# DEFIANCE COLLEGE

Summer 2014 + Magazine

# College Students with

Defiance College introduces a specialized program for students with autism spectrum disorder.

Last Will Are you making plans for the future? and Testament

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# DEFIANCE COLLEGE The Magazine

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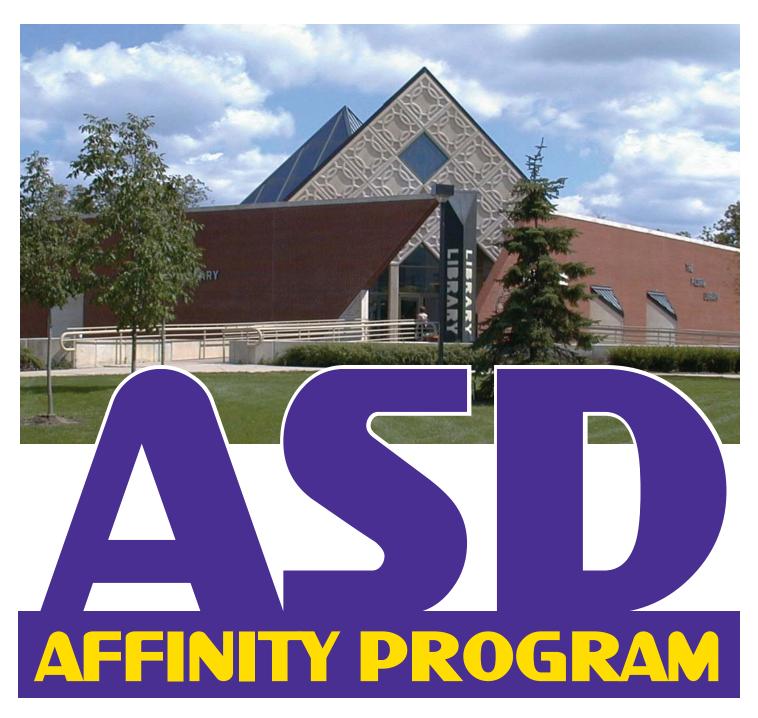
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### Features

ASD Affinity Program 2 New program gives support to college students with autism	
Science Olympiad 9 DC hosts area's best and brightest science students	)
<b>Roadmap to Success</b> 10 DC programs guide students toward successful careers	0
<b>Re-Designing Art</b> 15 New program steers art students to 21st century jobs	5
Knueve Retires16 Beloved professor wraps up 35 year DC tenure	5
Advocate for Liberal Arts18 Alumnus Chris George credits liberal arts education	8
Internship Fuels Passion19 Museum internship gives taste of career choice	9
<b>Two Women, One College</b> 20 DC provided great start for Eble sisters	C
Yellow Jacket Update22 Conference championships highlight season	2
<b>Recognition</b> 24 Faculty and staff recognized for their achievements	4
Appointment25 Matt Gilroy named Chief Development Officer	5
Class Notes26	6

Jason LaBounty '03 Mark Lee '92 Gary Molnar '74 Lauren Ranalli '10 Mary Beth Royal '98 Jennifer Ziegler '02



There are very few specialized college programs for students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and Defiance College's new program, to be known as the ASD Affinity Program, breaks new ground in its approach. This innovative program provides inclusive services to support academic, residential and social environments thereby providing a comprehensive living and learning environment for the students.

The ASD Affinity Program builds on Defiance College's success with its Hench Autism Studies Program, in which high school students with autism have been receiving high-school level instruction on the Defiance College campus, in coordination with the Defiance City Schools. **Defiance** College has announced the start of an innovative program to enable college-age students with autism to pursue a college education. Under the program, which is currently accepting applications from qualified students to enter Defiance College with the beginning of the fall semester in August, students will receive a broad range of comprehensive services to enable them to adjust to and succeed in a college environment.

"We are thrilled to be able to offer this new opportunity for college-age students with autism," said Mark C. Gordon, president. "As a college, we already are committed to working with all of our students individually to tailor their educational experience to their own personal interests and goals. This is a logical next step for us, but, more importantly, it is a wonderful new opportunity for a group of students who have traditionally not had sufficient opportunities in terms of college."

The new program will accept a limited number of college students each year who are academically qualified yet may require social and living support to navigate the traditional college residential campus.

"As the number of children diagnosed with autism increases, the need is greater than ever to provide for avenues of success into adulthood," said Dr. Barbara Schirmer, provost. "Defiance's ASD Affinity Program will assist students in reaching their full potential in a college setting."

The Affinity Program will provide a quality academic experience with appropriate support services. The program seeks to foster independence for young adults with autism by providing a residential campus experience with numerous services in place to maximize opportunities for success and entry into the workforce. Students accepted into the program will receive campus housing with live-in staff support and supervision by trained individuals; peer mentoring with advice on courses, cocurricular opportunities and other academic matters; faculty advisors within their area of study; and regular meetings with staff members.

The program will promote social and personal growth with the assistance of peer mentors, residence advisors, and instructional sessions.

The ASD Affinity Program will be led by Dr. Clarissa Barnes, the director of Defiance's Hench Autism Studies Program and an assistant professor of special education at Defiance College.

"The ASD Affinity Program isn't designed to provide a college-like or parallel experience for students with ASD; it is designed to support students with ASD as they have a true college experience," said Dr. Barnes. "The comprehensive services that we are offering will allow students with ASD to participate in all aspects of college life just like any other Defiance College student - from living in the residence halls to midnight breakfasts during finals week and everything in between."

The Hench Autism Studies Program was created in 2007 through the vision of Defiance residents Eric and Deb Hench. In collaboration with Defiance City Schools, it includes an on-campus public school classroom for adolescents with ASD, summer camp for adolescents and young adults, a resource center for families, specialized undergraduate peer mentor training, an undergraduate minor in autism studies, and licensure within the Master of Arts in Education program for intervention specialist.



Students interested in applying to the ASD Affinity Program should go to www.defiance.edu/autism/affinity/ index.html on the Defiance College website to begin the application process. Additional questions regarding applications can be directed to Brad Harsha, Director of Admissions, at 419-783-2365 or bharsha@defiance.edu.

#### TO SUPPORT THE ASD AFFINITY PROGRAM

If you are interested in providing financial support for the ASD Affinity Program at Defiance College, please contact Matt Gilroy, Chief Development Officer, at 419-783-2316 or mgilroy@defiance.edu.

#### Who the ASD Affinity Program serves:

The ASD Affinity Program is designed to serve college students with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (DSM-5); autistic disorder, Asperger's disorder, or pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS) (DSM-IV-TR). The program is designed for students who meet the Defiance College admissions requirements and have an average (or above average) intellectual ability. In general, these are students who may be able to handle the academic rigor of college, but need support in making the transition and succeeding in the college environment. This program is not designed to support students who require constant direct supervision or who have severe behavior problems. Students who have documented instances of aggression or self-harm are not appropriate for the program because the program does not include the necessary interventions or supports for those individuals.

The benefit of the ASD Affinity Program extends beyond the students with ASD and their families. This program will be of benefit to the Defiance College community and the larger community of the city of Defiance. The prevalence of ASD is one in 68 (CDC, 2014); this means that many Defiance College graduates will have colleagues with ASD, clients with ASD, or know someone who is impacted by ASD in their lifetimes. The ASD Affinity Program provides an opportunity for students to get to know individuals with ASD and to assist in supporting those students. Students will also receive instruction on common characteristics of individuals with ASD in the context of campus-wide diversity awareness and training. Through this process the students with and without ASD will learn many valuable skills that may be used in their professional and personal lives. This focus on educating communities about ASD as an issue of diversity is paramount.



#### **ASD AFFINITY PROGRAM** provides a wide range of services

Defiance's ASD Affinity Program offers students with ASD the environmental and professional support services needed to overcome barriers and provide for avenues of academic success in the traditional college setting. The prominent place our Hench Autism Studies Program has enjoyed on the Defiance College campus has fostered a campus-wide appreciation for the contributions students with ASD bring to the college community and support for the services provided to ensure their academic achievements.

Some key features of the ASD Affinity Program include:

- Students enroll in no more than 12 13 credit hours during their first semester of coursework leading toward the bachelor's degree. Beyond the first semester, credit hour levels are based on academic performance in alignment with the policy for all Defiance College students.
- Faculty advisors in the student's major are being trained to work with students with ASD and strive to provide the same type of advising offered to all Defiance College students.
- Peer mentors and tutors assist with advice about courses, course sequences, co-curricular opportunities, instructors and other academic matters.
- Students meet regularly with the Director of Student Academic Support Services and Student Support Coordinator.
- A comprehensive evaluation of appropriate support services is conducted for each student during the spring of the academic year and implemented for the following fall.

Defiance College residence life experience offers ASD Affinity Program students life skills in the accomplishment of independent living. ASD Affinity Program residence advisors and peer mentors provide instruction and facilitate skill development in the context of individual and shared responsibility and relationships with fellow students.

- ASD Affinity Program students live on-campus in apartment style housing under the supervision of trained resident advisors and the coordinator.
- Apartment units include two bedrooms, a kitchenette, full bath and a study area.
- Resident advisors live in residence with ASD Affinity Program students and receive their training in Defiance College's own Hench Autism Studies Program.
- Resident advisors provide oversight, peer modeling, and intervention in support of daily living, social and academic components of the program.
- Weekly instructional sessions (non-credit bearing) by the ASD Affinity Program coordinator focus on skills needed to integrate with the campus community and into the community following college.
  - Instructional session topics include a variety of adult decision making and community/life skills. Examples include:
    - ♦ Living with a roommate
    - Budgeting and banking
    - Scheduling and keeping appointments
    - Finding housing, setting up utilities, purchasing items for independent living
    - Meal planning, grocery shopping and cooking
    - ♦ Laundry
    - $\diamond$  Using public transportation
    - Personal safety
    - ♦ Hygiene
    - Personal appearance
    - ♦ Keeping one's home clean and safe
    - ♦ Time management

Services continue...

