

UC NEWS

ALUMNI FROM THE NEST

OFFICIAL UC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER / June 2024 / VOLUME V ISSUE VI



Dear Alumni and Friends,

I hope this message finds you enjoying summer activities with family and friends.

Last Sunday we hosted the 41st West Virginia Symphony Orchestra's "Symphony Sunday" on the Charleston campus lawn and riverfront. Musical Director Maurice Cohn conducted the WVSO's performance including the accompaniment to spectacular fireworks. As usual, our incredible staff did an amazing job preparing

and managing the event despite rain throughout the day. Many thanks to our grounds, housekeeping, facilities, food service, and security teams, and many others for their great work!

Hosting Symphony Sunday is just one way we serve the community as *Charleston's University*TM. The Fund for the Arts annual "Wine & Jazz" music festival fundraiser will also be held on the back lawn Saturday June 22nd from 3-10 pm. Consistent with our community involvement mission pillar, as a university and individually we are committed to making a positive impact in the communities where we study, work, and live.

A number of summer projects began right after graduation. On May 29th we held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for our new Outdoor Fitness Court. Located adjacent to the boathouse, the Court provides a free and accessible community health and wellness resource on our beautiful back lawn with views of the Kanawha River and state capitol. U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III and many community leaders were in attendance. The breezeway that connects Riggleman Hall and the Geary Student Union is being renovated. This project was funded by our Give for Gold campaign earlier this year – thank you to everyone that participated in this initiative! And work has begun in Gorman Hall where we are transforming the old swimming pool into the Morrison Rehabilitation Science and Athletics Center that

will be home for our new graduate occupational and physical therapy programs. As always, innovation is alive and well at UC!

And of course we are working with many students enrolled in summer classes. Just like the Spring semester, Summer enrollment is up compared to the previous year as we serve students year-round in Charleston, Beckley, and online, helping them achieve their professional and personal goals.

Thank you for supporting UC and our mission to educate each student for a life of productive work, enlightened living, and community involvement. Your contributions are essential to our success.

Best wishes for a great summer!

Marty





UC
OUTDOOR
FITNESS COURT
OPEN FOR YOU!

The UC Outdoor Fitness Court is open to the community. Stop by campus to work this into your work out routine!

Designed in partnership with the National Fitness Campaign, the Outdoor Fitness Court provides a comprehensive full-body workout, features various stations for different exercises, clear instructions, and a QR code that links to video tutorials, making it easy for everyone to engage in an effective fitness routine. During the ribbon-cutting event, there will be a demonstration to showcase how to use the court.

The National Fitness Campaign's goal is to enhance mobility and provide world-class fitness options free of charge, making fitness accessible to all. To learn more about their inspiring mission, visit their website: www.nationalfitnesscampaign.com.



Discover UC!

Symphony Sunday always provides an exciting atmosphere and the night is capped with the annual fireworks display (which makes for some pretty spectacular campus photos as seen below). In honor of this special event, the latest edition of Discover UC welcomes special guest, Maurice

Cohn, WVSO Music Director. Take a listen as Dr. Roth and Maestro cruise around Charleston.

Watch the full video [HERE!](#) This series is sponsored by Astorg Auto of Charleston.





Alumni Gathering in Monmouth Park Enjoyed by Many

On a cool and drizzly May 18th, alumni of Morris Harvey College and the University of Charleston gathered at Monmouth Park in Oceanport, NJ, for a memorable reunion. Despite the weather, the spirits of the 50 guests remained high as they shared memories, reunited with old friends, and made new connections. The event was thoughtfully organized by Jon Block, '79, and Bill Greenblum, '68, whose efforts ensured a delightful experience for all attendees. Thank you for your hard work, gentlemen!

The reunion offered each attendee a special T-shirt, lunch provided by Jersey Mike's, and a ticket to the races, making it a day filled with camaraderie and fun.

The reunion saw the attendance of many notable alumni, including Rich Albanese ('68), Patrick Amendola ('68), Vicki Amendola ('67), Cathy Arcell ('80), Paul Arcell ('79), Don Bonanno ('69), Gillian Bryck ('79), Bill Daneluk ('75), Jim Dempsey ('73), Michele Dempsey ('73), Fred Feit, Bonnie Feit, Tim Gallagher ('83), Bill Greenblum ('68), Robert Hammond ('78), Frank Hellinghausen ('67), Biagio Blaze Ionno ('74), Jackie McMullin Kern ('76), Roger Kriney ('68), David Kurtz ('80), Tara Langworthy (alum attend), Laurie McGraw ('80), Paul McNamara, Jerry Moore ('64), Kevin Moynahan ('75), Robert Pumo ('81), Ed Sarluca ('68), Laura Sarluca ('70), Debora Scharff, John Scharff ('80), Ruth Stillwaggon ('84), Scott Stimson ('75), and Joan Wallis ('80).



