterson



Nancy Summers



Susan Terrell Simmons

Six new members joined the ranks of Wilmington College trustees when the Board held its annual fall meetings in mid-October.

They include: Shannon R. Isaacs, Elizabeth Garvey '65, Jonathan C. McKay, R. Jay Peterson, Susan Terrell Simmons and Nancy Summers '65. The group includes two WC alumni, two local residents and five Quakers.

Isaacs, a Quaker, is director of development with the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, while Garvey, a Quaker from Michigan, is a retired educator and longtime private tutor with two master's degrees and a long history of voluntary service for the benefit of young people.

McKay, business development officer for Wilmington Savings Bank, is a Quaker and lifelong resident of Clinton County with numerous relatives who are Wilmington College alumni. Peterson is another local Quaker who is very active with Wilmington Friends Meeting and serves as deputy director of the Clinton County Board of Elections.

Terrell Simmons is a native of Clinton County and member of a Quaker family, who has engaged in a 35-year career in market research for Fortune 500 companies in the pharmaceutical, financial and packaged goods sectors. Summers began a career in social services in Ohio and Pennsylvania before joining the ranks of college faculty at Harrisburg Area Community College, from where she retired and maintains the rank of professor emerita. She also is the author of several books, including *Fundamentals of Case Management Practice*, which is in its fifth edition and sells internationally.



Harlan Cohen presented a compelling program in which he shared ideas for students gaining a sense of balance and personal happiness during their college years.

## Issues & Artists Series hosts *New York Times* bestselling author

Harlan Cohen has helped millions of persons around the world "get comfortable with the uncomfortable" as he tackles often-tough issues with humor, empathy and common sense. He is the author of six books including: *Campus Life Exposed: Advice From The Inside*, *Dad's Expecting Too: An Expectant Parents' Guide* and *The Naked Roommate: And 107 Other Issues*, the latter of which was required reading for new freshmen last summer.

"All I want from you is for you to just be happy," Cohen told his student audience. "Some of you are having the best time of your life and some of you aren't."

He urged everyone to identify three places in which they feel safe and content, and five persons that can be trusted with having their best interests at heart. "College is a time for you to focus on what you want — what is your dream?"



From the left, Kelsey Young, a member of Alpha Phi Kappa sorority, assists Liam, 5, and Ryan Cromwell, 10, grandchildren of Brian '65 and Elaine Frock, with a holiday coloring project at the Alumni Council's annual Cookies with Santa event in early December.



## Special programming coincides with Marshall Plan poster exhibit

The Meriam R. Hare Quaker Heritage Center, which opened its stunning exhibit in June featuring propaganda posters highlighting the post-World War II Marshall Plan, offered further insight into the Cold War and rebuilding of Europe with a series of guest lecturers during the fall semester.

Wittenberg University professor Dr. Christian Raffensperger delved into "The Marshall Plan through the Looking Glass: Soviet Reaction and Response to the Start of the Cold War," while Earlham College's Dr. Elana Passman addressed two European nations' efforts in the continent's reconstruction concurrent with the Marshall Plan in "Beyond the Marshall Plan: The Question of Moral Recovery in Post-war Germany and France."

Also, Dr. Ingo Trauschweizer of Ohio University noted the geopolitical significance of the Marshall Plan over the past seven decades in "The First Pillar of the Atlantic Alliance."

The poster exhibit runs through the end of March.



*The student-produced exhibit, "Voyage of the Phoenix," continues to solicit interest and exposure as the University of Mount Union will feature the acclaimed poster exhibit in March.*



*Strong in number and voice, members of the College Chorale perform such holiday season favorites as "The Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth" and "Mele Kalikimaka."*

## Holiday concerts capped off the term

The Wilmington College Chorale no doubt put its audience in the Christmas spirit when it performed a Winter Holiday Concert program ranging from new arrangements of "Silent Night" and "The Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth" to "Mele Kalikimaka," and the Ukrainian carol, "Carol of the Bells." Alumna Gina Beck Combs '91 directed the group.

Also, that week, the early music ensemble, Collegium Musicum, directed by the recently retired Elizabeth Brookie Haskins '73, emeritus assistant professor of music, presented its semiannual Noon Hour Mini-Concert, a charity event in support of the Clinton County Homeless Shelter. Their repertoire featured 16th century German, French and English dance sets, an arrangement of "Greensleeves" and distinct Christmas music arranged by Bach and Beethoven.

## Student-produced 'Voyage of the Phoenix' exhibit on the road again

The sailing vessel known as *The Phoenix of Hiroshima* may rest in a nautical graveyard somewhere, yet its story as a unique part of Cold War history and the international peace movement remains vital — thanks in part to Wilmington College students.

The WC Peace Resource Center (PRC) poster exhibit, "The Voyage of the *Phoenix*: a Peace Odyssey," will be displayed in March at the University of Mount Union in Alliance. This follows exhibits at the PRC, Dayton International Peace Museum and in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The exhibit highlights PRC-founder Barbara Reynolds' family's global journey, between 1954 and 1958, that propelled them to antinuclear and peace activism. The students — Maraya Wahl, now a senior, and juniors Hillary Mitchell, Jessica Fair and Ellyse Herr — focused on the 1958 peaceful protest by the family sailing into the Pacific nuclear testing zone to protest the use of nuclear weapons and the then-unknown dangers of radiation on persons and the environment. It features original artifacts, photographs and manuscripts from the trip.

## Students meet with job/internship recruiters

Students spanning the spectrum from seniors with graduation on the near horizon to new freshmen starting only their fourth week of classes all benefited from Wilmington College's Career Fair in September.

Nearly three-dozen recruiters from business, industry, higher education and non-profit organizations converged



Senior agronomy major Bryan Walker (LEFT) speaks with Axis Seed recruiter Nathan Louiso at Monday's Career Fair.

at WC's Center for Sport Sciences for an event designed to introduce them to potential future employees, interns and graduate students, as well as provide students with an opportunity to get a foot in the door for landing jobs and internships.

Nina Talley, director of Career Services, said she impresses upon students that good grades and possessing specific skill sets are important, but they shouldn't overlook the necessity of developing good communication and networking skills.

"That point should especially speak to freshmen and others for whom graduation is still years away. Attaining a fulfilling career is a long process in which preparation is a key to success. It is a myth and misconception your career search should start your junior year," Talley said. "It needs to begin when you're a freshman."

She said students should research both their fields of interest and the most desirable employers in those areas in order to "really understand what you're looking for and what companies are looking for. That way, they'll be better prepared to land those good opportunities."

## National Anthem becomes national flashpoint

With a premise of "promoting dialogue, respect and understanding" for all that attended, a campus group known as DNA

(Diversity iN Action) tackled the controversial issue of athletes not standing for the National Anthem with the program "Respecting the Flag: Where Do You Stand When Some Take a Knee?" To start the discussion, two military veterans shared their diverse views.

An Air Force veteran, whose 28 years of service included military action in Panama, Desert Shield and Desert Storm, feels those protesters who kneel disrespect the flag and the veterans who fought to ensure their freedoms. "That is your right as an American to kneel, but there will be consequences," he said, noting that "with freedoms come responsibility and with responsibility comes respect."

Another Air Force veteran — this one a retired colonel who is the child of an African American father and Filipino mother — sees the issue through a different lens.

"When (pro football player) Colin Kaepernick took a knee, I first thought someone was taking an issue to the forefront," he said, stressing that issue was bringing to light unequal treatment of minorities by some police. "He said, 'I'm concerned about this issue and I'm going to use my platform to start a dialogue.'

"But the issue got switched and became about patriotism, then insulting vets. So where's Colin's original conversation? Players are no longer supporting Colin; they're protesting the president."

An African American on the College's coaching staff shared a personal experience illustrating that racial profiling by police isn't only an issue in New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles. "I was pulled over 19 times before I got my first ticket. In fact, I was pulled over in the last month without getting a ticket."



Sigrd Solomon, vice president for Student Life, and Tara Lydy '96, director of the Center for Civic Engagement, lead a group of students during the annual Collegiate Relay for Life. The event raised cancer awareness and funds for research during 12 hours on a pleasantly mild Saturday in October. The event was Lydy's swansong as she completed 19 years working with voluntary service, orientation and other areas in Student Life to pursue an entrepreneurial venture in downtown Wilmington.



# ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$46.5 MILLION  
*FISCAL YEAR 2016*



## SMALL COLLEGE, MAJOR IMPACT

College wields \$46.5 million influence on local economy

The presence of a small college has a great impact on Wilmington and Clinton County's economy to the tune of \$46.5 million.

A study conducted by the University of Cincinnati's Economics Center found Wilmington College to be a major economic driver when considering its hand in 745 jobs in the county, as well as the institution's operations, student spending and capital expenditures.

The research, which focused on the 2015-16 academic year, indicates a \$46.5 million impact in the county largely through direct expenditures and the purchases of its employees and students.

"Wilmington College is embedded in the local community and economy of Clinton County," the study proclaimed. "While the College's main function is to educate its students, it directly and indirectly supports the local economy through purchases, as well as its ability to retain students and workers, who then expend money in the county."

President Jim Reynolds said the study aptly illustrates the wide-ranging multiplier effect WC contributes in the local community.

"The College has long been — and correctly so — perceived as a beacon for higher education and cultural opportunities in Wilmington, Clinton County and southwest Ohio, but this study especially accentuates its role as an economic pillar," Reynolds said. "It's impressive to review the study's findings on the College's ripple effect throughout the community."

Indeed, research discovered that the College directly supported 607 jobs (including its 199 full and part-time employees) and indirectly supported another 138 full and part-time jobs in Clinton County in 2015-16.

The College's economic impact rose significantly from the \$34.4 million realized in the University of Cincinnati's previous study of the College, which covered the 2010-11 fiscal year.



*Eric Lundquist represented the United States in this fall's Global Summit, which assigned students as delegates to such nations as the United States, Iran, Russia, United Kingdom and Turkey.*

# POLY SCI CLASS STAGES GLOBAL SUMMIT

Hands-on learning experience brings to light multiple geopolitical perspectives

*Randy Sarvis*

The Iran nuclear deal was a controversial agreement when approved by the Obama Administration and other major entities on the world stage. It was no less contentious when Wilmington College students assumed the roles of interested nations for a grand debate on its merits.

The class forum of a global summit essentially pitted the United States and Israel against Iran, China, Russia, the United Kingdom, European Union and a host of Arab states in debating the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), which ended longstanding economic sanctions against Iran in exchange for limitations on its nuclear program.

Earlier this year, the Trump Administration pulled American support for JCPOA, which has further alienated such traditional U.S. allies as Germany, France and the U.K.

Dr. Michael Snarr '86, professor of political science, has been staging these summits in his Global Politics classes for some 20 years as a means for highlighting "current, critical issues" in the world. He believes it's an especially effective hands-on learning exercise.

"The global summit, over four class periods, works so well for getting things across," Snarr said. "Students have to learn the material, but it's not like for a test, which is over in an hour and is only between them and me. With the summit, their peers also see them and they depend on each other — as coalitions and alliances are dependent upon multiple partners."

As Snarr considered which students would represent 16 countries and coalitions, he knew the United States would, as always, play a pivotal role in the proceedings. He se-



lected as the American delegate Eric Lundquist, a sophomore from Sweden majoring in political science with a minor in economics.

“It was a big role to be responsible for, especially since it would be difficult to cooperate with some of the other countries at the summit,” Lundquist said, adding he prefers to be tested through this type of collegial interaction that demands quick thinking over more traditional written exams.

“It requires you to do more research and study more to succeed,” he added. “During the summit, we didn’t only have to know the stuff for our own country, but also for the other countries.”

Lundquist scored some major points when — in a debate with the delegate from the United Kingdom, who chastised the Trump Administration for turning its back on the nuclear deal that Pres. Obama supported — his retort was pointing out Great Britain’s exit from the European Union.

“When Eric brought up Brexit, that was a highlight of my 20 years of doing this,” Snarr said, adding that those stu-

**“It was a big role to be responsible for, especially since it would be difficult to cooperate with some of the other countries at the summit.”**

– ERIC LUNDQUIST

dents who “read, digested and integrated into the summit” related events that occurred within hours of the summit scored bonus points.

One such instance was inserting into the dialogue the visit to England the previous weekend by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, which served to illustrate a point about Israel’s relationship with the U.S. and its European allies.

“Students need to keep up on current developments to prevent from being blindsided at the summit,” he said, adding that he’ll sometimes “stir the pot” by sending articles to certain students representing key nations.

Another student who found the summit both enjoyable



*Dr. Michael Snarr served as moderator as he led his students through an exercise similar to sessions the United Nations and other world organizations might stage that are designed to promote understanding, ease tensions among nations and work for mutually beneficial solutions.*

and challenging was Savannah Hooper, a senior majoring in biology with a minor in chemistry, who took Snarr’s course as a means for gaining knowledge about an area diametrically different from her normal pursuits in the sciences.