#### ACADEMIC SUCCESS



#### RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT



#### SOCIAL & PERSONAL GROWTH



Defiance College's ASD Affinity Program intentionally promotes competencies in social behavior, relationship building, communication and environmental awareness. Social and emotional competencies are integrally related to success in the academic domain.

- Peer mentors facilitate structured social opportunities, which are available during common times such as meals, facilitate new social connections, and assist with social concerns and questions.
- With the assistance of ASD Affinity program residence advisors, students engage in a menu of campus and community events such as sporting events, theatre performances, music performances, shopping excursions, movies, and festivals. Through these experiences students will be encouraged to develop individualized social networks.
- Instructional sessions (non-credit bearing) designed to strengthen social skills and enhance personal confidence occur weekly under the direction of the ASD Affinity Program coordinator.
- Transition to different types of social support occur as a combination of performance in all three domains of academic, social, and residential and daily living are improved.

#### HENCH AUTISM STUDIES PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Dr. Clarissa Barnes is the Director of the Hench Autism Studies Program and an Assistant Professor of Special Education at Defiance College (DC). She earned both her Ph.D. (2013) in Rehabilitation with an emphasis in Behavior Analysis and Therapy and her M.S. (2010) in Behavior Analysis from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale (SIU). Clarissa received her B.S. (2007) in psychology from Western Michigan University. She is also a Board Certified Behavior Analyst-Doctoral.



Dr. Barnes has more than seven years of experience working with individuals with ASD. Her experiences range from early intervention to adult services. Her research interests include exploring

instructional methods to establish basic and complex verbal repertoires in individuals with and without disabilities, and investigating staff training methods that are both effective and accessible to the non-behavior analytic community. She has presented and co-presented 25 professional presentations, posters, and workshops as well as authored and co-authored four journal articles published in peer reviewed journals and one book chapter.

Dr. Barnes is also strongly interested in advocating for the science of behavior analysis. Teaching other professionals and non-professionals about the science of behavior analysis is an activity that she finds both rewarding and important.

#### STUDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

Lisa Crumit-Hancock is the Director of Student Academic Support Services. She earned her BS in English and History from Defiance College (1991) and her MA in American Culture Studies from Bowling Green State University (1994). Prior to taking an administrative position, she taught in higher education for seventeen years. As director of SASS, one of her responsibilities is managing the Learning Commons, which includes the recruiting, training, and supervising of peer tutors and writing consultants.

#### **PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

Rebecca Zebrowski is coordinator of the ASD Affinity Program providing direct supervision for peer mentors and resident advisors. In addition to managing RAs, peer mentors and data she (in collaboration with the Director of the Hench Autism Studies Program) is responsible for developing and teaching non-credit bearing instructional sessions. Rebecca received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Defiance College, and she has been an autism rehabilitation counselor for Monarch Boarding Academy in Cleveland.

#### PROFESSIONAL STAFFING



#### ADVISORS, MENTORS AND TUTORS



#### **RESIDENT ADVISORS**

Resident advisors are specially selected graduate students who provide supervision in the residential setting. In addition, the RAs serve as instructional coaches for the students in the ASD Affinity Program. RAs collect data on student progress in daily living, service, and engagement. These data are graphed and interpreted by the coordinator to guide intervention services for individual students.

#### **PEER MENTORS**

Peer mentors are available to students in the ASD Affinity Program to serve as support during academic and leisure activities. The role of the peer mentor is diverse and is defined based on the needs of the mentee. In general, peer mentors facilitate the structured social opportunities, are available during common free times, facilitate new social connections, and assist with social concerns and questions.

#### PEER TUTORS

Peer tutors serve to provide academic support to students in the ASD Affinity Program. Peer tutors use their knowledge and academic skills to provide academic assistance. The role of the peer mentor may include, but is not limited to, clarifying assignment instructions and guidelines, editing papers, assisting students in understanding and learning content specific material, and promoting the development of study skills. All peer tutors are be supervised by the Director of Student Academic Support Services.

#### PAM GERTZ TO LEAD PARENT GROUP FOR ASD AFFINITY PROGRAM

For Pam Gertz, the new ASD Affinity Program at Defiance College has personal significance. As a parent of a son on the autism spectrum, she understands the value of the support system that ASD Affinity will provide. And, because she feels so strongly about the opportunities that the program can deliver to college students with autism, she has agreed to lead a parent advisory board.

She is excited about the launch of ASD Affinity and thinks that much of what would appeal to families of students with ASD is what would appeal to all families of prospective college students. "Defiance College is small enough to embrace students and offer them experiences that others can't," she says.

The college's core curriculum as well as opportunities for internships and travel will enrich students in terms of work readiness and becoming productive young adults, she adds.

Perhaps more importantly, because of the success of the Hench Autism Studies Program, Gertz says Defiance College "is very enlightened" with respect to autism. From the ASD Affinity staff to the faculty to the administration, "it truly takes a village to educate a child," she adds. Defiance College has created in ASD Affinity what Gertz describes as a distinctive holistic program with support services provided in all areas including academic, social, community and residential.

With the rise in diagnosis of individuals on the autism spectrum, secondary education is responding and better preparing students who leave high school ready for college. "And this is the best way for them to get a typical college experience with the support they need," says Gertz, a resident of the Akron area.

Her son, now 24, attended a college program at Indiana University and is now an assistant teacher at The Ohio State University's Nisonger Center. Gertz and her husband, Marc, first learned of Defiance College and the ASD Affinity Program through Wendy Pestrue, DC's former vice president for institutional advancement. "We met Mark (Gordon) and Clarissa (Barnes) and toured the campus and fell in love with it," she says.



# HENCH AUTISM STUDIES

serving as a focal point for teaching, scholarship, and action to serve people with autism and their families

The Hench Autism Studies Program was created in 2007 through the vision of Defiance residents Eric and Deb Hench. The comprehensive program provides a wide array of services to address the multi-faceted needs of a growing population of individuals with autism. The program specifically supports late adolescent students with autism as well as parents of children on the autism spectrum. These services include:

#### HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM

In partnership with Defiance City Schools, Defiance College has an ASD high school classroom on campus. This classroom has the capacity to serve six students (1:3 professional to student ratio) and is designed as a life skills learning lab. That is, all of the academic/daily living skills that are targeted are taught in "real life" situations.

#### **SUMMER CAMP**

The Hench Autism Studies Program offers a day camp for adolescents each summer. The camp is at no cost to families and provides a fun, comfortable, bully-free environment for the participants to make friends, explore new activities, and enjoy their summer. Camp activities include fine art, film creation, recreational leisure, and photography. Campers also have an opportunity to go on a variety of camp field trips (e.g., putt-putt golfing, Splash Bay Indoor Water Park, Toledo Zoo, the movies, etc.).

#### ASD AFFINITY PROGRAM

Defiance College's ASD Affinity program assists students with ASD in reaching their full potential in a college setting. Varying levels of academic, social and residential support are designed to aid students in meeting their personal and professional goals.

#### **RESOURCE CENTER**

The Hench Autism Studies Program resource center, located on the first floor of the Pilgrim Library, is open to the public. The resource center is a safe place to find videos, articles, and books related to autism spectrum disorder. The friendly and knowledgeable Pilgrim Library staff are available to assist students, professionals, community members, and families who are interested in learning more.

#### **CAREGIVER MEETINGS**

Within the last year the Hench Autism Studies Program has partnered with Kaitlyn's Cottage for caregiver meetings. These meetings are designed to be a place where caregivers can come to connect with other caregivers. The goal is threefold: to create a peer community for caregivers, to create a place where caregivers/family members are heard/understood, and to create a place where parents/caregivers can get reliable information on the issues that are important to them.

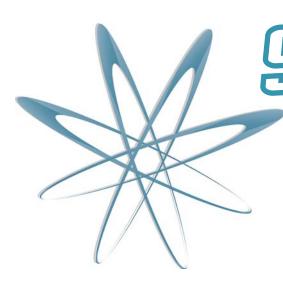
#### **AUTISM STUDIES MINOR**

Students who attend college at DC have the option of minoring in autism studies. This minor provides students with a basic understanding of what ASD is, the interventions that exist for individuals with ASD, how ASD impacts the family and community, and how they can effectively serve this population in their chosen professional field. The focus in these courses is on ASD as an issue of diversity.

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Professional development courses are available to professionals interested in learning more about ASD. Workshops include basic information about ASD and skill building portions.

The National Center for Special Education Research (2011) reports that young adults with disabilities, including ASD, were less than half as likely as their typical peers to be enrolled in a four-year college or university. This lack of participation in higher education is underscored by a report that indicated that youth with ASD were more likely than youth with specific language impairment, learning disabilities, or intellectual disability to be completely disengaged from post-secondary education and employment (Shattuck, Narendorf, Cooper, Sterzing, Wanger, & Taylor, 2012). No causal variables were directly linked to the lack of participation for students with ASD; however, it is likely that at least one contributing factor is the lack of appropriate supports in higher education for students with ASD.



by Michele Tinker, Director of Annual Giving

What's a terrific way to present Defiance College to hundreds of the area's best and brightest junior high and high school students? Host the Northwest Ohio Science Olympiad on campus, and make a scholarship available to participants who choose to attend DC. On March 1, for the second year, the Northwest Ohio Science Olympiad was conducted at Defiance College, drawing 675 junior high and high school students from more than 40 schools.

