

The
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Magazine

profile

FALL 2018



FROSTBURG
STATE UNIVERSITY



Answering the Call

Bobcats Serving Our Nation Through the Years

Dear Bobcat Alums, Parents and Friends,

We are continuing our 120th anniversary celebration at Frostburg State University! One focus in this issue of *Profile*, like previous issues, is on people who made a difference. Frostburg State has had a long history of military service, which continues today. In particular, ROTC in the '80s and '90s and our current Veterans Center have supported students and alums who have given back to our country. We honor their sacrifices and accomplishments in this issue. Unfortunately, some have given their lives, including **Capt. James Graham '63**, a Medal of Honor recipient, whose memorial is on the Ort Library deck. You will read about veterans like **John Bambacus '70**, from the Vietnam era, who has served not only in uniform but as an elected official and an FSU faculty member. You will hear from others who have advanced through the ranks and have served in some of the most dangerous areas in the world. Lastly, you will hear how our Veterans Center is supporting our current military and veteran students. These stories, while unique, share an appreciation and love for what FSU means in their lives.

You will also read about continuing accomplishments. The quality of our teacher education programs is evident in the awards and recognition several of our alumni received this year. Others, like wildlife and fisheries alumna and current grad student **Kendyl Hassler '14**, are on their way to great accomplishments in the future.

We don't confine quest for success to the classroom. Many of you are aware that we are making a move in athletics as well. You will

read that we accepted an invitation to join the Mountain East Conference for NCAA athletics. The move from Division III to DII is an exciting one. This coming year will be one of preparation and application to the NCAA to make the move official during the summer of 2019. Our commitment to the student-athlete experience will continue, and we will see a new level of competition that I am confident our student-athletes and coaches will meet head-on!

We also have an alumnus in a different type of uniform, one that would have been foreign to the miners who helped make the dream of FSU possible at the end of the 19th century. **Ricky Arnold '85** is wearing a NASA space suit on his second mission aboard the International Space Station. On April 9, the exact anniversary that the Maryland state legislature approved funding for State Normal School No. 2 in Frostburg 120 years earlier, we hosted a live downlink from the space station (read more at bit.ly/ArnoldDay). More than 1,300 middle school students and many more FSU students, faculty and staff participated. I wish I had a time machine to travel back to thank those miners for their foresight and their part in making that event happen! The photo on page 36 is a special gift from Ricky to all of the Frostburg State family.



Numerous veteran and military alumni attended the dedication of the campus Veterans Center at Homecoming, including these pictured with **President Nowaczyk**, from left, **Lt. Col. Andrew Pekala '97**, Professor Emeritus **John Bambacus '70** and **Brig. Gen. Robert Edmonson '90**.

I am extremely proud to be part of this University where the alumni, faculty, staff and students have made significant contributions to our communities, nation and world and, just as importantly, continue to contribute to better the lives of everyone.

Please enjoy this issue and celebrate Frostburg State University with us.

Go Bobcats!

Cordially,

Ronald Nowaczyk, Ph.D.
President



ON THE COVER

Same Commitment, New Mission

The Frostburg State University chapter of Student Veterans of America has an informal motto: Same Commitment, New Mission. SVA members make their presence known on campus through participation in numerous service activities on campus, marching in local parades and supporting regional veterans' events. We feature some of those students on our cover. Taking a slightly less serious pose on this page, they are, from left, **Lance Cpl. Kodi Bowers**, **Cpl. Ryan Sinclair**, **Lance Cpl. Anthony Pitts III**, **Sgt. B.J. Wrights '99/M'16** and **Lance Cpl. Benjamin Cockcroft**. All are veterans of the U.S. Marines.

CAMPUS NEWS



NURSING MASTER'S PROGRAM RANKED THIRD IN U.S

Great Value Colleges, an online service designed to help college students get the best value for their money, has ranked Frostburg's online Master of Science in Nursing as the **THIRD MOST AFFORDABLE IN THE COUNTRY** and the **THIRD TOP ONLINE DEGREE** for 2018. The rankings were based on tuition, enrollment and student-to-faculty figures from the National Center for Education Statistics, with consideration for national recognition for educational excellence.



Government representatives joined FSU officials and builders to break ground for the new building.

Ground Broken for New Residence Hall

FSU officials, local dignitaries and design and construction directors broke ground for a new student residence hall at the Lower Quad site of the new building, a facility that **President Nowaczyk** said was "a long time in coming."

The residence hall, the first to be built at FSU in more than 40 years, is scheduled to be completed in 2020. The six-story, 125,000-square-foot hall will feature 431 beds arranged in residential units of two to four beds, with one to two bathrooms per unit. The facility will include study spaces, lounges, a shared kitchen and laundry rooms. The estimated cost is \$44 million.

"This residence hall represents a significant need on campus," said Nowaczyk. "What we have found, and what studies across the country have shown, is that students living on campus during the first and second years of their studies oftentimes results in a greater likelihood that the students will both stay in school and graduate on time."

The residence hall project is being accompanied with extensive renovations of the five other halls in the Lower Quad, the newest of which was built in 1976.

"Residence Life and the on-campus student experience are integral parts for our campus community becoming a home away from home and a place of comfort for hundreds of students each year," said Student Government Association President **Benjamin Forrest**.

Student's Mission Patch Flies to International Space Station

Astronaut **Ricky Arnold '85** isn't the only piece of Frostburg State that rendezvoused with the International Space Station this year.

A mission patch designed by art and design major **Donovan Carter '18** arrived there in June. Carter won the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP) Mission Design Competition with his Maryland flag-inspired patch. The patch represents the University System of Maryland in SSEP Mission 12.



Donovan Carter '18

The mission that Carter's patch represents includes several student space experiments that were delivered to the Space Station, where Arnold is completing a long-term mission.

For Carter, his own accomplishment didn't fully hit him until he learned about Arnold's connection to FSU.

"I don't think I got really excited until I heard about the alumnus being launched into space along with my badge," Carter said. "That's double representation for Frostburg."

Carter, a Randallstown resident, is proud of his design.

Throughout, the red and white and black and gold, representing the Crossland and Calvert families, are featured in the design.

"When I started out, I knew I wanted it to be in a badge/shield-like shape but I wanted to make it more Maryland," Carter said.

On each side are astronauts illustrations hand-drawn by Carter. The original design featured a microscope, but Carter's advanced illustration instructor, Associate Professor **Jamison Odone**, encouraged him to change it to a rocket.

Carter will receive the patch when it returns to Earth. He hopes that Arnold will get to see his patch and autograph it while he's on the ISS.

"That'll be the full package," Carter said. ■



Wyden Named Vice President for Administration and Finance

Leon Wyden, CPA, has been named vice president for Administration and Finance.

Wyden comes from the University of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio, and brings experience working in financial management positions in higher education, in the manufacturing and supply industries and in financial auditing. In these varied fields, he gained experience in strategic planning as well as in process, systems and operations analysis.

The division of Administration and Finance encompasses 21 departments, which include all of the University's financial departments and those departments overseeing the campus physical plant, as well as Information Technology, the University Store, Conferences and Events, University Police and Athletics.



Leon Wyden



Al Delia

Delia Appointed Vice President for Regional Development and Engagement

Al Delia has joined FSU as the first vice president for Regional Development and Engagement. This position, funded separately from the University System of Maryland appropriation in Gov. Larry Hogan's budget, is designed to integrate University resources with regional partners in Western Maryland to help communities and

companies be competitive and meet the challenges of economic and community development.

Delia was the director of the Office of Health Access at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C., and previously was ECU's associate vice chancellor for Research, Economic and Community Engagement. His previous positions called on his abilities to build creative partnerships, and nurture collaboration and bring resources to underserved rural areas.

LAFEMINA'S NEW BOOK TELLS "THE STORY OF ASH"

Gerry LaFemina, associate professor of English and Pushcart prize-winning poet, recently released *The Story of Ash*, his latest book-length collection of poetry.

"This is a book about desolation and its aftermath — ash being what remains of the fire — but ash is not useless. So it's a book about love and loss," LaFemina wrote.

Those loves and losses range from the personal to those cultural touchstones universal to many Americans.

"I think this is a book, ultimately, which those fires that burned in me . . . certain passions, certain loves, certain ideas about those things, are burnt out," LaFemina said. "That's not to say I'm cynical. It's more like a controlled burn, in which you burn the forest to leave it healthier."

LaFemina is the author of numerous poetry chapbooks and book-length collections of poetry, a textbook on the writing of poetry and a novel. *The Story of Ash* was published by Anhing Press.



Gerry LaFemina

New Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi Inducts 80

The first FSU class of Phi Kappa Phi, the oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, was inducted on May 19. Seventy students and 10 faculty members were inducted into the 348th chapter of the national organization.

Eligible inductees included juniors, seniors, graduate students, faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction. Membership to Phi Kappa Phi is by invitation only. The top 7.5 percent of juniors and the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students were invited for membership.

Founded in 1897 at the University of Maine, the honor society has chapters on more than 300 campuses. Phi Kappa Phi's mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."



FSU's first class of Phi Kappa Phi honor society recognized 70 undergraduate and graduate students and 10 faculty members.

GLOBAL FILM FESTIVAL HOSTED AT FSU

On Earth Day 2018, FSU served as an official host of the international Earth Day Film Festival, the first university to serve in that role. The festival featured a curated selection of Earth-minded American and international short films on the environment, humanity, world change and peace. These selected films were shown in countries around the world as part of the Global Screening Event.

One of the global film selections documents the incredible journey of four FSU students. *A Simpler Way*, a 26-minute documentary by Michael O. Snyder, follows Frostburg students on a voyage to Uganda to help villagers sustainably overcome a life-threatening shortage of clean drinking water using the cheapest and most abundant resource on the planet: sunlight.

Frostburg will host the event again next year.



For the sixth year in a row, FSU has been honored with **TREE CAMPUS USA** recognition by the Arbor Day Foundation for its commitment to effective forest management. More than 250 trees have been planted over the years FSU has earned the Tree Campus honor.

CAMPUS HONORS



Dr. Jason Speights

Speights Honored With Regents Award for Mentoring

Dr. Jason Speights, director of the Multimedia Learning Center (MLC) and Planetarium and assistant professor of physics, has been awarded the Regents' Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentoring, the highest honor that the University System of Maryland Board of Regents bestows to recognize exemplary faculty achievement.

"All of my greatest successes trace back to great mentors in my life, so it's enjoyable to give back those experiences," Speights said.

Speights has "shown exceptional proclivity for mentoring, which has allowed numerous students to do amazing things they would not have been able to do on their own," said **Dr. Eric Moore '00**, chair of the Department of Physics and Engineering and an associate professor.

Speights joined FSU in 2012 and helped with the transition of the Planetarium from its longtime home at Tawes Hall to the newly constructed MLC and Planetarium inside the Gira Center, which opened in 2014. Speights guided students to help assemble and program components and new software for the



Dr. William Seddon

rooftop observatory to capture deep space images. These hands-on opportunities allowed students to develop skills for research as well as prepare public planetarium shows. Speights also advises the Physics and Engineering Club.

Dustin Ullery '16 said his time with Speights at the MLC was invaluable, helping to pave his way to graduate school.

Speights' approach to mentoring is to empower students by providing guidance to answers, allowing them to come to their own conclusions. That made a lasting impression on Ullery.

"The biggest help to me was teaching me to find the answers through critical thinking rather than being handed the results," he said.

