

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences NEWSLETTER



Volume 10, Issue 1, Winter 2010



DeYanna Yancey, who is scheduled to graduate from the Organizational Dynamics program in January 2010, shares some great news! Recently, she was awarded the YWCA's Chairs Choice Award which is bestowed on one person in the entire Mid-Atlantic Region for their leadership skill, contributions to the Region, and commitment to the YW mission.

A very excited DeYanna shared, "I became the first non-executive or non-board member and woman under 30 to receive this award. I owe this accomplishment to the skills and learning I received in Organizational Dynamics program! I applied so much of my learning to my committee work and it definitely helped me execute the vision I had for my teams. I [took] concepts learned in my courses - Group Dynamics, IO Psychology and Psychology of Leadership - and applied them throughout this past year.... The program taught me great skills!"

The Chief Executive Officer of the YWCA Delaware, Ginny Burke Marino, commented, "Over the past year, DeYanna has chaired the Region's 'Under 30' Committee. Her effective leadership led to many accomplishments including development of an e-newsletter and Facebook page for young women in all YW's in the region to connect and communicate; coordination of a webinar training on

grant writing for young leaders, and engagement of other young leaders in the work of the Mid-Atlantic Region. DeYanna's leadership garnered national YWCA recognition for the committee's work."

The award wording states that, "DeYanna is hard working and unassuming, inclusive and encouraging to her committee members, anxious to learn and implement, creative and forward thinking about engaging young women in the YWCA, and expressive and appreciative of all efforts. She is a true asset to the Mid-Atlantic Region."

DeYanna has worked at the YWCA Delaware as a Youth Educator since June 2007 and has chaired the Mid Atlantic '30 and Under' committee for the past year. The committee's popularity/progress sparked the need for 3 additional subcommittees to form and in turn helped increase involvement of the 30 and under demographic within the Mid-Atlantic Region. DeYanna has enjoyed being able to create skill development and leadership opportunities for her peers, "My favorite part of my job is being able to help and motivate people."

In addition to her busy work and school schedule, DeYanna is also a proud mother of two. Her children will be very excited to see her graduate in January!

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Scott McLaren Joins Wilmington University



Photo Courtesy of: Susan Gregg

When Scott McLaren was a rising star in the New Castle County Police Department (NCCPD), he received some advice from his Colonel – get your bachelor’s degree. Based on the “glowing recommendations” he received from colleagues, McLaren chose to continue his education at Wilmington University, “for the reputation of the instructors who were experts in their fields. I wanted to learn from those who had practical experience.” Shortly after receiving his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice, he was promoted to the rank of Captain and then Lt. Colonel, serving as Acting Chief of Police for 14 months.

During his 23 years in law enforcement, 1993 was a highlight. That year, McLaren was named Detective of the Year for his work on a homicide case in which an innocent woman was the victim of an ax murderer. He also received the First Annual Civil Rights Award for the first successfully prosecuted hate crime in Delaware from the International Association of Chiefs of Police. In addition to specialized professional training at the F.B.I. National Academy, Police Executive Research Forum at Harvard and Office of Homeland Security, Scott earned his Master’s degree in the Administration of Justice with a concentration in Homeland Security at Wilmington University in 2008. He currently serves as a member of the FEMA

Regional Advisory Council.

While Acting Chief, McLaren and his team at NCCPD initiated Geographical Information System Crime Mapping, which provides law enforcement with a better understanding of the underlying causes related to crime. That program is now recognized as a model program for the country.

McLaren is most proud of the Critical Incident Stress Management program he implemented. Scott describes the program as a way to, “help officers get through dealing with critical incidents they deal with such as suicides, child abuse, child deaths, graphic murder scenes, and the use of deadly force. This program works.”

Officers selected for this team of “Peer De-briefers” are specially trained and work on a volunteer basis. “I am still active and will go anywhere to assist another officer,” said Scott.

As for his most memorable Wilmington University experience, Scott points to his study abroad trip to Ireland with Dr. Tom Cupples as a, “learning and life experience.” While Dr. Cupples impressed Scott with his extensive knowledge of Ireland and its criminal justice system, he also was impressed with Mrs. Cupples who accompanied the group and, “accepted all the students as friends.”

