Congratulations Graduates

Shown here with Board of Trustees President Irene DuPont, Stephanie Szerba emphasized life-long learning and giving back to the community in her address at commencement as a student speaker. Johanna Bishop, advisor to Pi Gamma Mu, the Behavioral Science Honor Society, remarked, “Stephanie did all of Pi Gamma Mu very proud as the speaker for the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences commencement ceremony! She has exemplified the ideals of Pi Gamma Mu through her service to others, particularly in organizing the Polar Bear plunge event for the honor society, exemplary scholarship, and her inspiration to all to be the best you can be.” Congratulations to Stephanie, and all the Graduates!

Legal Studies Graduates
From left: Suzanne Cerro, Michael Perry, Shiloh Fernandez, Christine Warner, Shipen Singh, Christopher Duffy, Emily Parker

Organizational Dynamics Graduates
From left: Jessica Miller, Joanne Squires, Dr. Patrice Chikian-Johnson (chair of ODA program), Kelley Oafio, and Jacqueline Witherspoon

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2012 May Graduation
First Administration of Justice Students Graduate from Joint Base

A convenient location, competitive tuition, challenging coursework and faculty with real world experience were all part of the equation for success according to members of the inaugural graduating class from the Masters in the Administration of Justice-Homeland Security program at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. This first class of six graduates, with both military members and civilians, received their degrees in January. A favorite course of the group, Managing Diversity, was taught by Sherry Wilson, Esquire, Assistant Professor and Advisor at the Joint Base. The class, “was demanding in every sense…. It made you take a hard look at yourself and pushed you outside of your comfort zone to view society from a different perspective,” according to Army Lt. Col. Thomas Shabazz, one of the pioneering six whose degree is in Homeland Security.

For Shabazz’s classmate, Isaac Junius, the initial attraction was affordable tuition and flexible scheduling, which, “allows working people to fulfill their dream of a graduate education.” He expressed appreciation to the staff at the Joint Base, “for the capable and professional manner in which they run the office and handle students’ affairs.” Junius, a grants analyst who hopes to secure a position in Homeland Security, believes, “Wilmington’s effort to recruit experienced professionals in the field as professors adds value, substance, credibility and integrity to the program.” Shabazz, an Iraqi War veteran who received his undergraduate degree from Wilms in 1986, concurs: “The professors in the MAJ program were not only experienced, but were able to translate their real world experiences into a classroom setting. I have the added confidence and edge needed to excel in my career and life after retirement as I open a new chapter.”

Back row: Phil Perry, Jeremy Jankowski, Dean Chris Trowbridge
Front row: Thomas Shabazz, Sherry Wilson, Veronica Alvarez, Isaac Junius, Bryan Watson, Dennis Crosby, Doug Burtig

Fathers from the Field

Retired Philadelphia Police Officer and current US Federal Reserve Bank Sergeant Willie Robinson, Sr. and FBI Special Agent Kevin Shannon spoke to Professor Trate’s Survey of Criminal Justice class on March 30th. Willie Robinson, Jr. and Kylie Shannon were instrumental in getting their fathers to speak to the class.
From the Dean...

Another academic year is coming to a close and our College has been busy celebrating the accomplishments of our students at graduation, honor society inductions and award ceremonies. It is the best part of my job as Dean to be able to greet students at these celebrations and on their graduation day to offer my congratulations for a job well done! As we look ahead to the next academic year, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences will continue to add courses at our Brandywine campus. We are further extending our reach to the north by letting people in Bucks and Montgomery Counties in Pennsylvania know about our outstanding programs available online. We’ll also be offering Sociology 101 and Psychology 101 to high school juniors and seniors as part of Wilmington University’s new Early College Scholarship Program.

In this edition, you’ll meet Josh Ruggiero who has joined the College as our On-line Coordinator helping to ensure a quality experience in on-line learning for both students and faculty. You’ll also read about our inaugural speaker in the Government and Public Policy Speaker Series and our 6th Women in Criminal Justice Leadership seminar which was held in May with sponsorship from the Delaware Criminal Justice Council. You’ll be introduced to a new student group, SAVEkeepers, formed with the assistance of two College faculty, to educate members of the WU community about the serious issue of domestic violence. And, you’ll catch up on all the news about those wonderful celebrations of our students!