“This summit made me think and interact on a whole new level,” she said. “It pushed me outside my comfort zone by not only having to prepare, but also having to respond and defend my point.”

Hooper noted that, in her role as the delegate from Israel, she felt somewhat “isolated” when Arab states confronted her country. “The U.S. support for Israel was huge in the summit. If I were solo, it would have been very difficult. Eric (the U.S.) was very convincing and demanding — he did a fabulous job.”

Lundquist added that another interesting component of the experience for him and other students was representing a country “that believes or conducts policies” with which one might not fully agree. “That is why the summit also provided a good look at the other side of an argument.”

Snarr said the global summit resulted in several resolutions passed over the U.S. and Israel’s objections, but that raises the question of how valid or constructive are those or any resolutions without the most powerful country in the world backing them?

“That’s exactly where we are now,” he said, noting students undoubtedly have a better sense of the divisions within the United States and how the world’s geopolitical landscape is currently aligned.

“This year’s was one of the best summits. Top to bottom, this was as good as any class I’ve had.”

# TRANSFORMING LIVES



Senior David Henry chats with trustee Peggy Roads Sturdivant '82 at the Philanthropic Leadership Dinner in October. Henry, a much-celebrated football player and Academic All-American, shared his story at the event.

## Leadership donors and Sam Marble Society members recognized at Philanthropic Leaders Dinner

Senior David Henry shared that, when he arrived at Wilmington College four years ago, the thought of standing up and addressing a room full of adults was daunting if not terrifying.

"I wouldn't even imagine being up here speaking to you, but Wilmington College forced me out of my comfort zone and past my perceived limitations," said Henry, a straight-A student, celebrated football player and campus leader. The sport management/wellness major has thrived at WC. He is a three-time Academic All-American and twice selected nationally as an Arthur Ashe Sports Scholar.

When Henry spoke at the Philanthropic Leaders Recognition Dinner in mid-October, he was that month's reigning Ohio Athletic Conference Student-Athlete-of-the-Month. In addition to his academic and athletic success, Henry, a resident of Wilmington, also serves in the Peer Mentor program and is a resident assistant.

"WC put a lot of responsibility on my plate. I liked that. They challenged me to handle it," he added. "I quickly realized the College was the right fit for me. I wasn't just a number in someone's eyes. From my first visit, everyone here seemed like family and took the time to get to know me



as a person. That sense of community has been very important to me.”

When Henry’s mother, sadly, succumbed to cancer last spring, he found comfort in that sense of community, which made a heartbreakingly difficult time a bit less trying. “It seemed like everyone cared, that they went through it with me. That touched my heart and will stay with me forever.”

From a perspective colored by time — more than 35 years — Peggy Roads Sturdivant ’82 also shared why her WC experience, in the late 1970s to early ’80s, continues to resonate in her life. She looked back on a “WC family that really cared,” along with the experiential learning opportunities, leadership and critical thinking development, service component and “an environment where all people are respected.”

“I realized my success in my professional life was directly related to my experience at WC,” said the current College trustee and member of the Sam Marble Society. “Wilmington College literally changed my life and that’s why it’s important that I support it. I believe you need to put your money where your heart is.”

Christine Hadley Snyder, emeritus Board chair, announced the newest members of the Sam Marble Society, which recognizes those persons who have included the College in their estate plans or have established scholarships or other funds at WC.

Attending their induction into the society were two friends of the College, Robert Johnson, who created an agriculture scholarship in memory of his son, Dick, and Ronald Powell, who established an agriculture scholarship in the name of the Paw Paw Growers Assn.

Others inducted in absentia were Ira G. Hawk ’46, Charles Huntoon ’69, Richard Sauer ’67, Paul and Scilla Wahrhaftig and Kris Williams ’74. Those inducted posthumously included Judson Hess, Robert Horne ’52 and Daniel Rosefsky ’65.

Matt Wahrhaftig ’94, vice president for advancement, who presided over the dinner, thanked the donors for their commitment to the College and said WC has a distinct niche in higher education in which “middle of the road students, like I was, receive the tools and confidence to excel.”

The event was held in the lower level of the Center for Sport Sciences, an unfinished basement that’s literally a diamond in the rough. President Jim Reynolds posed the question, “What could this space be with your help?” He mentioned the College is considering adding an academic program in occupational therapy.

“This is a college that transforms lives; it literally changes family trees,” he said. “I have fallen in love with Wilmington College and this place has done something for you too. With your (continuing) help, we can do great things, remarkable things.”

## Class of ’65 exceeds class gift goal by 50%



*Class of 1965 members Robert Touchton, Nancy Summers, Alan Frankel and David Robinson gather for a photo at the Philanthropic Recognition Dinner. Their class eclipsed its \$100,000 goal, set at its 50th reunion in summer 2015, by giving \$151,369 as of the end of 2017. The class gift included a \$50,000 matching challenge gift from an alumnus who wishes to remain anonymous. The Center for the Sciences and Agriculture features a specially designated “Class of 1965” classroom in honor of the continuing support exhibited by those special alumni.*

# MILESTONES



*Dr. Michele Beery*



*Dr. Jim Boland*



*Dr. Douglas Burks*



*Dr. Caralee Capone*



*Dr. Donald G. Chafin*



*Dr. Alfred R. Conklin*



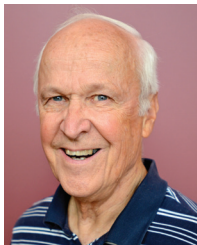
*Judy Harvey*



*Elizabeth Haskins*



*Dr. Esmail Hejazifar*



*Dr. Bill Kincaid*

## Faculty/staff gain accolades, retire and transition

Regional higher education consortiums recognized Dr. BILL KINCAID and Dr. MARLAINA LEPPERT-WAHL with outstanding teaching awards this fall.

Kincaid, professor of mathematics, received the Faculty Excellence Award presented by the Southwest Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE). Now in his 48th year at WC, Kincaid has been a mainstay in the Math Dept. for parts of six decades. He also has served as track and field coach, department chair and co-director of the Math Center.

The Greater Cincinnati Collegiate Consortium (GC3) recognized Leppert-Wahl, assistant professor of political science, with its Teaching Excellence Award. It was noted how she works to “bring the world” to her students through such outside-the-classroom experiences as visiting a synagogue or mosque and sharing Middle Eastern food.

*OHIO* magazine also recognized Kincaid and Leppert-Wahl for teaching excellence in its annual education issue in December.

Retirements after the fall semester included faculty members who served the College for a whopping 191 years. They include: Dr. JIM BOLAND, professor of education, whose work over 32 years also included serving as director of the Peace Resource Center and coordinating ProjectTRUST, the acclaimed anti-bullying program for middle school students; Dr. DOUGLAS BURKS, professor of biology, who shared his passion for biology with his students for 37 years; JUDY HARVEY, assistant professor of English, who in 27 years at WC also assisted students in honing their writing skills at the Writing Center.

Also, Dr. ESMAIL HEJAZIFAR, professor of physics, who over 30 years also introduced many students to



Dr. Marlaina  
Leppert-Wahl



Leon "Bud" Lewis



Tara Lydy



Paul Mandelstein



Dr. James McNelis III



Jayson Ameer Rasheed



Dr. Ron Rembert



Tara Rhinehart



Linda S. Tecklenburg



Dr. Douglas  
Woodmansee

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astronomy via WC's observatories; Dr. JAMES MCNELIS III, professor of English, whose specialty literature courses over 16 years featured studies of zombies and *The Lord of the Rings*; Dr. RON REMBERT, professor of religion and philosophy, who, during his 28 years at WC, illuminated the ancient philosophers' work through his dramatic portrayal of Socrates in Aristotle's classic *The Apology*; and Dr. DOUGLAS WOODMANSEE, professor of biology, who over 26 years shared his interest in parasitology with students through many research opportunities.

Those support and administrative staff that retired include: LEON "BUD" LEWIS, men's soccer coach for 43 years, who also was a key fixture in Student Life; HAROLD PARGEON, plumbing assistant for 11 years; and DONNA BARTON '01, assistant director of financial aid and student loan supervisor since 1986.

Others that left the College since the summer were TARA LYDY '96, who shared her passion for service with students for 19 years as director of the Center for Service and Civic Engagement, and New Student Orientation; JAYSON AMEER RASHEED '00, director of sports information/athletic communication since 2012; Dr. KATHERINE BONTRAGER '91, assistant vice president for academic affairs and institutional effectiveness since 2015; TARA RHINEHART, program coordinator of the Title III Team and previously an assistant in Academic Affairs for three years; and PAUL MANDELSTEIN, network technician in Information Technology since 2015.

Finally, the Board of Trustees, at its October meeting, approved emeritus status for six recently retired faculty members: Dr. MICHELE BEERY, professor emeritus of education; Dr. CARALEE CAPONE, professor emeritus of mathematics; Dr. DONALD G. CHAFIN, professor emeritus of agriculture; Dr. ALFRED R. CONKLIN, professor emeritus of chemistry and agriculture; ELIZABETH HASKINS, assistant professor emeritus of music; and LINDA S. TECKLENBURG, associate professor emeritus of athletic training.



*Doug Burks works with David Spraul '17 in the Chemistry Lab in 2016.*

# DOUG BURKS RETIRES AFTER 37 YEARS ON BIOLOGY FACULTY

*Randy Sarvis*

**“I decided I wanted to teach at a small school where I could help students have that kind of transformation in their lives.”**

– DR. DOUGLAS BURKS

Dr. Douglas Burks is an alumnus of a small Quaker college, where he received what he described as “a life-transforming experience.” That knowledge planted a seed in his head and informed the trajectory of his career as a biologist.

“It really changed me,” he said about attending WC’s sister institution, Earlham College. “I decided I wanted to teach at a small school where I could help students have that kind of transformation in their lives.”

Little did he know as he subsequently earned his Ph.D. from Case Western University that his ambition to teach at a personal-sized school would be realized at a Friends-affiliated institution: enter Wilming-

ton College.

“I was very impressed with Quakers’ philosophy of education and their approach to working with individuals, so I was very enthusiastic about coming to a Quaker college,” said Burks, who joined the faculty in 1980. “It was a dream job. I got everything I was looking for.”

Burks retired — some 37 years later — in December as a professor of biology. He looked back on a career in which, “I’ve enjoyed working with students and watching them grow.”

When Burks joined Drs. Don Troike and Fred Anliot as the third biology professor,

*Continued on Page 32*



# 'LOVING WISDOM'

Ron Rembert retires after 28 years on faculty



*Ron Rembert leafs through a favorite philosophy book late in his final semester of teaching.*

*Randy Sarvis*

Dr. Ron Rembert recalls teaching in Texas and, when attending national gatherings hosted by the Friends Association for Higher Education, realizing a common denominator associated with prominent Quakers like T. Canby Jones and Sterling Olmsted: Wilmington College.

Intrigued with this small school in the Midwest, Rembert, who was teaching at Texas Wesleyan in Fort Worth, jumped at the opportunity when a faculty position in religion and philosophy opened up in 1989. "I always wanted to teach at a Quaker college and meeting Canby and Sterling back then really interested me in coming to Wilmington."

Rembert, professor of religion and philosophy, grew up in Houston near the exclusive Rice University — streets in his neighborhood were named after writers and poets. He followed his older brother into studying philosophy and earned a bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University, his master's from Yale and Ph.D. at Emory University. Growing up in the Methodist faith, he became a Quaker while attend-

ing Yale.

Coming to Wilmington College brought welcome challenges and even a few surprises. Indeed, when Rembert met a very tall figure with a distinctive voice upon arriving at WC, he realized it was Dr. Norman Smith, the vice president for academic affairs, under whom he worked on a summer paint crew while living in Connecticut and attending Yale. Also, he quickly was immersed into the unique world of teaching incarcerated students in the College's then-thriving prison education program.

"That was a very new and meaningful and challenging experience," he said, noting that "privilege" also gave him the opportunity to perform his Socrates one-man show in presenting Plato's *The Apology*. "Doing Socrates at Lebanon Correctional Institution was one of my most memorable experiences."

Students throughout Rembert's 28-year tenure at WC

*Continued on Page 32*



Players hoist Bud Lewis upon their shoulders in celebrating their coach's 500th career victory, a 4-0 thumping of Wittenberg in September.

# GOLDEN GOAL

## Bud Lewis retires after 43 years

Randy Sarvis

Leon "Bud" Lewis recalls an instance in which his historically successful soccer team was struggling to win matches and his son, Gabriel, who was a seminary student, shared a defining piece of wisdom: "Your players have to know that you love them and the rest will sort itself out."

