

# DEFIANCE COLLEGE

*The Magazine*

Spring 2018



## The **POWER** of EDUCATION





# Features

**DC RECEIVES \$1,000,000 GIFT ----- 2**

## **A Focus on Education**

<i>Keith Bell '78 -----</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Professor Emerita Garnett Smith '51 -----</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Brian Brutyn '02 -----</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Jennifer Davis '06 -----</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Steve Sakosits '08 -----</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Brandon Knott '97 -----</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Genelle Castro '15 -----</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Rachel Eicher '91 -----</i>	<i>15</i>

**Archiving DC's History ----- 16**

**McMaster School Brings Sight to Belize ---- 18**

**Athletic Facilities Improvements ----- 20**

**Exercise Science Gaining Recognition ---- 21**

**Choir to take Milestone Carnegie Tour ---- 22**

**Empty Bowls Event Breaks Record ----- 23**

**Dr. Jan Younger Honored ----- 24**

**DC Welcomes Strong Academic Leader -- 25**

**Update on Athletics ----- 26**

**Recognizing Faculty and Staff ----- 28**

**Homecoming in Pictures ----- 30**

**Class Notes ----- 33**





# DEFIANCE COLLEGE

*The Magazine*

Spring 2018



## **EDITORIAL BOARD & STAFF**

**Kathy Punches '96**

Editor, Director of Public Relations and Marketing

**Michele Tinker**, Director of Annual Giving

**Ryan Imbrock**, Associate Director of Marketing

## **CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

**Kristi Jo Leaders '09**, Assistant Director of Marketing

**Ashley Birchmeier '14**, Sports Information Director





by Ryan Imbrock, Associate  
Director of Marketing

## Defiance College Receives \$1 Million Endowed Gift

The Charles K. and Esther C. Krieger Foundation has awarded Defiance College with a \$1 million endowed gift. The gift's main purpose is to create a visiting scholar program to bring religious specialists to the Defiance College campus each academic year.

"This is a transformational gift for Defiance College. We are so very grateful for the generosity of the Charles K. and Esther C. Krieger Foundation," says President Richanne C. Mankey. She continues that, "through this partnership the College will be able to engage scholarship for important student learning that opens the door to increased understanding of our highly complex world."

The Charles K. and Esther C. Krieger Visiting Scholar will bring in a different religious academician each year. While at the College, the visiting scholar will be an active part of the DC community. Religious specialists will teach courses based on their respective area of expertise, lead seminars, speak at community events, and collaborate with students on research topics.

"The impact of this gift on Defiance College's academics will be profound. A gift of this magnitude will attract world-class academicians and provide our community access to leaders in the fields of Judaism, Christianity or Islam. I look forward to welcoming this scholar into the midst of our great faculty," says Dr. Agnes Caldwell, Vice President and Dean for Academic Affairs.

The gift will fund the annual expenses of the visiting scholar who will be provided campus housing and other amenities. The endowed gift will be self-sustaining and continue to bring in visiting religious specialists for years to come.

Defiance College alumnus and former board chair, Stuart Sakosits, was helpful in facilitating the \$1 million gift. It is

designed to aid students to study and better understand the connections between the three Abrahamic religious traditions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Through such understanding, students will be encouraged to expand spiritual exploration, be prepared to confront ethical and religious conflicts, and to find their own call to servant leadership through service.

Dr. Marian Plant, Faculty Chair and Chair of the Religion Department at the college notes, "In part, the mission of the Charles K. and Esther C. Krieger Foundation is to promote education, religious, and cultural needs through qualified charities. Thus, we believe that the informed conversations ensuing from this generous and transformational gift allow us to place students within the broader context of a religiously pluralistic society, where diversity of faith is not indicative of division, but a unifying source through common experiences. In addition we prepare graduates to continue on a life-long journey of learning, leadership, and productivity. These values derive from our mission and are important to promoting peace and understanding."

As a United Church of Christ related college, DC appreciates inclusion and emphasizes learning based on its four pillars of education: to know, to understand, to lead, and to serve. "We are most grateful to the Krieger Foundation and for the efforts of Stuart Sakosits in securing this gift that will help students better understand both the differences and similarities between Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Such experiences should better prepare them for life after Defiance College," said Board Chair Steve VanDemark. ♦

*Pictured above from left: Board Chair Steve VanDemark, President Mankey, Stuart Sakosits '68, and Dr. Marian Plant*

# Dr. Wendy F. Soltz Named as First Visiting Scholar

**D**r. Wendy F. Soltz has been named the inaugural Charles K. and Esther C. Krieger Visiting Scholar at Defiance College.

Endowed by the Charles K. and Esther C. Krieger Foundation, the Visiting Scholar Program will bring religious specialists to the DC campus each year in the fields of Judaism, Christianity or Islam.

Dr. Soltz began her Visiting Scholar position with the spring semester. She is teaching courses in her area of interest as well as the first-year seminar Global Issues. She will also coordinate a series on interfaith dialogue and understanding as well as engage in research benefiting students and society.

“We should all congratulate the DC community on being awarded the Krieger Foundation gift,” said Dr. Soltz. “It is truly a distinction to have such an opportunity here in Northwest Ohio and a reflection of the hard work and creative ideas of the administration, board and faculty.

“I’m honored to serve as the inaugural Krieger Visiting Scholar. Upon stepping onto campus, I felt the energy and excitement that an infusion of new perspectives brings. I’m thrilled to work with students, faculty and staff to foster a better understanding of the region’s religious diversity.”

In making the announcement of Dr. Soltz’s appointment, Defiance College president Dr. Richanne C. Mankey noted her extensive training and experience, making her an excellent fit for the Visiting Scholar program. “The program reinforces the four pillars of the college’s mission – to Know, to Understand, to Lead, to Serve,” she said. “We believe that this will foster transformative learning experiences and is also a nice match with the foundation’s mission which was established to, in part, ‘promote ... educational, religious and cultural needs through such qualified charities.’”

Dr. Soltz holds a Ph.D. in Modern Jewish History from The Ohio State University. She earned a master of arts in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies from Brandeis University, a master of arts in Anthropology and Museum Studies from George Washington University, and a bachelor of arts in Anthropology from Indiana University. She was a graduate student in the Hebrew program at Hebrew University of Jerusalem and earned a certificate in Jewish Studies and Biblical Studies from Neve Yerushalayim in Israel.

She has presented numerous conference papers, participated in roundtable presentations, and published journal articles, manuscripts and other publications. She received many grants, fellowships and awards during her academic studies and research.

Dr. Soltz has taught at The Ohio State University, Purdue University North Central, Indiana University East, Columbus State Community College, George Washington University, and most recently at Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne.

She is executive director of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society. She is a member of Achduth VeSholom Synagogue in Fort Wayne, as well as Association for Jewish Studies, American Jewish Historical Society and the Council of American Jewish Museums. ◆



“The impact of this gift on Defiance College’s academics will be profound.”

*Dr. Agnes Caldwell, Vice President and Dean for Academic Affairs*

# Life-Changing Advice

Garnett Smith had a special piece of guidance for Keith Bell which sent him on a life-long journey in education



Personal attention. Supportive faculty. Not a number. Sounds like a recruitment brochure, but at Defiance College, these hallmarks of an individualized education are real and have been part of the campus fabric for a long time.

Keith Bell learned this as a Defiance College student in the 1970s. His primary mentor was Garnett Smith who at that time was a faculty member in business.

Bell, now a retired school administrator and close to completing a doctoral degree at The Ohio State University, says it was Smith who took the time to listen to her students and challenge them when she felt it was necessary.

Just a few weeks before graduation in the spring of 1978, Bell returned from an American Marketing Association conference in Chicago with three job offers in hand. “When I returned to share the news with Mrs. Smith, she did not seem as excited as I did,” he recalls.

She told her student that his four years of studying to become an educator were too important to change course so abruptly, and she was instrumental in helping him secure a graduate assistantship at Bowling Green State University. “I proceeded to remain in education for 37 years because of that decision,” he says. “I had never considered graduate school as one of my post-baccalaureate options. I would not have gone to graduate school had it not been for her.”

Because she had paid close attention to Bell and watched his growth, she saw something in him that he hadn’t realized. “Mrs. Smith taught me not only about learning, but about how to teach. She was patient with me as I learned new things and was always willing to listen. I don’t think she would have ever known that I should be an educator had she not listened the way she did.”

Smith, now professor emerita, challenged Bell to take courses that would expand his knowledge and supported him when he struggled. She knew that while he may have found success in the business world, education was where he needed to be.

“She used her connections, expertise and guidance to ensure that a kid from Toledo had an opportunity to show what he could do at the graduate level,” says Bell. “She also ensured that I knew my content when I left Defiance College. I am a reflection of her hard work!”

As an educator, Bell rose in the ranks to several administrative positions in Ohio school districts including



Gahanna, Groveport, Westerville South, Columbus City Schools, and Euclid. He received numerous accolades during his career. He retired as superintendent of Euclid City Schools in 2016 to accept a position in the office of inclusion and diversity at The Ohio State University where he will complete his doctoral degree through teaching, supporting research, and mentoring within the department. He is also a consultant with the Cuyahoga County Educational Service Center and teaches part-time at Cleveland State University.

Garnett Smith was not the only person to influence Bell during his years at Defiance College. Former history professor Randy Buchman inspired Bell to take risks and explore. Though he didn't really enjoy history, Bell says Buchman "probably taught me more about how to look outside of the known and explore the unknown than anyone at the college." Buchman taught him how to learn and what it meant to learn. Many years later when Bell visited Omaha Beach in France, he could still hear Buchman telling the story of the D-Day invasion.

As a student of color, Bell learned that while there is benefit in being around those you know, Defiance taught him how much he could gain by getting to know people who didn't look like him. "I found struggles and challenges to be similar and learned things that I would have never learned had I not opened myself up to that opportunity," he says.

The late Ernie Fowler, head of athletic facilities maintenance, taught Bell to drive a "stick shift" during a student job the summer of his sophomore year. Rod Martin taught Bell about car loans and interest rates and helped him secure his first loan on a new car. "I've been able to understand finance ever since," he says. And, local residents John and Pat Yeoman opened their home to him during the Purple and Gold basketball tournament. "They were so warm and welcoming, and to this day make me feel like I am one of their children whenever I see them."

While he is retired from school administration, Bell is by no means taking life easy. His father often reminds him, "When death catches me, I want to be out of breath." Bell says that pretty much sums up why he remains busy. "I am not at all out of breath, and I told the many students I came in contact with throughout the years that learning never stops. Be a lifelong learner. I want to model that for them."

He appreciates the opportunity to give back to his profession through teacher and administrative preparation in his work at Ohio State. He enjoys being in the classroom and learning from young people. He uses his skills to help the university work toward increasing the number of traditionally marginalized, underrepresented populations of students to gain access to a quality education. "Giving back gives me the drive to keep going, especially when I think about how Mrs. Smith gave back to me. My doctorate will be as much a part of her as it is me."

And, he reminds his college-graduated sons - Keith Jr. and Josh - "that I would not let them catch me, at least not until I am out of breath!" ♦

## A GREAT ASSET

From her picturesque Defiance County farmstead, Professor Emerita Garnett Smith looks back fondly on her days at Defiance College, but the gregarious and stylish lady is too busy to spend much time talking about the past.

Her days are filled with bridge and business, interspersed with playing the piano and computer solitaire, and going out to dinner with friends. She plays bridge several days a week with college friends. "I taught bridge. You don't learn it overnight. It's difficult to get young people interested," she observes. And she is administrator of a trust that takes a fair amount of her time.

