

CLARION

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

SPRING 2015

COURAGEOUS.
confident.

CLARION.

Biology alumnus Adam Zenone
has an indescribable summer.

THE POWER
OF courage

NO LIMIT
FOR SKYE

VOLLEYBALL
TEAM
EXCELS

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CLARION

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Clarion family,

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face."

We've all faced and conquered fears. When I talk with students and alumni, they seem to have boundless courage, and they tell me that's something they gained at Clarion. Not once, however, has a student related that her courage grew from merely showing up in class and just getting by. As great as Clarion is, there's no genie in a bottle that appears to grant wishes of knowledge and success.

Each student is his own genie, granting his own wishes. The most successful Golden Eagles have worked hard to earn their good grades. They've sought organizations, activities and experiences that enhance what they learn in class. They put in public service hours after class and spend summers performing internships to help them get that edge over other candidates in a very competitive job market.

In the pages ahead you'll read of students and alumni, from scholar-athletes who are both academic and athletic champions to a marine biologist who spent two weeks in the depths of the Atlantic, learning from Jacques Cousteau's grandson.

While they graciously attribute their grit to Clarion, we know that it is the Golden Eagles themselves, past and present, who make Clarion University great!

Tina Horner
Executive Editor

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear friends,

With each passing day, I am convinced that in many, many ways, each of us is living and enabling the Clarion promise of courage and confidence. In this issue of *Clarion University Magazine*, you will read about incredible acts of courage. You will also read about how attending Clarion inspired a confidence to achieve beyond one's wildest expectations.

These Clarion moments must be treasured and shared with future generations of Golden Eagles. I encourage you to not only read these stories, but also to tell and retell them to friends and family. In the end, this is the greatest measure of the value of being and using our higher learning in service to our families, our communities and our country.

I invite you to tag along with Adam Zenone on his undersea expedition with the grandson of Jacques Cousteau. Remember Eric Knotick's courage when he lost his life in 1986 as he came to the aid of another student who was being assaulted. Recognize the courage it takes to replace ignorance with understanding as our very successful student organization, Allies, has done for years, nurturing a more thoughtful and respectful campus climate. Be in awe, as I am, of Skye Kordistos' powerfully quiet resolve to enter college and succeed, despite the odds that accompany Asperger's Syndrome.

These are just some of our Clarion moments of courage and confidence!

Fly Eagles Fly!

Karen M. Whitney
President, Clarion University



FORMER HEINZ EXECUTIVE JOINS CLARION AS VP FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Clarion University welcomed Leonard A. Cullo Jr. as vice president for finance and administration Feb. 16, following a nationwide search. He fills the position held on an interim basis since fall 2012 by Peter Fackler.

Cullo, an experienced financial executive with a proven record of accomplishments in capital market transactions, risk management, investment management and mergers and acquisitions, comes to Clarion after 23 years with H.J. Heinz Company, Pittsburgh. Cullo began as

an H.J. Heinz company attorney in 1991 and retired as senior vice president-treasurer in 2013.

As vice president for finance and administration, Cullo is a key advisor to the president and other members of the senior leadership team, providing leadership, vision and strategic financial planning in the development of initiatives that will optimize resources in support of the university's mission and strategic objectives. He also oversees management of the university's operating budget.

Cullo, who hoped to work in a higher education setting after leaving the corporate world, said he plans to support the president in her mission, maintain Clarion's financial stability and continue to keep the excellent Clarion education affordable for students.

Cullo graduated magna cum laude from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in 1985 with a juris doctorate degree after earning his bachelor's degree in accounting at University of Notre Dame in 1980.

He and his wife, Katie, have six children.



HENDERSHOT TAPPED TO LEAD CLARION UNIVERSITY POLICE

Jason Hendershot began as Clarion's new director of public safety in January. He spent 15 years with Carnegie Mellon University Police Department, where he began as a security guard in 1999 and had advanced by 2009 to sergeant.

As a student at West Virginia University, Hendershot was planning a different career path but started to think that police work better suited him. He graduated in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in sociology, with a focus in criminal justice.

He became a certified emergency medical technician in 1997 and earned his Act 120 certificate in 2001. He is in the master's program in leadership at Duquesne University, with a concentration in professional administration.

Hendershot first became acquainted with Clarion's public safety when he worked alongside three of its officers – including Sgt. Frank Remmick, who served as acting chief of police prior to Hendershot's arrival – providing security for the G20 Summit in Pittsburgh in 2009.

He plans to complete an evaluation of the department, with the ultimate goal of accreditation.

"The accreditation process assures that the department is following best practices. It will take them to the next level," Hendershot said. "It seems like the officers are already doing the work they need to do, so they should be recognized for it."

Hendershot and his wife have a dog, Oscar. His hobbies include hunting and activities related to improving his law enforcement skills.



GONZALES WILL LEAD VENANGO COLLEGE

Roxanne M. Gonzales, Ed.D., will start as executive dean of Clarion University's Venango College July 1. The position has been held in the interim by Colleen McAleer, Ph.D., since July 1, 2014, and for 12 years prior by Christopher Reber, Ph.D.

Before coming to Clarion, Gonzales was CEO of ZIA Higher Ed Consulting. As professor of adult education and training at Regis University, Denver, she established a new online Master of Science degree in adult education and training.

Gonzales has extensive academic leadership experience in higher education. She has led accreditation processes and is experienced in determining market trends for program development. She has served on national committees working to influence policy. As president of the Association for Continuing Higher Education, she was an invited panelist to the National Press Club.

"I fully support open access and want to expand upon Venango's diverse portfolio," Gonzales said. She additionally is committed to ensuring that Venango College and Clarion University remain a resource for regional economic growth.

Prior to July, Gonzales will join Clarion part-time as special assistant to the provost.

Gonzales completed her Doctor of Education degree in higher education administration at University of Massachusetts, Boston. She earned her master's degree from Creighton University and her bachelor's degree from University of Maryland University College.

Gonzales and her husband, Sanford "Sandy" Walker, have two adult sons and a grandson.

SAFETY AND EQUITY ARE GOALS FOR NEW WGS LEADER

Kathleen McIntyre, Ph.D., assistant professor of social sciences since 2012, has been promoted to director of the Women and Gender Studies program.

“It’s my goal that the WGS center will continue to serve as an important space for forums on issues impacting students and community members today,” she said, “Including sexual assault on college campuses, violence against women and girls globally, gender barriers in higher education and issues of pay equity.”

To educate about the issues, the WGS program has brought in lecturers focusing

on the integrity and respect due to women. A related student group, VDay Project, co-sponsored a production of Eve Ensler’s “A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant, and a Prayer” in February to raise money for local sexual assault prevention and domestic violence agencies.

McIntyre earned her undergraduate degree in history and Spanish at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. She completed a master’s degree in Latin American studies and a doctorate in Latin American history at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

McIntyre is integrating the theme of sexual assault awareness into her Introduction to



Service Learning class. She received a 2015 Community Fellows grant to have students partner with PASSAGES and VDay Project in organizing Clarion’s second “Walk a Mile in her Shoes” event in April.

CLARION NAMED MILITARY FRIENDLY

Clarion University has been designated a 2015 Military Friendly® School for the sixth consecutive year.

“Clarion is very proud of this ranking because we stand by the services we offer to our veterans,” said Lynn Fleisher, director of



Clarion’s online programs. “We are committed to servicing our veterans and to continual review and addition of services in the future.”

The Military Friendly® Schools designation, awarded by Victory Media, goes to the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military students and to dedicate resources to ensure their success in the classroom and after graduation.

Criteria for consideration can be found www.militaryfriendly.com, and a complete list of schools can be found through www.gijobs.com.

US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT RANKS ONLINE MBA, MSN AMONG THE BEST



MBA

Clarion’s Master of Business Administration program ranked 62nd among 195 schools in U.S. News and World Report’s 2015 Best Online MBA category, placing it in the top third of MBA programs nationwide and first among PASSHE’s 14 schools.

“Being in the top third of all online MBA programs is a game changer for us,” said Dr. Phil Frese, dean of the College of Business and Information Sciences. “We are on the verge of bringing forth two concentrations in our MBA program, in finance as well as healthcare management. In addition, we are in the process of developing master’s-level programs in accounting and data analytics.”

In 2014, U.S. News and World Report ranked Clarion’s MBA 38th in Best Online Programs for Veterans, and Geteducated.com ranked Clarion’s online MBA as a Top 30 Best Buy.

www.clarion.edu/business



MSN

Clarion and Edinboro universities’ Master of Science in nursing program ranked 21st of 96 top-tier programs in the magazine’s 2015 Best Online Graduate Nursing category, tying with the University of Pittsburgh and representing a significant rise into the top 25 programs nationwide.

The MSN program is taught by Clarion and Edinboro faculty and administered through Clarion. Graduates have a 100 percent pass rate on family nurse practitioner certifying exams and a high placement rate in rural areas where primary care practitioners are needed.

Clarion and Edinboro have offered the MSN degree in a regional consortium since 2001. Beginning in summer 2015, they will also offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice. Applications are now being accepted. The two universities offer entry-level nursing programs independently but collaborate to offer the MSN and DPN degrees.

www.clarion.edu/nursing

The U.S. News rankings, based on statistical information about admissions selectivity, student engagement, faculty credentials and training, peer reputation, and student services and technology, are available at www.usnews.com/online.

BREAK-OUT ROLE

PASSHE approves new criminal justice degree

Clarion University will offer a bachelor's degree completion program in criminal justice administration. PASSHE approved the program Jan. 22 as part of its continuing focus on the critical workforce needs of Pennsylvania.

The new program provides individuals holding a two-year degree the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice administration. The degree will provide upward career mobility within the various criminal justice occupational fields such as corrections and law enforcement, and court-related services such as

probation, parole and rehabilitation.

Students will study managerial theory, applied research and analysis, budget and finance, policy evaluation and analysis, legal liability, conflict resolution and professional ethics. The first cohort of 25 to 30 students will begin in fall 2015.

"We have so many former graduates who have been waiting," said Dr. Paul Klenowski assistant professor and director of criminal justice at Clarion since 2008. "The bachelor's degree completion answers the demand of students in the associate degree program." The associate degree program currently has 60 enrollees.

Previous attempts to begin a bachelor's program were stopped early in the process because the proposed program didn't offer anything substantially different.

"In 2010 I sat down and created the bachelor's completion program. It's criminal justice administration – that's the key. I designed the program intentionally to create the next generation of leaders in the commonwealth," Klenowski said.

Of the 18,000 corrections officers in Pennsylvania, Klenowski said fewer than one-third have bachelor's degrees. The people in leadership positions – wardens, assistant wardens, case managers, etc. – are largely baby boomers, who are reaching retirement age. That leaves a void in those areas, without a workforce qualified to move into the positions. The bachelor's degree completion program will help to fill that void.

www.clarion.edu/crim-justice

ATHLETICS PLAN IS A *win* FOR CLARION WOMEN

Clarion University Intercollegiate Athletics Task Force presented to President Karen Whitney a number of recommendations to improve intercollegiate athletics. As a result, Clarion is launching a new intercollegiate athletics plan which will increase opportunities for women through the expansion of women's athletics and increased funding for high profile programs.

IMMEDIATE RESULTS

The women's cross country/track and field program will be enhanced to increase the program by 59 new students over five years. That enhancement includes the hiring of a new head cross country coach and the expansion and resurfacing of an eight-lane track through a combination of fundraising and capital funding.

All women students will be asked to complete a survey to identify athletic sports programs of interest to them. Although the task force recommended the addition of a lacrosse program, a final decision will be made pending the results of the survey.

Personnel will be added to the program including an equipment manager, an athletic trainer and a new head coach for the additional women's athletics program.

ENHANCED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

"Scholarships will play an integral part in the advancement of athletics," Whitney said.

As a result, she has accepted the task force's recommendation to strategically invest to increase our ability to compete, through enhanced scholarship funding, in four current athletics programs – women's volleyball, women's swimming and diving, men's football and men's wrestling.

"These are the programs that will impact enrollment and our reputation the most," Whitney said. "We will also see an uptick in student engagement, academic and athletic competition, as well as community and alumni support."

At Clarion, participation in athletics has a positive impact on graduation rates: The graduation rate for athletes is 14 percent higher than for the general student body. Clarion's percentage of scholar-athletes –

athletes who meet high academic criteria – continues to rise. On top of that, Clarion's top-performing athletes consistently earn accolades for excellence in academic performance.

"The success of our students was priority number one when we began our work," said Clarion Council of Trustees member Milissa Bauer ('84), who participated on the task force. "We focused on how best to influence recruitment, retention and graduation rates."

Through the assistance of students and the representation they had on the task force, Clarion Students' Association increased by \$114,000 its allocation to the athletic department's operating budget. Of that amount, approximately \$100,000 is for individual sports, with 72 percent being distributed to the strategic programs listed above and 28 percent going to the remaining programs.

"Our students who are athletes are a credit to the university and support our strategic efforts for student success," Whitney said. "We are confident we are on the right path with these recommendations."

SUMMER MUSICAL THEATRE FESTIVAL RETURNS

After a two-year hiatus, Clarion University Department of Visual and Performing Arts is bringing back the Summer Musical Theatre Festival, with presentations of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” and “The Wedding Singer” slated for July and early August at Clarion University and at Cook Forest’s Sawmill Theatre.

Robert Levy, chair of the department, said summer theatre, which began in 1961, was halted while the department reorganized internally, developing a plan to financially sustain the popular summer productions. Its return represents a joint effort among the visual and performing arts department, the dean of the College of Arts, Education and Sciences, the provost’s office and president’s office.

“We worked to bring it back, because it has educational worth as well as popular appeal,” Levy said. “The Summer Musical Theatre Festival approximates a summer stock theatre company. Students are engaged in rehearsing one production while performing another, a situation that actors and technicians are consistently dealing with in the professional world.”

The Sawmill Theatre performances give students the opportunity of a touring experience, but it’s also a way of serving two communities for whom the family-friendly summer theatre has become a favorite seasonal event.

“When we went on hiatus, there was a general disappointment in both the Clarion and Cook Forest communities,” Levy said. “We learned how much the community and the university value it, and how it had been a tradition for local families.”

“In a usual season we mix well known popular musicals with ones that may not be as well known,” Levy said. “For this coming season we have chosen ‘The Wedding Singer,’ a newer Broadway musical based on the Adam Sandler movie, and another, special performance celebrating the return of Summer Musical Theatre.”



STUDENTS AWARDED AT KENNEDY CENTER FESTIVAL

Senior English major Caleigh Boniger, senior technical theatre major Emily Smallwood, and freshman technical theatre major Thomas Feather earned distinction at the Regional Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Cleveland. Nineteen Clarion students attended the 47th annual event, marking the 20th year that Clarion has participated.

Boniger, of Girard, received the regional Theatrical Criticism award from the Institute for Theatre Journalism and Advocacy, qualifying her to attend the national festival in April in Washington, D.C.