Speights has mentored nearly 40 students in the last three years in a variety of roles and disciplines, with several students being recognized for national achievements and acceptance to graduate and doctoral programs.

Seddon Presented President's Distinguished Faculty Award

Dr. William Seddon, professor of Biology, has been selected as the 2018 recipient of the President's Distinguished Faculty Award.

The award recognizes a faculty member who has provided exceptional service to the University and has advanced its mission, goals and strategic planning initiatives.



Bill Mandicott

Seddon was recognized, in particular, for his passion for community and educational outreach that has brought more than 2,000 regional students – ages 6 to 16 – to campus for a multitude of STEM enrichment activities.

As STEM Outreach coordinator, Seddon coordinates these visits, which includes enlisting faculty and staff to pitch in for the events. He also participates, often explaining to students how the Compton Science Center's Foucault pendulum demonstrates the rotation of the Earth or operating controls in the Multimedia Learning Center.

He has also taken the leadership of Compton's Natural History Museum, helping it serve its initial community outreach purpose by making the museum of taxonomy specimens from around the world available during open houses and Science Saturdays. He has worked with students from the College of Education and other areas in developing new and engaging activities for this resource.

Bill Mandicott Presented With Inaugural President's Distinguished Staff Award

Bill Mandicott, assistant vice president of Student and Community Involvement, has been selected as the inaugural recipient of the President's Distinguished Staff Award.

This award recognizes a staff member who has provided exceptional service to the University



and has helped to advance its mission, goals and priorities.

"Bill Mandicott has an incomparable work ethic and a deep commitment to connect the University with the community," said President Nowaczyk, in presenting the award. "Much of our national recognition for civic engagement is the result of Bill's vision and his ability to develop effective partnerships with others."

Mandicott has been a champion of service, social change and involvement for decades, dating back to when he first saw the potential in integrating AmeriCorps with higher education, starting the now 25-year history of A STAR! in Western Maryland. Programs like Turbo Vote, Town Hall meetings with the J. Glenn Beall Institute for Public Affairs and the NASPA – Student Affairs Professionals in Higher Education's LEAD Initiative are just the most recent efforts that connect the institution with the broader community.

Mandicott is also a valued mentor to students, including many leaders in the Student Government Association. He has also professionalized the employment experience of students who work for the Lane Center, including many who have gone on to work in the entertainment industry in major markets like New York and Washington.

Keller and Bensley Earn Faculty Achievement Awards

The 2018 Faculty Achievement Awards recognized **Dr. Karen Keller '89/M'92**, Department of Biology, for University and community service, and **Dr. D. Alan Bensley**, Department of Psychology, for professional development.

In her 10 years at FSU, Keller has demonstrated an exemplary



Dr. Karen Keller '89/M'92

record of service to the University, which is her alma mater. The most noteworthy of her recent accomplishments was her role in conceiving, developing and organizing the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Keller has a history of impressive service to numerous University committees. Most recently, she served as co-chair of the Strategic Planning Task Force; she has also served on the Academic Standards Subcommittee, Health Professions Advisory Committee, Faculty Promotion and Tenure Subcommittee, and Leadership and Experiential Learning Sloop Committee, just to name a few. On top of all this, she has

continued to excel in her teaching and professional development.

A leading researcher in his field, Bensley has had many articles published in academic journals and popular science journals and has made numerous research presentations at professional conferences. His second textbook on critical thinking, *Critical Thinking in Psychology and Everyday Life: A Guide to Effective Thinking*, was published in December 2017. It explores topics such as scientific reasoning, identifying pseudosciences and critical thinking in evaluating the Internet. Bensley has a notable record of scholar-



Dr. Alan Bensley

ship with students and faculty. He has co-presented dozens of high-quality posters and presentations with his students and colleagues at national and international psychology conferences. Overall, Bensley has devoted a substantial amount of time and energy to his research, which has benefited the University, the Psychology Department and his student and faculty collaborators.

The awards are made possible through generous gifts to the FSU Foundation, Inc.



Benjamin Forrest

Forrest Honored as 2018 Newman Civic Fellow

Rising junior **Benjamin Forrest** was chosen by Campus Compact to be honored as the 2018 Newman Civic Fellow, which acknowledges motivation and potential in public leadership. Forrest is one of the 268 students who were honored among all Campus Compact institutions nationwide.

Forrest, of Hagerstown, is a double major in political science and mathematics. He was the Student Affairs Committee chair in the Student Government Association last year and president of SGA for the coming year. He is also a Student Alumni Ambassador, helping to build connections between alumni and the current student body.

"On campus, my focus is advocating for students' interests and well-being, and doing what I can to build bridges that can mitigate the political polarization that is dividing our country," Forrest said. "In the community, I am committed to partnerships to address poverty and the hurdles it presents for those who are trying to create better lives for themselves and their families."

Forrest is FSU's second Newman Fellow. **James Kirk '18** spent his senior year participating in the fellowship.



Howard Ikon Photography, courtesy of Maryland Humanities

Maryland Humanities Honors Gira

President Emerita **Catherine Gira** had plenty of Frostburg support when Maryland Humanities honored her as a "transformational leader" for her support of the growth and mission of the organization, part of its 45th anniversary celebration.

Gira served on the Maryland Humanities Board of Directors from 1985 to 2010 and twice served as its board chair, from 1989 to 1991 and again from 2006 to 2008.

Showing their support at the luncheon are, front row, from left, **Colleen Peterson**, **Gira** and **Dr. David Gillespie**; second row, from left, are **Mary Beth Pirolozzi '90/M'95**, **Bill Mandicott**, **Victoria Beall Muth**, **Dr. Lea Messman-Mandicott**, **Dr. Mary Kay Finan M'81**, **Tom Finan** and **Al Feldstein M'77**.



Dr. Amy Branam Armiento

Armiento Elected President of Poe Studies Association

Dr. Amy Branam Armiento, associate professor of English, has been elected president of the Poe Studies Association, which supports the exchange of information on the life, works, times and influence of Edgar Allan Poe. Armiento will serve a two-year term as president.

"This is the culmination of my career as a Poe scholar," said Armiento. "This is a big deal, not only for me personally, but this is a big deal for FSU as well."

Armiento hopes to support ongoing successful initiatives while also bridging a gap within the Poe community.

"You have these serious scholars, and then on the other hand you have pop-culture people who just love him, his stories and his lore. . . . I think enough good work is being done in pop-culture that we are ready to bring the two worlds together."

Armiento has been a member of PSA's executive committee since 2011.

ALUMNI NEWS



Eric Stocklin for the Baltimore Business Journal

BBJ Honors Hutchinson and Fry for Business Leadership

Donald P. Hutchinson '67, right, who is CEO of the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, was honored this spring as the *Baltimore Business Journal's* CEO of the Year and winner of the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award. This is the first year the BBJ has presented the CEO of the Year award. Hutchinson was honored along with 10 other Baltimore-area executives, including Greater Baltimore Committee President and CEO **Donald C. Fry '77**, left. This group, called the Power 10, recognizes leaders who are making a significant impact on their companies and communities. Fry and Hutchinson are pictured at the March event with their wives, Bonnie Fry and **Peggy Coddington Hutchinson '70**.

Garrett County Alumnae Named to Hall of Fame

The Garrett County Commission for Women inducted two alumnae this year into the Garrett County Women's Hall of Fame. **Dr. Dana McCauley '89/M'98**, left, teaching principal at Crellin Elementary School, was honored for being "a transformational leader in the field of environmental and place-based education on both the local and national level." **Caroline Blizard '98**, lead park ranger and director of the Discovery Center at Deep Creek Lake State Park, was recognized as a "role model of leadership, community service and environmental stewardship."



Antonio Hayes '00



Tony Bridges '00

Bobcat Politics

Bobcat classmates **Del. Antonio Hayes '00** and **Tony Bridges '00** made successful runs to represent Baltimore districts in the Maryland General Assembly this year. No Republicans have filed in either race, so barring an unexpected write-in campaign, both Bobcats are destined to take their seats when the new General Assembly begins in January 2019.

Hayes has held the District 40 delegate seat since 2015 and is making the jump to the Senate. Bridges, who has been working in Baltimore City government, is making his first run for office.

Among other State House Bobcats, fellow alumni are vying for the same seat in Western Maryland. **Del. Wendell Beitzel '78/M'88**, who is also Deputy Minority Whip, has served in District 1A since 2007. He is being challenged in the general election by **Michael Dreisbach '72**. **Del. Carol Krimm '77/M'92** serves in District 3A and is facing a general election challenge. **Sen. Victor Ramirez '96**, District 47, didn't run for re-election.

Muhlhausen Named Executive Director of Federal Council

Director of the National Institute of Justice **Dr. David Muhlhausen '93** has been named executive director of Federal Interagency Council on Crime Prevention and Improving Re-entry (FIRC).

Muhlhausen joined the National Institute of Justice in 2017. Previously, he served as a research fellow in empirical policy analysis at the Heritage Foundation, where he worked since 1999. Muhlhausen has testified frequently before Congress on the efficiency and effectiveness of various Federal programs. He has been called by the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary to discuss how to improve policing strategies, prisoner re-entry programs and other important criminal justice programs. ■



The 2018 Sloop Institute for Excellence in Leadership provided advanced leadership training for 40 juniors and seniors. They participated in workshops led by alumni **Richard Sloop '82**, **Kristen Kanz Acosta '98**, **Dr. Jon Wickert '03/M'06**, **Kati Townsley '00** and **Alex Giles '94**. **Sandra Wyche Adams '86** was the keynote speaker.



Fitzgerald Honored as the NASS National Superintendent of the Year

The National Association of School Superintendents has named **Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald '78** as the NASS Superintendent of the Year.

"Dr. Fitzgerald is an incredible leader and educator who is laser-focused on advocating for students," said Tom Armelino, NASS Executive Director.

Fitzgerald has been superintendent of Caesar Rodney School District in Wyoming, Del., since 2007, previously serving as a principal and assistant principal at a district high school. He also spent more than 13 years as a classroom social studies teacher.

"This is about students and making sure they are provided with the tools necessary to succeed in an ever-changing world," Fitzgerald said. "Whether as a teacher, administrator or superintendent, I'm proud to say that this has always been my focus."

The district is comprised of approximately 8,000 students in 12 schools, with one middle/elementary school campus located on the Dover Air Force Base and another school serving as the county's school for students with autism.

Fitzgerald's tenure has seen marked growth in technology, blended learning and community and stakeholder outreach. The district offers students the opportunity to choose among seven languages to study, the most in the state. Under Fitzgerald's leadership, the district became one of the state's pioneers in language immersion programs.



Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald '78

Hewins Receives Top Honor as Washington State's Superintendent of the Year

Dr. Frank Hewins '77, superintendent, Franklin Pierce School District near Tacoma, was named the 2018 Superintendent of the Year by the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA).

"This award recognizes the tireless efforts of Frank and his team at Franklin Pierce School District in supporting the success of each student," said WASA Executive Director Bill Keim. "Their focused efforts to close achievement and opportunity gaps have resulted in remarkable growth in the district's graduation rates."

Hewins, who retired as superintendent in June, has been in education for 40 years, 30 spent in the Franklin Pierce District, 11 years as the superintendent. The Early Learning Center for the district has since been named in his honor.

