



# Developments

A semi-annual publication of the  
Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education  
for SPS/SAHE alumni and friends

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*Please let us know what you think about Developments. Your feedback and suggestions are welcome and greatly appreciated.*

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## Class of 2020

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The Class of 2020 was warmly welcomed into the SAHE program on August 30, 2018 at the annual Kick-Off program hosted at the IUP College Lodge and Ski Hut by the SAHE Department and Associates for Student Development (ASD). The first portion of Kick-Off began with the faculty, Dr. Mimi Benjamin and Dr. John Lowery providing ways to cope with the adjustment and transition into graduate school. Dr. Tammy Patterson Manko, 1991 SAHE alumna, Director of IUP's Career and Professional Development Center, and 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient, talked with the students about making the most of their SAHE experience. She shared motivational words and gave the students a small token of positivity to take with them. The students also heard from Dr. Amber Racchini, Assistant Professor/Coordinator for Supplemental Instruction and Peer Assistance at IUP, and 2003 SAHE Alumna, who spoke on, "Surviving SAHE: Utilizing Support and Self-Care to Maximize Your Success."

ASD prepared a meal to follow the faculty portion and together, the Classes of 2019 and 2020 discussed the upcoming semester, undergraduate studies, and what led them to student affairs and SAHE in particular. Following dinner, the two cohorts participated in ice-breaker activities and "speed-matching" for potential Cohort Connect matches.

To conclude Kick-Off, Danielle Parker ('19), ASD President, announced each new SAHE member to receive their SAHE pin, which connects them to a network of more than 900 alumni. While students were eager to delve into their assistantships and coursework around the time of Kick-Off, they are now getting settled in and are dedicated to finding their niche in student affairs. Students are creating a sense of community that will help them thrive in the next year and a half.

# Chair's Corner

Greetings from Stouffer Hall!

I hope that your semester has been great so far and that you are finding both challenge and support in the work that you are doing. As I write this message to you, it seems that fall has finally arrived after a few unseasonably warm and wet months.

Here at IUP, the semester is off to a wonderful start with 27 new students joining us this fall. Our overall enrollment remains strong. I fully recognize that we have you to thank for that success. Again this year, the majority of incoming SAHE students described how SAHE program alumni were an important factor in their decision to apply to the program. We graduated a solid group of students last spring and as you will see from the list of their new positions on page 5 of this issue of *Developments*; they have been incredibly successful.

Several SAHE alumni have been recognized this semester by the College of Education and Communications. In October, Dr. Sophie Penny (SPS '80) was recognized as the College's Alumni Scholar. While she was on campus, Sophie also presented a workshop for SAHE students and supervisors on fundraising in student affairs. In November, Justin Brown (SAHE '13) was recognized as the College's Young Alumni Achievement Award winner. While Justin was on campus, he presented [Get Rich or Die Trying: Confessions of a Student Affairs Side Hustler](#) (video), which you can view on-line through the end of the year.

With Holley Belch's retirement and John Mueller's sabbatical (he discusses his sabbatical project on page 2), staffing our SAHE classes was more challenging than usual; luckily several SAHE alumni are teaching for us this semester. Dr. Kate Stahl Kinsinger (SAHE '94) is teaching Student Development Theory I. Dr. Amber Racchini (SAHE '03) from the Developmental Studies Department is teaching the American College Student and Practicum. She will also be teaching for us in the spring.

We have already begun actively recruiting the next cohort of SAHE students and hope that you will continue to refer your best and brightest students to us. Students who are interested in the program should be encouraged to visit the SAHE website for more information or email us with any questions they may have at [sahе-admissions@iup.edu](mailto:sahе-admissions@iup.edu). If you would like to refer a student to the SAHE Program, please complete our [IUP SAHE Prospective Student Referral Form](#). We will contact the student by email to share more information about the SAHE Program. We can also send you a SAHE Poster to display in your office, just complete the [IUP SAHE Poster Request Form](#).

If you are able, we encourage you to make a donation to the SAHE Development Fund. The SAHE Development Fund supports the needs of the SAHE program that are not covered by funds from the University (e.g., student support for professional development activities, research support to students, alumni receptions at national conferences, the Outstanding Scholar Award, and the Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award). Visit [www.iup.edu/giveagift](http://www.iup.edu/giveagift) and enter [#4647](#) in the "Other" field to contribute to the [SAHE Development Fund](#).

I look forward to crossing paths with many of you in the spring at ASCA and NASPA. With ACPA in Boston this year, we will have our annual alumni reception at ACPA. We will share the details as soon as we confirm the date, time, and location for the reception.