"I didn't let go of that: the key to success is your players have to know you love them and respect them as individuals," said Lewis as he looked back upon his 43 years at the helm of Wilmington College's men's soccer team. "That's the ultimate aspect of family — the love."

Lewis' teams enjoyed much success — 506 wins, 33 winning seasons and 20 conference/district championships — but the constant for 43 years has been "the love" as he built a program around what he affectionately describes as the "Wilmington College Soccer Family."

That extended family was especially present throughout his final season this fall as alumni and parents of former players paid tribute to the only head coach this program has known since 1975.

"I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude and appreciation," he said, noting how "humbling" was the outpouring by alumni, who shared favorite memories and stories of how

Lewis played an important or even transformational role in their lives. "You never can underestimate how little things can influence a person's life in positive, and negative, ways."

In August, as former players returned for the annual Alumni Game, Lewis huddled them up before kickoff and told them it was 42 years earlier when he first spoke in a team huddle at WC — and this would be his last with them. Many alumni returned to watch matches throughout the season, including seeing Lewis at the Homecoming game — a thrilling 3-2 overtime win — and his final home match later in October. Others sent video and written messages that were compiled and presented to the coach, all evoking pleasant memories over 43 seasons.

In 1975, Lewis, a soccer standout with state champion Penfield High School (NY) and All-American at Bowling Green State University, was playing professional soccer with the Cincinnati Comets when he learned WC needed a soccer coach — and fast. When WC hired him for \$750 and room and board, "I was a happy camper," he said. Lewis was introduced to his 15 players, six of whom were from Malaysia. At the first training session when the team was required to run the mile in under six minutes, the Malaysians labored



through a single lap in street shoes before telling Lewis, “Coach, we’ve decided to focus on academics.”

Lewis was able to secure some players from football coach Bill Ramseyer’s 130-man roster and field a team that won three games. Understanding it was a single year coaching opportunity, Lewis returned to New York to play for the Buffalo Blazers the next summer when athletic director Ramseyer contacted him about coaching and working in the Admission Office.

“Not sure why I went back,” he said. “I guess that is just how it was supposed to be. Some call it providence — and I would agree.” (*That statement sounds like one of Lewis’ poems, for which he was well-known in his early years at WC.*)

That 1976 team only won three games, but Lewis was off and running. He recruited scoring machine Steve Spirk ’82 and goalkeeper Billy Hardman ’81 as freshmen on his 1977 team, which went 13–3 and played in the NAIA District Playoffs. That season initiated a remarkable 30-year streak of winning seasons that included great success in the playoffs. The 1986 team advanced to the Final Four. His Fightin’ Quakers won 20 conference and district championships and played in nine NAIA or NCAA national tournaments. The 1996, 2000 and 2004 teams advanced to the NCAA “Sweet 16.”

“Coaching was an opportunity to play out my passion for the sport,” Lewis said, adding he also found his work outside of athletics as especially fulfilling.

In the late 1970s, Lewis moved from admission to the Student Life area. He was directly involved with establishing Activities Planning Board, Greek Council, Leaders Scholarship Program, wellness programs and the New Student Convocation. His work with Greeks continued through this fall, and he’s especially proud of the recent Greek Excellence program, which “has helped Greek organizations grow in healthy ways,” he said.

Lewis’ work in Student Life “provided balance” in his work life and served as a means for his engaging with students outside of athletics. “It was an opportunity to work with players outside the soccer arena, to see another part of their lives,” he said. “I saw them grow up here and find a purpose that wasn’t only on the soccer field.”

It also offered a chance for working “hands-on” with non-athletes whose passions included service, leadership and building campus organizations.

While Lewis was tempted several times to consider coaching at larger schools, he quickly came back to realize what he established in Wilmington both professionally and for his family. Also, he developed a very successful summer camp business with Midwest Soccer Academy.

“Early on, I recognized higher education is a tremendous work environment and I liked the idea of raising our children in a small college community — that’s such a rich environment,” Lewis said, adding that he and Margo, his wife of 35 years, and their three children (Gabriel, Andrew and Emily) became rooted in the community through WC, church, school and other affiliations. “Margo has been so supportive and such a critical person in all I do.” (*Lewis was quick to add that former player Rob Russo ’78 introduced him to Margo.*)

“I decided this is where I wanted to finish my coaching

career.”

As he spoke about mentors, his Penfield coach, George Steitz, and Mickey Cochrane at BGSU quickly came to mind as major influences. Lewis described Steitz as “very tactical and creative, had a great way with players and he knew how to win,” while Cochrane was “a hard worker, Knute Rockne-like with integrity and a great personality.

“I certainly wanted to emulate the team chemistry and sense of camaraderie Mickey established,” he said. “I was fortunate to have played for both men.”

Lewis’ former players have coached soccer and consider him a mentor while many more also regard him as a life mentor. For Lewis, soccer provides an apt metaphor for life, as both require and reward hard work, sacrifice and perseverance while emphasizing teamwork, supporting one another and, yes, love.

WC players through the years will no doubt react upon hearing such Bud Lewis-specific soccer images as: Margo’s brownies, Kiwanis Tournaments, the aforementioned poems, victory cigars, and Bermuda/European tours. In the waning days of the fall semester, Lewis had the task of packing away everything jammed into his Pyle Student Center office: all the team photos, plaques, signed balls, certificates, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings and other mementos from a career well played.

Indeed, how many thousands of recruits’ visits, player one-on-ones and coaches’ strategy sessions occurred in that office? “If those walls could talk, they would tell of the remarkable men that I have had the privilege to coach,” he said.

While Lewis has retired from coaching, he will work part-time as WC’s international student recruiter. As future fall seasons roll around, he will no doubt anxiously follow the team’s success under its new head coach, Quakers standout Alex Van der Sluijs ’07. “I’ll have a lot of satisfaction seeing the team do well,” he said.

Also, he and Margo will finally be able to take a fall vacation as their new luxury of time will allow for trips and more frequent visits with their children and grandchildren.

Although he’s embracing the future, no one can deny Lewis an occasional look back upon his remarkable career: a coaching record of 506–278–56 with numerous championships and much coaching recognition, 35 years in leadership positions with the National Soccer Coaches Assoc. of America and Ohio Collegiate Soccer Assoc., a recipient of the NSCAA’s prestigious Bill Jeffrey Award (2004) and a member of the BGSU Hall of Fame (2000) and Clinton County Sport Hall of Fame (2001). (*He’ll be eligible for WC’s Athletic Hall of Fame in a few years.*)

At the end of the 2017 season, Lewis ranked third in victories among active NCAA D–III coaches and fourth among active coaches from all NCAA divisions. He’s the 13th all-time winningest coach at all NCAA levels and eighth all-time in D–III.

“Perhaps the greatest accomplishment in my tenure at WC is the legacy and fruits of this ever-growing Wilmington College Soccer Family,” he said. “As the great Lou Gehrig stated at the end of his amazing career, ‘I am the luckiest man alive.’ I echo those remarks and wouldn’t trade a day, a game or a season for the opportunities that I’ve experienced at Wilmington College.”

*Continued from Page 30 (Doug Burks)*

he became part of a science faculty that believed in hands-on learning as complementing what's presented in lectures.

"The department was committed that you learn to be a biologist by doing — doing real research, asking questions and finding answers is the cornerstone of the biology experience at Wilmington College," he said, noting the impact of having his research at Earlham published in a scholarly journal was something he wished for his students. "Research is a requirement of the biology major for all students, not just a select few. Only at a small school like Wilmington can you do that. I'm proud that we've given that type of experience."

It's undoubtedly paid off as the College's science graduates boast a "good placement" in graduate school and industry.

"Research is such a powerful experience when students can work so closely with faculty — it's what made my years at Wilmington worth it," he added.

Burks is pleased that the twilight of his teaching career featured an opportunity to work with students in the new Center for the Sciences and Agriculture, which fully opened

in 2016 with its glistening classrooms and spacious labs.

"This facility speaks to the commitment of the College in maintaining the excellence of the sciences," he said. "Even with the old Kettering, the College was dedicated to supporting the sciences, as we've always had good instrumentation. But this new inviting facility really feels like home."

Home for Burks is taking on some new and welcome realities as retirement features a chance for him to expand his enjoyment of cooking and building furniture, in addition to continuing writing a bioethics textbook and working with Tender Mercies Homeless Shelter in Cincinnati's Over the Rhine. Also, he and his wife, Carol, have more time to visit their son and grandchild in North Carolina.

"I'll miss the people — my students and colleagues — no doubt about it. I couldn't have stayed 37 years if it wasn't such a good work environment and campus community," he said, as he recalled his arrival at WC in 1980.

"It didn't take me long to figure out this was the place where I was supposed to be. I have no regrets — this was the perfect place for me," he added. "I hope all my students can look back on their careers like I have and realize they've made a difference."

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*Continued from Page 31 (Ron Rembert)*

also will remember his dramatic portrayal of the ancient Greek philosopher, who was on trial defending his life as a philosopher. He created the show with a Texas Humanities Council grant while teaching at Texas Wesleyan and first performed *The Apology* at WC during his first year on the faculty in 1989.

Rembert said the use of the word "apology" in this sense refers to a defense of one's actions rather than a statement of remorse or petition for forgiveness. Plato, one of Socrates' students, wrote *The Apology*, which is believed to be an accurate account of what Socrates said at his trial, although not necessarily verbatim.

"It's Plato's words put into the mouth of Socrates," he said. "I wanted my students to hear the words of Plato in our own time and place — the text still has meaning for us. It's meant to be an educational experience, not just entertaining."

Throughout his teaching career, Rembert used much more than a philosophy textbook and lecture as means for sharing his passion for the subject. In addition to his use of drama in presenting Socrates, he illustrated how the game of baseball has many philosophical aspects and episodes of Rod Serling's TV classic, *The Twilight Zone*, provided jumping off points of discussion for an entire course.

"I've always been intrigued in the history of philosophy that there can be so many genres for doing philosophy: letters, plays, poetry, essays, and film and television," he said. "It seems like philosophy is a very unique discipline in that it can be presented in so many different ways. Bringing Socrates alive and giving him voice is one of those ways."

"It keeps it fresh for me too."

Rembert relishes the memory of those many students

that developed their own skills for and styles of thinking by studying philosophy.

"It was a special opportunity to see them realize what great thinkers the great philosophers were, their great questions and their willingness to struggle for answers," he said. "Students discover how one thinks by learning how others think. I'm impressed with how wise they've become."

Rembert appreciates how philosophy is about "loving wisdom." He said, "Wisdom is connected to knowledge, but there's a wealth of wisdom that goes beyond acquiring knowledge." Rembert also considers philosophy as a "conservative discipline" that appreciates the past very much as the present.

"It keeps us rooted in the past in a way that helps us have a healthful perspective on the present," he added. "In a world in which 'new' seems the best, philosophy is a reminder that 'old' can be good. I appreciate philosophies that connect the ancient to the modern."

Rembert retired following the fall semester. He obviously will miss those philosophical discussions with his students and colleagues as he enters his retirement. As for his plans, Rembert warned against planning in too great detail.

"Things have worked out so well without knowing exactly what I'm going to do next," he said, noting he will visit Greece with his brother this spring and he and his wife, Teresa, will have more opportunities to spend time in Boston with their son, Mark, and his new wife.

"Wilmington has been great for my family and me. I've appreciated so much being here. I've had so many opportunities," he added. "Wilmington College was definitely the best place for me to land."



## A SEASON OF MILESTONES

Longtime coaches capture 300th and 500th wins, football turns a corner



*Senior wide receiver P.J. Meyer nets yards after the catch in Homecoming action with Marietta.*

### Football

Wilmington College's gridiron team played most of September with a winning record as the program turned some major corners in its quest to become competitive in the nation's toughest conference.

Under new head coach Bryan Moore, the Fightin' Quakers opened their season with a 49-20 drubbing of Earlham College in the latest renewal of the Quaker Bowl. Two games later, the team bested visiting Capital University 37-30 in an overtime thriller, marking WC's first Ohio Athletic Conference win in 40 games. The Quakers later took Ohio Northern — a team that crushed WC 80-3 in 2016 — to the

final ticks of the clock before the Polar Bears squeaked by 49-45.

The team, which went 1-39 the previous four seasons, claimed a 2-8 mark (1-9 in the OAC) with the promise of an increasingly bright future.

Senior defensive lineman David Henry led the Fightin' Quakers in post-season honors with a First Team Academic All-American designation by College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) to complement his 2016 Second Team award. He also was named to CoSIDA's Great Lakes District and the OAC's academic teams. Seniors Ryan Prince, Joshua Chua and Luke Credit, and sophomores

Michael Vargo, Nicholas Moore and Michael Aquaviva also received academic recognition from the conference.