Looking back on his law enforcement career, McLaren says he is, “honored to have served with some of the best officers in the country who always went the extra mile.” He also credits his wife of 17 years, Laurie, as his major support system. Following his retirement from the NCCPD, Scott joined Wilmington University as the Assistant Director of University Safety. He also will teach in the Criminal Justice Program. And that NCCPD Colonel who recommended that Scott pursue his education? None other than Colonel (Retired) Dr. Jack Cunningham, Director of University Safety at WU and McLaren’s new boss!

A Note From The Dean



Photo Courtesy of: Susan Gregg

With this edition of the newsletter, the College of Social and Behavioral Science is “going green.” In an effort to keep our students, alumni and instructors informed of the news of our College, we have instituted a completely online version of our newsletter. Through this electronic platform, we’ll be able to communicate more frequently than with our previous bi-annual, printed format. The advantages are many – news from the College will be disseminated on a timely basis and we’ll save our resources by not printing and mailing hundreds of paper newsletters. So, send your news stories, career updates and pictures to the editor, Professor Lori Sitler, at lorraine.r.sitler@wilmu.edu. We’re counting on your input to help us keep this newsletter informative and fresh! Best of luck to our students and instructors as the Spring semester begins!

MAJ Grads Join Governor Markell's Team

In this post-9/11 world, safety and security are major concerns for government officials. In Delaware, Governor Jack Markell is fortunate to have a team of Delaware State Troopers to ensure his safety as he conducts the business of the State. Two of the members of his Executive Protection Team are graduates of the Administration of Justice program and adjunct instructors at Wilmington University.

Melissa Ivans (MAJ, 2005) and Andrea Boone (MAJ, 2004), who are pictured below left to right, both began this specialized assignment on the Governor's protection detail early last summer. Ivans had previously been assigned to patrol and was also very involved in recruiting efforts. She has been a Trooper Recruiter, Trooper mentor, certified Field Training Officer, and assisted as a T.A.C. (trainer, advisor, counselor) officer at the training academy. She also is certified as a background investigator and oral board assessor. Melissa holds an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from West Chester (PA) University.

In addition to patrol duty, Boone's assignments included Field Training Officer and Trooper Recruiter. Her specialized part-time assignments have included membership on the Hostage Negotiation Team where she has been a part of talking several suicidal subjects/barricaded subjects out of tense situations. As a part-time Victim Service Advocate for DSP, Boone has also been part of making death notifications to surviving family members of victims of car crashes, suicides, and homicides. She is also a certified T.A.C.

Andrea spent most of the last decade as a certified School Resource Officer (SRO) which she described as, "essentially full-time Community Policing in a school setting. SRO's act as a law related Teacher, Advisor and Counselor to school administration, staff, parents, students and visitors of the school district." She worked as an SRO in the Red Clay and Christina School Districts as well as the Vocational/Technical School District in New Castle County. Andrea holds a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Hampton (VA) University. She held managerial positions within a large electronics retailer for several years before joining the Delaware State Police in 1996.

Both Melissa and Andrea chose to continue their education at Wilmington University because of the convenient class schedules and the University's willingness to work with students with full time careers, specifically, law enforcement. Melissa enjoyed the opportunity in the MAJ program to have instructors who were former FBI agents, police officers, and secret service agents; "All of these instructors brought unique experiences to the classroom which allowed one to gain a hands on view of what the Criminal Justice system entails and how it functions." Melissa hopes that her graduate education will open paths for her to become as successful as possible in her career, "whether that entails being promoted to a higher rank or just performing to the best of my abilities in whatever position that I am serving. It has already opened my path by allowing me to be an instructor at Wilmington University, teaching criminal justice to undergraduate students. I enjoy teaching and being able to pass on my personal experi-

ences as well as the experiences that have been passed onto me." Growing up as one of six children, Melissa recalls that her parents, "constantly instilled the importance of education in us, therefore I was always aware that education was the key to success."

Andrea, who is one of ten children and, "the first and only one in the Boone family, thus far, to obtain an undergraduate degree," hopes that her graduate education, "will provide a means...to work with students on some level in order to share what I have learned throughout my life in an effort to positively impact future leaders." In addition to her sales and law enforcement careers, Andrea spent just over seven years in the U.S. Army Reserves and, in 2008, received an honorable discharge at the rank of Captain. She shared highlights from her Wilmington University experiences as both student and instructor: "I learned that I didn't know as much as I thought I did about diversity, because [the course] 'Managing Diversity' really opened my eyes to diversity issues we all overlooked about ourselves for years. Secondly, each time I instruct 'Diversity in Criminal Justice', I learn nearly as many different perspectives from the students as I provide to them. These not only help me through my professional life, but my personal life as well."

