

Indiana University of Pennsylvania's College of Education and Communications

## ECUCOMME 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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#### From the Dean

COEC Alumni and Friends,

What a year! The 2019-20 academic year brought challenges to our door step we could never have imagined. The 2019-20 College of Education and Communications Annual Report shares the remarkable achievements from "before" and "after" our pivot to teaching, learning, and working in entirely news ways. At record pace, we were pushed to think and innovate as we brought the academic year to a close, and began planning for 2020-21, and we rose to the challenge.

I dedicate this annual report to the College of Education and Communications leadership, faculty, and staff for their tireless work in ensuring that the health, safety, and learning of our students continued to be front and center as we shifted to a remote campus.

I hope you enjoy learning about our achievements this academic year. I appreciate your ongoing interest and support.

Lara Luetkehans

Jasa Quethekaur

Dean



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#### **FACULTY COLLABORATION BLENDS DANCE AND FILM**

The Department of Communications Media collaborated with the Department of Theatre, Dance, and Performance to create a short film based on the research of dance instructor, Joan Van Dyke. Directed by Communications Media faculty member Jeremy Waltman, the project revolves around the cast-based approach for the ballet *Ordnung*. Members of IUP's Student Film Association and graduate students in the Master of Science in Strategic Communication program assisted with the production, shot on location in Punxsutawney, PA. The project will be presented at the Fifteenth International Conference on the Arts in Society in Galway, Ireland, in summer 2020.



#### **DEDICATION OF SCIENCE CENTER**

Indiana University of Pennsylvania officially dedicated the Larry F. Sobotka Science Discovery and Outdoor Learning Center on October 18, 2019. Named in honor of Sobotka, a 1963 graduate of IUP, the center is located in the courtyard of Stouffer Hall. Sobotka donated \$150,000 in support of the Center and has designated IUP to receive a portion of his estate through an irrevocable testamentary pledge valued at upwards of \$1 million. He traveled from Florida to attend the dedication ceremony. IUP President Michael Driscoll; Lara Luetkehans, dean of the College of Education and Communications; and Heidi Higbee, a third-grade teacher at East Pike Elementary also spoke at the ceremony. The 7,150 square foot center is home to four areas dedicated to hands-on, outdoor environmental instruction and exploration. The outdoor learning space has been utilized by hundreds of students and children as a living-learning classroom since 2012. Teachers from Indiana Area School District's East Pike Elementary were guests at the dedication and described their experiences bringing students to the science discovery center. Local scout troops and garden clubs also use the space. IUP education majors utilize the center to develop hands-on lesson plans focused on environmental education; future educators are then given the invaluable opportunity to practice these plans with local elementary school students visiting the center. Center Director Meghan Twiest's goal in conceptualizing the center was to aid current teachers in visualizing a small space as a learning environment at their home schools. Each learning area was designed with specific purposes and concepts in mind such as the succession area, the touch and smell garden, animal tracks imprinted in the sidewalks, and an aquatic area with fish, frogs and plants. Sobotka's gift was given in support of Imagine Unlimited, a \$75-million comprehensive campaign, which currently has gifts totaling over \$62 million, which will enable the IUP community to reach a shared vision and step forward as a national leader.



From L to R: Lara Luetkehans, Dean, Meghan Twiest, Center Director, Larry Sobotka, Michael Driscoll, President

#### LOWERY NAMED PILLAR OF THE STUDENT AFFAIRS PROFESSION

John Wesley Lowery, professor and chair in the Student Affairs in Higher Education Department, was named a "Pillar of the Profession" for 2020 by NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.

With this award, the NASPA Foundation honors members of the association who have provided significant service through leadership, have created a lasting impact on their institution, and have demonstrated sustained, lifetime professional distinction in the field of student affairs and/or higher education.



John Wesley Lowery

#### **MUELLER PUBLISHES MONOGRAPH AND ARTICLE**

In January 2020, John Mueller, professor in the Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education, published a monograph entitled *Practice-to-Theory-to-Practice: A 35th Anniversary Re-Introduction* with the College Student Educators International (ACPA). The monograph offers a detailed description of the PTP model, its history, underlying principles, and application. Mueller also co-wrote an article for the Journal of College Student Development (JCSD) with colleagues Raechele Pope and Amy Reynolds. The article, "'A Change is Gonna Come": Embracing Paradigm Shifts to Dismantle Oppressive Structures" was featured by the JCSD in its 60th anniversary issue. Mueller's co-authored article builds on principles of multicultural organizational development and assists student affairs professionals in actualizing social justice values in



John Mueller

their work with students through teaching, practice, and scholarship.

