

A NEW YEAR: A NEW DECADE



“The College is constantly changing and evolving to reflect the interests and needs of our students.”

*Dean  
Johanna Adams, Ed.D.*

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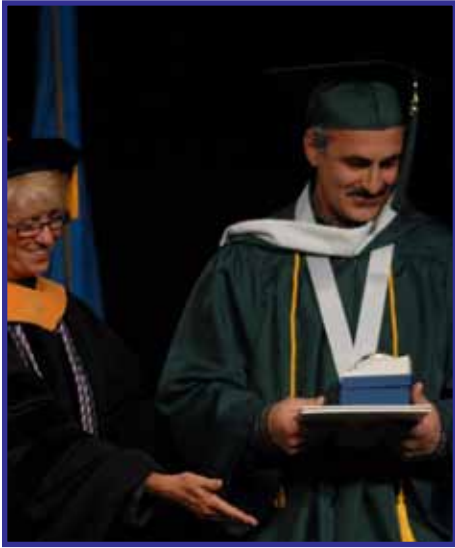
It's a new decade as well as a new year. It has been a year since the first newsletter was written by the General Studies Division faculty. I am sure much has changed in your life since last year just as it has in ours! I would like to tell you some things that are new since our last newsletter.

Firstly, the General Studies Division is now the College of Arts and Sciences. In addition to a name change that more closely reflects our goals and offerings, we have had a number of personnel changes. We have two new faculty members in the College: Katherine Cottle, Assistant Professor and English/Literature Coordinator and Matthew Wilson, Assistant Professor and Humanities Coordinator. Professor John Szczechowski, EdD retired last year after more than 20 years of teaching at Wilmington University. Dr. Szczechowski is continuing to teach for the College of Arts and Sciences as an Adjunct Instructor. Nicole Karam is our new Administrative Assistant who started working for the College last March. Darrin Raetsch is now working for Intuitional Research as a Data Specialist.

Secondly, we have had some changes in curriculum and course offerings. The Government and Public Policy program is now being offered in the hybrid format here in New Castle. A new humanities elective, HUM 302: Introduction to the World of Wines, is being offered as an experimental course this spring semester. It has been tremendously successful. Another new humanities elective, HUM 315: The Green Revolution: History of the Environmental Movement in America, will be offered this summer. This course will delve into the people and events that have shaped America's view of the environment.

The College is constantly changing and evolving to reflect the interests and needs of our students. I hope this newsletter will give you valuable information that you can use and share with other students. We look forward to seeing you in your Arts and Sciences classes!

## HATS OFF TO YOU, JIM!



When Dr. Betty Caffo announced his name at this January's commencement ceremony as the recipient of the President's Award, Jim Cregan couldn't believe his ears. It is that humble spirit, along with his great character and personal integrity, that made Jim a wonderful choice for this honor. The President's Award for Leadership is awarded to a graduating senior for outstanding leadership and dedication to the philosophy and mission of Wilmington University. When faculty members consider students for this award, they look for students who demonstrate leadership in the classroom and/or community, along with a willingness to promote the mission of Wilmington University. We certainly did not have to look long to find these qualities in Jim Cregan.

Jim enlisted in the Air Force in 1985 and served for 20 years as a utilities systems specialist in the field of civil engineering. In this capacity, he was stationed in Germany, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Japan, California, Maryland, and Delaware. He retired in 2005, and his military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force

Commendation Medal with four bronze oak leaf clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with

**"Jim has truly put more into the college experience than most"**

a bronze star, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. He currently is employed at Dover Air Force Base as a civil servant in charge of the base water utility operations.

Jim has been active in his community as a coach and mentor. As an election committee member, he contributed to the successful election of a local state representative. He is also a board member of his neighborhood homeowner's association, and he participates in organizing neighborhood social activities such as 4th of July parades and family picnics. He especially enjoys spending time with his family. Jim and his wife Margaret have two children: Jessica and Colin.