Under Hewins' leadership, Franklin Pierce School District has experienced significant educational success closing the achievement gaps and producing an on-time graduation rate of 85.2 percent in a high-poverty, majority-minority community, exceeding the state and national averages for every single category of special populations and racial/cultural subgroups.

"To be recognized by my peers for the work we all love and are passionate about is an incredible honor," Hewins said. "It is also a testament to the day-to-day, student-by-student work of the talented and caring School Board, administrators, principals, teachers and support staff of Franklin Pierce Schools."



Dr. Frank Hewins '77

Lockard Follows Father's Footsteps to Lead Carroll County Schools

Dr. Steven A. Lockard '92 has been appointed as superintendent of Carroll County (Md.) Public Schools, returning to his home county after a career as a teacher and administrator in Frederick County (Md.) schools and as deputy superintendent in Fairfax, Va., schools.

Lockard is now serving in the position his late father, **Dr. Brian Lockard '65**, filled in the 1990s, capping off an education career with the same school system.

In an article in the *Carroll County Times*, Steven Lockard referenced his father in the meeting where his hiring was announced.

"I know he is here in spirit. He cared deeply about this system, and the community. What he cared most about was the people," Lockard said. "He always emphasized the importance of relationships, and no one really cares how much you know until they know how much you care."

Lockard has been honored numerous times throughout his career, including with the National Sallie Mae First Year Teacher Award and the Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leadership Award.

He is also the son of **Lynda Tinsley Lockard '65**. ■



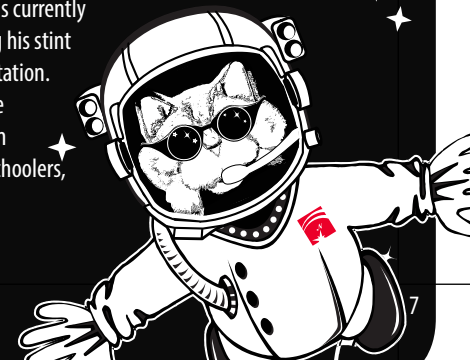
Dr. Steven Lockard '92



Bobcat-in-Space Pride

Showing some Bobcat pride for Bobcat in Space **Ricky Arnold '85**, this group of educators represented their alma mater at the monthly assembly at S. Christa McAuliffe Elementary School. From left are teachers **Sarah Kuhn '12** and **Matthew Lord '04/M'06** and principal **Wanda Coates '86**. Making the moment extra special was the fact that Coates had also gone to high school with Arnold, and that their school is named for the late McAuliffe, the teacher who perished in the 1986 Challenger accident; Arnold is currently recreating her lessons during his stint on the International Space Station.

To read about Arnold's live downlink with FSU education students and local middle-schoolers, visit bit.ly/ArnoldDay.



Alumni Awards

The second annual Alumni Awards Banquet reflected the growing role that alumni are playing in supporting their alma mater, and the awards, both in number and in type, are growing as well.

Honorary Alumni

The distinction of Honorary Alumni is awarded to individuals who are not alumni of Frostburg State University but have made consistent and noteworthy contributions to the advancement of FSU through their time, their talents and their treasures.



Dr. Bill Bingman, retired professor of educational professions, earned the reputation of being a caring and knowledgeable professional. His love of and understanding of the power of reading and its importance in the development of children served as the impetus for the creation of the Children's Literature Centre, which he co-founded decades ago. Among the Centre's accomplishments are the development of the Children's Literature Festival, Storybook Holiday and Pirates Ahoy. These programs have brought significant attention to FSU. Bingman is also a long-time supporter of the University through generous gifts to the FSU Foundation. His award was presented by **Shannon Gribble '98**.



As a student development specialist in the Programs for Academic Student Success (PASS) office at FSU, **R. Shawn Jones** has been a tireless advocate for students in the PASS programs and an active supporter for the entire student body at FSU. He currently serves as an advisor to multiple clubs and student-led organizations, including Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the Black Student Alliance. He also is active with the President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity and many other campus-wide initiatives. He is a three-time winner of the Advisor of the Year award. Jones is a dedicated young professional who truly embodies what it means to be a Bobcat at heart.



One doesn't have to look far to appreciate the many entities that have benefitted from **Kim** (right) and **Marion** (left) **Leonard's** interest. Marion earned a reputation as a thought-provoking and exemplary faculty member in the College of Business. After retiring, she joined the FSU Foundation Board of Directors, continuing to provide the University exceptional leadership and support. Coupled with Kim's service on the Allegany College of Maryland Board of Trustees, they are partners who have followed a shared passion for higher education and made a significant impact on their community, including generous financial support of FSU. Their award was presented by Col. **Ron Forrester '67**.



Dr. Mary Mumper, right, retired professor of chemistry, is an enthusiastic, energetic supporter and cheerleader for all things Frostburg. She is a member of the Foundation's Development Committee, seeking innovative and effective ways to promote FSU to local and regional communities. She is a strong advocate for FSU and provides insightful and well-formulated strategies for moving the University forward. Her infectious enthusiasm for FSU motivates fellow board members to support opportunity grants and other efforts that fund student and faculty projects. Her award was presented by **John Short**, FSU vice president for Advancement.

Service to Alma Mater Awards

The Service to Alma Mater Award is presented to individuals who portray exceptional contributions to assisting, advancing and promoting FSU; consistent involvement with FSU; demonstrated success in encouraging other alumni to take an active role in their alma mater; selfless commitment of time and talent augmented by their willingness to enhance the financial welfare of FSU; and attainment of special achievements, awards, honors and distinctions. This year's recipients are **Bill Moon '99**, **Jason VanSickle '98** and **Donald Woodard '94**.



After graduation, **Bill Moon '99**, right, served for several years on the board of the Alumni Association. He has dedicated his time to FSU by speaking to students in various group settings and at Career Day. He was one of the original board members for the Friends of Music of Frostburg, helping to raise funds for new musical instruments, recruitment trips and much more. Moon is an active member of Phi Mu Alpha Music Fraternity, helps FSU cultivate relationships, gives his time and treasures and represents FSU with pride and passion wherever he finds the opportunity. His award was presented by **Mark Freeman '11**.

helped facilitate. He has brought prospective students to campus, and his passion for FSU is palpable. VanSickle is grateful for those who have given before him, which paved the way for his education, and is now continuing the tradition for those to come. His award was presented by **Ashley Wisner Vascik '08/M'09**.



When you hear the name **Donnie Woodard '94**, you can't help but think of Bobcat Athletics. Woodard and his wife, Carol, can be found in the stands cheering on our current student-athletes, whether it be at the Regent's Cup Football games or on campus during Homecoming. He has organized many alumni gatherings in North Carolina, where he lives, as well as an annual basketball alumni trip. Woodard has been an active member of the FSU Foundation board since 2014 and was appointed chair of the investment committee in his second term.



Jason VanSickle '98, right, has been actively involved with FSU for more than 10 years, presenting at Career Day, the Sloop Institute and the Business Honors Retreat. He was a Keynote Speaker at the Leadership Awards Reception. VanSickle has also served the University by mentoring students, donating his treasures and keeping his fellow alumni involved in events, some of which he

Distinguished Alumni Achievement Awards

The Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award is presented to alumni who display the following traits: a demonstrated interest in FSU; advanced educational background and contributions made as a student; community involvement; special achievements, awards, honors and distinctions; and a philanthropic commitment to their alma mater. Four alumni were awarded this prestigious honor this year: **Sandra Wyche Adams '86**, **Dr. J. Laron Locke '82**, **Brian Mattingly '83** and **Raymond "Buster" Nelson '77**.



Sandy Wyche Adams '86, right, is the director of Publishing Operations at the National Academies Press and the director of Operations and co-owner of Anysolv Technologies with her husband, **Tyrone '87**. She is the vice president of the FSU Foundation Board of Directors and a leadership donor to many programs, including an endowed scholarship named for her and Tyrone. She is also a board member for the Night of Peace Family Shelter and is working to revive the STEMcx conference to expose children to STEM careers. Her award was presented by **Keith Price '82**.



Dr. J. Laron Locke '82, right, is a medical examiner for the State of Maryland, and the first African-American medical examiner in the state. He is also an assistant professor and clinical instructor at the University of Maryland at Baltimore and a lecturer at Johns Hopkins University. He also serves on the FSU Foundation Board of Directors. He and his wife, Stephanie, are dedicated supporters of FSU, having named the Black Student Alliance Office in the Lane Center and endowing a presidential merit scholarship for students from Prince George's County.



Brian Mattingly '83, right, is the president of Goldin & Stafford, LLC, a Washington, D.C.-based excavation and demolition company. He is a member of the FSU Foundation Board of Directors, co-chairs the fundraising campaign committee and has received the Outstanding Alumnus of the Year Award from the College of Business. In addition, he is a founding member of NUCA of Washington, D.C., a member of ASA of Maryland and a mentor to young professionals. Mattingly and his wife, Connie, are generous supporters of FSU, having named the UPC office in the Lane University Center and endowing a Presidential Merit Scholarship.



Buster Nelson '77, right, is the president of Buster Nelson Insurance Agency, one of the top-producing State Farm agencies in the state of Virginia. Nelson serves on the trustee board of his church, helped establish the Entrepreneur Exposure College and serves on the advisory board of Hazel Hill Housing as well as the board for REDCO. He and his business have received many professional awards, including Outstanding Business of the Year, Business Person of the Year, Bloom Where You Are Planted Award and Unsung Hero Award. He is a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Bobcat Hall of Fame and is working to endow a scholarship.

Young Alumni Achievement Awards

The Young Alumni Achievement Award is a new award that honors alumni who are emerging leaders and younger than 40 years of age, recognizing those who have used their FSU experiences to make a significant impact in their respective professions, local communities, service organizations, professional associations and in many other ways. The inaugural recipients are **Dr. Christopher Ackerman '11**, **Lisa Bennett '06**, **Mary Biscoe-Hall, Esq. '12**, **Ashley Daniels '11**, **Chris Gonzalez '01** and **Ashley Wisner Vascik '08/M'09**.

Dr. Christopher Ackerman '11 received his Master of Biomedical Science in May 2013 from Midwestern University. He transferred to Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine where he was named Student Doctor of the Year in 2015. He received his Doctor of Osteopathy in May 2017, graduating with honors. He is currently completing his residency at Inspira Health Network in Vineland, N.J., as an OB/GYN.



Ashley Daniels '11 is the National Service Coordinator at FSU where she oversees 80 students. She has worked to develop an academic probation plan for team leaders and RisingSTARS who need academic assistance. She is a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and helped to spearhead the first Bobcat Helping Hands Alumni Service Project Day.



Lisa Bennett '06 is the founder and CEO of the L. Marie Bennett Group (LMBG). Bennett has successfully executed hundreds of large-scale events, from Grammy events



Chris Gonzalez '01 began teaching in Howard County after earning his Master of Arts in Teaching and serving in the Marine Corps Reserves. In 2003, he was called to ac-

tive duty and was deployed to Afghanistan (*See story p. 20*). He is co-founder and president of A-G Associates, Inc., where he combines his military experience with expertise in teaching, facilitating and behavior change and collaborates with federal government and private sector clients. He remains in the Reserves, is active in the Baltimore Business Community, works with underserved populations and mentors veterans transitioning into civilian life.

Ashley Wisner Vascik '08/M'09 is a dedicated educator as well as a mentor to young people and has made a commitment to FSU in her philanthropic endeavors. She is a social studies teacher with Washington County Public Schools. During her nine years of teaching, she was a Teacher of the Year finalist three times. She leads her school's We the People Constitutional Competition Team, a team that has won three straight state championships.



