Message from the Dean, Dr. Denise Ohler

Dear College of Science & Health Professions’ Students, Faculty, and Staff,

I am proud to serve as Interim Dean of our College! Every day I am privileged to work with outstanding scholars, teachers, staff, and students who are making remarkable contributions to our world. My goal is to strive for greatness as a College, and for each of you to be your best.

Borrowing from the work of Jon Gordon, please consider some tips and traits that will help to make each of us the best we can be:

1. Decide what you truly want to achieve.
2. Act on what it takes to be the best.
3. Distractions are the enemy of greatness.
4. Overcome adversity with mental and emotional toughness.
5. Work with a bigger purpose.
6. Make everyone around you better.

There has never been a better time to be involved in STEM-HP disciplines!

While there is no universal definition of STEM, it generally involves the use of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to understand and solve problems in our world. The Occupational Outlook Handbook has indicated that most of the fastest growing careers are achievable with degrees from our College. Healthcare support occupations (23.2 percent) and healthcare practitioners (HP) and technical occupations (15.2 percent) are projected to be among the fastest growing occupational groups during the 2016–26 projections decade. These two occupational groups—which account for 14 of the 30 fastest growing occupations from 2016 to 2026—are projected to contribute about one-fifth of all new jobs by 2026. Factors such as the aging baby-boom population, longer life expectancies, and growing rates of chronic conditions will drive continued demand for healthcare services.

The impetus for this newsletter is to communicate more widely about our successes and initiatives; to connect us as a College; and to empower us to grow and to improve. I hope that you will read and contribute to it, and make any suggestions that would be beneficial for the College of Science & Health Professions.

Keep your eyes and ears open for course and program news, for events that will interest you, and for opportunities that will expand your horizons. I cannot wait to see where we go moving forward!

Best wishes for a successful semester,

Dr. Denise L. Ohler
Interview with CSHP Alumna: Dr. Sian Proctor

Below are excerpts from the CSHP interview with Dr. Sian Proctor. Check out The Spectator’s feature article of her in a special homecoming edition, here.

Edinboro Alumna Dr. Sian Proctor, spoke with the College of Science and Health Professions about Edinboro’s impact upon her career and her life. Dr. Proctor graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Edinboro University in 1992 and is currently working as a professor for South Mountain Community College in Arizona. She has been involved with NASA’s HI-SEAS mission as well as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Teacher at Sea program.

Q: Why did you choose Edinboro and do you feel as though it prepared you for your career?

I actually didn’t choose to go to Edinboro. My reasoning behind that was because my brother was actually already attending here, and my father encouraged me to go to this school as well. And I did not want to go to school with my brother because I am the youngest of four and he was the closest in age to me so we would often fight. Once I started attending Edinboro, our relationship flipped 180 degrees and we became the best of friends. And it wouldn’t have happened if I hadn’t have come to Edinboro. So even though I was hesitant at first Edinboro really gave me a great opportunity to get closer to my brother.

Also, my Environmental Science degree allowed me to get a diverse background in various science classes like biology, chemistry, and physics since I wasn’t sure what I wanted to specialize in. Taking electives in video editing was also very important since I was then able to get a job as a video editor on the 5, 6, and 11 o’clock news after I graduated which is now a skill set that I use all the time.

Dr. Sian Proctor, class of ’92, discusses how she chose Edinboro and what sort of impact it has had upon her life.

Q: Were there any clubs or extracurricular activities you were involved in on Edinboro campus?

Coming to Edinboro not only allowed me to develop intellectually but also socially with all of the opportunities it provided. I didn’t come here planning on running track while I was attending Edinboro but my brother was actually the one who got me to come and try out for the team. This opportunity opened up a whole new level of competition and comradery between athletes. I was also able to participate in various other clubs like the Outdoor Club where I was able to learn how to kayak and go hiking.

Q: What do you recommend for middle school students who are interested in getting involved in the science field?

While students are naturally curious, the hard part is trying to continue to fuel that curiosity. Science is in everything. It doesn’t matter if you’re really interested in sports, let’s talk about the science behind athletics. The same goes for the science of art and music. If we can get students to look at the world around them from a STEM is in everything viewpoint, that could eventually lead to that student pursuing a career in STEM through their passion.

Q: What are your fondest memories of your time at Edinboro University?

It would have to be the friends I made here because those first connections really impacted me. Coming to Edinboro really also helped prepared me in how to manage my time, to learn how to socially be an adult, and how to get along with people from diverse backgrounds. These are all things that you really learn when you go off to school for the first time. Edinboro really started me down the road to making connections and how to develop those connections that lead to opportunities. All of these experiences started the foundation of who I was going to be and Edinboro was definitely a big part of that.

Read more about Dr. Proctor on The Spectator and follow her science adventures on social media.

Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube | LinkedIn

Want to be featured in this Newsletter?