Born in Toledo, her family moved to Defiance when she was a young child. She graduated from Defiance High School (at the same time as longtime DC receptionist Lou Joost) and went on to enroll at Defiance College. She and her husband, H. Olan Smith, both graduated from DC, he in 1946 and she in 1951. Olan was a stand-out athlete (inducted into the DC Hall of Fame) and went on to play professional baseball for the St. Louis Browns. Both became teachers, and he coached. The couple spent their summers doing graduate work in Bloomington, Ind.

Garnett began her DC teaching career in business education in 1963. She was also faculty secretary. In 1978 she was promoted to associate professor and later was appointed director of career planning and placement. During her college tenure, Olan died, so looking back, she recalls that the pace and volume of her work filled a void. "I was very busy, and truthfully, it was good for me." She retired in 1987.

Garnett calls the College "a great asset" to the community. "I loved every minute of it."

She taught typing, shorthand, accounting, office machines, office procedures, and business writing. The classroom, plus her position in career planning and placement, put her face-to-face with the vast majority of students who, like Keith Bell, speak of her with great respect and fondness. She remembers them in kind. "A lot of graduates landed in just the right job. We've had some gems," she recalls, adding that the education department produced "good, strong teachers."

Now in her ninth decade, Garnett has a growing family that includes daughter Shayna, three grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. ♦



*by Kathy Punches '96, Director of Public Relations and Marketing*

TO KNOW.

TO UNDERSTAND.

TO LEAD.

TO SERVE.

Those core Defiance College values instilled while he was a student set Brian Brutyn, class of 2002, on a solid career path that has allowed him to adapt and succeed in multiple, changing roles.

Brutyn is currently Associate Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment for Midland Public Schools in mid-Michigan.

When he entered the education field, Brutyn had every intention of staying in the classroom his entire career. His first job out of college was teaching multiple subjects in a strict discipline academy. He soon moved on to Algonac Community Schools in southeast Michigan where he taught social studies. Within five years, his plan to remain in the classroom went out the window when the opportunity to move into administration presented itself.

At Algonac, he served in multiple roles including athletic director, IB coordinator, assistant principal, high school principal, and interim superintendent. In 2014, he moved to his current position at Midland.

Brutyn first became interested in education as a career during his high school years. “My father was a highly respected teacher, and his enthusiasm and success within the profession piqued my interest,” he recalls. “The choice was solidified when I had a phenomenal high school history instructor, Mr. Nelson. His classroom was ‘electric,’ and he worked tirelessly to make lessons relevant and engaging for students. That experience inspired my passion for history and solidified my choice to go into education.”

He calls the Midland Public Schools “a phenomenal educational organization.” He says it is a great community in which to raise a family.

In his role as Associate Superintendent, Brutyn is in charge of the district improvement plan; selecting text, online and physical curricular resources; directing state and federal programs; coordinating professional development; supervising building principals, curriculum coordinators and specialists; facilitating state and local assessments; and advocating at the state level to shape future curriculum standards, assessments and





Brian Brutyn '02

improvement efforts.

Looking at his career path thus far, Brutyn describes the contrast from teaching to administration. "What I have learned is that when one decides to make the move into educational administration, they have to realize that the connection with students becomes distant," he says. "As this is the reason that most people go into education, it can make one lose sight of impacts that are made.

"Moments of happiness and fulfillment come when I see a program that I have implemented providing a student with an opportunity they may not have otherwise had. The same is true when I see a teacher or administrator having success with a technique or strategy that I introduced in a professional development session. You have to celebrate those successes and realize that even though direct interaction with kids is sparse, the positive impacts on stakeholders can have a broad impact."

His dreams of becoming an educator began to take shape when he first visited Defiance College as a high school senior in 1998. "I was impressed by the campus and faculty. I wanted a small-campus atmosphere where I wouldn't get lost in the masses," he recalls. "The education program had a good reputation, and a review of the reciprocity of the degree in surrounding states was an advantage. The school also offered me the opportunity to play football. The football staff did a great job of selling the school and program during the recruiting process."

His Defiance College experiences – from classes to the playing field to personal relationships – made life-shaping impressions.

"Two professors stand out as having a special impact on me," he recalls, citing Dr. Jason Tetzloff who instructed numerous courses related to Brutyn's social studies major, and Dr. Tom Case, instructor for many education practicum classes. "Both men worked diligently to establish a personal connection/relationship with each of their students. Their passionate presentation of content made me look forward to their courses. I still think of the lessons instilled in me from both of them often when having to make decisions."

During his sophomore year, he met his future wife, Jennifer, in a psychology class. "Eighteen years later, we have two wonderful children and recently celebrated our fourteenth wedding anniversary."

Brutyn grew up in Sterling Heights, Mich., and attended Henry Ford II High School. His wife, Jennifer, DC class of 2002, is an executive assistant for the Clare Public Schools. They are the parents of two children, Autumn, 11 and Bo, 10.

Brutyn earned a Master of Arts in Teacher Leadership from the University of Illinois in 2008 and an Education Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from Oakland University in 2011. ♦



The website Best Value Schools has named Defiance College as one of the 20 best value colleges in the country for students with autism.

The website ranked Defiance College sixth among the top 20 schools, lauding its ASD Affinity Program. It cited the program's aim of tailoring services to each participant's individual needs supported by yearly evaluations. It also recognized Defiance as offering one of the most robust residential programs on the top 20 list with its apartment-style housing for students on the autism spectrum, supervised by specially trained RAs.

The ASD Affinity Program builds on Defiance College's success with its Hench Autism Studies Program in which high school students with autism receive high school level instruction on the DC campus in coordination with the Defiance City Schools.

The director of the Hench Autism Studies Program and the ASD Affinity Program is Dr. Clarissa Barnes. She notes that the ASD Affinity Program is designed to support students with ASD to have a true college experience so that they can participate in all aspects of college life.

"We are proud to be ranked so highly alongside other successful programs," said Dr. Barnes. "The ASD Affinity Program provides the tools and conditions for students to succeed, but the degrees earned and personal victories celebrated are achieved through the hard work and dedication of the students themselves. We are grateful to be a part of a campus that has fully embraced our program and is dedicated to creating an equitable academic and social environment."

Defiance's ASD Affinity Program supports college students with ASD in reaching their full potential. Varying levels of academic, social and residential support are designed to aid students in meeting their personal and professional goals. Students receive a broad range of comprehensive services to enable them to adjust and succeed in a college environment.

Persons interested in learning more about the College's autism programs can visit the college website at [www.defiance.edu](http://www.defiance.edu). ♦





# Educational Opportunity

Jennifer Davis discovers a better life for her family with the help of Defiance College

by Kathy Punches '96, Director of Public Relations & Marketing

It was a road less traveled that took Jennifer Davis to her classroom at the Defiance Elementary School. The first grade teacher began her journey as a young mother wanting a better life for her family.

After taking classes at a community college, she decided to become a teacher. "I needed a college that would allow me to support my family as well as a school that offered a quality education," she says. "That's when I found Defiance College. There I had many opportunities, including a transfer grant to help financially. DC worked well with the community college, and I was able to transfer my credits with no problems. I was quickly on the path of fulfilling my educational goals."

Davis's spark for teaching was ignited during her own childhood by teachers and experiences at St. Mary's Catholic

School. She has memories of her kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Parrish, taking students on imaginary trips to places like Holland – with wooden shoes and construction paper suitcases, and music. It was hands-on learning, and at a very young age, it was learning through play.

"I believe her teaching philosophy stuck with me as I continued my schooling," Davis recalls. "I needed the hands-on learning experiences to better grasp material and concepts taught to me. I knew there were many more children out there that needed to learn this way, and that's when I found my spark for teaching." She wanted all children to be able to learn through play, to enjoy their learning experience, and to add value to their learning through student choice.

Her Defiance College experience further reinforced her personal philosophy of teaching and learning. Dr. Suzanne McFarland instilled the ideas of age-appropriate concepts,



lessons, materials and delivery. "She often used the term 'developmentally appropriate,' says Davis. "The term is still relevant with me and is evident in my classroom after teaching elementary students for more than 10 years."

Another professor who influenced Davis was Dr. Fred

"I needed a college that would allow me to support my family as well as a school that offered a quality education. That's when I found Defiance College."

-- Jennifer Davis

Coulter. "You always looked forward to attending his class. He had such a vibrant and positive outlook on education. I really admire Dr. Coulter for taking the time to get to know each of his student's personalities and then using their strengths to help teach a concept." Coulter had a knack for getting conversations rolling in the classroom. "He often initiated a debate which led to us all smiling, laughing and creating strategies. He helped cultivate my belief in the importance of teaching lessons using a student led/student choice approach."

During her teaching career, Davis has noticed that more and more students are lacking motor skills. As part of her graduate work, she was introduced to sensory processing disorder which she began to study more intensely. She believes many sensory techniques and strategies can be used in the regular classroom as tools to help with behavior and classroom environment. Last year she started a sensory committee at her elementary school which she says was strongly supported by the administration. "We were able to begin bringing awareness as well as tool kits filled with things like weighted pencil grips, lap pads, liquid timers, picture schedules, social stories, and much more available to all teachers ..." Davis's goal in the next several years is to continue raising awareness. She hopes to start an expo that will include keynote speakers, sensory tools, strategies and education to all area teachers.

She says Defiance College offered her the opportunity to create lifelong friendships – friends with whom she can teach in the real world. She and two of her closest college friends found teaching positions in Defiance, Tinora and Continental. "We stay connected throughout the school year and have even been known to start pen pal letters between our classes."

Davis is grateful for the solid career foundation that she received at Defiance College. "Choosing to stay local was the best thing I could do for my family," she recalls. "I would commute to campus, attend morning classes, meet my daughter and family members for lunch, go back for another class or two that day and still have time to work a couple hours in between. ... I was very blessed to have found DC at the time. If there was no Defiance College, I might not be where I am today." ♦

## Long-time Defiance College Supporter Phyllis Snyder Dies

Phyllis J. Snyder, 90, died October 22 at Laurels of Defiance. She and her husband, the late Vern "Pickle" Snyder, were long-time supporters of Defiance College and DC athletics.

Phyllis was born in Darke County, Ohio, on October 20, 1927. She was the daughter of the late Samuel and Norma (Teaford) Lindamood. She was the widow of Vernon "Pickle" Snyder. They were married June 2, 1951, and he died March 16, 2006.

Phyllis worked as a secretary at the All Star Products from 1951-1980 and then worked at the Maumee Valley Guidance Center until 1990. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and was a hospice volunteer. She knitted socks and gave many away. Phyllis was very supportive and active at Defiance College for more than 70 years. She attended and volunteered at basketball games, sporting and other events at Defiance College. She also attended Defiance High School sporting events.

Everyone at DC remembered her fondly as someone who was always on the go, full of energy, outgoing and friendly to everyone.

Surviving are sisters, Patricia Graham of Greenville, Ohio, Wilma Richards of Hollansburg, Ohio; a brother, Sam Lindamood of Hollansburg, Ohio; and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, Vernon "Pickle" Snyder; her parents; and sisters, Juanita Hawkey, Marilyn Meyers and Lois Hines.

Defiance College honored Phyllis with a memorial service on December 3 in the Karl H. Weaner Community Center. Speakers included DC president Dr. Richanne C. Mankey, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference commissioner Chris Ragsdale, former DC men's basketball coach Kyle Brumett, student-athletes Reed Guerin, Sarah Kaya and Whitney Schalk, alumnus and former assistant men's basketball coach Nate Conley.