Alumni Connections



The Student Alumni Ambassadors hosted several alumni on campus in February for Dinner With Strangers, an event that gave the students the opportunity to hear alumni's stories of their FSU experiences and their knowledge of life after college.



Alumni who work at FSU gathered at Savage River Lodge in May for the Faculty & Staff Alumni Mixer, allowing colleagues to bask in the Bobcat spirit.



The Nursing Department hosted faculty, alumni and current students for their second alumni mixer in May at Dutch's Daughter in Frederick.

"BOBCAT HELPING HANDS" ALUMNI SERVICE PROJECT HELD ON MAY 5



The first Bobcat Helping Hands had three sites where alumni volunteered, including this group in Glen Burnie, Md.



Blair Bedford '11 and Henry Smith '75 joined the volunteer effort at the Frederick, Md., Rescue Mission.

Bobcat Helping Hands joined with the annual Beautify the Burg in Frostburg, with **Student Alumni Ambassadors** and alumni joining forces to spruce up the town.



First United Bank & Trust hosted an alumni networking event in Oakland, Md., welcoming Bobcats employed with First United and from the surrounding community. Pictured are **Jason VanSickle '98, Tonya Sturm '88, Jason Rush '93, Shannon Gribble '98, Terri Sheffel and Diane Emory '94.**



The first-ever Bobcat gathering in Hawaii took place on April 4, we hope the first of many! Pictured are **Rex Dubiel '74, Jaclyn Skeweris '11, Anne McKenzie '95, Ken Oldham '98 and Scott Wishart '01.**

Meet Your New Alumni Board Members

KELLY BEAN MILLER '14

Management Analyst, Cherokee Nation Assurance

Accomplishments/Activities: While at FSU, I was involved with the President's Leadership Circle, which included volunteering with The Water School in Uganda; the University Programming Council; and *The Bottom Line*. I also studied abroad for a summer in Costa Rica and interned for the Office of Leadership and Experiential Learning. I graduated magna cum laude and was an Honors Program graduate. After FSU, I earned a master's in marketing from the University of Roehampton, and I am a Latin dance student.

What is your favorite FSU memory? My favorite FSU memory is becoming a member of the President's Leadership Circle, which gave me the opportunity to have fireside chats with Dr. Gibraltar and travel to Uganda as a representative of the University to volunteer with the Water School.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a board member? I hope to connect with alumni who may not have previously been active in the alumni community and encourage them to become involved in the University and feel a stronger connection to their alma mater. I want to help establish a stronger, active alumni body that is eager to help current students achieve more and prepare for life after graduation.



J. STOKES '09

Public Affairs Specialist, U.S. Dept. of the Navy

Accomplishments/Activities: NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award, becoming a brother of Phi Beta Sigma, starting a Walk to Africa.

What is your favorite FSU memory? Graduation.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a board member? Increasing participation from alumni monetarily and in terms of their time.



TREVOR DEVORE '13

Branch Manager, M&T Bank

What is your favorite FSU memory: I represented FSU at a conference in St. Louis, Mo., for Beta Gamma Sigma my sophomore year. I met so many incredible people on that trip and still keep in touch with many of them today!

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a board member? I would like to continue to strengthen the connection between the Frostburg community and FSU. I think it's very important that the community and FSU work together to accomplish its mission.



BILL KINCAID, JR. '89

Vice President / Controller, B.F. Saul Co.

Accomplishments: I am a former bank president and CEO, 30-year banker in Maryland and married 20 years with three boys.

What is your favorite FSU memory? The snow storms, all of them. Sledding on the dining hall trays.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a board member? I hope to help current students while at school and after in becoming gainfully employed or continuing their education.



RYAN GRAVES '05

Assistant School Administrator, Watkins Mill High School

Accomplishments/Activities: Married to **Julie Mason Graves '07**, being a father to two beautiful little girls (Autumn, 7, and Ivy, 3), being a coach, teacher and administrator in Montgomery County Public Schools and making a difference in young people's lives.

What is your favorite FSU memory? Meeting my wife, joining Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and declaring to be an education major.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a board member? I hope to increase alumni relations and to make Frostburg a household brand.



Alpha Phi Omega celebrated its 25th Anniversary on April 14. In addition, they created the Dr. Albert M. Crall Alpha Phi Omega Founders Scholarship in memory of their longtime advisor.

FOUNDATION NEWS

Viral Fundraising

The FSU Foundation has always worked to meet our alumni where they gather, even when they gather virtually. Through online crowdfunding, the Foundation is making it easier for passionate alumni to create fundraising campaigns for the causes that matter most to them.

Already, Bobcats have successfully crowdfunded to honor retiring Frostburg employees, to create the Unfinished Business Scholarship and to fund a Brownsville Monument to honor the African-American community that was displaced by early campus expansion.

To see the campaigns, visit www.frostburg.edu/crowdfunding. To explore starting a new Bobcat crowdfunding campaign, call 301.687.4068.



THE FSU FOUNDATION, INC.

New Named Funds

(as of June 6, 2018)

Judy A. Carter '86/'97 Education Scholarship

Dr. Albert M. Crall
Alpha Phi Omega Founders Scholarship

Carl J. Donald '60 Education Scholarship

Jordan R. Hobel, DDS '09 Pre-Dental/Medical
Presidential Merit Scholarship

Diana L. James '74 Arts Scholarship

Sherry Phillips Hubbard Education Scholarship

Philosophy Department Scholarship

Sigma Alpha Epsilon Scholarship

Student Government Association Scholarship

Foundation Welcomes New Board Members

Maureen Brewer '88/M'90

Frostburg, Md.

Brewer is the marketing projects coordinator at First United Bank & Trust, assisting sales divisions by focusing on the development, completion and tracking of marketing initiatives, community events and contributions and public relations. She was previously the Maryland Main Street manager in Frostburg and vice president of regional marketing with M&T Bank and Keystone Financial, as well as an adjunct marketing faculty member at FSU.

She is active in leadership on several boards and organizations, including Mountain Maryland Trails and the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Brewer is a graduate of Leadership *Allegany!* Class of 2011 and was a past Chamber representative on the Allegany County Solid Waste Management Board. She is also secretary for the Friends of the Frostburg Community Library.



Maureen Brewer '88/M'90

Elizabeth Rhodes '86

Cumberland, Md.

Rhodes is the owner of Coldwell Banker Professional Real Estate Services, a firm created when she purchased Coldwell Banker Workmeister and merged it with her company, Robison and Skidmore Professional Real Estate Services, in 2007. She has been a licensed real estate agent/broker since 1977 and a licensed/certified general appraiser since 1991. She holds numerous certifications and memberships in national and regional organizations in her field.

She teaches Principles of Real Estate at Allegany College of Maryland, and she serves on the board of the Center for Career and Technical Education and the Frostburg Girls Softball Association.

She was named the College of Business Alumna of the Year in 2008, one of only two women honored since the award was created in 2004.



Elizabeth Rhodes '86



More than 80 runners and walkers and 50 volunteers helped to make the **Fifty Shades of Frostburg 5K** in April a success. The event raised \$4,600 to support the Unfinished Business Scholarship, which helps students reach the finish line of graduation.



These are some of the more than 40 **education alumni** who attended the second annual mixer held prior to the opening ceremony of the Children's Literature Centre's Spring Festival.

Student Wants to Have Local Impact After General Assembly Internship

By Charles Schelle

Forest Bierman '18 wants to be a difference maker and sees teaching as his start to be one. A social science major with a political science concentration, Bierman sees himself in a classroom sharing his passion for civics. But in the big picture, he considers teaching as a stepping stone to go on and become active in policymaking and politics.

"My interest in politics is wanting to express my thoughts and opinions in a way where I can actually effect local change," Bierman said.

He realized his new path while a J. Glenn Beall Institute for Public Affairs intern, working alongside policymakers, staff and consultants passing through the halls at the Maryland General Assembly. He noticed how many people he met shifted from teaching to working on education reform, healthcare reform or other issues.

"I'm from Cumberland. I grew up here. Ultimately, what I did was go down and learn how to make a change here," he said.

Bierman worked in the office of Del. Kirill Reznik, who represents Montgomery County, during the legislative session in Annapolis.

He is grateful for the stipend provided by FSU's Beall Institute to allow him to live in Annapolis and work alongside state politicians to see in person how laws are made.

"I really enjoyed listening to the hearings," he said. "When my delegate would get up on the floor and say something about what he believed in, that was really cool."

The Beall Institute was created by gifts through the FSU Foundation from the late Beall, a former U.S. senator, his family and others. Since 2005, the Beall Institute has assisted and financially supported students with opportunities to serve in the General Assembly in Annapolis and on Capitol Hill in Washington.

FSU courses helped him know what to expect at his internship, especially American State and Local Politics, taught by Beall Institute Executive Director **Timothy Magrath**.



Forest Bierman '18

"The courses here definitely prepared me in knowing about committees, subcommittees, chairmen, the way a bill goes through the process of becoming a law," he said. "It really prepared in me the terminology, too."

Bierman fielded calls and emails from constituents about whatever was on their mind, completed research for proposed legislation and more while living in Annapolis.

"Sometimes we had to do extra research to make sure the bills were up to date because he's been working on some of these bills for 10 years," Bierman said. "One of them came through and will have to be voted on by the people of Maryland."

The legislation is an amendment to the Maryland Constitution that would allow residents to register to vote on Election Day.

Perhaps one of the underappreciated skills he learned was how to handle angry callers. He managed to endure rough language, and apologetically made it clear what he could and couldn't do.

"I just want people to be heard," he said. "The majority of time, people are happy that you're helping."

In his spare time, Bierman helps coach soccer at Allegany High School. It was there on the soccer pitch that he realized he wanted to work in secondary school education.

"When I initially started coaching, I was in pre-law. It changed my focus a little bit," Bierman said. "I loved coaching so much with all the kids, making an impact on their lives. That's what really got me."

Bierman has entered the Master of Arts in Teaching program at FSU to continue his path toward teaching.

To support the Beall Institute through the FSU Foundation, call 301-687-4068 or visit www.frostburg.edu/foundation/ways-to-give.

THEATRE AND DANCE

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Theatre and Dance at FSU

LIVES IN SERVICE

Serving one's country in the military is an honor and a sacrifice that few people outside of the service can ever understand. Life in the service is dramatically different from that in civilian life. In the military, a high-level set of skills can mean the difference between life and death for you and those around you, can move massive systems of people and equipment effectively and efficiently and can even translate into leadership that shapes the direction of history.

On these pages, you will meet graduates who have had that honor and made that sacrifice. Their roads to and from Frostburg differed, as did the trajectories of their careers. Yet each of their lives, in and out of military service, have been shaped and enriched by their experiences at Frostburg, often in ways they never expected.

Stories by Robert Spahr '13

VET'S UNFRIENDLY RECEPTION REFLECTED NATIONAL ATTITUDES

Frostburg has been home to **John Bambacus '70** for most of his life. First arriving in 1968 to complete his bachelor's degree, the professor emeritus taught political science at FSU for 34 years, served for eight years as Maryland state senator for District 1, and then served four terms as mayor of Frostburg.

Before Frostburg, however, Bambacus enlisted in the Marines, serving from 1964 to 1967, including 15 months in Vietnam.