Science Olympiad, which calls itself the nation's most exciting science competition, conducts rigorous standards-based challenges in all STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) disciplines throughout the country. Schools come together to compete in a full range of topics -- from anatomy to physics and technological problem solving. Teams of students worked in events with such titles as Reach for the Stars, The Wright Stuff, and Rotor Egg Drop. Some challenges included building helicopters, robots and vehicles. Another, entitled Write It Do It, challenged pairs of students working together to write a description of an object built out of LEGOs and build it according to the description.

Putting on this one-day event is a huge undertaking for a college the size of Defiance, and overseeing the project this year was Steffanie Brumett of the Institutional Advancement department. The competitions, tests and score sheets are outlined in detail by the national organization, and the lineup of events changes from year to year, so even though this is the college's second year hosting, it's not simply a matter of repeating what was done before.

# SCIENCE OLYIPRO

Defiance College hosts nearly 700 students at this major scientific event



Working closely with associate professor of biology Dr. Nathan Griggs and the rest of the science faculty, Brumett assured that each event had what it needs in terms of space, volunteers, and equipment, whether that means a scientific scale or a dozen eggs. Reserving rooms, securing parking, even arranging for meals for the additional 700 people on campus is all part of the organization process.

About 40 volunteers assisted, a mix of DC students, alumni and community members. Volunteers helped prepare the tests for the competitions, oversaw events, assisted with scoring and just helped out around campus.

"The event was a blast to work," said Abby Sharp '09, '11. "It was great seeing first-hand the enthusiasm these students had for science." Plus it's a great way to give back to DC, Sharp added. She's looking forward to volunteering at next year's event.

This year at the awards ceremony, Defiance College President Mark Gordon announced that any junior or senior Science Olympiad participant who chose to attend Defiance College after high school would be eligible for a \$10,000 scholarship. This news was received with great enthusiasm by the students and the many parents who attended.

# Roadmap to **SUCCESS!**

Students often jump into their college adventure without a clear sense of direction – what courses should I take, what skills do I need, what extracurriculars will pay the biggest dividends?

Defiance College gives students a roadmap, a Personal Success Plan that sets them on the right course to not only make their college experience the most positive and enjoyable, but to guide each student in producing a professional resume that is most desirable to employers.

At Defiance College, students not only receive strong academic training for a solid base of knowledge and skills in their field of study, they become involved in remarkable, real-life experiences that teach leadership, problem-solving and numerous other qualities that employers consider when they hire.

According to recent *Forbes* magazine articles, employers are looking for individuals with well-rounded college backgrounds: they are concerned with not only how students executed their coursework but also with unique experiences that demonstrate how they might perform in various circumstances.

Employers place high value on a good cultural fit, that is, personality traits and a mindset that demonstrate how employees respond to and execute tasks.

What does it take to get a job? Professionalism, self-motivation, and energy, as well as:

- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Good judgment
- Active listening
- Intellectual curiosity

Many of these skills are established through a DC curriculum that develops higher thinking proficiency combined with real-life experiences such as internships, service, part-time jobs, and a variety of campus activities.

#### These five things set a Defiance College education apart:

- Rigorous academics that emphasize world understanding
- Exposure to the arts, to other viewpoints, to the country we live in
- Hands-on experiences that put classroom knowledge to work
- Leadership and entrepreneurism opportunities
- International and domestic travel to learn issues firsthand



Graduating senior Sarah Westfall remembers four short years ago when she was preparing to head to college. She describes herself then as being quiet and timid, not really the type of person to step into a leadership role.

Now, with a bachelor's degree and multitude of amazing experiences to her credit, Sarah is heading to graduate school and what will undoubtedly be a fulfilling and successful career as a healthcare social worker.

"When I came to Defiance College in the fall of 2010, opportunities to be a leader were presented to me," she recalls. "Although I was scared, on many occasions I stepped out of my comfort zone and took full advantage of these opportunities. ... I couldn't be more thankful for all of the wonderful opportunities that Defiance College has given me to grow and become a leader."

#### FIRST STEPS

At DC the entire academic experience is intentionally designed from Day One to create a student portfolio that is full of valuable experiences by the time each student graduates.

Students start out with a written Personal Success Plan – a script to follow, step-by-step. Planning begins at Orientation, where freshmen and parents meet with teams of advisors – faculty, coaches, administrators, counselors, alumni, and others. The teams listen to each student's story, expectations, and hopes for the future. Then together they assess strengths, develop initial goals, and start to figure out the best way to shape the college experience.

The planning continues during a special fall semester minicourse, in which freshmen flesh out their Personal Success Plans. This is a chance to listen carefully, capture what they want to get out of college, and think about what they want to accomplish with their lives. At the end of the semester, everyone has a written plan to guide them over the next few years toward their career goals. The PSP is as unique as each student: from which academic courses to take to what skills are needed to who should one meet? And don't forget the fun stuff – extracurriculars, travel abroad, sports, volunteering. The plan helps to think through all aspects of the student experience, from academic to social and vocational, to spiritual.

Students also design a written "Defiance Resumé." This is not the standard recording of what they have already done. Rather, it reflects the resumé they will need by the end of graduation to grab the attention of potential employers or graduate schools.

The Defiance Resumé includes internships, extracurricular leadership roles, and hands-on practical experiences, travel, service – those that will position students successfully for their dream job. Then, they spend the next few years "filling in the blanks." Their resumé will be written and ready by the time they graduate.

#### A FIRM FOUNDATION

Defiance's new Core Curriculum sets the stage for a solid base of education. It is designed to educate students into the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to contribute to the global community in productive, creative and self-aware ways. Through courses that focus on themes and issues relevant to today's world, students develop:

- Powerful communication through written text literacy, media literacy, listening skills, and verbal skills
- Analytical and creative thinking through focus on the scientific method, qualitative reasoning, quantitative reasoning, logic, and critical thinking
- Sense of community through focus on knowledge and understanding of the world, understanding and appreciating diversity and ethics
- Individual empowerment through focus on social competency, exercise of curiosity, self-direction, exercise of creativity, self-reflection, and self-evaluation

These concepts together form the basis of DC students' educational experience. The Core Curriculum reclaims the



true heart of a liberal arts education, a core set of knowledge combined with an ability to analyze and apply knowledge about the world. Interdisciplinary study is coordinated with each major. Courses prepare students to practice their major in a global economy, incorporating hands-on learning as well as a capstone project.

So, for example, business majors might study different religions in order to understand the culture of future global partners. Biology majors might study communication techniques needed in job interviews. This ensures that academic ANY STUDENT can apply to participate in the McMaster School, regardless of major. So for example, in a third world village in Cambodia, Belize or Tanzania, a molecular biology major can analyze water safety, a digital forensic student can instruct village children on how to use new laptops, an education major can teach in classrooms in small villages, and an accounting student can teach business planning to women who want to open a new restaurant.

learning is balanced with communication skills, critical thinking, moral reasoning, global awareness, and respect for diversity – things needed to be successful in the workforce.

Students learn the higher thinking skills of asking the right questions, finding answers, and applying what is learned about real issues that the world faces.

#### EXAMINE AND EXPLORE

Rounding out those intellectually challenging courses, Defiance College stresses research skills as well. Students learn types of research sources, how to acquire and judge those sources, and how to use them to prepare and support their own research. Then they put these skills to work, doing data collection, analysis, and following steps of the scientific method.

Research projects can vary widely. Alison Rifenburgh does weekly tests of the water of the Maumee River for invasive macro-invertebrates as part of a water quality impact project. David Savage analyzed the policies of a local corrections center to determine if they are contributing to a drop in prison assaults. Adam Grillot researched the correlation between a freshman's basic tech savvy and whether the student adjusts and stays in college.

Students looking for even more ambitious research experience can apply to be part of the Carolyn M. Small Honors Program. This provides more advanced academic challenges, professional experiences, and intensive research or creative expression. It starts before freshman year when students accepted into the Honors Program come to campus to meet their classmates and begin discussions with faculty about research they want to do. They are introduced to the concepts of research and how it looks in different disciplines.

As sophomores, they delve more deeply into their research interests with readings, internships and off-campus experiences. By the end of the year, they have assembled their own capstone committee, similar to those found in graduate school, in preparation for a major capstone research project for their junior and senior years. Senior honors students give an oral presentation and complete a final submission. Some present their results to professional groups, in campus symposia, and at state and national conferences.

Defiance's nationallyacclaimed McMaster School for Advancing Humanity combines research and service within the academic framework. One of the most extraordinary college programs in the country, its signature McMaster Scholars initiative offers students the chance to turn their personal and classroom knowledge into individual research programs to improve the

human condition around the world.

Any student can apply to participate, regardless of major. So for example, in a third world village in Cambodia, Belize or Tanzania, a molecular biology major can analyze water safety, a digital forensic student can instruct village children on how to use new laptops, an education major can teach in classrooms in small villages, and an accounting student can teach business planning to women who want to open a new restaurant.

This kind of research is rarely seen on the undergraduate level. It not only builds a student's resumé and prepares him/ her for the workforce, but it can have a positive impact in our communities and around the world.

#### **REAL-WORLD APPLICATION**

DC students quickly become immersed in their academic areas and begin applying their classroom knowledge in the real world. Students present at state and national conferences, campus symposia and create capstone projects that can change the world.

Defiance's faculty is known for the energy and individual attention they bring to teaching. They often augment classroom theory with actual practice, bringing in valuable internships, job shadowing, learning trips, and cooperative education projects with outside experts.