Henry also was honored for his football prowess as a member of the All-OAC Second Team, along with senior quarterback Luke Credit, senior wide receiver P.J. Meyer and senior running back Eric Flynn Jr. Garnering OAC Honorable Mention were seniors Sterling Clark, an offensive lineman, and linebacker C.J. Thompson.

A trio of seniors played in post-season all-star games with Henry and Meyer seeing action in the National Bowl and Thompson playing in the D-III Senior Classic.



Freshman Gage Clemens traverses the rows of pines on WC's course at the #JennaStrong Fall Classic in October.



Sophomores Kelly Rice (LEFT) and Kayla Thornberry run with the pack in WC's #JennaStrong Fall Classic.

## Women's Cross Country

Sophomore Allison Helmke was the first Fightin' Quaker runner to cross the finish line at the Great Lakes Regional, OAC Championships and #JennaStrong Fall Classic. The team took ninth at the OAC Championships and 28th at the Fall Classic.

Hemke was the team's lone Academic All-OAC designee.

## Volleyball

The volleyball team registered victories against Berea College, Central State University, Boyce College and UC Clermont as it posted a 4-21 overall record (0-9 in the OAC). Senior Hannah Kockenteit and junior Summer Wilbur received academic accolades from the conference.

## Men's Cross Country

Senior Hunter Stith led the team to the finish line in both the OAC Championships and WC's #JennaStrong Fall Classic. The team placed eighth at the conference meet and 19th among the 30 teams at the harriers' annual home competition. WC was 33rd at the Great Lakes Regional.

Juniors Matthew Baker and Zachary Simpkins, and sophomore Jefferey Clydesdale received academic honors from the conference.



Sophomore Alyssa McKenzie sets the ball for a teammate to spike in the team's match with Muskingum.



Senior attacking defender Nils Asteberg moves the ball in his final collegiate match at Heidelberg.

## Men's Soccer

The team entered the OAC portion of its season with an impressive 6-3-1 record but untimely injuries and an especially strong conference – which rewarded three teams with NCAA Tournament berths – contributed to a 2-6-1 OAC mark. Highlights of their 8-9-2 season included beating Wittenberg 4-0 as Coach Bud Lewis notched his 500th career win, capturing the WC Kiwanis Classic championship en route to a five-game win streak and defeating Marietta in overtime 3-2 for a satisfying Homecoming victory.

Lewis retired following his 43rd season with a record of 506 wins, 278 losses and 56 draws. 2007 graduate Alex Van der Sluijs was tabbed as Lewis' successor in December. Coming to WC with head coaching experience at Defiance College, Van der Sluijs is a member of WC's Athletic Hall of Fame who, in three seasons on the men's soccer team, was a three-time First Team All-OAC selection, including twice being named Forward-of-the Year.

Also, this year marked the second time in the past three years the program received the United Soccer Coaches Association's Team Academic Award.

Junior midfielder and tri-captain Niklas Martensson's eight goals and six assists earned him a spot on the OAC's Second Team, while teammates named to the conference's Academic Team were senior Nils Asteberg, junior Jason Altmayer and sophomores Oscar Bjornerstedt, William "Robi" Patrick, Roman Kirschner and Gabriel Nygard. Asteberg (First Team) and Altmayer (Third Team) also earned academic All-Ohio accolades and Niklasson was a Third Team All-Ohio selection by the Ohio Collegiate Soccer Assn.

## Women's Soccer

The Fightin' Quakers won impressive non-conference victories over rivals Earlham and Ohio Wesleyan University, but couldn't find the needed consistency, both offensively and defensively, to make a run in the OAC portion of the season. The team posted a 6-11-2 season record and defeated Baldwin-Wallace University and Muskingum University en route to a 2-7 OAC scorecard.

The 1-0 win over the Muskies came down to the wire and cemented Coach Steve Spirk's 300th career victory. He has a 300-156-39 record since taking over his alma mater's women's program in 1992.

Senior defender and co-captain Mel-lonee Hall earned Third Team All-OAC honors while teammates selected for Academic All-OAC recognition included senior Haley Brausch, juniors Hannah Greaney, Sarah Pierce and Kaitlin Evans, and sophomores Sydney Avey, Amy Johnson and

Haley Burge. Greaney also was named Third Team All-Ohio and First Team All-Academic by the Ohio Collegiate Soccer Assn., which selected teammates Brausch and Evans to the Second and Third teams, respectively.

This year marked the 14th year in the award's 18-year history the United Soccer Coaches Assn. recognized Steve Spirk's squad won a Team Academic Award.



Freshman midfielder Sidney Avey heads the ball toward an attacker against Ohio Northern.

# BUD LEWIS NETS 500TH, STEVE SPIRK 300TH CAREER COACHING WINS

Randy Sarvis

As the final seconds ticked off the clock in two soccer matches this fall, conspiracies quickly unfolded as several players grabbed the iconic orange Gatorade buckets and moved in the direction of Bud Lewis and Steve Spirk '82.

Bud Lewis' 500th victory came in the Fightin' Quakers' home opener, a 4-0 rout of longtime rival Wittenberg, while Spirk's 300th occurred late in the season with a 1-0 decision over Ohio Athletic Conference foe Muskingum.

The men's team opened its season with five road games and entered the friendly confines of Williams Stadium Sept. 15 with a 1-3-1 mark and hungry for not only Lewis' 500th win but also for a championship in their coach's final Kiwanis Classic Tournament. Lewis, who retired after his 43rd season with WC, saw the fire in their eyes.

"I could tell in our warm-up and I could tell with the atmosphere in our locker room. There was something that made me pretty confident the players would be focused," Lewis said, noting he stressed the importance of his team getting an early goal, which happened in the second minute when freshman Wille Winald placed a pass from sophomore Roman Kirschner into the back of the net.

The team went on to score three additional unanswered goals, which ignited a season-high, five-match win streak. While it would have been fine with Lewis if they captured the 500th victory in a previous game, the home victory was sweet.

"It was real special to share it with family, friends and particularly some alumni who were here," he said.

Lewis was the third coach still active this fall to reach the 500-win milestone, which placed him 13th all-time in victories among all divisions of NCAA coaches.

For Spirk, his milestone win came Oct. 24 as sophomore Alex Vestal scored unassisted in the 53rd minute and the Fightin' Quakers held on for the 1-0 victory.



Bud Lewis

"300 wins means that I have had some great players and people along the way that motivated me to want to keep doing what I love year after year," said Spirk, who now boasts a 300-156-39 record on his resume at his alma mater.

Indeed, that resume also features Spirk as a player on four of Coach Bud Lewis' teams of the late 1970s/early '80s. He is a four-time NAIA All-American and still holds WC's career records for goals, assists and points. He is a member of the College's Athletic Hall of Fame and, in 1996, was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame.

His 300 victories came in 26 years at the helm of the women's program. He is already preparing for next season as this milestone serves to fuel the fire burning in this competitive coach's belly.

"After every season I rededicate myself to recruiting and developing our current team as soccer players, students and people," he said. "I better get busy if I am ever to catch Bud Lewis and his 500-plus level!"



Steve Spirk is pictured coaching the women's soccer team during a halftime break this fall.



## BEAR DAVIS COACHES OHIO MACHINE TO LACROSSE TITLE

1997 alumnus is trailblazer for America's fastest growing sport

Kenneth "Bear" Davis '97 reached the pinnacle of professional American lacrosse when he hoisted the Steinfeld Cup trophy before a cheering crowd last summer after his Ohio Machine defeated the Denver Outlaws 17-12.

Hired as head coach midway through the 2013 season, Davis took over the last-place, Columbus-based expansion team in its second year and built it into a champion of Major League Lacrosse (MLL), the nation's premiere professional league. The 2017 title culminated a four-year run in the playoffs. He has a 62-35-27 record as head coach of the Machine.

"The championship helps put Ohio lacrosse on the map and gives me a more firm platform to help grow the game," said Davis, who has been a trailblazer in "growing the game" in locations where the nation's fastest growing sport has only recently taken root, including at Wilmington College where he planted the idea for starting lacrosse in the late 1990s. The program's inaugural year was 2013.

While still at WC, Davis, along with classmates Mike Bernardino '96 and Dave Howard '98, started lacrosse at Wilmington High School in 1996. He stayed with the program after graduating from WC in 1997 and embarking upon a master's degree at Wright State. He coached the Hurricane

to a state runner-up title in only its third year.

From there, he coached at Marietta College in NCAA-DIII and built Wheeling Jesuit University's (WVA) program from scratch into a nationally ranked D-II powerhouse and then engineered Robert Morris University (PA) from a new program into a nationally ranked D-I team that featured the nation's number one offense for two seasons. Davis also coached the United States at the 2002 World Games in Czech Republic and served as a chief administrator with the Central Ohio Youth Lacrosse League, overseeing initiatives to grow the game in urban and rural areas.

He reflected on how far he's come since earning six credits at WC for writing a curriculum based upon coaching the WHS team.

"Just over 20 years later and about 70 miles up the road, I am coaching at the highest level and winning a championship!" he said. "Coming back home to build something special means everything to me. The game has given a lot to me over the years. You never know what doors the stick can open for a young man or woman — it certainly opened a lot for me!"

Davis and his wife, Marissa, have three children: Matthew (22), Sadie (14) and Kaiden (10).

# FIVE INDUCTED INTO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Group includes coach, soccer and football players, a national champion



*Pictured from the left following the formal induction ceremony at halftime of the Homecoming football game are: Steve Magoteaux '75, Nicole Woods Hurley '02, Ashley Johnson Wolf '07 and Alex Van der Sluijs '07. Mike Wallace was coaching at the University of Dayton and only attended the luncheon.*

The 27th class inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame features soccer standouts Nicole Woods Hurley '02 and Alex Van der Sluijs '07, national pole vault champ Ashley Johnson Wolf '07, football All-American Steve Magoteaux '75 and Mike Wallace, football coach from 1991 to 2003.



*Mike Wallace*

"It means a lot to have all of you back on campus to celebrate your accomplishments," President Jim Reynolds said. "You make us look good."

**Nicole Woods Hurley** is tied for third all-time with 48 career goals and fourth with 119 points. Her record-tying four goals and two assists in a single game during her sophomore year vaulted her to 1998 Player-of-the-Year status in the Heartland Conference. She scored 18

goals and had eight assists that year.

Coach Steve Spirk '82, remembered Hurley as one of his most "competitive, physical and mentally tough" players ever. "Nikki was a big-time player who could score big goals in big games, Her name is etched in the record book."

"My experience at Wilmington was one I never will forget," Hurley said. "We had great teams all four years I was here. I made lifelong friends at WC."

A first grade teacher in Xenia, Hurley and her husband, Jimmy, reside in Jamestown with their three children.

**Steve Magoteaux** was the College's first two-time, football All-American, earning that distinction in 1973 and 1974. His wife of 45 years, Karen, introduced him by mentioning, "A lot of emotions went through our heads when Steve received the (induction) call this summer." They married during his sophomore year.

A kicker and linebacker, Magoteaux enjoyed four winning seasons in a college career with many great memories, including his kicking three field goals and two extra points on the day his first son was born.

"With Wilmington, I wanted a college where you find people you want to be around — I did that here," he said, also recalling his return of an 84-yard interception for a touchdown and playing in "the longest game," a fog-delayed contest that lasted more than 50 hours from kickoff to final gun.

"It was a special time in my life," Magoteaux said, noting he also played baseball and studied education so he could both teach and coach. He spent nine seasons coaching at West Milton before moving to Piqua. His coaching accolades include being named Ohio Coach-of-the-Year after leading the Piqua Indians to the state playoffs and an un-



beaten season in 1990.

Magoteaux, who retired as a school administrator at Piqua in 2005, and Karen have three sons and 10 grandchildren.

**Alex Van der Sluijs**, who spent his freshman year as a scholarship player at Wright State University, made an immediate impact when he joined the Fightin' Quakers in 2004. He tallied 10 goals and 10 assists en route to being selected Ohio Athletic Conference Forward-of-the-Year.

His presenter, teammate Ross Garber '17, recalled playing with Van der Sluijs on the high school, club and collegiate levels. "He was the best player on every team I ever played on and when Alex came to WC, he was a game-changer."

Indeed, that 2004 team won both the OAC regular season and tournament championships, and advanced to the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA Tournament. The Fightin' Quakers went on to play in the OAC championship game the two subsequent years while he won another best forward award and the second and third of his First Team All-OAC honors. He finished his three years at WC with 29 goals and 20 assists.

