



# WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF  
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Volume 13, Issue 1  
Spring 2013

## NEWSLETTER

### Finding Bosco

*How an MAJ student solved her cousin's murder after nearly 29 years*

By: Lori Sitler

When domestic violence was addressed in her 2008 Victimology course, Melissa Kountz could relate to the topic. As a 13 year old girl, she was asleep a few days after Christmas, 1983 when her mother's estranged, violent boyfriend William "Bosco" Lyles, Jr., broke into their Highland Park Detroit home and stabbed her cousin Andrew "Melvin" Weathers. Melvin had been staying with the family to help protect her mother from Bosco's death threats which police later found chronicled in his diary as they searched for the murder suspect who seemed to vanish once he left the house that night. Although decades had passed and she was now living in Delaware, Melissa's memories were vivid and her determination steely. She committed, despite enormous obstacles, to find Bosco and bring him to justice but she needed help. "Divine intervention" is how Det. Paul Thomas described his involvement in the case. A retired Detroit homicide detective, Thomas said, "If I hadn't been the person to pick up the phone the day that Melissa called [the Highland Park police department], who knows what would have happened" admitting that her story and the

lack of evidence from the long-ago crime made for quite a challenge.

*Story Continued on Page 3*



### Dr. Jim Walsh Retires

*Responsible for Helping to Set the Course for Graduate Counseling Programs*

The plaque presented to Dr. Jim Walsh at the Counseling Programs Award Ceremony on May 4<sup>th</sup> sums up the feelings of students and colleagues about Walsh's impact while at Wilmington University: *In appreciation for your*



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## **Dr. Jim Walsh Retires** *continued from cover*

*dedication to the students and the mission of the MSCC/CMHC program. You have taught with rigor, guided by empathic example, inspired with passion and left an indelible mark on the profession of counseling. Your devotion to ethics, academics, and clinical excellence will always be treasured by those you taught and those who taught with you.*

Dr. Walsh is retiring after 9 years serving in the capacity of Assistant Coordinator of the Community Counseling (MSCC) program in Dover and, since, 2008, as full-time faculty at the Wilson Graduate Center. He also has served for the past two years as Coordinator of Clinical Training.

Dr. Craig Williams, Director of Counseling Programs said of his colleague, "His enthusiastic, clinically astute, and compassionate instruction will be missed as he moves on to devoting more time to his clinical practice and consultation endeavors."

Because of his expertise, Dr. Walsh assisted with course development for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) program as it transitioned from MSCC to CMHC. In addition to his faculty position, Dr. Walsh served as a member and later as President of the Licensure Board for Licensed Professional Counselors in Delaware as well as President and now Past President of the Delaware Professional Counselors' Association.

In addition to the plaque to commemorate his retirement, Dr. Walsh was presented with a compass by this year's graduates in recognition of his assistance in helping students set direction for their true course in their lives and careers.

Recent MSCC graduates, Chris McIntosh and Mike Angelo are two of the students for whom Dr. Walsh has been a mentor. Mike commented, "For many of us Dr. Walsh has been more than a professor. He has been a role model, a mentor, and an example of the high level of professionalism the field of counseling requires. Personally, Dr. Walsh has always inspired me through his lectures and his gentle presence. It is clear that Dr. Walsh is truly the embodiment of what a counselor should strive to become." Chris added, "Dr. Walsh is irreplaceable. He is tough, but fair. Curricula aside, he instills in his students... energy, curiosity, courage, and warmth which he conducts himself. Personally, he's my mentor and I strive to emulate him in my practice... Dr. Walsh tirelessly integrated moral and ethical decision making into every aspect of his teaching for which I am deeply grateful. I will never forget that, when teaching us the core conditions of good counseling (warmth, congruence, genuineness, accurate empathy, and unconditional positive regard), he distilled these down into one simple concept upon which to proceed: "love" - love for our fellow human." Clearly Jim has had an impact on his students!

Jim was clearly moved by the outpouring of admiration and affection during the surprise presentation at the award ceremony: "To be so honored was humbling, a moment when you realize that your students have become your teachers, and a new generation of mental health professional has come of age. I felt blessed to be with them and to have been part of their clinical education, and will never forget them and our final evening together."