Warmly,



John Wesley Lowery, Ph.D.  
Professor and SAHE Department Chair



# John Mueller

Greetings from western, PA! I've always recognized how quickly the fall semester flies by; this is especially the case, I've learned, when you're on sabbatical! Actually, time has gone by at a nice pace and this experience has been as enriching and restorative as I expected. Two projects have kept me particularly busy this fall: final edits to our book, [Multicultural Competence in Student Affairs: Advancing Social Justice and Inclusion](#) (Pope, Reynolds, & Mueller, 2019) and the monograph I'm working on to re-introduce the Knepfelkamp, Golec, and Wells (1984, 1985) Practice-to-Theory-to-Practice model. One of the exciting things about the upcoming Multicultural Competence book is that it features case studies written by some of our SAHE alumni and faculty, including Jhane Cummings ('18), Henry Lewis ('14), Windi Sasaki ('04), and Dr. John Lowery. Equally exciting, with respect to the PTP monograph, has been delving into the history of the authors' work, the early writing, and old videos featuring Lee Knepfelkamp. As you may know, Lee died this past September—a great loss to the multiple fields her work influenced, including student affairs, higher education, counseling, and organizational leadership. In October, I joined some of my fellow (one-time) doctoral students of Lee's at one of her favorite restaurants on the upper west side of Manhattan near Teachers College, aptly named "Community". There we shared stories of Lee's humor, her compassion, her brilliance, and her impact on our lives. The trip to New York also gave me an opportunity to make use of the extraordinary Teachers College library and to see some outstanding Broadway shows. This fall also allowed me to travel to Buffalo, NY to work with my colleagues, Raechele Pope and Amy Reynolds, on our book. A trip to Washington D.C. will round out my fall travels. I started the fall semester (actually late summer) with a trip to London and Edinburgh, Scotland. This was my first time in the U.K. and it was everything (and more) that I expected it would be. By the time you're reading this, the fall semester will be coming to a close, my annual holiday concerts with Pittsburgh's Renaissance City Choir will be in full swing, and I will be eager to return to Stouffer Hall and the classroom. Absence, indeed, makes the heart grow fonder!



# Mimi Benjamin

As I start my sixth year in the SAHE department, it seems that fall has come on with a vengeance! If where you are is like Indiana, PA, you went from summer immediately to fall/winter without much of a transition. While the colors are beautiful, the air is chilly and it's starting to feel like November, which is just right around the corner. Since it's my sixth year at IUP, I've decided to use that as my theme and want to share six things with you: **1)** I'm pleased to share that I was awarded tenure in the summer and promoted to Associate Professor as of Fall 2018. Whew! **2)** As a newly-tenured faculty member, I have passed on my role as chair of the Newer Faculty Committee in order to take over the role of helping coordinate the Preparing Future Faculty program at IUP. This is a nationally-recognized program that is just getting off the ground on our campus. I'm really happy to be able to help graduate students as they explore faculty careers. **3)** As scholarship is one of the elements of a faculty career, I'm excited that the book I co-authored, *Living-Learning Communities that Work: A Research-Based Model for Design, Delivery, and Assessment* was released by Stylus in June, and it seems to be a helpful resource to those who have told me they read it. **4)** Speaking of reading, I had the great pleasure of serving on the search committee for the new Dean of the Library and have learned so much about the library at IUP in the process. If you haven't explored your library and gotten to know the librarians who work there, I highly recommend that you do so. We certainly have amazing librarians at IUP! **5)** On a personal note, my husband and I have been taking advantage of the cultural events on campus, which has been wonderful! I'm so grateful to be on a campus that offers opportunities to listen to various symphony orchestras, see interesting dance performances, and attend great musical theater productions. **6)** I continue to appreciate and value the connections I have with our alums – those I have taught in classes and those I have met at professional functions. SAHE really does have a wonderful alumni network, and I'm so pleased to be connected to all of you! I wish you all the best as you wrap up the fall term and send good wishes your way as we move toward Spring 2019!



# Amber Racchini

I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying your fall semester and making plans to rest and relax during the upcoming weeks. I know that I am looking forward to spending time with family, catching up with friends and old colleagues, and eating all the delicious food that comes with the holidays!

This fall I got the opportunity to teach both the American College Student and Practicum courses. Although I continue to work as the Coordinator for Supplemental Instruction and the ASC@IUP Tutoring Center, I am very thankful to be teaching in the SAHE department. I

have really enjoyed our class discussions around campus culture and rituals, as well as learning about how *Generation Z* impacts our work as student affairs professionals! Reading the Practicum journals and meeting with students individually reminds me of the important role that we play in training, supervising, and mentoring our new professionals.

This fall I am working on publishing my research on the use of embedded tutoring and its overall impact on student grades. I am also busy serving as the Conference Planning Assistant Coordinator for the upcoming Association of Colleges for Tutoring and Learning Assistance (ACTLA) Annual Conference in Las Vegas.

On a personal note, I am trying not to be a “helicopter parent” as my son, Lucas, navigates his way through Kindergarten! I continue to work at my side-hustle as a group fitness instructor and I am gearing up for the Pittsburgh ½ Marathon in May!



# Kate Stahl Kinsinger



It is rewarding (and bit surreal!) to return to SAHE to teach the Developmental Theories I course after having taken the 1993 version in the same classroom! In between graduating from SAHE in 1994 and now, I have held various positions at Ohio University, Penn State Altoona & University Park, and Pitt-Johnstown. In that time, I have worked with thousands of students as a health educator, sexual assault advocate, academic advisor and counselor, course instructor and more! Along the way, I also earned my doctorate in Social & Comparative Analysis in Education from Pitt and conducted research on the influences of family and school on rural youths’ persistence to college graduation—a topic near and dear to my heart. I continue to look for meaningful ways to serve students and am currently coordinating a pilot program for first-generation students and conducting research on their precollege and college experiences.



Several years ago, I returned home to my rural roots in Somerset County and along with my husband, have raised Emma, a high school senior and Jack, a high school freshman—as well as multiple rescued animals and a small flock of chickens. Now, I have returned home to my SAHE roots, and I am grateful to have the opportunity to work with first-year students.