Memorial contributions in Phyllis Snyder's honor may be made to the Defiance College Athletic Fund. ♦







# TRADITIONALLY DIFFERENT

by Kathy PUNCHES '96  
Director of Public Relations & Marketing

Even though his stint spent on the Defiance College campus was relatively short – two years of a graduate assistantship – for Steve Sakosits '08, the time was instrumental in preparing him for what has become a highly successful role as a college baseball coach and mentor of student-athletes.

After graduating from DC with a master of arts in education degree and two years of coaching experience, Sakosits went on to Earlham College in Indiana where, in seven years as head baseball coach, he has “rewritten the record books.” In just those seven years, he has become the program’s most successful coach with 146 victories.

According to Earlham’s website, the 2017 team made history with the program’s first Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference regular season title. The Quakers amassed a program-best 30 victories, won the HCAC Tournament to qualify for the NCAA Division III Tournament for the first time, and earned its first NCAA tournament win (the college’s first in any sport). The team broke eight career records and six single season records and led all of D-III in stolen bases during the season.

Sakosits was named HCAC Coach of the Year in 2017, and several of his players received conference and other honors.

Since taking the helm at Earlham, Sakosits has steadily grown the baseball program. In 2015, the team qualified for the HCAC Tournament for the first time in school history. They went on the following year to play in the championship round. In 2014, the Quakers saw their first winning season since 1971.

“We’ve been able to do some special things so far at EC, but I feel we can take the program to an even higher level,” he says. “The goals each year are to compete for an HCAC championship, get into the NCAA tournament, and in the near future, capture an NCAA championship. Sometimes when people speak about these types of things, they can be seen as lofty, but I know we can do these things here.”

In his own college baseball career at Xavier University, Sakosits was a pitcher. A four-year letter winner, he wrapped up his own successful career ranked fourth among Musketeer pitchers in appearances and saves.

When he graduated from Middletown High School South in Middletown, N.J., he chose criminal justice for his undergrad academic major. "I wasn't the most motivated student in high school, so I knew that for me to be successful in college, I had to have an interest in what I was studying," he explains. He was a fan of popular police and court dramas like "Law and Order" and "CSI," hence the criminal justice major. "With enjoying the material I was learning in the classroom, I found success."

But it was his love of baseball that ultimately attracted Sakosits to a graduate assistantship at Defiance College. That, and the opportunity to earn a degree, he says, "from the same great institution my father received his from." His father, Stuart Sakosits, graduated from DC in 1968 and went on to a highly successful career in the finance industry. "What he was able to do with a Defiance degree has been amazing, and I knew I wanted a lot from my education," says Steve.

"I have a lot of great memories about my time at DC," he recalls. Not much older than some of the players, he felt it provided a good working relationship and made it easy to connect on what would make them successful both in the classroom and on the field. He also enjoyed the camaraderie

of other graduate assistants, many of whom are still coaching. The best man at his wedding was a DC classmate.

But the greatest influence on Sakosits from his DC experience was working with head baseball coach Derek Woodley. "I would not be here if it weren't for DC and especially Coach Woodley," he says. "Derek taught me how hard work and being prepared can take you a lot of places. What we do at Earlham is based a lot on what Coach Woodley taught me in my time working with him." He calls Woodley "an amazing coach and an even better mentor."

Woodley recalls Sakosits as a great assistant and is not surprised by his success. "I had a feeling he would be a great head coach because his work ethic is unmatched, and he has a passion for learning and developing," he says. "He truly cares about people and the development of student-athletes both on and off the field.

"Even though we compete against each other on the field, I am a huge supporter of what he does with his team and the program he has built at Earlham. The only time I don't cheer for him is when we play them!"

The baseball program at Earlham is centered on the phrase "Earned Not Given." Sakosits adds, "Nothing in life



Steve Sakosits '08

will be handed to you, but if you work hard for yourself and others, great things will happen to you. We want our student-athletes to compete in everything they do, in the classroom, ball field, or whatever."

Coaching at the college level is rewarding for Sakosits because the student-athletes are fully invested in both their academic and athletic success. As for his personal success, Sakosits considers himself a tireless worker and recruiter. "I am internally motivated to be my best, and if I expect maximum effort from my athletes then they should expect me to do the same. I love being the first one in the office and the last one to leave the field. I gained this from my father. No one was going to outwork him, and I want this to be the same for me."

Sakosits also helped orchestrate the donations for construction of the EC baseball stadium. In total, \$2.5 million was raised for the stadium, and \$350,000 in other fundraising avenues.

When he is not working, Sakosits enjoys spending time with his wife, Ashley, and following the WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment). He also likes going to EDM (electronic dance music) festivals, to which he says, "Random, but I am a different dude!"

He may be a different dude, but traditional values of hard work, personal growth, and concern for others are serving him well. ♦





# Creative



*by Kathy Punches '96, Director of Public Relations and Marketing*

There's an adage that goes something like ... choose a job that you love, and you'll never work a day in your life.

For Brandon Knott, class of 1997, the saying couldn't be more accurate.

He fell in love with art as a kid and has been an artist all of his adult life. And, for the past 13 years, he's been fortunate to share that love with young people as an art teacher at Bryan High School.

"I feel like I have the best job I could ever have," said Knott. "What other job could you have to be able to be around kids and inspire them?"

Much of his own inspiration came from his undergraduate days in the art studio at Defiance College where now-emeritus professor Steve Smith motivated students to think and act creatively, blending knowledge, tradition, and a strong work ethic.

"Smith was always so caring and concerned. It made me want to be that kind of teacher," Knott recalled. "I wanted to be a mentor for others like he was for me."

And what makes Knott's job even better is that he shares his classroom with an equally talented teacher, Matt Neff, who also attended DC, in a school district where the arts are recognized and appreciated.

Knott was teaching at Oakwood Elementary School when he learned of an opening at Bryan. He said Neff encouraged the administration to hire Knott. He started teaching at the middle school and eventually moved to the high school where he started a ceramics program about nine years ago.

Ceramics has become one of the most popular electives at the school, growing from 75 students the first year to about 200 currently.

The 2016-17 academic year christened a new K-12 school building in Bryan. The campus on the city's north side was designed to be a 21st century learning environment emphasizing openness, collaboration, integrated technology, and project-based learning. What better place to sow the seeds of art in youth? The concept is easily apparent in the art department that features separate labs for ceramics, drawing/painting, and CAD (video production and graphic design).

Neff attributes the state-of-the-art facilities to a community and school administration that has always supported the arts. "It's ingrained in the culture," he said. "Bryan is not afraid to hire the best people with experience. We're very fortunate." Knott added his appreciation to the Bryan community that is so supportive of their efforts.

Knott said it brings him great joy to see how students are integrating art into their lives, through photography, drawing, ceramics, and other media. And, they've had many students who have made a career out of art – through teaching or design – or who have gone on to distinguished graduate programs.

# Inspiration

“I want to thank my administrators who afford me the facilities, materials, and equipment to allow my students to grow, as well as all the people who taught me, not just ceramics and art but lessons about kindness, caring, and compassion. They are too numerous to mention.”

Knott, who also earned his master’s degree at Defiance College, has had his own business, called It’s Knott Pottery, for nearly 20 years. He creates functional, and sometimes whimsical, pottery that he sells online and at numerous galleries throughout the region.

His pottery has also become a staple at the popular Empty Bowls event sponsored by the Defiance College Social Work Organization. The annual supper raises funds for the local PATH Center and features soup served in handmade bowls made by Knott. He also sets up a demonstration ceramic wheel during the event. This year, Knott made more than 650 bowls for the Defiance College fundraiser. He collaborates on a similar event in Bryan.

Knott’s studio is located at his home in Continental. He has a 25x25-foot building dedicated to his creations, and the studio is open by chance or appointment. His website, [www.itsknottpottery.com](http://www.itsknottpottery.com), links to his various social media as well as an ETSY page.

Knott is married to Shelby, his wife of 17 years, and has three children, Chloe, Ian, and Tristin.

Blending the fulfillment of teaching with his love of creating art has been a happy union for Knott these past many years. “I have lots of things that inspire me,” he explained, mentioning Japanese pottery and printmaking, 20th century English pottery, and several contemporary functional American potters. “I take all of the information I gather from these sources and put them through my own personal filter to come up with parts of my style.”

Music also plays a big role in his creative spirit. “I am inspired by music, which I always have playing in my studio. As I am creating, it really helps to keep me going. I love heavy metal’s sheer intensity.” He also appreciates folk, blues and classic rock. “Having music on as I work helps to create a flow to the processes.

“I really get excited by the idea of making technically advanced forms, the discovery of new processes, and working to achieve the best work I can make by pushing myself to get better as a craftsman,” he said. “I feel like clay is the most conducive medium for me to try and achieve that. There just seems to be no limit to what I can do with clay.

“I also always like to think I give my customers their money’s worth, and I hope my pottery is taken home with them, cherished, and used in their daily rituals. For me there is no better compliment than when a customer says, ‘I use your mug every day. It’s my favorite one.’” ♦





# Diverse

# Education

by Kathy PUNCHES '96, Director of Public Relations & Marketing



Genelle Castro graduated from Defiance College in 2015 not only with a diploma certifying that she had fulfilled her academic requirements in teacher education, but with a rich and diverse resumé.

“The thing that shaped my career the most was all of the school placements that I had to participate in throughout the education program,” she recalls. “I had the opportunity to experience a completely different school setting than what I had grown up in and meet incredible teachers who added different perspectives and gave great advice.” Van Wert High School teacher Jeff Hood was “the best mentor teacher any phys ed major could ever ask for,” she says. “He taught me so much.”

Now in her third year of teaching, Genelle spent her first year as a physical education teacher at a charter school in downtown Columbus. She is now health and wellness teacher at Columbus School for Girls, an all-girls private school in Bexley, Ohio.

She loves working with youth. “They are our future, and seeing them learn, overcome adversity, and have fun while doing it is inspiring,” she says. “Being a person that can help them along that path and be a positive role model is really rewarding.”

Genelle had her own role models as a college student. She recalls professors Katie Griffis and Tim Rickabaugh as faculty members who made an impact in her academic experience. Also, Alpha Phi Omega and the Service Leadership program “showed me the hardest-working and most awesome people ever.”

She was fortunate to have several domestic and international travel experiences during her years at DC. She participated in Habitat for Humanity spring break trips every year. “I loved being able to use my hands, learn new skills, and help individuals in need.”

She traveled with the men’s basketball team to Costa Rica where she watched the team compete internationally and took part in a service project to create a basketball court for a local community. The trip also gave her the opportunity to practice her Spanish language skills.

Perhaps most life-changing during her college years was participating as a McMaster Scholar in a McMaster School project in Tanzania. She hosted a rural women’s conference focused on personal and feminine hygiene, entrepreneurship, and women’s empowerment.

Genelle is no stranger to international culture. Her father is a native of Bolivia. She grew up in Westerville, Ohio, with her parents, sister, and a cousin, grandfather and multiple aunts who also immigrated from Bolivia. At Westerville North High School, she played soccer, was a viola player in the orchestra, and was involved in Interact.