***Dr. Walsh, you will be missed!***



## *Finding Bosco continued from cover*

Locating the original warrant, investigation file and physical evidence would have been hard enough for such a 'cold case' but due to a sudden abandonment of the flooded and cash-strapped Highland Park police station in 2001, "as if the officers had just gone home for the night leaving files on the desks and evidence in lockers," according to Thomas, there was nothing to recover from the vandalized, fetid police precinct. Highland Park police had suspended operations until 2007 when it reorganized and opened in a new building. To top it off, the judge who signed the warrant and the original investigator were both dead. Since it only dated to 1985, Det. Thomas found no warrant in the District Attorney's electronic database. Thomas is convinced that, "if not for Melissa's efforts, this case never would have seen the light of day."

Through old fashioned legwork, Melissa began to put the pieces together. She had copies of old news articles about the crime and knew that the offender's family still lived in the area. Knowing the offender's age and legal name, Kountz used "people search" websites, identifying a possible address match for him. Melissa convinced a court clerk to search through paper files in the basement of the courthouse for the original 1984 warrant. Another break in the case came when the Medical Examiner's office found records of the case in storage.

In July of last year, after months of putting the pieces of the puzzle together, Det. Thomas and his partner drove to the address that Melissa had provided for Bosco. The man they encountered on the porch gave the officers three different dates of birth but agreed to have his picture taken by Thomas's partner. The photo was sent electronically to Melissa back in Delaware who recalls her shock, "Oh my God! It was him!" The arrest made the front page news in the Detroit Free Press as Kountz returned to Michigan to testify at the preliminary hearing. In January, Lyles was convicted of first degree premeditated murder due in large part to the testimony of Melissa and her sister. He was sentenced on February 26, 2013 to a mandatory life sentence.

Det. Thomas said that this case proved that, "a case is never too old; it is never too late. It's not over til it's over." For Melissa, who earned her graduate degree in the Administration of Justice's Criminal Behavior concentration and is pursuing a second master's degree in Administration and Leadership, working to solve the case not only vindicated her cousin's murder but also provided healing from a long and violent cycle of domestic violence in her family, "I have broken the cycle of domestic violence in my life."

## **Psychology Graduate Participates in the "Reading of the Names" Honoring Vietnam Heroes**

On November 10, 2012 the 30th anniversary of the Wall, the Nam Knights Motor Club helped read the names of the fallen heroes who died during the Vietnam War. Tom Vance, a January 2013 graduate from the Psychology program, Pi Gamma Mu honor society member, Vietnam veteran and active member of the Nam Knights Motor Club, took part in the reading of the names as one of his many community service projects. All 58,282 names were read. Tom is pictured at the tribute. Each person read 30 names. The names were read for 3 days straight for 24 continual hours. The Nam Knights Motor Club are actively involved in project, "to honor the memory of American Veterans and Police Officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty, to assist Veterans and Police Officers in their time of need and to promote community awareness through sponsorship and participation in various fundraising events," according to the group's website.





# Dean's Column

It has been a busy but productive spring in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Our on-line enrollment is growing and we have met the benchmarks for expanding our College's course offerings to students in Bucks and Montgomery Counties in Pennsylvania. This represents a new population of students for us and is an exciting development for the entire University.

The faculty in our graduate counseling program and I have been busy with the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) re-accreditation process this spring. The site visit earlier this month went well which is a testament to the strong program in our Community Counseling (MSCC) and Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) degrees. The transition to the CMHC degree is complete. The May graduation marked the final time that students earned the MSCC degree. Students will now earn their degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, the new designation by CACREP.

I had the pleasure of participating in the College's joint Honor Society Induction in March and met many of our most promising students at the luncheon ceremony. Students from the undergraduate degree programs in Behavioral Science, Psychology, Organizational Dynamics, Criminal Justice, and Legal Studies were recognized as were students in the graduate programs for the Administration of Human Services, Administration of Justice and Homeland Security. In early May, I also had the honor of attending the Counseling Programs Awards Ceremony and surprise tribute to Dr. Jim Walsh on the occasion of his retirement. Jim has been a faculty member, mentor and leader in the MSCC program for the past nine years and assisted with the transition of the MSCC to the CMHC degree. In addition to his teaching and clinical contributions, we'll miss Jim's warm and caring personality and his positive impact on our College. Enjoy your retirement! I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!



## **The Power of Networking**



The Pi Gamma Mu (PGM) honor society in collaboration with Alumni Relations and Career Services sponsored *The Power of Networking* event on the evening of April 18<sup>th</sup> in the Pratt Student Center. The networking event was open to students, alumni, faculty and staff and was well attended by PGM members!