**"I have so many great memories, but the thing I miss the most is the walk with my teammates from the locker room to practice — getting ready to train is my favorite memory."**

– ALEX VAN DER SLUIJS

Van der Sluijs spoke of a "perfect storm" of resources that helped lead to his success: encouraging parents, a brother, Derek '06, who instilled "a hatred for losing," coaches like Bud Lewis and Andy Szucs '01, and "the most amazing teammates," many of whom joined him for his Hall of Fame introduction at WC's Homecoming soccer match.

"Like any other high school kid, you think getting an athletic scholarship is the biggest thing, but Wilmington College was the only place that felt like home for me," he said. "I have so many great memories, but the thing I miss the most is the walk with my teammates from the locker room to practice — getting ready to train is my favorite memory."

Van der Sluijs played professionally with the Cincinnati Kings and went on to serve as head coach concurrently for both Defiance College's men and women's teams, before returning to Dayton to coach and serve as an administrator at Chaminade-Julienne High School.

Following the season, Wilmington College selected Van der Sluijs to succeed Bud Lewis as men's soccer coach.

**Mike Wallace** is the second winningest football coach (53 wins) in the College's long gridiron history dating back to 1900. He ushered in the College's NCAA era in 1991 and posted a 9-1 season in 1999 when WC was a member of the Heartland Conference. Wallace's Fightin' Quakers blindsided the Ohio Athletic Conference in WC's inaugural

year 2000 with an explosive offense that led the team to a 7-3 mark.

Wallace coached seven Hall-of-Famers, including the program's (statistically) top two quarterbacks.

Will Isaac '03, a player under Wallace and longtime assistant coach at WC, introduced his mentor as a man who "helped us grow as a team and, more importantly, as individuals."

"The relationship between player and coach is a very special thing — thank you for making a difference in our lives," Isaac said. He fondly recalled Wallace's battle cry before every game: "Let's go out there and get these guys!"

Wallace, who retired as athletics director with Wilmington Schools, is an assistant coach at the University of Dayton. He warm-heartedly recalls his 13 years at WC. "The Wilmington College family is special. When I was recruiting, what I sold was the people," he said. "I love the College to death, always have and always will."

**Ashley Johnson Wolf** claimed the pole vault title at the 2006 NCAA Division III Outdoor Championships. The two-time All-American is a three-time OAC champion, six-time All-OAC selection and still holds the College's indoor and outdoor records. She also was a four-time OAC champion during two years on the swim team.

Kyle Wolf '03 has the distinction of not only being her collegiate vaulting coach, but he also is her husband and the pair constitutes the only husband/wife Hall of Fame members. In introducing her, Kyle praised her ability "to work hard every day and stay focused through the toughest times."

He recalled Ashley losing the OAC indoor pole vault her junior year before coming back for the outdoor season to set a meet record, by clearing a height nearly a foot and a half higher than her indoor mark, in winning the OAC title and going on to capture the national championship. "She worked so hard and set the bar so high."

Entering the 2006 NAAs ranked 11th, Ashley recalled the misty rain as she cleared height after height until there were only three competitors remaining. "I looked at Kyle and he mouthed, 'You're in the driver's seat,' I knew based on misses I was in good shape."

Indeed, she cleared another first attempt and went on to win the championship. Ashley returned her senior year and came, according to Kyle, within "one wiggle of the cross bar" from a second NCAA title.

Ashley credits Kyle's "belief in me" and her family for attaining such a high level of success. "My dad always said, 'Do your best and have fun.' My mom drove everywhere to watch me and my four brothers and two sisters always played hard and played to win."

Complementing her accomplishments is Ashley's role as a trailblazer. Indeed, the girls' pole vault was not sanctioned as a high school sport in Ohio until her junior year. "One of the greatest compliments I have received is that I helped pave the way for other girls who wanted to try their hand at the pole vault," she added.

Ashley and Kyle reside in Wilmington with their three children.

# ALUMNI RETURN FOR REUNION WEEKEND

Class of '67 celebrates 50-year anniversary



Barbara Caruso Cazorla '67 (RIGHT) shares a story from years gone by with Jerry '67 and Sandra Goodbar.

Members of the Class of 1967 who returned to their alma mater this fall for the first time since their graduation found a campus that physically looks different — Kettering was replaced by the Center for the Sciences and Agriculture and a multi-purpose cultural arts center transfigured what they knew as Boyd Auditorium — but the friendly, close-knit campus they remember from the mid-1960s remains.

"Nothing about the experience you felt while students here has changed," President Jim Reynolds said. "That fundamental nature of Wilmington College, that caring community is still here. I hope you remember fondly the time you were here."

While life's progression and twists of fate sent class members in all directions after 1967, time melted away as the former classmates relived their glory days and caught up on how much their lives have changed since those halcyon days at Wilmington College.

While their reconnecting with special persons at this spe-



Dr. Keith Gerritz, emeritus professor of psychology, places a Quaker Emeriti medallion upon Stephen Frederick '67, one of the new members of that elite society of alumni whose classes graduated 50 years ago.



1967 class members Roger Pancake (LEFT) and T.J. Parker recall their glory days at WC from the mid-1960s.



Richard Sauer (LEFT) and Larry Bloom pose for a photo taken by a 1967 classmate at their reunion luncheon. Bloom gave a presentation on WC theatre from back in the day.

cial place evoked many pleasant memories, Reynolds guided the reunion class down memory lane by reminding them of the dynamic era in which they attended WC.

During the 1966-67 academic year, Earl Warren wrote the landmark case, *Miranda vs. Arizona*, states ratified the 25th Amendment to the Constitution dealing with presidential succession and the first human-to-human heart transplant patient survived for 18 days. Also, Israeli forces took over contested land from Egypt, Jordan and Syria in the Six Day War.

That year, *Star Trek* debuted on television, "Up, Up and Away" won the Grammy for best song and *In the Heat of the Night* won the Best Picture Oscar, while the Green Bay Packers soundly beat the Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl I and the Baltimore Orioles took the World Series.

A gallon of gasoline cost 32 cents, a first class stamp was

five cents and a gallon of milk set one back 99 cents.

At Wilmington College, the campus buzzed with an enrollment of 850 students and a year's tuition cost \$1,050. Sophomore Linda Locke was crowned Homecoming queen at halftime of the Earlham Quakers' 26-21 football victory. Episcopalian Bishop James Pike, one of the first mainline religious figures to appear regularly on television, spoke at the June 1967 Commencement.

A highlight of the reunion was the conferring of Quaker Emeriti medallions signifying 50 years since the class graduated.



Class of 1967 members, from the left, Karen S. McKenzie, Jennifer Colon Mathis and Rita Laugel McElroy catch up while looking over yearbooks from the mid-1960s.

# ALUMNI RECEIVE PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Wilmington College conferred Distinguished Professional Achievement Awards upon a pair of local alumni during its annual Homecoming/Alumni Reunion Weekend in October.

Stephenie Paul Eriksson and Dr. Paul Moke, both of whom are Wilmington residents, received the citations as a result of their outstanding professional work.

Eriksson, a 1997 graduate, is a highly celebrated teacher with Blanchester Schools and Moke, Class of 1975 and a longtime professor of political science and criminal justice at WC, was honored for his work as an author, social justice advocate and effective faculty member.

Eriksson, who also earned her Master of Education at WC, is an English teacher at BHS. In 2015, she was named District 10 Teacher-of-the-Year and among the top five vying for Ohio Teacher-of-the-Year.

Phi Delta Kappa, the international honor society for educators, has honored her teaching and service to education, and she received the prestigious Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Master Teacher Award in 2011 and the state's 2013 Outstanding High School English/Language Arts Educator Award.

"Stephenie, the Ohio Dept. of Education recognizes you as a Master Teacher — and so do we," the award citation stated. "The Alumni Community is proud of your accomplishments and service on behalf of teaching and learning. Let your example shine as an inspiration to young men and women at WC studying to join this most noble of professions."

Over the past 39 years, Moke has held the positions of academic coordinator for Project Talents, vice president for academic affairs and faculty member at Wilmington College. He also has been active as adviser for the mock trial team, which won a national championship in 2003, and as a facilitator for students learning the art of lobbying in Washington, D.C.



Stephenie Eriksson (right) receives a plaque from nominator Judy Harvey.

Outside of the campus, Moke has been a champion for social justice, serving as co-counsel in five major voting rights cases in Ohio. He served as president of the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio in the 1990s and the ACLU recognized its long-time board member in 2012 for "Outstanding Contributions to Civil Liberties."



Paul Moke

Last year, he published the acclaimed book, *Earl Warren and the Struggle for Justice*, which represents years of painstaking research that shined new light on one of the nation's most remarkable chief justices of the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Paul, the Alumni Community is proud of your professional accomplishments and commitment to scholarship, social justice and serving your students," the citation read.



Members of the Class of '67 who attended Alumni Reunion Weekend were conferred as Quaker Emeriti as a result of the 50-year anniversary of their graduation. They include, from the left: FRONT ROW — Larry Bloom, Jennifer Colonel Mathis, Nancy Weaver Bernard, Karen McKenzie, Barbara Caruso Cazorla, Jim Harvey, Miriam Stickney Jennings, Rita Laugel McElroy; BACK ROW — Richard Sauer, Merle Henry, Roger Pancake, T.J. Parker, George Ford, Jerry Goodbar, Larry Stover, Steve Frederick, Janet Mason Frederick and Richard Peck.



# WC VISITS SWEDISH/NORWEGIAN ALUMNI

## Part-time recruiter has charge of bolstering international student enrollment

Prior to the 1996 season, head soccer coach Bud Lewis started actively recruiting Swedes to play at Wilmington College, a move that helped his team compete for many years at the highest levels of NCAA D-III.

This year, the College featured in its strategic plan an interest in enrolling more international students and whom better to head that effort than Lewis, the recently retired coach who is responsible for the preponderance of the international students that have attended WC in the past 20-plus years. Indeed, his fall 2017 roster had 13 players from Sweden, Norway, Brazil and Czech Republic.

The College sent Lewis and his wife, Margo, to Scandinavia this fall to attend student recruitment fairs in Stockholm and Gothenburg, where he met with scores of students interested in studying in America — not just players of the country's most popular sport (soccer), but those with an affinity for other sports or no sport at all.

Since Lewis' initial foray into international recruitment in the mid-1990s, Swedes have not only competed in soccer at WC, but also football, basketball, swimming, tennis, softball, and track and field. Sweden's Center for International Studies provides attractive government loans for students studying in the U.S. and, by virtue of its university system not offering intercollegiate athletics, the opportunity to both go to college and play a sport is especially appealing.

Also, WC recently approved an academic incentive in which graduates from Swedish high schools can receive up to 24 hours of academic credit, which potentially allows them to graduate after three years. Sweden's schools offer college prep courses through grade 13 and, historically, many Swedes at Wilmington College have excelled academically.

"That puts us in a really competitive arena," Lewis said, noting he also will be pursuing opportunities to recruit students from many other countries.

Their visit to Scandinavia also included meeting with numerous alumni in Sweden's two largest cities and Oslo, Norway.

"Margo and I were thrilled to have the opportunity to visit Sweden and Norway, and reconnect with former players and other alumni," he said. "Everyone of them — whether they stayed only a year or graduated — said Wilmington College was a very integral experience for them. They appreciated the remarkable hospitality and support they received."



Gathering for an alumni reunion in Stockholm are, from the left: FRONT ROW — Emil Nordstrom '11, Bjorn Lidman '03, Anton Holmqvist '20, Michael Kiszkiel '10, Armin Fejzic '12; BACK ROW — Ricardo Martinez '14, Markus Carlson '07, Bud Lewis, Olof Petersson '09, Jonas Svensson '01, Markus Malm '02 and Kristina Johansson Holmgren '00.



Norwegian alumnus Cosmo Collett '89 poses with Margo Lewis during the Lewis' visit to Oslo.



Bud and Margo Lewis are pictured in Gothenburg, Sweden, with, from the left, Johan Kron '00, Martin Holmqvist '15 and David Geiser '09.



*On the job, Jamar Black studies his subject before getting behind the camera.*

# EMMY AWARD WINNER

Jamar Black '03 honored for work in broadcast journalism

*Randy Sarvis*

**“I was just a minute away from the scene and I was able to capture very graphic and compelling images.”**

– JAMAR BLACK

Eighteen-year-old Michael Brown was shot and killed by a policeman in Ferguson, Mo., on Jamar Black’s first day at Fox TV 2/KPLR 11 in St. Louis.

Black spent the next three months covering the subsequent protests and civil unrest in Ferguson and the aftermath of a story that divided the nation and was a flashpoint for the Black Lives Matter movement. How’s that for an instant immersion into covering hard news in America’s 21st largest television market?

The 2003 Wilmington College graduate has thrived in that competitive environment as a broadcast journalist and won an Emmy Award this fall for Best Breaking News Story at the 41st Mid-America Emmys.

