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m&g
Spring 2021

LETTER

from the President



I hope this message finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe.

Like you, we have faced many coronavirus challenges. I could not be prouder of our students, faculty, and staff, who have enthusiastically embraced the many protocols and procedures we have in place to keep everyone healthy and safe.

We use apps on our phones to do daily health checks, pose in front of scanners to take our temperature and check that we are wearing masks, and participate in COVID-19 testing to protect ourselves and each other from the virus.

It surely is different on campus this year. But in most ways, things are the same. Small class sizes allow for relationship building and rich discussions. Faculty teach, advise, and mentor. Staff offer assistance, coaches train, great food is served, and the grounds are impeccable. Sure, we are masked and socially distanced, but the UC experience is still alive and well.

New bachelor's degree programs recently launched, such as applied computer science, business analytics, digital media design, and exercise science and are generating great interest. And more are in the pipeline, such as a Master of Science in Nursing-Family Nurse Practitioner, Master of Occupational Therapy, and Master of Science in Business Analytics and Applied Artificial Intelligence graduate programs. We continue to innovate and develop programs that interest students and lead to great careers.

How do we keep the lights on and doors open during such challenging times? By staying true to our values of student focus, quality and integrity. And by remaining steadfast in our mission to prepare each student for a life of productive work, enlightened living, and community involvement. These are UC's beacons of light that help guide us through the coronavirus storm.

We are so fortunate that many of you have reached out to ask how you can help during this challenging time. As students and families continue to struggle, our ability to support them has never been more critical. Your generous contributions make an immediate impact on UC and our students each and every day. And they exemplify how you too embody our values and mission.

Thank you, be well, and stay safe!

Martin S. Roth, Ph.D.
President



Marty & Lynn Roth



Spring2021

THE MISSION OF UC
is to educate each student for a life of productive work, enlightened living and community involvement.

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For more information on UC's academic programs, admissions process, alumni or- athletics, call 1-800-995-GOUC (4682) or visit www.ucwv.edu.

Admissions in the Time of the Coronavirus

While the coronavirus has upended life in general, for college admissions offices, it has created the need for both fast thinking and creative problem solving when traditional tools are no longer available.



“We had to accept the fact that everything was off the table, and we would have to pretty much recreate our admissions recruiting plan. The virus upended decades of recruiting practices pretty much overnight.”

–Dr. Beth Wolfe,
UC Executive Vice President
of Enrollment Management

Fast Track to a New Plan

When college fairs and school visits came to a complete stop, Wolfe and her team had to rethink many of their recruitment tactics.

“COVID-19 was like having our security blanket ripped away – we were forced to stop the events and come up with other options,” Wolfe said. “The funny thing was admissions professionals had been discussing among themselves how college fairs and school visits really weren’t practical or all that successful. But no one wanted to be the first to stop participating – then we were all forced to stop!”

Wolfe said that luckily, most of her staff were fairly new in their positions, which turned out to be an advantage. They didn’t have to unlearn “how we’ve always done it” and could instead put their own signature on a new system. Most importantly, because they weren’t traveling, they had more time to reach out to students, to have more conversations, to open a dialogue instead of just answering questions.

These personalized one-on-one conversations easily led into how UC offers that same type of interaction throughout the school and highlighted the extra value you get from UC – the personalized attention.

“We know students are stressed,” Wolfe said. “They have Zoom fatigue. They may have family members who are or have been ill, or their family may have different financial circumstances. And they are coping with all the disappointment of missing the milestones that others enjoyed. So, for us, being able to have that conversation, to be able to acknowledge what they are going through has been important. It also gives us a chance to talk about all the things that UC still offers on campus that other schools can’t, which is a big advantage.”

For potential students, the process of applying to school may be the only thing they feel that they have any control over. It can give their much-changed life a sense of normalcy. For others, there may not be the urgency of applying that there once was because everything else seems so uncertain. They aren’t sure what colleges will be able to offer them.

Wolfe’s team works to be encouraging, supportive and reassuring. Interestingly, the prospective students they work with are often aware of how UC has handled the pandemic crisis. Among other things, it has highlighted the character of the school and provided potential students with reassurance.

“How things were handled so well, how our students were treated, how we were able to provide a college experience even during a crisis – this made an impact on students and their parents not just in Charleston, but also in the larger community.” In fact, Wolfe says we had several students transfer here for the spring semester because of what they heard about UC.

Virtual Visiting

Because coronavirus restrictions meant UC couldn’t do an open house, scholarship competition, or any of the other admissions events that draw students to campus, one of the other important pivots the Office of Admissions made was to partner with a company that creates virtual events.

“This allowed us to broaden the scope of our recruiting,” Wolfe explained. “Generally, on-campus events are only attended by people who live very close, or those with the means to travel. This meant many prospective students, including our international students, couldn’t participate. Going to a virtual format allows us to “meet” with students all over the world, and it opens things up for a very wide range of potential students.”

Other changes included the reshaping of how certain scholarships were awarded. Since Scholarship Days couldn’t be offered, Wolfe came up with a more creative approach, and developed the IDEA Scholarship. Students create a response to a specific topic and earn scholarship money based on their creativity. The Presidential Scholarship also changed to include an essay component. The new format seems to have been successful, as this round, instead of the usual 20-25 applications, the admissions team is now reviewing 49 applications!

The timing also couldn’t have been better for UC to opt to go test blind, since the SAT and ACT have had to be cancelled so often, and potential students have not been able to provide those scores.

And the results?

“There were many concerns about how well new methods would work and if we could maintain the level of interest from prospective students. We actually didn’t see a dip in inquiries; in fact, we had almost 300 more inquiries at this time this year versus last year.”

Going Forward

Looking forward to future recruiting cycles, Wolfe says it will be interesting to see what changes will stick, and what formerly relied upon tools will be reintroduced in the future, since many schools have learned that certain things may not be as essential as once thought.

“Now that we have all had to be creative, there will be a lot of people deciding whether or not they want to go back to lots of college fair situations, or if they will continue to put energy and effort into the one-to-one outreach that we have been able to do,” Wolfe said. “Even without a global pandemic, the bottom line is that you have to be willing to try new things.”

In conclusion, Wolfe says “I am very proud of all the new things that we tried – and how successful they were. I wouldn’t wish for another crisis like this one, but I do know that, when called on, our team can overcome a lot to help students reach their college dreams.”

For some insight on International Recruitment during the pandemic see page 29.

Labor of Love

TAKES AN ARTISTIC ANGLE

This year, our Labor of Love event took place over four days, beginning Friday, September 4 and running through Monday, September 7. Projects were completed with COVID-19 precautions in mind, so most work was done outside with social distancing.

In Charleston, a Red Cross blood drive kicked off the event. The campus participated in litter cleanups around town; filled backpacks for the Backpack Blessings program; wrote notes of encouragement to veterans and nursing home residents; wrote thank you notes to frontline workers; participated in virtual read aloud sessions and voter outreach; made blankets and masks; and more.