Jim had a wealth of experience that he brought to the classroom from 20 years of exemplary military service, along with being a loyal husband, devoted father, community volunteer, and a civil service employee. Jim's story perfectly illustrates the purpose of Wilmington University: he is a consummate professional who seeks lifelong learning and maintains a humble spirit throughout.

While Jim came to the college level with many years of valuable experience, he approached each and every class with great humility and an eagerness to learn. Always gracious, always willing to listen and further his level of understanding, and always willing to help fellow

classmates, Jim has truly put more into the college experience than most, and, as a result, he feels he has received much more out of this Bachelor's degree in General Studies than anticipated. Jim has earned the respect of the faculty, staff, and students at the Dover and DAFB sites by simply being true to himself—humble, modest, and reflecting the type of character that we would all hope to have, but often fall short of having.

It is my hope that we take a moment to congratulate Jim, but also pause to consider ourselves. When others look at us, do they see such virtues displayed in our lives? I don't know about you, but this student's life example taught me a great lesson in humility - the student has become the teacher. Students like Jim provide great motivation for our faculty to keep doing what we do. Hats off to you, Jim!

—*Niecy LeBright*

*Assistant Professor and General Studies  
Program Coordinator, Dover site*



## THE GREEN REVOLUTION - HISTORY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT IN AMERICA



Do you have any free time this summer? Are you interested in environmental issues? Would you like to know more? If so, make sure to sign up for a new course being offered by the College of Arts and Sciences, HIS 315: "The Green Revolution – History of the Environmental Movement in America."

From the early preservation efforts of naturalist and Sierra Club Founder John Muir, whose work led to the creation of many of our most beloved national parks, to Vice President and environmentalist Al Gore, whose film "An Inconvenient Truth" brought the issue of global climate change to the forefront of our national consciousness, this course will examine the history of the environmental movement, with emphasis on key individuals and their contributions, major events, and legislation enacted to protect the environment.

Utilizing Benjamin Kline's *First Along the River: A Brief History of the U.S. Environmental Movement* as a text, students will:

- Identify and date key milestones in the American environmental movement.
- Understand the impact of the environmental movement on individuals, business, society, and the environment.
- Describe and appreciate the leading activists and organizations important to the development of the environmental movement.
- Gain perspective on past environmental issues and their relationship to environmental legislation.
- Understand and characterize the backlash to the environmental movement.
- Debate the moral, ethical and political challenges that face the environmental movement at present.

This course will be offered in Block II of Summer 2010 on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

— John Burbage

Associate Professor and Science Program Coordinator

## WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY'S NEWEST CLUB: THE CIVIC SERVICE LEAGUE



Michael Holley is a senior Legal Studies major within the College of Arts & Sciences. Michael is founder and current president of Wilmington University's Civic Service League (WUCSL). He is a member of Delta Epsilon Rho and Lambda Epsilon Chi, the WU and Legal Studies honor societies, and he is also employed part-time as a workstudy for the College of Arts & Sciences.

Wilmington University's newest student organization, the Wilmington University Civic Service League (WUCSL), was launched in fall 2009 to serve as an outlet for WU students, alumni, and faculty to give back to the communities in which they live. The focus and mission of the group is to encourage civic engagement through participation in activities which promote an understanding of and active involvement in the judicial, legislative, and executive process of government. WUCSL members organize and coordinate members' volunteer efforts in community and advocacy initiatives.

The club takes a strictly non-partisan stance and is open to any civically minded individual looking to increase his or her

involvement in the community. Unlike many other organizations, WUCSL sets no restrictions based upon major, GPA, or year of study, and WUCSL is open to all interested students and faculty. The only requirement for membership is participation in two events. Opportunities for participation in spring 2010 include volunteering at the Sunday Breakfast Mission and participating in a fund raiser for Haitian relief.

In addition to its volunteer efforts, the organization encourages students to increase their knowledge of governmental structures by visiting key civic locations. The group has planned its first trip in conjunction with the Student Government bus trip to Washington, D.C. In addition to taking in the local attractions, WUCSL has arranged for its members to take a guided tour of the White House.