These days, Bambacus is a semi-regular visitor to Frostburg's Veterans Center, hanging out, listening to the hopes, complaints and stories of the men and women there, and sharing his own. It's important for him to show respect to the younger generation of veterans, he said, because it wasn't always that way.

One incident occurred on a bus a month after returning stateside in 1967.

"The guy who invited me said, 'Let's welcome home Sgt. Bambacus, who just got home from Vietnam!' I was booed on the bus. I don't know how many people. It didn't make a difference. I heard it. ... It tore me up, to be honest."

He soon went to Montgomery College to earn his associate degree, but the only soul there who knew he'd served was the secretary who certified his GI Bill benefits.

At a college night, Bambacus met Frostburg Dean of Admissions **Dave Sanford**. Sanford never mentioned that he was a veteran of the Korean War, but Bambacus correctly guessed. Soon Bambacus agreed to visit Frostburg, someplace that had never crossed the Washington, D.C., city boy's mind.

"I just fell in love with the place," said Bambacus. "It was actually a cultural shock



Marine Sgt. John Bambacus '70 in Danang, Vietnam, during his service from 1964-67.

for me. ... But the military prepares you for dealing with a lot of people that you wouldn't normally associate with."

Given his experience on the bus, he never advertised his time in Vietnam. Bambacus was immensely proud to have served his country, but his experience also left him morally conflicted about America's role in the war. He has never forgotten the moment his certainty in the cause first wavered.

Shortly after arriving in Vietnam, he and a buddy wandered into downtown Danang. A well-dressed Vietnamese woman approached them.

"She introduced herself in English and said, 'I am a teacher.' We said, 'Nice to meet you.' The next thing she said – and I'll never forget this – was, 'We don't want you here.' We said, 'What do you mean?' 'This is a civil war that the Vietnamese people need to take care of.'

She said it an excellent English. There was no way we could have misinterpreted what she said. ... Then she walked away," he said.

Back home, even in spaces where Vietnam vets would expect to be welcomed as comrades, the greeting wasn't necessarily any warmer.

"When I got to Frostburg, one of the first things I did was go to join the American Legion in town," he said. "I walked in there and these two guys said, '... We don't want you Vietnam veterans in here.' It turned out that it was two idiots working behind the bar, but when you walked in, that's who you dealt with."

It's apparent that encounters like Bambacus' were not isolated, as the Vietnam Veterans of America organization's founding principle states: "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another." But the VVA wasn't founded until 1978.

The next week, Bambacus went to the nearby Mount Savage Veterans of Foreign Wars, where he was greeted warmly. He joined there.

During the tumultuous year of 1968, protests were frequent across America, including in Frostburg.

During one of those national demonstrations, about half of Bambacus' professors canceled classes. **Dr. Virginia Mills** did not. As Bambacus approached Old Main for her class, two faculty members blocked his path.

"I said, 'Excuse me, I'm going to class.' They said, 'No, you're not. We're calling classes.' I said, 'Look, Professor Mills is holding class. I'm going to class,'" Bambacus said. "I was struggling and paying my own way through school. I wanted to complete the mission."

Mills, a Quaker, ended up being one of three people at Frostburg who proved pivotal in helping Bambacus stay at Frostburg and succeed.

"She never let her views be known in the classroom. ... I knew she was antiwar, just because she was a Quaker, but she was a very warm person," said Bambacus. "She talked to me for hours, just trying to calm things down."

The other two helpers were Sanford and **John Allison**, a professor of psychology who regularly counseled students.

"I was going to leave after the first several months for a lot of reasons," said Bambacus. "I was struggling academically, and then just dealing with Vietnam because it was ubiquitous."

It was those calming influences and ready ears that helped him successfully transition back to life as a civilian and a student.

The climate for today's returning troops has changed from the Vietnam era, but transitioning back to a civilian mindset will likely always be difficult, regardless of how supportive that civilian culture is.

"The good news is, those who have served are now treated with respect," Bambacus said. "But I remain concerned about the disconnect in American society between those who have served and those who have not."

That makes spaces like Frostburg's Veterans Center vitally important for the men and women who have served.

"When I was a student here, I didn't have anything in common with 98 or 99 per-

cent of the students here," said Bambacus. "These guys and gals are telling me the same thing. They can go over there (to the Veterans Center) and be with people who understand them. ... I think Frostburg is blessed to have somebody like **Danielle Dabrowski** there, and to have the support of the president and his vice presidents going all the way down."

Area Vietnam veterans are now frequent guests at Veterans Center events, living out that important mission: *Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.*

THE BOBCAT BATTALION – ARMY ROTC AT FROSTBURG STATE

From 1980 to 1997, Frostburg was home to an Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps battalion that trained nearly 200 students, many of whom have gone on to highly distinguished military careers.

While it was technically a satellite of a West Virginia University program, its cadets were all Frostburg.

"We trained with WVU and were a part of their program, but if you ask any one of us, we were Bobcats through and through," said **Lt. Col. James Bunyak '97**, professor of military science at Ohio State University, who

leads one of the country's oldest and largest ROTC battalions.

Bobcat ROTC combined the traditional Frostburg experience with classroom and field experiences unique to the military. Successful cadets were bound to rise up and serve America as commissioned officers.

For retired **Col. Bob Waltemeyer '83**, it was his experiences in one of the earliest Frostburg ROTC cohorts that inspired him to pursue a career as a Green Beret, where he literally helped shape world history (*see related story, p. 16*). Yet his introduction to ROTC came ironically.



Bobcat cadets pause for a photo on campus in the 1980s. From left are **Lt. Col. (ret.) Chris Voso '89**, **Lt. Col. (ret.) Tina Haba '89** (behind Voso), **Vince McCarron '90**, **Vaughan Fagan '89**, **Capt. Bill Edge '90**, **Lt. Col. (ret.) John Bueg '92**, **Mike Weekley '90**, **Capt. David Hershman '89** and **Lt. Col. (ret.) Mark Strauss '89**.

“That was in the early Reagan years. The climate in the country was changing from the way we treated Vietnam vets when they came home,” said Waltemeyer. “... Frostburg was part of that in bringing in the ROTC.”

On campus, Waltemeyer still found anti-military sentiment amid the changing national climate.

“I didn’t know there was an ROTC program there until I saw demonstrations on the steps of Dunkle Hall led by some hippie professors, with a bunch of students standing around yelling ‘Down with the military! Down with ROTC!’” he said.

With that, Waltemeyer and some friends tracked down the ROTC headquarters in the basement of old Compton Hall and signed up.

THE BOBCAT ROTC EXPERIENCE

“I had two great assignments during my military career,” said retired **Maj. Nat DeBruin**. “The first was as an instructor at the U.S. Army Field Artillery School in Oklahoma. The second was my ROTC assignment at Frostburg.” He led the Bobcat Battalion from 1992 to 1995.

ROTC consisted of a two-year basic course followed by two years of an advanced course. Both included classroom instruction and field exercises in the nearby mountainous terrain.

In the basic course, cadets learned Army traditions, basic military skills, theory and leadership and practiced physical fitness and field exercises.

“We had some pretty good enrollment in the freshman and sophomore classes and gave a lot of young people the opportunity to rapel, fire an M-16, operate a radio and learn other basic military skills,” said DeBruin.

Many cadets stopped after two years, before they would have to commit to serve. Moving on to the advanced course meant valuable scholarships and stipends, as well as the defined career path of an Army officer.

In addition to physical and field training exercises, advanced course students developed Army leadership skills, learning advanced military tactics, team organization and planning and decision-making. Graduates are commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army.

The ROTC experience did include some interpersonal training, such as the annual Military Ball, a formal social event that prepared cadets for the military etiquette required as commissioned officers.

Many memorable experiences came off campus, at field exercises and competitions, bonding with fellow cadets, hearing from distinguished speakers and learning leadership in the most practical way.

In addition, the Brigade Ranger Challenge, sometimes described as ROTC’s varsity sport, offered a grueling, days-long mental and physical competition. Cadet teams faced nine graded events, including patrolling, weapons assembly, orienteering, the Army Physical Fitness Test and a 10K march. Each required leadership, teamwork, military skills and indefatigable esprit de corps to succeed.

These challenges provided unforgettable moments and some legitimate bragging rights. The Bobcat team boasted strong showings against teams from bigger schools with much larger squads, including winning third overall and firsts in two challenges in its very first major competition and earning a spot in the national competition. (*Read more about the Ranger Challenge at bit.ly/FrostburgRanger.*)

GREEN BERET ALUM WITNESSES – AND SHAPES – MODERN HISTORY

The story of **Col. Bob Waltemeyer ’83** began in a rough, blue-collar neighborhood in Baltimore, where he labored in back-breaking jobs through high school. His journey through Frostburg altered his life’s trajectory dramatically, sending him into the world’s most dangerous hotspots as a Green Beret in the U.S. Army Special Forces, leading America’s elite troops on the ground and shaping history as it was being made.

“Frostburg gave people like me and the people I went to school with an opportunity,” said Waltemeyer, now retired from the military and serving as director of the Office of Management for the Veterans Benefits Administration, helping soldiers transition to civilian life and access the benefits they earned. “If not for that opportunity, I would probably still be working day-to-day unloading trucks.”

Frostburg provided a solid education, but he learned just as much beyond the classroom. One valuable lesson, Waltemeyer said, was learning how to be “an independent adult in an adult environment ... to communicate, interact and develop those relationships that make you successful as you build a life and career.”

That lesson was modeled by those who helped him develop as a person, even outside of class. One important example came when

“While there is value in leadership books, manuals and classes, the only way to truly learn how to lead is by leading, and Frostburg State ROTC gave me that opportunity,” said Bunyak. “My experience at Frostburg has made me a much better commander.”

Those Bobcat lessons in leadership have paid dividends for many Bobcat-ROTC alumni. They also forged a camaraderie that has stood the test of time, which includes the Frostburg ROTC Alumni Facebook group for maintaining those friendships and organizing real-world contact.

Search “FSU ROTC Alumni” on Facebook to join the group.

the art department faculty, led by **Dustin Davis** and **Bob Llewellyn**, helped their students talk through their feelings after the murder of their classmate, **Stephanie Ann Roper ’82**.

“That made a big difference. That made an impression on me,” he said

He also developed an understanding of history as it happened from the late **Dr. Harry Stegmaier**, which proved valuable as many of his missions – some still classified – were on the crest of some of the century’s most historic moments.

“Harry really made me understand history in context as opposed to history in retrospect,” he said.

DE OPPRESSO LIBER (TO LIBERATE THE OPPRESSED), SPECIAL FORCES MOTTO

The moment that inspired Waltemeyer to pursue his career in Special Forces came in Frostburg’s ROTC program. One day, the cadets were shepherded onto a giant twin-rotor Chinook helicopter and flown out to a field. In flew another smaller helicopter, and out leapt a man in a Green Beret.

“His name was Lt. Col. Nick Rowe, and he had been held in a Vietnamese prison camp for five years,” Waltemeyer said.

Rowe captured his imagination; they met



Col. Robert Waltemeyer ’83 is pictured during a Memorial Day ceremony at the Georgian Military Training Academy in Tbilisi, Georgia, when he was commander of the Georgia Train and Equip Program in 2002.

again when Waltemeyer joined Special Forces in 1987.