As members of the elite Executive Protection Team, Ivans and Boone continue learning on a daily basis. When asked about the challenges of ensuring the safety and security of the Governor, Ivans shared how the economy has had a major impact on her work: "It is not uncommon for there to be disgruntled citizens [at events the Governor attends] but it is important for me to realize that these citizens have the right to express their opinions," but it is her job to ensure that, "they do not cross the line." For Boone, "the most challenging aspects of this assignment have been learning how to provide reasonable protection to the Governor without overly invading his personal space," and being able to, "accurately recognize actual/potential threats to the Governor."

Maintaining balance is important to both women. Andrea remains involved in community work by taking on an active role with her sorority (Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc). Both women are also into physical fitness activities including running. Marathons are good practice for the rigors of keeping up with the Governor, and his busy schedule!



Faculty in the Community



This summer, three faculty members of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences went to camp. Not just any summer camp but Camp New Hope which is a bereavement camp for children who have experienced the loss of a loved one. It is operated by Delaware Hospice and the Coordinator for the Sussex County Camp New Hope program is Lezley Sexton, an adjunct faculty member at the Wilmington University downstate Delaware sites.

To assist as volunteers at the camp, Lezley recruited another adjunct faculty member, Karen Barwick, as well as Dr. Rebecca Ghabour, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Psychology and Behavioral Science programs at Wilmington University's downstate sites.

The camp is offered free of charge to children ages 6-16 years old. The camp experience is designed to process grief/loss issues, teach coping and support skills, and encourage children to explore their grief in a safe, healthy environment. All bereavement activities are balanced with a traditional camp activity to help normalize their emotions and the grief process.

Dr. Ghabour commented that, "it was a pleasure watching Lezley and the other volunteers interact with the kids. It was obvious that Lezley had formed a unique bond with each camper. The New Hope Camp provides an amazing opportunity for the children. As an outsider, the children's experiences with death were heart breaking, but in the atmosphere of camp the stories were normalized. Although each story and child was unique, they shared more similarities than differences."

Lezley, who graduated from Wilmington University in 2003 with a B.S. in Behavioral Science and in 2006 with an M.S. in Community Counseling, has been teaching since 2007. She teaches child development, adolescent development, interpersonal communication skills and stress management at the downstate campus sites. Regarding her role as coordinator of the camp, Lezley says that, "Camp New Hope is an amazing experience for all who are involved. It helps normalize the grief process for children, lets them explore their grief in a healthy, safe setting; and allows them to have a "new hope" about the future."

Camp volunteer Karen Barwick also is a graduate of the MSCC program. She teaches Introduction to Art Therapies, and a new course she designed entitled, Psychology of Relationships at the downstate Delaware sites. This is Karen's third summer participating in the Camp New Hope program, leading art-based and/or movement activities that focus on helping the

kids create a feeling vocabulary, express feelings, or identify sources of support. Karen found that, "I often walk away feeling as if I receive more than I gave. One of the things that I always feel most impressed with is the tenderness and kindness of the volunteers towards the children. Those kids are bathed all week in an atmosphere of love and caring. Regardless of the specific activities offered, I have no doubt that healing occurs on some, if not many, levels. Lezley's energy and enthusiasm alone is enough to make one's heart happy."

Rebecca Ghabour's favorite part of camp was listening to the questions that the children asked the guest speakers (a nurse, a Chaplain, and a funeral home director) feeling that is was a wonderful way for the kids to get answers to the tough questions they had on their minds! Among her favorites were: "Does it hurt to die?," "How was the first person made?," and "Do you have to go through space to get to heaven?" Tough questions indeed but Camp New Hope was there, thanks to its dedicated staff and volunteers, to answer them!



College Updates



Thanks in part to the strong letters of support from the Deans of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, College of Education, and the College of Health Professions, Lori Sitler, Assistant Professor and Mariann Kenville-Moore, Director of Victim Services for the AG's office and an adjunct instructor in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences were awarded seats, through a competitive application process, to attend the 2009 Child Advocacy Studies (CAST) Conference at the National Child Protection Training Center on the Winona State University (Minn.) campus in July.