She now lives in Columbus with her fiancé, Taylor, and they are planning to be married in June 2018. Genelle hopes in the near future to expand her teaching to more physical education studies and to enroll in graduate school. ♦



# Education is in her veins

**I truly believe teaching is a calling, and no matter where you are or what you're doing, you are always teaching.**

As a Northwest Ohio native, Defiance College faculty member Rachel Eicher is very familiar with area schools and communities. Her family lived in Archbold, and her mother, June, was a teacher in the Fayette school system.

When it came time to choose a college, Rachel knew she wanted an education from a small liberal arts college. "I narrowed my search and ultimately decided Defiance College was for me," she recalled. "It was a natural fit."

Her family attended the United Church of Christ in Archbold, so the UCC affiliation with Defiance College was also a draw.

Knowing she didn't want to teach high school, she chose to pursue the K-8 licensure. Graduating with the class of 1991, she recalls many of the education faculty from that time period – Jim Bray, Dale King, Dr. Bonnie Sloan and Peggy Myles, to name a few. She enjoyed DC's liberal arts education and says it prepared her well for her profession. Classes like philosophy, art appreciation and CORE stretched students' thinking.

She did her student teaching in the first grade at Anthony Wayne Elementary School. "I felt that they prepared me, and I was ready to go," she said.

Prepared to teach, Rachel entered the public school system, teaching in Fayette for several years, the same system where her mother was a teacher.

She decided to enter graduate school, enrolling at Bowling Green State University where she earned a Master of Education in reading. She started teaching as an adjunct professor at Defiance College and Northwest State Community College in 2010 and three years later was hired at DC as a full-time faculty member. Her current title is Assistant Professor of Practice of Early Childhood Education.

Rachel recently completed a Doctorate of Education in teaching and learning at the University of Findlay. Her current classroom focus is early childhood and reading courses. She also supervises student teachers.

"I truly believe teaching is a calling, and no matter where you are or what you're doing, you are always teaching," she said. "The transition from teaching in a public school to here has been rewarding – to watch our students and their growth.

"It's interesting to see them as freshmen and so green, and then as seniors as they cross that threshold. It's so different for each one. They are so individual. That's the reward."

She says today's education students have to be prepared for change. "I believe we [DC] do an excellent job of preparing them for a very demanding profession." ♦



# The importance of preserving history

# ARCHIVING HISTORY

by Barbara Sedlock, Lead Librarian and Coordinator of Metadata and Archives

The Allen County Museum in Lima asks to see the records of Defiance College's archaeological digs from the 60s and 70s. San Francisco State University asks for information on former DC football coach Vic Rowen for a documentary. The child of an alumni couple asks for a copy of the program from the DC theater production of *Mourning Becomes Electra* during which his parents met. The Office of Sports Information asks for help verifying DC's football season scores from the past 100 years.

These are all requests that the Library staff has used the Defiance College Archives to answer in recent months. And, needless to say, all of the above are examples of the continuing value of the College Archives.

## Where else, after all, would this information be found?

A college archives maintains files of noncurrent records of the institution which have continuing value. For Defiance College, these include *Oraculum* yearbooks, *Tom-Tom* and *Defender* student newspapers, an Image Bank of over 18,000 original printed and digital photos and slides; former students' scrapbooks, campus newsletters, Board of Trustee minutes, athletic, theater, and music programs; academic catalogs, and many others.

Here are some examples of how Library staff used these archival documents to answer some of the questions in the first paragraph:

- ◆ we scanned and sent copies of photos of Rowen to the documentary maker
- ◆ a scan of the theater program had already been made for DC Memory, so we emailed a copy to the alumni's child
- ◆ information on DC's past football records was found in *Oraculum* yearbooks, various DC student newspapers, and a file of original newspaper clippings about the College that spans the 1940s through the early 80s, and those items were forwarded to the athletic department

Without an archives, without a systematic, organized, accessible collection of documents from a college's history, answering these kinds of questions would be next to impossible.

Archives which contain historical documents are important outside of the academic world, as well. An example from the popular media happened a few years ago when documentarians wanted to make a film about Walt Disney, one which eventually aired on PBS's *American Experience* series, titled *Walt Disney*. The makers were not expecting to receive cooperation from the

THE DEFIANCE COLLEGE PRESENTS

# Harvey

by  
Mary Chase



May 4, 5, 6, 1989

7:30 p.m. Schomburg Auditorium



VOL. 111 NO. 25  
ONE COPY PER PERSON  
**124 TO GRADUATE SUNDAY**

This year's Commencement exercises will have special meaning for the 124 students who walk the ballroom halls of Defiance College today for the last time on their way to classes.

These senior members of our Student Body, will on Sunday change their tassels from the right to the left side of their caps, symbolizing graduation.

Graduation exercises will begin at 10:00 a.m. behind the Student Union. The Graduation Chorus and Glee Club will hear Judge Donald W. Walker, Associate Judge of the Supreme Court of Maine, speak.

At 11:30 the Commencement procession will begin their walk from Whitney Hall to the graduation site, behind the Student Union.

Charles Anderson Davis and President Kevin McCann will jointly address the Graduation Class of 1964.

Just before the diploma is presented to a class graduate, the class president will change their tassels from the right to the left side.

Listed below are the graduating seniors in the three areas: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and B.S. in Education.

- BACHELOR OF ARTS**
- Ken Anderson
  - Andrew Barwick
  - Linda Bissell
  - Judy Boyle
  - Carle Carpenter
  - Theresa Carroll
  - Barbara Cavanaugh
  - Marilyn Cotter
  - Dean Colwell
  - Larry Connor
  - Christa Craper
  - Nuel Derrill
  - Mark Ann Ertson
  - Karl Lehman
  - Edna Lewis
  - Chang Yu'Wu Lin
  - Garry Luderman
  - Sumner McClain
  - Doug Mcintosh
  - Alan Miller
  - Agnes Palmer
  - Juliet Parker
  - Robert Perkins
  - Jackie Perkins
  - Frank Price
  - Steve Purdy
  - Nellian Schorer
  - Lesley Seeborg
  - Ken Seeborg
  - Jeff Swanson
  - Ruth Ann Swaugler
  - Maria Wagner
  - Paul Young
- BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**
- Ken Arps
  - Ron Arthur
  - Janita Barlage
  - Robert Beegmans
  - Pete Bostromley
  - Julie Bruggemeier
  - Nancy Carter
  - Dwaine Chapman
  - Linda Clark
  - Ellen Clarkson
  - William Cole
  - Gay Colburn
  - Celestia Conroy
  - William Dreyfus

## VICTOR ROWEN TO LAY CORNERSTONE FOR PHYS. ED. CENTER



Dr. Victor Rowen, who joined Ohio's only undefeated and untied football record in 1952 as Defiance College's head coach, will return to Defiance Saturday to lay the cornerstone for the College's Physical Education Center.

Dr. Rowen will speak on the "Defiance College Story" at the ceremonies scheduled for 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Rowen played 12-10 three-year record as he brought the Yellowjackets from an 0-6 record in 1951 to a 9-3 slate in 1957. The Jackets claimed the Mid-Ohio Conference title in 1953 as they finished at 4-0.

For the next three years, Dr. Rowen has served as head football coach at San Francisco State College. His teams have won or shared the Far Western Conference title all three seasons. His overall record is 10-4-2.

He was named as Northern California's Coach of the Year in 1962 and coached as head coach at San Francisco State College. His teams have won or shared the Far Western Conference title all three seasons. His overall record is 10-4-2.

Dr. Rowen is a former professional footballer, having played end for the old Brooklyn Dodgers. He is currently a scout for both the Baltimore Colts and Chicago Bears of the National Football League.

Dr. Rowen earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Long Island University then received both M.A. and Ed.D. Degrees from Columbia University.

Dr. Rowen was Director of Athletics, as well as an indoor football, basketball and baseball coach. His basketball squads had an overall record of 43-22 with the 1951-52 team finishing at 18-6.

life would have been a lot less interesting. This is an example of how an archives can provide the fodder for historians to do their work. And the study of history is part of Defiance College's liberal arts-based curriculum, which holds that a "classroom based in the liberal arts is the centerpiece from which students form connections and discover new ways of viewing and exploring the world".

We know that the liberal arts tradition is grounded in seeing the world from multiple viewpoints. Without an archive, without the work of libraries, our views about the world would be severely limited as each document lovingly archived provides another window through which to understand the world.

In 1984 Historian David McCullough said: *History is a guide to navigation in perilous times. History is who we are and why we are the way we are.*

The College Archives in the Pilgrim Library curates the historical documents from Defiance College's history, and provides primary source material for students of history and community members. An archives provides documentation on what we were in the past, and can give guidance on what the College can become in the future. ♦

## Donation For Kevin McCann Study Center

The largest gift in the history of the Defiance College, providing for the construction of the central unit in the library expansion program, was announced today by Karl H. Weener, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The gift was made following a call two weeks ago on the donor, who prefers to be anonymous, by Robert W. Compe of the Board of Trustees and President Kevin McCann.

The contributor of the building described in the resolution accepting his gift as "an industrialist who by his vision and faith and enterprise has multiplied for thousands their opportunities to earn a better living."

Construction of the gift "has begun in late autumn and will be completed by the beginning of the 1965 academic year. It provides approximately double the area of the first unit of the library building in 1952.

The ALPHI XI DELTA Society was formally inducted into the Alpha Xi Delta National Society by the Beta Mu Chapter at Bowling Green State University, at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 19.

Following the induction, an informal tea was given by the Beta Mu Chapter of B.G.S.U. honoring the new actives of Delta Xi Chapter at Defiance.

On Saturday, May 16, Carol Westman and Donna Carroll represented the Delta Xi Chapter at the Alpha Xi Delta All-State Day at Wartburg University in Springfield, Ohio.

Left: Front page of the May 22, 1964 Defender that announced former DC coach Vic Rowen would return to campus to lay the cornerstone for the new Physical Education (now Weaner) Center.

Opposite: Theater program from a 1989 production of "Harvey." View the whole program online, along with over 4,000 other documents from the Archives on the DC Memory website: [memory.defiance.edu](http://memory.defiance.edu)

Below: DC students doing an archaeological dig at the Brooke Site near the Power Dam outside of Defiance, 1971.



Disney organization, a company well-known for fiercely protecting its brand, but in the end the company consented. In newspaper interviews, director Sarah Colt cited the importance of archives in creating the film: "It's a visual medium. If you can't use archives, you can't make a documentary." Once permission was given to use the archives, the documentary makers were able to include film footage of Disney recording Mickey Mouse's voice, scenes of film cels from Snow White being created, and photos of Disney and staff discussing film storyboards and acting out scenes. If these materials had not been saved in the corporation's archives and made available, the documentary on Disney's



# Seeing the Whole Picture!

by Kathy PUNCHES '96, Director of Public Relations and Marketing

For more than a decade, Defiance College's McMaster School for Advancing Humanity has been working with partners in Belize, engaging in community-based research with under-resourced populations. This ongoing commitment has resulted in numerous initiatives benefiting countless individuals and families.

One of those initiatives took shape a year ago when McMaster School representatives delivered a retinal camera apparatus to the Belize Council for the Visually Impaired (BCVI). The equipment was donated by ProMedica, and shipping costs were covered by Defiance Lions and Defiance Rotary.

That project has opened the door for expanded efforts that will potentially affect the lives of hundreds of Belizean children.

McMaster School Dean Mary Ann Studer, administrative assistant Rena Rager, and four Defiance College students arrived in Belize last May to conduct their annual team projects, and during that time performed nearly 1,200 visual acuity scans in four schools in the Orange Walk District.