*The Power of Networking* provided an opportunity for current students and alumni to interact while networking with business and community leaders. Different topics were discussed in an informal setting to give attendees a broad understanding of current trends. Topics included: Starting Your Own Business, Starting Your Own Nonprofit, the Power of Social Media; How to Manage Your Finances, the Pros and Cons of Facebook and How to Use LinkedIn, The Power of Volunteering, Resume Tips, Interview Techniques, and the Power of the WilmU Alumni.





# AHS Grad Heads Medical Mission Foundation

## Life-changing Trips to Honduras

As he left the orphanage in Honduras with a team of volunteers, a young girl presented Tom Hoffman with a dubious gift, “This little girl gave me a stuffed lion; it was an ugly, dirty little thing, but I realized she gave me one of the few possessions she owned and it crushed me. If you look at what she gave to us, versus what we gave to them, considering all we have, her gift is so much bigger.” Hoffman, a 2008 graduate of the Administration of Human Services program, has had the privilege of organizing several medical mission trips as the Director of the AMD3 Foundation. Operation Walk Pittsburgh, one of many initiatives of the AMD3 Foundation, provides free hip and knee replacement surgeries in Pittsburgh and the developing world.

Tom received his psychology degree from Wilmington University in 2007 and after receiving his AHS degree, became a Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor. Tom landed a clinical supervisor position in Pittsburgh and later worked with an after-school behavioral program for children with autism-spectrum disorders before joining the AMD3 Foundation in 2010.

Tom credits Dr. Adrienne Bey and the Administration of Human Services program, with its seasoned instructors, as being instrumental to his career success, “The faculty in the program had years of experience in the non-profit world, which made it easier to see the possible career paths. The flexible nature allowed me to work while still completing my degree in 16 months. The required internship was by far the greatest advantage of the AHS program. My placement with the United Way of Delaware allowed me to put all the theory in the courses into action. My mentor, Rev. John Moore at the United Way's Dover office, is fiery and passionate about helping his local community. Today I share that same passion about what I do, I believe in the work of the AMD3 Foundation, and it's easy to get out of bed in the morning knowing that I get to help people.”

Along with the orthopedic surgeries Operation Walk provided to patients in San Pedro Sula Honduras in 2012, Tom and a team of Operation Walk volunteers engaged in humanitarian projects in the community: “One of my goals since being with the AMD3 Foundation and Operation Walk Pittsburgh is to expand our reach and create a lasting impact in the countries we visit. In addition to the medical volunteers, last year a second group of volunteers repainted an orphanage and spent a day at a children's cancer hospital. Despite all the other great things we did on the trip, the orphanage is the one that had the greatest impact on me. These girls have so little, their opportunities to escape poverty so limited, yet they have a greater sense of love, appreciation of life, and happiness than I think any of us with all our possessions can understand.” In July, volunteers will build a large garden for the orphanage.

As an AHS student, Tom questioned why his instructors would turn away from the perks that exist in the for-profit sector but now that he has made non-profit administration his career, he understands, “I have found my vocation, my calling and mission in life, which is to help others.”





# 2013 Graduation Photos



(from left) Dr. John Malarkey, Dr. Debra Berke, Dr. Stephanie Berridge (May '13)



Professor Lori Sitler with Andrew Merrylees (May '13)



Scott Gray, the student commencement speaker in January and PGM member, pictured with Irene DuPont



(from left) Fiona Mulligan, Professor Lori Sitler, Annie Brejwa (Jan. '13)



Dr. John Malarkey (May '13)





## MAJ Graduate Shares his Experiences with the Young Marine's Program

As a military veteran Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Shabazz has trained thousands of international personnel and US Service Members in almost every type of environment for combat and for combat deployments to various hostile locations. He shares with us his latest challenge – volunteering with the Young Marine Program.

“In my 32 years of military service I have discovered that I really enjoy teaching and sharing what life has taught me over my career. When I couple my military experience with the knowledge and skills that Wilmington University has provided me with while in pursuit of an additional Master's of degree, the natural progression for me is to share my knowledge and skills with others.

As a former Battalion Commander I have been reassigned to the United States Warrior Transition Unit to fulfill my military obligation and I have chosen to work with the students in the Young Marine Program (YM) as a volunteer. I have been a part of the YM program since September 2011 and initially served as the Training Officer but was reassigned as its Executive Officer.

The mission of the YM program is to promote the mental, moral and physical development of its young members. This is done by instilling in its members' the ideals of honesty, fairness, courage, respect, loyalty, dependability, attention to duty, self-confidence, love of God and commitment to our country and its institutions. We also cultivate and motivate respect for academic achievement and promote physical fitness. As a youth organization, we also advocate a drug free lifestyle through a continual drug prevention education program.