The National Child Protection Training Center (NCPTC) and Winona State are the originators of the Child Abuse Studies (CAST) curriculum which is a series of courses designed to prepare college and graduate students for the realities of working with victims of child abuse and their families in the social service and criminal justice systems. As part of the week-long working conference, Sitler

and Kenville-Moore fine tuned the first course in the series which was offered at the New Castle campus this Fall. The course, entitled, "Child Abuse Recognition and Investigation", had 20 students enrolled from the majors of behavioral science, criminal justice, nursing and education and was taught by Kenville-Moore.

As part of the application process for the CAST conference, Wilmington University's College of Social and Behavioral Sciences agreed to pilot CAST courses as "special topics" courses and to explore the creation of a certificate program in Child Abuse Studies. To that end, the Child Abuse Recognition and Investigation course will be offered in Spring Block II. Kenville-Moore will co-teach the second course in the series on the topic of forensic interviewing in early summer with Scott McLaren, former Acting Chief of the New Castle County Police Department and the current Assistant Director of Wilmington University Safety and an adjunct instructor in the Criminal Justice Program. It is the plan of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences to offer the third course in the series, focused on treatment interventions, in Fall, 2010.

The College is exploring the creation of a CAST certificate program which could be earned as part of a student's degree using CAST courses as electives or as a post-Bachelor's certificate for those in the community who wish to receive specialized training in this area.

The photo above depicts the participants of the CAST conference from around the country. Professor Sitler is in the red jacket on the left side of the photo and Ms. Kenville-Moore is directly in front of her in the stripes.



On November 13th, the Delaware Beta chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, the Behavioral Science honor society, inducted 37 new members from the Behavioral Science, Psychology and Organizational Dynamics programs. Inductees and their guests heard inspiring words from Greg Munson, Development Director from the Claymont Community Center. Mr. Munson was presented with boxes of food items donated by the event's attendees to stock the pantry at the community center. The photo depicts just some of the new honor society members.

The Behavioral Science Club co-sponsored a Domestic Violence Awareness Lecture on October 12, 2009. The guest speaker, who is pictured to the right, was Quincy Lucas of Witney's Light's, Inc., an organization which she founded in memory of her sister, Dr. Witney Holland Rose, a victim of a domestic homicide.



Faculty News



Dr. Jim Walsh presented a 3 day workshop at the Summer Institute on Substance Abuse and Mental Health sponsored by the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services. His workshop, entitled "Mind in Comfort and Ease: The Role of Love in the Therapeutic Relationship," explored the various aspects of love, how love is appropriately cultivated and experienced in the therapeutic relationship, and ways that therapists can facilitate growth in each client's capacity to love. The transformative power of love has been extolled for millennia in poetry, prose, and sacred scriptures, yet it receives short shrift in the literature of psychology and recovery from addictions, including pathological gambling. The literature is also clear that the most salient and consistent predictors of good treatment outcome and recovery are those variables that describe the therapeutic relationship as empathic, altruistic, warm, and compassionate - in a word, loving. The workshop was sponsored by the Delaware Council on Gambling Problems (DCGP). Dr. Walsh (pictured at left) at the workshop with Susan Edgar, PhD, Deputy Director of the DCGP.

Dr. Rebecca Ghabour co-chaired the First Year Experience Committee on which Assistant Professor Lori Sittler served. The committee was appointed to design a First Year Experience course for new students entering Wilmington University. The committee worked from late spring through the fall, developing a course to provide students with the skills, knowledge and dispositions that will promote success in higher education. The new course will be piloted on the New Castle and Dover campuses in spring 2010 as a semester course.

Dr. Deb Berke was involved recently in several professional development activities. She:

- Attended the Eastern Conference on the Teaching of Psychology June 19-20, 2009.
- Attended the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) annual conference in San Francisco, CA from Nov. 11-14, 2009. She is also on the NCFR Board of Directors and attended meetings prior to the conference.
- Attended the Building Strong Families (BSF) conference on October 22, 2009 at Messiah College in Grantham, PA. Dr. Berke is on the BSF planning committee.
- Presented at the Social Media Summit sponsored by Wilmington University on Wednesday, October 21, 2009.
- Participated in the Academic Advising Standards Committee retreat on October 16, 2009 where 7 bicycles were built and donated to seven little children from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware. To the right is a picture of Dr. Berke with one of the recipients.