Are you a CSHP alumna, current student, or faculty member?

Do you know someone who should be featured in this newsletter?

Examples of content include, but are not limited to:
1) New faculty brief bios or interviews
2) Student awards, honors, or scholarships
3) Faculty grants, publications, and/or presentations
4) Upcoming site visits by accrediting bodies (and reports after they leave)
5) Study or service abroad
6) Group and/or individual performance on licensing exams or graduate admissions
7) Lab or clinical facilities and equipment and how they are utilized
8) Upcoming alumni or other guest visits/presentations
9) New programs or curriculum updates
10) Profile of students and alumni
11) Student research or internship talks.

Contact cshp@edinboro.edu for more information!
Meet the Department Chairs of the College of Science and Health Professions

The College of Science and Health Professions is composed of nine academic departments: Biology and Health Sciences, Chemistry, Geosciences, Mathematics and Computer Science, Nursing, Physics and Technology, Psychology, Social Work, and Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Find out more about each of these department chairs below.

Department of Biology and Health Sciences: Nina Thumser, Ph. D.

Dr. Nina Thumser joined the Biology and Health Services Department at Edinboro University in 2004. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Virginia Tech, a Master of Science in Biology-Ecology from Florida Tech and a PhD in Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In addition, she completed a sail and study program studying Humpback Whales in Greenland. Her research has included behavioral ecology studies on small mammals, humpback whales, manatees, and penguins. She has also supervised student research on a variety of topics including the fragmentation of small mammal populations, quality of wood duck habitat, crow behavior, genetic variation in black cherry trees, and the effects of glyphosate on soil organisms.

Dr. Thumser has taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses at EU, Introduction to Biology, Human Biology, Principles of Biology, Genetics, Physiology and Anatomy I and II labs, Animal Behavior, Behavioral Ecology, and Ornithology. She also frequently teaches at Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology in the summer. She also has served as the department’s Internship Director since 2005.

Department of Chemistry: Janet Rogers, Ph. D.

Prof. Janet Rogers, is the current Chair of the Chemistry Department. Prior to joining the Edinboro faculty, she earned a BS Chemistry degree from Monmouth University, earned both MA and PhD degrees in Chemistry from Washington University, and was a Welch Postdoctoral Fellow at Texas Christian University. She teaches a diverse array of courses ranging from food science and laboratory safety to polymer chemistry, science literature, and forensic science. Her research interests include noncovalent intermolecular interactions and biopolymers. Most recently, her research has focused on formulation and testing of biopolymer films based on polysaccharides isolated from seaweeds. She is a member of the American Chemical Society (ACS) and several of its divisions. She now serves on the executive committee of the Erie Section of the ACS.

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders: Mary Beth Mason, Ph. D.

Dr. Mary Beth Mason joined the Edinboro University faculty in 2015. She is an Associate Professor, Chair, and Graduate Program Head in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department. She has several years of experience as a faculty member in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education prior to her joining the CSD Department at EUP. Dr. Mason received her Ph.D. in Speech-Language Pathology and Certificate in Gerontology from Kent State University. She has several peer-reviewed publications in the area of adult neurogenic communication disorders, including articles in Aphasiology and Communication Disorders Quarterly.

Dr. Mason in very active in professional service. She served as the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association (PSHA) Vice President for Convention Planning and Program for four years. She is currently serving as President-Elect for PSHA and Coordinator for ASHA Special Interest Group 15 Gerontology. She served as Local Host Chair of the 2016 ASHA Convention Planning Committee.

Dr. Mason is active in a variety of community organizations, with noted service to the Alzheimer’s Association as a dementia support facilitator. Outside of professional interests, she enjoys living in Edinboro with her children and pets.

Department of Geosciences: Brian Zimmerman, Ph. D.

Dr. Zimmerman has been a faculty member at Edinboro University for 25 years and has served as the Chair of The Department of Geosciences for 12 years. He holds degrees in geology from Juniata College, Ohio State, and Washington State Universities. Dr. Zimmerman teaches Mineralogy, Igneous Petrology, and a variety of introductory geology courses including Geology of Our Nations Parks. Before coming to Edinboro, his primary area of research was the study of gold deposits in Oregon and Idaho. Due in part to a lack of gold in northwest Pennsylvania, Dr. Zimmerman has shifted his research to focus on the geologic history and environmental management of Edinboro Lake. He has served on the board of the Edinboro Lake Watershed Association since its founding in 2004.
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science: Anne Quinn, Ph.D.