One of the attendees, David Kurtz (pictured here with alum attend Tara Langworthy), shared a heartfelt reflection on the reunion. He said, "It was especially meaningful to me to be with the ones who came to Charleston right out of high school, as we spent ages 18-22 growing up together on that little campus. We are getting old enough that we have seen some good friends pass away, but we are still around. When we look at each other, we see us as we looked back then, not how strangers see us today. It is

wonderful to reconnect! That is why I always enjoy UC Homecoming weekends—and I hope to see my friends in Charleston next September 21-22. While it was nice to be together in New Jersey, nothing beats sitting on that UC riverbank again!"

The reunion at Monmouth Park was a testament to the enduring bond shared by the alumni of Morris Harvey College and the University of Charleston, reminding everyone of the importance of staying connected and cherishing the memories made during their college years.



TICKET DISCOUNT FOR UC ALUMNI!!

WINE & JAZZ
FUND for the arts
MUSIC FESTIVAL
CHARLESTON WV

June 22nd
3:00 pm - 10:00 pm

**UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON
LAWN**

***YOUR UC ALUMNI DISCOUNTED
TICKET IS ONLY \$40!***


Contact Christina Carr, Director of Alumni Relations, before June 14th to reserve your discounted tickets (while supplies last).
christinacarr@ucwv.edu, 304-357-4734

UC
ALUMNI



Athletics

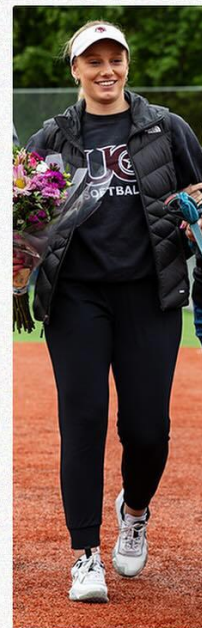
CORNER

 UC Softball has been named the 2024 ATEC/NFCA Atlantic Region Coaching Staff of the Year!

This comes after leading their team to their second national championship appearance and their most winningest season ever. UC softball won the MEC South Division Regular Season, MEC Tournament and the NCAA DII Atlantic Regional titles which is a first for the program



UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON SOFTBALL



2024 ATEC/NFCA DII



ATLANTIC REGION

COACHING STAFF OF THE YEAR

JACKSON
MEADOWS

MICHELLE
FREW

DR. STEPHEN
FREW

AMY
HILLS

JADE
ESPINOSA

Not only do our coaches inspire and encourage on the field, they hold our student athletes accountable for the work done in the classroom. And it shows...

ACADEMIC
excellence

Spring 2024

DEPARTMENT GPA

3.27

105

ATHLETES

EARNED A
GPA of 4.00

62

ATHLETES

EARNED A
GPA of 3.75+

81

ATHLETES

EARNED A
GPA of 3.50+

128

ATHLETES

EARNED A
GPA of 3.00+

UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON ATHLETICS



CHARLESTON SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS



Bring your young athletes to campus this summer! Our stellar coaches, staff, and student athletes have exciting camp experiences planned for youth athletes, check out dates and registrations [HERE](#)

ALUMNI

SPOTLIGHT

Steven Casto, '96

Steven Casto, a 1996 graduate of the University of Charleston (UC), has carved a unique career path that crosses pharmaceutical leadership and high-performance coaching. Steven reflects fondly on his time at UC. "I got so much out of the four years I spent on the Charleston campus. I was a student athlete (tennis), involved with student government, and pledged a fraternity (Kappa Delta Rho). I truly had the full college experience and have so many fond memories from that time in my life," he recalls.



After UC, Steven pursued further education, earning a master's degree in biomechanics from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in 1999, followed by a Doctor of Education in exercise physiology from the University of Georgia, Athens, in 2004. His academic journey laid a strong foundation for a dynamic career.

Currently based in Houston, Texas, Steven serves as the Senior Director of Field Medical Affairs at Teva Pharmaceuticals. In this role, he leads a team of approximately 40 medical science liaisons who engage with healthcare providers nationwide. Focusing on the psychology and neurology therapeutic areas, Steven's team facilitates scientific exchanges, providing and gathering crucial clinical data to refine Teva's strategies.