Because many children in Belize do not receive eye care, representatives from BCVI asked Studer if vision screenings could be performed during the McMaster visit. BCVI staff trained the Defiance students in how to do screenings and accompanying paperwork. Of those children who were screened, 190 were identified for referrals to receive further testing by an optometrist. Data gathered from these screenings may be used to design protocol to target visual acuity screenings to particular ages in the future.

Studer said the screenings were conducted in addition to all of the other projects the Defiance team planned in local schools and communities. They viewed the eye screenings as an important task that needed to be done. "Just because you're poor doesn't mean that you need eye care less," Studer said.

She applauded the students for their efforts. "The team worked 12-hour days in 100 degree weather to get everything done," she said.

Vision screenings may be expanded in the future. Studer said BCVI staff members are discussing what they would like the Defiance team to do next year and have suggested having an optometrist travel with the DC team to take part in screenings. She sees great value in gathering another year of data.

The McMaster School for Advancing Humanity allows students the opportunity to combine personal and classroom knowledge with research to improve the human condition around the world. Teams of students, faculty and staff have been working with partners in Belize and Cambodia since 2005, and in its newest location, Panama, since 2014.

Between 2002 and June 2016, the McMaster School supported more than 100 faculty and staff Fellows and Associate Fellows and more than 260 student Scholars as they engaged in community-based research with under-resourced populations one family, one village, one school at a time.

Multi-disciplinary learning communities work together for an entire year preparing, traveling, and re-entry processing. This year-long commitment on the part of students, faculty and staff is unmatched among models of short-term educational travel and results in the fulfillment of strategic learning outcomes and high levels of learning.



From left: Caitlyn Pavel, Maddie Homan, Zach Roush, Zack Reed, and Dean Mary Ann Studer.

Any Defiance College student can apply to participate, regardless of their academic major.

The McMaster School for Advancing Humanity was founded in 2002 with a generous endowment from Harold and Helen McMaster. The mission of the McMaster School is to educate students to become committed global citizens, who through their McMaster experiences gain an understanding of the importance of individual liberties in improving the human condition. ◆





BELIZE COUNCIL FOR  
THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

# ORANGE WALK EYE CLINIC

Monday - Friday  
8:00am - 4:00pm

Tel: 322-0227

Red Cross Building, Jabiru Street, Orange Walk T







## Major Improvements to Athletic Facilities Coming

Major improvements to Defiance College athletic facilities were launched at a groundbreaking ceremony on March 15. These improvements will enable DC's athletic programs to be more competitive with surrounding institutions and within our conference. The upgrades will assist in recruiting quality student-athletes and continue to support retention within the basketball, volleyball and football programs.

Speakers at the groundbreaking included President Richanne C. Mankey, Interim Athletic Director Jodie Holava, Defiance City Administrator Jeff Leonard, and women's volleyball team member Sydney Unger.

Additional locker room space will bring new opportunities for student-athletes at Defiance College with added sports teams. AD Holava noted that the department and college are excited to be able to support wrestling on campus again.

### Features of the project include:

- ◆ Renovation and expansion of men's and women's locker rooms, restroom improvements, a new display area, and enhanced security to existing spaces in the Weaner Center
- ◆ As mentioned, the addition of four locker rooms designed to allow for future expansion in the McMaster Center
- ◆ And, upgrades to the senior football locker room and other improvements in Coressel Stadium
- ◆ Design Collaborative and Weigand Construction teamed together to create these state-of-the-art spaces.

The list of contractors also includes Highland Electric, Leever Glass, Bayes Incorporated, Noldmann Roofing, Central Indiana Hardware, Folding Equipment Company, and B Sport.



The \$2 million project includes a 4,156 square foot addition of four new locker rooms to the McMaster Center. Renovations will also be made to the Karl H. Weaner Community Center and Justin F. Coressel Stadium, totaling 7,600 square feet.

*In top photo from left to right: Buzz, Rev. Jim Brehler, Board Chair Steve VanDemark, Interim Athletic Director Jodie Holava, President Richanne C. Mankey, City Administrator Jeff Leonard, Brian Bauman for Congressman Bob Latta, Alumni Varsity 'D' President Mike Snyder, Mike Mankey, and Ohio House Representative Craig Riedel.*

# EXERCISE SCIENCE

## Gaining Recognition

The Defiance College Exercise Science (ESCI) Program has made significant recent progress in preparing students for professional success and recognition in the fields of strength and conditioning and personal training.

Last fall, DC was recognized as one of three Ohio colleges or universities to meet Certified Personal Trainer (CPT) examination preparation guidelines through the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA). The ESCI program is now preparing to seek additional recognition in preparing students for the Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialists (CSCS) NSCA exam. Additionally, the program is focusing upon increasing the number of students and faculty that attend and/or present at regional, state, or national meetings of associated professional organizations.

Dr. Tim Rickabaugh, Professor of Exercise Science, observed, “The three-course, core sequence of the ESCI curriculum was recently re-aligned with NSCA guidelines and includes an intentional focus on the ongoing student preparation for success on professional certification exams. We also made sure that the curriculum was supplemented with material aligned with clinical guidelines from the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) for students seeking professional opportunities in allied health settings such as cardiac rehabilitation or extended care.”

Rickabaugh has previously been certified as an ACSM Exercise Specialist, an NSCA Strength and Conditioning Specialist, and an NSCA Certified Personal Trainer which allows for detailed insight in aligning the curriculum with professional standards and ethics.

This spring, senior Zachary Bires, athletic training major from Lorain, Ohio, passed the NSCA Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist exam on his first attempt. Regarding that significant accomplishment, Dr. Rickabaugh said, “Zack did a great job of seeking continuing education and exam preparation opportunities to increase his chances of being certified on the first try. Last fall I attended an NSCA strength and conditioning coach workshop at Ohio State University, and I heard someone say hello. Looking behind me to see who it was, I saw Zack sitting and taking notes on the presentations. The NSCA and ACSM exams are rather difficult, and for him to achieve this certification before graduation is an impressive accomplishment.”



*DC student Zack Bires checks Dr. Tim Rickabaugh while on a treadmill.*

Regarding his new CSCS certification, Zack said, “This is definitely an accomplishment I am extremely proud of. DC gave me an opportunity to work hands-on with the strength and conditioning program for an intercollegiate athletic team, as well as an opportunity to go to the NSCA conference and learn hands-on. Without these opportunities, and Dr. Rickabaugh guiding me along with study material and advice for what to focus on, doing so well on my first attempt would not have come easily.”

In addition to aligning the ESCI curriculum with professional standards, faculty created an NSCA preparation manual that is given to students and have implemented frequent formative evaluation activities into day-to-day coursework. Rickabaugh also credits Dr. Matt Lundin, Athletic Training Education Program Director, for guidance in this process. “When initially hired, Dr. Lundin had to re-evaluate the ATE curriculum and implement frequent hands-on checkpoints aligned with their certification exam. Many of the ideas used to re-align our curriculum were based upon the results of his re-design process.”

As always, the Defiance College ESCI program strives to assist as many current, and future, students to achieve professional success upon graduation. Feel free to contact Dr. Rickabaugh at [trickabaugh@defiance.edu](mailto:trickabaugh@defiance.edu) or visit our website at [www.defiance.edu](http://www.defiance.edu) to learn more about the ESCI program. ◆





# CHOIR'S MILESTONE TOUR TO CARNEGIE HALL

DEFIANCE COLLEGE MUSIC PROGRAMS PRESENTS

## A NEW YORK TOUR

FEATURING!

DEFIANCE COLLEGE  
CHAMBER SINGERS

DEFIANCE COLLEGE  
CHORAL UNION



**FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 7:00 P.M.**

St. John United Church of Christ  
Defiance, Ohio

**SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 4:00 P.M.**

Bryan City Schools Arts and Education  
Bryan, Ohio

**MONDAY, JUNE 11, 7:00 P.M.**

Ebenezer United Church of Christ  
West Seneca, New York

**TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 6:30 P.M.**

Bergen United Methodist Church  
Bergen, New York

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 7:00 P.M.**

First Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
Corning, New York

The Defiance College Music Programs announces a Defiance first. The Chamber Singers accepted an invitation to perform with a festival chorus at Carnegie Hall, the world-famous concert venue in New York City.

The Chamber Singers and select members of the Defiance College Choral Union will travel in June to New York State for a brief choir tour and the special Carnegie Hall appearance. This performance represents a historical first for Defiance College and the city of Defiance.

The festival choir performs choral masterworks from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Franz Schubert, and Dan Forrest.

This experience combines professional-level performers, a world-class concert venue, and great programming, in a city with a rich cultural history. "The goal for DC Chamber Singers is to enrich lives, broaden perspectives, perform with professional musicians, and provide a meaningful aesthetic experience," said Dr. Jim Watson, director of music programs.

In addition, students and community members will complete a service project, distributing care kits to the homeless. Care kits will include water, food items, hygiene products, and other supplies. The choirs plan to distribute these care kits as they travel in New York City, Buffalo, and Corning. A series of recent performances in the Defiance area helped to raise funds for the care kits.

In order to prepare for this event, the Chamber Singers and Choral Union will perform choral masterworks on Friday, April 27, at 7 p.m. at St. John United Church of Christ, 950 Webster St., Defiance. They will present a repeat performance at the Bryan Arts and Education Auditorium, 120 South Beech St., Bryan, on Sunday, April 29, at 4 p.m. Admission to these concerts is free, and donations are welcomed. For more information, contact Dr. Watson or visit the website, [defiance.edu/music](http://defiance.edu/music). ♦





Above: Students are pictured with PATH Center representatives (center) Susan Cheeseman, program manager, and Michael Lane, cook.

This year's Empty Bowls sponsored by the Defiance College Social Work Organization was a record breaker in raising funds to combat hunger in Northwest Ohio. The 18th annual student-led event held last month raised a total of \$5,801 for the local PATH Center.

Empty Bowls has grown in interest over the years with high attendance by area residents. Held at the Defiance Knights of Columbus Hall, restaurants and individuals make and donate a variety of soups and breads included in the dinner menu, with soup served in handmade bowls.

This year's bowls, made by Defiance College alumnus Brandon Knott of It's Knott Pottery, were a sell-out, with more than 650 purchased. Diners are encouraged to continue using these one-of-a-kind bowls as a reminder of those who their donations will serve.

Members of the DC Social Work Organization, comprised of junior social work majors and advised by Professor Tess Homier, hosted a reception recently to present the proceeds to representatives of the PATH Center.

Susan Cheeseman, PATH program manager, told the students that Ohio is one of the highest states in the nation for people experiencing food scarcity. Last year, the PATH Center served approximately 8,000 meals. She said the annual Empty Bowls donation is key to the center being able to offer a variety of healthy meals.

"You did an awesome thing," she told the students. "Be proud of what you did." She explained that much of the food served comes from donations of local restaurants and businesses, supporting the center's modest annual food budget of \$1,500.

Homier noted that this year's event brought in more than 80 gallons of soup in addition to bread and desserts from restaurants, businesses and individuals. Any leftover food was donated to the PATH Center.

Junior Raychel Ramos, Wauseon, said the project "was a humbling experience." Andrew Brown, social work major from Union, Ohio, added, "It made me step out of my comfort zone."

Homier and the students expressed their gratitude to everyone who helped to make the event a success in their goal of raising funds and awareness to fight hunger and homelessness in Northwest Ohio. ♦







## Endowed Lectureship

### Honors

## Dr. Jan Younger

A Defiance College graduate has established an endowed lectureship honoring a longtime DC professor and forensics coach.