# Congratulations, Class of 2018!



## *Where Are They Now?*

**Julieze Benjamin**—University of Texas-San Antonio, TX  
Complex Coordinator

**Jhane Cummings**—Shenandoah University, VA  
Diversity Programs Coordinator

**Paige Davies**—Carnegie Mellon University, PA  
Assistant Director of Masters Admissions

**Victoria Dean**—Saint Peter's University, NJ  
Associate Director for Leadership and Engagement

**Meghan Delsite Coleman**—Radford University, VA  
Resident Director

**Jackie Duffy**—Ball State University, IN  
Hall Director

**Elizabeth Estell**—Georgian Court University, NJ  
Coordinator of Residence Life Operations

**Kimberly Farrer**—Bryn Mawr College, PA  
Residential Life Coordinator

**Rachel Frank**—Duke University, NC  
Sector Manager of Fuqua Business School  
Career Management Center

**Cara Fulton**—Geneva College, PA  
Director of Career Development

**Christopher Gause**—Alfred University, NY  
Assistant Director of Academic Success

**Evan Jones**—Providence College, RI  
Complex Director

**Emily Porter**—West Virginia University, WV  
Student Recruiter for Extension Services

**Christina Qawasmy**—University of Richmond, VA  
Area Coordinator

**Kaitlyn Rajner**—University of South Carolina, SC  
Undergraduate Career Services Manager  
Darla Moore School of Business

**Geo Ramsey Miller**—Bates College, ME  
Director of Residence Life

**Jeremy Risinger**—Indiana University of Pennsylvania, PA  
Student Success Specialist of University College

**Tara Roach**—Iona College, NY  
Residence Hall Director

**Dr. Benjamin Shultz**—University of Illinois; Chicago, IL  
Assistant Director of Academic Planning and Program Review

**John Spigelmyer**—Pennsylvania State University, PA  
Associate Director for Orientation and Transfer Programs in the Office of the President

**Alex Wagner**—WVU Institute of Technology, WV  
Resident Director

**Celine Walker**—Manhattan School of Music, NY  
Housing Operation Coordinator

# Alumni Updates

## Professional

The SAHE department congratulates the following alumni on their continued advancement in their careers

**Cindy Nelson** ('97) – Retired from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (PA)

**Rebecca Durkin** ('98) – Vice President for Student Success and Inclusion, Divisions of Student Affairs and Inclusion and Division of Strategic Enrollment Management at Rosalind Franklin University (IL)

**Scott Eckhardt** ('98) – Director of Student Conduct and Title IX at the Community College of Baltimore County (MD)

**Theresa Bonk** ('99) – Director of Student Affairs at Penn State New Kensington (PA)

**Robert Levrant** ('99) – Director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (NV)

**Lisa (Saita) Gonsisko** ('00) – Director of Residence Life at Ramapo College of New Jersey (NJ)

**Nancy Rottler** ('00) – Assistant Vice President for Student Success and Retention at Saint Vincent College (PA)

**Koreen Kerfoot** ('02) – Assistant Director of Residential Life at New Mexico Tech (NM)

**Matthew Shaffer** ('03) – Director of Student Engagement & Development at Clarion University (PA)

**James Barricelli** ('04) – Director of Employer Relations in Career Services at Georgia Tech (GA)

**Kerrie Wolf-Piechota** ('04) – Communications and Public Relations Manager at YWCA NorthEastern NY in Schenectady, New York (NY)

**Lynn Burke** ('05) – Director of the Annual Fund at Springside Chestnut Hill Academy, an independent PK-12 school in Philadelphia (PA)

**Trung Nguyen** ('05) – Assistant Dean of Student Development Services at Texas Christian University (TX)

**Michael Dodge** ('06) – Director of the AIC Plan for Excellence (APEX) Program at American International College (MA)

**David Falletta** ('06) – Promoted to Dean of Students at Alderson Broaddus University (WV)

**Deena Kelly** ('06) – Associate Director of Student Life at University of Pittsburgh (PA)

**Amanda Ries** ('06) – Assistant Director of Residence Life for Academic Initiatives at the University of Pittsburgh-Main Campus (PA)

**Albert Thiel** ('07) – Director, Student Center & Student Involvement at the University of Pittsburgh- Greensburg (PA)

**Emily Forte** ('08) – Assistant Director in the Office of Student Success at Saint Joseph's University (PA)

**Nicki Croly** ('09) – Interim Director of Student Organizations & Leadership at California State University, Sacramento (CA)

**Chad Jurica** ('09) – Disability Specialist in Disability Resources & Services at the University of Pittsburgh (PA)

**Erin Schutt** ('09) – Workforce Development and Community Education Program Developer at the Delaware Technical Community College (DE)

**Jean Barnard** ('10) – Coordinator of Academic Coaching & Tutoring Center at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford (PA)

**Darla Coleman** ('10) – Interim Director of Registration & Advisement at the Community College of Allegheny County (PA)

**Margaret Hammond** ('10) – Director of Engineering Advising, Innovation, and Assessment for the College of Engineering at The Pennsylvania State University

**David Tiscione** ('10) – Director of Student Conduct at Loyola University of Maryland (MD)

**Martin Sagendorf** ('11) – Associate Director of Housing at American University in Washington, D.C. (D.C.)

**Sam Waltemeyer** ('11) – Assistant Director for the Office of Student Leadership, Involvement and Civic Engagement at Carnegie Mellon University (PA)