Dr. Anne Quinn joined the Mathematics and Computer Science Department at Edinboro University in 1991. Since then, she has taught a wide variety of classes, including: Finite Mathematics, Statistics, Discrete Mathematics I and II, Actuarial Science Seminar, and graduate Number Theory. Her research, featured in the Mathematics Teacher journal (NCTM) and the College Mathematics Journal (MAA), includes: the mathematics of the game of SET®, research in the development of proof, graph theory, recreational mathematics, and incorporating mobile apps and statistical technology into the classroom. She is also a frequent speaker at national meetings such as the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January and Mathfest in the summer. After serving as Assistant Department Chair from 1999-2014, she became Department Chair in 2014. In this role, she is busy with department planning, hiring, and outreach to talented high school mathematics and science students. These efforts include inviting hundreds of local students to campus twice a year, for Pi Day each March and STEM Day each October.

Department of Nursing: Thomas White, D.Ed.

Dr. Tom White is chair of the nursing department. He came to Edinboro University in 1995. He received a diploma in professional nursing (RN) from Jameson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, New Castle, Pennsylvania in 1988. He completed his Bachelor of Science (BSN) in nursing from Edinboro University in 1994. He went on to complete a Master of Science (MSN) degree from Edinboro University in 1999 and was subsequently licensed as a family nurse practitioner (CRNP). He completed his doctoral degree in administration and leadership studies from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2006. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Dr. White also maintains an active clinical practice at Saint Vincent Hospital in Erie, Pennsylvania. His clinical specialties include family medicine, occupational health, and emergency medicine. He’s been employed at Saint Vincent Hospital since 1989.

Department of Physics and Technology: Richard Lloyd, Ph.D.

Richard Lloyd came to Edinboro University in 2006. Before that he earned his PhD and MS degrees in Nuclear Physics at Iowa State University and a BS in Physics and Mathematics from Truman State University in Missouri. Prior to starting his college education, he spent six years in the U.S. Navy as a nuclear propulsion specialist being trained at the Naval Nuclear Power School in Orlando, FL and the nuclear prototype S1W plant at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

His professional career at Edinboro has concentrated in the areas of astronomy and renewable energy. He is a member of NWPAGE, and is engaged in multidisciplinary research in renewable energy with other EU faculty. He is an active contributor to a variety of environmental organizations including the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Sierra Club, National Resources Defense Council and many others. Other groups supported include the Council for Secular Humanism and UNICEF. Outside of professional interests, he reads widely, rides bicycles, occasionally sails, and enjoys living in Edinboro.

Department of Psychology: Gary Levine, Ph.D.

Dr. Levine grew up in the Maryland suburbs in-between Washington D.C. and Baltimore. After graduating with a B.S. degree in Psychology and in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland, he earned his Ph.D. in Social Psychology from Indiana University. His early research focused on thinking and decision making, but turned his attention to undergraduate student research where he has supervised over 120 different experimental research projects presented by students at undergraduate or professional conferences. He recently took over as chairperson in the Psychology department where he is committed to maintaining the department’s excellent reputation. He lives with his wife in Millcreek where they are raising their three children.

Department of Social Work: Elaine Rinfrette, Ph.D.

Dr. Rinfrette’s undergraduate degree in nursing is from the University of Rhode Island. She then received her MSW from Boston University and her PhD from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She has been at Edinboro University for six years. During that time she was the MSW program director for five years and then became chair of the department this summer. Dr. Rinfrette’s favorite courses to teach are the clinically oriented ones that include the social work department’s courses on trauma, on psychopathology, and on cognitive-behavioral therapy. She has several areas of research interest that are focused on secondary trauma, trauma-informed care, and chemical dependency recovery. This year Dr. Rinfrette was awarded a Fellowship sponsored by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism at Boston University’s Center for Addiction Research and the School of Social Work. In addition, Dr. Rinfrette received the honor of being the Social Worker of the Year in the Western New York division of the New York State National Association of Social Workers for 2017. Dr. Rinfrette lives with her family in nearby New York, which includes two sons, two dogs, and two cats. Dr. Rinfrette enjoys traveling, the beach, movies, reading, and having fun with friends.
EU students explore ecology at Pymatuning field research lab

Written by Office of Communications and Marketing | Published June 26, 2017

Edinboro University students are investigating the region’s biodiversity through hands-on field research during three-week summer courses at the Pymatuning Lab of Ecology (PLE) in Linesville, Pa.

“It’s a really unique experience to spend all that time in the field instead of a lab or a lecture room,” said Andre Francis, a senior Biology and Pre-Med major at Edinboro University. “Being out in the field gives a sense of perspective and appreciation for the material.”

Francis and 19 other EU students joined a cohort that also included students from the University of Pittsburgh, Lehigh University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Slippery Rock University and Clarion University for intensive plant and animal study that included faculty lectures, seminars from professional scientists and field research projects.

Read the entire article here.

“‘It’s a really unique experience to spend all that time in the field instead of a lab or a lecture room,’ said Andre Francis, a senior Biology and Pre-Med major at Edinboro University.”