The Reverend Gary A. Reed, a member of the Defiance College Class of 1975, has endowed the Jan J. Younger Colloquium to honor the educational contributions and scholarship of Dr. Younger, who chaired the Communications Department at DC and was the highly successful coach of its speech and debate teams from 1967 to 1988.

The inaugural year showcased two outstanding speakers.

The first presentation hosted Dr. David J. Staley, director of The Harvey Goldberg Center for Excellence in Teaching at Ohio State University, speaking on “Becoming a Futurist.”

The second presentation featured Dr. Chris Winslow, director of Ohio State University’s Sea Grant program. He was part of the 2017 Land to Lake Conference on Lake Erie watershed quality.

In his 21 years at Defiance College, Dr. Younger’s scholarly studies focused on rhetoric, humor, history, and the American presidency. He received the Dean’s Award of Teaching Excellence in 1975 and the Distinguished Lecture Award by the Ohio Academy of Lawyers in 1980.

Reed, who competed on the debate team, graduated with honors, and then earned a Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt University and an MBA from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. He formerly served on the DC Board of Trustees.

“I decided, because I deeply loved my alma mater, to be philanthropic, to establish some type of endowment or colloquium or lectureship. It was important to me to recognize how

he, Dr. Younger, contributed to the college as a scholar and as a humanitarian,” Reed explained.

“He had the ability to cultivate and encourage his students. Not every professor has that ability. He was able to take the most unlikely students and mold them into great speakers. I can’t say enough about how he fostered excellence in all his academic pursuits.”

The lectures will be built around the theme “Knowing through Research” and will explore a variety of research methods that help promote the betterment of the human condition.

The colloquium will bring in speakers chosen for their research, its relevance, and its impact. The dean of the college’s McMaster School for Advancing Humanity and director of the Honors Program, Mary Ann Studer, serves as the primary coordinator for the on-campus lectures.

Defiance College emphasizes learning based on the four pillars of its educational philosophy: to know, to understand, to lead, and to serve. “We want to pick up that mantle and plug into the ‘to understand.’ We want to bring research alive,” Dr. Younger explained. “Gary and I hope the lectures spark interest among students so they know how research contributes to knowledge. Research leads to facts, facts lead to knowledge.”

“My goals are to bring onto campus and into the community something beyond the normal,” Reed said. “Something timely. Something to stir up a passion or an interest among students, and also among community members who attend.”

The lectures will not only be aimed at students, but also for professionals and area residents. The lectures are scheduled on an annual basis at DC and will be free and open to the public.

The Jan J. Younger Colloquium endowment is still open and accepting gifts. Several contributions have been received in addition to Reed’s initial gift.

“Not only Dr. Younger, but other faculty and administration members had a profound impact on me and my life,” Reed said. “Those who have done so much deserve to be recognized.” ♦



Jan J. Younger Colloquium

AT DEFIANCE COLLEGE  
“Knowing Thru Research”





## Defiance Welcomes Strong Academic Leader to Campus

**D**r. Agnes I. Caldwell, an academic leader in higher education for 20 years, was named Vice President of Academic Affairs and Academic Dean at Defiance College. She began her position June 15, 2017.

Dr. Caldwell came to Defiance from Adrian College where she was the Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs since 2009. She succeeds Dr. Timothy Rickabaugh who served as Defiance's Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs and Academic Dean for two years. He served ably and will continue to support academic initiatives and success at the college.

"We are looking forward to Dr. Caldwell's energy, ideas, and wisdom," said President Mankey. "She brings a breadth of experience and familiarity with small, private colleges such as Defiance College. Her fresh ideas and a results-based agenda intrigued the campus community during her interview presentation."

Dr. Caldwell remarked that she is "excited to join a liberal arts college with a long history rooted in a focus on student success and community engagement."

She added: "The faculty, students, and staff at Defiance College made my choice to join the team an easy one given its mission alignment with my background and interests in faculty development and student success. I look forward to contributing to this fine institution's next era of growth and success under President Mankey."

Dr. Caldwell graduated magna cum laude from the University of Toledo with a double major in international relations and political science. She continued her studies in sociology, earning a master of arts at UT. Her Ph.D. in sociology from Wayne State University was a study of the religious and social tensions in the parade tradition in Northern Ireland, based on ethnographic research she collected while living in Northern Ireland for two summers.

Dr. Caldwell's expertise and strength lie in her experience

in the liberal arts blended with professional programs, strong faculty development background, and data-driven decision making. Her leadership role developed over several years, having served as a faculty member and department chair, and accreditation coordinator for the college's self-study process. She then became Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs before assuming the duties of Vice President.

During her tenure at Adrian, she developed and implemented an office of institutional research and assessment, developed and funded a first-generation college student retention program yielding higher retention rates than national averages, created multiple new graduate and undergraduate programs, created eight academic institutes, and led two strategic planning processes.

Dr. Caldwell created and led numerous community partnerships with local public schools, ProMedica Health Systems, Adrian Steel, Michigan International Speedway and the Lenawee County Economic Development Corporation. She was also responsible for the institution receiving numerous grants and gifts to enhance academic programs on campus, including grants from the Dow Foundation, the McGregor Fund, and Stubnitz Foundation.

She has been a presenter at numerous conferences and workshops and has authored academic publications throughout her career. She has won multiple awards as an educator, being recognized at the state and national levels for her K-12 partnership using a multicultural reading program in her sociology academic service learning courses.

She is a member of the American Sociological Association, Midwest Sociological Association, Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges, and the Council of Independent Colleges.

Dr. Caldwell and her husband, Timothy Wilson, are the parents of two children, Abigail and Owen. ♦





# Update from the **FIELDHOUSE**

The Yellow Jacket softball team finished the 2016-17 season with a 25-17 overall record which marked the first time that DC has posted a .500 or better record since the 2009-09 season. DC also posted a 10-5 mark in HCAC play to finish third in the conference and qualified for the HCAC Tournament. Head coach Jodie Holava was tabbed HCAC Coach of the Year.

Three players – Megan Warren, Sarah Kaya and Brooke Gostomsky – were honored with First team All-HCAC. Gostomsky was also recognized as HCAC Freshman of the Year. Senior Megan Warren received accolades as an All-Regional player tying the school record of 55 hits in a single season, the program's all-time doubles leader with 38, and ranks second in RBI with 99. She was nominated for the NCAA Woman of the Year.

Jackie Hartman and Jordan Osborne were honored with conference second team recognition, and Jamie Kimbler was an honorable mention selection. Emily Denhard was named to the All-Sportsmanship Team.

The men's baseball team finished last season with a 14-25

overall record and were sixth in the HCAC at 11-15. Zach Reed and Paris Creek earned First team honors in HCAC; Nick Peters was named Second team; and Dominic Holutiak was named to the All-Sportsmanship Team.

In men's tennis, senior James DeMeo earned the team's all-time wins record at Anderson getting his 106th and 107th career victories. It also earned him All-conference honors.

During the 2017 spring semester, 14 student athletes were named HCAC All-Conference. Also, student athletes achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.01. Twenty-eight were named to the Tom Bohlson All-Academic HCAC list for the spring season – given to student athletes with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 and participating in varsity athletics. In addition, 48 student athletes were selected to the Chi Alpha Sigma national college athlete honor society, recognizing a 3.4 or higher cumulative GPA throughout their junior and/or senior years.

During the Fall 2017 season, Yellow Jacket volleyball finished fifth in conference play with a 5-4 record (10-13 overall). They competed in the opening round of the HCAC Tournament.





Jaidyn Patridge earned First Team All-HCAC honors, ranking second in the HCAC in digs per set (5.90). She holds the DC record for digs in a match with 48. Sydney Unger earned All-Sportsmanship honors and Marissa Windau earned All-HCAC Academic.

Men's soccer posted its highest finish ever in the HCAC, finishing fifth overall at 8-8-2 (4-5 HCAC), its best start since the 1996 season. Christian Meister earned Second Team All-HCAC honors and Third Team All-Ohio by the Ohio Collegiate Soccer Association. Liam Hall was named honorable mention All-HCAC and Clay Musgrave Jr. was named All-Sportsmanship Team.

Olivia Fett earned First Team All-HCAC honors in cross country as she finished ninth overall in the HCAC Championships. She ran a personal best time of 24:09.50 moving her into the fourth spot on the DC All-time performance list and setting the DC freshman record.

Alex Miday finished the fall men's golf season ranked among the top 50 in the NCAA Division III. He is now competing in the spring season.

Greg Ward and Markell Moncrief represented Defiance College football in the National Bowl in Daytona Beach, Fla. Freshman Carl Stokes appeared in all 10 DC games, leading the team with 49 receptions for 843 total yards and six touchdowns. He finished the year ranked third in the conference in yards per game at 84.3. Jalin Nealy finished with 78 total tackles including a team-best 57 solo tackles. He was an HCAC Player of the Week.

Jerome Davis, Kolton Davis and Donte Owens were recognized with Second Team All-HCAC honors. Cody Drumm-Turner was named honorable mention All-HCAC while Tyler Gillig was named to the All-Sportsmanship Team, and Nate Hicks was named Academic All-HCAC.

During the fall season, 21 student athletes earned All-HCAC accolades; 11 were named to HCAC All-Academic Team; eight received HCAC Athlete of the Week honors; and seven received All-Sportsmanship honors.

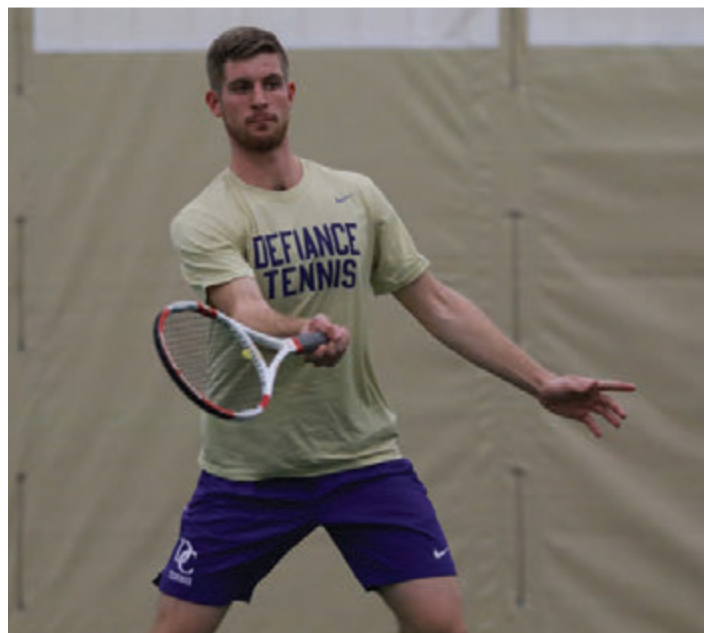
The women's tennis team finished the fall semester with the highest GAP of 3.656, and the men's golf team came in second with a 3.374 GPA.

During winter competition, three Yellow Jackets claimed titles in the HCAC Indoor Track and Field Championship meet in February.

Senior thrower Brooke Waidelich brought an HCAC title back to Defiance in the weight throw, as her career-best throw of 15.39 meters (50 feet, 6 inches) was almost a full meter ahead of the competition. The throw also moved Waidelich into a second-place tie on the all-time DC performance list.

Senior Joshua Petro won his second straight conference title in the weight throw event with a throw of 16.85 meters (55 feet, 3 inches).