So if you are interested in forming stronger ties to your classmates and community in a fun and friendly environment, perhaps it's time you joined the Wilmington University Civic Service League! For more information and to be added to our distribution list, email [civicserviceleague@wilmu.edu](mailto:civicserviceleague@wilmu.edu) today!

—Michael Holley

## WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY'S REHOBOTH BEACH SITE

Wilmington University's Rehoboth Beach site opened its doors in June of 1999 at 41 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Originally named "The Wilmington College Family Learning Center," it focused on educating children and adults in a fun and friendly environment. By the fall of 1999, the site offered computer, language, business and art classes, and the Rehoboth campus had 137 students taking non-credit classes. Since then, the Rehoboth site has increased the scope of its community involvement and offerings.

Over the years, the Rehoboth site has played an active role in the community. In November of 2008, the site received the Service to Youth Award at the Sussex Family YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign Thank You dinner. This award was given for Wilmington University's collaboration

with the local YMCA in offering computer classes for kids enrolled in summer camp. In 2008 and 2009, Wilmington University tied for first place in the annual Sea-Witch Decorating contest and took home first place in the Sea-Witch pet parade.

The Rehoboth site is very proud of its non-credit students. Our art classes have attracted several award winning artists like Ken Catterton and Ron Tate. Our writing classes have inspired published writers like Cecelia Ludwig. Our students are constantly amazing us with their volunteer work in the community, including Habitat and the Cape Henlopen, and we are happy to be here to help support them in their endeavors. Today, there are over five hundred students taking classes.

In addition to non-credit offerings and community outreach, Wilmington University in Rehoboth offers a diverse

assortment of credited classes to assist degree seeking students, like English, Math, Technology, and Business. To accommodate student schedules and needs, classes are offered in varied formats.

Rehoboth has a current student art show that will continue until June. The new Rehoboth Art Show will open on June 5th at the Lavender Farm in Milton, DE. We hope you see you!

—*Dianna Hiott*

*Assistant Site Director, Rehoboth*

To learn more about Wilmington University in Rehoboth, please call 302-227-6295.



## WELCOMING OUR NEW COORDINATORS

### MATTHEW WILSON - HUMANITIES



We welcome Matt Wilson to the College of Arts and Sciences as the new Humanities Coordinator and Associate Professor. Matt is no stranger to the state of Delaware, having graduated from Newark High School. After completing his Bachelor's degree from Ohio Valley University, Matt returned to Delaware to work with the Newark Church of Christ and with the Blue Hens for Christ campus ministry, a registered student organization at the University of Delaware. After finishing his Master's degree at Lubbock Christian University, Matt began to teach as an adjunct with Wilmington University, teaching both Humanities and Psychology. In June, he will begin his pursuit of a Doctoral degree. Outside of WU, Matt is involved in several community organizations and efforts, including leading and organizing 18 trips to the Gulf Coast area since Hurricane Katrina and 10 trips to Mexico to help with several construction projects. Matt also serves as Vice President on the board of Youth Advance, a group dedicated to developing leadership in the next generation of young people. He is also on the advisory board for Camp Hope, an organization that houses and provides jobs, supplies, and resources for volunteers who come to help rebuild the New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish area. Matt enjoys sports and is a diehard Philadelphia sports fan, through the good and the bad. He enjoys traveling (especially to warm, sandy places), movies, music, reading and spending time with friends and family.



### KATHERINE COTTLE - ENGLISH AND LITERATURE

Katherine Cottle, the new Coordinator of English and Literature Programs, is thrilled to be a part of Wilmington University and its focus on student success. Kate has a BA from the University of Delaware in English Education and an MA from Howard University in American Literature. Kate has worked in various academic and corporate settings, including being an adjunct at Wilmington University for six years before joining the faculty full time. Areas that she has concentrated on include teaching writing and research, hybrid and online course design, and poetry. Kate's future educational plans include pursuit of a Doctorate that melds the teaching of writing with technology. Kate lives in Newark, Delaware with her two children and is looking forward to being a part of a faculty that is dynamic and responsive to student needs.



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