I hope you enjoy a restful summer!

Welcome Aboard

Josh Ruggiero joins the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences as its Online Coordinator. The newly created position will focus on various areas concentrated around the growth and quality of online courses within the College. Josh, originally from Newark, attended Salesianum High School before pursuing his undergraduate degree in Sports Management at WilmU. In 2007 he completed his Master’s Degree in Sports Administration from Delaware State University.

Josh was an Admissions Associate for the past four years at Wilmington University, and has also served as an Adjunct Faculty Member and Athletics Associate during that time. He is the Head Women’s Soccer Coach and will continue to serve in that role. Now living in Aberdeen, Maryland, Josh and his wife, Colby, are new parents. Their daughter, Tinsley, was born on May, 3rd.
Women in Criminal Justice Conference

Over 150 women and men from around the region participated in the 6th Women in Criminal Justice Leadership seminar on May 1st which was presented with the support of the Delaware Criminal Justice Council. Brigadier General Carol A. Timmons, Assistant Adjutant General Air – Delaware National Guard was the Keynote Speaker. A New Castle native, General Timmons earned both Army and Air Force pilot wings during her distinguished career and is a Command Pilot. She is a veteran of numerous contingencies including Operation Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom earning the Bronze Star and the Meritorious Service Medal among many other military service awards. Throughout her career, General Timmons has been open to opportunities that furthered her goals – to fly and to be close to home in New Castle. Her local roots extend to Wilmington University where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Management with a concentration in Aeronautical and Aviation Management in 1984. She also is a 2001 Air War College graduate. While ascending the ranks in the National Guard, General Timmons also rose to the rank of First Officer with United Airlines, her civilian employer. In recognition of her trailblazing career, Brigadier General Timmons was inducted into both the Delaware Women’s Hall of Fame and the Aviation Hall of Fame.

The workshop speakers were as distinguished as the keynote speaker. Sessions were offered by women leaders from local, state and federal agencies. Col. Kim Ward of the Baltimore County Police Department teamed with Major Danielle Bradshaw-Lee, of the Maryland Transportation Authority Police Department, to discuss leadership development. Department of Homeland Security Special Agents Patricia Mullins, Stephanie Fritzges and Emily Evans provided case studies on sex tourism and human trafficking during their workshops. The Deputy Commissioner and Chief Administrative Officer for the Philadelphia Police Department, Nola Joyce, shared her expertise on strategic planning in law enforcement organizations. Dr. Ellen Marshall, a Psychologist and former Delaware police veteran, addressed the topic of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Networking was a key component of the May 1st seminar as participants connected with each other and the recruiters from the tri-state area who were on site at the event. Thanks to the event organizers, Major Melissa Zebley, DSP, Sr. Lieutenant Laura O’Sullivan, NCCPD and Special Agent Yvette Thomas from the Department of Homeland Security, for a valuable training and networking experience.
Honor Society News

On March 2nd, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences held its Honor Society Induction Ceremony at a luncheon on the New Castle campus. The College welcomed over 70 students into its three honor societies. Graduate students in the Administration of Human Services program were inducted into Tau Upsilon Alpha, the national human services honor society. Criminal Justice students were inducted into Alpha Phi Sigma, the national criminal justice honor society. Undergraduate students in Behavioral Science, Psychology and Organizational Dynamics were inducted into Pi Gamma Mu, the international social sciences honor society. Congratulations to all the new honor society members!
Alpha Phi Sigma
Richard Antonio
Christine Armstrong
Cecilia Ashe
Jason Bayley
Michael Britton
Carlessia Brown
Joshua Churchill
Christian Craig
Mark Dexter
Joshua Diaz
Carla Durante
Candice Evans
Brittany Fithian
Stephen Frazier
Kasha Guenther
Candice Jarden
Anthony Johnson
LaToya Jones
Matthew Kurten
Lloyd Massey
Jennifer Mazzoni
Jessica McDade
Sharon Mears
Jeffrey Munn
Brianna Oaddams
Brian Orsetti
Esther Paul
Richard Peters
Kevin Pierce
Michael Rinehart
Thomas Shabazz
Taylor Slade
Shannon Watson