Students also participated in a unique art project, created through a partnership among the West Virginia Interfaith Refugees Ministry (WVIRM), the University of Charleston (UC), the City of Charleston's Office of Public Art (COPA),

the Islamic Association of West Virginia (IAWV), and the American Civil Liberties Union of West Virginia (ACLU-WV). The project involved the creation of a large mural celebrating the contributions of immigrants. The artwork is composed of 192 individual tiles painted by local artists, students, and other community members.

The mural is installed in downtown Charleston at 904 Quarrier Street. A dedication ceremony included UC President Marty Roth, as well as Hallie Chillag and Kara Fisher, UC professors instrumental in the organizing of Labor of Love.



"If we learn to
UNDERSTAND
each other,
we will have
a better
understanding
OF OURSELVES."

- Sarah Gadon

ENLIGHTENED LIVING DAYS

Expands with a Focus on Health

The Enlightened Living Days (ELD) initiative was created to allow students, faculty, staff and members of our community to come together to deepen our understanding of important issues we all face. The concept was built on the principle of listening to each other, participating in meaningful conversations, and learning from differing viewpoints to enable us all to make the world a better place.

This year, ELD focused on the theme of health – healthy minds, healthy bodies, and healthy societies. The event was expanded to three days to allow a better focus on each subtheme.

The campus had access to virtual panel discussions, skill-building workshops, keynote addresses and films covering topics like mental health, societal privilege, justice, access to health care resources, implicit bias, and civil community engagement.

The first day included the film "Just Mercy" and sessions on social entrepreneurship, Appalachian identities, the struggle to stay in WV, promoting diversity in the workplace, interfaith communities, and the role of art in representation.

Day two focused on the topic of healthy bodies, and included sessions on becoming your own health advocate, incorporating exercise into your daily life, and a panel discussion on the light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel.

The event wrapped up with a focus on healthy minds and included a viewing of the movie "Silver Linings Playbook." The final day's sessions covered topics such as students supporting each other during a pandemic, naloxone training, promoting well-being, and preventing burnout in medical professionals.

NSF Grant to Aid UC STEM Students

Twelve UC students will receive scholarships to pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) degrees thanks to a grant from the National Science Foundation.

The grant was announced by U.S. Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) and Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), members of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The grant totals \$648,409 to fund four-year scholarships to students pursuing baccalaureate degrees in data science, computer science, biological sciences, chemistry, and dual biology-chemistry programs at the University of Charleston.

The project entitled "Scholars Program for Environmental Challenges" is under the direction of UC professors Aida E. Jiménez-Esquilín, David L. Haas, Juliana Serafin, and Mark B. Watson.

"What an amazing gift for 12 lucky and deserving UC students," Senator Capito said. "West Virginia is always looking to attract talented students, particularly in STEM fields. As our state works toward a more robust STEM workforce, seeing UC's programs align with NSF's greater goal of preparing that future workforce is encouraging and shows the promise of West Virginia in contributing more to a 21st-century economy."

"I am so proud to announce that 12 bright students at the University of Charleston will receive scholarships to pursue their education in STEM fields. STEM careers are essential to our 21st-century economy and we must prioritize scholarships and funding for STEM education. I have no doubt that these students will receive a world-class education at the University of Charleston and hopefully stay in our state to help move our economy and workforce forward," Senator Manchin said.

UC Partners with First2 Network

Over the last year and a half UC (via the biology program) has been partnering with the First2 Network (a National Science Foundation funded organization that seeks to "improve STEM persistence among rural, first-generation and other underrepresented students so that they – in turn – can contribute to an innovation economy in our state.") <https://first2network.org/>.

"We have managed to couple the UC-NSF SPEC program with the First2 Network to achieve optimal support for our scholars and other first-generation students in our program," explained Dr. Aida Jiménez-Esquilín, associate professor and biology program director. "We are also learning a lot of things that we can apply to support other UC students in our department, even if they are not first generation to aid in retention and success."

In the spring of 2020, an MOU was signed with the network to share data and collaborate in supporting first-generation STEM majors.

The following summer, UC received a grant of \$24,000 to host a summer research immersive on campus (this was done virtually because of COVID-19). Four UC incoming freshmen and three UC sophomores participated. First2 Network provided very generous stipends for each participating student, as well as financial support for our faculty and covering all research costs. The program provided two weeks of science research focused on the distribution of beech trees, beech bark disease and Epifagus in WV. Drs. Becky Linger (UCSOP), Mark Watson (chair of NSCI & math), and Jiménez-Esquilín led the teaching/research activities. Students learned a lot and formed a community before beginning their fall semester at UC. The virtual nature of the immersive research experience also served as a "heads up" on what to expect on campus in the fall.

In the fall of 2020, students from the summer immersive formed the UC First2 Network club on campus. They increased their membership 66 percent in one semester. The F2N pays students a stipend to be engaged as part of the club. This club interacts with the clubs at other higher education institutions in the state which provides great networking.

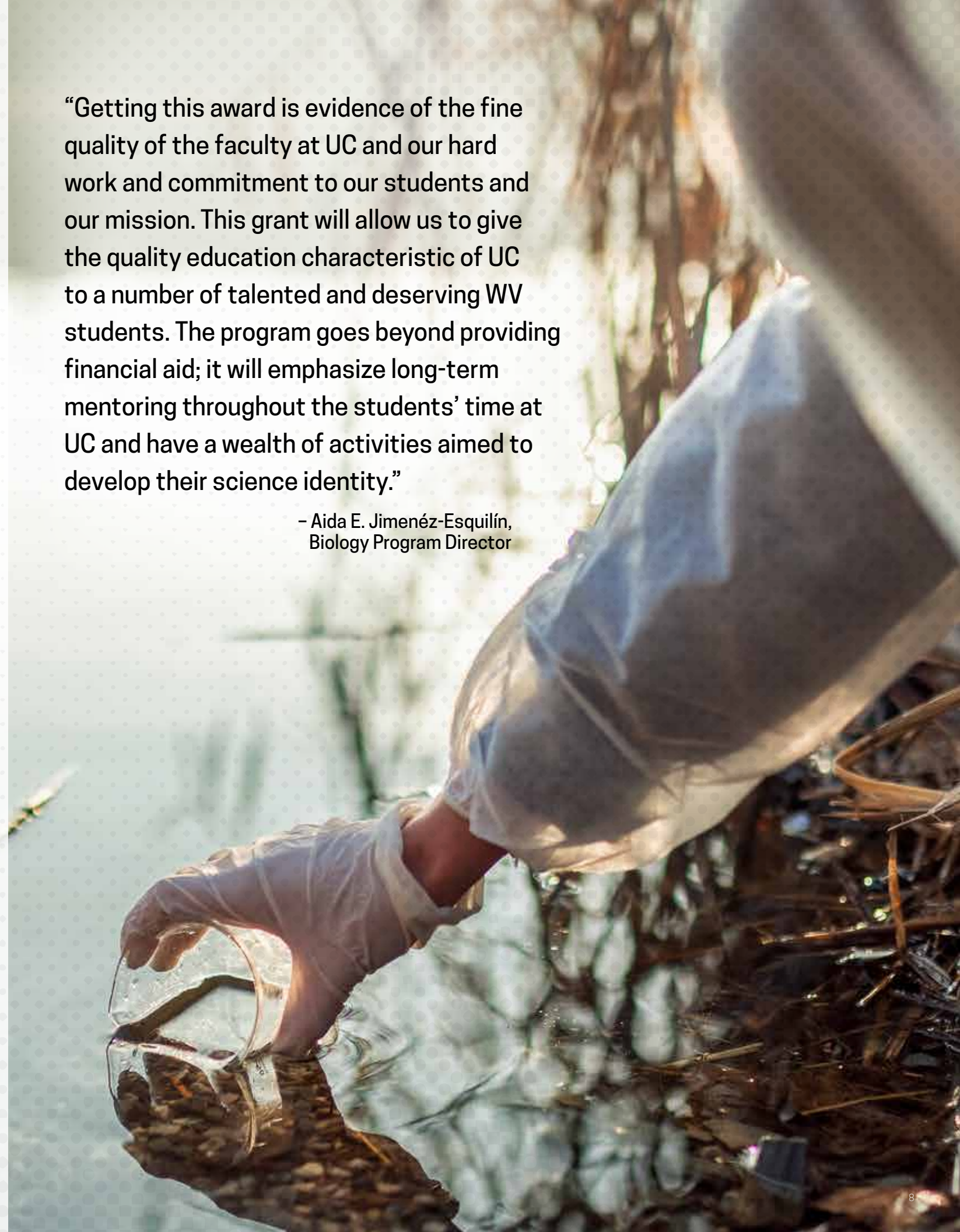
"This is a great space for them to continue to form community and support each other and help us learn about the needs of this student population," stated Jiménez-Esquilín. "As part of the club activities, they receive mentoring and leadership development opportunities from the F2N leaders. The club also provides support academically, financially and socially."