An internship in a local hospital has been rewarding for molecular biology major Braden Wachtmann who has known for a long time that he wants to become a surgeon. The internship has given him valuable hands-on experience in wound care. "That experience is definitely going to shape how I practice medicine in the future," he says. Internships and handson courses in DC's labs have prepared him for his next step after graduation. He's already been accepted into the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine where he will focus on becoming a podiatric surgeon.

Defiance also introduces international speakers to the classroom through technology. During the past year in global studies professor Elcin Haskollar's classes, students heard personal stories directly from people involved in refugee resettlement, discussed the role of Twitter in Egypt's youth revolt with someone who received the tweets, and asked questions of a reporter who covered sex trafficking in Thailand.

National advisory boards in many programs of study bring together experts from across the country to provide real-time and real-world advice to make sure that Defiance's curriculum incorporates skills the marketplace is eager to hire. These boards include our own alumni and experts at corporations such as Price Waterhouse Coopers, Intel Corporation, Cleveland Cavaliers, and the Detroit Tigers.

#### UNDERSTAND OUR WORLD

DC students have an incredible chance to attend worldclass cultural performances, visit major museums, or travel throughout the country to learn more about what they are studying.

Through the Imagine Initiatives, every Defiance student has the opportunity to attend a wide range of mind-broadening cultural experiences such as symphonies, operas, ballets, and Broadway shows. Every student can visit nationallyrenowned art and science museums. And every student has an opportunity before graduating to take an extended enrichment trip somewhere in the U.S. with faculty members, perhaps to a conference, historical site, or place related to the student's major – all at no or greatly reduced cost.

DC students have met the cast after seeing a Broadway performance of Phantom of the Opera in New York. They have attended a marching band percussion competition in Dayton. They have talked with Supreme Court justice Clarence Thomas and FBI experts in Washington. Business students have met with industry leaders in Portland (Oregon), Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. Students have traveled south to explore important historical sites of the Civil Rights Movement.

Travel to foreign countries is one of the most effective ways to understand different cultures, customs and beliefs. Every entering freshman who completes the full four-year program in good academic and financial standing is guaranteed the opportunity to travel abroad during their junior or senior year. In just a three-year span, Defiance students have traveled to countries including Germany, England, France, Austria, Italy, Hungary, Czech Republic, Spain, Netherlands, Belgium, Ireland, Peru, Belize, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Tanzania, Ghana and Cambodia.

Travel can produce a more global perspective, a tolerance of differences, and self-confidence in navigating the world. All things that employers value.



#### LEADING THE WAY

Leadership and entrepreneurism are developed through the very distinctive program called Project 701. If students see a community need and want to address it, they can start their own entrepreneurial service project.

Defiance is the only college with its own separately legally incorporated student-run nonprofit where they can do just that. Project 701, named for Defiance's street address, is an umbrella nonprofit that allows students to create, run and manage service projects. Last year more than 250 DC students were involved.

The projects are varied and creative. There is a free primary-care health clinic for local residents, a computer repair business, and a Backpack Buddy program to provide nutritious weekend food for local needy children. Students have created and run a graphic design studio, a fair trade outlet, a reading and writing center for local children, and a campus recycling program. They have been tutors, fundraisers, marketers, product producers, trainers, and sales people.

As part of this, students receive formal training and real-life experience in leadership and business planning that they simply cannot get from textbooks.

What's more, because Defiance College is small, students can move quickly from being volunteers to serving as project manager, leading an interdisciplinary team to address a real community issue. Any student has the opportunity to serve as a board member or staff of Project 701, steering the policy and the direction of this dynamic organization, and working as a team to secure grants and funding, market the group or chronicle its activities.

Real-life experience producing real results that address real problems: all this helps Defiance graduates stand out from the crowd.

DC students also receive formal training in diversity, negotiation, mediation, and leadership through DC's Leadership Certificate Program. Workshops are conducted by certified coaches and offered several times throughout the year.

In the unique DC Partnership for Jobs program under the McMaster School, nearby businesses and nonprofits are encouraged to hire DC students for pre-professional positions – jobs that can prepare students for the future workforce. Defiance College provides 50 percent of the funding to defray the costs of up to 2,000 hours of student employment in local organizations.

Defiance students have been hired as accountants at the local YMCA, graphic designers to launch a brand new yoga studio, and assistants at veterinarian clinics. They have been trained as managers at Biggby. And they have become sales associates for companies like Fastenal.

This pioneering program has had amazing success, nearly tripling the number of posted jobs in its first three years. What's more, a growing number of Defiance students have been hired after graduation by their Partnership for Jobs employer.

#### GUIDING HAND

Defiance's Office of Career Development provides career counseling and resources to encourage students to be active participants in fine-tuning their career aspirations. Director Lisa Marsalek and her staff help at every stage throughout the career planning process – from choosing a major or career to improving resume and interview skills.

Taking advantage of everything that Defiance College has to offer gives students a competitive edge heading into graduate school or the marketplace.

Each class of graduates joins hundreds of distinguished alumni who have earned degrees since Defiance College's first graduating class in 1888. They share the common values that have been woven into the college fabric for more than a century: respect for academics based in the liberal arts, sensitivity to the world and its diverse cultures, commitment to service, and the desire to achieve in successful careers.



DC students participate in the DC Cares Free Clinic.

## Re-Designing the Art Major

by Debbie Richard '02, '04, Assistant Director of Marketing

As Defiance College continues to work to align the academic programs to give every student a real-world experience, some majors are changing to meet these goals. One of the early changes is to reinvent the Art and Graphic Design majors into a new major called Design.

"We're excited about the changes happening here with the creation of the Design program. We truly believe this could be the start of something very special here at Defiance College," said Jason Stockman, assistant professor of art. "This new program will help these students develop the skills needed for jobs in Design to come in the 21st century."

The Design major has been created with two tracks to better prepare students for their future careers. The first is the 2D track. The 2D track is essentially the same as the original Graphic Design major, but with some exciting enhancements. Students concentrating in 2D track will focus on creating the surface of objects both in print and on screen and experience courses such as photography, web design, graphic design and digital animation. This concentration is aligned to equip students with the knowledge and skills to pursue the fields of graphic and web-based design.

The second Design major track is 3D. In the 3D track, students will fabricate objects found in everyday life using design principles most commonly found in industrial design. This track taps into the emerging techniques available with rapid prototyping technology such as 3D printing and CNC machines to create an end product for designs. Students will learn how to design products on every level: finding problems, solving problems, conceptualizing their ideas, sketching and prototyping, experimenting with materials, testing mock-ups, and creating a finished product. Preparing for positions such as product designers, project managers or freelance designers, students will experience a well-rounded education to support their future careers.

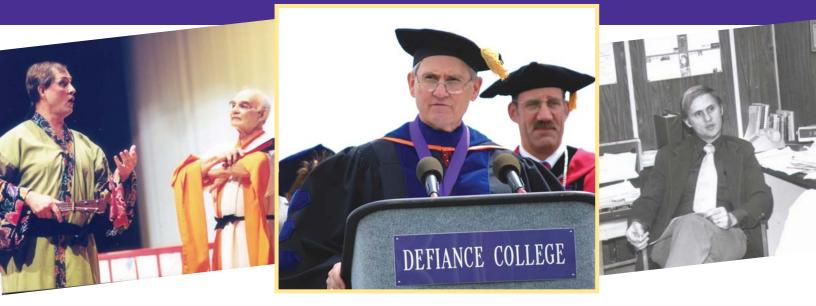
The new Design major is an exciting opportunity for students. It gives them access to new technologies that are becoming more and more prevalent, while still keeping the fundamentals of the previous majors as building blocks. As they look forward to their future careers, students will find the new Design major to be aligned strategically to assist them to be successful as they design the products and images of tomorrow.



"Defiance College's graphic design program is a uniquely hands-on learning experience. The professors are personally dedicated to our success. They've helped me grow as a designer and a professional."

Jenny Reolfi, Class of 2014

# THANKS FOR THE LESSONS



#### Dr. Donald Knueve,

respected and beloved figure on campus for the past 35 years, retired this spring from his dual roles as faculty member and administrator. He was a criminal justice professor, and in recent years also served as associate provost for academic excellence. He was awarded the rank of Professor Emeritus during 2014 commencement ceremonies.

Knueve arrived at Defiance College in 1978 after serving as chief probation officer for the Defiance County Juvenile Court and a caseworker at the Fairfield School for Boys. He quickly became immersed in the life of the college as well as the local community.

Knueve was chosen multiple times by the DC student body as Faculty Member of the Year. In 1998, his faculty peers nominated him for the Distinguished Faculty Citation. In a nomination letter, former faculty member Dr. Bonnie

Sloan called Knueve "a diplomat, a philosopher, and a businessman all rolled into one." She said he lived the mission of the College and exemplified those characteristics and behaviors that are sought to be instilled in students. "There is no question that he is sincere in his dedication to the College and its people," she wrote. "He is ubiquitous and inclusive in his travels across campus, on good terms and well respected by all groups and constituents.

He contributes much of himself to whatever he does."

Former business professor Dr. Joe Coley also nominated Knueve, saying, "He is everything that a professor at Defiance College should be. ... I was impressed on many occasions by his ability to bring together many disparate views, gently diffuse potentially divisive situations, and generally display incredible patience. ... He exhibits the best that we offer as a college and as a faculty."

Knueve held many leadership roles in campus governance including serving as a trustee fellow to the college's Board of Trustees. He was an advisor to the Phi Sigma Chi fraternity and the Criminal Justice Society, leading numerous student trips to metropolitan areas such as Chicago and Detroit. Over the years, he coordinated many workshops for criminal justice professionals.

Those Defiance College individuals who worked most closely with Knueve were his students, former students, and faculty peers.