Pi Gamma Mu
Gretchen Abdullah
Allyson Baglieri
Debra Carson
Regina Colon
Taika Davis
Lauren Earnest
LaToya Eason
Nicole Frazier
John Gonzales
Vanessa Hamm
Mark Jenkins
Carol Jones
Darlene Jones
Hanna Karmazyn
Ashley Matonti
Riley Melvin
Amber Myers
Tina Myers
Joshua Niblett
Arlieia Payne
Eva Prestopino
Marquita Reed
Lawrence Roy
Thomas Vanez
Samantha Vellono
Rachel Williams

Tau Upsilon Alpha
Lindsay Baker
Carol-Anne Checkley
Carl Filg, Sr.
Michael Gower
Tameca Grammell
Melody Jones
Mary Ann Ladden
Sonia Murrey
Ashley Nardo
Keisha Nesbitt-Cohen
Linda Phillips
Stephanie Snyder-Phipps
Ashlimn Steele
Mark Yant
POLAR BEAR PLUNGE 2012

Despite the cloudy, windy weather on Sunday, February 5th, 12 members of Wilmington University’s Pi Gamma Mu Honor’s Society (PGM) went for a dip into the icy water off Rehoboth Beach for the 21st Annual Lewes Polar Bear Plunge.

PGM members raised $1,295 for Special Olympics Delaware, the beneficiary of the Polar Bear Plunge. The “frosty dozen” from PGM joined over 3,600 plungers for a great cause! PGM Plungers included event organizer and PGM Vice President Stephanie Szczerba, PGM adviser Johanna Bishop and the state’s very own Miss Delaware, Maria Cahill, a Wilmington University Marketing student. Team members Kyle Dorsey, Matt Gaden, adjunct instructor Scott George, Sharon Houser, John Houser, Andrew Lightfoot, Barb Richardson, Cathy Solomon and Sarah Young, were joined by a number of friends and family members. Let’s hope for sunny skies and warm temperatures for the 2013 plunge!

![Image of Polar Bear Plunge participants]

Pi Gamma Mu Alumni Mixer

A small, but very dedicated, group of Pi Gamma Mu Alumni Chapter members met at Kid Shelleen’s in March to get to know each other and discuss possibilities! The Alumni Chapter promises to be a growing force in the coming years— as it seeks to establish a Pi Gamma Mu community for social and professional networking. Watch for information about future gatherings!

![Image of Pi Gamma Mu Alumni Mixer participants]
Psychology Program Grad Pursues His Dream

Samuel Peer, the 2011 Wilmington University Georgetown Commencement speaker, has been accepted to the Ph.D. program in clinical psychology at Central Michigan University. Sam is currently studying for his Master's degree at Marshall University in West Virginia and hopes to be a child psychologist doing research and teaching to disseminate evidence-based treatment practices. As a psychology major, he had the opportunity to complete a research internship with a federally funded project. The literature review he completed as an undergraduate in PSY 408 provided the basis for his presentation on adolescents aging out of the foster care system at the West Virginia Psychological Association 2011 Fall Conference. At that same conference, Sam was a co-presenter of a research proposal entitled, "Parental Patterns and Achievement Goals: Joint Mediation of Academic Performance During Adolescents on which he was a co-investigator.

Peer feels he was well prepared for graduate studies by the WU faculty who balanced theory and practical application in their teaching. The University and faculty understood non-traditional students like himself, “my family was not treated as a liability but rather as a strength.” Sam and his wife, Lorien, are expecting their fourth child. While a student at Wilmington University, Sam worked at the Murphey School, a group home for foster youth in Dover. Sam credits Dr. Rebecca Ghabour in particular for her support and assurance that, “the road may be long and the journey hard but it will be worth it.”