The YM program has over 300 Units across the United States and internationally, with membership currently at 14,000 YM. It is a quickly growing youth organization. As the former Training Officer for the First State YM, I was responsible for creating, planning, and coordinating training to ensure all events met standards. Additionally, I helped develop a training environment to reduce risk to the safety of the students, staff and visitors. Since I have been reassigned as the Executive Officer my primary duty is to manage the YM staff, work closely with the Training Officer and Commander by offering recommendations, and writing and enforcing policies. Additionally, I schedule and oversee the promotion board for YM. I also teach key leadership classes and other related courses.

While we do not promote that the youth go into the military, the YM program is run in a military fashion. This structured environment enables the adult YM staff to not only meet our goals and prepare the YM for a successful life, but separates us from other youth organizations. I am proud to not only be a part of the United States Military and a graduate/student at Wilmington University, but honored to give back to society and community. The YM serves as the vehicle for me to achieve this personal goal.”

Shabazz hold a master's degree in the Administration of Justice – Homeland Security and is currently pursuing a second graduate degree in Business with a concentration in Public Administration.





## *WilmU Grad: Intern to Full-Time Employee*

By: Molly Gardner

Life is all about never giving up. This certainly holds true for me - Behavioral Science Major, Pi Gamma Mu Member, and Wilmington University alumna, Molly Gardner. During senior year, I worked as an intern at Compassionate Care Hospice. A few years later, I was fortunate enough to land a full-time job at the same organization. The internship was full of new experiences. I visited terminally ill patients, which built my self-confidence and helped me define my character. I also attended team meetings with all members of the interdisciplinary team, which included nurses, doctors, social workers and chaplains. I not only gained experience in the field, but also worked on a few office tasks and became familiar with other aspects of hospice.

After my internship opportunity ended, there was a lapse before I landed a full-time job at Compassionate Care Hospice. The transition time in-between college graduation and the full-time job was quite challenging; I went on numerous interviews for full-time jobs and often felt like “throwing in the towel” due to lack of any results. However, I never gave up and searched constantly. As I waitressed at a local restaurant for a few years, it also became a difficult financial struggle. In addition, it was an emotional struggle because I was in the ‘college to full-time job transition’ phase of life, where many college graduates became stuck. It became difficult to find my place in the world.

Although a few years passed, I remained in close contact with the Internship Coordinator at Compassionate Care. Networking skills acquired through Wilmington University remained a crucial part of my journey on the road to success. Finally, I received a call from the Internship Coordinator at Compassionate Care about an open medical records position in the office. I went on an interview and was offered the full-time position within a few days! This would not have been possible without the connections established through Wilmington University’s Internship program.

Wilmington University played a significant role in my success at my new job. Important skills included: working with computers, interpersonal communication skills and leadership skills, just to name a few. I also had the opportunity to work with an intern and took the student under my wing. I have been very successful in my new job and am so thankful to have the opportunity to work at the same agency where I completed my internship.