Smallwood, of Dallas, Pa., won a scholarship to the Las Vegas Stagecraft Institute, where she will spend a week this summer taking technical theatre classes. She also won the regional award for Allied Design and Crafts and will attend the United States Institute for Theatre Technology, conference for professional and student theatre technicians. Her honors came from her work with puppet design for Clarion’s “Story Theatre” production.

Feather, of Windber, won the Focal Press award for his sound design for Clarion’s “The Taming of the Shrew” production.

Several Clarion professors were involved with this year’s Kennedy Center festival, including: Marilouise Michel, Ph.D., theatre; Robert Bullington, Ph.D., theatre; Drew Leigh Williams, theatre instructor; and Ralph Leary, Ph.D., English. Robert Levy, Ph.D., theatre, also attended.



THIS experience

Hannah Keck of Summerville is working for Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission as part of a 15-week internship sponsored by Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

Keck is a senior environmental geoscience major and mathematics minor at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. She is one of 13 students participating in The Harrisburg Internship Semester program, which provides students the opportunity to work in all areas of state government while earning a full semester’s worth of credits. THIS invites students from each of the State System universities to participate.

She will attend several academic seminars during her spring semester internship and will complete an individualized research project as part of the program’s requirements.

PERFORMANCES ARE AT 8 P.M. THE FOLLOWING DATES:

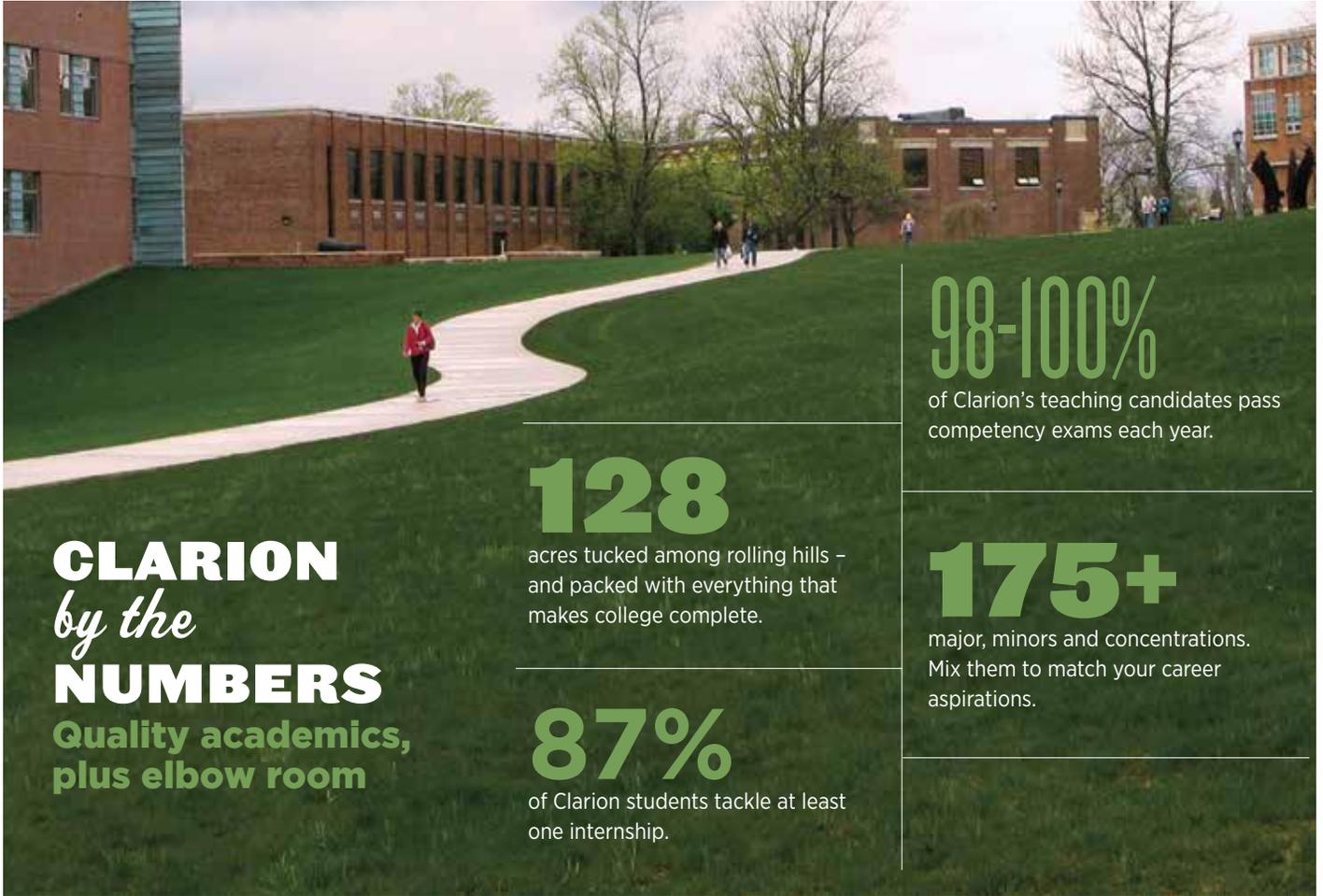
Special Summer Theatre return performance

July 2-4, Marwick-Boyd Little Theatre, Clarion University
July 9-11 and 15-18, Verna Leith Sawmill Theatre, Cook Forest

The Wedding Singer

July 23-25, Marwick-Boyd Little Theatre
July 30-31, Aug. 1, 5-8, Verna Leith Sawmill Theatre

For Clarion tickets visit www.clarion.edu/tickets.
For Sawmill Theatre tickets visit www.sawmill.org.



CLARION
by the
NUMBERS

Quality academics,
plus elbow room

128

acres tucked among rolling hills –
and packed with everything that
makes college complete.

87%

of Clarion students tackle at least
one internship.

98-100%

of Clarion's teaching candidates pass
competency exams each year.

175+

major, minors and concentrations.
Mix them to match your career
aspirations.

HIGH-SCORING SCHOLARSHIPS

Incoming freshman with a cumulative 3.25 GPA and a 1050 SAT (combined math and verbal) or a 23 ACT score are eligible for the \$1,000 Clarion Academic Scholarship.

Funded through private donations from generous donors, combined with university funds, the Clarion Academic Scholarship is renewable for up to four years (five years for some dual-certification education programs) as long as:

- The student maintains a 3.0 GPA at Clarion;
- The student continues progress toward the degree on a full-time basis (minimum accrual of 24 credits per academic year, although 30 is strongly recommended);
- The student's family annually completes the FAFSA.

Additional renewable scholarships are available for students enrolled in specific majors or in a dual certification education program.

- An additional \$1,000 is available to students who meet the Clarion Academic Scholarship criteria and who enroll in the following academic programs at Clarion: accounting, finance, international business, marketing, bachelor's-to-MBA, biology, chemistry, mathematics, geosciences, physics, computer science, information systems, management, rehabilitative sciences and human resources management.
- An additional \$1,000 is also available to 50 students with a high school GPA of 3.25 and an SAT score of 1100 (combined verbal and math)

or a 24 ACT score who enroll in a dual certification education program. Clarion has designed more than 20 specific opportunities for dual or multiple teacher certifications, and continues to explore other unique opportunities.

The awards will increase the amount of scholarship money going to Clarion students. Last year, \$1.8 million in scholarships were awarded to Clarion students.

Although these scholarship programs are designed for students graduating high school this academic year, Clarion has other scholarships available for transfer and adult learner students. To learn more about additional scholarship opportunities, visit www.clarion.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/financial-aid/scholarships.

CLARION EARNS SPOT ON PRESIDENT'S HIGHER EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOR ROLL

Clarion University has been named to the 2014 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. The President's Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition an institution of higher education can receive for its community service work.



The 2014 honor roll reflects service completed between July 1, 2013, and June 30, 2014. Clarion reported that 3,250 students were engaged in community service, logging a total of 408,924 service hours in the one-year time span.

In applying for the recognition, Kelly Ryan, assistant director of Clarion's Center for Leadership and Involvement, cited three project areas: Speech and Language Pathology and Development, Stand for Children and Reading for the Cure.

"Students in Clarion University's speech pathology program participate in a wide variety of community service programs, in and out of the classroom," Ryan said. "In addition, our students run an on-campus clinic that, in the 2012-13 academic year, served more than 400 clients of all races and ages that were struggling with a wide variety of communication disorders."

Ryan noted the "Stand for Children" advocacy project, a requirement for education majors, challenges students to look at the world through other lenses. Service activities have included assisting with story time at Clarion Free Library, teaching pre-kindergarten students about the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle, and a spring carnival.

"There were 31 students ... who worked a total of 398 hours to impact the lives of 865 children who otherwise would not have had these opportunities," Ryan said.

Reading for the Cure is an annual event held every October at the university. It is an evening of informal readings of prose and poetry by people from the university and the community, as well as by alumni.

"The event promotes breast cancer awareness and education," Ryan said.

"A recent visit to the Komen office in Pittsburgh ended with the staff pointing out to me that our event is the longest running breast cancer event after the actual Race for the Cure."

Ryan said Clarion's strategic plan puts



Lydia Whisler (front left), Brana Hill (front right) and Kelsey Snyder pack care boxes for soldiers during Martin Luther King Day of Service in January

forth that the university will expand our engagement with society and align knowledge and resources with community partners' needs.

"The university is very aware of its role as a resource and provider of knowledge and service to the community through its students, staff and programs," Ryan said. "As a part of the reassessment of what we stand for, the university adopted civic engagement as one of its seven core values."

NEW SIDEWALK enhances STUDENT SAFETY

A \$300,000 project designed to enhance the safety of Clarion University students and community members has been completed.

Administered by Clarion University Foundation, Inc., the project added a sidewalk from Reinhard Villages student housing, connecting to an existing sidewalk on Greenville Avenue.

"After years of work on the part of the Clarion University Foundation, the university and the borough, I am thrilled to see the sidewalk completed for our students and the community," said Clarion President Karen M. Whitney, Ph.D. "We care deeply about everyone's safety and know that this sidewalk will be a big help."

The project was first discussed in 2004 when Reinhard Villages was built, and two years later, the university, Clarion Borough and PennDOT collaborated on plans. It was just last fall, however, that all of the parties involved were on board with the sidewalk. Construction began in October.

"It is clearly a safety issue," said Michael Keefer, CEO of the foundation. "We are pleased that everyone has worked together to create a safe pathway for students."

"There needed to be a safe way for students to get from Reinhard Villages to the university when the buses aren't running," said Marissa Kealey, Student Senate president. Students cited concerns about walking on the berm of busy Greenville Avenue to get to and from class.

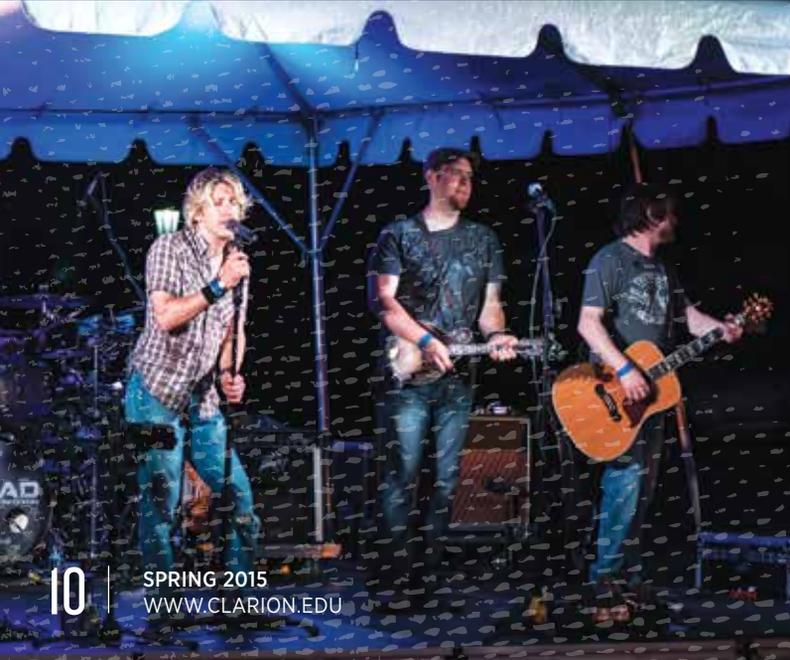
Clarion Student Senate pushed extensively for the sidewalk, and Darren Young, student representative on the Council of Trustees, advocated for the sidewalk on behalf of the student population.



alumni 2014

Clockwise, from top left:

- Delta Zeta sorority, classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972 gathered May 2 and 3 in the Pittsburgh area. They traveled from Florida, Las Vegas, New York City, New Jersey and various locations in Pennsylvania.
- A youngster tries out a career in broadcast during Alumni Weekend 2014.
- Alumni in the Washington, D.C., area share Clarion memories at a reunion.
- In celebration of 48 years of marriage, John R. ('66) and Dr. Carole (Gazibara '66, '82) Anderson traveled to Antarctica.
- Alumni in the Philadelphia area take a look at Clarion's new brand during last autumn's reunion.
- Dr. Robert Avery ('64) feels the beat at Alumni Weekend.
- Alumni and friends are welcomed to the 2014 Distinguished Awards Banquet.
- NOMaD, featuring lead singer Luke Zacherl ('04), entertains at Alumni Fest, part of Alumni Weekend.
- In the center, Keystone High School (Knox) varsity cheerleaders, coached by Kami (Tharan '99) Coursen, won the PIAA District 9 Cheer Competition and finished fourth in state semifinals, 15th overall.