Edinboro University Biologists Examine Endangered Turtle Species

Written by Office of Communications and Marketing | Published June 21, 2017

A trio of Edinboro University biologists traveled to Louisiana and Mississippi this summer to determine whether map turtle species in two river ecosystems could be considered endangered.

Dr. Peter Lindeman, an EU biology professor, spent three weeks navigating through Southern rivers and tributaries with senior biology students Chelsea Gale and Ashley Gibson. Along their route, they counted turtle populations and analyzed the turtles’ diets.

“The southeastern portion of the United States is one of the great hotspots to research turtle diversity,” said Lindeman, author of 60 peer-reviewed publications on freshwater turtles. “For a variety of reasons, certain species of turtles in this area often get ignored.”

In 2015, Lindeman received a $110,000 grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to research turtle species in the outlets of the Pascagoula and Pearl rivers. The three-year study focuses on the population of map turtles that live in these two Mississippi waterways.

During the multifaceted study, Lindeman and his students observed not only the population and diets of these turtles, but also their tendency and frequency of basking in the sun.

Read more about Dr. Lindeman’s research here.
Chemistry Majors Discuss Research and Internship Opportunities

EU Chemistry majors recently participated in an opportunity to present their experiences in research, internships, and study abroad opportunities. Students who also presented were Joel Lohr, How to Get an REU and Jason D’Urso & Ashely Moore about their study abroad experiences through CHEM 230, Environmental Chemistry and Chinese Culture.

Nicole Wagner ’18
Chemistry major Nicole Wagner participated in the National Science Foundation’s Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program from May 29 to August 4, 2017 at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC. During this program, Nicole gave weekly oral presentations of our research and presented posters at NC State’s 16th Annual Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium. Nicole worked in the lab of Dr. Wei-chen Chang (a chemical biology lab), and worked with a graduate student, Dev Sanyal. There was also a computational aspect of the program directed by computational chemists Dr. Elon Ison and Dr. Elena Jakubikova. The experimental aspect of her project focused on overexpressing and purifying the enzyme P.IsnB, and the computational aspect focused on elucidating the mechanism of the decarboxylative desaturation catalyzed by P.IsnB.

How did Edinboro prepare you for this program?
Edinboro prepared me not only by providing a great background in chemistry and biochemistry, but also through the support and guidance I received from my professors. Dr. Unico wrote recommendation letters to help me get accepted to REUs, and Dr. Edwards (now retired) was the one who got me started on this career path and encouraged me to apply to REUs to begin with.

How has this experience affected your career path?
This experience helped me decide that I wanted to pursue a PhD. I have now finished applying to graduate schools, hoping to start my PhD in Fall 2018.

Erin O’Brien ’18
In the Summer of 2017, Erin was awarded an internship in Sen. Charles Schumer’s (D-NY) Buffalo Branch Office. Erin enjoyed the ups and downs that come with working in any political office and I learned a lot about herself during this internship. One of her favorite tasks during the internship was working on a memo she wrote about the toxicity and radioactive materials that are present in the local Buffalo soil. She conducted research based on funding and what future action could be taken to clean up the areas at risk under SUPERFUND regulations.

How did Edinboro prepare you for this program?
Edinboro helped prepare me for this program by applying my knowledge learned in my chemistry and biology courses to the political realm. Combining chemistry and politics is a unique academic path and the support from my professors has lead me to where I am now.

How has this experience affected your career path?
I am in the process of applying to law school, where I plan to study a concentration in public policy or legislation.

Seth Allen ’18
Senior Seth Allen presented his experience working on a research opportunity titled: Wavelength-Resolved Photon Fluxes of Indoor Light Sources: Implications for HOx Production. Seth completed this summer research opportunity at Syracuse University with Professor Tara Kahan. While working on this project, Seth measured the photon flux of various artificial light sources using Ocean Optics software in order to predict first-order rate constants for the formation of HOx radicals indoors. Read the abstract of the article here.
Chemistry Professor, Dr. Tracy Olin, Discusses Path to EU

Dr. Tracy Olin is currently serving as an assistant professor for the Edinboro University chemistry department.

Q: What is your educational background?
In 2008, I graduated (summa cum laude) from Youngstown State University with a bachelor of science in chemistry (minor in biology). From there I interned at NASA’s Glenn Research Center, where I worked on synthesizing and characterizing novel materials as low density insulation for space vehicles. This was a super-awesome experience and made me decide to pursue a PhD in chemistry. In 2014, I successfully defended my dissertation research and was granted a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Akron. My research in graduate school dealt with the design and synthesis of novel, antiviral drug candidates that served as M2 ion channel blockers.

Q: What is your hometown?
Warren, Ohio.

Q: What attracted you to working at Edinboro University?
I loved that Edinboro is a smaller university with a great faculty-to-student ratio. I felt like Edinboro would be a place where I could get to know students, have a greater impact on their lives, and ultimately help them succeed. I like that Edinboro places emphasis on teaching, rather than obtaining funding and pursuing research.