#### **IUP RECEIVES GRANT FROM GOVERNOR WOLF**

The College of Education and Communications continues its long history of collaboration both at the university and community levels as a recipient of a \$71,569 award from Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf's administration. The grant's goal is to improve the quality of early childcare education in the commonwealth by enabling universities to design specific courses related to Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood Infant and Toddlers and Pre-Kindergarten; ECE subject matter focusing on infants and toddlers; and developing knowledge and skills for educating young children whose primary language is not English, are not part of the dominate culture, and children who have special needs or come from vulnerable populations. IUP is one of ten universities to receive an award as part of Pennsylvania's commitment to improve early childhood education. The grant is the product of a partnership between the Office of Child Development and Early Learning in the state Department of Human Services and the PA Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary and Higher Education.

Faculty from the COEC, in partnership with faculty from the College of Health and Human Services, sought this funding with a goal of developing initiatives to increase the number of highly skilled professionals in the field of early childhood education. Tricia Shelton, faculty member in the Department of Professional Studies in Education, served as one of the primary investigators on the grant. Specific goals of the initiative include developing infant-toddler and preschool certificates, investigating pathways for nontraditional students to return to school for certification, and collaborating with community partners to prepare IUP faculty to advise and instruct students seeking certification.



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#### COUNSELING PROGRAMS MAINTAIN ACCREDITATION, DEPARTMENT WINS AWARD

Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Clinical Mental Health Counseling master's degree program and the IUP School Counseling MEd degree

program have been awarded accreditation through October 2024 from the National Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

Accreditation is designed to provide recognition that the content and quality of a program has been evaluated and meet the set standards of the profession, requiring extensive documentation and site visits. It also assures prospective students that the program offers instruction in the proper knowledge and skill areas and is financially and professionally stable.

Earlier in the academic year, the Department of Counseling was selected for the 2019 PCA Outstanding Counselor Education Program Award, presented to a chosen outstanding professional counseling program in Pennsylvania.

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#### **IUP TRANSFORMED ME: JONNEÉ TONSEL**

Jonneé Tonsel, Communications Media '09, came to IUP with big dreams. Those dreams, coupled with her education, led her to New York City after graduation, where she now works as an executive at Comedy Central. As Director of Project Management for off-air brand creative at Comedy Central, a fast-paced and constantly evolving role, her time is spent doing anything from helping with managing and coordinating photoshoots to producing deliverables for outdoor campaigns. Tonsel remarks that IUP transformed her by showing her what she was capable of and providing her with everything she needed to push herself.



Jonneé Tonsel



#### **STUDENT TEACHING IN THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS**

Student teaching has always been an exciting and challenging experience for teacher candidates. Education majors gain real world experience in their field while teaching in many host school districts. The onset of the pandemic forced IUP's teacher candidates to quickly pivot from face-to-face instruction to distance education. IUP students worked closely with their cooperating teachers to provide students with alternative instructional plans. It was a unique and



Miranda Uhrig

unexpected opportunity for teacher candidates to partner with experienced educators to provide quality learning opportunities for students in host schools while also expanding their own skillsets. IUP teacher candidates rose to the occasion, handling this unprecedented situation with aplomb.

IUP students, Miranda Uhrig, Megan Caton, Gina Baldoni, and Anne Hennessey gained experience in distance education while student teaching in the local community at Indiana Area School District. Ms. Uhrig and Ms. Hennessey taught at East Pike Elementary School, while Ms. Caton and Ms. Baldoni instructed at Ben Franklin Elementary School.

Ms. Uhrig was featured on WGAL News in Susquehanna, PA, to discuss the obstacles she faced teaching during the pandemic. When Governor Tom Wolf announced the closure of schools due to COVID-19 Uhrig and other student teachers were concerned about what effect it might have on the completion of their degrees, as student teaching is a requirement in Pennsylvania. Having spent the first seven weeks of her spring semester as a learning support student teacher at Indiana Area School District's middle school, public schools across the state were closed the very day that Uhrig was set to begin her second placement in Jason Stubbe's classroom at East Pike Elementary School. Uhrig worked diligently to plan a wide range of educational experiences for her students, everything from math lessons to virtual field trips. Uhrig intends to apply the skills she honed while overcoming obstacles created by the COVID-19 pandemic in her future career as an educator.



Pictured L to R: Gina Baldoni, Megan Caton, Miranda Uhrig and Anne Hennessey

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#### **FROM KENYA TO IUP**

Mercy Wairimu Muguimi and her family came to Indiana, PA from their home in Nairobi, Kenya in 2018 for Muguimi to begin studies in IUP's Speech-Language Pathology master's program. Muguimi completed her undergraduate degree in education in Kenya and taught high school English there. When the younger of her two daughters experienced speech delays, Muguimi discovered a lack of effective and affordable services for children with special needs in their community. This drove her to pursue a career in speech language pathology to help others in Kenya. "I wanted more for my daughter, but I also wanted more for my country," she said. "I decided to pursue a degree in speech language pathology and bring my knowledge back to my home country to be able to help others."