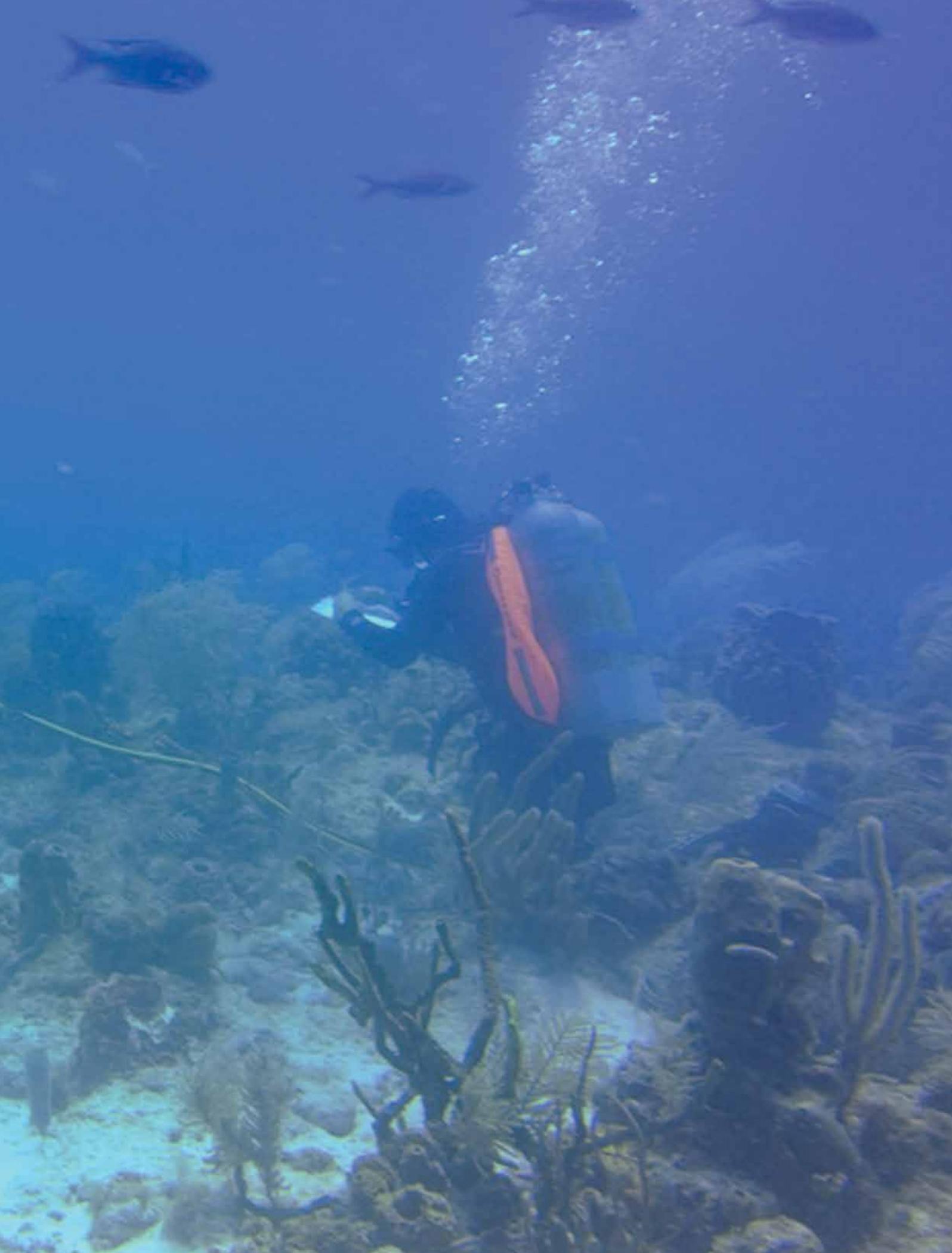




An underwater photograph of a coral reef. The water is clear and blue. In the foreground, there is a large, dark, porous coral structure. To the right, a diver's equipment is visible, including a vertical pole with a horizontal crossbar and various cables. Several fish are swimming in the background. The overall scene is serene and captures the beauty of an underwater habitat.

From an undersea habitat to an icy expedition, Adam Zenone had the scholarly summer of his life.

SUBMERGED IN LEARNING





CLARION UNIVERSITY GRADUATES HAVE DONE SOME PRETTY AMAZING THINGS. PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES, TV NEWS ANCHORS AND CEOs LINE THE PAGES OF THE ALUMNI RECORD, AND THE LIST GROWS EVER LONGER. STILL, IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE THAT ANY CLARION ALUMNUS HAS HAD QUITE THE SUMMER THAT ADAM ZENONE ('11) HAD IN 2014.

Zenone, a biology graduate with a particular interest in marine biology, moved seamlessly from Clarion to Miami in pursuit of his master's degree at Florida International University. There, he knew he would have the opportunity to do great things, but in his wildest dreams he could not have imagined joining a mission with Jacques Cousteau's grandson, Fabien, or that he would spend 16 consecutive days in an underwater habitat. Now, he's done both, and can only succinctly describe the experience as, "incredible."

"When I look back on it," Zenone said, "it kind of feels like a dream. The minute I came to the surface, I looked back down at the habitat and wondered, 'Did that really happen to me?'"

After working "top-side" on a prior mission and conducting his own related experiment, Zenone's professors and the team behind the underwater expeditions took note and asked Zenone to join an upcoming project, "Mission 31."

"I'm still trying to wrap my head around it, really. In a nutshell, I'm just blown away," Zenone said after learning he'd be joining the Mission 31 crew. "We'll be underwater for over two weeks. We won't see the sun; we won't be coming up."



“
Time flew.
We blew
through the
days like
nobody’s
business.”

THE WATER BEARER

The habitat Zenone and his crewmates lived in, known as the Aquarius, is located 63 feet beneath the surface of the ocean in the Florida Keys. The Aquarius sits near a deep coral reef – the focus of Mission 31.

Once under water, the crew got to work on their mission’s objective: studying the relationships between predators and their prey within a coral reef. Zenone explained that there is far more to the predator-prey relationship than who eats whom. Mission 31 was specifically interested in the environmental effects the predator-prey relationship had on this Florida Keys reef region. By adding predatory grouper into the environment, they were able to study the changes in the seagrass environment – a popular feeding ground for herbivorous life in the coral reef.

Their mission was part of a larger effort to determine the human impact on this and other reef areas. In this case, the crew’s findings could demonstrate the negative effects of overfishing the grouper to the coral reef environment.

One of Zenone’s major tasks involved deploying, monitoring and maintaining the SONAR acoustic equipment used on the mission. Along with his crewmembers, he spent between eight and nine hours in the water each day, using diving equipment.

“Time flew,” Zenone said. “We blew through the days like nobody’s business.” With a third of his day spent in the water, Zenone spent the rest of his time in the Aquarius, preparing for other outings, logging data, eating and sleeping. When he had some extra time, he also kept a blog (<http://zen1for31.weebly.com/>).

Since food tends to spoil quickly in the underwater pressurized environment, many of Zenone’s meals consisted of freeze-dried food. According to Zenone, the food was usually pretty tasteless, so he and his crewmates added dried peppers and hot sauce to add some flavor.

“Occasionally we’d receive fresh food deliveries from the surface,” Zenone said, adding that the Mission 31 crew looked forward to those meals immensely.





GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

Proving that success comes down to both what you know and who you know, Zenone – who worked closely with professors from Alaska for Mission 31 – was soon invited to join another research project – this time near the Bering Sea. Already having the summer of his life, Zenone quickly accepted the offer.

“We left the Keys and two days later I was in Alaska,” he said.

There, he and the research team worked with robotic vessels as part of an effort to map and monitor the bottom of a mining area in Nome, Alaska. With this map and future studies, scientists will have a better understanding of the environmental impact of the “Bering Sea gold rush,” the focus of the Discovery Channel series “Bering Sea Gold.”

Zenone explained that there are very few regulations surrounding the mining of gold in Alaskan waters. “Mapping these areas will allow us to see what they look like before and after the miners come,” he said.

**EVEN IN THE
MIDST OF HIS
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ALMA MATER.**

AT MOTHER’S KNEE

It’s hard to believe someone with this level of opportunity and attention could be so humble, but Zenone is exactly that. In fact, even in the midst of his whirlwind adventures to the farthest regions of the United States, Zenone gave a lot of credit to his alma mater.

“Honestly, without the Clarion biology department – and the fantastic caliber of professors there – I wouldn’t be anywhere, at least in terms of the level I’ve gotten to,” he said. “Every step of the way I learned directly from them. They were really good at getting us out in the field, providing hands-on experience, and teaching us how to be professionals.”

After a pause, Zenone said, “I wouldn’t have made it to grad school without them.”

What’s next for the talented young Clarion alumnus? For now, it’s back to the classroom as he prepares to finish his degree in marine biology. After that? Well if this summer is any indication, the world is Zenone’s oyster. ■

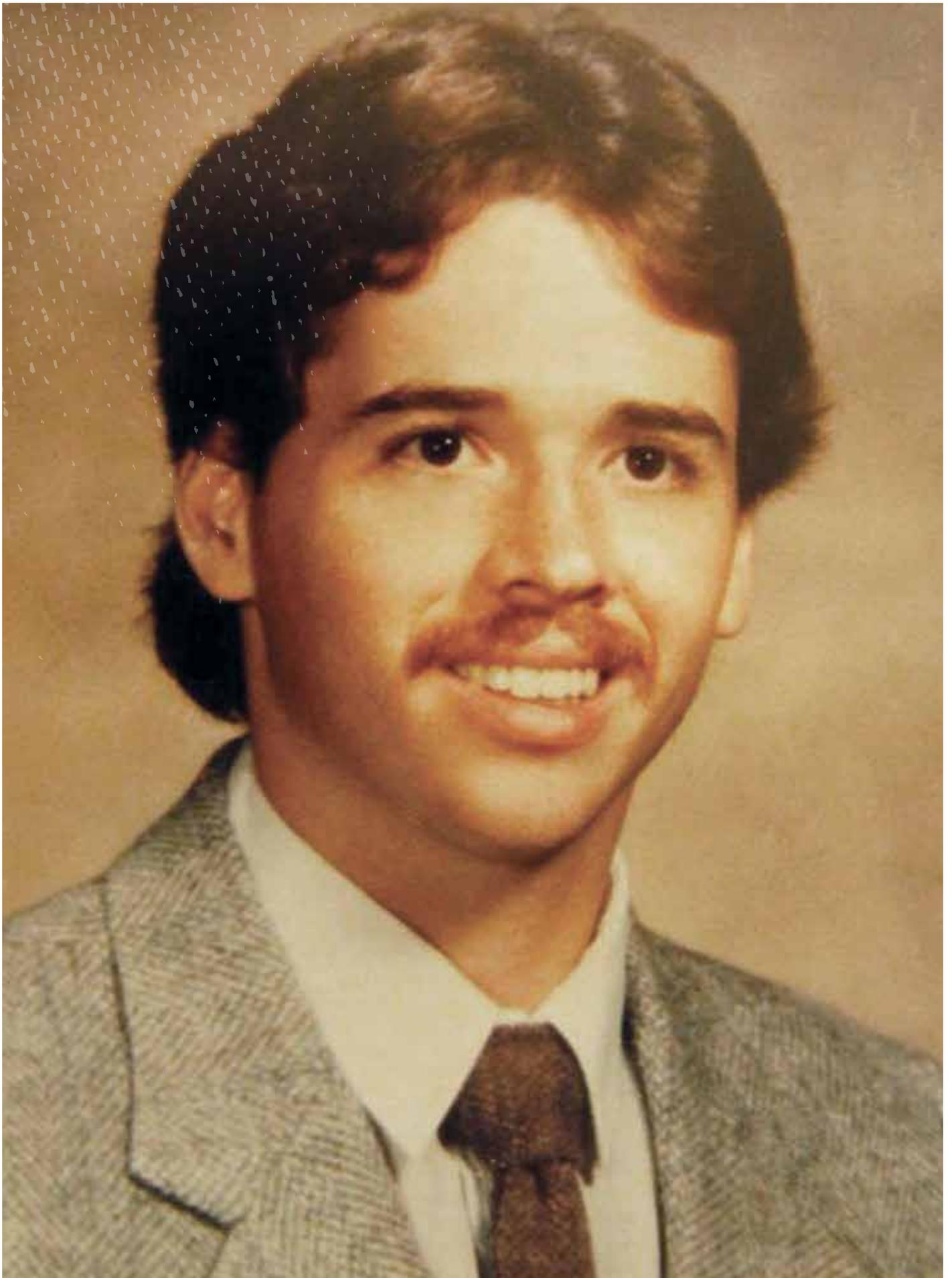
‘WHAT IS THE **RELEVANCE** OF MY *actions?*’

THE POWER OF A STUDENT’S COURAGE

The upstairs lounge in the Gemmell Student Complex on Clarion campus is dedicated to a young man who attended Clarion University in the 1980s. A plaque discloses this information by stating, “To recognize a Clarion University student (1983-86) who gave his life to help another student in need.” Above this epitaph, the words “Eric Knotick Lounge” and the dates of his life rest in a bronzed display.

“He just liked helping people,” said Diana Kunselman, psychology department secretary. Kunselman knew Eric a short time, from March of 1986 until the day he died in November of that year. But, because she was department secretary, and Eric was a student assistant, Kunselman got to know him as well as most.

“I saw him pretty much every day,” she said. “It was not unusual to come in and find him asleep at one of the tables in our student work area and lab area. He’d be there late at night studying, and would end up falling asleep.”



“Knowing some of the facts later, I don’t think they actually gave the D.A. a chance.... It never got to that point: they threw it out before.”

—BABETTE STAHLMAN

It never got to that point (of having enough evidence): they threw it out before,” Stahlman said.

The court decision over Kapusnik’s actions distressed both Clarion’s campus and town community. By May of 1987, community members disturbed by the lack of attention given to Eric’s case chose to raise their collective voice and formed the Concerned Citizens for Clarion County Justice. CCCCJ began examining the political decisions made by local officials and creating a general awareness of what happened in Clarion’s judicial system.

Though The Butler Eagle reported on Oct. 7, 1987, that State Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Nix Jr. ordered an investigation of the case, the ruling held. Eric’s family and friends tried for more than two years to get the Kapusnik court decision overturned, but eventually decided they had exhausted every avenue available to them.

“We felt there was nothing else we could do but remember him with the fondest of memories,” Eric’s mother, Carol, said.

In fact, many people recall Eric with fond memories. Randall Potter, Ph.D., professor

KNOTICKISH

Eric was a young man who was well-liked by both students and faculty. In the program for his memorial service was a list of what it means to be **“Knotickish.”**

To *hang signs* for the psychology conference on I-80 at 5 a.m.

To *carry* his high school orange bookbag into his junior year of college.

To *write* the best papers in the psych lab at 3 a.m.

To *always wear* a grin.

To *search for* meaning in EVERYTHING.

To *love* his father’s high regard for life.

To *be one of* four men from CU who marched for women’s lives.

To *listen to* Simon & Garfunkel, Pink Floyd and Elton John, and buy a record for 50 cents.

To *film* after hours in the psych lab.

To *earn* honors.

To *lead* his peers.

To *singlehandedly make up* practice tests for Semon’s class.

To *whip up* a 24-page demographic study with graphs in 24 hours and earn a B.

To *rearrange* the pictures in the psych lab for art’s sake.

To *be part of* a family that welcomed Clarion University students and faculty into their home.

To *be a humble hero.*

of psychology and current chair of the department of psychology, shared some of Eric's vivacious campus involvements. One of Potter's most fixated memories of Eric was his organization of a trip to the West Virginian Hare Krishna temple.

"His interests were quite broad, and that trip probably represents his style as much as anything does," said Potter, who was also Eric's academic advisor. "He was interested in everything, and willing to try new things and explore new experiences of any sort."