And the team just received word that their proposal to host a summer immersive site on campus during summer 2021 was granted. The \$23,500 grant will support 12 UC students to be able to participate. Spearheaded by Drs. Heather Arnett and Jiménez-Esquilín, the research topic for this camp will be "Assessing Ecological Communities in Acid Mine Drainage Affected Water and Soil." There may also be a data analytics component to the program to be offered by Dr. Nawaz Ali.

Another bonus of the program explained by Jiménez-Esquilín is "we are sharing success and retention data for these students with the network because of the MOU. So, in our role as a small private institution, we are contributing to the knowledge base on success and retention of rural, first-generation STEM majors in WV."

"Getting this award is evidence of the fine quality of the faculty at UC and our hard work and commitment to our students and our mission. This grant will allow us to give the quality education characteristic of UC to a number of talented and deserving WV students. The program goes beyond providing financial aid; it will emphasize long-term mentoring throughout the students' time at UC and have a wealth of activities aimed to develop their science identity."

– Aida E. Jiménez-Esquilín,
Biology Program Director



NEW PROGRAMS OFFERED

OTA IN CHARLESTON

We now offer our Occupational Therapy Assistant program in Charleston, as well as at our Beckley location.

CONCENTRATIONS IN BIOLOGY

Students who enroll in our Biology program can now choose from one of four concentrations: Data Analytics, Environmental Biology, Biomedical Sciences and General Biology. The program also supports unique pathways for admission into our School of Pharmacy and Physician Assistant programs.

PREPARATION FOR A DATA-FOCUSED WORLD

Two new programs in our School of Arts & Sciences provide UC students with a strong background in understanding and working with data:

Applied Computer Science (with an optional concentration in Cybersecurity) provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to pursue careers in a variety of technology careers.

Data Analytics develops the skills to extract meaningful and useful information from raw data.

MASTER'S DEGREE IN BUSINESS ANALYTICS & APPLIED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

We now offer an online Master of Science in Business Analytics & Applied Artificial Intelligence to prepare UC students to meet the demands of an increasingly dynamic work environment that relies heavily on big data, advanced analytics and artificially intelligent technologies.

The program is offered in two formats: an 11-month regular program or a 2-year flexible format to fit the needs of working professionals. It offers a unique applied artificial intelligence emphasis, and provides students with the domain knowledge, industry exposure opportunities and applied skills to work in a variety of fields.

Courses within the degree include Data Science Applications & Technologies, Machine Learning, Data Visualization and Data Mining, an Artificial Intelligence Seminar, and more.

COMING SOON:

To help further prepare healthcare professionals to meet the growing need for competent, compassionate caregivers, we will soon offer two advanced degrees in our School of Health Sciences:

Master of Science in Occupational Therapy

Master of Science in Nursing-Family Practitioner



INNOVATION



Innovation Scholar Austin Davis has passed the Certified Professional Innovator Exam with a 95 percent.

“Austin is now, as we understand it, West Virginia’s first Certified Professional Innovator. We are excited and proud of Austin’s achievement and certification. We are also excited as this distinctly positions the Wehrle Innovation Center as a place like no other. It is unheard of for a student to achieve what Austin has achieved. Austin has led the way and we plan on having others test later in the year.”

–Terry Cyfers,
Assistant Director, Innovation Center

The credential is awarded through the International Association of Innovation Professionals (IAOIP).

“I’m honored to have been the first to be able to have this wonderful opportunity,” said Davis. “I look forward to being able to mentor others to expand West Virginia as a certified center for innovation!”

Davis also organized a community innovation outreach program in Williamson, WV, to give innovation exposure to children who otherwise would not have had the opportunity.

He was also one of four UC Innovation Scholars who were accepted to present at the 2021 WV Undergraduate Research Day at the WV Capitol in March. The purpose of the WVURDC is to familiarize state legislators with research and creative activities involving undergraduate students that occur on campuses across the state. (The other Scholars selected were Emily Thomas, Eli Hughes and Sydney Schliesser.)



WV BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

UC has five teams who have made it to the semifinalist stage in this year’s WV Collegiate Business Plan Competition. UC has more teams than every other WV college – other than WVU – which leads with six teams.

The semifinalist round is set up differently this year. The top 15 scores from each category were named as semifinalists, then additional teams were made up of the top scores from institutions that were not represented in the top 15. In total, there are 24 entries that are semifinalists with only UC (5 entries), WVU (6 entries), and WV State (2 entries) having multiple entries.

Semifinalists will submit a written customer discovery study and a two-minute elevator pitch of their business concept. Finally, each team will discuss their business plan via a series of Zoom interviews with business professionals. The top ten teams will advance to the final round that takes place April 16, 2021.

The WV Business Plan Competition provides the opportunity for WV students to bring their business ideas to life, as well as earn prize money toward making their ideas become a reality.



NEW DEAN ANNOUNCED DR. SCOTT WESTON

“Dr. Weston brings the perfect blend of administrative, teaching, research, and industry experience to lead a world-class school of pharmacy. His pharmacy knowledge and leadership style resonated strongly with students, faculty and staff. I look forward to Dr. Weston’s contributions to the School of Pharmacy and to the University leadership team.”

–Dr. Martin Roth
UC President

Dr. Scott Weston was named dean of the School of Pharmacy and will take the helm in July 2021.

Dr. Weston has served in a variety of leadership roles in pharmacy education since 2003 as a faculty member, department chair, and associate dean. He is currently the associate dean for faculty affairs at Harding University in Arkansas. He brings over 20 years’ experience in the private sector as a retail pharmacist and as a senior scientist in the field of computational chemistry with several multinational firms to his new role.