**Dominick Williams** ('11) – Director of the Office of Student Conduct at the University of Kentucky (KY)

**Emilie (Campbell) Dye** ('12) – Director of Student Engagement at Duke University (NC)

# Alumni Updates

## Professional Continued

**Victoria (Rowlands) Elisca** ('12) – Assistant Director of Residence Life at Montclair State University (NJ)

**Kristin Brewer** ('13) – Assistant Director of Residence Life and International Student Services in the Office of Residence Life, Student Conduct, Commuter Services, and International Student Services at Baldwin Wallace University (OH)

**Sam Comfort** ('13) – Executive Assistant to the President-Office of the President at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (PA)

**Danielle Brush** ('14) – Assistant Director of Residence Life (Student Conduct) at St. Mary's College of Maryland (MD)

**Lauren Donahue** ('14) – Program Director for New Student Engagement in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at the University of Notre Dame (IN)

**Laneka Hainesworth** ('14) – Assistant Director of Admissions in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at Seton Hill University (PA)

**Jenna Konyak** ('14) – Assistant Dean of Residential Commons in the Office of Student Living & Learning at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (NY)

**Alyssa Caffarelli** ('15) – Assistant Director of Housing in the Office of Housing & Event Management at Moravian College (PA)

**Christina Moreschi** ('15) – Assistant Director of Career Development and Experiential Learning at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (PA)

**Melissa Gaskill** ('16) – Career Specialist in the Nicholas School of the Environment, Career and Professional Development Center at Duke University (NC)

**Amanda Heflin** ('16) – Technology Student Accessibility Specialist in the Disability Resource Center at Cabrini University (PA)

**Elissa Donovan** ('17) – Admissions Enrollment Services Specialist at SUNY Morrisville Norwich Campus (NY)

**Jessica Oren** ('17) – Property Manager for The Overlook, Conifer LLC (NY)

**Jenny Sak** ('17) – Assistant Director of the Paul Robeson Cultural Center at Penn State University, University Park (PA)



Ron Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award

2018 Recipient: **Dr. Tammy Patterson Manko**

Director of the IUP Career and Professional Development Center

## Call for Nominations

The SAHE department is now accepting nominations for the **Ron Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award**. This award is presented to an alumni of the SAHE department who has been a student affairs professional for at least five years and whose practice reflects the standards and values of the SAHE department. Details on the nomination criteria and process are available on the SAHE website below.

Nominations are due by February 4, 2019 and the announcement of the recipient will be made prior to the NASPA and ACPA conventions. Please consider nominating one of your SAHE colleagues and/or mentors who is deserving of this recognition. If you're considering nominating someone and/or have any questions, feel free to contact John Mueller at [jmueller@iup.edu](mailto:jmueller@iup.edu). Please visit our website for more information:

<https://www.iup.edu/sahe/about/distinguished-alumni-award/>

# Alumni Updates

## Accomplishments/Accolades

**Scott Eckhardt** ('98) – Earned Ed.D. in Higher Education- Community College Leadership from Morgan State University in December 2017

**Theresa Bonk** ('99) – Recipient of the Penn State University John Romano Diversity Award in April 2018

**Robert Levrant** ('99) – Co-presented "Expanding Volunteerism to Enhance the Membership Experience" at the Southern Regional Conference on Learning in Retirement at the University of Alabama, Huntsville on 8/2/2018.

**Trung Nguyen** ('05) – Published an article in the *Journal of College Student Development*, "RU OK: Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Gatekeeper Training Program"

**Sarah Richardson** ('07) - Chairing the 2019 Region IX NODA (National Orientation Directors Association) Conference in SUNY Oneonta

**Justin Brown** ('09) – Recipient of 2018 IUP Young Alumni Achievement Award. Also featured in Summer 2018 edition of MACUHO Magazine

**Margaret Hammond** ('10) – Presented at the 2018 NACADA Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ

**Jesse Phillips** ('14) – Named NAFSA Region VIII Advocacy Representative (2018-2020); Selected to serve on PACIE's Board (2018-2022)

**Alyssa Caffarelli** ('15) – "Residence Director of the Year" award at Pace University (May 2018), Presented on "Working with Faculty" at NEACUHO Annual Conference (October 2017)

**Ashley Daniels** ('15) – Young Alumni Achievement Award, April 2018  
FSU Alumni Association Board of Directors Secretary/  
Treasurer, October 2018

**Lauren Watson** ('15) – Keystone Award, Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Employers: for outstanding service and contributions in the first three years of membership

**Kayla Grosjean** ('17) – Presented at NAFSA Region I on "Meeting Them Where There Are: Developing Student Agency Abroad". Focused on cognitive student development theory.

**Victoria Dean** ('18) – Presented at NACAMAT with Deanna Wicks at Saint Vincent College, "#GradGoals: Building a Strong Supervisor and Graduate Relationship"

## Personal

**Robert Levrant** ('99) – Rob is pursuing a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology with a focus on adult learning and mentoring

**Tom Baker** ('05) – Tom's TV show on MCA-TV, Get Involved! Moon Township, was nominated for Best Talk Show at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Media Awards

**Brian Root** ('06) – Brian was recently published in the FTF Magazine, a publication for geocachers around the world

**Margaret Hammond** ('10) – Margaret and Jared Hammond (SAHE '10) welcomed their second child, Isabella Grace Donohoe Hammond, on 12/4/2015

**Megan Stahl** ('11) – Megan and her husband Jake welcomed their son, Sam, in June

**Sam Waltemeyer** ('11) – Alexandra (SAHE 2011) and Sam have moved back to Pittsburgh, where Sam will be working as the Housefellow & Assistant Director of Student Leadership, Involvement & Civic Engagement at Carnegie Mellon

**Sarah Conte** ('14) – Sarah Married Zach Nigrelli, of Pittsburgh, PA, on Saturday, September 15, 2018

**Christina Moreschi** ('15) – Married Brandon Morgan in July 2018 and have been dog parents to Mandy for one year

**Do you have any updates you want to share with the SAHE community? To update your place of employment, email, and accolades, please fill out [this form.](#)**



# 2018 Nancy J. Newkerk Scholarship

In October 2018, the SAHE department announced the recipient of the Nancy J. Newkerk Scholarship for 2018: **Angela Delfine**.