Potter also noted Eric's "strong sense of social justice," a fact to which his life attests. Eric marched for women's lives, leaving such an impression in his dedication that the spring 1987 conference "In a Different Voice," hosted by the Status of Women Subcommittee of the Affirmative Action Committee and the College of Continuing Education, was dedicated to him. He was also a member of the Consumer Buying Club, a food co-op he

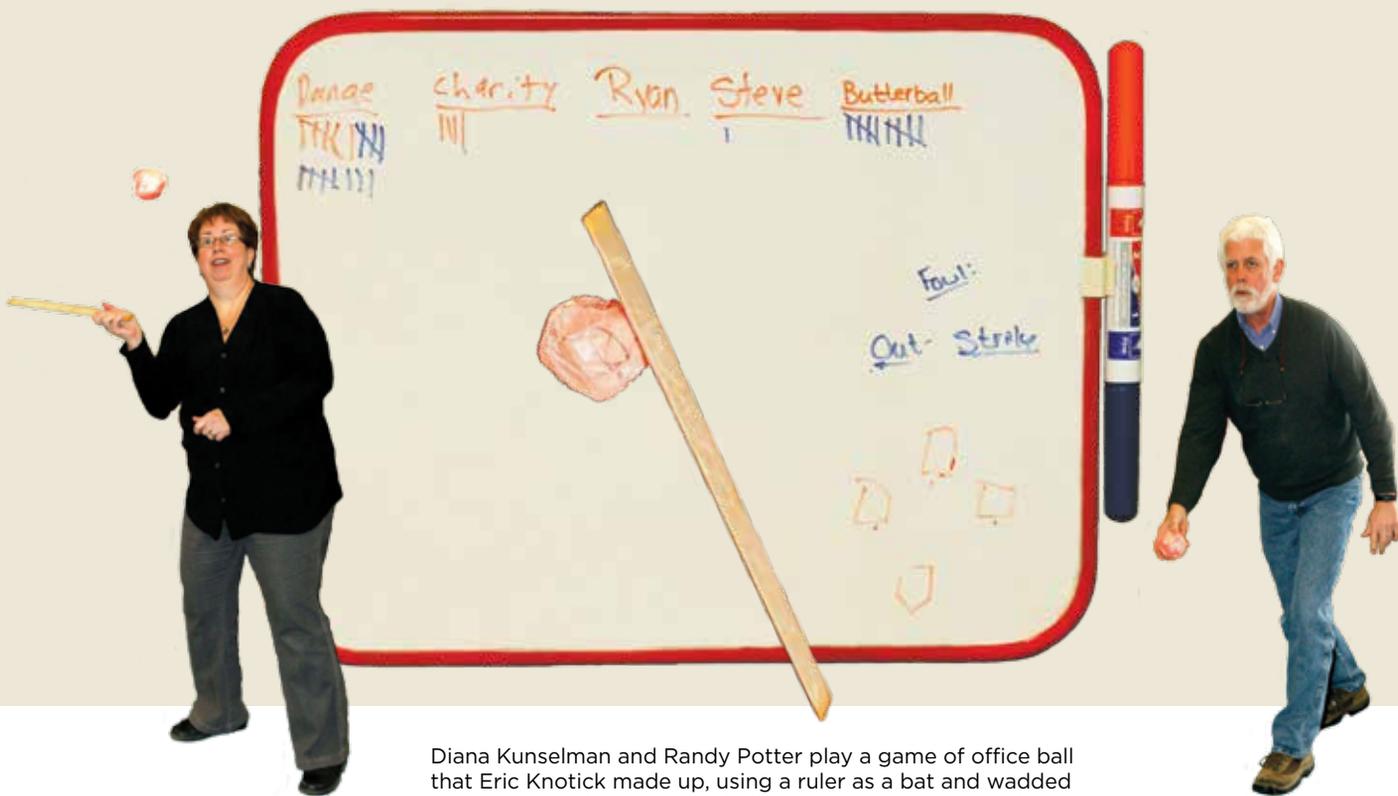
became involved with through a Clarion professor. According to Kunselman, he worked far beyond what was required of him as a student assistant. Potter said that Eric "stood out among the majors of the time."

While at Clarion, Eric made the dean's list, served as president of the Psychology Club and was a member of the Psi Chi Honorary Society. He worked two years as an assistant in the department of psychology and was a student assistant, receiving a departmental scholarship. His work was duly appreciated by the university, and he was posthumously awarded his degree.

Aside from the degree and lounge, other remnants of Eric remain on Clarion's campus - the Eric S. Knotick Service Scholarship, for instance. This award was established in memory of Eric's service to the university and the sacrifice he made. After his death, a special honor called the Eric S. Knotick Good Samaritan Award was

"I THINK AT THAT MOMENT HE WAS MEANT TO HELP THIS GIRL...I DON'T THINK EITHER ONE COULD HAVE LIVED WITH THEMSELVES IF THEY HADN'T COME TO HER AID."

—CAROL KNOTICK



Diana Kunselman and Randy Potter play a game of office ball that Eric Knotick made up, using a ruler as a bat and wadded paper wrapped in tape as a ball. The original scoreboard is shown with the tally from the most recent game. Students still play when they need a mental break from their studies.

founded by Clarion University and Clarion Borough Council to recognize him. Eric's parents, Carol and Raymond, and Bill Marsh were the first recipients of this annual award.

"I think at that moment he was meant to help this girl...I don't think either one could have lived with themselves if they hadn't come to her aid," Carol said. "We've always felt maybe this was what he was meant to do. You have to look at it that way sometimes to get through it."

Curt Knotick described his brother's philosophical, kind, quiet nature, as well as

his tendency toward justness. According to Curt, Eric conducted his life with an exuberance that led to his principles. He did not hesitate to execute fairness and seemed to harbor a confidence it what he was about.

"Ultimately," said Curt, "(Eric and Bill were) just confident in their actions. (They were) confident in human nature, but also in the human being in general - not thinking what the consequences are, but just being courageous and confident in your actions."

Curt added that Bill and Eric's sacrifice to help another is something that should be exemplified. Though "heroes" pop up in the news, the majority of stories reveal a grimmer reality.

"So often we see in the news today stories and videos of people being attacked and people just walking by," Curt said. "I think that society's become disconnected with human life, quite honestly, and I think what's lacking today is just valuing others... That's what (Eric) and Bill displayed that evening."

Eric wrote the following thoughts one week before he died:

“WHAT ACTIONS HAVE MEANING? WERE WE A PRODUCT OF EVOLUTION OR DIVINE INSPIRATION OR IS THERE A POINT OF OVERLAP? WHAT IS MY PURPOSE OR ULTIMATE GOAL? WITHIN THE CONFINES OF CONTEMPORARY THOUGHT, WILL WE BE ABLE TO FIND A SOLUTION OR WILL WE CREATE ONE? APART FROM DISCOVERING ANSWERS, WHAT SHOULD THE QUESTIONS BE? WHAT IS THE RELEVANCE OF MY ACTIONS?”



Eric's story is one that will surpass the archetypical college student's tale. His obituary in The Oil City Derrick contained a quote from Thomas Bond, president of Clarion University at the time of Eric's death: "Eric's actions are a courageous example of a good Samaritan trying to help someone in distress."

Eric was **courageous**. He was **confident** in his ability to assist a young woman in danger, and he gave his life in the process. But more than that, his sacrifice led others to question the sincerity of their justice system and their actions...and gave them a confidence all their own. ■

Skye Kordistos ('13)
and her dog Toto





NO
limit
FOR THIS
SKYE

When Skye Kordistos ('13) entered Waldo S. Tippin Gymnasium to get her bachelor's degree from Clarion University in May 2013, she had tears in her eyes from excitement. She remembers feeling a little strange because she had never actually been to campus before. "I felt like a fish out of water," said the 23-year-old alumna in reference to the pursuit and completion of her degree via Clarion's online library science program. "But I figured I took the time to complete the four years, I might as well go to the college and walk across the stage."

DISABILITY *support* SERVICES

The office of Disability Support Services is available to any enrolled Clarion University student having a documented disability. The office of Disability Support Services provides the student with reasonable accommodations as documented through evaluations. Appropriate accommodations are individually based upon identified need. The coordinator meets with these students each semester to determine the effectiveness of the accommodation and to evaluate the need for any further services.

Disability-related curricular and test accommodations may include:

- Extended time for exams
- Reader for exams
- Scribes for exams
- Word processor for exams
- Alternate test location
- Objective exams, when possible
- Essay exams, when possible
- Oral exams, when possible
- Extended time for in-class assignments
- Taped lectures
- Taped textbooks
- Note taking assistance
- Sign language interpretation
- Assistive technology
- Liaison with agencies

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

A15 CARLSON LIBRARY

8 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

PHONE: 814-393-2095

TEXT TELEPHONE

(TTY/TDD): 814-393-2095

FAX: 814-393-2368



The tears in her eyes weren't just for receiving her diploma on campus, though. The tears – of excitement and joy – were also for completing the educational journey through Clarion's online degree program. Diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, a form of highly-functioning autism that complicates socialization, the Buffalo Grove, Ill., resident, and her family, had been concerned about whether she would be able to complete the coursework away from her support system in a traditional, on-the-ground degree program.

"I wanted to go away to college to be kind of independent, but then I realized it was going to be a little harder on me to be away from home," Kordistos said.

She acknowledged that her diagnosis makes it that much harder for her to adapt to new places and change – "that was one of the factors" – and the pressure to put things into words and to socialize – "I didn't know how I would fit into the whole campus environment."

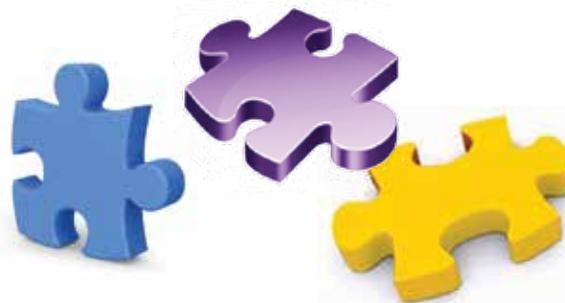
"When I found out about online schooling, it changed my life and changed my perspective on going to college. It worked wonders for me," Kordistos said. Her degree interest – library science – was offered at only a few different colleges, Clarion University being one of them. She

has some relatives in Pennsylvania, which was another reason she had interest in the school.

Kordistos chose Clarion,

not only for its online degree availability, but also because, "It was one of the top schools in Pennsylvania. That was a deciding factor," she said. "They have a really good library science program, and their disability services would make sure I had all the tools I needed. So in the end I decided to go with Clarion and go online and be all set."

Because she had never taken online classes before, the first semester proved to be a challenge for her. "It was tough. You have to figure out the time to do the work," Kordistos said. "My word of advice



Skye with her parents and grandmother, holding dog Toto



is don't take a full course load the first semester if you're new to this. Just go at your own pace."

By the second semester, she had her routine down.

"It was a lot easier because I was able to manage my time a little better," she said. "I wasn't as stressed as the first semester, so it went a lot better. I took two less classes than my course load was my first semester."

She credits Clarion for having everything she needed to be a successful online student – "All the teachers reached out once I reached out" – and for accommodating her disability. "There were some instances I did need some extra

time because some of the material was confusing to me. Disability services work well to get what you need."

A voracious reader, especially of young adult novels, she especially enjoyed a class about young adult fiction.

"We had to read all these books. Some I had never even read before like (Robert Cormier's) 'The Chocolate War' and 'The Fault in our Stars' by John Greene," she said. Her goal is to become a full-time young adult librarian. "I wanted to stick with what I was comfortable with. Going to Clarion really had to do with their great library program."

In May 2013 Skye received her degree in liberal studies with a concentration in

library science. "When I entered the stage, I was smiling the whole, entire time. It was unbelievable!"

After her positive experience earning her bachelor's degree at Clarion, she decided to pursue Clarion's online Master of Science in Library Science degree. She began classes in fall 2013.

"I'm doing it full time and hope to complete it by next spring," Kordistos said. "Basically, I didn't think I could do this the first time, but when I got to the end, it was easy. It's truly the greatest thing I've come across. I am so excited. I am ready to get finished, to get out there and become a librarian!" ■

AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDERS

AUTISTIC
DISORDER
(OR AUTISM)

ASPERGER'S
SYNDROME

PERVASIVE
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISORDER

HIGH
FUNCTIONING
AUTISM

PLANNING IS *essential* FOR STUDENTS WITH ASD

When Mary Pat McCarthy, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, associate professor of communication sciences and disorders, learned of Skye Kordistos, a student who graduated from Clarion University's online degree program, she was moved. "She not only fulfilled her wishes, but her parents' hopes and dreams for her."

Kordistos didn't let her diagnosis of Asperger's syndrome, an autism spectrum disorder, stop her from getting her degree. Because it worked better with the parameters of her situation, she chose the online degree program.

McCarthy describes ASD as "a complex neurological and developmental disorder that begins early in life and affects how a person acts and interacts with others, communicates and learns. ASD affects the structure and function of the brain and nervous system." Because it affects development, ASD is called a developmental disorder and can last throughout a person's life." Asperger's is considered a "mild form of ASD."

People with the disorder may have problems with picking up on small talk or nonverbal cues in conversation, she said, adding that they may have "difficulty generalizing from one situation to another until they have had enough experience to develop an internal rule regarding that type of situation. This inability to generalize can be seen as inflexibility and can cause problems in learning environments." Other challenges may include:

- Communication and interaction with other people
- Restricted interests and repetitive behaviors
- Intellectual problems, including problems with reasoning or memory
- Language problems, such as problems learning to speak

"I would in no way imply that people with this disorder should only attend college online, but it is an option for some," McCarthy said. "People with (ASD) have set patterns and routines. For Skye, I believe it gave her a safety net to learn according to the way she lives her life."

A 25-year expert in her field, McCarthy also had a family member with a similar diagnosis, but he graduated from college before he was diagnosed. "His repetitive behavior would get him in trouble because he didn't have that diagnosis," she said. Asperger's Syndrome didn't have an official name until 1994 and then, as of 2013, it was pulled back under the autism spectrum disorder title. "There were challenges because he was unable to read social cues. But eventually, over time, he developed coping skills and graduated."

Depending on "where they are on the spectrum," college isn't always an option, "but that's not to negate that there wouldn't be a career or vocation," she explained. "People with (ASD) have set patterns and routines, and not having to conform to someone else's schedule can be helpful for them to be successful. "For those with an ASD diagnosis who do believe college is the way to their career

It is important that prospective students pick a field that works for them. Students with the (ASD) diagnosis have a propensity of looking at the world in patterns and routines, so a field that aligns with that propensity can be helpful, and sometimes vital.

path, McCarthy has some suggestions, whether completed online or traditionally in the classroom.

"It depends on the individual needs of the student receiving instruction," she said. "Some students learn better in an environment where the amount of external distractions can be eliminated, for example."

"Just as Skye picked the right major that aligned with her interests and her learning patterns," McCarthy said, referring to Kordistos' choice of major in the library sciences, "it is important that prospective students pick a field that works for them. Students with the (ASD) diagnosis have a propensity of looking at the world in patterns and routines, so a field that aligns with that propensity can be helpful, and sometimes vital."

She also suggested pacing her course load as Skye did, doing a little bit at a time. "Carrying a full course load just might be overwhelming, not that it can't be done," McCarthy said.

As for taking classes online or attending school in the classroom, “both can be valid options. You have to pick a way that aligns with your interests and works around your social interaction, but like any student, you have to pick the right major that works for you.”

McCarthy stresses the importance of students utilizing the disability services of their school.

“Sometimes students don’t want to declare their disability, maybe because of past problems in high school or fear of being singled out, but by not doing so, for example, a professor does not have to make accommodations for you if you might need them,” McCarthy said, referring to Kordistos’ request of having more time to take a test as an example. It also doesn’t hurt to contact your state’s Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, she added.