Prior to his role at Harding University, Dr. Weston was a tenured professor of pharmaceutical, social, and administrative sciences at Belmont University where he also served as associate dean of academic affairs and assessment in the College of Pharmacy. His other leadership roles include serving as the director of curricular development and the director of curricular assessment at Harding University.

Dr. Weston holds a Ph.D. in medicinal and pharmaceutical chemistry from the University of Mississippi and an MBA from Harding University.

UCSOP FACULTY UPDATES



M.O. Faruk Khan, interim dean of the UC School of Pharmacy, has published *Medicinal Chemistry of Drugs Affecting the Nervous System*. This is the second in a series edited by Dr. Khan and Ashok Philip, published through Bentham Books. The book set serves as a reference guide to pharmacists on aspects of the chemical basis of drug action.



Dr. Tamer Fandy, chair of the UC School of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutical and Administrative Sciences, was awarded \$405,000 by the WV-INBRE (West Virginia Idea Network of Biomedical Research Excellence) program to study the molecular changes associated with the development and progression of leukemia.

The award is for three years and aims to characterize the epigenetic changes in leukemia cells in collaboration with Professor A. Saad from Ohio State University, who will provide the leukemia and healthy bone marrow human samples. Dr. Fandy established an active research program in leukemia after completing a five-year postdoctoral fellowship in hematologic malignancies at Johns Hopkins University.



Dr. Aymen Shatnawi has been awarded the WV-INBRE – collaborative research grant to work on a joint project with Dr. Travis Salisbury from Marshall University School of Medicine (MUSM). The study will investigate the gene regulation of the tumor suppressor genes on amino acid transporter in breast cancer, which will ultimately help in designing the next generation of anticancer drugs. The grant award is \$100,000 and is divided between the two institutions (UCSOP 60% and MUSM 40%). The project will strengthen the research collaboration between the two institutions by exchanging the clinical and basic research experiences and sharing the research facilities.

Shatnawi also received another award from WV-INBRE – a \$25,000 grant for a study to investigate the gene regulation of Estrogen Related Receptor Alpha (ESRRa) by the tumor suppressor gene (ING4) in breast cancer. The study will advance the current understanding of the roles of ING4/ESRRa regulation in BC pathogenesis, and aid in the development of new pharmaceuticals and novel treatment strategies to cure the disease.



Rebecca S. Linger, Ph.D., and Dennis K. Flaherty, Ph.D., professors from the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy, have published “A Guide to the Toxicology of Select Medicinal Plants and Herbs of Eastern North America,” a treatise on the toxicology of medicinal plants that grow in our area.

“The use of medicinal plants is quite widespread in Appalachia,” Dr. Linger states, “I regularly hear from my former students that their pharmacy patients are asking them about the use of medicinal plants and extracts.”

This new book covers the medicinal properties of select Appalachian plants that can cause serious health problems if overused. The book also gives a layperson’s level explanation of how the plant components interact with the body.

The book is available at Taylor Books, the WV Marketplace at the Capitol Market, the Kanawha State Forest Gift Shop, and on amazon.com.

Dr. Linger is a professor at the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy. She is a medicinal chemist who has research interests in the ethnobotany of Appalachian plants. She is a well-known regional speaker on edible and medicinal plants and is a West Virginia Master Naturalist. Dr. Linger has published several peer-reviewed articles on topics related to medicinal chemistry. This is her first book.

Dr. Flaherty is a retired associate professor at the University of Charleston. He has over 30 years of experience in the field of toxicology, immunotoxicology and risk assessment. He is the author/editor of three reference books on immunotoxicology or risk assessment and has published the textbook “Immunology for Pharmacy.” This is Dr. Flaherty’s fifth book. He has published over 50 peer-reviewed research articles and authored 10 book chapters. Dr. Flaherty is also an inventor and holds eight technology patents.

STUDENTS ON THE FRONT LINES

A recent vaccination clinic provided the opportunity for many West Virginians to get their COVID-19 vaccination. And on the front lines were School of Pharmacy students, who have been supporting the Kanawha County Health Department in vaccinating the public. UC SOP faculty and students have spent many hours providing critical support to the health department in providing vaccinations to our community. We are very grateful for their work, their dedication, and their community spirit.

UC SOP student Jacob Karr was pictured in an article in the New York Times about the success West Virginia has been having with its vaccination program:

www.nytimes.com/2021/01/24/us/west-virginia-vaccine.html?smid=em-share

“I could not be more proud of our students! They have a sense of volunteerism, a true passion for helping others, and a sense of responsibility as healthcare team members that exemplifies many components of the UC mission. We are at a unique time in history when healthcare workers face a certain level of personal risk when performing their duties to care for the public, yet they gear up both physically (with Personal Protective Equipment) and mentally (knowing they are fully trained for this) to accomplish the tasks at hand for the benefit of others. This is a time when students are getting to learn this sense of both pride and responsibility at a deeper level than most. When our students don their white coats and step out with a vaccination in hand and a caring smile upon their face, I see gratitude overriding apprehension in the hearts of the patients they approach, and I am assured that these future pharmacists are already making a difference!”

– Kristy Lucas

Associate Dean & Professor, School of Pharmacy

GRANT AWARDED FOR EQUIPMENT

The Department of Pharmaceutical and Administrative Sciences was recently awarded an equipment grant from WV-INBRE for \$40,000. The department has used the funds for a cryogenic storage system that provides extremely low temperatures, minus 160 degrees Celsius, and a real-time PCR machine to quantitate gene expression and detect different types of DNA mutations. The cryogenic storage system has the capability to store biological samples for long periods of time. With this system, the SOP can also store the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine if needed. This equipment will be utilized for various research projects conducted by faculty. Both the cryogenic and PCR machine are open to the entire UC community for use.

“It is a tremendous privilege to be able to help vaccinate against COVID-19. We are taking part in protecting our community from this dreadful disease, and quite literally, we are helping save lives. Seeing students so eager to volunteer is amazing. They understand the gravity of what this vaccine means and how important it is for all of us to work together. It has been a beautiful experience that I am proud, and grateful, to be a part of.”

–Jennifer Pack

Program Director, Physician Assistant Program



School of BUSINESS & LEADERSHIP

UC RANKED AMONG TOP ONLINE PROGRAMS

Two UC School of Business and Leadership programs were ranked nationally in 2020.

The Organizational Leadership program was selected by BestColleges as the 2nd Best Online Organizational Leadership Bachelor's degree program in the country: <https://www.bestcolleges.com/features/top-online-organizational-leadership-programs/#best-school-rankings>.

The program was also selected as 7th Best in the country by CollegeChoice as having the Best Online Organizational Leadership Bachelor's degree program: <https://www.collegechoice.net/rankings/best-online-organizational-leadership-degrees/>.

The Master of Science in Strategic Leadership was selected as the 11th Best Master's Online Leadership Program by Best College Reviews: <https://www.bestcollegereviews.org/top/organizational-leadership-online-masters-programs/>.

In all ranking lists, UC is the only WV school ranked.