Delfine is an alumna of Saint Vincent College. She has a Bachelor of Arts in English. She completed a practicum in Conferences and Events over the summer of 2018 at Chatham University Eden Hall. Her current practicum is with Saint Vincent College in the Opportunity/Act 101/ SSS-Trio Office. Her assistantship position is at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown as a Graduate Area Coordinator.

Angela's nominators spoke highly of her. One said, "'During her year at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Angela played a vital role in the further development of the Residence Life program. She is a tireless worker capable of handling any assignment given with her efficiency, excellence, and ease.'"

"During her time (on the campus), Angela performed like a seasoned professional and continuously demonstrated a student-centered mindset. . . She is hardworking and truly dedicated to student success," said another nominator.

Since 1999, the Nancy Newkerk scholarship has been awarded to a second-year SAHE graduate student who demonstrates outstanding contributions to college students, student affairs activities, the SAHE Department, and the broader higher education community.

Nancy Newkerk served as dean of women at IUP (then Indiana State Teachers College) from 1957 to 1967 and as associate dean of admissions at IUP from 1978 until her retirement in 1994. She was awarded the IUP President's Medal of Distinction in 2009.



# 2018 Get Involved! Award

**Angelina Jenkins** ('19) was awarded the 2018 *Get Involved! SAHE Student Leadership Award*. This award was created by Councilman Tom Baker (SAHE '05) and his wife, Erin, who encourage students to make a sincere difference in the campus they work on, and to better serve the SAHE community. This is what Angelina's nominator said: "Angelina's commitment to fostering a diverse atmosphere at IUP is heartening. In a climate that unfortunately does not always welcome people who look or think differently, Angelina has worked tirelessly to build an equitable environment through her work at IUP, with the Greek organizations she advises, and with professional opportunities through NASPA, ACPA, and NODA."

Angelina is currently a second-year student who received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from IUP. Her assistantship is with Fraternity and Sorority Life in the Multicultural Center for Student Leadership and Engagement. She served as a NODA intern this summer at Auburn University and is finishing her fall practicum at IUP's Academic Success Center. Angelina was described by her nominator as a "passionate, driven, and kind woman who has consistently shown the ability and the desire to make a difference in the world."



# Student Accomplishments & Presentations

**Sarah Bernhardt ('20) and Mary Rose Pedron ('20)** did a diversity workshop and presentation for IUP's Fraternity and Sorority Life at this fall's Greek 101 titled, "If Not You, Then Who: Ally-ship."

**Riley Vespoli ('19) and Anthony Nguyen ('19)** presented at the Cuba Ties IV Conference in Cienfuegos, Cuba. Riley's presentation was titled, "Preparing to Receive International Students." Anthony's was called "Work Opportunities for International Students: Post Graduation in Canada and the United States." (See bottom left picture).

**Renee Raymond ('20) and Rob Leibel ('19)** took students to CAACURH Regional Leadership Conference in early November at Wright State University. Their students received recognition for being the "Most Spirited," having two presenters in the Top 10 Programs, a student receiving a textbook scholarship, and a student receiving a recognition pin for his involvement within the region! (See bottom right picture below).

**Anna Borges ('20)** took students to NACA Mid-Atlantic (MAT) Regional Conference in Buffalo, NY in October. Saint Vincent College won an award for Outstanding Program Board of the Year. She also took students to the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg (UPG) Regional Leadership Conference.

**Alex Crenshaw ('19), Rob Leibel ('19), and Dr. Mimi Benjamin** presented at the UPG Regional Leadership Conference on "Careers in Student Affairs."

**Kaitlyn Martin ('19) and Riley Vespoli ('19)** presented on Diversity and why it is important at the UPG Conference.

**Angela Delfine ('19)** also presented at the UPG Conference and took some of her students from UPJ. She presented with her Head RA, Molly Verostick, on "Going Outside of Your Comfort Zone to Grow as a Leader."

**Katie Byers ('19) and Nina LaCombe ('19)** presented at UPG's Conference. Their presentation was titled, "Building Better Students: Preparation for Life After College," which was about helping students understand the skills needed to be career ready.

**Kristen Shimko ('20)** presented at the UPG conference on "How to be the Professional You," discussing resumes, cover letters, and LinkedIn. She also attended WVASPA in Davis, WV at the beginning of November.

**Sarah Hallman ('20)** presented at the UPG Conference on exploring passion and developing work/life balance to avoid burn-out. Her presentation was called "Pursuing Your Passion: Tips and Tricks to Becoming the 'Leslie Knope' of What You Do."