“When a student has a disability that can be affected by the learning environment or method of instruction, they must declare their disability in order to receive any accommodations

SUCCESS IN COLLEGE CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED WHEN STUDENTS RECOGNIZE, PLAN AND SECURE OPPORTUNITIES TO OVERCOME THE OBSTACLES THAT THE DISABILITY PRESENTS.

to their instruction that would assist in facilitating successful learning,” McCarthy said.

The overall success of the student is a combination of factors, she added.

“I cannot emphasize (enough) the need for preplanning their program, finding the best balance for the individual between online and face-to-face, the right major, the right accommodations, the necessity of the office of disability support services and



the office of Vocational Rehabilitative Services when any student with a disability is attempting to navigate the transition from high school to work,” McCarthy said.

“Sometimes college is the next step, but success in college can only be achieved when students recognize, plan and secure opportunities to overcome the obstacles that the disability presents,” she said.

As for Kordistos and other students diagnosed with ASD who successfully pursue their chosen vocation, whether via a college education or other means, “Everybody wants their child to grow up and be successful in society regardless of their disability. I’m a big proponent of that.”

Mary Pat McCarthy, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, is an associate professor in the department of communication sciences and disorders, where she has also served as a clinical supervisor since 1994. She has presented at regional, state and national conferences on topics pertaining to clinical pedagogy/supervision, and clinical practice issues in a variety of areas including adult and child language and speech disorders. She has published articles in the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association “SIG 11 Perspectives in Administration and Supervision” and served as a column coordinator from 2003-2011. She is a past vice president of publications for the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association. She is a member of ASHA, PSHA, and ASHA SIG 11 Administration and Supervision, SIG 16 Schools, SIG 14 Culturally Linguistic Diverse Populations. She can be contacted at mmccarthy@clarion.edu.

COMMON CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE WITH ASPERGER’S SYNDROME

(from Asperger/Autism Network website, www.aane.org)

- Have normal to very high intelligence and have good verbal skills.
- Challenges with the use and understanding of language in a social context.
- Trouble understanding what someone else is thinking and feeling.
- Need to be taught social behavior that is “picked up on” intuitively by others.
- Difficulty understanding non-verbal cues such as hand movements, facial expressions, and tone of voice.
- Challenges with organization, initiation, prioritizing, all called executive functioning tasks.
- Focusing on small details rather than the bigger picture
- Intense interest areas such as movies, geography, history, math, physics, cars, horses, dogs or reptiles. These interest areas change every three months to several years.
- Friendships usually formed through mutual interest areas or activities.
- Most view the world in black and white with difficulty compromising or seeing the gray areas.
- Most describe themselves as feeling different, like aliens in our world.
- Anxiety and/or depression are major components for many people with AS and may affect their ability to function.
- Some have extreme and debilitating hyper- or hypo-sensitivity to light, noise, touch, taste or smell. The environment can have a profound impact on their ability to function.

CLARION ALLIES

NO PLACE FOR
HOMOPHOBIA—RACISM—SEXISM—HATE

WE ONLY HAVE ROOM FOR LOVE

Allies members (from left) Kaitlyn Ellinger, Morgan Woodin, Tom Sirianni, Jaime Boudier, Jeremy Moore, Shelby Ehrin, Larry Weigner, Geralyn McMullen, Kenny Anderson, Katie Schulze, Chris Wilson, Brianne Webster and Alison Lashinsky create a rainbow cloud representing Allies' universal acceptance.



Kaitlyn Ellinger was brand new to Clarion, learning about the campus at freshman orientation, when she first heard of Allies. A senior graphic arts major from DuBois, Ellinger said, “Right then and there, I wanted in on it.” She immediately became involved and has been the organization’s publicity officer and vice president, and she is Allies’ current president.

“

Clarion is a very accepting place. I wasn't expecting that.”

Allies, founded unofficially in 1993 and officially in 2000, is an organization of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning and straight students, faculty and Clarion community members who have come together to work for the preservation of the human rights of all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.

“We create a safe atmosphere,” she said. “We’re not going to judge you by your sexual orientation, race or any kind of diversity that comes with being a human being.”

Allies mission is to promote a supportive environment, to promote equality and give support to those who don’t know who they are, or who know who they are and are scared of what people are going to think, Ellinger said.

“I wasn’t ‘out’ (as lesbian) at home. Only close friends knew. I was in a relationship and had to hide it for three years – I felt like I was in a box and couldn’t get out,” Ellinger said. “Coming (to Clarion) was great. I could, at all times, be who I wanted to be. Through Allies, I was finally able to express myself and help other people find



Allies members (from left) Jamie Smith, Shelby Ehrin, Morgan Bashline, Morgan Woodin, Amber Opitz and Mara Teeple, show the group’s banner.

out who they are.” Having come from a small town, Ellinger wondered how the environment at a small town university would compare.

“Clarion is a very accepting place – I wasn’t expecting that,” she said.

Clarion is so accepting, in fact, that Ellinger has never encountered negativity on campus as a member of Allies.

“People don’t come in (to Allies) and discriminate. I’d consider it a pretty close-knit group,” she said. Likewise, as far as treatment on campus in general, she hasn’t heard negative terms used toward the LGBT population, but that doesn’t mean the campus doesn’t have room for growth.

“I still hear people calling inanimate objects ‘gay,’” she said. She’d also like to break the stereotype of what a gay person looks like – only manly girls are lesbian, only feminine men are gay. “That’s not true.”

To help spread the message of equality, Allies members make themselves available for classroom panels. Upon request by a professor or instructor, Allies students will visit a classroom, answer questions, tell personal stories and talk about the next step toward equality.

Last fall Allies invited to campus Mission Improvable, a comedy act, and members



Drag queens (from left) Keeghan Gettit and Kimmi Moore join members Jaime Boudier and Kaitlyn Ellinger for Allies’ annual Drag Talent Show.

helped with UAB’s roller skating night. This spring, Allies will host its fourth annual Drag Talent Show as part of Allies Week in April.

“We want to get out there, have fun and make people feel comfortable,” she said. “Allies Week will have various activities highlighting the underlying issues of the LGBT community. We want to get people out there beside one another, and just have fun.”

Overall, Ellinger said she’s definitely pleased with the progress being made for LGBT people nationwide.

“Yeah definitely, especially with same sex marriage laws. I’ve lost count, but I believe somewhere in the high 30s (states allowing same-sex marriage),” she said. “I think that’s great. I remember coming to terms with myself thinking I’d never get married. Things are definitely improving, and I couldn’t be more excited by that.” ■

STRATEGIC EQUITY DIVERSITY PLAN

PLAN'S GOAL: EQUAL ACCESS, PARTICIPATION

Clarion University has released its Strategic Equity Diversity Plan, part of the university's overall Strategic Directions.

The plan cites six goals, which Dr. Jocelind Gant, assistant to the president for social equity, describes as the nucleus of the plan.

Clarion University will:

- Foster an institutional climate and inter- and intra-group relations that are affirming of inclusivity.
- Recruit and retain a diverse student body that supports its mission of "inclusive and student-centered environments."
- Recruit and retain a diverse workforce that supports its mission of "inclusive and student-centered environments."
- Encourage research and scholarship reflecting an appreciation of cultural and social differences.
- Encourage the development of curriculum and pedagogy that support trans-cultural and global competency.
- Encourage diversity within the university leadership.

"We worked closely with President Whitney on all of the six goals," Gant said. "The plan is grounded in the university's mission and core values."

The university mission states, "Clarion University of Pennsylvania provides

transformative, lifelong learning opportunities through innovative, nationally recognized programs delivered in inclusive, student-centered environments."

"The goals are not just stated goals. They are aligned with the expected outcomes, which are very clearly articulated in the plan," Gant said.

The Strategic Equity Plan lays out, for each of the goals: the objectives, key action items, expected results, assessment, the individual or office responsible for the expected outcome, and a deadline by which the results are expected. Accountability is an important component of the plan.

"The accountability is university wide," Gant said. "Past plans were not as intentional. There was always the view that it was solely the equity office's responsibility. Based on how this plan is constructed, it's not just one office's responsibility; it is a shared responsibility."

For example, the plan was officially launched at the annual Equity Banquet and Awards Ceremony in November 2014. Goal number four states that "Clarion will encourage research and scholarship reflecting an appreciation of cultural and social differences."

"As such, we (the Office of Social Equity and the Student Senate) restructured the equity awards to accommodate this goal, which recognizes research on diversity and inclusion," Gant said. "That outcome was accomplished by presenting the inaugural presidential award for scholarship, service or teaching that reflected or promoted diversity. Dr. Greg Goodman was the first recipient of that award."

Gant said diversity is often thought of solely in terms of as race and gender – "That's not how we practice diversity here." For Clarion, the characteristics or dimensions of diversity are far more inclusive, consisting of differences that are both mutable (educational background, marital status, geographic location etc.)

"EQUITY DENOTES WHAT THE WORD, LITERALLY, SAYS: EVERY MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY IS TREATED FAIRLY REGARDLESS OF RACE, ETHNICITY, GENDER, GENDER IDENTITY OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION. IT IS SYNONYMOUS WITH FUNDAMENTAL FAIRNESS," GANT SAID.

and immutable (race, ethnicity, age, gender identity, sexual orientation and physical abilities etc.). The university's mission states that Clarion will have an "inclusive" environment; to be inclusive, it's anyone who is "the other" or different from a majority group.

"Equity denotes what the word, literally, says: Every member of the university community is treated fairly regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. It is synonymous with fundamental fairness," Gant said.

In certain departments, it has been observed, that the representation of protected groups of either faculty or staff is not comparable to the national availability.

"Historically, there's been underrepresentation of women in the skilled trades and some academic disciplines. We've observed that women are underrepresented in some academic faculty departments both numerically and by rank (associate and full professor rank)," Gant said. "There's more work to be done in those areas."

SAY THIS... NOT THAT... WHY?



GAY

HOMOSEXUAL

Because of the clinical history of the word “homosexual,” it is aggressively used by anti-gay extremists to suggest that gay people are somehow diseased or psychologically/emotionally disordered.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

SEXUAL PREFERENCE

The term “sexual preference” is typically used to suggest that being lesbian, gay or bisexual is a choice and therefore can and should be “cured.”

OPENLY GAY OR OUT

ADMITTED HOMOSEXUAL

Dated term used to describe those who self-identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual in their personal, public and/or professional lives. The word “admitted” suggests that being gay is somehow shameful or inherently secretive.

RELATIONSHIP OR COUPLE

HOMOSEXUAL RELATIONSHIP OR HOMOSEXUAL COUPLE

As a rule, try to avoid labeling an activity, emotion or relationship gay, lesbian, or bisexual unless you would call the same activity, emotion or relationship “straight” if engaged in by someone of another orientation.

FROM AP STYLEBOOK ENTRY FOR “TRANSGENDER”

Use the pronoun preferred by the individuals who have acquired the physical characteristics of the opposite sex or present themselves in a way that does not correspond with their sex at birth. If that preference is not expressed, use the pronoun consistent with the way the individuals live publicly.

Gant said in terms of ethnic minorities, in some departments, there’s no ethnic representation, period.

“There is clearly a need to do better in those areas. Every year an affirmative action plan analysis is conducted to determine the underrepresentation of protected groups such as women and ethnic minorities. It’s done mainly to compare the university’s representation with the national availability of faculty in respective disciplines. Federal regulations have codified the guidelines for this analysis, and they have been helpful to universities in establishing goals such as those contained in the Strategic Equity Plan,” Gant said.

“Individuals of the LGBTQ community have not been represented to the fullest extent of the law, but progress is evidenced with the evolving case law. These goals are intended to be inclusive of all groups.”

“Our intent is not to hire a certain number from a certain group, but to afford all members of the university community equal access and participation.”

—Dr. Jocelind Gant

Gant emphasized that the equity and diversity goals are not quotas – “Our intent is not to hire a certain number from a certain group, but to afford all members of the university community equal access and participation,” she said.

“There’s a deep-seeded perception that African Americans or ethnic minorities have received a job because of their minority status rather than on

their merit,” Gant said. “We do not dilute qualifications to hire a protected group member – everyone (hired) has to meet the qualifications. If you have three individuals for a faculty position, and they are comparably qualified based on the advertised qualifications, we will determine if there is underrepresentation in terms of women, minorities, veterans, individual with disabilities, etc. If we have a very qualified candidate that brings the added value of diversity, this office would, in turn, make a compelling argument to the department as to the reasons why we believe that the specific individual with the added value should be hired, not simply on the basis of protected status, but because of the candidate’s qualifications.”

To view the plan in its entirety, visit www.clarion.edu/strategicdiversitygoals.

CLARION WELCOMES *new* HEAD COACHES

CHRIS WEIBEL

FOOTBALL

Chris Weibel ('98), former Golden Eagles All-America quarterback and assistant coach for 11 seasons at his alma mater, was named head football coach Feb. 6 following a nationwide search.

"I am excited to welcome Chris as our new head football coach and believe he will begin to build a program that restores our winning heritage," said President Karen M. Whitney, Ph.D. "I believe a successful football program is a key ingredient in building our new era of excellence in intercollegiate athletics."

"I will dedicate myself to restoring the pride, passion and success of Clarion football," Weibel said. "I thank everyone for this opportunity, especially the support I received from so many former teammates, alumni and friends around the country."

A native of East Brady and a 1993 grad of Kittanning High, Weibel came to Clarion and played from 1993 to 1998 and had a record-setting career. His top season came in 1996 when he led Clarion to an 11-3 overall record, the PSAC-West title, NCAA D-II East Regional crown and a berth in the NCAA Final Four. A 1996 All-American, he ranked #2 in the nation in quarterback efficiency; he completed 208 of 356 passes for a record 2,880 yards and 32 touchdowns.

Weibel owns career records for passing yards (7,845), touchdowns (65), attempts (1,065) and completions (586).

He graduated from Clarion in 1998 and played five years of professional football in the AFL, AFL 2, IFL and NIFL before returning in 2004 to begin his coaching career at Clarion.



CHERYL PETERSON

SOFTBALL

Cheryl Peterson, a native of San Diego and a 2003 graduate of Penn State-Behrend, was named softball coach Jan. 13, replacing Shintrika Hudson. Peterson came to Clarion from Yale University where she was an assistant coach for two seasons. She also had coaching stints at York College and Penn State-Behrend. A four-year starter at Behrend, she played in 127 career games. She had a career batting average of .376 with 76 rbi's, 78 runs and 36 doubles.



KEITH FERRARO

WRESTLING

Keith Ferraro was named head wrestling coach Dec. 16 after serving since Sept. 25 as interim head coach. Ferraro was assistant coach for the Golden Eagles for two full seasons (2013 and 2014) and was responsible for two strong Golden Eagles recruiting classes. His first, which was for the 2013-14 season, was ranked as the 9th best class in NCAA Division I by Amateur Wrestling News.

A native of nearby Brookville and son of legendary coach Lenny Ferraro, Keith is a 1999 grad of Brookville High and a three-time district champion wrestler. He graduated from Lock Haven in December 2003 and was an assistant coach at Brookville from 2006 to 2012, when he came to Clarion.