Freshman Vince Jackson also became a conference champion as his jump of 1.97 meters (6 feet, 5.5 inches) gave him a conference title in his first ever Championship meet. ◆





# RECOGNIZING

## Defiance College Faculty and Staff

**TIM WEDGE**, Associate Professor of Practice of Digital Forensics, and **BRENDA AVERESCH '09 & '12**, Assistant Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, were recipients of 2017 Faculty and Staff Service Awards during honors convocation ceremonies.

**JODIE HOLAVA** was named Interim Athletic Director. Since 2014, Jodie has had leadership responsibilities within the Athletic Department as an Assistant and Associate Athletic Director and has served as Head Softball Coach since 2005. She will continue as the head coach of the Yellow Jackets softball program while serving in this interim role. During her coaching tenure at Defiance, she has compiled more wins than any other softball coach in DC history while maintaining a strong academic focus within the program. Jodie earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Mount Union in athletic training, with a minor in health and secondary education.

**KATHLEEN WESTFALL** has been an athletic trainer with DC since August 2002 and has served as the Senior Women's Administrator for several years. In April 2017, Kathleen was recognized for her leadership within the Athletic Staff by being named Associate Athletic Trainer and Assistant Athletic Director. She also serves as the Senior Woman Administrator for the College.

Education faculty members **DR. RACHEL EICHER '91** and **DR. CARLA HIGGINS** received word that the College has been awarded a grant for work and outreach through the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Deans Compact Incentive Grant, totaling more than \$200,000. Over the course of two years, these funds will be used to improve programming to better prepare future educators to meet the needs of all learners. With the Ohio Deans Compact Incentive Grant, Defiance College plans to develop a dual license option for middle childhood educators and intervention specialists with input from strategic stakeholders and partnership schools. This process will ensure the greatest impact on program improvement and, ultimately, greater outcomes for P-12 learners. Dr. Higgins and Dr. Eicher will manage the grant.

**DR. TODD COMER**, Professor of English, gave the keynote address at the SAGES Fifth Annual Interdisciplinary Student Conference in Akron. His talk was entitled "Birth and the Mourning After: Post-humanism." In late 2016, Todd published "The Disabled Hero: Being and

Ethics in Peter Jackson's *The Lord of the Rings*" (*Mythlore*), and most recently, he published "The Politics of Disability in Octavia Butler's *Kindred*" (*Journal of Narrative Theory*).

**DR. DOUG KANE**, Professor of Biology, was awarded the 2017 Dr. Richard W. Stroede Distinguished Faculty Citation. Kane arrived at Defiance College in 2007. The health of the Lake Erie Watershed has been his area of research and teaching on ecological restoration. He has been one of the most prolific scholars in the College's history, serving as author of more than 15 publications in peer-reviewed journals while at DC. He is a member of numerous ecology and science professional organizations and has received research funding for many projects. Dr. Kane graduated with a bachelor of science degree from the Ohio State University in 1999, a master of science in 2002, and a Ph.D. in 2004.

Dr. Kane presented at the 46th Annual Meeting of Water Management Association of Ohio a talk titled "OH BUOY! (Fluoro) probing cHABS in Western Lake Erie and the Maumee River Using in-situ and In-vivo Technology." Co-authors on this talk were from the University of Toledo, Bowling Green State University, and The Ohio State University's F.T. Stone Lab. Further, Dr. Kane was elected President of the Ohio Lake Management Society (OLMS) (<http://olms.org/>) at this meeting and will serve as Program Chair of the 38th International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society (<https://www.nalms.org/>) meeting in Cincinnati during the fall of 2018.

Dr. Kane also presented at the 60th Conference on Great Lakes Research held in Detroit. This talk was co-authored by a Stone Lab researcher and featured in an article in the *Toledo Blade* (<http://www.toledoblade.com/local/2017/05/19/Lake-Erie-algae-issues-may-strike-Cleveland.html>). The *Toledo Blade* article also covered a talk on which Dr. Kane was a co-author, along with researchers from The Ohio State University's Stone Lab and Kent State University titled "Cyanobacterial Blooms in Lake Erie's Central Basin." Both of these talks were part of a session that Kane co-chaired with researchers from OSU and Ohio Sea Grant titled "Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiatives: Field to Faucet and Beyond."

In addition, Dr. Kane was a co-author on a talk given by Defiance College graduate and Restoration Ecology major **ALISON RIFENBURGH '15** titled "Water Quality of the Upper Maumee River: A Two Year Assessment," along with



a co-author from Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District. Alison is currently a Ph.D. student at Wayne State University in Detroit. Finally, former Defiance College graduate and Biology major and current Ph.D. student at Bowling Green State University **TAYLOR TUTTLE '13** gave a talk titled “Understanding Drivers of Bloom Toxicity by Quantifying Toxic Strains of *Planktothrix* in Sandusky Bay” with co-authors from BGSU and NOAA-GLERL. For more information on the conference, including abstracts for each of the above talks, please visit <http://iaglr.org/iaglr2017/>.

After first serving as an adjunct, Professor **HEIDI DESOTA '12** has joined the full-time faculty as Assistant Professor of Practice of Nursing. A licensed registered nurse with a master’s of nursing from the University of Toledo, she was one of the first graduates from the Defiance College nursing program.

Professor DeSota practices obstetric nursing and has been an adjunct and nursing clinical instructor at Northwest State since 2013.

Professor **CAROLINE LEADER** has taken the role of Assistant Professor of Communication Studies. She holds a bachelor’s degree from Whitman College and a master’s in media studies from the University of Texas at Austin. Professor Leader is pursuing her doctorate in media and cultural studies from the University of Wisconsin. As a researcher of media industry practice and audience reception, she analyzes cultural norms, especially in terms of gender and age. Her areas of specialization include media branding, media industries, and children and feminist media studies. ♦



## THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

This photo appeared on the Index page of the January 2017 Defiance College Magazine, and drew reader interest. A little background . . . it is a photo of the faceted glass window in David K. Ford Chapel of Schauffler Hall. Schauffler Hall was named for Dr. Henry Albert Schauffler, founder of Schauffler College of Religious and Social Work. In 1954, Schauffler College moved to Oberlin College, and then found its home at Defiance College in 1967. Dedicated in 1981, Schauffler Hall contains the beautiful Ford Chapel. The design for the window was created by then-President Marvin Ludwig. It depicts Jesus and the New Testament phrase, “The Light of the World.” The chapel was named after David K. Ford, former chair of the Schauffler College Board of Trustees.



HOMECOMING

# DEFIANCE COLLEGE DRIVING THE FUTURE

OCTOBER 6-7, 2017







There was plenty to celebrate at Homecoming 2017. It was a weekend of reminiscing about the past and celebrating the future.

The family of the late Tim Leuzarder '67 was recognized for creating a scholarship in his name.

Kelsey Tietje '17 received the Duane C. Hocking Female Athlete of the Year Award, and Zack Reed '17 was named the Marvin Hohenberger Male Athlete of the Year.

Alumni awards were presented to Judy Dally '71 & '94, John Scheu '72, Dale Bruskotter '74, David Robinson '76, and Casey Gibson '05 & '10.

Schauffler Legacy Awards went to Terry Boyd '78 and Carolyn Keilig '76.

AVD Hall of Fame inductees were James Berner '94, Penni Bostelman '87, Chad Kahle '00 and Nate Schaublin '02.

Coaches of the Year were Cameron Coutcher '01 and Brian Ziegler '96.

Kaitly Kuhn and Nate Hicks were crowned queen and king.

Ribbon cutting ceremonies marked the opening of The Swarm Shop, Carolyn M. Small Honors Lounge, and The Hive and 41 North.



## Did you know?

You can support Defiance College by using the AmazonSmile link when you shop Amazon -- 0.5% of your eligible purchases will be donated to DC at zero cost to you!



## Your gift, each year, every year, keeps Defiance College strong.

Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends, the Defiance College student experience extends far beyond the traditional classroom. The DC education is enriched through global technology, hands-on experience and internships, research and travel opportunities, and a rich selection of co-curricular and extracurricular activities. With your help, DC students are receiving an education second to none in our beautiful small campus setting.



## Please continue your investment in Defiance College with your annual gift.

Make your gift online at [www.defiance.edu/giving](http://www.defiance.edu/giving), or by mail to  
Defiance College  
Institutional Advancement,  
701 N. Clinton St.,  
Defiance, Ohio 43512.



# CLASS NOTES



**Douglas Hudson '47** of Niles, Ohio donated a needlepoint piece made for him by his daughter, Cindy Bagocius, who delivered it to the college in September. The name on the station reads Defiance. Doug graduated from DC after returning from the Navy following World War II.

**Ruth (Knoop) Heins '50** celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in November with an open house at the Amos Center, Sidney, Ohio. Ruth taught in Piqua City Schools at Spring Street Elementary, Sidney City Schools at Whittier Elementary and retired from Hardin-Houston Local Schools.



**Mike Steirer '62** and his wife, Jan, celebrated 50 years of marriage on Dec. 23, 2017 with their four daughters and their families. Mike is a retired educator who served as teacher, coach, principal and professor in the Cleveland area. Mike and Jan, also an elementary school teacher retired from Cleveland Schools, live in Medina, Ohio.

**Willard Peters Jr. '67** of Edgerton, Ohio is the regional coordinator for the harness racing programs at 12 fairs in Ohio. He also serves as the race clerk for eight fairs in Ohio and as the track announcer for harness races at fairs in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

**Stuart Douglas '69** says at 74, he still plays a good game of tennis several times a week, thanks to playing on the DC tennis team for two years, and his golf game isn't bad either. Stuart is heading to the beautiful island of Malta for a month-long visit with his girlfriend, and hopes to return to DC for his 50th Class reunion.

**Rik '72 and Liz '71 Jimison** are both retired in North Port, Fla. and are enjoying gardening, archaeological society and wildlife conservation, along with traveling, visiting family, Rik's poetry and Liz's photography. They plan to visit Hawaii this year. They'd love to hear from DC classmates: [npjim@msn.com](mailto:npjim@msn.com).

**Max McGrew '73** reports that after 43 years of traveling for a living, he retired March 2017. After adjusting to retirement, he may pursue a part-time job "to stay motivated and keep the travel budget fluid." He resides in Greenfield, Ind.

**Noriko (Hamaya) Kanafusa '74**, currently living in Japan, visited the United States in May 2017 where she performed with her choir at Carnegie Hall. Afterwards, she came to Ohio and visited Carolyn Small, who had been a professor of hers. Noriko also visited campus and met with President Mankey.

**Daniel Baer '77** is now retired from his position as high school counselor. He was elected to a four-year term on the Napoleon City Council and also works part time as attendance officer for Henry County Family Court. Daniel lives in Napoleon, Ohio.

**Judge Daniel "Doc" Daugherty '84** has been selected as an Assistant Chief Immigration Judge with supervisory authority over the Immigration Courts in Las Vegas, Salt Lake City, and Denver and Aurora, Colorado. Doc retired from the U.S. Marine Corps in 2015 after serving on active duty for over 25 years. He culminated his military service by serving as the Chief Judge, Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary. He has been the recipient of the William K. Suter award for Distinguished Judicial Service from the Judge Advocates Foundation and earned the Legion of Merit. Doc and his wife, Lynn, have three children, three grandchildren, and reside in Henderson, Nevada.



**Mark Getsay '87** has been elected to his third term on the Westlake City Council – Ward Six. He was the recipient of the Northern Ohio Chamber of Commerce 2017 Bright Star Award for outstanding service to the Westshore Chamber of Commerce for 30 years. He credits his efforts to all his community service to his time at Defiance College. Mark resides in Westlake, Ohio.