# Spring 2013 Honor Society Inductions





## New Inductees

Pi Gamma Mu

Marla Allen Robin Kelly

Cody Beers Paula Ledwith

Dena Broadnax Dagna Ludwig

Sarah Cebula Victoria Moffett

Alicia Coleman Quiney Muraguri

Angelita Diaz Jazmin Ribeiro

Tolly Englehardt Michelle Scharff

Susan Evans Susan Stowe

Scott Gray Kyra Tart

Kaitlyn Gusz Ashley Thompson

Duang Harper Kimberlee Williams

Michael Harris Tracey Wilson

Erie Johnson Carrie Yeasted

## New Inductees

Tau Upsilon Alpha

Michael Bard Adrienne Johnson

Kevin Blackshar, Jr. Mary Mannicks

Heather Brown Mga Oliveras

Kiran Contractor Casmere Revelle

Brittney Dennis Paulette Robinson-

Angel DiPietro Wilkerson

Kevin Emory Jennifer Scalia

Jasmine Ervin Stephanie Snider-

Heather Fortney Phipps

Lauren Godwin Kelli Stranahan

Anna Harmon Cheryl Thompkins

Brittany Heitmann Dominique Young

Stephanie Johnnie





## New Inductees

Lambda Epsilon Chi

Janel Foster

Elizabeth Ghione

Alexandra Joyce

Angela Vest

Donna Wood

## New Inductees

Alpha Phi Sigma

Devon Augatis

Michael Nagle

Joseph Bell

Andrew Osgood

Peter Bortz

Meghan Park

Shinille Bost

Nordica Powell

Tara Carroll

Matthew Pulley

Nicholas Corrigan

Adam Roark

Shane DeLoatch

Ernest Robinson

Ricky Edwards

Kimberly Rosario

Lauren Eilenberg

Shane Rumley

Joseph El-Bisi

Barbara Russell

Joseph Fogg

Seth Schappell

Tressa Fonseca

Shawn Selby

Yolanda Garnett

Robert Singleton

Jeffrey Henderson

Dolores Smith

Sean Johnston

Madoka Suda

Diana King

Lisa Temple

Ashley Kirk

Cassandra Watson

Michelle Maxwell





# Final MSCC Cohort Celebrates at May Award Ceremony

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, the graduate Counseling Program celebrated the accomplishments of its graduates who, in turn, acknowledged the leadership and guidance of the Community Counseling faculty with a surprise presentation.

First, the following awards were presented to the graduating MSCC students.

- The Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) Scholar Award 2013 was presented to Christopher McIntosh for earning the highest scores in the CPCE at the WGC and in Dover.
- Academic Excellence Award 2013 was earned by Michael Angelo, Jennifer Maslow, Christopher McIntosh, and Kimberly Murtha for the highest overall GPA at the WGC and in Dover.
- Clinical Excellence Award 2013 was presented to the students with the strongest demonstrated clinical skills during the Practicum & Internship period, as selected by faculty at the WGC and in Dover. Michael Angelo, Shannon Ayres, Andrea Mancini-Smith, and Christopher McIntosh were award recipients.
- Compassionate Colleague Award 2013, as voted upon by the students at the WGC and in Dover, was given to three students, Dawn Edgar, Kimberly Murtha, Penelope Pitts. Compassion is defined as the deep awareness of the suffering of another coupled with the wish to relieve it. The compassionate person is motivated by sympathy and understanding, charitable in his/her opinions, and generous in providing aid to others. A person who is guided by compassion is experienced as selfless and caring.

The students then made their own presentations to the Counseling Program faculty. Two of the event organizers, graduating MSCC students Chris McIntosh and Mike Angelo, share the rationale for the gifts given by the students in the cohort.

McIntosh said, “Our cohort took to heart the metaphor, used by our instructors at the start of the program some three years ago, to consider our time in this program as a journey toward self-awareness, professionalism, and a better understanding of our shared humanity.





As such, we considered what tools one would need when embarking on a journey into unknown territory. We decided that one would need a lantern to light the way, a compass to remain pointed true, a spyglass to look ahead, a sextant to help understand the relationship between elements (including oneself) in the environment, a pocket-watch to remain aware of time and obligations, a critical mind to synthesize all of this new information, and [an] anchor to keep from losing touch with one's original intent. Though each of our instructors bore all of these traits, we voted on which one most embodied each attribute.

Ultimately, we decided that Dr. Williams, like an ever present light, illuminated both the program as a whole and our way forward. We determined that Dr. Walsh, like a compass, kept us pointed in the right direction - professionally, morally, ethically, and philosophically.”

Mike Angelo, a MSCC graduating student, added, “Dr. Walsh has assisted his students in finding their true north. Often times, as a counselor in training, one can feel overwhelmed and confused. It was in these moments that Dr. Walsh provided direction for us all.”

Chris McIntosh finished explaining the significance of the faculty gifts, “Dr. Grande, like the spyglass, helped us look to the future and plan more effectively - regarding both our own lives and those of our clients. Clearly, Dr. Wright helped us to define and appreciate the diverse relationships between ourselves and others in a pluralistic society - not unlike the sextant to environmental/ecological entities. As such, we gained incredible perspective.

We established that Dr. Lauckner, like a timepiece, kept us aware of when substantial programmatic events were to occur (like the national comprehensive exam) and, subsequently, our respective obligations. It was the consensus that Dr. Chenkin, like the famed sculpture by Rodin, represented thought - clear, but critical thought, and that this was necessary for one wishing to integrate all of the new types of information encountered on a journey. Finally, Rebecca Lawton, we agreed, kept us anchored in our responsibilities to both ourselves and the program.”

McIntosh concluded, “Without these instruments, we wouldn't have been successful in this leg of our journey. These faculty members are a team that not only provide light, direction, vision, perspective, order, insight, and steadiness; but also teach one to provide the same to others. With Dr. Walsh's departure, one can see that a vital instrument (and beloved mentor/friend) will be missing to the would-be wayfarer. Nevertheless, because they have created a culture of adventurous personal, professional, and academic exploration, I have faith in the faculty team's ability to lead/guide/direct counselors-in-training.”