1926-2014 CLARION FOOTBALL COACHES AND RECORDS

COACH	YEAR	RECORD	PCT.
AL JACKS	1963-81	128-46-5	.7290
CHARLES RUSLAVAGE	1982	7-3-0	.7000
BOB MOORE	1948-49	10-6-0	.6250
GENE SOBOLEWSKI	1983-93	60-51-0	.5405
WALDO S. TIPPIN	1935-47 & 1952-56	53-49-3	.5190
ERNEST JOHNSON	1957-62	23-23-3	.5000
BENTON KRIBBS	1950-51	6-7-1	.4642
MALEN LUKE	1994-05	57-73-0	.4384
A.R. VON LEHSTEN	1926	1-2-2	.4000
JAY FOSTER	2006-2014	29-70-0	.2929
J.O. JONES	1927-34	13-40-3	.2589
TOTAL	1926-14	387-370-17	.5110

*Coaches Ranked by winning percentage

ERIC LAUGHLIN

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY



Eric Laughlin, a former PIAA and NCAA D-II cross country and track star, was named Clarion's women's cross country coach Feb. 4. Laughlin comes to Clarion from West Liberty University where he was the men's and women's cross country head coach and assistant track mentor. His women's team was third and the men fourth in the MEC in 2014; both teams were third in 2013. He had been at WLU since January 2010.

LUNCHEON HONORS ATHLETES FOR *winning* IN THE CLASSROOM



Carlson Cup – women's soccer team. Front row, from left: Stephanie Sikora, Brittany Kowatch, Kelly Antonucci, Madison Myers. Back row: associate athletic director Wendy Snodgrass, Mariah Treiber, Alexa Stubenrauch, Aubrey Monte, Aaliyah Odom, Anna Chamberlin, Rhianon Fowler and Coach Sean Esterhuizen.

Clarion University honored 164 student-athletes (46 percent) as scholar-athletes Feb. 6 at the 25th Annual Bob Carlson Scholar Athlete Luncheon.

To be named a scholar-athlete, student-athletes must: achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 or higher; have two consecutive semesters of a 3.2 GPA or higher in the preceding spring and fall terms; or be a freshman or new transfer who achieved a 3.2 GPA or higher in the preceding fall term.

"This is one of my absolute favorite events because of what the people assembled in this room represent," said President Karen Whitney, Ph.D., at the luncheon. "The commitment to excellence is reflected by the number of scholar-athletes, the outstanding teaching and mentoring from our faculty, staff and coaches, and the athletes themselves."

This year's scholar-athletes represent 46 percent of student-athletes. Athletic director Dave Katis ('85) noted that 58 percent of current student-athletes achieved a 3.0 GPA, an athletic department record.

Katis presented the annual Carlson Cup Team Award, which goes to the intercollegiate athletic team that shows the biggest overall increase in GPA during the past calendar year, to the women's soccer team, led by head coach Sean Esterhuizen. The award is named after Bob Carlson,

who started the luncheon in 1991 and was Clarion's athletic director from 1990 to 2005.

IT TAKES GREAT DISCIPLINE, SACRIFICE AND COMMITMENT TO SUCCESSFULLY BALANCE SCHOOL, ATHLETICS AND LIFE.

Student Athlete Advisory Committee president Eric White presented Chad Smith, Ph.D., associate professor of the management and marketing, with the

Faculty of the Year award, as voted on by SAAC, representing all student athletes.

"I believe the true recognition goes to every student-athlete honored here today," Smith said. "It takes great discipline, sacrifice and commitment to

successfully balance school, athletics and life. These individuals will be the ones to watch in the future."

Katis also honored Student Senate and Connie J. Laughlin, director of planning and assessment for student affairs, with Extra Effort awards.



Faculty of the Year – Dr. Chad Smith



Extra Effort Award – Connie J. Laughlin



Extra Effort Award – Clarion Student Senate – (From left): Athletic director Dave Katis, Clarion student trustee Darren Young, Todd Garrett, Josh Domitrovich, associate athletic director Wendy Snodgrass and Student Senate president Marissa Kealey.

SETTING THEMSELVES APART



“Champions on the court and in the classroom” has quickly become the motto for the Golden Eagles women’s volleyball program. Their success is a model in the PSAC.

Not only is the team the two-time defending PSAC West champion while winning three PSAC West and a PSAC title since 2010, the squad has also boasted the top GPA among PSAC women’s volleyball programs in each of the last two completed school years, while recording the highest GPA among all PSAC athletics teams regardless of gender or sport in 2013-14 with a 3.789.

In addition, the Golden Eagles have been honored with the last two Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-Americas of the Year as the top student-athlete in the country in NCAA Division II volleyball – Hannah Heeter in 2013 and Laura Subject in 2014.

“We take pride in this as a program,” said Jennifer Mills, Clarion’s eighth-year head

“Work ethic to me is the No. 1 priority.”
—COACH MILLS

coach. “The players put a lot of hard work into this. It’s important they see the benefit of getting good grades and working hard

toward not just graduation, but graduating and setting themselves apart from other people who will be interviewing for the same position in graduate school or the same job.”

EVERY ATHLETE IS HERE TO GET AN EDUCATION FIRST AND SUCCEED IN THE CLASSROOM

So how does a program become a success both on and off the court?

“When we recruit, we look for prospective student-athletes who are strong in the classroom, as well as on the court,” Mills said. “Work ethic to me is the No. 1 priority. Many student-athletes who get here believe they already know what it means to work hard. While that is true in some cases, we really try to expand on that and have them work far beyond their comfort zone. I believe this will better prepare them for life after college.”

Identifying the type of student-athlete who will be successful both on the court and in the classroom is only the beginning, though.

Subject, a two-time Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-District player in addition to her Academic All-America of the Year Award, believes academics are a priority from the first day players get on campus.

“Academics are stressed a lot within the program,” Subject said. “Every athlete is here to get an education first and succeed in the classroom. Volleyball is another activity we’re all privileged to be a part of, but education comes first. Both Coach (Mills) and Jon (Strub) conduct grade checks once or twice a semester, and freshmen and those who don’t meet the minimum GPA requirement (3.0) have to complete study hours every week.”

Mills believes building a strong relationship with professors and departments on campus is also a key component in making sure the players succeed in the classroom.

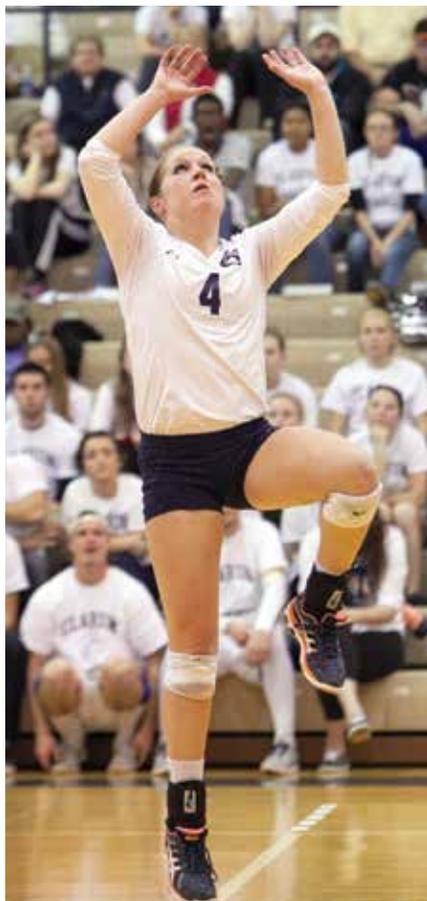
“I think that is very important,” Mills said. “From day one, our girls walk into their classes with a schedule for their professors and we ask that they introduce themselves immediately. We want our professors to know these student-athletes are here to work hard toward a great education. In addition, during the recruitment process,



Morgan Seybold and Coach Jen Mills

we try to meet with professors for the program the prospective student-athlete is interested in. This helps our student-athletes form an early bond within their chosen academic field.”

Upperclassmen also play a key role in passing on the academic tradition to the younger athletes.



WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM GPA

2009-10 – 3.344

2010-11 – 3.357

2011-12 – 3.517 (2nd highest GPA among PSAC volleyball teams) – *First year PSAC started tracking*

2012-13 – 3.583 (Highest GPA among PSAC volleyball teams)

2013-14 – 3.789 (Highest GPA among all PSAC teams)

2014-15 (Through fall semester) – **3.429**

“It’s so important,” Subject said of the team’s academic reputation. “When our GPA fell a little bit after the fall, it was very upsetting. When the team achieved the highest GPA in the PSAC last year, we were so proud of it. Every player has worked hard in the classroom to get our team’s academic success to that point, and with the girls on the team now, there is no reason why it shouldn’t continue like that.”

SUBJECTIVE EXCELLENCE

Clarion senior volleyball setter Laura Subject is the NCAA Division II Capital One Academic All-America of the Year, as selected Dec. 12 by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

Subject joins former teammate and 2013 winner Hannah Heeter as the second consecutive Golden Eagle to win the NCAA Division II Volleyball Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-America of the Year. It marks the first time in the awards history that two different athletes from the same school have won the Academic All-America of the Year honor in women’s volleyball in either the College Division (1987-2010) or NCAA Division II (2011-14) and just the third time a school has had back-to-back winners of the award in those divisions.

A first-team Academic All-America as well, Subject, who carries a 3.93 GPA in athletic training, was an Honorable Mention Daktronics NCAA Division II All-American, the Daktronics NCAA Division II Atlantic Region Player of the Year, a first-team AVCA All-Atlantic Region selection and the PSAC West Athlete of the Year for the second straight year this season.

Subject finished second in the PSAC and 20th in the country in set assists per set this year with 11.27, while also adding 0.39 service aces per set, the 12th-best mark in the PSAC.

A three-time All-PSAC West selection, Subject finished her career third in school history with 4,065 set assists, seventh with 163 aces and 16th with 1,005 digs.

Read more about Subject on page 48.

2015 CLARION UNIVERSITY SUMMER SPORTS CAMP DATES

MEN’S WRESTLING

June 21-24 – Team/Technique Camp

June 26-28 – Father/Son Camp

FOOTBALL

June 26 – Defensive Back

June 27 – Quarterback/Wide Receiver

June 28 – Defensive Line

Aug. 3-12 – Team Camp

SWIMMING & DIVING

June 7-11 – Week one

June 14-18 – Week two

June 21-25 – Week three

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

June 19-21 – Team Camp

June 21-25 – Individual Camp

Aug. 8 – Team Shootout

MEN’S BASKETBALL

July 5-9 – Individual Camp

July 11- Team Shootout

Aug. 2-6 Individual Camp

WOMEN’S SOCCER

June 15-19 – Youth Soccer Camp

June 20-25 – World Cup HS Camp Week

June 29/July 25 – Elite ID Day Camp

June 29-July 1-- Elite ID Resident Camp

July 25-27 – Elite ID Resident Camp

July 13-15 – Goalkeepers Camp

July 17-19 – Individual Camps

July 20-24 – HS Team Camps

VOLLEYBALL

July 19-21 - Individual Camp

July 22 – Setters

July 22 – Serve Receive/Defense

July 23 - Hitters

July 24-26 - Team Camp

For more information call 814-393-1997 or visit clariongoldeneagles.com.

HOME OF THE GOLDEN EAGLES

STROKE OF EXCELLENCE

Clarion senior women's swimmer Emilee Gysegem was presented with the PSAC's Champion Scholar Award Feb. 22 at the 40th Annual PSAC Women's Swimming Championships by assistant commissioner Carlin Chesick.

The PSAC's Champion Scholar Awards, in their fourth year, are modeled after



the NCAA's Elite 89 award and honor the student-athlete with the top grade point average who is competing at the site of each of the PSAC's 23 team championships. Gysegem is the fourth straight Clarion swimmer to win the award - Kayla Shull won the first two awards in 2013 and 2012.

Gysegem has compiled a perfect 4.0 GPA, completing 125 credits, and is majoring in business management with a minor in sports management. She is a three-time Clarion and PSAC Scholar Athlete and the current vice-president of SAAC.

"What an amazing accomplishment," said Clarion's 15th year head coach Mark VanDyke. "She is the epitome of what a scholar-athlete should be."

At the PSACs, Gysegem won the 400 individual medley with a time of 4:27.09, was third in the 200 IM (2:06.17 - 2:05.75 prelims), and in all was a seven-time place winner. She owns the Clarion record in the 400 IM at 4:26.35.

ALVIANI, HOLOHAN, COUSER AND COURTNEY WIN ART & ATHLETICS COMPETITION



Winners of the Art & Athletics competition at Waldo S. Tippin Gymnasium were (from left): Ashley Couser, Best 3-Dimensional; Scott Courtney, Best Photography; Bekah Alviani, Best in Show; and Bridget Holohan, Best 2-Dimensional. The competition was a joint venture by the Clarion University Athletics Department and the Department of Art, open to all artists. Framed photography and two- and three-dimensional art, all inspired by Clarion athletics, were eligible for submission and were judged by popular vote.

FLIPPING for CANCER

Clarion diving team, under the direction of veteran coach Dave Hrovat, raised over \$4,000 with their Flipping for Cancer event in December at W.S. Tippin Natatorium.

The divers completed their goal of 1,000 somersaults, raising more than \$4,000 for the Clarion Hospital Cancer Center. The fundraiser is part of the athletics department's year-long commitment to raising money for the Clarion Hospital Cancer Center.

Divers are (from left): Top row - Grace Nielsen, Stephanie Croft, Nick Larmon, Collin Vest, Jackson Gray, Seth Brandenburg; bottom row - Amanda O'Kane, Caitlyn Kaufman, athletic director Dave Katis, Lauren Slayton, Sarah Zerfoss and Kristin Day.



SPRING 2015 CLARION GOLF OUTINGS

FOOTBALL ALUMNI SCRAMBLE

11 a.m. April 25
Hi Level Golf Course
Entry fee - \$100
Contact: Bo Garritano
724-863-8406
robertgarritano@comcast.com

FRAN SHOPE SCRAMBLE

9 a.m. June 7
Clarion Oaks Golf Club
Entry fee - \$75
Contact: Wendy Snodgrass
814-393-1989
wsnodgrass@clarion.edu

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For more information and forms,
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CLARION "SPORTS HALL OF FAME" INDUCTS SIX NEW MEMBERS

Six new members will be inducted as the 27th Sports Hall of Fame Class at 7 p.m. May 1 at Eagle Commons dining facility. A social is set for 5:30 p.m. in the lower level of Eagle Commons, rooms 107/108. All are welcome. Tickets are \$40 per person and are available by contacting Scott Courtney at 814-393-2057. Checks should be made payable to Clarion "Sports Hall of Fame."

The new inductees include four former athletes and two contributors in the honorary category: Heather Cigich (women's basketball), Nicolina (DiLoreto) Pierce (women's swimming), Bill English (cross country and track coach), Fran Sirianni (football, track and field), Dr. Lou Tripodi (honorary – contributor) and Lou Weiers (football).