Johanna Bishop, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Behavioral Science Program, was elected to serve as a Council member of the Section on Sociological Practice & Public Sociology of the American Sociological Association (ASA). She is pictured to the left at the ASA conference with Jay Weinstein, a member of the Section and author of *Social and Cultural Change*, the textbook that is utilized in Wilmington University's Social Change (SOC 318) course.

All Things Are Possible...



Photo Courtesy of: Susan Gregg

When Patricia Spratley graduated from Chester High School in 1985, she knew that a college education would afford her the opportunity for a better life. But, as the teen mother of a child with autism, she faced financial and family challenges and, “wasn’t sure if or how things would work out for college.” While working in administrative support positions in a correctional facility in Pennsylvania after high school and, more recently, for the State of Delaware, it became clear to Spratley that a bachelor’s degree

was a necessity if she was to accomplish her goal of working either with persons with disabilities or youth in the juvenile corrections system.

It took Patricia twenty years to finally get back into a classroom. While raising three children and working full-time, she attended Del Tech and then transferred to Wilmington University. When she enrolled at Wilmington as a full-time student, Patricia chose the Organizational Dynamics program because of her experiences in the workplace. The Organizational Dynamics program, Patricia believes, “offers practical and applied knowledge with classes that are formatted towards adults with work experience and a background in organizations.”

Spratley’s hard work as a full-time student has been publicly acknowledged by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) – Wilmington chapter. In 2008 and again this year, Patricia was awarded an AAUW scholarship to continue her education. Patricia mused that the AAUW decided she was, “worth the investment” in 2008 and, “still had faith in me” to honor her with a second award in 2009.

Patricia’s philosophy is that, “all things are possible.” She believes that, “if you are persistent and persevere, success will follow. Align yourself with mentors and positive people – their encouragement is helpful especially on those days when you struggle the most with educational and family challenges.”

She anticipates graduating from the Organizational Dynamics program in January, 2010 and hopes to pursue her graduate degree in the Administration of Human Services.

Behavioral Science Coordinator Goes Abroad

Professor Johanna Bishop, Behavioral Science Program Coordinator, recently returned from a consulting engagement in Bangkok. She was one of three international team members providing expert assistance on workforce training and development to the electricity generating industry in Thailand. While in Thailand, she visited the Shrine of the Reclining Buddha, which is the largest statue of Buddha in the world. The statue is 46 meters long and 15 meters high, and covered in gold, and has often been featured on travel programs as one of the “must-see” sights when visiting Thailand. While she was visiting, the Kingdom of Thailand celebrated the King’s birthday. Wondering why the king-

dom was a sea of pink on that day, Professor Bishop learned that citizens wore pink on the King’s birthday since pink is the color of long life. Professor Bishop is pictured in front of the temple and with her colleagues from Indonesia and Great Britain in front of the reclining Buddha.



Wilmington University's
Administration of Human Services Program
in collaboration with
The Association of Fundraising Professionals – Brandywine Chapter
presents...

Grantwriting for Results!

When

Saturday, January 30, 2010
8:30am - Networking
9:00am to 3:00pm - Workshop

Where

Wilmington University
Wilson Graduate Center
31 Reads Way, Room 111
New Castle, DE 19720

Directions

<http://wilmu.edu/gradcenter/index.html>

Fee: \$35

(10% discount for AFP Members)

*Workshop Materials and Lunch will
be Provided

Registration

Download, complete & return
attached form with payment.

Registration Deadline: 1/22/10

*Limited to 30 participants

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Are you new to the fundraising field, just looking for an opportunity to brush up on the basics, program staff looking to fund a new initiative, or trying to move beyond basics and enhance your grantwriting skills?

If so, this workshop is for you!

This workshop encourages participation and sharing of organization grant efforts. Participants should bring a current grant proposal which will be used as we...

- Review formats & basic elements of a grant proposal and types and sources of "program" funding.
- Link grant requests to organization mission, program objectives, and community need.
- Identify strategies for marketing your grant request - communicating with "funders".
- Review resources for locating appropriate funders and assistance.
- Compose & share sample portions of a desired grant.
- Analyze each part of a successful grant and use a checklist to assess your grant.
- "Wordsmith" for clarity, conciseness, and completeness.
- Assess the "ask" – how much, how often...



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