Dr. Jim Walsh summed up the evening: "As usual our awards dinner honored the accomplishments and spirit of our clinical counseling graduates. This year's celebration was made even more special by the way this year's graduates chose to honor their faculty in return, presenting gifts to each of their clinical mentors that were meaningful and rich in metaphor." Congratulations to the last class of MSCC graduates!





## Wilmington University Takes the Plunge!

For the third year in a row, members of Pi Gamma Mu joined other hardy souls from Wilmington University to plunge into the icy Atlantic Ocean in February. The WU gang gathered at the Rehoboth site for a group picture, and among the 16 registered plungers this year, (which was over 100% increase from last year) there were also many supporters who were the "beach towel holders" and cheerleaders ready to cheer the plungers into those frigid waters. This year PGM was able to provide warm fleece scarves for the registered plungers. The Delaware BETA Chapter raised over \$2500.00 for this year's plunge!



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## Pi Gamma Mu Honor Society Members Make a Difference!

One of the tenants of the Pi Gamma Mu honor society is service to the community. Students seeking membership in the honor society are required to complete 10 hours of community service prior to their induction. The members of the Delaware Beta Chapter at Wilmington University have fulfilled their community service hours in creative ways. Here are just a few of the reports from the honor society members about how they have made a difference! During this past academic year, members have contributed over 350 hours of service to projects in their communities.



**Alicia Coleman:** Living and growing up near Seaside Heights, NJ, I wanted to take these service hours close to home. The direct shore area had devastating impacts but not much attention was given to the inland areas that Sandy trickled into. I first was able to coordinate with a family whose

home was destroyed a block in from the Barnegat Bay. They had two feet of water and sludge surge the first floor, claiming the most functional areas of the home. Until their insurance deems their home salvageable or not, they are renting about 20 miles away from the only home they know with nothing. I am moving and was able to provide them with a full bedroom set, kitchen supplies, miscellaneous furniture, and other decorations for their temporary home. A group of friends and I also spent an afternoon cleaning up an inland bay beach. We collected about ten bags of assorted debris obviously washed up from the storm. I was very sad to see this beach in such disarray, as I frequented it often as a child and young teenager. Little efforts like this are filled with sorrow but can help the families impacted most re-establish normalcy.



**Michelle Lester:** I participated in the Susan G Komen 3 Day walk in October 2012. The walk is a 3 day 60 mile journey in hopes of finding a cure for breast cancer. My team and I put together a benefit dinner, sold sub tickets, put together a yard sale and many hours of training to

raise money for breast cancer. Although we did not walk for any one person in particular, we decided that we were walking for the "little ladies of the future" so our children hopefully one day can live in a world that is cancer free. The journey was not an easy one at all, it was filled with many emotions. A sense of accomplishment ran through me when I crossed the finish line and knew I walked 60 miles. One of the famous sayings during the 3 day walk is "BLISTERS DONT NEED CHEMO!!!!"



**Dena Broadnax:** I recently had the opportunity to conduct volunteer service hours with Stand By Me - under the parent company of The Delaware Financial Empowerment Partnership. On Saturday, February 23, 2013, I attended the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) sessions from 9 am to 12 noon. I assisted students and parents in filling out the FAFSA application. This was an exciting and fulfilling time as I watched high school students and current college students continue with their desire in fulfilling their education.



# Spring GPP Speaker Series Focuses on Nonprofit Sector



The Government and Public Policy program in conjunction with External Affairs presented “Government Relations: Public Policy and the Nonprofit Sector” March 20 as its spring Speaker Series offering.

Nonprofit organizations are the “third sector” of American society. Along with government and business, the nonprofit sector helps to set the policy agenda at the local, state and federal level.



This installment of the speaker series featured a distinguished panel of directors from area nonprofits, including Jim Coyne of United Way of Delaware; John Baker of DANA; Sara Grainger of Philadelphia Health Corp. of the Health Federation of Philadelphia (formerly of the Delaware HIV Consortium); Joanna Champney of Delaware Center for Justice; Charlotte Barnes of Delaware Agents for Change; Deborah Wilson of Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League.

John Taylor, Executive Director of the Delaware Public Policy Institute, an affiliate of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, acted as the panel moderator. Mr. Taylor is a member of the Advisory Board of the Government and Public Policy program at Wilmington University.