HEATHER CIGICH ('05)

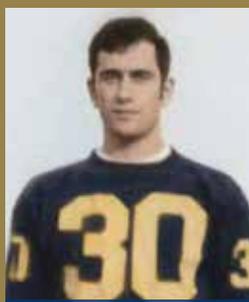
27TH INDUCTION BANQUET FRIDAY, MAY 1



NICOLINA (DILORETO) PIERCE ('00)



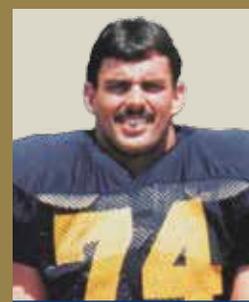
BILL ENGLISH



FRAN SIRIANNI ('69)



LOU TRIPODI



LOU WEIERS ('89)

HEATHER CIGICH- WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

2002-2005 – Four-year starter
3rd in career points scored – 1,832
2nd in career rebounds – 1,121
2005 – Clarion NCAA D-II playoffs
2005 – 17ppg, 9.7 rpg; 2004 – 20ppg, 12.1 rpg
2004 – Daktronics Third Team All-American
2004 Clarion Women's Athlete of the Year

NICOLINA (DILORETO) PIERCE – WOMEN'S SWIMMING

1997-2000 – Four-year starter
1997-2000 – 21-time NCAA D-II All-American
1998 – NCAA D-II national champ – 200 breaststroke
1999 – NCAA D-II national champ – 200 breaststroke
1997, 1998, 2000 – Clarion PSAC team champions
1998 – Clarion 3rd place at NCAA D-II Nationals
Clarion career records in 100 and 200 breaststroke

WILLIAM "BILL" ENGLISH – CC & TRACK COACH

1972-1990 Clarion men's cross country coach
1973-1991 Clarion men's track coach
1978-1991 Started women's programs CC and track
Dual meet record 88-45 in cross country
Dual meet record 76-37 in track
Never had a losing season
First six years – 52-mile round trip daily to coach
Coached many PSAC champs and NAIA/NCAA
All-Americans

FRANCIS "FRAN" SIRIANNI – FOOTBALL/ TRACK & FIELD

1965-68 Four-year starter at defensive back
1966 – Team 10-0 – PSAC champions
1967 – Team PSAC-West champs
Clarion career record 15 interceptions
1967 & 1968 1st Team PSAC-West/All State
1966, 1967, 1968 1st Team All District
Three-years track sprinter and hurdler

DR. LOUIS TRIPODI – HONORARY/ CONTRIBUTOR

1973-2007 – Clarion faculty member
1988-2005 Clarion Golf Classic co-chair, 17 years
1973-2007 Athlete academic support and advisement
Public address announcer – 1976-2007
Basketball (24 years), wrestling (23 years), football
(10 years)
Swimming and diving (12 years), PSAC, EWL, high
school
1989 NCAA Div. I Wrestling Nationals – announcer
Local, regional and national committees

LOU WEIERS – FOOTBALL

1984-87 Four letters/three-year starter – DT
1987 – Team captain/team 7-3 record
1987 – AP 1st Team All-American
1987 – Pittsburgh Press District Player of the Year
1987 – 91 tackles, 13 QB sacks
1986 – 94 Tackles, 7 QB sacks
1986 – AP 3rd Team All-American

Distinguished Awards



LEMON



LANDER



TREJOS



PALMER



KELLNER

2015 DISTINGUISHED AWARD RECIPIENTS

KIM LEMMON '78 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

- Co-anchor for WGAL News 8, Lancaster
- Won an Emmy in 2007 for her work on Teacher Impact Awards
- Won second Emmy for work on WGAL's Learning Matters special
- Named Best Local News Anchor by readers of Lancaster County Magazine for the past 19 years

AL LANDER '74 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

- Partner in the law offices of Greco and Lander, P.C., specializing in natural resource law; speaks at public forums involving oil and gas issues
- Established Tunnelton Liquids Company in 1997, providing employment and supporting economic development in the region
- With his wife Jan, established Clarion University Civic Engagement Scholarship
- Converted 4.5 miles of railroad bed into a recreational use trail

DR. SANDRA TREJOS DISTINGUISHED FACULTY

- Professor of economics, named Faculty Member of the Year for 2006-07.
- Named Outstanding Latina Faculty in Higher Education by American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education
- Serves on American Society of Hispanic Economics and Pennsylvania Economic Society
- Named Who's Who in America and is part of the Who's Who International Honor Society

PAUL "HOOK" PALMER '61 DISTINGUISHED VOLUNTEER

- Led his class to raise the largest class scholarship endowment to date
- Hosts annual gatherings for Clarion University alumni
- Served on many committees of the Alumni Association, exemplifying giving of time, talent and treasure
- Loyal fan, friend and supporter of Clarion University football and the Dare to Dream football scholarship

BETSY KELLNER DISTINGUISHED VENANGO ALUMNI

- Executive director of Venango Museum of Art, Science and Industry
- Serves on a committee that oversees the Barbara Morgan Harvey Center for the Study of Oil Heritage, housed at Venango; active in strategic planning for the campus
- Active with multiple community initiatives, including Oil City Main Street program, Oil City Heritage Society, Oil Heritage Festival committee, executive committee of Oil Region Alliance, Tourism Promotion Council and Economic Development Council

ALUMNI NOTES

SPRING 2015

1958

Barbara (Hugus) and Harold ('62) Baker reside in Knox. They have a daughter, Lanea. Barbara is retired from Keystone School District.

1970

Lawrence Carter retired as executive director, planning and community development for the City of Altoona. He resides in Altoona with his wife, Nancy. Lawrence has two children, Jessica and Valerie.

1971

Mary (Murphy) Fowler is an assistant controller for Santa Fe College, Gainesville, Fla. She resides in Ormond Beach, Fla.

1973

Debra (Bovaird) Britton recently retired after 39 years in the DuBois Area School District. She resides in Falls Creek and has three children: Katie, Jody and Clay.

1975

Vincent Seif is employed with VDA Group Limited. He resides in Lee's Summit, Mo., with his wife, Diane. They have a daughter, Angela.

Theresa (Fulton) Kelly recently had an art show at the Salt Kettle Gallery in Salineville, Ohio. Previous art shows include: Weirton Library, Weirton Art Museum, Fort Steuben Mall, Carrollton Library, Huston-Braumbaugh Nature Center. Theresa resides in Salineville.

1976

John (Jack) and Susan (Webster '78) Van Arsdale reside in Harmony. Susan recently retired from the Seneca Valley School District after teaching 36 1/2 years.

1979

Thomas Slagel is a purchasing/estimating agent for Dan Ryan Builders, Westover, W.Va. He resides in Morgantown, W.Va. Thomas has three daughters: Katie, Amy and Emma.

Joyce (Bryant) Schwab recently retired from Keystone School District. She was a secondary math teacher and served as the math department chair. She is an active volunteer with the Cranberry Area Food Pantry and is working on her music ministry. She and her husband, Bill, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary this past June. Joyce and Bill reside in Oil City. They have two children, Bryan and Sara.

1981

Beth Manitsas is president of Longmeadow Insurance Agency, LLC, Longmeadow, Mass. She resides in Longmeadow.

1982

Catherine (Cunliffe) Fix is city auditor for the City of Wadsworth, Ohio. She resides in Wadsworth.

1983

Ken Jordan is senior vice president/treasury management sales consultant. He resides in Rosedale, Calif., with his wife, Kimberly.

1984

Cheryl Smith is employed at Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg. She resides in Milton with her children, Kelsea and Austin.

1986

Judith (Kranack) Lane is an accountant for MSI Healthcare, Inc., Pittsburgh. She resides in Manor. Judith has two sons, William and Sean.

1988

Margaret (Maggie Sabella) Bernecky is a technical writer for Miller Fall Protection, a division of Honeywell Safety Products, Franklin. She resides in Dempseytown with her husband, Randy. Maggie has two daughters, Rachel and Reagan.

1992

Kate (Colna) Bacher is an elementary principal for the Glendale School District, Flinton. She resides in Madera with her husband, John, and children: JJ, Elizabeth and Joseph.

1995

Vandana Ranjan is a licensed real estate salesperson for Halstead Property, New York City. She resides in Brooklyn.

Eileen (Gallo) Beveridge is a director for Carnegie Free Library, Connellsville. She resides in Connellsville with her children: Nathaniel, Austin and Seth.

1996

Dina (Alston) Blackwell is co-founder and executive director of Homewood Renaissance Association, Pittsburgh. She resides in Pittsburgh with her children: Canaan, Elisha and Elizabeth.

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And so do your Clarion classmates. It's easy to share your latest personal milestones and professional accomplishments in the pages of Clarion University Magazine. Just send us a note!

Visit www.clarion.edu/alumni-update

1997

Laurie (Doherty) McDonough resides in Gilbertsville with her husband, Kevin, and children: Colin, Kelly and Jack.

1998

Dr. Keith Sharrow graduated from the U.S. Army Clinical Pharmacology Fellowship in June 2014 and passed the American Board of Clinical Pharmacology certification examination in July 2014. He was awarded the A.H. Hoff Memorial Prize in June 2014. Keith is a director of clinical pharmacology, United States Army, JPEO-Medical Countermeasure Systems, Fort Detrick, Md. He resides in Pikesville, Md.

1999

Eric and Kristen (Nordstrom '00) Hartle reside in Harrisville with their children: Cameron, Alysa, Ellie and Janelle. Eric is a senior systems analyst for FedEx in Robinson Township.

2000

Dr. Christopher and Jennifer (Kibler) Davis reside in Conway, Ark., with their children: Emma, Noah, Addison, Kristen and Victoria. Christopher is chief technology officer for the University of Central Arkansas.

Shean and Stacey (Meyer '98, M.S.'00)

Hilton reside in Prescott Valley, Ariz. Shean works for the Prescott Arizona Police Department as a motor officer. He is a certified drug recognition expert, field training officer, general instructor, phlebotomist and traffic crash reconstructionist.

2001

Bradley Jones was recently honored with the designation of chartered financial analyst. He is a financial specialist for PNC Investments, Pittsburgh. He resides in Cranberry Township with his wife, Jessica.

Robert Kartychak was recently named assistant principal for Hopewell Elementary Schools in the Hopewell Area School District. He resides in Oakdale with his wife, Colleen, and children, Bobby and Patrick.

Sarah (Howell) Connolly is operations specialist for Sun Life Financial, Wellesley Hills, Mass. She resides in Leominster, Mass., with her husband, Shawn.

2002

Matthew Swort is a director of distributed systems for Sotera Defense. He resides in Port Deposit, Md., with his wife, Nicole, and children: Isaiah, Brandon, Arabella, and Amelia.

2003

Joe Harmon was recently selected to be one of 23 teachers nationally to serve on the iCivics National Teacher Council. Joe is a teacher at the Redbank Valley High School. He resides in Fairmount City.

2004

Jeff Alley is a revenue accounting manager for Daegis, Inc., Irving, Texas. He resides in Dallas.

Alison (Morber) Kitchin is a teacher for Escambia County (Florida) Public Schools. She resides in Cantonment, Fla., with her husband, Christopher, and children: Haley, Mariah and Logan.

Dawn (Jackowski) Lastowka is a recruitment manager, mid-Atlantic region, for City Year, Philadelphia. She resides in Philadelphia with her husband, Kenneth.

2005

Ashlie (Beard) Shellenberger is a 6th grade special education teacher. She resides in Williamsburg, Va., with her husband, Dave.

2006

Lance and Victoria (Lucas) Astorino reside in Inwood, W.Va., with their daughters, Adelyn and Aubrey. Lance is an administrative lead teacher for Washington County Schools, Hagerstown, Md.

Tracy Mastalski is an elementary librarian for Big Beaver Falls Area School District, Beaver Falls. She resides in Beaver Falls.

2007

Brett (MBA '10) and Elizabeth (Suwala'10) Sheaffer reside in Carlisle. Brett is a government and economics teacher and assistant varsity boys' basketball coach and Elizabeth is a high school learning support teacher and assistant varsity girls' basketball coach, both for South Middleton School District, Boiling Springs.

Inger Birgitta Sundell-Ranby recently graduated with a B.A. in anthropology from Wayne State University, Detroit. She resides in Grosse Pointe Park, Mich.

2009

Justin Keally is a business development analyst - worldwide healthcare division for FedEx Corporate, Washington, D.C. He resides in Herndon, Va.

Dr. Nico Rocco is owner/chiropractor of Rocco Family Chiropractic, Fort Collins, Colo. He resides in Fort Collins with his wife, Jess.



MEMBERS OF CLARION UNIVERSITY CLASS OF 1964 GATHERED DURING ALUMNI WEEKEND FOR THEIR 50-YEAR REUNION.

2010

Rich Eckert is an associate athletic director for Marian University. He resides in Fond du Lac, Wis., with his wife, Ashley.

Sara (Hines) Lutz is the owner of Family Fit Club LLC. She resides in Clearfield with her husband, Shane, and daughter, Alina.

Benjamin Austin is Vicar at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Palmyra, Mich. He resides in Blissfield, Mich.

2011

Christopher Katella is a communications associate for AidData, Williamsburg, Va. He resides in Newport News, Va.

Kari Reda is head of circulation/assistant to the director for the Carnegie Free Library of Beaver Falls. She resides in Beaver Falls.

2012

Rosemary Cunningham is therapeutic support staff for Family Behavioral Resources. She resides in Presto.

2013

David McAllister is a nationally registered paramedic/training and education coordinator for Mount Nittany Health Center, State College. He resides in Dubois with his wife, Tracey, and children: Nichole, Scott, Cullen, Connor and Madison.

Karen Shaffer is an assistant professor at Thiel College, Greenville. She resides in Grove City with her children, Austin and Autumn.

Cody McCandless is a sales/management trainee for Ferguson Enterprises Waterworks Division, Coatesville. He resides in Downingtown.

Dana Connors is a comprehensive therapeutic emotional support teacher for Intermediate Unit 1. She resides in Venetia.

2014

Devin Kuberry is an engineering geologist for Michael Baker, Inc., Moon Township. He resides in Shipperville.

Amanda Platt is a middle school social studies teacher for the Baltimore City Public Schools. She resides in Baltimore.