“Rowe had been one of the proponents for building the Survival, Escape, Resistance and Evasion (SERE) program at Fort Bragg,” said Waltemeyer. “The training culminated in a ‘prison camp’ modeled on his experience. They beat my ass and threw me in a cell for a week. That was early Green Beret training.”

SERE prepared troops for daring missions as the Cold War threatened to turn hot.

“It made sure you never got captured, that’s for damn sure!” Waltemeyer said.

During his trainings, the Army noticed that Waltemeyer had an aptitude for language. Based on his less-than-successful experience with German at Frostburg, he was surprised.

“It’s just that a classroom environment is not conducive for me. I have to immerse myself.”

At the Defense Language School, Waltemeyer learned Czech and Slovak before shipping out to the European “cradle of Special Forces,” Bad Tölz, Germany. There, as a captain, he led a 12-man A-Team of specialized experts.

After immersing himself in Germany’s Czech émigré community, Waltemeyer and his team were sent to operate covertly in the former Czechoslovakia, then a Soviet satellite, surveilling specific targets in case the Soviets mobilized. They stayed there until after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

From Bad Tölz, Waltemeyer implemented and supported operations throughout Southwest Asia, Western and Eastern Europe and Africa, including evacuating American contacts from dangerous regions that became

too hot as the Soviet Union collapsed. He helped form a Special Forces counterterrorism unit to train and operate with similar forces across Europe.

During Operation Desert Storm, Waltemeyer ran combat search and rescue missions in war zones throughout northern Iraq. He and his Special Forces comrades also supported Operation Provide Comfort, a humanitarian mission to save hundreds of thousands of Kurds from the murderous intent of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

Around 1992, Waltemeyer was made a major and shipped to the military’s Joint Readiness Training Center, where he helped train Special Forces soldiers in harsh, remote areas. As a trainer-evaluator, he followed the teams to coach and grade their performances.

By 1997, he was back in the thick of it. Waltemeyer assumed command of Second Battalion 10th Special Forces Group, conducting operations throughout the Balkans, establishing a NATO presence and providing intelligence to guide the capture of “personnel indicted for war crimes,” such as Serbia’s Slobodan Milosevic. Some missions helped extricate friendly leaders from dangerous situations. Others helped guide bombs into enemy positions.

In the immediate aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001, Waltemeyer’s mountain teams helped train for fighting in the mountainous terrain of Afghanistan. At the same time, he and several of his other teams went to the Republic of Georgia to lead the U.S. European command’s first mission in the war on terrorism.

The Pentagon recruited Waltemeyer to lead the effort. He soon realized that the Georgian minister of defense had been a classmate at

Command and General Staff College. They quickly reached a cooperative accord.

Waltemeyer and his soldiers assembled the Georgian troops into a modern army, constructing a tent city, establishing pay and personnel systems, training them up and equipping them with everything from weapons and vehicles to helmets and even socks. The learning curve was steep.

“These kids had never seen socks before. My men and I are sitting on bunks showing people how to put socks on,” Waltemeyer said. “They had previously slept on straw. This was the first time they had three square meals a day. ...

“We couldn’t figure out why they couldn’t hit the broad side of a barn with a rifle. It turned out these guys couldn’t see. We brought in eyeglasses, got them healthy, gave them vitamins. We built an army,” he said.

Two years later, the U.S. needed another allied army to help secure northern Iraq in advance of the Iraqi invasion. When Kurdish Democratic Party President Masoud Barzani refused to receive CIA representatives, the Agency tapped Waltemeyer. He called in an old chit from Operation Provide Comfort, during which Waltemeyer’s troops had protected Barzani’s family and friends from Saddam’s forces.

“(Barzani) saw me the next day,” said Waltemeyer. “I convinced him to put at our disposal about 40,000 troops.”

Waltemeyer interspersed those Kurdish forces with the 300 Special Forces troops at his command. The combined force formed a northern front across Iraq and began engaging Saddam’s troops. That push took less than a month.

“Then we went and took Mosul,” Waltemeyer said. “The first batch was only about 19 of us. After that we brought the rest of the 300 in and controlled the second-largest city in Iraq until conventional forces came up from the south.”

Around that time, Waltemeyer’s forces nearly brokered a peace with some remaining Iraqi generals.

“But it all collapsed with the arrival of other forces, continued fighting and the fact that Saddam’s Fedayeen – his Gestapo – just kept mixing it up.”

Special Forces pulled out, conventional forces took over, and Waltemeyer brought his experience to the Pentagon, serving as Iraq policy branch chief for the Joint Staff.

After earning a Master of Strategic Studies degree at the U.S. Army War College, Waltemeyer took command of the U.S. Army Garrison in Japan, overseeing 14 military communities throughout the country from 2006 to 2009. He again called on his lan-

SOME GAVE ALL ...

- **CAPT. JAMES GRAHAM '63**
Medal of Honor Recipient
Vietnam
- **SPEC. DONALD R. KINTON**
Vietnam
- **1ST LT. HAROLD DOUGLAS MARTIN '66**
Vietnam
- **1ST LT. GWILYM J. NEWMAN '03**
Iraq

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guage skills, learning enough Japanese to begin discussions with Japanese leaders in their native language.

Waltmeyer then went to command a Joint Border Coordination Center on the border of Pakistan and Afghanistan. He led a combined NATO-Afghan-Pakistani staff from a mud fort in the Afghani desert. Waltmeyer's was among the more successful such missions.

"That's where I got my mediation and negotiation skills," Waltmeyer said with a laugh. "I'm proud to say, I was the only site during my year in Afghanistan where the Afghans didn't turn on the American and NATO forces and shoot them up. So I must've done something right."

BACK TO THE "REAL WORLD"

Waltmeyer knows firsthand how difficult it can be to transition back to civilian life. After three decades in the military, he became increasingly frustrated in his civilian leadership role with FEMA. Really, he said, it is a question of parallel American cultures.

In the military, "we have our own lexicon. We have our own way of thinking, our own way of acting. Veterans face a very tough time transitioning to the civilian sector because it's inculcated in who we are. It's in our DNA," he said. "Military guys are used to running at 95 miles an hour, all out. ... You can't turn that off."

It was son **Sam Waltmeyer '09**, "a very wise man," who helped him reorient himself, after listening to him complain about working for civilians.

"Dad, *this* is the real world," his son told him.

"He was right," Waltmeyer said. "The military only constitutes 1 percent of our population. The other 99 percent are completely normal. It's us military guys and gals who come out here that are a little off."

Since leaving the service, Waltmeyer has helped other veterans find their place in civilian America. Sometimes that means helping them access service benefits or teaching them the lesson his son taught him. Other times it's reminding veterans that they can still make a valuable contribution.

It is a complex, multifaceted and remarkably difficult task, but throughout his career, he has tapped a unique skill set, blending military toughness with the "soft skills" he developed as a Bobcat.

"The military made me a soldier and a leader, but the human interpersonal abilities came from Frostburg State," he said.

FROSTBURG RESONATED WITH ARMY'S CHIEF OF SIGNAL

From waving flags across battlefields to bouncing radio signals off the moon, from portable telegraphs to advanced telecom satellites, the U.S. Army Signal Corps has pioneered many methods for instant communication across vast distances in its 158-year history.

Army "signaleers" hone their specialized skills at the U.S. Army Signal School under the supervision of **Brig. Gen. Robert Edmonson '90**, the school's commandant and Chief of Signal.

"I am responsible for initial military training and professional military education for all active duty, National Guard and Reserve enlisted soldiers, warrant officers and commissioned officers who specialize in information technology and communications," Edmonson said. More than 500 instructors, staff and faculty train nearly 12,000 students annually.

In some ways, the role is similar to leading a civilian school, albeit one where graduates directly impact America's national security. Also, unlike at civilian schools, Edmonson retains responsibility for his students after graduation, approximately 60,000 signaleers on active duty, National Guard or Reserves.

Edmonson relies on skills he developed at Frostburg to succeed.

"My Frostburg experience gave me opportunities to develop strong foundational skills in public speaking and how to successfully collaborate in diverse groups. It also taught me how to strive for excellence while remaining loyal and supportive of others along the way," Edmonson said.

"As the first member in my family to graduate from college with a four-year degree, FSU will always remain an important part of my life's story."

Edmonson's Frostburg story opened with a hand from fate. He was wearing a football shirt when he met an FSU recruiter, so it wasn't long before Edmonson got a call from Frostburg's football coach, **Dennis Riccio**, inviting him to campus.

On that visit, Edmonson's father saw Army ROTC display table set up by **1st Sgt. Butch Fultz**.



Brig. Gen. Robert Edmonson '90

"My father, a Vietnam veteran and Army retiree, and 1st Sgt. Fultz immediately clicked," Edmonson said. "Unannounced to me, the two of them had already made a silent agreement that I would enroll at FSU as a member of the ROTC program."

Fortunately, Edmonson was already on the same page.

"The attributes that attracted me to FSU most were the opportunities to earn a degree in marketing, become a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, play varsity football and participate in Army ROTC," he said. "I couldn't have asked God for a better deal. ... I enrolled at FSU the same day."

HE IS THE VERY MODEL OF A BOBCAT MAJOR GENERAL

Few U.S. Army commands have a wider impact than the Tank-automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM), part of the Army Materiel Command. Until his retirement this July, TACOM was led by **Maj. Gen. Clark W. LeMasters, Jr. '84**, who is believed to be the highest-ranking military Bobcat.

TACOM sustains and maintains the readiness of equipment, solving a global-scale logistical puzzle.

"It's everything from a soldier's individual equipment, such as uniforms, helmets and personal weapons carried into combat, all the way up to tanks, watercraft, sets, kits, outfits, tools, heavy tactical wheeled vehicles and all them big guns with tracks on them," LeMasters explained.

For a given piece of equipment, say the M1 Abrams tank, TACOM ensures that units have the correct number of combat-ready tanks and parts to maintain them. When soldiers have a problem in the

field, TACOM's logistics assistance representatives help them troubleshoot. When tanks wear out, TACOM remanufactures them.

TACOM also manufactures cannons, mortar tubes, small arms parts and more, and it produces Army heraldry like flags and medals. Running TACOM is equivalent to running a transnational business or a small nation, with responsibility for a combined annual budget of about \$10 billion.

For LeMasters, the journey to assume command of TACOM was decades long, through service in Germany, Iraq, Qatar and Afghanistan. But first, LeMasters went to Frostburg, where he arrived already an officer in the Maryland Army National Guard, having been commissioned a second lieutenant from Alabama's Marion Military Institute.

LeMasters could live with his parents in nearby Ellerslie, Md., while completing his chemistry degree. Living off campus, studying a challenging major and



Maj. Gen. Clark W. LeMasters, Jr. '84

hoping to graduate quickly, LeMasters had little time for activities. Nevertheless, Frostburg's curriculum exposed the young LeMasters to concepts and people beyond his major, something he's grown to appreciate.

"I got up there and found out that I needed to take German and some humanities-type courses. I kind of thought they were a pain at the time," he said. "I look back, and I call it broadening ... and (it) adds to the richness of your education."

That's why LeMasters encourages today's students to balance coursework with extracurricular opportunities and to seek mentorship from faculty and staff.

LeMasters is pleased that Frostburg now tries to provide that balance for today's veteran students through the Veterans Center, the Student Veterans of America chapter and the SALUTE National Veterans Honor Society chapter.

"That's great to see that the college and leadership of the college understand ... the value service has to our society (and work) to help those men and women," he said. "I am proud to be an alumnus of a college that feels that's important."