Mercy Wairimu Muguimi

Her search for a program led her to IUP. She chose IUP "because of the immediate and helpful responses," she received from staff and faculty during her search. Muguimi faced challenges as she transitioned into a more scientific field and adjusted to the differences from the academic culture in Kenya. She received help from her academic advisor, Lisa Price, and others to learn new study strategies and ultimately succeed.

Muguimi and her daughter are both thriving. Muguimi was selected by Quota International Indiana, Pa. Inc. as the recipient its 2019 Gold Scholarship, designed to assist women pursuing new careers. Her daughter has already started to make progress through the programs offered by the IUP Speech and Hearing Clinic and the Indiana Area School District. Muguimi is one of only four students from Kenya to attend IUP during the fall 2019 semester; she will continue her graduate studies on campus for the next year before going on to a clinical fellowship. Upon completion of the program, she plans to return to Kenya to work as a speech pathologist and possibly pursue a doctorate in the field.



#### **BEST BUDDIES**

The IUP student organization, Best Buddies, won both the College Chapter of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Best Buddies organization and the Inclusion & Advocacy Award from the IUP Center for Multicultural Student Leadership and Engagement. Best Buddies' mission is "to enhance the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities of one-to-one friendship and integrated employment." Student volunteers are matched with individuals with intellectual disabilities to foster mutually enriching friendships. The organization is open to all registered undergraduate and graduate students in good academic standing at IUP. Best Buddies members strive to offer activities that are both personally and professionally beneficial for all involved. Students interested in joining Best Buddies must attend an informational meeting and meet and greet event held at the beginning of each academic year. Members must also complete an application through bestbuddiesonline.org, where additional information about the organization can be found.







#### **DOMITROVICH PRESENTS MENTORING RESEARCH**

Domitrovich, doctoral candidate Josh in the Administration and Leadership Studies program, presented (ALS) his research paper "Creating a Mentoring Program: Using Gamification to Increase Students' Career Readiness and Graduation Outcomes" at the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) conference. The article analyzes Clarion University's successful development and implementation of a student-to-alumni mentoring program, and the subsequent positive effects of this program on student and alumni engagement, faculty collaboration, and student career outcomes. The NACE Journal accepted Domitrovich's paper for publication in February. His paper can be found on the journal's website at: https://www.naceweb.



Josh Domitrovich

org/career-development/best-practices/creating-a-mentoring-program-using-gamification-to-increase-students-career-readiness-and-graduation-outcomes/.

#### **ZAKY PUBLISHES PAPER ON LEARNING**

Hany Zaky, doctoral candidate in the Curriculum and Instruction program, published a paper with Cogent OA, part of the Taylor & Francis Group, titled "Infield Education: Enhancing Adult Learners' Affective Domain for Transformative Learning Endorsement" in November 2019. The paper details how Experiential Learning develops transferrable skills and is a required approach in curricula, as well as how vital the approach of Infield Learning Education is in the field of adult education. Zaky's paper can be found at: https://www.tandfonline. com/doi/full/10.1080/2331186X.2019.1693679.



Hany Zaky

#### **DORSEY SHOOTS FOR THE STARS**

In February 2020, IUP Communications Media student Autumn Dorsey photographed the National Basketball Association's All-Star Game in Chicago. Dorsey had the opportunity to connect with and photograph former players, such as Shaquille O'Neal and Dwight Howard, and other celebrities such as Kanye West and Kardashian. Through professional Kim networking with the Washington Wizards' photographer, Ned Dishman, Dorsey was invited to photograph the All-Star Game after Dishman shared her portfolio with league executives. She credits IUP's Communications Media faculty and photography professor Rachel Fox with teaching her skills to enhance her work. Check out impressive examples of Dorsey's work from this star-studded event below and on the following page.



Autumn Dorsey





#### **PHOTOGRAPHY BY DORSEY:**

- 1 Shaquille O'Neal and Dwayne Wade announcing a contestant winner
- 2 Kanye West and Kim Kardashian entering the arena together
- 3 Aaron Gordon in action performing during the Slam Dunk Contest
- 4 Russell Westbrook entering one of the contests of the night
- 5 Lebron James waiting for the next event to begin

#### FULBRIGHT EXPERIENCE THROUGHOUT STAY-AT-HOME ORDER

Shermy Motlhabane, a teacher from Botswana, was one of sixteen international educators selected to participate in the 2019 – 2020 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program (Fulbright DAI). The program is sponsored and administered annually by the US Department of State. Program participants were International Teachers from eleven countries including Greece, India, Indonesia, and Morocco. This was the fifth year that IUP has hosted the program, having hosted a total of eighty-four international educators since spring 2016. Due to the unprecedented circumstances created by COVID-19, Motlhabane and the rest of the 2020 cohort had an experience unlike any other.