Q: What (or who) influenced you to become involved in the chemistry field?
I had one of the most fantastic chemistry professors when I was a freshman, pre-med major at Youngstown State. Although he was around 75 years old at the time, he was still so passionate and excited about teaching chemistry, that it was hard not to feel the same way. After taking two of his courses, I changed my major to chemistry and knew I wanted to one day teach at a university.

Q: Any particular research interests?
I am currently starting a project that is looking at the extraction and identification of natural products and their antimicrobial/bio-film activity. I think it is extremely important for our students to leave Edinboro with as much “marketable” experience as possible (instrument time, advanced lab techniques, etc.), and this project will do just that.

Q: Any hobbies or extracurricular activities you’d like to share?
I have two daughters (ages 16 and 4). Currently, my hobbies are whatever their hobbies happen to be at the moment! I do enjoy, when time allows, traveling, reading, and home improvement projects.
Edinboro University Faculty Members Elected to Top Posts in PA Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Written by Office of Communications and Marketing | Published June 15, 2017

Two Edinboro University faculty members will serve in executive leadership positions within the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association (PSHA) for 2017-18. Dr. Mary Beth Mason, chairperson of EU’s Communication Sciences and Disorders Department, will serve as PSHA president-elect. Dr. Skye Lewis, assistant professor, will assume the position of vice president for convention planning and programs.

Founded in 1960, PSHA is comprised of speech pathologists, audiologists and educators of individuals with hearing impairments. The organization recommends standards for training and practices; informs the public about careers and services dealing with speech, language and hearing disorders; and monitors the Pennsylvania licensing board for speech/language pathology and audiology.

Read more about Dr. Lewis and Dr. Mason’s accomplishments here.

EU Grad Dr. Matina Balou featured in ASHA Journal

Edinboro University graduate Matina Balou, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-S was recently featured in The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association for her work with patients who undergo facial reconstruction. Throughout the article, she discusses her path to becoming involved in the Speech Language Pathologist field as well as her work with the first ever facial transplant recipient, Patrick Hardison.

Currently, Matina Balou is working as an Assistant Professor at the New York University School of Medicine under the department of otolaryngology (head and neck surgery) and department of rehabilitation medicine.

Read the entire ASHA article here.

Co-Presentation of Poster at ASHA Conference in LA

EU Speech-Language Pathology graduate student Bethany Cousino co-presented a poster titled, Distinctive Semantic Feature Generation Abilities in Adults with Aphasia with Dr. Mary Beth Mason and a team from Duquesne University at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Conference in Los Angeles.

CSD Statistics

At Edinboro University, we strive to promote both a successful learning environment and the tools for students to get employed in their field after graduation.

Check out the 2016 statistics below.

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<th>Passing Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>20/20</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>174</td>
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<th>Completion Rate</th>
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<td>2015</td>
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<td>95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>20/20</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-16</td>
<td>59/60</td>
<td>98%</td>
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1 New scaling adopted by ETS in 2014-15; new passing score is ≥ 162
2 Passing score prior to 2014-15 was ≥ 600
A practicing paleontologist and EU faculty member since 1992, Tshudy’s next manuscript, scheduled to be published in the Journal of Paleontology, reports a new species of fossil lobster. The species is based on a single, well-preserved specimen from Oligocene age rocks of Hungary — from nearly 25 million years ago. This new species, named *Homarus hungaricus* after its discovery location in Mány, Hungary, is morphologically very similar, and closely related, to *Homarus americanus* — the Maine or American lobster. Although the species relates to the same genus as the American lobster, it exhibits a combination of features — grooves, spines, etc. — on its shell that are unique to the new species.

“What I have observed in the clawed lobsters is that it’s usually not some distinctive feature that’s unique to the species,” Tshudy said. “It’s generally that combination of features that sets it apart from existing species.”

Find out more about Dr. Tshudy’s discovery [here](#).
EU Geoscience students and faculty reconditioned the steps and improved access to Howard Falls with a ladder on November 9th. Howard Falls is a well-known waterfall in Erie County that is used by Edinboro University for various field research projects in both the geoscience and biology departments. Completing these projects greatly improved the safety and access of Howard Falls for future EU students.

Check out the pictures of the process.

Geoscience Department Wins Undergraduate College Bowl

More than 100 Edinboro University students faced off in the 11th Annual College Bowl, an academic, inter-departmental quiz competition. Teams of both graduate and undergraduate students competed for prizes by answering trivia questions pertaining to a variety of topics.

The Geoscience department was able to out-perform their competitors bringing home first prize on November 16th.