TUA Sponsors Panel to Discuss Doctoral Studies with AHS Students

On Monday, June 4th, Tau Upsilon Alpha National Human Services Honor and Service Society (TUA) sponsored a “Chat & Chew” event entitled, "Shoot For The Stars: Beyond your Master’s Degree" for students in the Administration of Human Services (AHS) graduate program.

AHS Program Chair, Dr. Adrienne Bey, moderated an informal panel discussion with several WU adjunct faculty and other community experts. The panel included Anthony Buffone - Ph.D. candidate at George Washington University, Dr. Jacqueline Burgos-Cousin - Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership from Wilmington University, Dr. Shawn Stevens - Ed.D. in Leadership and Innovation from Wilmington University, Dr. Donald Urger - Program Chair of the University of Delaware’s Human Development & Family Studies Program and Virginia Brown - Financial Aid department at Wilmington University and AHS student.

Attendees included twelve students and one faculty member from the AHS program who were given the opportunity to ask questions to current doctoral students and graduates about doctoral degree programs and the preparation needed to be a successful doctoral student. They were also able to ask questions about financial aid and how to fund their doctoral education. Questions ranged from, “how will I be able to pay for this degree and are there scholarships available?” to “how do I maintain a work-life school balance if I have a full-time job and a family?” AHS students were also curious to know how panel members selected their dissertation topics, what coursework is like and the career opportunities available to professionals with doctoral degrees.

Dr. Bey commented, “I was glad when our TUA members suggested to have this type of event. I am always asked questions about my personal journey in getting my doctoral degree. I think that this event gave students a more well-rounded perspective, because everyone's journey is different. I am grateful that the panelists were very willing to share their experiences and have this type of dialogue with our students. All the attendees expressed appreciation for the information and insights provided, and they suggested that this type of forum be held again in the future.”
MSCC Program Honors Graduates

On May 5th, the MS in Community Counseling program honored its graduates with its annual MSCC Awards Dinner. With nearly 100 attendees, including 27 honored graduates, this was the largest celebration in program history. This year's Clinical Excellence Award recipients included Connie Danisch, Lauren Wilson, Alexis Morris-Lamar, Barbara Glenn, and P. David Brumbaugh. In addition, Major Shannon Ayres of the Delaware Air National Guard was recognized for her selection as a recipient of the NBCC Foundation Military Scholarship, which was awarded to five counseling students nationwide (see separate story for more details). Margaret Rafa, Danielle Dunn, and Amy Biang received awards for Academic Excellence. The Compassionate Colleague Award was bestowed on Krist Olah, and Maria Darby.

The guest speaker was our alumnus Wade Jones, MS, LCDP, who reminded graduates that as new mental health professionals, their degree conferred upon them many ethical responsibilities as well as privileges. Dr. R. Craig Williams, Program Director, summed up the events perfectly in his closing remarks when he said that, "this degree is only the beginning for each of you. Learning is a lifelong process." Congratulations to the "learners" of the MSCC program, as they begin their professional lives as mental health counselors.

Counseling Student is Recipient of National Board for Certified Counselors Scholarship

Shannon Ayres, a student in the Master of Science in Community Counseling (MSCC) program, has been awarded the 2011 National Board for Certified Counselors Foundation Military Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to service members and veterans who are pursuing a counseling education and who commit to serving fellow military personnel upon graduation. Ayres received $3,000 to support her counseling education.

The daughter of a naval aviator, Ayres joined the active duty Air Force in 1996 at age 19. Although it was, "eye opening and amazing to fly on the back of AWACS all over the world," Shannon was ready to leave active duty after 4 years of service and pursue her bachelor's degree.

She joined the Delaware Air National Guard as a medic upon moving to Delaware and enrolled at Wilmington. Graduating Summa Cum Laude with a degree in General Studies in 2002, Shannon left for pilot training a week later.

When she returned from training in fall 2004, most of her unit was actively rotating to Afghanistan and she joined them a few months later, "The first time I was in Afghanistan I stayed for 4 months and it became a life changing experience. Although I had deployed before, this deployment seemed different, the people seemed to be much more affected by their experiences. One of our mechanics returned home and committed suicide a week later. It was then that I realized that I wanted to help soldiers, airmen, sailors, marines deal with their unseen wounds and adjust back to civilian life."