Primary and secondary educators traveled to the United States for a five month immersive educational experience, where they completed individual or group projects, took courses for professional development, and shared their expertise with U.S. colleagues. Prior to the onset of COVID-19, the international educators spent every Monday in seminar, a time dedicated to reflecting on the past and upcoming week over lunch with COEC Dean Lara Luetkehans and Associate Vice President of International Education and Global Engagement Michele Petrucci. The scholars were required to complete an inquiry project focused on the development of classroom materials, workshops, or other resources designed to meet an educational need in their home countries. Once a week, Motlhabane traveled to Indiana Senior High School to work on her inquiry project, which focused on how to effectively teach reading to high school students who are struggling to learn English, with the ultimate goal

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of using reading methodologies to aid her at-risk students. Although her native language is Setswana, Motlhabane has been teaching English for 21 years.

The international educators were poised to work in both a rural (Indiana Area School District) and urban setting (Brashear High School in the Pittsburgh Public School District), as well as in career and technical centers and the ARIN Intermediate Unit in addition to their coursework at IUP, when the COVID-19 pandemic hit Pennsylvania. Though the pandemic prevented the scholars from their intended experience at Brashear High School in Pittsburgh, they were still able to collaborate with their partner teachers virtually. As the program and its participants navigated new challenges presented by the pandemic, they received support and guidance from Dr. Luetkehans and Dr. Petrucci, co-authors of the Fulbright DAI grant, in order to feel at home and to complete the goals of the program.

While many of the sixteen Fulbright scholars returned to their countries as stay-at-home orders began, Motlhabane, along with seven others, chose to complete the experience at IUP even as it transitioned into a virtual setting. This was a stressful time for some Fulbright DAI scholars as they continued to reside on IUP's campus during the pandemic. Dr. Luetkehans and Dr. Petrucci worked closely with the group to address any needs they had and provide support until the FDAI scholars were able to return to their home countries by mid summer.



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#### FROM FACE-TO-FACE TO ONLINE DELIVERY

No one could have predicted the jarring interruption to the spring 2020 semester caused by a worldwide pandemic. In March 2020, with little notice IUP was forced to transition from mostly face-to-face delivery of courses to 100% online delivery of educational instruction. It was a daunting proposition to say the least. Students and faculty were unable to return to campus after spring break and were instead facing the prospect of completing the semester online. The College of Education and Communications met this challenge head on and played a key role in IUP's response to the academic challenges created by COVID-19; the goal – deliver quality instruction virtually (and quickly) that would allow students to move forward with their coursework or achieve on-time degree completion.

The first and most pressing objective was the successful completion of the current semester—a staggering feat considering that there was only one week to plan, prepare, and transition to a virtual format. Dr. Holly Rougeaux, Assistant Dean for Educational Effectiveness and Innovations, and her team of instructional designers, Nancy Evans and Brian Carothers, worked tirelessly to support faculty in this transition. With widely varying levels of online delivery experience, the faculty were supported and mentored through the arduous task of converting their face-to-face lesson plans into effective virtual pedagogy. As Assistant Dean Rougeaux put it, "Within one week's time, the instructional designers in partnership with the Center for Teaching Excellence put forth numerous sessions for all faculty. We had to connect with everyone from instructional designers to the IT department. There was a lot of IT support where they had to rapidly turn around devices, potentially offer hotspots to students, and had



to build systems and place new ones in for help. When you're the front user you don't necessarily see that, but that's incredibly challenging". Her team of instructional designers and specialists have spent an incredible amount of time, energy, and expertise to guide the college and support IUP through the immediate academic challenges presented by COVID-19. The university's mantra of "students first" was the impetus for staff and faculty's herculean efforts.



Meeting the immediate needs of the spring semester was not the end of IUP's efforts to reimagine and reshape curriculum and its delivery. IUP's administration recognized the need for increased professional development for faculty and staff. Under their leadership and with a strong commitment of budget and resources the Summer Academy was created. The academy was a two week virtual professional development program for faculty and staff. Its intent was to provide participants with the skills necessary to implement best-practices in development and facilitation of coursework, while embracing the student perspective in coursework development. The academy was in such demand that an "Academy Express" was created where academy sessions were made available for viewing by more faculty and staff. The academy was created and facilitated through a partnership between the College of Education and Communications and the Center for Teaching Excellence. It was supported by faculty and staff across multiple divisions and offices on campus, including the Division of Enrollment Management, School of Graduate Studies and Research, Office of Human Resources, Division of Student Affairs, and IT Services.

For the fall 2020 semester, IUP plans to utilize the Hy-flex model in which a portion of students will attend face-to-face while the remainder of the class attends via Zoom. Dr. Jacqueline McGinty, Assistant Professor and Coordinator for the Instructional Design and Technology graduate program, helped to develop this model with the team over the summer. Dr. McGinty is certain that after this pandemic subsides, the professional development IUP has implemented in the face of COVID-19 will continue to improve future instruction and its delivery. Dr. McGinty remarked that, "We are going to see more changes and hope many people will promote the changes with having more empathy with people, to getting more inspiration as faculty and mentors. With a lot of us being shut into our homes and being restricted, [it] made us look at what our purpose is and what we bring to not only our professions and jobs, but what we bring to each other." Carrie Bishop, a distance learning librarian, who was involved in the first cohort of the Summer Academy, adds, "I was so impressed with the attitude of the faculty involved as they were looking at it as an opportunity to honestly assess what happened in their courses in the spring and say, 'Yeah, this worked' or 'This did not work, and I was unhappy

with the result and I want to change it'. This is tough and was an honest assessment, and so many faculty were willing to do this." While it is impossible to predict what the future holds, it is almost certain that the spirit of collaboration, innovative thinking, and grit in the face of adversity shown across the IUP community will shape that future.