COUPLE FOUND CAREERS – AND LOVE – IN ROTC

He came to Frostburg to study biology, planning to become a veterinarian. He came to study political science and play soccer. But no plan survives first contact with the enemy – or, apparently, one's future spouse.

In addition to their future careers, **Col. Fred Snyder '95** and **Lt. Col. Jen Lygren-Snyder '95** found love in FSU ROTC.

A mutual friend, **Brig. Gen. Mike Abell '93**, now serving with the Kentucky National Guard, brought them together.

"Mike and Jan had several classes together, both being biology majors," Snyder said. "Mike and I were on the Ranger Challenge Team together. Mike was trying to recruit Jen into the ROTC program. She had already enlisted in the Army Reserves in 1992 and was an MP in the 372nd MP Company in Cumberland."



Lt. Col. Jen Lygren-Snyder '95 and Col. Fred Snyder '95

They graduated and were commissioned together as second lieutenants in May 1995, and by November they had tied the knot.

She initially considered the Army a stepping stone to veterinary school, but her respect for a fellow classmate, **Ben Lindsey '95**, led her to a career in the Army.

"Ben came to the Frostburg ROTC program as a seasoned veteran. ... While Ben teased all of us mercilessly for our lack of military knowledge ... I got to know him on drill weekends," Lygren-Snyder said. Lindsey

is now a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and an FBI special agent.

"He took me under his wing. We talked about life and serving our country," she said. "The military provides you with experiences and opportunities you never knew you could have or want. I have never regretted one day in the military."

In their next steps, Snyder will become operations officer for Operational Test Command at Fort Hood, Texas; Lygren-Snyder will retire from the Individual Ready Reserves.

LESSONS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL AND THE MARINES SERVE BOTH

Marine Corps Reserves **Staff Sgt. Chris Gonzalez '01** discovered teaching and the Marine Corps Reserves while at Frostburg. While the two activities don't seem to have much in common, Gonzalez has taken skills from each to serve the other, finally marrying them in A-G Associates, a consulting firm he co-founded that works with federal government and private sector clients.

He realized his passion for teaching through an extra credit assignment in a child psychology class that brought him into Beall Elementary School. Visiting a recruiting station during spring break, he was introduced

to Reserves, a good fit since it would allow him to serve but stay in college.

Before and after deploying to Iraq in 2003, he taught eighth-grade social studies in Howard County, Md.

He didn't truly realize the power of his experiences until after his service in Iraq. For one, sharing bits of his personal wartime experiences helped his students better understand historical events like the American Revolution and the mindsets of the people behind those events.

Employing a technique he noticed in boot camp, on the other hand, helped him positively influence the behavior of a few unruly students.

To do so, he tapped the power of peer pressure. He instituted a collective points system for a special Friday recess. Misbehavior by one student resulted in points for the class. Too many points, no recess. Before long, students began keeping one another in line.

"The more you can figure out what motivates the people you're working with, especially if it's different from you, the better you can inspire them and affect their behavior in an effective way," he said.

Successes like that with middle school kids – and Marines – gave Gonzales the confidence to co-found A-G Associates after leaving the Marine Reserves

Snyder said his wife has had the biggest impact on him.

"Jen has pushed me more than anyone else to achieve everything that we have both been able to accomplish over the last 23 years. Competing careers, kids (they have three), family, moving every one to three years and the stress of deployments are a lot for anyone, but she continues to take it all in stride one day at a time."



Staff Sgt. Chris Gonzalez '01

in 2008. A-G helps its clients positively influence behaviors in their organizations, tapping lessons Gonzalez learned in combat and in class.

Still, after his daughter was born, his mind kept flashing back to his fel-

low Marines serving halfway around the world. In 2010, he re-enlisted, hoping to put his improved skill set to work on their behalf.

"The thought of doing my thing helping other Marines come home to their kids, it was just calling to me," he said.

In 2010, he deployed to Panama, supporting the local government in a province riven by terrorist and drug activity. The next year, he deployed to Afghanistan to help promote stability, increase support for the local government and decrease support for the Taliban. He now teaches at the Marine Corps civil military operations school in Quantico, Va.

His real passion these days can be found in the Baltimore area. He is deeply involved in the city's business community, serving on the Maryland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and helping build Baltimore's business community. He has earned numerous business awards, such as Smart CEO's Future 50 Business Leaders Award and the Greater Baltimore Commissions Bridging the Gap Award. He is also a 2018 FSU Young Alumnus of the Year. (*See page 9*)

DID YOU SERVE?

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FELLOW VETERANS HELP ONE VET FIND HIS PLACE ON CAMPUS

In his senior year, **Lance Cpl. Kodi Bowers**, a Marine Corps veteran and president of Frostburg's Student Veterans Association (SVA), finds his time in very high demand.

As a single parent to two kids, it's a wonder that he finds time to pursue his bachelor's degree in wildlife and fisheries. Considering his 160-minute round-trip commute, Bowers' academic success and campus involvement are all the more remarkable.

While earning academic honors, Bowers stays active with his fellow Bobcat veterans in SVA-related events, collecting Toys for Tots, marching in Frostburg holiday parades, hosting FSU's SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society induction ceremonies, holding fundraisers, visiting sick children in the hospital and helping American Legion chapters.

He wasn't always so busy.

"The first two semesters were probably the hardest, just because until I get to know people, I don't really associate that much," Bowers said. "Between classes, I would go sit in my car and read or do homework. I didn't know anybody and, to be honest, I didn't really care to know anybody."

A DIFFERENT PATH

All around him, Bowers saw students who'd taken a traditional path to Frostburg's World of Experiences. At 17, when his classmates were touring campuses, Bowers got his parents' OK to enlist in the Marine Corps. Now, just a few years older than his fellow students, Bowers has already survived a lifetime's worth of experiences.

Bowers turned 18 during infantry school. A few weeks later, he joined the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, known as the 2/7, at Twentynine Palms, Calif., which, despite its exotic name, has "the whole tumbleweed-going-across-the-road thing going on," he said.

Before he'd even learned the names of everyone in his unit, the 2/7 was bound for the Middle East in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After a month in the searing Kuwaiti sun, training and acclimating to the extreme Middle Eastern heat, the 2/7 convoyed into Iraq.

Echo Company, Bowers' unit, ended up stationed at a remote forward operating base that wouldn't get running water or refrigeration for months.

A couple of months into the mission, a routine night patrol went to hell in a heartbeat. Bowers was in the turret of the second of four Humvees.

"We got off the paved road to turn around and swung out onto this dirt road," said Bowers. "... I remember there was a tele-

phone wire, and it was getting ready to get caught on the barrel of my gun."

He stood on his toes and guided the wire over the big gun. He turned around to make sure it wouldn't catch anything else. Then his world went black.

"We ended up running over an anti-tank land-

mine. ..." said Bowers. "My back was turned to it right when it went off, and it ended up blasting me back out of the turret. There was nothing left of the front of the Humvee. There was no engine left. My lieutenant, in the passenger seat, ended up losing both of his legs."

Bowers took shrapnel in his back and was knocked unconscious. He awoke being dragged back to the road by a Marine who initially thought he'd died. The driver miraculously suffered only minor injuries.

After being treated, receiving a Purple Heart and serving light duty for a couple of weeks, Bowers finished out his deployment with the 2/7, helping clear Fallujah and other cities of tenacious enemies while living out of an armored troop carrier.

As team leader on a night foot patrol, Bowers and his Marines managed to prevent another IED attack before it began.

"One of my guys tripped. It was a wire, and we followed it to the road. There were four 155-mortar rounds hidden in the dirt," Bowers said.



Lance Cpl. Kodi Bowers

At the other end of the wire were two men waiting to hear the rumble of an approaching convoy to prime the explosives. The Marines got the drop on them. When the men stood trial in an Iraqi court, Bowers and his team got to spend a welcome week in Baghdad to testify.

"It was like a vacation compared to where I was. ... People lounging out by (Saddam Hussein's) pool, sipping frozen drinks, listening to a band, having movie nights by the pool," said Bowers. "While I was there, you could walk around in the Green Zone without your weapon, go shopping, get a massage."

When they returned to their company, the other Marines lived vicariously through their tales of life in the Green Zone.

HOMECOMING

Following his service, Bowers worked security before going back to school at Hagerstown Community College. He wanted to study wildlife and fisheries, a decision between FSU or the University of Maryland. He chose the scenic mountain commute over the downstate traffic. His choice proved prudent.

Years later, as a Frostburg student, it was Veterans Services Director **Danielle Dabrowski**, the campus Veterans Center and the SVA that connected Bowers with others who could relate to his unique experiences, both in the service and on campus.

"In the military, it's regimented every single day. You're up at 5 a.m. You're in formation by 5:30. You're told everything," said Bowers. "Here, you have to step up. You're either going to make it work for yourself, or you are going to fail on your own."

Among other student veterans who understood that culture shock, Bowers found himself relaxing more readily with them and with others.

"It made the experience coming here so much better and easier. You look forward to coming here and seeing your friends every day, making plans with them instead of just coming here, doing work and going home," said Bowers.

Beyond meeting other student veterans, getting involved with the Veterans Center introduced Bowers to a broad network of military veterans, family and supporters in the region.

"Between the center and SVA, it's definitely helped me open back up and re-associate to the population," Bowers said. "It's definitely been a good networking experience. ... A lot of people around here are really big supporters of the military, so when you are involved with SVA, it's really easy to get involved, meet people and make those connections."



Gonzalez, shown during a deployment in Afghanistan, re-enlisted for the sake of other Marines.

AHEAD OF THE GAME

Grad Student's Research Paper Published the First Day of School

By Charles Schelle

After earning a bachelor's degree, students wanting to pursue a master's degree often take time off to gain professional experience before returning to the classroom. **Kendyl Hassler '14** made the most of her four years between graduation and returning to FSU to pursue a master's in applied ecology and conservation biology, doing field work in the Everglades and Northern California.

What's more, on the first day of her graduate courses, Hassler had her first peer-reviewed article published in the *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*.

"Starting my first course in grad school, I feel like I'm really ahead of the game because half of it is about writing papers, and now I have one," said Hassler, whose undergraduate major was interpretive biology and natural history.

Hassler assisted FSU biology instructor **Kelly Pearce M'12** in Grand Teton National Park as part of Pearce's doctoral dissertation research on river otters for the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.

Hassler's portion of the research was an independent study comparing the effectiveness of using paper surveys versus electronic tablets, surveying visitors before they ventured out rafting on Snake River if the chance to see river otters at all impacted their trip. The research article is co-authored by Pearce and **Dr. Thomas Serfass**, a professor of biology at FSU, in his role as an adjunct instructor at UMCES.

Pearce praised Hassler for her initiative. "Mentoring her was a really great experience because she had her own ambition to say, 'I want to do a little portion of this project,'" Pearce said. "Her skills that she brought

from Frostburg were an asset out there because she knew how to develop a research question and develop a hypothesis."

The survey is part of a larger ongoing study to see if river otters could be the face of aquatic conservation, or what's called a flagship species.

"Part of that has to deal with if people are aware they can see river otters? Do we need to make them aware they can see river otters?" Hassler said.

What the visitors revealed about their knowledge and interests about otters is still being analyzed and prepared for submission to a peer-reviewed publication. In general, the results show that the majority of visitors surveyed in Grand Teton knew otters were present and were interested in seeing them during their rafting trip.