Edinboro University Geoscience Students and Faculty Improve Accessibility to Howard Falls

EU Geoscience students and faculty reconditioned the steps and improved access to Howard Falls with a ladder on November 9th. Howard Falls is a well-known waterfall in Erie County that is used by Edinboro University for various field research projects in the both the geoscience and biology departments. Completing these projects greatly improved the safety and access of Howard Falls for future EU students.

Check out the pictures of the process.
Edinboro Nursing Honors Program Earns Regional Award

Founded at Edinboro University on April 26, 1992, the Nu Theta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) is celebrating 25 years of existence by earning regional recognition for excellence.

Edinboro’s honor society for nursing students, Nu Theta received the Showcase of Regional Excellence award for commitment to lifelong learning, courtesy of Sigma Theta Tau International Region 11 – which covers western and central Pennsylvania and western New York. The group will be recognized at the Region 11 sectional meeting this month in Indianapolis.

“This recognition shows that Edinboro University is committed to the success of both our current students and those who graduate from our program,” said Amy McClune, Ph.D., RN, associate nursing professor and Nu Theta Chapter president.

STTI recognized Edinboro’s chapter for its year-ending banquet, which was presented in collaboration with EU’s Student Nurse Organization of Edinboro (SNOE) – a student-nurse organization dedicated to professional development, student success, community service and networking.

Find out more about the Student Nurse Organization of Edinboro (SNOE)

SNOE is an active student organization comprised of student nurses from freshman through senior year that take part in a wide variety of activities throughout the year. It is a solely student driven organization full of wonderful and motivated individuals who are passionate about their chosen profession of nursing.

SNOE encourages ALL nursing majors to get involved. SNOE is a fun way to network, make friends, and give back! Examples of their activities include the social committee which held a welcome-back picnic, movie night, bowling night, and Halloween party! Edinboro University and the Department of Nursing is proud of this great student organization.

Nursing Department Hosts Talk to Promote Drug Diversion Awareness

Dr. Susan Maloney of the Nursing Department hosted Supervisory Narcotics Agent Alan McGill from the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General Bureau of Narcotics Investigation and Drug Control on October 25 to discuss drug diversion in healthcare with students in health professions. Drug diversion is any criminal act involving a prescription drug. He discussed some of the causes of the opioid epidemic and how health care practitioners play a critical role in effective prevention and treatment strategies.

Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Granted CCNE Accreditation

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program has been granted full 5-year accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Five years is the maximum number of years for a first time accreditation. This comes after a huge amount of work from a number of talented, hard wording, and dedicated faculty and staff. Thank you to all of the individuals who made this accreditation possible.

Nursing Instructor Receives Doctorate

Dr. Lee Ann Leech successfully defended her doctoral dissertation at IUP on 03/27/17. Her dissertation title was Male Nurse Educators Lived Experiences with Nursing Student Incivility. Congrats!

EU Nursing Major Honored with DAISY Award

Edinboro University Nursing Major Sean Smith was selected by Saint Vincent Hospital to receive the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses. Sean’s outstanding effort to provide extraordinary care and quality service set him apart from the others.

Nursing Department State Board Pass Rates:

2015: 91.7%
2016: 91.0%
2017: 95.0%
Dr. Heather Snyder Reflects Upon Fulbright Award Experience

The Fulbright Scholar Program is a scholarship program that awards grants for international exchange of students, teachers, and other professionals. Dr. Snyder completed her visit as a US-UK Fulbright Scholar on January 15th of this year. In the paragraphs below, she explains how her work in creativity led to her Fulbright Award and reflects upon her experiences while completing this award.

Q: What is your educational background?
I have been teaching for the Edinboro University Psychology Department since Fall 2002. I grew up in Philadelphia, completed my Bachelor’s degree in Psychology at La Salle University (Philadelphia), my Master’s degree in Forensic Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY (New York), and my PhD in Applied Developmental Psychology at Fordham University (New York). One of the classes I teach is Psychology of Creativity (which I proposed and developed). I conduct research on creativity with undergraduate student members of my Creativity Research Group. It is my work in Creativity that led to my Fulbright Award.

Q: What were some of the details and overall experience of your trip?
I received the 2016-2017 US-UK Fulbright-University of Surrey Scholar Award to conduct research on feedback and creative self-perceptions and creative performance. My visit was from September 1, 2016 to January 15, 2017. We collected data from University of Surrey and Edinboro University students for this project. Three of my Creativity Research Group students (Carmela Battista, Kelsey Pollard, Daniel Zbovoy) co-authored our poster presentation on preliminary results for this project at the August 2017 American Psychological Association Convention in Washington DC. We are currently completing scoring and analyses and plan to submit the results for publication. As part of my Fulbright visit at University of Surrey, I gave a workshop on Developing Creative Assignments for their Department of Higher Education. I also gave a research talk on Feedback and Creativity for their Cognitive Research Group. In addition to my work at University of Surrey, I visited four other universities while in Europe. I gave a lecture on some of my research at Canterbury Christ Church University, which was hosted by their Psychology Creativity and Cognition Research Group. I was selected for two Fulbright Inter-Country Lecture Program Grants for which I gave lectures. I visited Todd Lubart’s lab, LATI, at the Institute of Psychology, University of Paris Descartes, France (funded by the Franco-American Fulbright Intercountry Lecture Program grant). I also visited Maciej Karwowski’s lab at Maria Grzegorzewska University in Warsaw, Poland (funded by the Polish-US Fulbright Intercountry Lecture Program grant). In addition to giving these lectures, I attended the Marconi Institute for Creativity Conference in Bologna, Italy in September 2016. I met colleagues doing similar work outside the US and learned about their creativity research and interventions. My Fulbright experience has greatly enriched my professional network and research collaborations. Two project presentations have so far resulted from this trip and one paper is in preparation.