#### **ACCUTE CARE SIMULATION LAB**

In 2017, speech-language pathology faculty members Erin Clark and Lori Lombard were awarded internal grant funding to build an acute care simulation lab for graduate training in speechlanguage pathology that helps students meet their medical competencies. The lab recently acquired a larger space and is hoping to expand into a fourbed, four Manikin facility to serve more students.



IUP is leading the speech-language pathology discipline with this innovative approach to simulation training. Mrs. Clark and Dr. Lombard have presented their work at state and national conferences. The duo recently wrote an article that was accepted for publication describing the evidence-based approach to the development of the lab and training protocol. Reviewers for the journal commended the work as "innovative" and called the article a "must-read for every accredited graduate program in speech-language pathology."

During the pandemic, the IUP Speech-Language & Hearing Clinic made rapid adjustments to clinical services and clinical training using telehealth, digital case-based learning modules, and acute care simulation training via Zoom. Students were able to utilize digital technology to meet clinical clock hour requirements and achieve on-time degree completion.



#### **MIGYANKA COLLABORATES ON POINT-OF-CARE TOOL**

Joann Migyanka, professor in the Department of Communication Disorders, Special Education, and Disability Services, collaborated in the development of a bedside point-of-care tool for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) as a member of the Emergency Medicine Practice Committee of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). ACEP's point-of care tools are transforming bedside care through evidence-based, clinical content that ensures clinicians provide the best care possible to their patients in the emergency Medicine Practice Committee in September 2019 and reviewed by the ACEP Board of Directors the following month. The bedside point-of-care tool aids clinicians caring for ASD patients by providing information about ASD, suggestions for interaction, common medical and psychiatric conditions, and tips for managing agitation.

Autism Spectrum Disorder	0
Developmental disability Autism Spectrum Disorder	
Autism Spectrum Disorder Signs and symptoms that may be evident	
signs and symptoms that may be evident	
Interacting with ASD Patients for History & Physical	
Approaching the patient	
Gathering history	
Examining the patient	1055 J
Psychiatric	
Medical	
References	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
Managing Agitation	
Identify the underlying cause	
Behavioral approaches	
Pharmacologic Intervention	
Algorithm	
References	
Learn More about ASD	
Recommended websites	
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	
ASD: Developed by members of the Emergency Medicine Produce Committee, September 2019 Reviewed by the ACEP Board of Directory, Oddoer 2019	Joann Migy
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#### CREATING POSITIVE EXPERIENCES FOR PATIENTS WITH AUTISM

Joann Migyanka, professor and Special Education faculty member at IUP, partnered with emergency physician Dr. Arvind Venkat, of Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, to develop a training for their personnel to see how an individual with autism might react in an emergency department.

The development of this training led to the creation of a bedside app that is to be utilized as a training tool for emergency physicians. This tool is to be put out through the American College of Emergency Physicians.



While the app is designed to aid physicians in communicating with patients with autism, the suggestions provided work with any patient in a heightened or anxious state. This specially designed program for first responders and emergency personnel helps patients with autism to have better experiences while in the emergency department.



#### **GUTH TEACHES IN TURKEY**

The College of Education and Communications worked with the IUP Office of International Education to coordinate the teacher exchange of Dr. Lorraine Guth, professor in the Department of Counseling, to allow her to teach in Turkey. Dr. Guth has been a professor for over two decades. Guth has taken a strong interest in international counseling outreach efforts, having previously taught and researched in Bhutan and Malawi.

The Middle Eastern Technical University (METU) in Ankara, Turkey welcomed her expertise and eagerness to teach aboard in their program in the Department of Educational Sciences. While there, she held workshops for students focusing on "Wellness and Self-Care Strategies" and "Ten Strategies to Intentionally use Group Work to Transform Hate, Facilitate Courageous Conversations, and Enhance Community Building." Dr. Guth has stated that her experience



Dr. Lorraine Guth in Turkey

at METU was life-changing and looks forward to sharing her experiences with her students.

#### **GUTH RECEIVES AWARD IN PUERTO RICO**

Dr. Guth recently received the ASGW Presidential Award for her outstanding service to the Pennsylvania Association for Specialists in Group Work (PASGW). She is currently serving as the process observer on the ASGW Executive Board and serves as co-chair for the Special Initiatives Committee. Guth received this award as the ASGW National Conference in Dorado, Puerto Rico held in January 2020. Images of Dr. Guth and Department of Counseling faculty members who provided service in Puerto Rico can be seen below. They were accompanied by doctoral students Heather Uphold and Ashley Coombs.