**Paige Matzerath ('20)** also presented at the UPG Regional Leadership Conference. She discussed the benefits of social media in terms of branding and networking with her presentation titled "Online Branding and Networking."

**Danielle Parker ('19)** presented "Shape of You" at the UPG Conference. This presentation focused on wellness and how to use techniques learned to improve wellness throughout students' college journey.

**Andre Richet ('19)** coordinated the UPG Leadership Conference and presented "Breaking the Ice Ice Baby." This program helped students define and facilitate ice breakers, energizers, and community builders with the intent to foster creativity and build relationships.



# Outstanding Alumni Achievements



**Dr. Sophie Penney** (SPS '80) visited IUP's campus on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. The College of Education and Communications honored Dr. Penney as the 2018 Alumni Scholar. Prior to the awards ceremony and reception, Dr. Penney spent the morning presenting to our SAHE students, faculty, and IUP staff about fundraising in student affairs. Her presentation was titled, "Raising 4, 6, and 8 Figure Gifts." Dr. Penney spoke about the five I's of fundraising, which are "Identify, Inform, Involve, Invest, and Impact." She had participants partner up and evaluate a few scenarios provided. Then, she held a discussion on those scenarios and what could be learned as emerging professionals. Participants thoroughly enjoyed her presentation and our first-year students said that they appreciated the consideration of student affairs fundraising as a career. Additionally, students were eager to take the Asking Style Inventory (found at <https://askingmatters.com/find-your-style/>).

Dr. Penney is the Senior Program Coordinator and Lecturer for Penn State's all-online Certificate Program in Fundraising Leadership. She is also the founder and President of consulting firm i5 Fundraising ([i5fundraising.com](http://i5fundraising.com)). Dr. Sophie Penney is the lead co-editor of a new book to be released by NASPA in spring 2019, *Raising the Bar: Student Affairs Fundraising*. The book is a follow-up to *Dollars for Dreams: Student Affairs Staff as Fundraisers*, which she co-authored and NASPA published in 2001. *Raising the Bar* covers an array of topics including: forms of fundraising, best practices, and ethical and legal issues (she specifically authored the ethics and legal issues chapter). Co-editors are Barbara Rose of New Generations Fundraising and Glenn Gittings of University of Louisville.

**Justin Brown** (SAHE '13) visited IUP on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. The College of Education and Communications recognized Justin as their 2018 Young Alumni Achievement Award winner. In addition to receiving his award, Justin spent time presenting to students, faculty, staff and SAHE alumni. For a number of years, Justin has had a successful "side hustle," the Diversity Awareness Program ([DAP](#)). He spoke about the reality of the work that it required to develop and requires to maintain. His presentation titled, "Get Rich or Die Trying: Confessions of a Student Affairs Side Hustler" was a fully interactive session, including our students who could not be on campus attending from various locations and assistantship sites via Zoom live video chat. Justin discussed his story about the creation of the Diversity Awareness Program and shared some tips and tricks related to entrepreneurship and second careers. Participants enjoyed his thoroughly interactive presentation that included humor, advice, discussions and inspiration for creating and maintaining a student affairs side hustle.



Justin is the author of two books, *UGH!?! Not Another Diversity Book*, which was published in May of 2017, and *Things I Didn't Tell My Mom In College*, which came out in May of this year.



**Left:** Dr. Sophie Penney presenting "Raising 4, 6, and 8 Figure Gifts."



**Right:** Justin Brown presenting "Get Rich or Die Trying: Confessions of a Student Affairs Side Hustler"

# Our MACUHO Experience

By: Angela Delfine ('19), Dan Bowley ('19), & Michael Hanni ('19)

## Angela's Experience:

This year I had the opportunity to attend the MACUHO Annual Conference for the second year in the row. I knew going into this year that I wanted to attend MACUHO after my positive experience last year. This year, I had the amazing chance to volunteer at the check-in table and to present at the conference. I worked with my colleague at Pitt Johnstown to present on the benefits of attending the Vendor Fair, which was something that the organization wanted someone to do in order to get more attendance. My goal for the presentation was to explain the benefits of connecting with vendors to entry-level professionals and graduate students. It is so important to understand how to engage with vendors if you wish to become a Director of Residence Life or Housing, which is what most entry-level professionals and grads aspire to be. It is also very interesting to learn about the different products available and to use it as an educational opportunity to understand new services on the market. During the conference, I also had the chance to attend a few sessions, one of which delved into freedom of speech on college campuses. I also had the opportunity to learn about the MAPC job placement program, which will occur in February. Finally, it was great to network with a range of housing professionals, including some IUP SAHE Alumni. Overall, I am passionately dedicated to the MACUHO organization and plan on continuing this involvement in the near future. My goal is to continue to engage in the organization in order to bring more educational opportunities to professionals in housing and Residence Life. I'm looking forward to returning for the 2019 MACUHO conference in Atlantic City!