His story, titled “Officer Blake Snyder,” features a police officer killed in the line of duty while responding to an early morning disturbance call in October 2016. An 18-year-old man shot him from point blank range. The officer left behind a wife and two young children.

“I was just a minute away from the scene and I was able to capture very graphic and compelling images and do so in a respectful way (with regard for the victim’s family),” he said, noting he was first on the scene and managed to shoot exclusive video of both the officer and suspect being loaded into ambulances and escorted to the hospital by awaiting police cars.

“In breaking news, it’s all about getting on the scene, shooting your video and getting



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scanner traffic information confirmed so you can go live on TV," he added. "I was honored to have my work recognized at this level, but I wish there would have been a different outcome for Officer Snyder."

Black came to Wilmington College majoring in computer science and, when considering taking a course that was "a little more exciting," a friend suggested he enroll in Dorothy Gurtzweiler's Video Production class.

"My first communication class with Dorothy sealed the deal on the direction I wanted to go in my career," he said, noting his initial exposure featured writing scripts, shooting music videos, editing movie trailers and doing radio voice-overs.

**"My first communication class with Dorothy sealed the deal on the direction I wanted to go in my career."**

– JAMAR BLACK

Black's time at the College also included playing football, being a resident adviser, working with Activities Programming Board and assisting multicultural affairs director Art Brooks in the Peer Mentoring Program. He also remembers the honor of being selected to speak at his class' Baccalaureate service.

"I think my WC experience prepared me for this field because it gave me the necessary tools to get in the door of a news station," he said. "Once you're hired, the career opportunities are endless."

Black worked in Dayton television for 10 years before moving in 2014 to St. Louis, which has "all the equipment and resources for me to do my job and more."

After covering the Ferguson story, he moved to the station's news franchise called "You Paid for It," which featured stories on government misspending from the local perspective in greater St. Louis and southwestern Illinois. From there, Black worked as a multimedia journalist in which he monitored police scanners and covered breaking news overnight.

Today, his work includes presenting breaking news and preview stories on the morning news. He also operates a gyrocam inside the Skyfox helicopter while serving as the liaison between the pilot and assignment desk.

Possessing an Emmy could open doors to even larger markets or help facilitate a move to a more temperate locale like Florida somewhere up the road, but, at least for now, Black and his family — his wife and four children — happily call St. Louis home.

"Outside of work, I like to coach my kids' sports teams and, when I'm not coaching, I am cheering them on with my camera in hand," he added.

Black is willing to share advice with any student pursuing a career in broadcast journalism, starting with them realizing the job often requires personal sacrifice.



*Jamar Black displays his Emmy for breaking news coverage presented this fall at the Mid-America Emmy Awards.*

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"News stations are like hospitals — they never close — so, especially when you're first starting out, you will be working a lot of holidays," he said, noting the key is getting as much experience as possible while in college: internships, shadowing opportunities, campus involvement, etc.

"Be active during your time at the station and find someone who is willing to take you out in the field so you can see how they gather news. Also, put a resume tape together so, by the time you leave your internship, you'll have something you can show your prospective employers. Also, networking will take you a long way."

**"I think my WC experience prepared me for this field because it gave me the necessary tools to get in the door of a news station."**

– JAMAR BLACK

# SPANISH PROF FLED CUBA, FOUND HOME AT WC

Luis Fumero dies at 93 years of age



Luis R. Fumero boldly protested the tyrannical regime of Fulgencia Batista at rallies staged from the grand steps at the University of Havana in 1952, while the Cuban strongman's troops menacingly surrounded the institution.

Having witnessed many of his freedom-seeking contemporaries killed at the hands of Batista, Fumero left his native land for America later that year. The United States was his vantage point as Fidel Castro secured power by the end of the decade, replacing a right-wing dictatorship with a Marxist-communist one.

He briefly returned to Cuba following a relative's death in 1959, but was unable to go back until 1997, which was during an especially bleak and austere period in the crippling wake of the Soviet Union pulling its funding from the island nation.

That visit to Cuba followed a career teaching Spanish at Wilmington College from 1963 to 1989. Fumero was known for helping implement annual International Folk Festivals and Foreign Language Day, the latter of which often attracted as many as 500 high school students to visit the College. In those days, WC offered German with Helga McCoy and French with Dr. James Cool, as well as Spanish with Fumero.

The emeritus professor of modern languages spent his retirement years in Wilmington and died Dec. 15, 2017, at 93 years of age. Friends and colleagues remember his passion for opera and cooking — Cuban paella was his specialty.

He was an avid traveler but his motivation was not exclusively for discovering new and fascinating lands. Indeed, in bypassing the enforced embargo of goods to Cuba implemented by the United States, he sent gifts and utilitarian items to family members from the safety of Europe, Central America and Canada.

Fumero had a Ph.D. from the Inter-American University of Mexico and a Doctor of Education from the University of Havana. In addition to Spanish and English, he was a fluent speaker of Italian, Portuguese and Esperanto and, to a lesser degree, French and German.

Becky Heiland Haines '72, longtime theatre technical support and fine arts secretary, fondly recalls Fumero.

"I had Luis for Spanish when I was a student and we remained great friends and colleagues after I started working here," she said. "He always called me Rebecca, which I hardly ever use. But with his Spanish accent, I loved it."

Dr. Michael Snarr '86, professor of political science, remembers Fumero as a favorite professor while he attended WC in the mid-1980s.

"He always kept his class lively and fun by injecting his own unique sense of humor," he said, noting the professor had a "favorite antic" surrounding learning Spanish words. "So, for instance, he would say, 'How do you say 'white' in Spanish?' If you got it wrong, he would say something like, 'No, that's wrong, try 'azul.' The student would then say, 'azul' (which is incorrect) to which Luis would respond, 'No, that's wrong too!' And then everyone would laugh."

Kris Kozarec Williams '74 holds many fond memories of "Senior Luis," her Spanish professor and friend.

"His open, engaging personality made learning fun, and I always looked forward to his classes," she said, noting that Spanish 101 prepared her for a study program in Cuernavaca, Mexico, which was a "full language immersion" living with a family that resulted in a "truly tremendous" experience.

"Luis Fumero had a wonderful impact on my love of languages," Williams added. "He will be missed and thought of with deep appreciation for the person that he was."

Dr. Monte Anderson, professor of agriculture, "had the pleasure" of knowing Fumero for 33 years.

"He had a great sense of accomplishment from his humble beginnings on the Isle of Pines in Cuba to his journey to the United States, teaching at various high schools in Ohio and finishing his career at Wilmington College," he said. "He loved all of the arts. He really enjoyed opera and had a special place for Maria Callas. Luis had a quick wit. He taught me the importance of appreciating what you have and looking forward to the

*Continued on Page 48*



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# COACH, PROF FINISHED CAREER AT WC

## Fritz Plinke passes away at 90

Wilmington College athletics lost one of its own with the passing of emeritus professor Dr. John "Fritz" Plinke Dec. 23 in Lexington, Ky.

Plinke, 90, was men's basketball coach from the 1981-82 season through 1989-90, in addition to serving as a health and physical education faculty member and department chair from 1977 through his retirement in 1993. He also coached men's tennis from 1977 to '83 and started a women's team in 1980 that he coached for three seasons.

A native of Lancaster, Plinke attended Bowling Green State University, where he played basketball on teams that had multiple National Invitational Tournament appearances. Following a stint in the U.S. Army, he returned to BGSU and graduated in 1950, later earning a Master of Education degree from Kent State University and his doctorate from Indiana University.

Plinke taught and coached at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and returned to Ohio in 1971 to serve Capital University as a professor, department chair and athletics director. He came to Wilmington College in 1977 as both faculty member and department chair, in addition to later coaching men's basketball and men and women's tennis. He is a 2000 inductee into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Survivors include Barbara, his wife of 65 years, four children including WC alumni Kurt '83 and Gretchen '84, a sister and brother, 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A memorial service will be scheduled in early 2018 and his family suggests that, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Wilmington College.

Friends and alumni, who learned of Plinke's passing via the College's social media, shared such comments as: "Our dear coach, lots of fun and fond memories," "a superb family and a good man," "Fritz carried himself with class and dignity," "good guy," "the best badminton player I ever saw!"

Indeed, Dr. Monte Anderson, professor of agriculture, might say that about Plinke's ability in another racket sport, squash.

"Being many years younger and a new faculty member, I thought I could handle his challenge to play squash," Anderson said, noting back in the 1980s he was "a lean 140 pounds" and an experienced player. "All I remember



is running frantically all over the court as Fritz carefully and skillfully placed the ball. I lost and lost again and then again. I do not believe he broke a sweat, while I was soaked and out of breath.

"When we finished and I was humbled, with his slight grin he asked me if I had learned anything!"

Becky Heiland Haines '72, theatre technical support and longtime fine arts secretary, recalled Plinke once taught fencing.

"When Fritz no longer taught it, he gave the fencing foils and all the equipment to the Theatre Dept. for our stage combat class and play props," she said. "He was a great guy."

Dr. Daryl Nash '90, a new member of the agriculture faculty, recalls Plinke watching him casually shooting hoops at the basketball court. The coach asked Nash to be manager for the men's basketball team.

"I accepted his offer on the spot," he said, noting he was with the team for three years. "His offer and my decision to accept led to great memories and the making of lifelong friends. My love for Wilmington College is in large part due to the opportunities given to me by Fritz Plinke. Thank you, coach!"

# WC TRUSTEE LEAVES LEGACY OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Robert E. Chason, 73, held key leadership positions at higher education institutions from New York to California in a 39-year career following his graduation from Wilmington College in 1965.

He served on WC Board of Trustees from 2008 until his passing May 8, 2017, following a brief illness. Former classmate and fellow trustee Alan Frankel '65 remembered Chason as one of the College's best and brightest from that mid-1960s era.

"The class of 1965 has been referred to as 'The Class the Stars Fell On.' If anyone helped to exemplify why that is a fitting nickname, it is Bob Chason," Frankel said. "Whether in the classroom or on the baseball diamond or soccer pitch, Bob always gave his all and did it with quiet dignity and grace."

Another member of the Class of '65 and fellow trustee, Bob Touchton, recalls becoming friends with Chason their freshman year in 1961, but they lost touch after their graduation until the class' 40th reunion in 2005. Getting close to retirement, Chason accepted an invitation to join the President's Advisory Council and later the Board of Trustees.

"As a result of his long career (in higher education leadership), he gave great counsel to Dan (DiBiasio) and Jim (Reynolds) while serving on the PAC and Board," Touchton said, adding they had many discussions on how the College could ensure the current generation of students receives the same opportunities they had in the 1960s.

"We had many good times as students," he said. "We were shaped by the College and our friends during our four years to become the men we would be. While Bob was very successful in his chosen career, he was an even nicer person and treated everyone as he would like to be treated.

"Bob will be missed for his wise counsel but more for his friendship and the joy of just being in his presence."

President Jim Reynolds also fondly remembered Chason, who joined the Board shortly after Reynolds came to WC in 2007.

"Bob truly cared about Wilmington College and his service on our Board of Trustees was an expression of that caring," he said, noting his insights and advice were "invaluable" to Reynolds and Board as they envisioned the updates and expansion to the old Kettering Hall to create the new Center



for the Sciences and Agriculture.

"He also was a good sounding board for ideas that I and others had about our strategic plan and our business model for the future," the president added. "He will be greatly missed by all of us who served with him."

Upon earning his master's degree from the University of Miami (Fla.), he spent a dozen years at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where he held several positions, including assistant vice president for business administration.

In 1979, Chason went to the University of California at Davis, where he held the positions of assistant, associate and acting vice chancellor. He guided the day-to-day operations of the UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento as chief operating officer starting in 1994 before being appointed chief executive officer in 2002, a position he held until his retirement in 2006.

The UC Davis *University News* quoted the institution's interim vice chancellor, Thomas Nesbitt, as saying, "Bob led the transformation of UC Davis Medical Center from a leading community hospital into a nationally renowned academic health system with state-of-the-art education and research facilities."

His wife of 50 years, Wendy (formerly Hewitt), a 1966 WC alumna, survives him.

*Continued from Page 46 (Luis Fumero)*

future.

Anderson, who mentioned how he and former faculty member Don Tecklenburg occasionally visited Fumero at Cape May Retirement Community in his last few years, recalled his final visit a few weeks before Fumero's death.

"He was in a wheel chair in the common area, neatly dressed with a crisp hair cut and trimmed beard," Anderson said, noting Fumero always recognized him and repeatedly asked about the College. "In our discussion, another resident complemented him on his appearance, referring to him as Santa Claus.

"After she left, he quietly said, 'That is all I need, someone sitting on my lap!'"