In pursuit of that goal, Shannon entered the MSCC program in 2007 and has made a lasting impression on the faculty. Dr. Jim Walsh commented, "Shannon is an outstanding student with a deeply curious mind and insatiable desire to grow both professionally and personally. What a pleasure it has been to teach her!"

Dr. Craig Williams, Director of Counseling Programs, also has been impressed: "Shannon is a very remarkable person and deserves recognition for her military contributions and her compassion and dedication to helping her fellow warriors heal emotionally from the traumas they suffered."

Ayres will complete her internship at the Wilmington VA Medical Center and plans to graduate in 2013. She was, "a little surprised to receive the scholarship, but deeply honored." Major Ayres, an aircraft commander with the Delaware Air National Guard, will be recognized for her scholarship at the MSCC Awards Dinner in May.
SAVE KEEPERS: NEW STUDENT GROUP FOCUSES ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The members of a new student organization on campus, SAVE KEEPERS, were recently interviewed about their group. The founding members, from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, are committed to bringing awareness to the issue of domestic violence. Won’t you join them?

How and why did SAVE KEEPERS get started?

While attending a domestic violence awareness lecture hosted by Wilmington University, the guest speaker, Quincy Lucas of Whitney’s Lights, questioned the audience as to why there was no domestic violence awareness program on campus. Undergraduate students Cheryle Hairston and Terry Hale decided to respond to Ms. Lucas’ question by initiating the student group, SAVE KEEPERS (Survivors Against Violence Empowered) which would address the issues associated with domestic violence. Additionally, Cheryle and Terry are survivors of domestic violence and have heard from fellow classmates who had suffered a similar experience. They felt there was indeed a need for a student group to not only bring about an awareness of domestic violence, but also to provide support for and to prevent future victims of domestic violence. The intent of SAVE KEEPERS is to make current and potential victims of domestic violence aware they are not alone in their situation.

What are the goals of the organization?

The primary goal of SAVE KEEPERS is to provide an awareness of domestic violence and a system of support for its victims. SAVE KEEPERS also strives to provide assistance in the form of reference materials and contacts for survivors, empower survivors to resist abuse, and educate students, staff, faculty, and alumni about the issues of domestic violence and its impact upon our community. The organization accomplishes this goal through lectures, workshops, supportive discussions among group members, and participation in community service projects.

What are the activities of SAVE KEEPERS?

SAVE KEEPERS promotes bettering the lives of its members through activities and discussions that focus upon the mind, body and spirit. In a typical meeting, subjects are discussed to help educate and empower the attendees to better their lives. Some of the many topics for discussion include: What are Healthy Relationships?, Financial Planning and Budgeting, Getting Healthy Through Nutrition and Exercise, Building Self-Esteem, and Job Searching/Interviewing Tips/Dressing for Success. At times, workshops or lectures are led by group members, guest speakers, or our group advisors, Dr. Patrice Gilliam-Johnson (College of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Chair, Organizational Dynamics Program) or Dr. Brenda Wright (College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, graduate Mental Health Counseling Program).

In addition to holding workshops and lectures, SAVE KEEPERS participates in various community service projects. The organization has partnered with the student group Pearls of Wisdom that is based out of William Penn High School. The Pearls’ objective is to guide female teens through the trials and tribulations of adolescence by providing them with resources and support that will enable them to develop into productive and independent adults. Another community service project SAVE KEEPERS is associated with is the Delaware Adolescent Program, Inc. (DAPI). DAPI is an alternative fresh start for pregnant teens to receive the health and social services they need to continue their education during and after their pregnancy. SAVE KEEPERS assists both groups by serving as mentors/role models, providing an awareness regarding domestic violence via discussions, resources, support systems or lectures, and enabling participants to feel empowered and to develop their self-esteem.

SAVE KEEPERS also participates in various volunteer activities such as community clean-ups, walk-a-thons, and with the Food Bank of Newark.