SPEAKER SERIES CONTINUES VIRTUALLY

Throughout the years, UC has provided many thought provoking, entertaining and informative speakers on our campus. Due to the pandemic, our MBA program continued the tradition with two special events this spring.

In February, Alice L. Jolla, CPA, – and a UC MBA graduate – offered her insight on several topics, bringing to the event her wealth of industry experience from various accounting and finance positions within Microsoft Corporation, Dow Chemical Company and Union Carbide Corporation.

Jolla is chief accounting officer and corporate vice president at Microsoft Corporation. Responsible for the corporate accounting function, she leads a team of over 100 full-time employees to ensure Microsoft is compliant with US GAAP and SEC reporting requirements.

She also currently serves as national secretary for the Financial Executives International Board of Directors.

The March event featured Magie Cook, offering a perspective on an extraordinary life journey – one that also includes graduating from UC and becoming a member of our Alumni Hall of Fame.

Cook is a CEO, keynote speaker, author and has been featured on CNN, Forbes, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and more. She created Maggie's All Natural Fresh Salsa's & Dips, growing it into a multimillion-dollar business within four years. She is also the author of "Mindful Success – How to Use Your Mind to Transform Your Life."



Alice Jolla



Magie Cook

VIRTUAL SEMINAR SERIES

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to disrupt norms and change standard operating procedures into 2021. The University of Charleston and technology company SEGRA have partnered for a virtual series to provide new insights and best practices to help businesses and organizations satisfy customers, maintain operations, and engage with communities during the ongoing pandemic. "The Show Must Go On" virtual seminar series was created to provide industry leaders access to a community of business and systems-planning experts.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON

A FREE Virtual Series to Help Organizations
Weather the COVID-19 Storm

co-sponsored by
SEGRA

- SESSION 1:**
Thursday, October 22, 2020 | 12 - 1 p.m.
BUSINESS CONTINUITY IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD:
Focus, effectiveness, and efficiency during a pandemic
- SESSION 2:**
Wednesday, November 18, 2020 | 12 - 1 p.m.
ACCELERATING YOUR SECURITY AND PRIVACY STRATEGIES:
What you don't know can hurt you
- SESSION 3:**
Thursday, January 21, 2021 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
MASTERING REMOTE WORK:
Connecting with customers, colleagues and communities
- SESSION 4:**
Wednesday, February 17, 2021 | 12 - 1 p.m.
UNCERTAINTY REDUCTION THROUGH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE:
Insights from social media, autonomous vehicles, and the Internet of Things (IoT)
- SESSION 5:**
Thursday, March 18, 2021 | 12 - 1 p.m.
PREVENTING AND MITIGATING RISK:
Protecting what you can't yet see

Register online at: www.ucwv.edu/events

For more information, call 304-357-4713

MBA STUDENTS GET A **SLICE** OF REAL LIFE

In 1977, Husson's Pizza opened its first restaurant in St. Albans. Forty-four years later, Husson's is still locally owned and operated and has nine locations in West Virginia.

Owner Nick Husson has guided the restaurant by studying the market, taking advantage of opportunities as they presented themselves, and maintaining ties to the community. (Of course, having great pizza helps, too!)

In his continuing dedication to improve service, Nick Husson provided a real-world learning experience to our MBA class last year. The students worked with Husson to learn about his business, and then performed a strategic analysis for him.

"Working with the UC MBA program was awesome," Husson said. "The people in the program challenged me to look at what we were doing, how we were doing it, and why we were doing it. We were very open to providing the information the class needed to understand us, and we were open to their suggestions. Some of the points they brought up in the final report we implemented immediately, and some we are still in the process of working on."

Husson believes it was a mutual success – that the experience was helpful to the UC students as well, enabling them to observe real-life situations and work as a team to come up with real solutions.

"It really helped me a lot to have a younger, very intelligent group to bounce ideas off of and evaluate current programs," Husson concluded.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, our MBA program has had to restrict its interaction with local businesses. But once those restrictions are no longer in place, UC MBA students will be welcome back to Husson's.

"I will always try to make myself available if there is a future opportunity to work with them."

To see more information on Husson's Pizza, go to www.hussonspizza.com.



ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS

Our Athletics Highlights typically involves team championship runs and season successes. In 2020, however, the coronavirus ended many sports seasons before they had begun. But in true Golden Eagle fashion, the UC Athletic Department still had many highlights from a season that wasn't.

SEASONS RESUME.

After a very uncertain spring and fall, the NCAA and MEC have cleared almost all sports to begin competition once again. There are some restrictions, such as no spectators allowed at games, and our student athletes are being regularly tested for COVID. Basketball started playing in January. February saw the start of lacrosse, soccer, tennis, volleyball and softball. Football and baseball will begin in March.

All game schedules can be found at ucgoldeneagles.com.

DR. BREN STEVENS was honored as one of the West Virginia Women's Commission Legacy of Women Award recipients. The award honors women who have impacted West Virginia and the nation as champions and role models for tomorrow's female leaders. Each award is named after outstanding women of accomplishment in the state's history.

Dr. Stevens received the Rose Gacioch Sports Champion Award. (Rose Gacioch, from Wheeling, played right field and pitched for the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League from 1944 through 1954. She had one of the most successful careers in AAGPBL history as one of the most well-rounded of any female player.)

FORMER UC HEAD WOMEN'S TENNIS COACH SHARI REED was named one of the all-time winningest coaches in Division II women's athletics. Mark Turk, CSUN Athletics, created the list from dual match records. Coaches were ranked by their overall win percentage. To be included, they had to have at least 10 years of head coaching at an NCAA program. Reed, who led the Golden Eagles from 1997 - 2019, ranked 12th all-time win by percentage.

Under her direction, UC had six conference titles and seven NCAA tournament appearances. She has been named conference coach of the year five times and earned the ITA Region Coach of the Year in 2009 and 2019. Reed is also a member of the Golden Eagle Athletic Hall of Fame.

Reed continues to support UC as both Senior Development Officer and Senior Women's Athletics Administrator.

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DR. BREN STEVENS, our athletic director, the Empowering Eagles Initiative helped several of our teams - baseball, cheerleading, lacrosse, women's soccer, softball and men's and women's tennis - achieve a 100% voter registration rate.

UC WOMEN'S SOCCER made the United Soccer Coaches Academic Award list for the 14th consecutive year - with a team GPA of 3.17. United Soccer Coaches celebrates the academic achievements of high school and college soccer teams whose student athletes collectively demonstrate a commitment to excellence in their studies.

THE UC BASEBALL TEAM once again helped clean up the outside of our local Ronald McDonald House. With House families spending more time outside visiting with family members and loved ones, the team wanted to make sure families had a comfortable place to relax. The UC team regularly supports the Ronald McDonald House with landscaping and cleaning help.

To support World Mental Health Day, our **MEN'S SOCCER TEAM** purchased #BoysGetSadToo t-shirts to raise awareness for men's mental health. In a Twitter post, the team recognized that "with such a large and diverse squad of student athletes, we know all too well about the issue." The team also walked from practice to downtown Charleston to support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - West Virginia during an event in October.