The goal of the Government Relations Speaker Series is to enlighten students, faculty, staff and the public on government policy, development and administration.





## Cyber-Bullying Conference



Dr. Rebecca Ghabour, Assistant Professor and Chair of the Psychology program, moderated a panel discussion on Cyber-bullying on January 15<sup>th</sup> in Rehoboth Beach. The community forum was sponsored by the Coastal-Georgetown American Association of University Women. Two adjunct faculty members also participated in the forum.

Delaware Attorney General, Beau Biden kicked off the forum discussing the epidemic of bullying and in particular, cyber-bullying. He described how under-reported instances of bullying have been in the past and how current legislation on bullying will prevent under-reporting in the future.

Tara Christopher poetically expressed the traumatic life experience of a teen who had been cyber bullied. She highlighted the negative consequences of false rumors being spread throughout the twitter world and how caring adults could have been more supportive.

Next, Dr. Julius Mullen, Chief Clinical Officer of Children and Families First of Delaware, Inc. and adjunct faculty member at Wilmington University, spoke about the increasing problem of cyber-bullying, the effects it has on children and teens, and how important it is for educators and parents to be aware of and monitor their children's use of technology.

A panel of experts then shared their knowledge and expertise on the topic of cyber-bullying, provided resources and advice, and responded to audience questions. The panel included: John Sadowski, Education Associate for School Climate and Discipline at the Delaware Department of Education, Coleen O'Connor, President of the Delaware Bullying Prevention Association and adjunct faculty member at Wilmington University, and Chris Beagle, member of the Board of Directors at CAMP Rehoboth Community Center and the Cape Henlopen Education Foundation and volunteer mentor in the Positive Behavior Support Program within the Cape Henlopen School District.





# Faculty Notes

## Early College Scholarship Program is a Hit in Sussex County!

“Simply put, it was a great class,” commented one of the twenty-three high school students in the Sociology 101 course that was offered during the fall semester at Sussex Technical High School as part of the Early College Scholarship Program. Wilmington University’s new scholarship program offers high school juniors and seniors in Delaware the opportunity to take college classes and earn real college credit transferable to any accredited college or university. The class at Sussex Tech was offered to high school students from four Sussex County High Schools: Sussex Tech, Sussex Central, Laurel, and Seaford.

Taught by Sandy Furbush, adjunct instructor for the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences and a teacher at Sussex Tech High School, the course was offered in a hybrid format. Students met weekly in class on Monday afternoons from 3:30 to 5:00 to do cooperative activities and discuss course material. They then completed online assignments such as Discussion Board questions through Blackboard. The final outcomes project was a group research assignment on social issues in which students evaluated the reliability of sources. Students also learned APA format to organize their papers.

Students completing the course with a grade of C or better earned 3 college credits; all students in this course earned their college credit! Mrs. Furbush commented that, “Overall, it was a wonderful opportunity for high school students to “try out” a college course. It allowed students to experience the expectations of a college course and earn college credit as well.”

The students agreed. As a member of the class shared in the course evaluation, “I learned a lot in a short amount of time, and had a great teacher who really emulated the college experience. Truly a worthwhile venture.”

For more information about the Early College Scholarship Program for fall, 2013 admission, visit: <http://www.wilmu.edu/earlycollege/>

## **WilmU’s New West Jersey Film Society**

In January, the first meeting of the West Jersey WilmU Film Society enjoyed a viewing of Zero Dark Thirty at the AMC 8 in Deptford, NJ. The controversial film was followed by a spirited discussion of contemporary military-political and ethical dilemmas while at the Longhorn Restaurant. The group plans additional film adventures and anticipates its meetings to occur about once per block on Sunday for the discount price. Students, alumni, and faculty are encouraged to participate. For additional information, contact Professor John Malarkey [john.malarkey@gmail.com](mailto:john.malarkey@gmail.com) Other groups are encouraged to form in Delaware and Pennsylvania.



The spring semester ended just in time for Dana McWilliams! Dana, an on-line adjunct instructor for the Behavioral Science Program, gave birth on April 28<sup>th</sup> to Chloe Deborah McWilliams. Baby Chloe was a healthy 7 lb., 4 oz. bundle of joy! Dana and her family live in Colorado.



Debra Berke, Director, Psychology Programs, and Laura Taylor, Adjunct Psychology Instructor, participated in the St. Marks High School Junior Career Day on May 29, 2013.



Debra Berke, Director of Psychology Programs and President of the Board of Directors of ContactLifeline, attended the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Advocates Retreat “Grounding Our Work in Context and Community” May 6 & 7, 2013 in Rehoboth, Delaware. This retreat was co-sponsored by the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Sexual Assault Network of Delaware.