**Kayoko (Nagaoka) Inaba '91** made her first return visit to campus since graduation. Kayoko and her husband, Shigaru, reside in Tokyo where she is employed by a Japanese bank. When she first returned to Japan after graduation, she went to work at an American bank located in Tokyo.

**Robin (Shaffner) Brinegar '94** has been promoted to firm shareholder with Schultz Huber & Associates. Robin is a certified public accountant and works primarily in the firm's Archbold, Ohio office. She and her husband, David, reside outside of Fayette with their family.

**Melissa Fries '97** of Monroeville, Ohio wed Travis Seip in December 2017. Melissa teaches kindergarten at Monroeville and is also mayor of the municipality.

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center announced that **Dave Mangas '98** has been named superintendent in August 2017. Formerly the executive director of CVCC, Mangas is entering his 20<sup>th</sup> year in career and technical training education. He resides in New Albany, Ohio.

**Bryan Albright '99 & '01** became assistant dean at The Ohio State University at Lima in January. Bryan has served as interim assistant dean since May 2017 and has worked at Ohio State Lima for 11 years. Bryan is married to **Jennifer (Honeck) '99 & '01**. The Albright family resides in Lima.

**Michael Cracas '99** was selected to lead the American International Sports Team's U-19 girls' soccer team during their trip to the United World Games this summer. The UWG are one of the largest youth sporting events in Europe. Over 10,000 athletes participated in this year's event. Cracas and the US team spent 10 days in Europe, spending two days in both Munich, Germany and Milan, Italy and five days in Austria for the youth tournament. Michael is the women's soccer coach at Hiram College in Ohio.

**Matthew Joost '02** obtained his broker's license and has purchased his father's interest in Re/Max Realty of Defiance, and is now the sole owner of the agency. He has been recognized as in the top one percent of producing agents in the nation. Matt and his wife, Kierstin, live in Defiance with their two children, Ryles, 11, and Kasen, 9.



**Todd Greer '03** has been named dean of the School of Business at University of Mobile, Ala. Todd who was CEO of Exchange202, a shared workspace community in Mobile, will lead expansion and program development for the university's internationally accredited School of Business. Greer holds a Ph.D. in organizational leadership with a major in human

resource development from Regent University in Virginia Beach, Va., and a Master of Science in ministerial leadership from Amridge University in Montgomery, Ala.

**Nick Neiderhouse '05** and his wife, Raquel, and son, Neiko, welcomed their second child, Nella, on March 17, 2017. The Neiderhouse family resides in Maumee, Ohio where Nick is principal of Wayne Trail Elementary School.

**Megan Ashbacher '06** graduated from Chamberlain College of Nursing with a master's degree as a family nurse practitioner in August 2017. She has passed the AANP certification exam and has accepted a position as a nurse practitioner with Mercy Health in Perrysburg, Ohio. Megan resides in Defiance.

**Cari Birkemeier '07** married Chris Homan on July 1, 2017, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Glandorf. Cari is employed by the City of Defiance. She and her husband reside in Defiance.

**Robin Diers '08** and **Steven Bok '08 & '14** were married on August 19, 2017 in West Chester, Ohio. Robin is a veterinarian with KKM Clinic in Middletown, and Steven is employed as a financial analyst for Cincinnati Financial Corporation. They reside in West Chester.

**Sarah Manes '09** married Jake Lambert in October 2017. Sarah has her own wellness business and is also working at Henry County Hospital in Materials Management, Marketing, and Development. Sarah and Jake live in Defiance.

**Adam Baker '10** was named head football coach at Ayersville High School. Adam teaches fourth grade at Ayersville and has been a varsity football assistant since 2009. He and his wife, Lindsay, reside in Defiance.

**Melissa Gearhart '10** is supervisor of the foster care division for the Marsh Foundation, a not for profit children's services agency. Melissa resides in Defiance.

In January, **Dawn (Bontrager) Fitzcharles '14** became the operations manager of the Bryan (Ohio) Municipal Utilities. She was previously village administrator for Edgerton, where she resides.

**Trevor Tucker '14** was married to Samantha Leu on April 1, 2017 at Vilano Beach, St. Augustine, Fla. Trevor is a digital forensic analyst at JURINNOV in Cleveland, where the Tuckers reside.

**Alyssa Turton '14 & '16** married Colten Cox on July 22, 2017. Alyssa is an event coordinator at Oakwood Resort in Lake Wawasee in Syracuse, Ind. Her husband is a paramedic in Warsaw, Ind., and also serves with the Indiana Army National Guard. They reside in Syracuse with their two dogs, Bane and Jax.



**Kirsten Wieland '14** was wed to Ryan Unger on June 10 in Sandusky, Ohio. Kirsten is a third grade teacher in Antwerp. She and Ryan live in Bryan, Ohio.



## DEATHS

**Kate Busto '14** resides on Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan where she is a broadcast journalist for American Forces Network. She won AFN Pacific Product of the Quarter in the category of TV Commercials. Kate was promoted to the rank of corporal in September 2016.

**Megan Wertz '15** was married to Brok Coburn August 6, 2017 at Nazareth Hall in Grand Rapids, Ohio. Megan is the accounting manager at Werlor, Inc. The couple resides in Defiance.

**Breanna Zipfel '15, LSW**, is now a consultant and licensing specialist with the foster care and adoption division at The Marsh Foundation, a not-for-profit children's services agency. Breanna resides in Defiance.



**Kelsea Burns '16** was recently awarded the Defiance County Sheriff's Office 2017 Telecommunications Officer of the Year. Kelsea has been a communications officer with the agency for two years.

The late **E. Keith Hubbard '57** was posthumously inducted into the Defiance High School Academic Hall of Fame in 2017. Hubbard was president of the Hubbard Company and was a community leader in Defiance for many years. He was dedicated to private higher education, both at Defiance College and through the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges, which named him a Life Trustee. He served on the Defiance College Board of Trustees from 1981 until his passing in 2012. In addition to his generous support of DC, he also helped many students achieve their goals through internships and endowed scholarships.

**Janet (Rundquist) Richards**, Schauffler College '43  
June 10, 2017 – Orange City, Florida

**Elizabeth (Held) Root**, Schauffler College '43  
October 19, 2017 -- Beaumont, Texas

**Virginia (Vaughn) Lenhart '44**  
March 28, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Lois (Puehl) Behm '46**  
March 11, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Ruth (Hohler) Kelly '48**  
February 11, 2017 – Cedar Falls, Iowa

**Rosemary (Kibler) Eggert '51**  
May 2, 2017 – Strongsville, Ohio

**Winona Schafer '52**  
March 18, 2016 -- Oak Harbor, Ohio

**Bill Woolery '52**  
June 21, 2016 – Troy, Ohio

**Charles Hall '53**  
October 26, 2016 – Ocala, Florida

**Bertha (Harrod) Booker '55**  
January 10, 2017 - Saline, Michigan

**Noel Underwood '57**  
October 30, 2016 – Marysville, Ohio

## Keep in Touch

We'd like to know about your new job, recent marriage, new member of the family, new address, or other happenings in your life. For photos, please send those of Defiance College people only, identify everyone, and label the back with your name and address. If you are moving, please send this form in with your new address.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

News: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this form to:**  
Alumni Office, Defiance  
College, 701 N. Clinton  
St., Defiance, OH 43512

**or email  
news and photos to:**  
[alumni@defiance.edu](mailto:alumni@defiance.edu)



**Ellen 'Rosie' (Schall) Hall '58**  
April 3, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Elmer 'Jim' Wurst '59**  
August 6, 2017 – Palmetto, Florida

**Juanita (Ladd) Carder '59**  
March 20, 2016 – Utica, Kentucky

**Charles Holtzmuller '59**  
June 11, 2017 – Salem, Ohio

**Bernice (Gross) Schmidt '59**  
July 16, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Roger Farlee '60**  
July 22, 2017 - Defiance, Ohio

**Paul 'Red' Weaner '61**  
April 10, 2017 – Sarasota, Florida

**Gretchen Duerk '61**  
February 17, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Phillip Juillard '62**  
March 5, 2017 – Basin, Wyoming

**Bonnie (Devers) Schenk '62**  
Aug. 20, 2017 – Trotwood, Ohio

**Burnice (Pfahlert) Agler '63**  
November 29, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Herbert Todd '65**  
November 30, 2016 – Seymour, Tennessee

**Jeffrey Semon '65**  
September 2, 2017 – Monroe, Connecticut

**James Studer '65**  
March 5, 2017 – Austin, Texas

**Joyce (Nye) West '66**  
October 24, 2017 – Howard, Ohio

**David Coburn '67**  
July 19, 2017 – Waterford, Vermont

**W. Timothy Leuzarder '67**  
October 18, 2016 – Florham Park, New Jersey

**Belle 'Jean' (Weisenburger) McMillen '67**  
November 10, 2016 - Defiance, Ohio

**Jan Bergeon '68**  
June 17, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Larry Ervin '68**  
October 3, 2017 – Lombard, Illinois

**James Graver '69**  
February 15, 2017 – Toledo, Ohio

**James Spriggs '69**  
January 16, 2017 – Edmond, Oklahoma

**David Welty '69**  
March 19, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Barbara (Stanhope) Norman '70**  
November 13, 2016 – Chillicothe, Ohio

**Teresa Bok '71**  
January 26, 2017 -Defiance, Ohio

**Ron Gilbert '71**  
September 1, 2017 – Greenville, Ohio

**Ralph Ruffer '72**  
May 18, 2017 – Ney, Ohio

**Clarajane Hine '73**  
June 30, 2016 – Fremont, Indiana

**Gregory Nickloy '73**  
July 31, 2016 – Toledo, Ohio

**Lydia (Jones) Johnston '74 & '93**  
May 20, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Alan Mustee '74**  
April 3, 2017 – Fort Myers, Florida

**John Pertner '74**  
Nov. 11, 2017 – Evanston, IL

**Frank May '78**  
February 2, 2017 – Cincinnati, Ohio

**Patricia Fleckenstein '79**  
February 22, 2017 – Fort Laramie, Ohio

**Alfredo Sierra Jr. '80**  
October 2, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

**Norine Hackney '85**  
September 24, 2016 - Cleveland, Ohio

**Rose (McCarthy) Hanna '85**  
December 19, 2017 – Defiance, Ohio

**Douglas Purdon '85**  
March 30, 2017 – Bryan, Ohio

**James Stanton '85**  
Dec. 16, 2016 – Paulding, Ohio

**David Behrend '86**  
April 25, 2017 - Saint Simons Island, Georgia

**Rev. Father Christopher Zeller Sr. '86**  
March 1, 2016 - Swanton, Ohio

**Stephen Thomas '91**  
March 24, 2017 – Fort Wayne, Indiana

**Gregory Sims '93**  
July 2, 2017 – Bryan, Ohio

**Rebecca (Bishop) Trombley '96**  
July 22, 2017 – Ottawa, Ohio

**Dave Molnar '97**  
December 27, 2017 – Bowling Green, Ohio

# DEFIANCE COLLEGE

# eSPORTS

Defiance College launching competitive eSports Fall 2018!

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

Teams of five DC students compete in online games against other colleges and universities across the nation without leaving campus.





CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



*Yellow Jacket*  
CLASSIC

Mark Your  
Calendars!

*Auglaize Golf Club*     *June 9, 2018*