THE DIVISION 2 ATHLETIC DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (D2 ADA) has announced the 2019-2020 recipients of the D2 ADA Academic Achievement Awards. UC had 90 student athletes who received awards, the most in the MEC.

In order to receive an award, a student athlete must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, have attended a minimum of two years of college level work, and have been an active member of an intercollegiate team during their last academic year.

THREE UC MEN'S VOLLEYBALL ALUMNI have signed professional contracts to continue their athletic careers:

EUGENE STUART is the first UC men's volleyball player to ever sign a professional contract following his collegiate career. He signed to play with Karelian Hurmos, a professional team out of Finland.

BRANDON GREENWAY signed to play for Volleyklubben Vestsjaelland in Denmark.

MAX SENICA signed with Nordenskov UIF, also in Denmark.

UC LACROSSE PLAYER RACHEL KERWIN was selected as the Mountain East Conference honoree for the 2020 NCAA Woman of the Year award. Kerwin is a four-year starter for the Golden Eagles women's lacrosse program and served as team captain for two years.



CHARLESTON
GOLDEN EAGLES

A NEW GOLDEN EAGLE LOGO

was created that will "honor its past and build upon its future." Designed by UC Sports Information Director Ashlie Santolla, the new logo offers a more timeless and fiercer look.

"We were looking for something that would show the strength and resiliency of our athletes, their toughness, mentally and physically," UC Athletic Director Bren Stevens said.

The old MoHarv isn't disappearing, however. Teams that love the old logo will get to keep it on their uniforms if they wish.

The UC Athletics website was also given a revamp, with more dynamic graphics, space for livestream and video, and even an online store to pick up some Golden Eagle athletics gear. The site is still at ucgoldeneagles.com.

MAPPING A FUTURE IN BASEBALL PLAYER. COACH. PIONEER. CARTOGRAPHER.

Beth Woerner's journey to the baseball dugout hasn't followed the script; one that either public expectations or her own personal desires might have come up with.

"I was working on mapping for a local government when I started to play baseball as a hobby," said Woerner, who heads into her second season as a member of the University of Charleston's baseball staff. "I grew to love the game, so I pretty quickly went down a rabbit trail on the analytics side of baseball. At one point, I found myself Googling 'are there female baseball coaches?' to see if there was even an option out there for me."

It's safe to say that her Google search results came back with, well, not much. Even though the number now includes Woerner, there are currently less than 10 women working on coaching staffs across the country – a list that includes staffs at both the collegiate and professional levels. So, while the qualified candidates may be out there, the opportunities are not. Enter second-year Golden Eagle Head Baseball Coach Robbie Britt, who saw Woerner as a rising talent and great addition to his program.

"Beth's story is a prime example of what our program is designed to do," said Britt. "She's taken this front-door opportunity and made it her masterpiece by pouring into our student athletes' development both as players and as men. Her impact on our program will have positive ripple effects for years to come."

With her first actual season (year one was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic) coming up in March, Woerner has already seen her role on the staff start to evolve.

"I like the analytics side of the game, but I now know that I want to be closer to the field and the player development side," said Woerner. "This coaching staff is the perfect place for me to grow and learn, and they have no issues with me being a female. The entire staff always shows that they respect me, and, in turn, that lets me know they consider me a valuable part of the group. No one treats me any differently."

While her work on the field and her continuing education (she's currently enrolled in graduate school) are her primary focus, Woerner is conscious of what her job now represents – both to other coaching staffs across America and to little girls who may be wondering what opportunities they'll have in the future.

"It's really special when men recognize it," said Woerner. "I was recently the only female on a virtual coaches meeting with male coaches from around the country. After the meeting, one of the coaches privately messaged me to tell me that he had told his daughter about my story and that opened up a conversation with her about what she was capable of doing in the future."

"IT MEANS SOMETHING TO ME THAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO INSPIRE A LITTLE GIRL TO BE BRAVE AND PURSUE WHATEVER SHE WANTS TO DO IN LIFE."



ALUMNI NEWS



INTRODUCING CHRISTINA CARR UC's New Director of Alumni Relations

UC has had a special place in my heart most of my life. Growing up, I remember attending Symphony Sunday annually and weekly visits for my sister's Appalachian Children Choir rehearsals. As a young adult, I followed several family members, including my mother, and chose UC for my college experience. I walked across the stage at commencement with my first cousin ahead of me and another family member on stage as faculty.

Christina Carr, our new director of alumni relations, graduated magna cum laude with a business administration degree from UC in 2006. She put her degree to use with an outside sales position working with secondary school groups to raise money.

"My education and experiences at UC prepared me for a bright and successful future," said Carr. "My professors are some of the most influential people to ever come into my life. For the last 13 years, I have quoted Dr. Alcazar daily. What my classmates and I considered to be his signature line, 'No Free Lunches,' still guides my thoughts and opinions often."

The summer following graduation, she married her husband, Jonathan. They currently live in Putnam County with their two children, Audrey, 10, and Colton, 8.

"Now that UC has weaved its way back into my life, I feel at home," she says. "I am excited to grow alumni engagement by continuing wonderful traditions and creating new ones that all celebrate the Golden Eagle spirit."

Christina can be contacted at christinacarr@ucwv.edu or at 304-357-4734.



2020 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR JOHN RANSON

At this year's virtual homecoming, Class of 1962 alum John Ranson was named our Alumnus of the Year.

John graduated from Morris Harvey with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He joined Goodrich-Gulf Chemicals after graduation, and later joined Borg-Warner Chemicals until the business was sold. He then became the director of the Governor's Office of Economic and Community Development, and in 1990, was promoted to cabinet secretary for the Department of Commerce, Labor and Environment. He left state government in 1994.

In 2002, he created an independent investment advisory business with which he is still affiliated.

He is a strong believer in giving to the community and to education. He is a former board member and board chairman of West Virginia Independent Colleges & Universities, Inc., as well as a former board member and officer of Ronald McDonald Children's Charities of Southern West Virginia.

He has served his alma mater as a member of the board of trustees and remains as an emeritus trustee, continuing to support our university with enthusiasm and dedication.

John and his wife, Lois Tucker Ranson, recently celebrated their 55th anniversary. They have three adult sons and eight grandchildren.

#GIVEFORGOLD

OVER

1000

DONORS

THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF OUR COMMUNITY AND THE HARD WORK OF OUR ADVANCEMENT OFFICE, THIS YEAR'S GIVE FOR GOLD CAMPAIGN RAISED

\$125,000

Money raised will go to an exciting campus project - the development of an outdoor recreation center to be housed in the old campus boathouse.

The project will include renovations to the boathouse to be able to provide outdoor recreation equipment; offer open-air activities and catered entertainment events; and the procurement and management of recreation equipment (obtain and repair bicycles, helmets, paddleboards, kayaks, fishing equipment, life jackets, paddles, and games. This also includes computer, refrigerator, and safety certifications along with staffing for the recreation center).

The recreation center will provide a variety of outdoor sports for UC students and the community, including:

- Offering river-based outdoor recreation activities for students such as paddle boarding, kayaking and fishing. These activities are extremely popular when UC hosts "lawn festivals" and rents equipment for student use.
- Providing bicycles that students can borrow and ride into Kanawha City.
- Having open-air activities such as ping pong, corn hole toss, and spike ball for students to use in and around the boathouse.
- Creating a new entertainment venue for catering events.
- Enhancing UC's appeal to prospective new students.