Professor Steve Sondergaard of the criminal justice department said that when he arrived on campus in the fall of 1993, Knueve welcomed him and explained the operations of the department as well as teaching duties. "As I had just left the Hancock County Prosecutor's Office, Don was a sounding board for the students who thought I was a little over-

zealous in my expectations for them!" Sondergaard recalls.

"In the passing years, Don and I split our teaching duties between his expertise in theory and my background in law and law enforcement. We always respected each other's opinions as they might relate to curriculum, committee issues, and yes, politics! Don was always the advocate for the student, but certainly demanded their best work. Some of the most interesting times with

Don center on the annual CJ trips to metropolitan areas. It has been a privilege to work side-by-side with Don for more than 20 years."

Bryant Green, one of many criminal justice alumni, spoke highly of his former professor, calling him "perceptive and contemplative" in his field, always challenging the criminal justice paradigm.

"He exhibits the best that we offer as a college and as a faculty."

> Dr. Joe Coley speaking about Dr. Donald Knueve

"His passion for the school has been unwavering," says Green, currently a law student at the University of Toledo. He described Knueve's affection for his students as tenacious. "Simply go to a DC athletic event, and you will surely find Doc there with the program for the event with his students circled, willing to tell you about them, their positive characteristics, and how they have been performing in that event."

Green recalled receiving a phone call from Knueve as a high school senior, informing him of the CJ curriculum and opportunities available at DC. "Throughout my four years there, Doc never disappointed. I am ever-grateful for his role in my education that was both intellectually stimulating and practically valuable. Doc's thoughtfulness, generosity, and of course, humor, are truly unparalleled. While I am happy that Doc has the opportunity to pursue retirement ... DC is losing a valuable asset."

Knueve has been a member of numerous advisory boards and professional organizations including the Ohio Conference of Criminal Justice Education of which he served as a member, officer and trustee. The OCCJE honored him this spring with its Faculty/ Professional Award for more than 30 years of service. He chaired the citizens' advisory group for the Northwest Ohio Regional Jail, the Defiance County Youth Services Advisory Council, the Defiance City Charter Review Commission, and the Defiance County Domestic Violence Task Force. He has been an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church. Stretching beyond academics and the field of criminal justice, his theatre and musical performances have always been a highlight for audiences.

He received a bachelor of science degree in math, bachelor of arts degree in philosophy and bachelor of arts degree in music from St. Joseph's College. He earned a master of science degree in corrections from Xavier University and a doctor of philosophy degree in sociology from Bowling Green State University.



#### PROFESSOR DOUG FIELY RETIRES

Art professor Doug Fiely retired in January after 12 years as a full-time faculty member.

Fiely earned a bachelor of arts degree in art and certification in K-12 teaching and master of arts degree in printmaking from Bowling Green State University. After many years as a high school art instructor, he came to Defiance College as assistant professor of art.

His accomplishments within the art community locally, regionally, and nationally have been impressive. The list of his exhibitions, publications, and presentations is vast and ever-growing as he is now able to spend more time on his creative work.

His paintings, prints and ceramics are inspired by his Midwestern roots, and he calls himself "an observational artist." A peer said of him, "Doug instructs by nourishing the flowering of natural expression. He instills a capacity for inspiration. He works from the inside out and is true to the spirit of art in his teaching."

#### DIETRICK SERVED AS DC TRUSTEE

Former Defiance College board of trustee member John Dietrick II died Jan. 31 at Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center in Toledo. He was 87.

A native of Napoleon, Ohio, he was a graduate of Xavier University. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving with the 63rd Infantry Division Blood and Fire in Germany.

In addition to serving as a Defiance College board of trustees member for many years, Dietrick was active in the Defiance community with St. Mary's Catholic Church, Elks Lodge and the Defiance Rotary as well as the American Legion Post in Napoleon, Ohio. He spent the majority of his professional career with First Federal, becoming corporation president for First Federal of Defiance, serving in that capacity until his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Judith; daughters Christine, Mary and Peggy; sons John and Luke; 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Services were held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Defiance with entombment in Riverview Memory Gardens.

# CHRISTOPHER GEORGE '03, AN ADVOCATE FOR THE LIBERAL ARTS

#### by Michele Tinker, Director of Annual Giving

S itting in traffic in Norfolk, Virginia, Christopher George '03 had time to chat about Defiance College and life after graduation.

Chris is a U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) officer assigned to the U.S. Attorney's Office in Norfolk, where he is part of the Naval Crime Investigative Service (NCIS). He sums his job up as having three bosses: the Navy, NCIS, and the Attorney's Office.

"I don't wear a uniform and I work downtown, not on the base. It's an unusual job for someone on active duty."

Chris was born in Ohio, and even though he grew up in Florida, he knew he wanted to return to Ohio for college. Chris found DC when he was looking for a small college where he could major in criminal justice. "I chose DC because I wanted a place where I would be a student, not a number," he explained. At DC, he was a Presidential Scholar and completed his bachelor's degree in three years. He was also an athlete, playing football. One of his best DC memories was making the play-offs in 2001.

"Defiance gave me the opportunity to have professors and law enforcement officers as mentors. I liked the dedication of the instructors, and their expertise was evident. It seemed like you couldn't go anywhere they didn't know you. Even if you were in a class outside your major, you got as much time with a professor as needed," Chris remembers. He particularly enjoyed the criminal justice trips he participated in, and he still maintains a close relationship with Professors Steve Sondergaard and Don Knueve, coming back for Don's retirement reception at Homecoming.

Chris went on to earn his law degree from Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law in Macon, Georgia. Criminal justice is a great entry into law, Chris contends, adding that he was surprised there were not more CJ majors in law school. He had started thinking about joining the Navy while he was at DC, and was sworn in as a reserve officer his last year of law school, entering training upon graduation.

In 2009, as a Navy JAG officer, Chris was assigned as Officer in Charge of the Detainee Legal Operations Center in Baghdad, Iraq. He considers this experience to be a career highlight, one that involved him in all manner of legal work concerning detainees – including interaction with the Iraqi legal system. Having this responsibility was a humbling experience as well, but one he places among the top three of his life – along with having a family and representing the United States as a member of the military.



The satisfaction he derives from serving in the military, Chris explains, comes from being around people who are service oriented, from helping sailors and from making the Navy a better place for them. "The dedication and skill of so many of the enlisted ranks blows me away. They give a lot for not much in return. I really like helping them out."

Asked about how his education prepared him overall, he says, "Law school prepared me to be an attorney. My liberal arts education at Defiance College prepared me for life. "

Because of his enthusiasm about the importance and impact of a liberal arts education, Chris was selected to provide a testimonial on the power of liberal arts education for the Council of Independent Colleges. The CIC is the major national service organization for small and midsized independent liberal arts colleges and universities in the U.S.

"A legal education does not teach the law. Rather, a complete law student learns to think like a lawyer – to gather the evidence and law to protect the client's interests. A liberal arts education does the same for the undergraduate: it teaches the student how to think, not what to think; how to lead, not just to follow; and how to serve, not just to take. In short, the liberal arts prepares you to take on the world. I majored in criminal justice, but a liberal arts college does not limit your learning. I have used the lessons of my liberal arts education everywhere, from law school, to the courts of Iraq, to the United States District Court, " Chris wrote. "The ability to engage in study as a scholar and the opportunity to be so deeply engaged in extracurricular learning are what set Defiance College and liberal arts colleges like it apart."

Chris is married. His wife, Kate, is a music teacher, and they have two sons, John Paul and David, ages 6 and 3. When asked about hobbies, Chris replied, "The outdoors is pretty much my hobby – hiking, camping and Jeeps."

All J can say is I made a great choice

(Reprinted with permission of The Crescent-News, Defiance.) By Tim McDonough

A few short years ago, Defiance College sophomore Zane Hayes thought community college in his hometown of Oberlin was his future. Now the history major at DC is an intern at the Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial Museum in downtown Defiance, and he's loving every minute of it.

"I was planning on going to community college, and one night a little before Christmas (in 2012), I got a call from (Defiance College football) coach (Brian) Sheehan," stated Hayes, the son of Brian and Jodie Hayes of Oberlin. "He just really swayed me toward Defiance. I love football, I played in high school at Firelands, and he wanted me to play here. All I can say is I made a great choice, I love Defiance College."

After deciding to enroll at DC, Hayes had no doubt that history would be his major.

"I fell in love with history my early high school years, I've always had an interest in the past," said Hayes, who has been an intern since January. "I feel like we almost have a need to study history because we can learn so much from it. In high school I had a very influential history teacher named Mr. (Jim)



Muth. He didn't just lecture, you had in-depth conversations with him about the past. Ever since then I felt a connection to history and that I needed to pursue it."

Richard Witteborg, the curator of exhibits at the museum, explained that city historian Randy Buchman told the staff in late fall that there was a possibility of getting an intern from Defiance College. After working with Dr. Donald Buerk, Associate Professor of History at DC, Hayes became that intern.

"After Randy told us about the opportunity to get an intern, we all thought it was a great idea and we asked him to pursue that," said Witteborg. "Randy talked to Dr. Buerk and that's when Zane's named emerged. Zane came here, he was interviewed, and that's when we found out he was interested in museum science.

"After Herman Dally (collections curator) and I talked with Zane, we thought we'd be able to share his services," continued Witteborg. "We felt that he could get some experience on the collections end and on the exhibit end. It's been working out very well, Herman has been able to show Zane what happens in his department, and I've been able to show him what happens from my end."

Hayes was very excited when Dr. Buerk approached him about the opportunity to intern.