Left to right: Michael, Angela, and Dan at MACUHO 2018

## Dan's Experience:

Attending MACUHO 2018 was an incredible experience that I believe helped to prepare me for a career in student affairs after I graduate from SAHE. Being surrounded by professional staff members from institutions of various sizes, demographics, and locations allowed me to immerse myself in the diverse experiences and perspectives being shared in the sessions that I attended, as well as in casual conversations between activities. I was able to connect with professionals in the area, learn about challenges that other institutions faced, and gather insight into trends that the profession may engage with in the future. I chose to focus my experience in the conference sessions on supervisory growth and career development in order to improve my supervisory skills in my current role as a Graduate Resident Director, while also learning more about the field of career services, which I am currently working in as part of my practicum with IUP's Career and Professional Development Center. These sessions supplemented the experiences that I have gained with best practices and insights from seasoned professionals in a variety of functional areas, which I believe opened my eyes to some of my own areas of improvement in my work as a Student Affairs professional. Overall, my experience at MACUHO was one that has only increased my passion for this profession, as I was able to learn more about myself and the professionals throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

## Michael's Experience:

One word that comes to mind when I reflect on my experience at the Mid-Atlantic College University Housing Operations (MACUHO) annual conference in Erie, PA October 24-26, 2018 is growth. Growth is something that we all need as professionals in any field, not just student affairs, but especially in our practice because things are ever changing. Being able to attend my first professional conference at MACUHO was quite the experience. Being able to attend different sessions that will help me grow not only as a professional, but a person as well is something that I really took away from this conference. There were some really great presentations ranging from how do we use different types of video games to help with understanding mental illness and the effects of it to learning how to be financially stable while working in student affairs. I took a lot away from these sessions that I will and am working on to constantly growing as a professional and a person. I was able to gain the experience this summer of attending MACUHO's Summer Summit planning meeting for the conference at Penn State, University Park so being able to see the production come full circle was very impressive. I recommend this conference, especially with a SAHE alum at the helm of MACUHO! I am already looking forward to the (hopeful) opportunity of going to Atlantic City in 2019! I would definitely recommend attending, especially as a more of a laid-back professional development opportunity.

# The NODA Experience: My Summer in Auburn

By: Angelina Jenkins ('19)

This past summer I had the privilege of being a NODA (Association for Orientation, Retention, and Transition in Higher Education) Intern for Auburn University in the Office of First Year Experience and Camp War Eagle. The NODA Internship Program provides interns the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge, planning, and facilitation in orientation, retention, and transition programing. Orientation is not a new area of work for me, but one I believe I thrive in and a large reason as to why I pursued student affairs. Having known previous NODA Interns, I knew that the experience would be another adventure in my student affairs journey.

One of my roles as the NODA Intern for Camp War Eagle was to co-present on the transition for out of state students to Auburn/Alabama. While it was mostly discussion on the expectations that students may see such as the typical day, food, and travel, it did go deeper than that. I spoke on the importance of support and what it means to be successful in a transition that is moving away from home. This conversation that I had reinforced the information from the SAHE classes on what makes students successful. While it made some curious that I had only been in Auburn for a short time and would not be staying long-term, I welcomed having the conversations with students and their guests on what it means to go to college. It made me appreciate even more what I was learning in class so that I could better help students.

Camp War Eagle demonstrates a model of orientation that integrates students and their guests into the "Auburn Family". Each orientation morning was started with reciting the Auburn Creed and positive reinforcement that they knew their job and to treat every day like the first time. Throughout the day you could hear The Fight Song playing, discussions on campus resources and skits to help process topics on the college experience. Camp War Eagle provides both the incoming students and student leaders opportunities to grow from this experience into a better Auburn student.

My summer in Auburn is one that met every expectation. I learned so much from the great student leaders but also professional staff that exemplify that values of the institution and student affairs field. I'm happy to have been a part of the Camp War Eagle family. Overall, I am grateful to have had the opportunity to go to Auburn University and grow as a student affairs professional.



# United Kingdom vs. United States

By: Nina LaCombe ('19)



This summer, I went on a study tour with Bowling Green State University to Scotland and England to learn about the higher education system in the UK. Over the course of 17 days, I walked over 111 miles, visited 10 cities, and went on 11 university/site visits. It was a whirlwind of a trip but such an unforgettable experience.

We started off the study tour in Edinburgh, Scotland where we visited the University of Edinburgh and the University of Strathclyde. We then travelled to Glasgow, Scotland to visit the University of Glasgow. From there, we stopped at the Newbattle Abbey College and the Wisconsin in Scotland program in Dalkeith, Scotland before crossing over into England. Once in England, we visited St. Cloud State University at Alnwick Castle. A part of Alnwick Castle has been transformed into a residence hall and we had the pleasure of staying there for a few nights. Then, we visited York St. John University in York, England. I had learned so much from each institution, but by far my favorite site visit was to the University of Oxford. We ate dinner with students at Exeter College and had the chance to pick their brains about Oxford's unique format and traditional ways. We finished the

tour in London with visits to the University of East London, AMOSSHE, and the National Union of Students.

Most days of the trip were spent in meetings and consultations at the schools where various student affairs departments would present to us about their mission and functions. Our professor, Dr. Ellen Broido, encouraged us to ask questions and delve past the "what" and into the "why". She challenged us to look at student affairs from a different viewpoint and examine the different ways that we can achieve outcomes, depending on the social context. We would end every day with a reflection meeting where we would talk through and process what we had learned that day and brainstorm ideas of how we can carry this knowledge into our work as student affairs professionals. We also had a few days off between site visits to travel and explore the cities that we were visiting. My birthday happened to fall on one of our days off, so I spent my birthday this year traveling around to Bath, Stonehenge and the city of Oxford.