For more information on Give for Gold and the boathouse project, visit our website www.ucwv.edu/giving/.

Faculty and Staff Spotlights



JOHN CHRISTIAN

Director of University Bands

By: Brandon Revelo, Communications Intern (Fall 2020)

Q: What sparked your passion for music?

A: Music was a great outlet for me as a kid. I loved playing music because it kept my emotions in check. It was a great way to express my happiness and work through any of my problems. I loved playing with all my friends in high school; we shared a lot of great memories that way.

Q: What are your favorite instruments to play and why?

A: I am a trained trombone player, so trombone is my favorite instrument. I also play the tuba and euphonium – it's like a baby tuba. Those are the instruments I studied primarily. I learned to play a wide variety of other instruments, but if someone asked me what instrument I played, it would be the trombone. I chose it because I could play any type of music. I could play pop, jazz, classical; I knew there would be a lot of jobs that I could go out and play.

Q: What drives you to lead our band students?

A: I love the students we have here at UC; it's a great place to be. I knew when I became a college band director that I wanted to be at a small, liberal arts college. And that's what UC is. It gives me the opportunity to create lasting relationships with my students. I'm training students not only to be great musicians, but to be great people as well. When they graduate, I know they were able to study their musical passion even if that wasn't their major.

Q: What is the best thing about sharing your music knowledge with our band students?

A: It's that my students want to grow as people and as players. That's my job, to help them become better people and I do it through music.

Q: What is exciting about starting UC's first band program?

A: It's exciting that there's no set tradition. We get to build our tradition and decide what our identity is instead of what's expected of us. Most colleges are operating within preset traditions and ideas while we can dream big and be creative.

Q: What can we expect and look forward to from the band in the future?

A: I think that our numbers will continue to grow. We hope to start a jazz band soon that will perform pop and jazz. Our athletic bands are doing well, and we're hoping they'll be able to march on the football field – we actually have a prototype uniform. Our wind ensemble has an invitation to play at the University of York in England. We're hoping that by 2022 we'll be able to travel again and perform on our first tour.

Q: What was your previous occupation before being the band director for UC?

A: I was a K-12 teacher and taught all types of music. I taught band, orchestra and choir. I was also an elementary school teacher for a while and taught political science and history to high school students. I've had a very diverse educational career. At one point, one of my teaching schedules was preschool library, global politics and issues, band, and then orchestra. I've also taught adjunct at colleges in Florida, Georgia, and the Kazakh National Conservatory in Khazishstan. I was also fortunate enough to teach in Morocco, Australia, and several other places. I've had a very global career.

Q: What is your big vision for the band program's future?

A: The biggest vision is that we have happy and healthy students who like to share their talents and music and have the opportunity to grow as people and as musicians.



ANTHONY "TONY" GIAIMO

Assistant Professor

By: Brandon Revelo, Communications Intern (Fall 2020)

Q: What inspired you to enter law enforcement, emergency management, and strategic leadership?

A: I was inspired from a very early age. My father was involved in law enforcement, and my family was a service-related family. It's a way to connect, a way to give back, and it's certainly a fulfilling path.

Q: Why did you choose to work at UC?

A: After getting my master's degree from Mountain State University, I heard some really wonderful things about the University of Charleston. I felt like UC was another great place to connect with the leadership realm, and it meshed well with law enforcement.

Q: What do you like the most about UC?

A: I would say the community. I enjoy connecting with the students who are tremendously engaged in the material. For an instructor, that really energizes you when folks are eager and really seeking to move forward in the curriculum. Also, I completely connect with everything UC stands for; the character and ethics behind the university, the long-standing relationships the university has formed with the community and beyond, and its reputation in the larger community.

Q: How did your time with the regional SWAT team help lead you to where you are today?

A: The department I sought out was very progressive. I felt there was not only a future there, but something I could partner with by connecting my personal leadership philosophy. You could move within the department, so there were a great number of career opportunities and advancements. As I moved forward and became the leader of the department as their chief, new chances to implement innovative ideas became apparent. I was able to use my previous knowledge and skills to effectively lead those within the department.

Q: With all the community programs you have established, what drives you to stay involved and connected with the community?

A: I think that the community is very centric. My background is Sicilian; when my family came over to this country, they were community oriented. It was about the family and considering the community of family. That stuck with me. I look at my family, friends, and those friends that I haven't met yet, and I ask myself how I could make things a little bit better for them.

Q: How has it been working and living through this semester during a pandemic?

A: It's been challenging, but the students have really stepped up. I was called back to emergency service where we are very focused on the issues that occur due to COVID-19. My teaching is 100 percent online, so you would think classes would be immune to such issues. However, students had family members fall ill or other issues arise, so we worked on solutions together. I think we've all felt the burden of this global dilemma.

Q: How does the school of business and leadership at UC prepare students for the future?

A: It provides real-world tools and expertise that students can use here and now. For example, I have an ethics class that starts with introductory topics but quickly focuses on real-world scenarios that students experience. We can have open and honest discussions about the scenarios with various student viewpoints and backgrounds contributing to the conversations.

Q: What does the UC innovation competition award you won in 2019 mean to you?

A: It means a lot to me because it demonstrates my commitment to the community and impacting it in a positive way. Folks at the School of Business and Leadership, along with myself, looked at ways we could utilize positive learning experiences to impact people who may not immediately enroll in a bachelor's degree program but would benefit from college-level education. We felt we could introduce certificate programs and things like that to give these people a miniature glimpse of the University of Charleston, especially the school of business.



VIOLETTA PETROSYAN Director of International Students

By: Andrea Quezada, Communications Intern (Spring 2021)

Director of International Students Violetta Petrosyan is often the face of UC for international students interested in the school. While not in charge of recruiting international students, Violetta, who has been at UC for 12 years, is always aware of how that is going. She helps international students with their immigration documents before coming to UC, then helps them transition into life as a college student away from home. This year, she says, “Against all logical rules, recruitment has been higher.”

UC receives many applications from international students every day and sends out plenty of offers. Communication with prospective international students is even better than before the pandemic, as Violetta has had more opportunities to speak to them and their parents via WhatsApp or FaceTime.

“There is constant communication, day and night, with whomever wants or needs to communicate,” said Violetta.