IN MEMORIAM

1930s

Margaret B. (Summerville) Williams '30, Oct. 6, 2014
Mary Joye (Jones) Magee '38, Oct. 26, 2014
Mary Thelma Glenn '37, Jan. 29, 2015

1940s

Mary D. Giatas '48, Sept. 20, 2014
Betty (Rhodes) Farnsworth '44, Dec. 26, 2014
Phyllis Elizabet (Hale) Jordan '48, Jan. 3, 2015
Jean (Tait) Burke '43, Jan. 10, 2015
Phyllis (Timlin) Fisher '44, Jan. 26, 2015

1950s

George A. Marshall '53, Aug. 17, 2014
Edward W. Ewaskey '52, Sept. 27, 2014
Paul P. Hamilton '58, Sept. 30, 2014
Robert Lewis Flath '50, Oct. 5, 2014
John W. Zissis '55, Oct. 16, 2014
Helen (Toth) Cedzo '50, Nov. 25, 2014
Avalon L. (Delp) Cordell '57, Dec. 11, 2014
Harry Richard White '55, Dec. 12, 2014
John Lee Keriotis '53, Dec. 18, 2014
Dorothea Carol (Gildersleeve) Fesenmyer '50, Dec. 21, 2014
Ronald Elton Bole '57, Jan. 1, 2015
Roberta (Kaminski) DeWitt '53, Jan. 14, 2015
Thomas Emanuele '56, Jan. 24, 2015

1960s

Patricia Ann (Reiter) Tickner '64, Sept. 1, 2014
Martha J. Dunn '62, Sept. 13, 2014
James E. Hunter '61, Oct. 8, 2014
Robert A. Case '63, Oct. 22, 2014
William Hayes Temple '64, Nov. 1, 2014
George F. Cottrell '62, Dec. 7, 2014
Dennis C. Lesslie '69, Dec. 23, 2014
Joyce R. Matha '63, Dec. 29, 2014
Turzah B. (Atwell) Gardner '61, Jan. 15, 2015
Gail L. (Hamburg) Grossi '68, Jan. 16, 2015
Marilyn B. (Keefer) Burkett '67, Jan. 30, 2015

1970s

Jeffrey L. Hatch '78, Sept. 15, 2014
Cynthia L. (Huffmyer) Trussell '76, Oct. 3, 2014
Russell C. Reefer '78, Oct. 4, 2014
Virginia L. Grafton '72, Oct. 8, 2014
Mary A. Schaefer '77, Oct. 29, 2014
Diane (Jester) Dorer '70, Nov. 7, 2014
Peter M. Morelli '77, Nov. 12, 2014
Blanche J. Dodrill '74, Nov. 15, 2014
Robert Allen Konkle '72, Jan. 27, 2015
Russell C. Alderton '70, Jan. 28, 2015

1980s

Scott B. Rice '83, Sept. 8, 2014
Paul J. Zacherl '87, Oct. 7, 2014
Concetta M. (Kukla) Mclsaac '87, Oct. 21, 2014
Jeffrey L. Seidel '84, Dec. 12, 2014
Dian (Selway) Cataldo '84, Dec. 27, 2014
Lloyd A. White '85, Jan. 4, 2015
Jack Allen Fike '89, Jan. 22, 2015
Mark R. Snyder '81, Jan. 30, 2015

1990s

Valerie J. (Miller) Jackson '93, Nov. 22, 2014
Shonna Rea (Dean) Jordan '92, Dec. 8, 2014
Lisa Lynn (Haines) Barr '96, Jan. 12, 2015

2000s

Michael J. Quinn '08, Oct. 19, 2014

2010s

Katelyn Roseanne Mohney '12, Jan. 4, 2015

Friends

Maria Gigliotti, Aug. 19, 2014
Patrick K. Blausner, Aug. 24, 2014
Phillip L. Wein, Sept. 3, 2014
Rafael Diaz y Diaz, Sept. 11, 2014
Antoinette Lee (Gleixner) Kelso, Sept. 17, 2014
Joyce Stanley, Sept. 20, 2014
Kristy Hines, Sept. 24, 2014
Gene Miller, Sept. 27, 2014
Edna E. Swartfager, Sept. 29, 2014
Ray McHenry, Oct. 5, 2014
Thomas Harrington, Oct. 10, 2014
Robert Jeffrey, Oct. 16, 2014
Terese M. Helmintoller, Oct. 26, 2014
Ivan Hook, Nov. 5, 2014
Daryl Rhea, Nov. 12, 2014
Laura Standish, Nov. 24, 2014
Allen George, Dec. 6, 2014
Debbie Montgomery, Dec. 12, 2014
Nancy Nanovsky, Dec. 20, 2014
Donald Stroup, Dec. 23, 2014
Helen D. Gaston, Dec. 28, 2014
Christine Ruffner, Dec. 30, 2014
Antoinette Babington, Jan. 3, 2015

Nicholas Gavazzi, 18,

a freshman biochemistry major/nanotechnology minor and member of the Clarion University wrestling team, was killed in a car accident Feb. 23 in Armstrong County.

"Nick was the kind of kid you wanted your son to become," said wrestling head coach Keith Ferraro. "He was not only a great wrestler, but a great leader in the classroom. He was a joy to be around and well-liked by his teammates. We are all better off for having spent time with him."

In high school, Nick placed 5th at PIAA's in 2013 with a record of 38-4 and was a WPIAL Champion. He posted a 36-5 mark in 2012.

The class valedictorian at Charleroi High, Nick was on the dean's list his first semester at Clarion, fall 2014.





MARRIAGES

Rich ('10) and Ashley **Eckert**, June 14, 2014.

Kenneth Lastowka and **Dawn ('04) Jackowski**, Oct. 12, 2014.

Douglas Doggett and **Jena ('12) Leddon**, Dec. 31, 2014.

Shawn Connolly and **Sarah ('01) Howell**, July 19, 2014.

Brett ('07, M.B.A. '10) Sheaffer and **Elizabeth ('10) Suwala**, June 14, 2014.

BIB babes: WELCOME TO THE WORLD!

Our gift to “baby Eagles” of Clarion alumni is a dashing new bib! To receive a bib, let us know about the new addition to your nest by emailing to alumni@clarion.edu:

- Parents' names
- Graduation year of alumni
- Baby's gender and name
- Date of birth

Once you receive your bib, take a picture of your Eaglet putting the bib to use, and email a high-resolution photo to us for inclusion in Clarion University Magazine.



BRAYDEN JACKSON

Joseph and **Kelsey (Kimmel '06) Jackson**, a son, Brayden, May 12, 2014.

Vince and **Natalie (Smith '00) Kidwell**, twins, a son, Mathew Scott, and a daughter, Mia Elizabeth, Aug. 22, 2014.



MATTHEW SCOTT AND MIA ELIZABETH KIDWELL

BIRTHS

Dr. Christopher ('00) and Jennifer (Kibler '00) Davis, a daughter, Victoria, Dec. 31, 2013.

Christopher and **Alison (Morber '04) Kitchin**, a son, Logan, March 22, 2014.

Lance ('06) and Victoria (Lucas '06) Astorino, a daughter, Aubrey, July 15, 2014.

Eric ('99) and Kristen (Nordstrom '00) Hartle, a daughter, Janelle Danielle, Oct. 18, 2014.

Kevin and **Laurie (Doherty '97) McDonough**, a son, Jack Thomas, Sept. 12, 2014.



MARK LIBERTO: ONE WITH CONFIDENCE

THIS CLARION GRAD
HAS THE CONFIDENCE ...



In 2010, When Mark Liberto ('12, MBA '14) was a junior at Clarion University, working toward his undergraduate degree in history with a minor in political science, he applied and was accepted into The Harrisburg Internship Semester. It was a turning point for Liberto.

"I personally believe there is nothing better than real-world experience," he said. "The internship in Harrisburg gave me the ability to work with professionals and learn what questions to ask."

As he was wrapping up his semester in Harrisburg, a friend told him about a fellowship opportunity in Washington, D.C., through Marquette University. He pursued it and was awarded a fellowship during the summer of 2011, which he served at the Les Aspin Center for Government, in the office of U.S. Congressman Allyson Schwartz.

There he worked with Schwartz' constituent community, studied foreign policy and worked with tax law," he said. "I met Ron Paul."

His summer in the nation's capital was at the same time that the Anthony Weiner story broke. Schwartz' office was the first to say Weiner should resign.

Liberto graduated in 2012, then enrolled in Clarion's MBA program a year later. He continued to seize opportunities.

In spring 2013, he was offered a graduate assistantship at Clarion's Center for Applied Research and Intellectual Property Development, where he helped to facilitate a \$300,000 Discovered in PA - Developed

in PA grant from Gov. Tom Corbett's Make It in PA initiative.

The grant was awarded to support the Clarion Regional Innovation support program, comprised of Clarion's CARIPD, Clarion University Small Business Development Center and Clarion County

"HISTORY IS ALL ABOUT RESEARCH. IT FITS PERFECTLY WITH BUSINESS - THAT'S ALL ABOUT ANALYZING DATA."

Economic Development Corporation. CRISP is a comprehensive support system offering small business support, access to high-tech physical/wet lab space and county-specific economic development participation throughout northwest Pennsylvania.

Combined, those experiences qualified Liberto for a 12-week MBA internship at

GlaxoSmithKline, Coraopolis, where he worked within the company's consumer healthcare division, looking at the potential of releasing non-U.S. brands using e-commerce. GSK offered Liberto a position with the company as strategic project manager, which he continued until March, when he was promoted to associate brand manager.

He said it all started at Clarion.

"Clarion is a place where I matured into my own," Liberto said. A self-described mediocre student in high school, was in special assistance classes, and his teachers didn't think he'd do much with his life. "I changed my life completely (at Clarion), from having been extremely overweight to how I look at the world."

Liberto said he fully believes in the notion of God's grace. "God put me here, and he did a lot

with me."

One of the reasons that Clarion is such a good fit for Liberto is its size.

"I have friends who go to Penn State, where they're one of hundreds in a class. At Clarion, if I have a question, the professors could engage me personally. I got accustomed to communication with people who aren't my peers. I can speak in front of a professional audience and feel comfortable because I've bounced my ideas off of experts in the field. At Clarion, students can communicate with people whom they aspire to be like."

Liberto believes, too, in the importance of studying arts and humanities. His undergraduate degree in history taught him to think critically about the world and how it works, and how to look at people in segmented ways.

"History is all about research. It fits perfectly with business - that's all about analyzing data," he said.

The arts, he said, have taught him how to think creatively, a skill necessary for his work with GSK.

"It's all about innovation, and you can't have innovation without creativity," Liberto said.

RADIO SUCCESS IS NO TALL TALE



Two years ago, when the opportunity arose for Cathy Schodde ('04) to interview Steelers football players in the locker room after the game, she decided to have some fun with it.

Instead of asking players about a particular play in that day's game or thoughts on an upcoming game, her queries are more along the lines of "What is your favorite kind of cheese?" "What's the last movie that made you cry?"

"They're the dumbest questions possible," said Schodde, who is known as Tall Cathy (she's six feet tall) to the listening audience of Clear Channel Radio's 96.1 KISS, where she is an on-air personality. "They get grilled with football questions, but the guys are OK talking with me. My interviews are all about fun."

Schodde, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in business marketing, said her mom always knew she'd have a career that put her in the spotlight.

"I was always such a showoff as a kid," she said.

Since high school, Schodde said, she wanted to be on air, but her mom recommended a more "realistic" degree. Still wanting to do something with music and marketing, she chose business

marketing as her major, and she chose Clarion University as her school.

"I liked the university. It had a really good feel to it. I looked at other places, but they didn't feel right. Clarion had a

"They're the dumbest questions possible but the guys are OK talking with me. My interviews are all about fun."

nice, warm, welcoming feeling," she said. It's a choice she's glad she made.

"In my senior year I took an Intro to Marketing Media class with Dr. Joanne Washington. There I learned about billboard structure and writing commercials," Schodde said. "A lot of what I learned in that class I used right away when I came (to Clear Channel Radio) – I designed magazine ads and billboards, and down on the radio side, I wrote scripts for commercials."

It was Schodde's first full-time job after college. She began in promotions before

moving to sales in the sports marketing department of the Penguins and Steelers Radio Network. Her first on-air gig was small, but it helped her move into programming.

"I used to go out with the afternoon guy, Scotty, and he asked me to read a segment called "Female Emo" on Mondays," she said. "He was the one who dubbed me 'Tall Cathy.' Fast forward a year and a half, Scotty left the station, I got a new boss and I told him I had always been interested in being on the air. That weekend I started doing overnights on the radio station."

From there she covered mid day, then moved into the afternoon drive slot about a year and a half ago. In addition to her time on air, she is also the station's music director and assistant programming director. For Steelers Radio Network, she covers Steeler Sunday pre-game time, two hours before kickoff.

Her work also allows her to rub elbows with celebrities, Ed Sheeran and Conan O'Brien, among them. Last August she interviewed the cast of TNT television network's "Legends," which she turned into commercials.

"I love everything (about the work I do) – the people I work with, the experiences, the music. This job has been such a blessing, and I'm happy to come into work every single day."

COURAGEOUS *endeavors*

LAURA SUBJECT



Every day of the week is different for me, but they're all very busy. It seemed like last semester was one of the busiest I have had throughout my four years as a volleyball player.

Every day consisted of practice or a game, class and my athletic training rotation. As an athletic training major, I have to complete 150 hours a semester at a sports rotation. Last fall, my rotation was a local rehabilitation clinic a few miles away. As a fall sport athlete, I was allowed to go to any fall sport practice or game to help me complete my hours.

Most of my days started pretty early, by 8 or 9 a.m., due to class. I am not a morning person and would have loved to sleep in! After class I usually went over to the clinic either in the late morning or early afternoon, depending on when my class finished. I usually ate breakfast or lunch in the car on the way there or at the clinic itself.

I needed to leave the clinic between 3 and 5 p.m. to go to practice. I did not have to be there as early as the other girls to enable me to get an extra 15-30 minutes each day of athletic training hours. Practice usually lasted around two or two-and-a-half hours.

After practice I would either grab dinner or run to my late class that went from 6 to 9 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. If I didn't have class, I would occasionally go to soccer practice to get more athletic training hours.

Most days, I did not get home until 9. Days with my late class, I was not eating dinner until after 9. Once I got home I would either work on homework or sit on the couch and watch Netflix. It was a very busy semester, but I'd rather have that than be sitting on the couch all the time!

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your
STORY

COURAGEOUS. *confident.* **CLARION.**

is the new tagline associated with the university's new brand.

It is about the **PERSEVERANCE** and **PASSION**—in a word, the **grit**—of Clarion University students, faculty, and alumni who are striving to meet, head-on, the challenges of the 21st century.

It's also about the **STRENGTH** and **RESILIENCE**—the **grace**—that they exhibit as they adapt and innovate not only to achieve personal success but also to further the greater good of the region and the state.

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READ LAURA'S STORY

At www.clarion.edu/shareyourstory you can see the stories of how Clarion students, faculty, and alumni help each other—in both big and small ways—to reach a goal, overcome an obstacle, or just open a new door.

We'd love to hear your *COURAGEOUS. CONFIDENT. CLARION.* story, too. Send it, plus a photo of yourself, to myclarionstory@mindovermedia.com.

Want to see an example? Read Laura Subject's story in this edition of the magazine.

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June 5-7, 2015

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— A FEW OF THE HIGHLIGHTS —

ALL WEEKEND – CLASS OF 1965 50TH REUNION CELEBRATION
FRIDAY, JUNE 5 – DISTINGUISHED AWARDS AND *New* ALUM-NITE
SATURDAY, JUNE 6 –ALUMNI-FEST PICNIC
SUNDAY, JUNE 7 – *New* FRAN SHOPE GOLF OUTING

For more information and schedule of events, visit www.clarion.edu/alumniweekend.
For questions regarding alumni weekend, call the Alumni Relations Office at 814-393-2572.