There are many notable differences between student affairs in the UK versus the US. For example, in the US, we have residence halls which foster student engagement and community through programming. In the UK, most students live off campus and even if they do live on campus, most universities do not have residence life departments to plan programs. Therefore, their relationship with the university is very different. Additionally, most US institutions offer general education courses that students are required to take before graduating. In the UK, students apply to a specific major and they typically spend 3 years gaining specialized skills and knowledge within that major. Therefore, students rarely change majors because it is so difficult to. Higher education in the UK is less concerned with holistic development and is more focused on vocational training. Also, student government organizations are more organized in the UK than in the US and students will take a year off of school to be on the governing board of their student union. Finally, student affairs itself is not viewed as a profession in the UK, and therefore, they do not have masters or doctoral programs in student affairs.

It was an exhausting and overwhelming few weeks, but I came back with a new group of friends and colleagues in Ohio and a broadened perspective on this field that I am about to enter into in a few months.



Newbattle Abbey College by Nina LaCombe

# Introducing MCSLE: Creating a Space for All

IUP's New Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement

By: Sarah Avery ('20)

As a first year graduate student, working in the newly formed Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement has been a whirlwind experience. Being a brand new Graduate Assistantship position within a new space on campus, there are a lot of exciting opportunities to be had. The Center was created to offer one location on campus where students can access services addressing multiple aspects of culture, identity, and diversity. Housed in the space are a few different offices, including Multicultural Affairs and Student Success; Student Leadership and New Student Success; Fraternity/Sorority and Student Engagement; and Program Coordination, Communication, and Assessment. Joining the Center for Student Life, the African American Cultural Center, and multiple student organizations into one space presents IUP with the opportunity to show students how diversity, identity, and culture are not areas to be siloed, but interwoven aspects of each of our individual identities.

The University's commitment to diversity and inclusion continues through the efforts of those housed within the Center. In addition to offices for those working in the space, there are student organization offices, private meeting areas, a multipurpose room, and a dance studio, making the space truly for students. The students who visit the Center have a unique opportunity to not just collaborate with their peers, but to collaborate with professionals that they might not otherwise have had the chance due to locational barriers. Seeing professional staff working individually but still together to promote similar themes provides them a glimpse into what life outside college might be like in a diverse workforce setting.

In my role, I work to bridge the different offices, exemplifying the purpose of the Center. Collaborating with the different professionals to further their individual goals while still creating programming from the Center itself, it is my hope to model to students how diversity and inclusion impact each of us. No matter our professional focus, creating spaces in which to explore and celebrate our differences of thought, cultures, experiences, and beliefs is central to living within a successful society. Prioritizing the building of these spaces and encouraging engagement in dialogue are goals I hope to pursue in the following year within my position as the Graduate Assistant for the Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement.



# Associates for Student Development

This year the 2018 ASD Executive Team has been hard at work trying to create an engaging environment for the SAHE students. This year we have been able to redesign the Cohort Connect Mentoring Program, raised money for ASD through the SAHE Apparel Fundraiser, created new topics for the Lunch and Learns, created graduation cords for all ASD members, and donated over 300 cans to the food pantry that were collected during SAHE Thanksgiving. I would like to thank the 2018 ASD Executive Board for all of their hard work this past year and wish them luck in their future endeavors. Lastly, we are also excited to announce the 2019 Executive Team! Good luck to the 2019 ASD Executive Team and we are excited to see what you do this upcoming year!

Danielle Parker, ASD President 2018

ASD Executive Board		
Position	Current	New
<b>President</b>	Danielle Parker	Wayne Nichols
<b>Vice President of Programming</b>	Brandyn Holtzinger	Mary Rose Pedron
<b>Vice President of Professional Development</b>	Angela Delfine	Sarah Hallman
<b>Vice President of Communications</b>	Nina LaCombe	Paige Matzerath
<b>Vice President of Administration &amp; Finance</b>	Rob Leibel	Sarah Bernhardt

Programs held: ASD Kick-Off and Cohort Connect matching program, NASPA and ACPA Lunch & Learn, NODA Internship Lunch & Learn, Meadows Ice Cream Social, Dinner & Bowling Night, "Understanding the Sources of Law Shaping Student Affairs and Higher Education" with Dr. John Lowery, JDRG One Walk for the fight against Type 1 Diabetes, Financial Literacy with Dr. Amber Racchini, a Resume Workshop with guests from IUP's Career and Professional Development Center, and SAHE Thanksgiving.





The **SAHE Development Fund** – Supports the needs of the SAHE program that are not covered by funds from the University (e.g., student support for professional development activities, research support to students, Outstanding Scholar Award, Outstanding SAHE Alumni award). **(Acct # 4647)**

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## *A Note from the Editor*

Hello SPS/SAHE Alumni and friends!

It has been a pleasure creating this edition of the *Developments* newsletter. I have learned so much and grown significantly in my short time here. I would like to thank Kaitlyn Rajner, former editor, for leaving helpful tips and tricks in trying to fill her shoes.

I graduated from Frostburg State University (MD) with my Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Parks Management, Concentration in Community Program Delivery.

Being able to connect with our SPS/SAHE alumni, attend their presentations and see them earn awards has only helped me confirm that IUP SAHE was the place for me to continue my education. I look forward to hearing from you all as you continue to submit your Professional, Awards/Accomplishments, and Personal Updates. If you have any suggestions for ways to improve *Developments*, or if you would like to contribute an article next semester, please feel free to email me at [s.c.bernhardt@iup.edu](mailto:s.c.bernhardt@iup.edu).

Enjoy your Holiday Season!

Sarah Bernhardt ('20)  
Editor, *Developments* Newsletter