In 2018, Steven's career pivoted with the addition of personal development and coaching. Seeking to address a career issue independently, he explored various support programs, ultimately becoming a Certified Life Coach through The Life Coach School and a Certified High-Performance Coach through the High Performance Institute. "I got so much out of both of them," Steven notes. He completed these certifications in 2020 and has since been coaching on the side, primarily focusing on mental toughness for athletes. His deep connection to athletics, stemming from his own experiences as a student athlete, enhances his effectiveness as a coach.

Despite his busy career, Steven remains an avid tennis player and values the opportunity to give back as he recently served as a mentor in the UC Alumni Mentorship Program. He enjoys returning to Charleston, where his family still resides, to witness the ongoing changes and contribute to the community.

Steven Casto's journey from UC to his multifaceted career exemplifies his dedication to personal growth and helping others achieve excellence. His story is a testament to the impact of lifelong learning and the value of pursuing one's passions. Contact Steven via email for more information about his coaching, steven@stevencasto.com.



Deadline EXTENDED



BUY A BRICK
GIVE FOR GOLD 2024

\$250

4X8 BRICK ▪ 3 ENGRAVED LINES
15 CHARACTERS PER LINE (INCLUDES SPACES)



The first round of bricks will be delivered this week, however, we have room for a few more. If you would like to support the Give Day 2024 project in this special way, follow the link to give and indicate "Breezeway Brick" in the comments section. You will be contacted by the UC Alumni Office to capture your brick inscriptions.

[Purchase your brick HERE.](#)

JOIN TODAY!

UC ALUMNI

ASSOCIATION

The 2023-2024 NEW UCAA Swag has arrived!! Now is the time to join and renew your membership.



The UC Alumni Association is a great way to stay engaged, help plan alumni events, network with other alumni, and give back from wherever your wings have taken you!



The Gold Level requires a \$100 membership donation and includes a decal, key chain, tumbler, invitations to special VIP events, discounts, and more.

The Gold Renewal requires a \$100 membership donation and includes alumni tote, holiday ornament, invitations to special VIP events, discounts, and more.

The Maroon Level requires a \$25 membership donation and includes our decal, alumni koozie, invitations to special events, discounts, and more.

The Maroon Renewal requires a \$25 membership donation and includes an alumni holiday ornament, invitations to special events, discounts, and more.

The next UCAA Zoom Meeting will be THURSDAY, August 8 @ NOON EST.

[Click HERE to join or renew TODAY!](#)

Thank you to those who joined or renewed their membership this past month - Michelle Marlowe

In Memorium

Remembering Golden Eagle Alumni who have passed away in the last month.

Judith Escott, '68

Brenda Legg Blaney, '66

Benjamin A. Brown, '54 Alum Attend

John Browning, '65

Ginger Pritt, '87

Charles Baxter, '90

Please note: This list includes updates provided by family members, newspapers, and other sources. These dates reflect the period during which UC received and processed the information, not necessarily the dates that the individual passed away.



You're invited to campus!



TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024

8:00-9:30 am | UC Downtown Innovation Hub

CHRIS MAY

Security Solutions Director, CISSP -
Cybersecurity Expert at Advantage Technology

CYBERSECURITY

BUILDING OUT WITH STRATEGY 2024

*Breakfast is free; registration is required;
seating is limited to 30 attendees*

June 11 - Fresh Start Breakfast DIH Speaker Series, register [HERE](#)

June 22 - Wine and Jazz Festival - contact Christina Carr to reserve your discounted tickets, christinacarr@ucwv.edu or 304-357-4734

For a full UC Athletic schedule, click [HERE](#).



SAVE THE DATE

 **UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON**
HOMECOMING
AND FAMILY WEEKEND

SEPT. 20-21 **2024**

CELEBRATE TRADITION.
CREATE NEW MEMORIES.

UC 
ALUMNI

LET'S KEEP
IN TOUCH

Have you recently changed jobs? Did you and your family make a big move? Do you have exciting news to share with your alumni family? We want to hear about it! Update your alumni record so that we can share your successes with the rest of the Golden Eagle family. Keep soaring to new heights!

[Update Your Information HERE](#)



Gail Carter

Christina Carr

VP for University Development

Director of Alumni Relations

304-357-4849

304-357-4734

gailcarter@ucwv.edu

christinacarr@ucwv.edu

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 Reply  Forward

Attendee panel closed