Meeting Times: The 1st and 3rd Tuesdays between August and April in DAC Room 221 from 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Contact Information:

Cheryle Hairston (President) (302) 222-0188
Terry Hale (Vice President) (302) 262-9962
The Government and Public Policy program, in conjunction with External Affairs and University Relations, hosted the inaugural event of a new Speaker Series focusing on public policy issues on April 18th. The first guest speaker in the series was Paul G. Clark, New Castle County Executive, who addressed the topic of "County Government 101". Mr. Clark discussed the function of the County Executive and his staff and the work that goes into managing the business of New Castle County. After his talk, Mr. Clark addressed audience questions on topics ranging from the County's bidding process to the relationship between the County Executive and County Council. The Speaker Series is designed to be a non-partisan, educational forum open to students, graduates, faculty, and staff as well as members of the general public. Talks are held in the Doberstein Auditorium on the New Castle campus beginning at 6 p.m.

The next event is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3rd, when a distinguished panel of experienced lobbyists will discuss the role of lobbyists in influencing public and government policy. Mark your calendars now for what promises to be an informative and thought-provoking evening!

Government and Public Policy Curriculum Changes Announced!

The Government and Public Policy (GPP) program received approval this spring to institute changes to the curriculum of the GPP degree, the GPP completion degree and the Political Science minor. According to Lori Sider, Chair of the Government and Public Policy program, the changes are designed to offer flexibility and choices to accommodate a shifting demographic which includes military students and adult learners who have workplace experience and prior college credit. The changes standardize course offerings between the degree, completion degree and minor. Required pre-requisite courses have been built into the curriculum to minimize the need for course substitutions. The proposed changes also bring the GPP program in line with other degree programs within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences with respect to math, economics and internship requirements and offer the possibility of student participation in the CAP/co-op option. Here are the highlights:

- Beginning with fall 2012, there is a new Minimum Grade Policy. Students will be required to earn a minimum grade of "C-" for GPP program core courses (all POL classes and LES 205). Students receiving a grade lower than "C-" in any required program core course must retake that course.
- There are specific changes to Math, Economics and Humanities requirements.
- Additional flexibility has been built into the curriculum to the core GPP classes and the Behavioral Science core to allow students to focus their studies.
- Students will now have 18 credits of free electives allowing for more flexibility to accept transfer credits.
- The GPP Internship is now optional, but still highly recommended, for students.

As placement sites become available, students will be able to participate in the CAP Co-op program.

For more information about the changes to the GPP program or the Political Science minor, students are encouraged to consult with their Academic Advisor or the GPP Chair.
Faculty Notes

Victim’s Rights Award

Mariann Kenville-Moore, adjunct instructor of CAST certificate courses, was honored as the victim services professional of the year by the Delaware Victims’ Rights Task Force. The award was presented at the signing of the proclamation by Governor Markell declaring April 22nd to 28th as Delaware Crime Victims’ Rights Week which coincides with the national observance.

FBI National Academy Associates Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter Re-trainer

April 22-24, 2012 in Gettysburg

Kirk Trate, Director of Criminal Justice Programs, and Dr. Greg Warren from the College of Business attended the FBI National Academy Associates Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter Re-trainer in Gettysburg at the end of April. Wilmington University was asked to set up a display and handout table for the entire conference and had numerous inquiries about both the MAJ and CRJ Programs. Dr. Warren presented at the re-trainer on Leadership Lessons Learned from the Battle of Gettysburg. The 2014 International FBI National Academy Associates Conference is scheduled to be held in Philadelphia in late July of that year. Kirk Trate is the Training and Education Committee Chair for that event. The attached picture is Captain Benjamin Naish, Philadelphia Police Dept. and Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter President, Dr. Greg Warren, and J. Patrick Davis, Deputy Director for Law Enforcement Services in the Office of Emergency Preparedness, Chester Co., PA, who the Chair of the 2012 International FBINAA Conference.