## ABOUT CLASS NOTES

*The LINK* is interested in learning more about your accomplishments and other newsworthy items. Please direct information and photographs to: Class Notes, Pyle Center Box 1313, Wilmington College, Wilmington, OH 45177, or via email to: [alumni@wilmington.edu](mailto:alumni@wilmington.edu). When reporting the death of an alumna/us, please send a copy of the obituary, which should include the date of death. If possible, include the names and class years of any survivors who attended Wilmington College. Deadline for the next issue is June 1, 2018.

### 1967

BILL SHUGARTS received the 2017 Libby Hatch Volunteer Recognition Award for his "outstanding commitment to preserving the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. A Vietnam War veteran, he is a volunteer tour guide at "The Wall." Indeed, he gave Ken Burns a tour of the memorial as the documentary filmmaker was researching for his acclaimed *The Vietnam War*, which debuted last fall on PBS. Bill is pictured below being introduced as a board member of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation to the 80,000 in attendance at a Washington Redskins game this fall.

JENNIFER BATH HOLLON, authored a book, *The Historic Murphy Theatre, the People, the Entertainment, and the Monument*, which presents a historical review of the past 100 years of Wilmington's iconic Murphy Theatre. Jennifer has donated all her work on the publication to the theatre, so 100% from the sale of the book goes to the Murphy for its historic preservation. Published by Orange Frazer Press, the coffee table-size book features photographs, stories and memories celebrating the community's oldest and most successful venue for entertainment. It is available at the Murphy Theatre and the Clinton County Historical Society.

### 1974

MARIE MOORE retired as a counselor, adult basic education instructor and vocational evaluator at the Virginia Rehab Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired for 27½ years and, most recently, nearly three as disability analyst at Disability Determination Services. She has since started a small tutoring business, Read Moore, and is thoroughly enjoying it. Marie would love to hear from her classmates. Her email is [marie.moore1111@gmail.com](mailto:marie.moore1111@gmail.com).

### 1986

ANTHONY "TONY" LONG retired December 2016 as the superintendent of the Southern Ohio Educational Service Center, which serves 12 school districts in Adams, Clinton, Fayette and Highland counties. Tony is spending more time fishing, playing golf and enjoying more time with his family and friends. He received the Ohio Educational Service Center Association's "Lifetime Achievement Award," the organization's highest honor, in November.

DR. SCOTT SENSEMAN was presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by *Marquis Who's Who* for his leadership, research and success in the field of agronomy. He has been professor of agronomy-pesticide chemistry and head of the Dept. of Plant Sciences at the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture since 2013. He previously taught at Texas A&M for 19 years.

### 1993

SCOTT BRINER was in an east Texas hospital when Hurricane Harvey hit the Lone Star State with Category 4 winds and record rainfall in late August — and there's nowhere else he'd rather have been. He is CEO of a small, critical access hospital in Sweeny, Texas, a community about 20 miles inland from the Gulf of Mexico. Scott holds a leadership role on Sweeny's emergency management response team, which successfully responded to the disaster.

### 1995

CARY FURNISS left Reading Community Schools in December to become treasurer and chief financial officer at Kings Local Schools in Cincinnati. He has 30 years financial experience as school treasurer at five schools.

### 1998

MICHELLE BRATTEN HERRON, a teacher at Hillsboro Christian Academy, spent her fair break helping the flood victims in Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. After seeing the damage to homes and businesses, she felt that, "When God places something strongly on your heart, you just know you have to do it."

*Continued on Page 50*



*Bill Shugarts '67 (RIGHT) was honored as a Vietnam veteran and member of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation Board at a Washington Redskins game in September.*

Continued from Page 49

**2001**

AARON DENU will be inducted into Milford High School's Sports Hall of Fame in February. Some 22 years later, he still holds the school record 46 goals. Aaron played four years of soccer at WC.

**2004**

BRENDEN FETTERS was recently named assistant principal at Carroll Leadership in Technology Magnet Middle School in Raleigh, NC. Prior to this position, he served as a curriculum coach at Carroll Middle as well as Wendell Creative Arts and Science Magnet Elementary. Brenden taught fourth

and fifth grades at Powell GT Magnet Elementary and third grade at Wilburn Year-Round Elementary, all in Raleigh. He started his career doing K-4 intervention at Greenfield Elementary in Greenfield, Ohio, prior to relocating to Raleigh in 2006. He completed his graduate work in school administration at NC State University.



**RESIDENCE LIFE INDUCTS 2017 CLASS INTO HALL OF FAME**

New members of the WC Residence Life Hall of Fame inducted during a ceremony at Homecoming were, from the left, BACK ROW – Kyle Scudder '96, Jena Elkins Frommeyer '09, Tony Staubach '07, Carlos Stewart '02, David McGee '01, Nick Hoover '07, Cynthia Puthoff Moorman '01; SEATED – Melissa Stanforth Finkes '81 (2012 inductee), Karen Couch (2012 inductee) and Stacy Couch Keeton '92. Not present for the photo were John Campbell, Dr. Laura Dengler Sorg '02, April Mays '11 and Allyson Davis Couch '95. Other previous inductees are: Bonnie Byrne, Dr. Ken Peress, Ken Lydy '97, Tara Sheldon Lydy '96, the late J.D. Christle and Megan Ray.

**BIRTHS**

**2012**



AMIE KIRK DENKENBERGER and Travis Denkenberger announce the birth of their son, Roman Fitzgerald Denkenberger, born

Dec. 5, 2017, 8 lbs. and 20 inches long. Big sister Audrey is super excited!

EMILY FERGUSON NOGGLE, Frank Noggle and big brother Braden welcomed Camden Joseph Noggle, born Nov. 13, 2017, and weighing 8lbs., 14 oz.

**2014**

EMILY ASHBAUCHER STOTTS, DURWARD JOSEPH STOTTS and their son, Mason, welcomed baby brother, Aiden Russell, born July 5, 2017, weighing 7lbs., 12 oz., and measuring 18 1/2 inches long.



Men's soccer alums played final alumni game of Bud Lewis Era in late August are, from the left: STANDING – Anton Niklasson '14, Erik Hammar '14, Ethan Zimpfer '16, Taylor Henderson '16, Billy Hardman '81, Alex Ruckman '16, Jeff Graham '14, Nick Kinder '10, Keith McHenry '95, Kevin Brown '11, Daniel Wicks '14, Daniel Givens '10, Taylor Estes '16, Chris Geeding '11, Drew Fields '16, Caleb Betz '14, A.J. Combs '15, Mike Evans '03, Chuck Nickoson '83, Tevis Foreman '03, Coach Bud Lewis, Markus Eriksson '00, Sean Leahy, Darrin Romanski '98; KNEELING –Eric Diehl '81, Evan Schlagetter '14, Alec Rivers '17, Steve Most '85, Aaron Hunter '06, J.T. Pitstick '08, Jesse Buhrman '16, Lenny Diaspro '90, Pat May '95, Steve Spirk '82 and John Burgmeier '84. Not pictured but attending: Charlie Brown '88 and Tim Cleary '88.

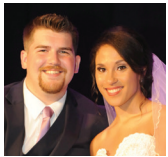


## MARRIAGES

### 2008

CHRISTOPHER SPROWL and Chelsea Perry were united in marriage Nov. 11, 2017, at The Bell Event Center in Cincinnati.

### 2015



TIMOTHY WIEDERHOLD and Elexis Murdock were united in marriage July 22, 2017, at The Murphy Theater in Wilmington.



Jessica Beam DeBold '06 and Edmund Besong '13 returned to WC last fall to share their experience and expertise with prospective students at Accounting Career Day. Jessica, a Certified Financial Planner and IRS Enrolled Agent, is a senior financial planner and manager of the Wilmington office of Buckingham Financial, while Edmund, a Certified Public Accountant who also holds a Master of Taxation degree and Jurist Doctorate, works with mergers and acquisitions with the New York City firm Alvarez and Marsal.



Women's soccer alumni gathered for their annual reunion in August. Pictured, from the left are: FRONT ROW – Taylor Scott '17, Morgan Combs, Bonita Grace '14, Sarah Watters '13, Sammi Miller '14, Paj Shelton '14, Erika Good '17, Brooke Lamb Wicks '15; MIDDLE ROW – Ashley Stockton '16, Kala Fox '16, Hannah Rutledge '14, Kayla Falkenbach Reavis '13, Lauren Hamrock '15, Rachel Gutowski '14, Sammy Koerner Rupert '14, Lauren Mumaw '12, Ashley Garcia Boswell '12, Stephanie Davis August '91, Lisa Schlotzhauer Cash '88; BACK ROW – Kelly Truce Miller '87, Assistant Coach Hal Shunk, Leanne Stone '87, Lori May West '90, Casey McKinney '09, Beth Clark Swanson '88, Kitty Montgomery Clary '85, Alison Szymanski Rafter '87, Christa Parsenios Ventosa '90, Beth Jewitt Mallory '91 and Coach Steve Spirk '82.



Numerous cross country alumni returned for their annual summer run in the Arboretum. Pictured from the left are: FRONT ROW – Veronica Burnam '15, Tricia Steffen '16, Stephanie Feters '17, Chelsea Sites '13, Colleen Foote Romeo '12 and Lillian Bunn Ellison '11; BACK ROW – Ron Combs '93, Dominic King '16, Tyler Ahle '15, Scott Blubaugh '15, Jeff Cook '16, Greg Lane '88, Tony Goodrich '14, Robert Romeo '12, Tony Erwin '85, Ed Bunn '82, Randy Frame '07, Craig Reinhart '06, Brik Anderson '08, David Warren '10 and Jim Cook '70.

## DEATH NOTICES

### 1935

ZOLA STRIDER LARKIN  
Kettering, OH Dec. 14, 2017

### 1939

HERBERT ANSON  
Austin, TX May 21, 2017

### 1941

EUGENE W. MACE  
Williamsport, OH Nov. 24, 2017

JAMES W. FOLAND  
Wilmington, OH Jan. 1, 2017

### 1947

RUTH HAINES HUSSEY  
Wilmington, OH July 27, 2017

### 1951

EARL ERION  
Miamisburg, OH Oct. 29, 2017

MARJEAN NOFTSGER FISCHER  
Cary, NC Sept. 19, 2017

RICHARD S. JOHNSTON  
Blanchester, OH Jan. 3, 2018

EDWIN LANE  
Wellesley, MA July 19, 2017

### 1953

BARBARA "BO" STEINLE  
NICHOLSON  
Sun City Center, FL Nov. 2, 2017

### 1954

JO ANN BENHASE  
ROHDENBURG  
Cincinnati, OH Nov. 5, 2017

Continued on Page 52

*Continued from Page 51*

CHARLES DURNBAUGH  
Fairborn, OH July 14, 2017

**1956**  
STEWART HALBAUER  
Clearwater Beach, FL Oct. 24, 2017

**1959**  
JAMES F. WAITS  
Dayton, OH Dec. 14, 2017

**1960**  
NORMA LEE STRAYER  
BARRETT  
Paintersville, OH Dec. 29, 2017

**1962**  
MELBA KAIM SMITH  
Muncie, IN Sept. 5, 2017

**1963**  
ELEANOR RAE STORTS GREEN  
Wilmington, OH July 30, 2017

**1964**  
EDWARD NANCE  
Wilmington, OH Dec. 13, 2017

**1965**  
THOMAS COON  
Bloomingville, OH Oct. 27, 2017

ROBERT CHASON  
Davis, CA May 8, 2017  
(See tribute on pg. 48)

**1967**  
JANET JEFFERIS MCDONALD  
Charleston, WV July 18, 2017

**1968**  
PHIL SWEDAR  
Marathon, FL July 5, 2017

**1972**  
LINDA S. DIDDAY  
Loveland, OH Dec. 9, 2017

**1975**  
BONNIE BASHORE INWOOD  
Wilmington, OH Sept. 19, 2017

**1976**  
VIRGENE WEBB PETERSON  
Wilmington, OH Oct. 13, 2017

**1976**  
SUSAN CARMELL  
Rockville, MD Jan. 19, 2017

**1978**  
CHARLES SANDERS  
Waynesville, OH Dec. 23, 2017



*New students gathered in August for a photo of legacies, which constitute those current students who are the sons, daughters, grandchildren or siblings of WC alumni or older current students. Among the 37 legacies in the entering class are pictured: Zane Cukovecki '21, son of Steve Cukovecki '14; Abigail Shinkle '21, sister of Brooke Shinkle '18; Olivia Smith '21, sister of Nate Smith '18; Faith Teaford, great-granddaughter of Miles Peelle '28 and Eleanor Johnson '28; Jalen Douglas '21, son of Keri Douglas '12; Sarah Streets '21, daughter of Aubrey Streets Martin '02; Abigail Lozano '21, sister of Erika Lozano Wutano '14; Joseph Schmidt '21, son of Jay Schmidt '88; Kiona France '21, granddaughter of Marque Jones '77; Shaiese Williams '21, sister of Jaiden Williams '18; and Olivia Wood '21, daughter of Monica Wood '96.*

**2007**  
VANESSA LITTLE  
Dayton, OH Dec. 27, 2016

**2019**  
NICHOLAS J. BRUNDAGE  
Miamisburg, OH Oct. 18, 2017

**2021**  
SHELBY FEIN  
Louisville, KY Dec. 15, 2017

**Former faculty members**  
DR. LUIS R. FUMERO, emeritus professor of modern languages, faculty member in Spanish from 1963 to 1989, died Dec. 15, 2017, in Mason, Ohio. (See tribute on pg. 46)

DR. JOHN "FRITZ" PLINKE, emeritus professor of health and physical education, former coach, faculty and Health, Physical Education Dept. chair, from 1977 to 1993, died Dec. 23, 2017, in Lexington, Ky. (See tribute on pg. 47)

**Former staff member**  
CARLOS BECK, director of planned giving from 2008 to 2009, died Sept. 27, 2017. He resided in Georgetown.