"Last semester Dr. Buerk asked me if I'd be interested in being an intern at the museum and I told him yes right away," said Hayes. "I've always been interested in museums. Growing up I loved going to the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. When I was told I would have the opportunity to see the behind-the-scene stuff, I was very excited."

Hayes was instrumental in helping to create the new exhibit "Defiance's Attic," one of three new exhibits now on display at the Tuttle Museum. The intern helped with the planning of the exhibit, selection of display artifacts, and arranging pictures and displays. Hayes also created, printed, and mounted all labels needed for the new exhibit.

"It was an amazing opportunity to be able to help set up that exhibit. A lot of people from the college have come to see it and I've gotten a lot of compliments on my work," Hayes said. "Defiance's Attic is really a mish-mash of Defiance history, it's a lot of different artifacts from different periods of time. It was a lot of fun going through the artifacts and learning about their history. It's really an interesting mix of pieces."

While Hayes knows his internship will be coming to an end soon, he would be open to doing it again next semester. As far as his future, Hayes is interested in museums, but he's also keeping all his options open with two years left before he graduates from college.

"I would love to be able to get into the museum business, but I need to explore all my options," Hayes said. "I've thought about law school a little bit, but I think I would love to work in the museum field.

"It's a total blessing to be here now," concluded Hayes. "I know that Defiance College offers a lot of opportunities to students, but I never thought I'd have an opportunity like this. If not for Defiance College, I'd be taking classes back home at community college and working."

# TWO WOMEN, ONE COLLEGE, ONE RESULT:

#### by Michele Tinker, Director of Annual Giving

The possibilities for headlines are endless. "Small town girls make good." "Sisters find success on opposite coasts." But the most accurate headline could be "Internships shaped sisters' futures." Whatever headline you slap on it, it still makes a good story: Two sisters, raised in rural northwest Ohio and graduated from Defiance College, find professional success and fulfillment on opposite coasts.

Charlotte Eble Beard '00 and Mary Eble Ballantine '01 grew up in Sherwood, Ohio. Charlotte attended DC because she found the Defiance community and the community atmosphere at the college appealing. Charlotte had been admitted into a large state university but found DC to be a better fit, and, she contends, "It was one of the best decisions I ever made!"

"I lived on campus all four years," Charlotte explained. "We had a little senior wing in Whitney – I loved campus life." Charlotte got involved in a lot of activities and organizations on campus, including the business club, student government and the Fort Defiance Players.

When Charlotte was a sophomore, her sister, Mary, entered DC as a freshman. "Not because I was here, but in spite of me being here!" she explained. Mary concurred, very clearly remembering conversations with her parents about not going to Defiance College. However, when a scholarship was offered, "the math won," as Mary put it. DC was financially the smartest choice.

Charlotte began working in public accounting at the age of 19 when she started an internship the summer after her freshman year at the accounting firm of Steyer Huber Associates. "I really loved being encouraged to test the waters career-wise," Charlotte says of her internship. It was a positive experience, and she stayed with the company for six years.

But she reached a point where she was ready for a change. She applied to join the Peace Corps and also began researching jobs in cities across the country. Her one rule: She had to know at least one person in the city where she was applying. A random call from a recruiter connected her to a small company in Sacramento, California, and she accepted a position as controller in 2003. "I'm not usually an impetuous person, so it was a surprise to a lot of people when I moved to California." She recalls that making the move was hard, especially since she had never lived outside northwest Ohio before this. But it was wonderful, too. It ultimately led to what she calls her dream job with Apple, and it's where she met Nick Beard, a videographer to whom she is now married. She and Nick live in Sunnyvale where they enjoy all the natural beauty the Bay area has to offer.

Charlotte is a senior manager at Apple and describes her responsibilities as supporting the supply chain, "getting parts from Point A to Point B."

"I am so fortunate to be among the peer group I get to work with," Charlotte explains. This position also involves international travel, which she considers to be a great benefit. This past year, Charlotte joined the Defiance College Board of Trustees, where she sits on the finance and audit committee. "DC played a huge part in my success, and I am flattered and honored to reconnect with the college and the community and to give back."

The balance between classroom experience and life experience is significant, Charlotte believes. Both she and Mary traveled to England and spent several weeks studying at Oxford University, what Charlotte called an amazing, lifealtering experience. "Having the chance to live in another culture is so valuable," she believes.

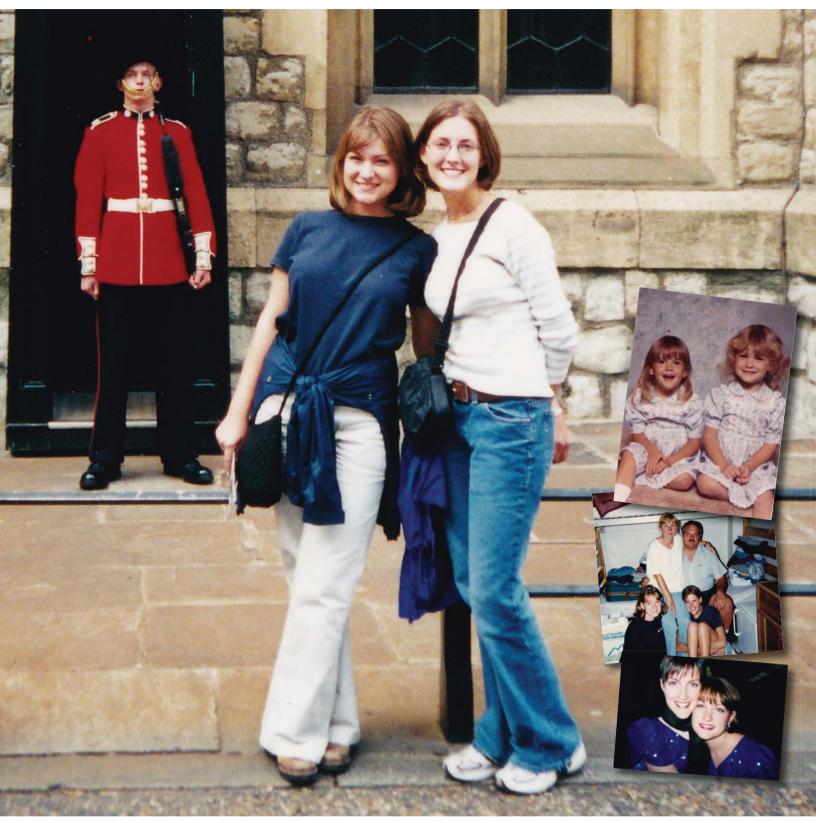
At DC, Mary Eble Ballantine pursued a self-defined major of comprehensive social science, with an eye to continuing to law school after graduation. She credits Defiance College with exposing her to leadership opportunities not necessarily available at a larger school. "Because the campus was so intimate, I saw I could take advantage of these opportunities. I think I would have drowned at a larger school." One of her leadership experiences was serving as president of the Gamma Omega Kappa sorority and taking the chapter national with Tri-Sigma.

She also held a job throughout college at the bookstore, which she feels taught her about business and being a woman in business. It was great being in the center of the energy of campus, she remembers, and she felt the experience sculpted her.

But what she called a game changer was having the opportunity to travel – both in her study abroad opportunity at Oxford, and along with touring with the choir. It was a chance to see places she'd never been, places that as a little girl in Sherwood Ohio, she never imagined seeing. "Amazing!" she recalls.

A summer internship with an insurance company led Mary to a job at State Farm Insurance after college, and she ended up loving it. "I encourage students to do internships, even if the internship isn't in their field. My career was directed by it."

She shared this career insight and real-life information on salaries and managing credit with students when she spoke at DC's Senior Success Day in 2013. She told the students to take a job, work hard and work their way up to a career. "Both Charlotte and I had that path. If you can go in with the right attitude and the right work ethic, you can build your way to the



*In large photo, Charlotte (left) and Mary sightseeing in London. Insets from over the years.* 

position you want."

Mary now operates the top producing State Farm Insurance Agency in the state of North Carolina. She says that while working in the Cleveland area, she heard many people in the insurance business bemoaning the fact that much of their business had moved to North Carolina. A light went on for her, and she and her family relocated to Charlotte. In addition to operating her insurance agency, Mary keeps busy with her two children, ages six and eight. Her personal passion is running, and she still loves to travel. Fortunately, it is another benefit of her job that she cherishes.

Charlotte and Mary may live on opposite coasts but they stay in touch, texting and calling frequently and managing to get together a couple times a year.

# CONFERENCE CHAMP

#### **Outdoor Women's Track & Field**







#### An update on your Yellow Jackets

The Defiance College Yellow Jacket Athletic Program wrapped up a very successful winter and spring by claiming three more conference championships to bring the total to four in the 2013-14 academic calendar. Yellow Jackets Athletics saw visible growth in many of the winter and spring sports to carry a very successful athletic year.

Following the first-ever Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship in program history for volleyball in the fall, the men's basketball team went on to win a share of the HCAC Regular Season Championship after a 20-5 (15-3 HCAC) record in the regular season under Kyle Brumett. The men's basketball season also saw the passing of 100 career victories for the Purple and Gold under Brumett.

The men's basketball program began the 2013-14 season with one of the best starts in program history. Brumett's squad started the season 7-0, including a Washington & Lee Tip-Off Tournament Championship. The 7-0 start matched Defiance's best start in 40 years and was the best start in program history in the NCAA era. Defiance rode the success of the fall semester to a strong HCAC campaign in 2014. Defiance went on to finish 8-1 at home in conference play with a 10-2 mark overall. Defiance's fan base held an average attendance of 928 in the 12 home dates.