All staff and students I met at University of Surrey were very welcoming! My host at University of Surrey, Paul Sowden, met with me weekly and we discussed our projects (the Fulbright award project on feedback and another project on creative self-perceptions started before I visited), as well as my experiences as an American in the UK. My hosts at all of my lecture visits were generous with their time. All visits were fascinating. We discussed cultural differences in our work, psychology, creativity, and education. As a US-UK Fulbright Scholar, I was part of a cohort of scholars. We met at the UK Fulbright Commission’s Orientation program in London and met again at the UK Fulbright Forum in Newcastle upon Tyne. I also met with other US-UK Fulbright Scholars outside of these formal Fulbright programs, including for a Sunday Roast, an Afternoon Tea, and a small group of us attended a panto theater performance of Aladdin, all in London.

This trip was the first time I flew out of the US, so I took the opportunity to travel during my free time. I spent time in London exploring the city (the University of Surrey is located about 40 minutes from London by train). I visited Venice, Italy since I had always wanted to see Venice. I travelled to Bath, England for a weekend to watch their Bonfire Night celebration. I visited Christmas Markets in London, Cardiff, York, and Edinburgh, and I participated in Hogmanay celebrations in Edinburgh, Scotland.

It was an amazing experience and I am planning to visit international colleagues for my next sabbatical!
Co-Presentation of Poster at Neuroscience Conference in DC

Psychology students Miranda Groft and Nathan Pistory co-presented a poster with Dr. Peter McLaughlin at the Society for Neuroscience Conference in Washington, DC.

Neuroscience 2017 was held on November 11th through the 15th at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC with more than 30,300 people attending.

This conference featured lectures, symposia, and posters about the latest scientific developments about the brain.

EU Psychology Students and Faculty Mentor Published in Keystone Journal of Undergraduate Research

Psychology professor Ron Craig, along with students Joseph Ray and Paige Skinner (graduated Spring ’17), were recently published in the Keystone Journal of Undergraduate Research. Their article, titled Mock Juror’s Perceptions of Polygraph Tactics Used to Obtain a Confession, can be read online, here.

EU Psychology and Biology Departments to be Represented at Upcoming American Psychology-Law Society Conference

Psychology major Ashley Taylor, Biology major Kendra Taylor, and professor Ron Craig will be presenting a poster titled Mock Jurors’ Perceptions of Bias in Forensic Testing at the upcoming American Psychology-Law Society Conference in Memphis, Tennessee. The American Psychology-Law Society focuses upon enhancing the well-being, justice and human rights through the science and practice of psychology in legal contexts. Find out more about the conference, here.
Edinboro social workers offer holistic healthcare through Wellness Connection

Members of Edinboro University’s Master of Social Work (MSW) program are collaborating with regional healthcare providers to connect the homeless and underserved members of local communities to a holistic, integrated quality care service.

Through Wellness Connection, Edinboro graduate student Emily Bond and instructor Natalie Montero have linked with community support groups to offer basic primary healthcare, behavioral health, case management, housing assessment and referrals, advocacy and wellness opportunities to these individuals and families. From 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Fridays, Bond joins volunteers from the Erie region at the Mental Health Association, located at 1101 Peach Street in Erie, in providing accessible care.

“The focus of the clinic is to offer a holistic approach to wellness for the homeless and underserved populations,” said Bond, an Erie, Pa. native who graduated from EU’s undergraduate program and is now working towards her MSW. “Our goal is to end the stigma of homelessness and to inform the public about how important these individuals are.”

Individuals and groups who are interested in donating food, medical supplies or hygiene items to Wellness Connection or serving as volunteers, sponsors or healthcare providers should contact Lewis at blewis@euma-erie.org.

Read the entire article here.

EU’s Elaine Rinfrette named 2017 Social Worker of the Year

During both her early career as a practicing social worker and her current position as head of the Master of Social Work program at Edinboro University, Elaine Rinfrette, Ph.D., has asked the same question.

“Regardless of what the problems might be, we must find a way to make this work,” she said. “How can we make this be a success?”