Faculty Receive Patriotic Employer Award

Professors Johanna Bishop and Stephanie Berridge were surprised with an award at the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Joint Honor Society Induction ceremony in March. Dan Salfas, an adjunct instructor in the Behavioral Science program, who serves Delaware as a State Trooper and in the National Guard, presented both women with a Patriotic Employer award. This award is issued by the Office of the Secretary of Defense – Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve for, “contributing to national security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in America’s National Guard and Reserve force.” Professors Bishop and Berridge (left and right of Mr. Salfas respectively) are pictured with Mr. Salfas (center) as well as Dr. Jim Wilson (left), Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Christian Trowbridge (right), Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
Dr. Berke Elected President of ContactLifeline

Dr. Deb Berke was elected president of the ContactLifeline Board of Directors for 2012. She attended Governor Markell’s signing of the Proclamation claiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Delaware.

Congratulations Dr. Berridge

On June 8th, Stephanie Berridge, Assistant Professor and Chair of the Behavioral Science Program, successfully defended her dissertation proposal at George Washington University. Dr. Berridge, pictured here with her dissertation committee members, receives her Ed.D. in human and organizational learning from the Executive Leadership Doctoral Program which is housed in the Graduate School of Education and Human Development. Dr. Berridge’s dissertation is entitled, “Organizational Memory and Project Development: A Case Study of How a Small Business Uses its Organizational Memory When Making Project Development Decisions”. Congratulations from all of us in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences on this momentous accomplishment!

American Association of University Women

Dr. Debra Berke, (second from left) a member of the Newark branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), was inducted as the Co-Chair for Public Policy for AAUW-Delaware at the annual conference in Newark, DE on March 31, 2012.

Education and Enrichment Section of the National Council on Family Relations

Dr. Berke was elected Chair-Elect of the Education and Enrichment Section of the National Council on Family Relations. Her term will run 2012-2014. She attended the Council’s annual conference in November in Orlando. She also attended the Mid-Atlantic Council on Family Relations Annual Conference at Messiah College in Pennsylvania in October.
Sexual Violence and Emerging Issues

Two Wilmington University adjunct instructors from the Psychology program, Regina Giannone-Tyler and Sean Keblen, recently presented workshops at the Sexual Violence and Emerging Issues conference which was sponsored by the Sexual Assault Network of Delaware (SAND) and ContactLifeline, Inc. Ms. Giannone-Tyler, a bereavement coordinator for Compassionate Care Hospice and an Admissions Associate at Wilmington University, spoke on the topic of Vicarious Trauma - Worn Out, Worn Down and Ready to Recharge: Helping the Helpers. Mr. Keblen, a supervisor in the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families, Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services, discussed the issue of sexual violence and juveniles. Sean supervises the statewide unit for youth who commit inappropriate sexual behaviors and has developed an assessment tool that is used to evaluate risk. The Psychology program is proud of Regina and Sean’s contribution to this professional development conference.

Children’s Advocacy Center of Delaware

On March 15th, Professor Lori Sitler attended a House of Representatives tribute presented to the Children’s Advocacy Center of Delaware in Legislative Hall. Professor Sitler is a member of the Board of Directors of the Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC) and the recently elected chair of its strategic planning committee. The tribute was offered by Representative Lincoln Willis, who is the Secretary/Treasurer of the CAC Board. The tribute acknowledged the organization’s recent re-accreditation by the National Children’s Alliance as well as its important work providing forensic interviewing and medical examination services, case review and prevention/education services and managing the multi-disciplinary teams which serve victims of child physical and sexual abuse. Following the tribute on the floor of the House, the Board and staff of the CAC gathered for this photo.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Amy O’Dell, LES Program Chair, and husband Bill on the birth of their daughter, Sarah Catherine. Best wishes also go out to Josh Ruggiero, On-line Coordinator, and his wife Colby who welcomed their first baby, Tinsley Adelle. And Dr. John Malarkey, III became a first-time grandfather with the arrival of Devon James. Warm congratulations to all from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Karen Spring, adjunct instructor in the Behavioral Science program, was married in a garden wedding on April 20th. Karen and her husband Joe honeymooned in France and will reside in Wilmington. Congratulations from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
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