#### McCARTHY PUBLISHES ARTICLE ON T-SHAPED THINKING IN COUNSELING

John McCarthy, professor in the Department of Counseling, published an article in Counseling Today Online detailing the advantages of utilizing creativity in the counseling profession. In his article, "Encouraging T-shaped Thinking in the Counseling Profession," McCarthy explores the importance of having a broad knowledge base outside of the counseling field. "The T-shape idea entails a person knowing a great deal about a specific discipline and having a breadth of knowledge in other fields. It is not a matter of being an expert in only one area, represented by the vertical line in the T, but also being able to draw from other arenas, as represented by the horizonal line," McCarthy explained. Counseling professionals who are T-shape thinkers can utilize their broad knowledge base to creatively solve



John McCarthy

problems and drive innovation. "Developing cross-disciplinary tentacles can aid our future. T-shaped counselors and a T-shaped profession can broaden our scope, charge innovative ideas, emphasize wellness and deepen counseling's visibility," he posited. Dr. McCarthy's article can be found at https://ct.counseling.org/2020/05/encouraging-t-shaped-thinkingin-the-counseling-profession/

#### **ADOPT A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR CAMPAIGN**

The COVID-19 pandemic caused many high school graduations, proms, and other traditional year-end events to be canceled. IUP Alumni Brian Oglesby '95, of the Pre-Law Track empathized with the disappointment these cancellations caused for seniors. He decided to participate in the "Adopt a High School Senior" campaign that had been launched in the Philadelphia area on Facebook. Students that join the campaign are connected with mentors and may receive scholarships raised through the Facebook initiative. Samaj Schell was "adopted" by Oglesby. Schell plans to attend IUP and will be a student in the College of Education and Communications. "I was looking for a student that was planning on attending my alma mater and found



Samaj Schell

Samaj. All the hard work from graduating seniors deserves to be recognized. This Facebook group gives us the chance to create relationships and be a mentor," Oglesby explained. The student and mentor duo were featured in a Good Morning America segment about the Adopt a High School Senior campaign. Both expressed appreciation for the campaign and the connections it has created.

#### COEC AND SHANNOCK VALLEY ELEMENTARY COLLABORATE ON BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Faculty in the COEC frequently strive to collaborate with and engage the surrounding community in mutually beneficial endeavors. In February 2020, a local educator reached out to the college to partner in celebrating Black History Month. Dr. Shirley Johnson in the Professional Studies in Education Department responded enthusiastically to a request from first grade teacher Stacy Caves. Ms. Caves was seeking an engaging and positive experience for students at Shannock Valley Elementary School in Rural Valley, PA to celebrate and participate in Black History Month. Ms. Caves and Shannock Valley principal, Dr. Jack Giancola, planned a special multicultural event, inviting eight IUP students, including three Fulbright scholars from Africa, and Dr. Johnson to be guest readers on February 20, 2020. Their intention was to create an opportunity for primary grade teachers to model acceptance and encourage positive interaction among diverse groups. Ms. Caves explained that she was inspired by the example set by Fred Rogers on his television program, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. She created lesson plans that followed his method of modeling positive behavior. Dr. Johnson helped select books either written by authors of color or related to the topic of multiculturalism to read and discuss with the students. "The children enjoyed having a guest reader, while simultaneously benefiting from a multicultural experience," Caves said of the event. All participants are interested in making this an annual tradition at SVE each February.



#### **MUCHTAR ADAPTS TO VIRTUAL TEACHING**

Dr. Nurhaya (Aya) Muchtar, associate professor in the Department of Communications Media, has taught the Multimedia News Production Course for many years. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic Muchtar had to rapidly adapt her traditionally hands-on curriculum into a remote learning format. Instead of utilizing the IUP-TV production studio to produce a standard 30 minute news bulletin to air on IUP-TV, Muchtar grouped students into teams of two to produce shorter segments utilizing Zoom. These segments mirrored the "new normal" for news delivery being adopted by major networks, and were created to work with a variety of media platforms such as Instagram and YouTube. Dr. Muchtar prides her students on their exceptional performance and adaptability, despite the sudden and instantaneous switch to remote learning.



Dr. Nurhaya (Aya) Muchtar





Members of Muchtar's multimedia news production course wave to the camera for a photo during their zoom class.

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#### **RUNGE AND KOVALESKI SPEAK AT WEBINAR**

IUP Department of Educational and School Psychology Chair Timothy Runge and Professor emeritus Joe Kovaleski were invited to speak in a webinar hosted by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) focused on supporting K-12 students through COVID-19. The webinar, titled "The Pandemic's Impact on Academic Instruction and Student Progress," offered insight as to how school psychologists can help students catch up academically. The presentation's approach was multi-faceted, including tips for teachers and parents too. Kovaleski and Runge addressed the fact that during the 2020-2021 academic year many teachers would be filling in learning gaps from the previous year. Additionally, the webinar outlined strategies that parents could employ to support their children and help prevent them from falling behind.