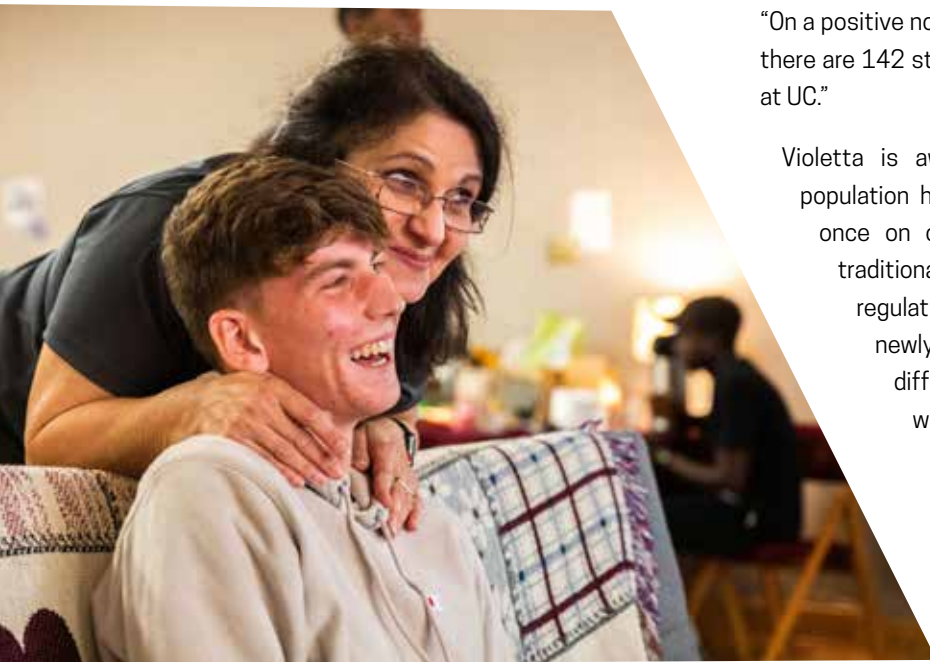
Even after students have been accepted and secure their initial immigration documents, many still have enrollment issues, occasionally forcing them to delay their education for a semester. For some, the problems are financial while others struggle with the VISA process – often struggling to get an appointment because of a temporary closure of the U.S. Embassy in their country.

Some students simply prefer to stay closer to home for fear of getting COVID-19 far from their families. Many elect remote learning.

“On a positive note,” said Violetta, “even with the current situation, there are 142 students from 49 countries who are physically here at UC.”

Violetta is aware that, like all students, the international population has been dramatically affected by the pandemic once on campus. As a community, they had to cancel traditional events, including World Fest, because of health regulations. However, Violetta is now in charge of our newly created international flavor days. Students from different countries cook their native food to share with the rest of the UC community in the Dining Hall.

“Even if we are distant as an international community,” said Violetta, “our UC community is now more aware of the presence of international students on campus.”



Before the pandemic hit, Violetta surprised a group of international students with calls and videos from their families and loved ones back home.

UC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE WINS

TELLY AWARDS

The creative team of Brock Burwell and Dave Traube has created many magical moments, capturing the spirit, the beauty, and sometimes the humor, of life on our campus.

In May 2020, two of their videos – “It All Happens Here” and “We’ll See You Soon, Golden Eagles” – were recognized with three awards from the 41st annual Telly Awards:

A Silver Telly in the category of Promotional Video General – Schools/College/Universities was awarded for “It All Happens Here.” This video also received a bronze in the People’s Telly category.

“We’ll See You Soon, Golden Eagles” received a Bronze Telly in Social Video General – Education and Discovery.

The Telly Awards honor excellence in video and television. Generally, over 12,000 entries are received from all 50 states and five continents.

Burwell is UC cinematographer/photographer and Traube is the VP of marketing and communications for UC.

To see the winning videos, visit our YouTube channel:

“It All Happens Here”:
https://youtu.be/i-DxZgd_3AU

“We’ll See You Soon, Golden Eagles”:
<https://youtu.be/xu1bFu80GVE>



UC FACILITIES TEAM RISES TO THE CHALLENGE

When COVID-19 disrupted routines and immobilized day-to-day campus life, one group moved into harm's way – the UC Facilities team. Director of Facilities Gary Boyd reflected on the hard and often dangerous work that his team has put in to keep the campus open and safe during an unprecedented time.

How proud are you of your team? I know they've been up against unexpected challenges.

The Facilities team enters spaces with known COVID concerns, our front-line custodial and maintenance staff enter areas to make emergency repairs and clean quarantined spaces. The team has attended special training and adjusted to new protocols associated with staying safe while performing their duties and have done so while keeping a positive attitude. I am extremely proud of the University of Charleston Facilities team and have never worked with a finer group of individuals. This University could not have remained open without its quality efforts during this challenging pandemic.

What's been the biggest challenge for you and your team to overcome?

The biggest challenge has been weighing the information and uncertainty associated with COVID-19 and developing a plan to keep the University, students, and employees as safe as possible. We have also experienced the challenge of keeping our employees informed and prepared and realizing that effort is imperative to the success and continuity of keeping the University open and safe. I've also tried to be sensitive about overwhelming our dedicated employees – we have asked a lot out of them, and they've continually risen to the challenge.

"I am extremely proud of the University of Charleston Facilities team and have never worked with a finer group of individuals."

–Director of Facilities Gary Boyd





December 2020 Graduation

From as far away as Melville, Australia, to our campus neighborhood in Charleston, 302 Golden Eagles achieved their educational goals on December 12, 2020. While we had hoped to have a live graduation in December, COVID-19 had other plans. However, even a pandemic couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of our graduating students as we celebrated their milestone virtually.

The ceremony included an address from President Martin Roth, as well as speeches from our Undergraduate Student of the Year, Alec Gracin, and our Outstanding Graduate/Professional Student of the Year, Joshua McClung.

Each graduating student was featured in the ceremony, using photos they had provided. Some were the traditional cap and gown shots, but others were more informal, reflecting their personalities.

The commencement address was given by Thomas I. Barkin, president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. Barkin received an honorary Doctor of Laws for his contributions to the communities he serves.



NEW LOOK in GEARY STUDENT UNION.

It started with reimagining the third floor of Geary Student Union. A combined team that included Facilities, Communications, and Balance Clothing Company changed the walls – and the entire feel of the area.

Large graphics were installed, enlarged photos were added, and UC logos were placed on the walls – all of which gave the UC community a work of art that functions as a hallway. In combination with the updated Ballroom, the third floor is now something to really show off.

Recently, that same innovative approach has taken place on the second floor. Our Facilities department installed drywall over the cinderblock and painted the walls a neutral color. Large graphics and inspirational text were installed, creating a clean, cohesive look and a much-needed update to the hallway and the piano lounge area. While still under construction, the piano area will be reworked into a student lounge and study area.





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The University of Charleston does not discriminate on the basis of sex and anyone with questions regarding Title IX may contact the University's Title IX coordinator or the Office of Civil Rights.



YOUR EFFORT MATTERS.

Whether you went to school here, worked here, or lived here, it's through your generosity that the University of Charleston can continue to be a leader in higher education. Your gift and commitment to UC help recruit students worldwide, attract top faculty and fund exciting projects. Giving options include the Annual Fund, student Scholarships, and Athletics.

UC is committed to preparing students to live in an increasingly complex and changing society by helping them develop the knowledge, skills and character needed to be lifelong learners. A planned gift exemplifies your support of UC's mission to educate each student for a life of productive work, enlightened living and community involvement.

Naming UC a beneficiary of your will, retirement funds, insurance policies, and more, are the tools of charitable gift planning and can provide you with valuable tax benefits.

Planned gifts are among the most powerful tools available to donors. They can make it possible for you to give more and have more impact than would otherwise be the case.

UCWV.EDU/GIVING