Ryan Hicks, who was named the Washington & Lee Tip-Off Tournament MVP at the beginning of the season, was one of two Yellow Jackets to be named to the All-HCAC First Team. Hicks went on to become the 46th member of the 1000-point club at DC during the season. In his final game, Hicks joined elite status at DC, becoming just the third player in school history to record at least 1000 points, 500 rebounds, 75 steals, and 75 blocks.

While basketball gave DC its second championship of the year, it was the success of the women's track and field team that earned the Yellow Jackets a pair of HCAC Championships in both the indoor and outdoor seasons,

bringing the Purple and Gold's total to four in 2013-14. The Indoor Championship was the Yellow Jackets' first-ever in program history.

A mixture of senior leadership with the injection of a freshman core of athletes helped Defiance to an upset victory in the indoor championship before turning it into a sweep with a decisive outdoor victory. During the indoor campaign, school records were set in nine different events, including sophomore newcomer Eme Miller (three events) and freshman Micah Wilson (two events).

In the outdoor season, senior Kim Bingley put herself in the ranks for National Championship selection after scoring a team and conference high in points to lead Defiance to a 62.5-point victory. Defiance claimed five individual championships, including two from Wilson and a conference record from Kali George. Margaret Sarifino and Miller also took outdoor championships.

Defiance athletics claimed five more individual conference champions in the winter and spring with the men's track and field teams. Joe Davis won the mile run indoors and followed it up with a 1500-meter championship in the outdoor season. Troy Parrett claimed both 800-meter championships and Anthony Nolfi won the hammer throw championship in the outdoor season.

While there were several championships to measure the growth of some DC sports in 2013-14, there was also some growth with some of the newest sports at Defiance College. The 2013-14 year was the third season for DC's swimming and diving teams, and second season under head coach Athena Miller. The program showed strong signs of development from year one to year two under Miller, as DC set a record number of personal and school bests throughout the season.

Defiance wrapped up the season with a record-setting weekend at the OAC Championships. Over the three-day event, Defiance's men's and women's programs combined for 15 school records and 27 personal best times. Defiance also re-broke three records that were set earlier in the meet, totaling 18 record-setting swims for the Purple and Gold in one event. At season's end, Defiance had set records in 21 of the 40 possible events.

Women's lacrosse also had its inaugural season under head coach Jason Allen. The Yellow Jackets went on to finish with a 2-14 record. The program's first win came against Saint Mary's (Ind.), a 9-5 victory in Memphis, Tenn.

The Yellow Jackets picked up their first home win in school history with a 12-11 overtime thriller that saw senior Erica King score a season high seven goals in one game. Parker Smith led the way for the Yellow Jackets in the goals column, scoring 29 in the maiden season. Six other Yellow Jackets scored at least five goals on the season. The men's tennis team also saw some major strides in 2014 under first year head coach Tyler Ault. Defiance claimed its first top-half finish in the standings since Ault was a player for the Yellow Jackets in 2009-10. DC finished with a 5-3 record in HCAC play to take fourth overall. Early in the season, the Yellow Jackets picked up a big 6-3 win over Franklin, which was just the third time the Purple and Gold had knocked off Franklin College since tennis was re-introduced at Defiance. The momentum from the first victory carried DC to its second straight post-season appearance.

Mike Ross went on to earn First-Team All-HCAC, and James Demeo became the first Yellow Jacket to go undefeated (8-0) in HCAC singles play since Tyler (5-0) and Trevor Ault (6-0) both went undefeated in the 2010 season.

Defiance College wraps up the 2013-14 season with four team conference championships, 15 event championships, an NCAA statistical champion, two 1,000-point scorers, a 1,000 kills scorer, 38 school records and three conference records.



Mike Ross earned First-Team HCAC honors.

## **RECOGNIZING** Faculty, Staff and Students

**DR. NATHAN GRIGGS**, associate professor of biology, was awarded the Dr. Richard W. Stroede Distinguished Faculty Citation at this year's Honors Convocation. He came to Defiance College in 2004 as an assistant professor of Biology. He was tenured and promoted to associate professor of Biology in 2008.

Dr. Griggs earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Purdue University, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree from Purdue University, and Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biomedical Sciences from Wright State University. He has served as Chair of the Division of Science and Mathematics twice and is currently Chair of the Division of Natural Science, Applied Science, and Mathematics. He has served on a range of standing committees and ad hoc teams including most recently the Spearhead Group, which developed the new Core Curriculum, and the Faculty Handbook Reconceptualization Task Force, which developed the new faculty handbook.

Two Defiance College faculty members and criminal justice student **DAVID SAVAGE** were honored during the annual Ohio Conference of Criminal Justice Education Research Conference held recently in Ashland.

**DR. DONALD KNUEVE**, associate academic dean and professor of criminal justice, was presented the annual Faculty/ Professional Award for more than 30 years of service to the OCCJE as a member, officer and trustee. He was also awarded a lifetime membership.

Professor **STEVEN SONDERGAARD** will assume the position of president of OCCJE for the 2014-15 academic year.

Savage, graduating senior from Warren, Ohio, was named Top Undergraduate Criminal Justice Student for 2014. He also received the top Undergraduate Research Paper Award for his work entitled "The Effectiveness of the Prison Rape Elimination Act at the Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio: Policies and Procedures that Aid in the Reduction of Sexual Victimization and an Analysis of the Occurrence of Sexual Harassment."

Outstanding Service Awards for faculty and staff and the Gerald Mallott Outstanding Senior Service Award for 2014 were presented to **JOSHUA FRANCIS**, assistant professor of education, director of education and director of academic assessment; **BRAD HARSHA**, director of admissions; and graduating senior **CATHERINE SAVAGE**, Wauseon.

DC instruction librarian **ALEXANDRA HAUSER**, as part of a team at Indiana University, has been published in the March 2014 issue of College and Research Libraries.*Visit http://crl.acrl.org/content/ current* 

**TIM WEDGE**, assistant professor of practice of digital forensic science, was recently quoted in a Forensic Magazine article: http://www.forensicmag.com/ articles/2014/01/finding-missing-link

Defiance College forensic science major MARISSA BUSSARD presented "Comparison of Chemical Enhancements for the Detection of Latent Blood Using Edta-Analog" at the Ohio Academy of Science Annual Meeting in North Canton this past Saturday. This research was conducted with DR. SOMNATH DUTTA, associate professor of chemistry.

Also, **DR. DOUG KANE**, associate professor of biology was co-author on "Nutrient Dynamics in Lake Erie During Harmful Algal Bloom Initiation" with a student author from BGSU and another co-author from Ohio State University's F.T. Stone Laboratory. Dr. Kane also began his second term as a member of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Academy of Science. Visit http:// ohiosci.org/ to learn more about the Ohio Academy of Science and to see all the abstracts from this meeting.

Dr. Doug Kane was one of more than 50 invited participants from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Ontario at the Phosphorus Along the Land-River-Lake continuum workshop held by the National Center for Water Quality Research (NCWQR) at Heidelberg University in Tiffin. In addition to participating in the workshop discussions Dr. Kane displayed two posters of his and Defiance College students' research on the Maumee River and Lake Erie. For more information on the workshop visit the NCWOR Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ncwqr or visit https://gomeet.itap.purdue.edu/ *p32lfn7bp7y*/ to see the introductory presentation to the workshop.

Dr. Kane recently presented on and answered questions about the Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) problem in Lake Erie as part of Bowling Green State University's "Kids Tech University" program. Doug presented "What is this green slime in Lake Erie, why is it there, and what can be done to get rid of it?" to approximately 60 nine to 12-year-olds from Northwest Ohio and then participated in an interactive microscope session, showing the students phytoplankton and zooplankton. The goal of "Kids Tech University" is "to create the future workforce in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by sparking kids' interest in these fields."To learn more about this program visit http://kidstechuniversity-bgsu.vbi.vt.edu/ kidstech/program-view/what\_is\_this\_ green\_slime\_in\_lake\_erie\_why\_is\_it\_there\_ and\_what\_can\_be\_done.



#### GILROY NAMED CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

In March, President Mark Gordon announced the appointment of Matt Gilroy '02 to the position of chief development officer. Gilroy joined the institutional Advancement staff in 2013. In this new position, he now oversees the Institutional Advancement department and is responsible for fundraising and alumni relations.

"I am pleased to take on this new role for Defiance College," said Gilroy. "We have a great staff in Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations, and I am happy to work with them to provide resources for our current and future students through the generosity of our alumni and the community in general. I am also looking forward to building relationships with many of our 10,000-plus alumni living across our nation and the world."

Gilroy graduated from Defiance College with a degree in marketing and management. He resides in rural Defiance with his wife, Jennie, and his daughter, Teylan.

#### Scenes from COMMENCEMENT 2014









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DEFIANCE COLL





**Dr. William Busteed '50** and **Joann Busteed '66** celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary Dec. 26, 2013. The couple reside in Defiance and have four children and one granddaughter.

**Carolyn Scherer Belden '63** and Robert Belden celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on February 7, 2014. The Beldens reside in Defiance.

**Jan (Wiechers) Hockman '68** has retired after 32 years of teaching. Jan and husband, Bernie, have moved to Athens, Ga, where their daughter, Emily, and three grandchildren reside. The Hockmans also have a son, Andrew, in Minneapolis.

**John Boesling '69** and his wife, Evelyn, celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Nov. 23, 2013. The Boeslings reside in Defiance. John is retired from his position as senior vice president and corporate secretary at First Federal.

**Jim Jackson '72** recently retired from Edward Jones Investments after serving the community of Fremont, Ohio, for 32 years. Jim is being inducted into the Fremont Ross High School Hall of Fame this spring for his part in the Fremont Area Foundation's building of an eight-lane pool, seven classrooms, a football stadium, wrestling practice facility, two baseball fields and six tennis courts for the school, all with private donations. He plans to pursue a second career as a docent at the President Rutherford B. Hayes Museum, an interest he attributes to his former professor, Randy Buchman. Jim and his wife, Cindy, reside in Fremont and have three sons and two grandsons.