Kovaleski and Runge advised educators to be cognizant of the heightened effect of socioeconomic status on learning during the pandemic. "We will really have differences in what kids have gone through during the break based on socioeconomic status. I heard a story the other day about a high school student that was late with a paper because she was writing her paper in the parking lot of Starbucks with her iPhone. Very different scenario than our picture of a child who's at home, with good bandwidth, online, with a nice computer," noted Kovaleski. Both professors stressed the importance of collaboration amongst school personnel in support of student success and advocated for a strong focus on reinforcing basic skills. Above all, they implored all involved to foster open communication during this "new normal." "There are new ways of communication. Students and their parents need to maintain open communication with the teacher," Runge noted. For those who wish to view the webinar, the video can be found on the NASP website at: https://www.nasponline.org/ resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/covid-19-resource-center/webinar-series/the-pandemics-impact-on-academic-instruction-and-student-progress.



Professor Timothy Runge



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Professor Emeritus Joe Kovaleski

#### **COPPLER DISABILITY AWARENESS AWARD**

Emily Eckerd, an undergraduate special education major, received the 10th annual Ray Coppler Disability Awareness Award during the Delta Alpha Pi International Honor Society's spring ceremony. Having only been an IUP student for less than a year following her transfer from another State System university, Eckerd has already made significant strides in advocating for the inclusion of students with disabilities. Within months of her first semester, Eckerd was asked to run for Student Government Association (SGA) as the disability support services senator and dove into the task of making IUP a more equitable and accessible environment. She began working on a "Disability Simulations" project, highlighting the importance of the services provided by the IUP Department for Disability Access and Advising. She also



contacted alumni who had previously received disability services to share their stories as a means of disability representation and connected with University Police to design training to help officers properly interact with students with disabilities. Additionally, Eckerd met with Catherine Dugan, director of the Department for Disability Access and Advising, to create regular dialogue and a gateway for students receiving disability services to have their voices heard through SGA representation. The pandemic has not halted Eckerd's efforts, instead she has utilized technology to adapt and enhance her advocacy work. Since the onset of COVID-19, she has created an informative video to provide facts about autism and services available to IUP students for Autism Awareness Month, collaborated with Miss Greater Juniata Valley to create a podcast series on disability-related topics, and written an informational blog to help non-disabled individuals better understand the point of view of someone with a disability.

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#### **WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Jillian Black, an early childhood/special education major, won the 2020 Women's Leadership Award for the sophomore class. IUP's Women's Leadership Award has recognized women for their outstanding leadership, service, academic excellence, and community contributions both on and off campus since 1986. Black serves as an undergraduate admissions recruiter for the COEC and is active on campus as a member of Best Buddies, the Special Olympics Club, Kappa Delta Pi, the Council for Exceptional Children, and more.



Jillian Black

#### ANKRUM PUBLISHES ONLINE ARTICLE

Julie Ankrum, professor in the Department of Professional Studies in Education, worked with colleagues from other universities to publish an online article titled "Documenting Adaptive Literacy Instruction: The Adaptive Teaching Observation Protocol (ATOP)" in Reading Psychology. Ankrum and her fellow researchers created an observation protocol, the Adaptive Teaching Observation Protocol, for instructional adaptations made by literacy teachers.

# Julie Ankrum

#### **RIEG SELECTED AS CLINICAL PRACTICE** FELLOW

Sue Rieg, dean's associate for educator preparation in the College of Education and Communications, was selected as a clinical practice fellow with the Association of Teacher Education (ATE) in 2020. Her exceptional work in and out of the classroom was the basis for her selection. Rieg attended the ATE symposium to receive this honor.

#### SHIELDS WINS INCLUSIVE PROFESSOR AWARD

Mariha Shields, professor in the Department of Communication Disorders, Special Education, and Disability Services, received Inclusive Professor Award from the IUP Center for Teaching Excellence on December 3, 2019. This award is given to a professor who has gone above and beyond in creating an inclusive and accessible environment.

#### **SHELTON RECEIVES AWARDS**

Dr. Tricia Shelton, professor in the Department of Professional Studies in Education, received two major awards in the last academic year. The first was presented by The Pittsburgh Courier, who named Shelton part of their Class of 2019 Women of Excellence. Additionally, Shelton received the PEAL Art of Inclusion Award from the Parent Education & Advocacy Leadership Center for her active promotion of inclusive education for all.

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Sue Rieg



Mariha Shields

#### **RESEARCH AWARD WINNERS**

College of Education and Communications' Sue Rieg, Mariha Shields, Tricia Shelton, and Rachel Schiera were selected for the School of Graduate Studies and the IUP Research Institute's 2020 Research awards.