Governor Markell signed a proclamation for April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Governor was joined by members of the Sexual Assault Network of Delaware (SAND), the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence, members of the Survivors of Abuse in Recovery (SOAR), the Delaware Department of Justice and Department of Correction and representatives from numerous law enforcement agencies to sign a proclamation bringing attention to sexual assault crimes and their impact on innocent victims. Debra Berke, Director of Psychology Programs at Wilmington University and President of the Board of Directors of ContactLifeline, attended the signing.

Assistant Professor Lori Sitler presented a session on “Continuing Your Education” at the Mid-Atlantic Association of Women in Law Enforcement’s 2013 Annual Training Conference on March 27<sup>th</sup> at Dover Downs. The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference was hosted by Delaware Law Enforcement.

Assistant Professors Joseph Paesani and Lori Sitler represented the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences program at a College and Career Day fair at Delaware Technical and Community College, Stanton Campus. The February event was sponsored by the Criminal Justice Program at DTCC.







Ciro Poppiti's POL 300 class attended the budget address of New Castle County Executive Tom Gordon in the County Council chambers in downtown Wilmington. Mr. Poppiti (third from left) and his students were joined by Mike Kozikowski (far left) and Clerk of the Peace Ken Boulden (second from right)



POL 315 – Comparative Government and Politics – Class in Dover pose with Adjunct Instructor, Gina Miserendino. Students point to the country they researched during the course to learn more about its government and political system (left to right) Chelsea Hicks, Janet Smith, Amber Henry and Brock Di Leo.



On Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> members of the Psychology Club participated in the NAMI-DE (National Alliance on Mental Illness-Delaware) walk. This fundraising event was held to help bring awareness to mental health issues and to help support those living with mental illness. Wilmington University's New Castle and Dover Chapters of the Psychology Club initiated participation in the walk and invited the University community to join them. The Wilmington University team included 20 students and faculty members, Dr. Debra Berke and Dr. Rebecca Ghabour. A total of \$776.00 was raised by the team. The weather was beautiful and the walk for this great cause was enjoyed by all.

On Friday, April 12, students (from left to right) Nassib Kommilov, Aaron Brandt, Leonard Williams, visited the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Visitor Center, in Washington D.C. with the Criminal Justice Association.





# Organizational Dynamics

## CERTIFICATE IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (CSBS) is offering a certificate in Conflict Resolution to complement its programs in Organizational Dynamics, Psychology, Behavioral Science, Criminal Justice, Government and Public Policy, and Legal Studies, to help better prepare a variety of professionals who are competent in conflict resolution.

The core courses in the certificate will be housed in the Organizational Dynamics Program in the CSBS but the elective courses will be drawn primarily from other programs in the CSBS including Psychology, Behavioral Science, and Criminal Justice. There are also options from the College of Business. In addition, we have identified a valuable source for support for this certificate, the new Delaware Dispute Center (DDC), a 501.c.3 non-profit agency located in the Community Service Building in downtown Wilmington. See: [www.dedisputecenter.org](http://www.dedisputecenter.org)

Students are likely to find that CR makes an excellent certificate to supplement their skills in other disciplines outside of the CSBS such as: Business Management, General Studies, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Environmental Health, Human Resource Management, Information Systems Management, Nursing, Organizational Management, and Sports Management.

CR certificate students build a knowledge and skills base including strong analytical and practical skills to better understand and respond to conflict dynamics at all levels of human interaction. This base will be sufficient for the practical application of effective conflict resolution in a variety of institutional settings. Developing skills to better deal with conflict and to understand the dynamics involved will be useful no matter what profession.

#### STUDENTS WILL GAIN:

- \* applied knowledge regarding their own personal conflict styles
- \* the ability to determine which conflict resolution strategies are the most effective in given conflict situations
- \* the skills to act as a neutral third party mediator in conflict situations
- \* knowledge about effective conflict resolution strategies, methods, skills, and program in a variety of settings and venues
- \* knowledge of how dispute resolution and conflict management are handled in organizations

#### LOGISTICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Housed in the Organizational Dynamics Program (15 credits)

##### 3 CORE COURSES

*Introduction to Conflict Management*

*Mediation Skills*

*Dimensions of Organizational Conflict*

##### 2 ELECTIVES FROM SELECTED CHOICES

Available at New Castle, online, and other select sites



WILMINGTON  
UNIVERSITY



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