The United Methodist Church of Garrettsville, Ohio, received a grant of \$35,000 from the Lilly Foundation Endowment to enable its minister, **Rev. Kristen Patt '86**, to participate in a National Clergy Renewal Program. Rev. Patt's sabbatical will include a trip to Israel with a special visit to Petra, and a visit to the Redemptive Center of Contemplation in Tucson, Ariz. She will also go to Brazil, where she will work with children who live in the Recife Dump. Upon her return, Patt will present programs on what she has learned and accomplished during this time.

**The Rev. Ryan Henderson '97** is now associate conference minister of youth, young adults and emerging ministries at the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ. Ryan resides in Quakertown, Pa.

**Charlene Lee '97** was appointed to the position of Fulton County treasurer in December. Charlene resides in Pettisville, Ohio, with her husband and daughter.

**Josh Lacumsky '98** and his wife, Jayme, announce the birth of their son, Byrson Steven, on Sept. 27, 2013. Byrson was welcomed home by his big sister, 2½ year old Madilynn. The Lacumskys live in Maumee, Ohio.

Coach **Frank Kill '02** led his Lima, Ohio, Central Catholic High School Thunderbirds to a Division III state basketball championship on March 22. It was 17 years to the day that Frank was the tournament MVP on the 1997 Lincolnview High School team that won the Division IV state title. Frank was a driving force for the Yellow Jackets during his college career and is a member of DC's 1,000 Point Club. Frank and his wife, Kris, reside in Lima.

**Jeremy Ball '04**, manager of corporate philanthropy at Big Lots Inc., has been named to the board of directors of the Furniture Bank of Central Ohio, an organization that provides free furniture to area families struggling with poverty and other life challenges. In his position with Big Lots, Jeremy has been very involved with the Furniture Bank and oversees BIGHearts, an annual fundraising event which has raised more than \$5 million for the Furniture Bank over the past seven years. Jeremy resides in Columbus, where he is active in the community, including the City Year Columbus Advisory Board.



**Michael Moorman '04** and **Jayme (Zehringer) Moorman '04** announce the birth of their second child, Madsen Anthony, on Nov. 30, 2013. Madsen was welcomed home by his 2 ½ year old brother, Maddox. The Moormans reside in Coldwater, Mich. Jayme is a loan officer at Dynamic Federal Credit Union, and Mike is co-owner of McSober's Saloon along with fellow DC alumnus, **Trent Boeckman '03**.

**Jeremy Deken '05** and his wife, Diana, welcomed a baby boy to their family on Nov. 11, 2013. Asher Robert Deken weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz. The Dekens live in Continental, Ohio.

**Eric Nicely '06** of Defiance was sworn in as a patrolman on the Defiance Police Department in December.

**Rachel Baker '08** is employed as marketing strategy specialist with the Department of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering at Penn State, and resides in State College, Pa.

**Carrie Cleland Bussing '08** is employed as a first grade teacher at Edgerton Local Schools. Bussing received her Master of Education degree in Special Education in August 2013. She resides in Hicksville, Ohio, with her husband, David.

Hans Vetter '08 and Abby Kolodziejczk Vetter '06 of Defiance announce the birth of their second son, Hayden Timothy, on Feb. 4, 2014. He was welcomed home by big brother, Hansie.



**Rachel Flad '10** of Canal Winchester, Ohio, is the channel coordinator for the Sterilization Monitoring Service at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry.

**Elizabeth Dickman '11** is now employed by the Richland County (South Carolina) Sheriff's Department as Emergency Protective Custody Coordinator. She works with other deputies in emergency protective custody situations by contacting social services, responding to the scene, transporting children and following cases through the courts. To this end, she is currently assigned to the Victims Services Division of the Sheriff's Department, located in Columbia, S.C. Elizabeth received her master's degree in social work from the University of South Carolina after graduating from DC.

Jared Orzolek '11 was elected to a four-year term on the Defiance City Council. Orzolek had been previously appointed to fill a position vacated by another DC alumnus, **Darrell Handy '96**, who served on council for several years.

**Brian McDowell '13** of Defiance was recently recognized for saving an elderly man who collapsed in the snow this winter. McDowell, a UPS delivery driver, was honored with two awards, the Liberty Mutual Lifesaver Award and the UPS Lifesaver Award, for taking action on Jan. 21, rescuing a man who had fallen and injured his back outside his rural home. He waited for help for more than two hours before being discovered by McDowell.



## Needing a break from studying for exams,

this group of DC women began a tradition during their freshman year of visiting Santa. They weren't able to get together their first two years after graduation but have since made it a point to reconnect each winter for the Annual DC Girls' Christmas Reunion. This December marked their 10th visit with Saint Nick. It's hard to plan a weekend that works for everyone, but there are usually eight or nine alumnae who are able to attend. They come from places like Utica, Mich. and Springboro, Ohio, and Spring Hills, Fla. Pictured are, from left: top, Abby Kolodziejczyk Vetter and Amanda Wolfe White, middle, Kandice Hosko, Nicole Carter, Amanda Betzing and Katie Klear Dize; bottom, Nicole Smith Berg and Brianna Bolinger Dombusch. All are from the class of 2006.

#### DEATHS

Delona Harmon Conkright Koithahn '48 Sept. 30, 2013 - Breinigsville, Penn.

Donald Karr '50 Jan. 31, 2014 – Defiance, Ohio

Edwin "Ted" Redlich '50 March 4, 2014 – Hawley, Pa.

Jack E. Slagle '51 January 23, 2014 – Liberty Center, Ohio

Yvonne Feurer Harris '53 Jan. 13, 2014 – Defiance, Ohio

Marjorie Enyart Treece '57 December 22, 2013 – Ayersville, Ohio Helen Riehle '58 Feb. 11, 2014 – Edgerton, Ohio

Robert H. Boyle '61 Jan. 5, 2014 – Decatur, Ind.

Ruth Ann Steffel Burkhart '61 Jan. 18, 2014 – Defiance, Ohio

James H. Masonbrink '63 Feb. 28, 2014 -- Vandalia, Ohio

Joseph Furko Jr. '65 March 13, 2014 -- Canadohta Lake, Pa.

Mary Judith (Judy) Brown-Popowski '65 September 30, 2013 – Columbus, Ohio

Caren Bridges Dean '67 March 6, 2014 – Olmsted Falls, Ohio Theresa Frank '70 February 18, 2014 -- Defiance, Ohio

Janet McSherry Morton '70 March 30, 2014 – Bradenton, Fla.

Beverly Mansfield Rettig '71 Feb. 4, 2014 -- Arvada, Col.

Mary Jones Steyer '79 Jan. 28, 2014 – Defiance, Ohio

Roberta M. Cole '83 Jan. 26, 2014 – Defiance, Ohio

Jerry Foust '94 Jan. 2, 2014 – Cecil, Ohio

#### Award Nominations

Each year Defiance College recognizes alumni who have distinguished themselves in their careers and their communities. Awards are also given to alumni for outstanding athletic achievement while at DC and those who have outstanding seasons as high school or college coaches at the varsity level. If you would like to nominate someone for any of these honors, fill out the form below and mail it to the Defiance College Alumni Office, 701 N. Clinton St., Defiance, OH 43512.

#### ALUMNI CITATION FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE Name\_\_\_\_\_

This award is presented annually to recognize Defiance College alumni who have contributed in significant ways to the world of scholarship and/or teaching during their years since graduation.

#### ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD Name

This award is presented annually to recognize Defiance College alumni for outstanding achievements in their chosen fields of endeavor, for exemplary service to their communities and society, and for loyalty to and support of Defiance College and the DC Alumni Association.

#### YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD Name

Recognizing the achievements of young alumni whose lives exemplify high principles and who are outstanding leaders in their professions and their communities, bringing honor to Defiance College and demonstrating promise of further distinction. (alumni who have graduated within 10 years)

#### HALL OF FAME Name

The Athletic Hall of Fame, sponsored by the Alumni Varsity D Club, recognizes DC alumni for outstanding athletic achievement while enrolled at the Defiance College, their accomplishments after graduation, and a continuing interest in the development of Defiance College.

#### COACH OF THE YEAR Name

E-mail: \_

News:

The candidate must be a graduate of Defiance College and be a varsity coach at the High School or College level. The candidate's team must have had an outstanding season. Additional post-season advancement and/or honors will be considered. He or she will be judged on current or previous season's record. This is not a reflection of their cumulative coaching record. Exemplary citizenship, character, and service will be considered.

#### 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.

Maiden Name:	Class Year:
Address:	
Phone:	

Name:

Mail this form to: Alumni Office, Defiance College, 701 N. Clinton St. Defiance, OH 43512, or email your news to: alumni@defiance.edu.

Class Year \_\_\_\_

Class Year \_\_\_\_

Class Year

Class Year

Class Year

This summer, wherever you go...

TAKE

# **CUT ME OUT AND TAKE ME ALONG**

The new DC Alumni Online Community is easy to join and fun to belong.

AL ON

And post your pix on the

E

DC ALUMNI WEBSITE!

alumni.defiance.edu

Post your latest photos and news

Reconnect with classmates & friends

Get the latest campus news

At alumni.defiance.edu, you can:

Make your annual gift online securely

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Enjoy features like Alumni Spotlight, Photo of the Week, Trending at DC and Flat Buzz's travel photos.



#### CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



# HOMECOMING 2014