*Taking on the current women's basketball team in the annual alumni game are, from the left, FRONT ROW— Ashley Andracki '17, Bethany Ahrens '14, Leann Topp Keller '13, Brittaney Jefferson '17, Brianna Peters '13; BACK ROW— Amy Bricker '11, Mary Moyer '17, Marianne McGoron '10, Olivia Waters '11 and Coach Jerry Scheve.*



Swimming alumni gathered for a dip in the pool at their annual Homecoming reunion in October. Pictured from the left are: BACK ROW – Josh Shell '12, Kenny Holter '10, Mason Harris '15, Erik Spraul '17, David Hawk '16, David Spraul '17, Connor LaVelle '13, Ricardo Martinez '10, John Ravestein '06, Brittany Mozingo '09, assistant coach Paula Stewart; MIDDLE ROW – Chelsea Simpson '15, Caroline Kruczynski '15, Elyse Spraul '17, Lydia Wolcott '16, Galen Carrington '14, Dylan Hammond '16, Rachel Wasson '13, Kacie Otting Jenkins '09; FRONT ROW – Rachel Drake '16, Ameer Rasheed '00, Rachel Routzong '16, Jordyn Wise '16, Haley Rowland Urshel '17, Carissa Macella '11 and Tina Fuller Dell '03.

## 2014 ALUMNUS WINS TRANSPLANT OLYMPIC GOLD AND SILVER

Galen Carrington's days of competing didn't end with his final season on Wilmington College's swim team. He has continued to manifest his love for the sport as an active competitor on Team USA in the World Transplant Games.

Last summer, he joined 255 other swimmers from 55 countries who prove everyday that persons living with transplanted organs can not only lead normal lives but also do extraordinary things.

Carrington, a 2014 graduate, captured five medals – a gold and four silvers – at the Games held in Málaga, Spain.

He swam in the 50-meter and 100meter freestyle, 50-meter and 100-meter breaststroke, 50-meter butterfly, 200-meter 4X4 medley relay, and 200-meter 4X4 freestyle relay – all in one day and some events back-to-back! He medaled in each of his individual events: gold in the 50m breaststroke and silver in the 100m breaststroke, 50m butterfly and 50m and 100m freestyle.

"I was kind of nervous, but very focused," he said about the competitions in his age group (18–29 years old), which featured the world record holder in each of his silver medal-winning events. "It was one of the best experiences of my life!"



Galen Carrington is pictured with his medals at the Homecoming gathering of swim team alumni.

Carrington, who was on the organ donation wait list for several years, underwent a successful liver transplant in spring 2012. He returned to competitive swimming on the collegiate level the following fall.

## 1968: what do you recall?

1968 was a watershed year in the United States and throughout the world.

The Tet Offensive proved to be a turning point in the Vietnam War and the shocking assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy had a lasting effect on many. The Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam War protests, Prague Spring all represented flashpoints in 1968. In politics, Lyndon Johnson opted not to run for re-election while Richard Nixon returned to politics. The counterculture influenced music, fashion and a worldview while, from space, photos of Earth taken from Apollo 8 portrayed a tranquil blue planet, not the boiling cauldron that was 1968.

Those of you who attended Wilmington College in 1968, what do you recall from this seminal era? What was happening on campus and how did these national and international events affect you? Also, do any of you (from any WC era) have memories of the Murphy Theatre in downtown Wilmington? That iconic landmark is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

Please share any recollections with [LINK](mailto:LINK) editor Randy Sarvis to be included in a possible story in the next issue: [rsarvis@wilmington.edu](mailto:rsarvis@wilmington.edu) or Randy Sarvis, Wilmington College, 1870 Quaker Way, Wilmington, OH 45177.

# 'STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART'

1969 alum establishes student grant in son's memory

Senior Justin Howard is among the nine students who have already benefited from a Chip Huntoon Degree Completion Grant.

### Randy Sarvis

Charles Huntoon recalls his son, Chip, showing him how to operate a piece of Caterpillar machinery, demonstrating how best to enjoy hiking the Colorado back country and sharing how good it made him feel when he helped others.

"I didn't realize it then but he was teaching me," said Huntoon, a 1969 alumnus from the Philadelphia area who has enjoyed a successful career in real estate. "Every time we did something together, he worked to teach me how to treat other people. He believed we have an obligation to help people who are not as well off as we are."

Huntoon recently reconnected with Wilmington College in a very special way. He funded the Chip Huntoon Degree Completion Grant, a unique gift that provides industrious students — who are close to graduating but are faced with personal difficulties or challenges outside of school that are impeding them from attaining that goal — with funding to be able to complete their degrees.

Chip, 32, died in a tragic accident near his home in Durango, Colo., in 2014. His father described Chip as a very "hands-on person with a passion for life," who enjoyed the outdoors while "living a life of unconditional generosity" in seeking to serve others.

"This gift to Wilmington College represents what Chip would do — he would be happy about this," Huntoon said. "Chip was a very gracious person who was very open to helping people — he believed that was important. He went out of his way to hire people from the soup kitchen (where he regularly volunteered). He'd give them a chance, sometimes 16 or 20 chances. I'd tell him, 'You're not a social worker,' but he would give money he did not have to help them out."



Chip Huntoon

This year, nine upperclassmen close to graduating received Chip Huntoon Degree Completion Grants.

One of those is Justin Howard, a senior majoring in biology/life sciences, who had an unresolved tuition balance this fall going into his final semester. Howard expressed his appreciation to Huntoon in a compelling letter indicating some of life's challenges he was dealing with while attempting to finish his degree. (Howard agreed to share the contents of his letter as a means for encouraging others to support the College in such creative ways as Huntoon has).

In the emotional letter Howard described as coming "straight from the heart," he shared how he earned his associate's degree from a nearby community college and, at his father's urging, enrolled at WC for his bachelor's degree. He got off to a promising start.

"I was making good grades and really thriving with the small classroom size and the way the faculty took the time to make sure each student was done well," he recalled. "I knew right then I made the right choice with Wilmington College."

Things changed in a heartbeat when Howard's mother was diagnosed with lung cancer, which required major surgery. Her recovery was "very tough" but he persevered with his studies and continued finding success academically. During the summer prior to what would have been his final year, Howard, his mother and younger brother, Dustin, took a vacation trip to Florida.

After a few days in Daytona Beach, Dustin and his mother traveled to Orlando to visit relatives while Howard stayed with a friend, Danny. On their second night apart, Howard received a call from Dustin, who told him their mother had been taken to the hospital by ambulance.



"An hour later, he called back and we were talking about how I was about to head to Orlando with Danny when he said, 'Hold on, the doctor is walking over to us.' I heard the doctor talking and then I could hear my grandmother cry out in the background. Dusty came back onto the phone and said, 'Mom passed away.' I immediately dropped to my knees and cried out loud. (Eventually) I was able to compose myself and tell Dusty that I would be there as soon as I could.

"I then had to make the call and tell my dad, who was still in Ohio," Howard said. "It was the worst night of my life."

The ensuing months were a "rough time" for the Howard family and, while he started school in fall 2016, he struggled — "I couldn't focus and my mind and heart just weren't into it," he said. Howard took a leave of absence with the intention of resuming his studies the following semester, but further challenges arose involving Dustin, who was especially close to his mother.

"My mom's death took a toll on my brother and he had a serious mental breakdown," Howard said. "Our family was broken again and we thought Dusty would never return to his normal self. Also, my relationship with my dad was at a breaking point. I had to make the choice to forgo my spring semester and invest my time in getting my family back together."

Things vastly improved for the Howard family over the summer so much that both Justin and Dustin were enrolled at WC in fall 2017. Howard finished his letter to Huntoon by saying the grant "reinforced" the idea that completing his degree this spring is not only important for himself, but also for all those who have positively impacted his life, including Charles and Chip Huntoon.

"I want to make my mom proud and finish strong," he said. "I could not accomplish that goal without your help, and I truly cannot thank you enough."

Huntoon and his wife, Elaine, were moved to tears when they read the letters from the grant recipients. "Those letters are very meaningful to me," he said. "If we have the slightest

success in helping someone, it's worth a million dollars."

His affiliation with Wilmington College began in 1965 when he enrolled as a freshman after graduating from the William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia. His family felt he needed a college "without many distractions" that would allow him to concentrate on academics and gain an enhanced sense of independence.

"On the day I got out of my father's car in front of Marble Hall, there was no looking back," he recalled, noting his mother selected a "fundamental" curriculum for his first year that was heavy in history, English, French and economics. He made the varsity soccer team and became friends with a number of students who helped him place an emphasis on his studies. As for distractions, other than a "few 3.2 beers at Hammie's," he was focused and enjoyed a successful year.

"Going to Wilmington gave me a broadened view of the world — it cleared my mind and gave me much better judgment," he said, in citing professors Larry Gara and Martin Giesbrecht for their outstanding history and economics courses, respectively. "They really opened my eyes. They were excellent, and they made you think, reflect and dig deep into your opinions.

"It was an enlightenment for me," he added. "I really grew a lot that year. It really gave me the foundation I needed to make the shift to the next stage."

The "next stage" involved his transferring to Syracuse University, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. While he has that affiliation with Syracuse, he values his year at Wilmington College as being both a "fundamental and positive" influence in his life.

Huntoon sold most of his business in 2005 before the real estate bubble burst, yet he keeps his "foot in the door" by maintaining his broker's license and teaching courses in real estate and property appraisal. Huntoon also volunteers as an adaptive ski instructor for persons with disabilities and teaches young children how to swim at a local YMCA. He and Elaine reside in Ambler, Pa.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### CAMPUS EVENTS CALENDAR

**Through March 31....** Meriam R. Hare Quaker Heritage Center presents Marshall Plan Posters exhibit, weekdays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Through Sat., March 10....** Harcum Art Gallery presents an exhibit by Annie Lee Zimerle and Brian Zimerle; normal gallery hours, weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Thurs., Feb. 22....** Author, activist Shane Claibourne, sponsored by 7:30 p.m., McCoy Room

**Thurs., Fri. and Sat., March 1, 2 and 3....** WC Theatre presents winter show (TBA), 7:30 p.m., Heiland Theatre

**Wed., March 7....** Aggies Livestock Judging Contest, Springfield, OH

**Thurs., March 22 through Fri., April 27....** Harcum Art Gallery presents an exhibit by David Kline; opening reception, March 22, 6 to 8 p.m.; normal gallery hours, weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Thurs., Fri. and Sat., April 12, 13 and 14....** WC Theatre presents spring show (TBA), 7:30 p.m., Heiland Theatre

**Thurs., April 26....** Collegium Musicum presents Spring Noon Hour Mini-Concert, noon, Harcum Gallery

**Sun., April 29....** Spring Choral Concert, 7:30 p.m., Heiland Theatre

**Tues., May 1 through Sat., May 12....** Harcum Art Gallery presents the Senior Thesis Exhibition, opening reception, May 1, 6 to 8 p.m.; normal gallery hours, weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### ALUMNI CALENDAR

**March 18....** Alumni dinner in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with Spring Lobby Weekend, Chinatown Garden, 6 p.m. (contact alumni@wilmington.edu)

**May 3....** Book signing event for Bill Kincaid Jr., Boyd Center Lobby, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**June 9 and 10....** Third annual Bourbon Trail Experience (contact alumni@wilmington.edu)



**Wilmington  
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## CAMPUS BATHED IN WINTER'S SPLENDOR



A view from above shows a snow-covered campus in mid-January, when students started the spring semester braving sub-zero temperatures as they traversed Collett Mall.