Rieg, Dean's associate for Educator Preparation, was selected for the Deans' Award for Outstanding Research. Shields, Professor in the Department of Communication Disorders, Special Education, and Disability Services; Shelton, Professor in the Department of Professional Studies in Education; and Schiera, Teaching Associate in the Department of Professional Studies in Education, were all selected for the Primary Investigator Mentorship Academy (PIMA) Award. These awards are given annually to recognize outstanding research and scholarship.



Sue Rieg



Mariha Shields



Tricia Shelton



Rachel Schiera

For the 19-20 academic year, we awarded 120 incoming and continuing students a total of \$151,847.34 in scholarships أنبوا المواجع والمعبد المواجع لمحموا المواجع لمحموا بمنيتها المتحرة لمحموا لمتعاد المعاد أمتواجع المحموا المحموا

#### **KOVALESKI SCHOLARSHIP**

Joseph Kovaleski and Susan Verano Kovaleski, of Indiana, have established the Dr. Joseph F. and Susan Verano Kovaleski Scholarship at IUP. Joseph Kovaleski recently retired from a faculty position in the Department of Educational and School Psychology. He served with the department for 14 years as a professor and was also the doctoral director. Susan Kovaleski also served in the field of education, having recently retired from her work as an English as a Second Language teacher for the Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit. Both formerly of Northumberland County, the couple established the scholarship to benefit Northumberland County students who are pursuing a degree in education or an education-related field and are enrolled in IUP's College of Education and Communications. Preference will be given to students who have a minimum grade point average of 3.0. The scholarship is open to both new students entering IUP and ongoing IUP students who meet the criteria. In establishing the scholarship, the



Joseph and Susan Kovaleski

Kovaleskis expressed a desire to help lower-income families access better life opportunities, believing that education is the best solution for meeting and overcoming the challenges of poverty. "As educators ourselves, we are committed to supporting the development of effective, research-based teachers. We also want to give back to where we were raised, which in recent years have faced growing economic difficulties," the couple said. This donation is part of IUP's Imagine Unlimited \$75 million comprehensive campaign, which currently has gifts totaling more than \$55 million.

The Kovaleski scholarship was awarded for the first time to Kennedy Dorman, majoring in Disability Services, in the amount of \$760.00.



#### **OUR FUTURE IS BUILT BY YOU**

Your investment in IUP benefits both our students and our university in a number of ways, including providing scholarships, funding capital improvements, and creating program enhancements. You can also support a hybrid of all three of these initiatives by donating to the Dean's Innovation Fund. Our students need and greatly appreciate the support they receive from friends and donors to our college. If you would like to invest in IUP's future and our students, please reach out to our Director of Development and Planned Giving, Dave Maudie, at dmaudie@iup.edu or 724-357-2243 or 573-382-6512 (cell).

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#### **ADVANCEMENT COUNCIL**



DR. KEVIN BAILEY '86



**MEGAN BAKER '96** 



**BONNIE BROSE '67** 



DONNA GRIFFITH '74



JOSEPH KOVALESKI



SUZANNE LEWIS '71



MARY LOU LEIPHEIMER





SUSAN STONEBRAKER '68

PATRICK MAZANEK '74



PATRICIA MAZANEK '73



WILLIAM SCHEEREN '68



JUDY SCHEEREN

NOT PICTURED ABOVE: RABBI BARBARA AIELLO, GLENDA RILEY-CHILDS



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## **IUP IMPACT AWARDS**

The College of Education and Communications IMPACT Awards recognize COEC alumni for their outstanding achievement in their profession, their engagement with IUP, and/or their leadership in their discipline or community. The IMPACT Award serves to inspire current students. It is a symbol of the respect held by the College of Education and Communications for these celebrated alumni and friends. Below are the 2020 IMPACT Award winners.



Palmaan Darenkamp Center for Career and Technical Personnel Preparation



Scott Pitts Communications Media



Henry Lewis III Student Affairs in Higher Education



Matthew Curci Professional Studies in Education



Laura Crothers Educational and School Psychology



Erin Clark Communication Disorders, Special Education, and Disability Services

### **COLLEGE AWARDS**



SUSAN SIBERT Teacher Scholar Award



DAVID LILLENSTEIN Alumni Scholar Award



JENNA HENNESSEY Faculty Leader Award



JULIE ANKRUM Faculty Research Award



SUE RIEG Outstanding Faculty Researcher



DANA ELMQUIST Student Research Award



DANIEL REICHARD '12 Young Alumni Achievement Award



TRACY BUTLER '85 Distinguished Alumni Award

Prepare to Enter a Growing Field

> Gain the Knowledge and Credentials inside Digital Learning Environments

Blended Format to Fit Your Busy Schedule

MORE INFORMATION:

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Dr. Jacqueline McGinty jmcginty@iup.edu 724-357-2400

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## TUDD

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