An EU faculty member for six years, Rinfrette recently was recognized for her success in social work. The National Association of Social Workers selected Rinfrette as the 2017 Social Worker of the Year in the Western Division – New York State Chapter. Rinfrette said she was shocked when she received word that she had been selected as the top social worker out of eight New York counties.

“There are a lot of social workers in this area,” she said. “To be picked out amongst all those people is pretty surprising.”

The Social Worker of the Year Award is presented to the individual who “exemplifies the best of the profession’s values and achievements through specific accomplishments,” according to the award letter from Paula Madrigal, director of the Western Division of NASW.

Read the entire article here.
Update from Physics Alumnus

Kevin Shuman (BS Physics, ‘17) is currently a graduate student and teaching assistant at Montana State University working with Dr. Neil Cornish on gravitational wave astronomy. Hear Kevin’s testimony about how Edinboro prepared him for graduate school:

“I just had my first round of mid-terms for Quantum, Math Methods, and Classical Mechanics. The first two went very well. I got a perfect on the Quantum exam, and a 96% on the Math Methods. The average for the latter was 64% with a standard deviation of 24%. Mechanics didn’t go as well. I got a little over the average, but the test was fairly long, so I think that had an effect. I have been getting A’s on all but one of two assignments. Overall, I am doing well in my classes, and I am generally doing better than the other grad students.”

CSHP Alumni: Where are they now?

Emily Plyler (BS Psychology, ‘15) is currently completing her Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences-Neuroscience at Kent State University. Emily recently presented at the Society of Neuroscience Conference about degeneration of the eye.

Joseph Howe-Hamilton (BS Geography, ‘17) is a GIS Technician for Phoenix Commercial Advisors and a graduate student in Geographic Information Systems Technology at the University of Arizona.
College of Science and Health Professions Career Outlook

Of CareerCast’s 10 Best Jobs of 2017, alumni of Edinboro University’s College of Science and Health Professions work in nine of them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Job Growth</th>
<th>Median Salary</th>
<th>Related EU Program(s)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statistician</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>$80,110</td>
<td>BS Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Services Manager</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$94,500</td>
<td>BS Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations Research Analyst</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>$79,200</td>
<td>BS Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BS Computer Science – Theoretical Track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematician</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>$111,298</td>
<td>BS Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech-Language Pathologist</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>$73,250</td>
<td>BS Speech and Hearing Sciences, MA Speech</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Language Pathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$81,910</td>
<td>BS Biology – Pre-Medical</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Security Analyst</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$90,120</td>
<td>BS Computer Science – Network &amp; Systems Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software Engineer</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$100,690</td>
<td>BS Computer Science – Theoretical Track, BS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Science – Applied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Scientist</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$111,267</td>
<td>BS Mathematics</td>
</tr>
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Faculty Publications & Grants

Grants

Dr. Peter Lindeman, Biology and Health Sciences Department
Dr. Peter Lindeman of the Department of Biology and Health Sciences was awarded a grant of $200,000 for 2014-18 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to study the status of, distribution of, and threats to map turtles.

Publications

Dr. Naod Kebede, Chemistry Department

Dr. Anne Quinn, Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Dr. Terri Astorino and Colleen Bessetti-Barrett, Nursing Department

Dr. Victoria Hedderick and Dr. Susan Maloney, Nursing Department

Dr. Wayne Hawley, Psychology Department

Edinboro University’s nursing program was recognized among America’s Best Nursing Programs in the East in new rankings announced by NurseJournal.org. The ranking of nearly 1,200 programs was compiled by NurseJournal.org, which identifies itself as a “Social Community for Nurses Worldwide.” Its mission is to educate, inform and share. Find out more here.

Nursing at EU ranked among region's best programs
Written by Office of Communications and Marketing
Edinboro University’s nursing program was recognized among America’s Best Nursing Programs in the East in new rankings announced by NurseJournal.org. The ranking of nearly 1,200 programs was compiled by NurseJournal.org, which identifies itself as a “Social Community for Nurses Worldwide.” Its mission is to educate, inform and share. Find out more here.

MSW Program #20 in Nation in Affordability
Written by Office of Communications and Marketing | Published September 13, 2017
This ranking was awarded by Affordable Colleges, an educational ranking organization that researches the affordability of programs offered by higher education bodies throughout the nation. According to Affordable Colleges, Edinboro’s Master of Social Work program “stood out in both quality and affordability.”
Find out more about the ranking here.

EU, partner #4 in Most Affordable Online Nursing List
Written by Office of Communications and Marketing
Online nursing programs offered by Edinboro University in consortium with Clarion University ranked 4th in OnlineU.org’s list of the 25 most affordable schools offering online nursing degrees. According to the website, the list “presents economical options for students looking for nursing training online. Edinboro and Clarion offer Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner and Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees online.