PAPER VERSUS TABLET

Integrated in the research about otters' impact on aquatic conservation, Hassler concentrated on how visitors were surveyed. Hassler found that the electronic surveys on tablets were more complete. Respondents were issued 244 tablet surveys versus 398 paper-based surveys.

"There are other people with good GPAs. It's the undergraduate research that helps set you apart when you're applying to jobs."

— **Kendyl Hassler '14**



Hassler made the most of her years between her Frostburg bachelor's and master's study. She worked on a fish and invertebrate study in Everglades National Park, above, and on a northern spotted owl project in Northern California. She credits her FSU undergrad research experience for opening those doors.

"I think part of that was when you do those surveys, you see one question on the screen at a time, whereas on a paper survey, you see everything and you may want to skip questions," Hassler said.

The tablet surveys were also completed faster than the paper questionnaires, but not at a significant difference between times, according to the article. The researchers concluded that for surveys with a sample target of about 100 people and at fewer than five pages, paper is more cost-effective. Tablets are more cost-effective and efficient if used for a larger sample size and for multiyear studies.

The study could help researchers determine which method is better to use for any projects requiring surveys, Pearce said.

Having a peer-reviewed research article published before graduate school is a proud moment and a testament to Hassler's work, Pearce said.

While this field work, asking people to do surveys, wasn't necessarily exciting, the research was important and gave Hassler an opportunity to collect and analyze data.

SPOTTING SPOTTED SKUNKS

Now, Hassler is back at FSU where she is partnering again with Pearce as a graduate research assistant examining the population of



the eastern spotted skunk – a relative to the familiar striped skunk, but which is closer to the size of a grey squirrel.

"They're extremely adorable and not many people know about them," Hassler said. "Their population is declining across the range."

Hassler and Pearce are working with the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources to find spotted skunks on the Nathaniel Mountain Wildlife Management Area and Allegheny Wildlife Management Area. If they are able to find spotted skunks in those areas, their findings could help West Virginia DNR to develop a habitat protection plan. The research team will trap and tag the skunks with radio collars to track their movements, seeing if by chance they

COAST-TO-COAST EXPERIENCES

Kendyl Hassler's '14 past field work always came with a sense of adventure.

After her FSU graduation, Hassler spent two years working on a northern spotted owl demography project in Northern California for Colorado State University.

"I went out every night calling for owls and chasing them through the woods," she said, laughing. "I loved that job. Our job was to figure out where they lived in the study area and assess their reproduction."

Hassler then volunteered for a fisher demography study, trapping these weasel relatives on Hoopa Valley Tribe land for counts in California. Then this past year she drove airboats in Everglades National Park for Florida International University for a fish and invertebrate study.

Those jobs wouldn't have been possible without being able to complete undergraduate research while at FSU, Hassler said.

"There are other people with good GPAs. It's the undergraduate research that helps set you apart when you're applying to jobs," Hassler said.

That type of work experience is invaluable to wildlife and fisheries professionals, FSU biology instructor **Kelly Pearce M'12** said.

"There are so many paths to take in wildlife. When you take volunteer or paid opportunities, you get a better idea of what you like to do," Pearce said. "These experiential learning opportunities really help to open your eyes to what field work is." ■



Left: Grad student **Kendyl Hassler '14**, left, and biology instructor **Kelly Pearce M'12** conducted research on river otters in Grand Teton National Park.

Above: Hassler surveys visitors on the value they found in potentially seeing otters in the park, part of the research project.

make it to Maryland. Maryland was historically part of the eastern spotted skunk's range, but they have not been spotted there since the 1960s.

Being able to work with Serfass and Pearce is special to Hassler because of the care and encouragement they've shown.

"I've always kept in touch with Dr. Serfass and Kelly. He'll check in on me and see how I'm doing and tell me about any projects that are coming up," Hassler said. "It was nice to feel like somebody was invested in my future." ■

Spring Sports by the Numbers:

32	All-CAC selections
4	CAC Athletes of the Year
15	All-Region award winners
2	NCAA Championship participants (Truesdel & March)
3	CoSIDA Academic All-District honorees
1	All-American (men's lacrosse)
1	Google Cloud Academic All-American



Christian March



Kayla Truesdel '18

March and Truesdel Named 2018 Athletes of the Year

At the annual athletics awards banquet in May, seniors **Christian March** and **Kayla Truesdel '18** were honored as FSU's Male and Female Athletes of the Year.

March earned back-to-back CAC Male Swimmer of the Year honors and capped his impressive career by being the first Frostburg swimmer to compete in the NCAA Championships in more than 25 years. He was a four-time All-CAC First Team gold medalist, broke a total of 18 varsity swimming records, collected nearly 100 wins and hit 11 NCAA "B" cut times.

Truesdel earned the Female Athlete of the Year award for the second straight year after dominating performances on the track during the indoor and outdoor seasons.

She was named the CAC's Female Track Athlete of the Year during the indoor and outdoor seasons and again represented Frostburg at both NCAA Championships.

Her collegiate career includes 18 All-CAC awards and 15 All-Mideast Region certificates. She is one of just two student-athletes in CAC history to earn four Athlete of the Year awards, and she ran at the NCAA Championships on five occasions. ■

FSU Accepts Invitation to DII Mountain East Conference

Frostburg State officials formally accepted an invitation to join the Mountain East Conference at a press conference held on the FSU campus in July.

Frostburg's membership status in the MEC is contingent upon acceptance into the NCAA Division II three-year membership process. If accepted into the NCAA Division II process, Frostburg State would be slated to begin competition in the MEC beginning with the 2019-20 academic year. Full membership in the MEC will ultimately be contingent upon Frostburg State achieving active membership status in NCAA Division II.

"The conference you're in helps define the institution and plays an important role. Fit is very important. We feel like this is a true partnership," said President Nowaczyk. "We also see this as an opportunity to help students in Maryland compete at the Division II level." Only one other Maryland university, Bowie State, plays at the DII level, and nearly 700 Maryland residents are competing in DII schools in West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Among the benefits to FSU student-athletes in Mountain East include shorter travel times to competitions than in the current conference, as well as student experiences in a championship environment and opportunities for them to have their exploits gain greater media exposure, he said.

"We are honored to have been invited into the Mountain East Conference and appreciate the open-mindedness of our faculty, staff and student-athletes," said Athletic Director **Troy Dell**. "Decisions like this aren't made in a vacuum, and we appreciate the support of all those involved."

Dell also emphasized that efforts are under way to find affiliate conference memberships for sports that are not sponsored in the MEC, namely field hockey and men's lacrosse.

"We are committed to those programs, and we will find good homes, with the assistance of Mountain East, for those programs," Dell said, indicating that it is not uncommon for some sports to play as affiliate members of other conferences, as FSU's football team has for many years. "You can have really strong relationships and great student experiences if you get your folks in the right places."



Niles Scott

Niles Scott Signs With 49ers

Former Frostburg All-American defensive lineman **Niles Scott** signed a free agent contract with the NFL's San Francisco 49ers just hours after the league's annual draft in April. Scott has successfully completed two rookie minicamps with the 49ers and the team's official roster has Scott in jersey number 67.

Scott finished his career as a four-time All-American with 150 tackles, 43 tackles for loss and 25.5 sacks. Scott is Frostburg's first Associated Press Little All-American since 1993, and he is the first player to be signed to an NFL free-agent contract since 2006.

Gross Selected All-American

The Frostburg men's lacrosse program had its sixth All-American award winner revealed in late May as **Adam Gross** was named a USILA Honorable Mention All-American.

Gross helped the Bobcats to 10 wins and their sixth-straight CAC Tournament appearance. He paced Frostburg with 55 points and 28 assists this past spring and finished ninth and sixth in the CAC, respectively, in both categories.

A three-time All-CAC selection, Gross was named to the All-CAC First Team and All-ECAC First Team within the last few weeks. In May, he was named to the South Team of the 77th Annual USILA/Nike North-South All-Star game.



Greg Schneider '18

Schneider Fifth All-Time in DIII in Strikeouts

Frostburg senior All-American pitcher **Greg Schneider '18** has left his mark all across the baseball record books for Frostburg and the CAC, and now he has etched his name into the NCAA Division III record books as well.

After striking out 93 batters this spring as a senior, Schneider raised his four-year total to 385, ranking fifth all-time in the DIII ranks. That mark is also the highest ever for a pitcher in the CAC and places him more than 100 ahead of the next Frostburg pitcher in the record book.

Schneider, who led the CAC in strikeouts as a sophomore and junior, is the Bobcats' career record holder in strikeouts per nine innings (11.88), innings pitched (291.2) and starts (44), and he is second all-time with 26 wins.

2018 Bobcat Hall of Fame Class Announced

'93 Football and '03 Women's Soccer Teams to Be Honored

Six former student-athletes will be inducted into the Bobcat Hall of Fame on Friday, Oct. 26. This year's class represents five sports – including two men's soccer players – four All-Americans and countless school records.

The 2018 Hall of Fame will also celebrate the 25th anniversary of the 1993 Bobcat football team and the 15th anniversary of the 2003 women's soccer team.

The 2018 inductees are:

Duane DeVance '83, track and field, was an eight-time All-Mason-Dixon Conference honoree and the M-DC high jump champion (6ft. 10.25in.) during the indoor championships as a senior in 1983. DeVance became Frostburg's first All-American in the high jump after he took fifth at the NCAA Outdoor Championships in 1982 (6ft. 10.25in.). DeVance also set Frostburg's indoor (7ft. 0in.) and outdoor (7ft. 2in.) school records during his senior season.

Peter Merrill '99, soccer, is the all-time leading scorer in the history of the Frostburg men's soccer program with 134 career points and 55 career goals. During his senior campaign, Merrill also set the program's single-season scoring record with 20 goals. Merrill helped the Bobcats to three straight ECAC South Region Tournaments and the 1998 AMCC Championship trophy. He is a two-time All-AMCC selection and was voted the AMCC Athlete of the Week four times. FSU won a total of 56 games during Merrill's career.



Duane DeVance '83



Peter Merrill '99



Pete Tytus '92



Sean Warfield '93



Janet Webb '86



Mark Wells '90

Pete Tytus '92, soccer, was a four-year letter-winner in goals for the Frostburg men's soccer team from 1989-92, helping the squad to 54 wins during his tenure, including ECAC South Region Championships in 1989 and 1992. Tytus totaled 152 saves, 19 shutouts and was named the ECAC Tournament Most Valuable Player in '92. The Bobcats won a then-school record 54 games during his four years, and Tytus holds the school record for goals against average (.53) after posting 12 shutouts in 1991.

Sean Warfield '93, baseball, was a two-time Honorable Mention All-American for the Bobcat baseball team in 1991 and 1992. He was also a two-time All-South Region NCAA Division III honoree and was a two-time First Team All-ESAC selection. Warfield hit .374

during his Bobcat career and was seventh in program history at the time of his nomination. He helped Frostburg to 82 wins, including ECAC South Tournament Championships as a sophomore and junior.

Janet Webb '86, lacrosse, was a four-year letter winner and starter for the Bobcat women's lacrosse team. She is one of the program's all-time top scorers. She is seventh all-time in points (201), fifth in goals (159) and 15th in assists (42). Webb capped her career by being named a U.S. Women's Lacrosse Association Honorable Mention All-American and a Brine

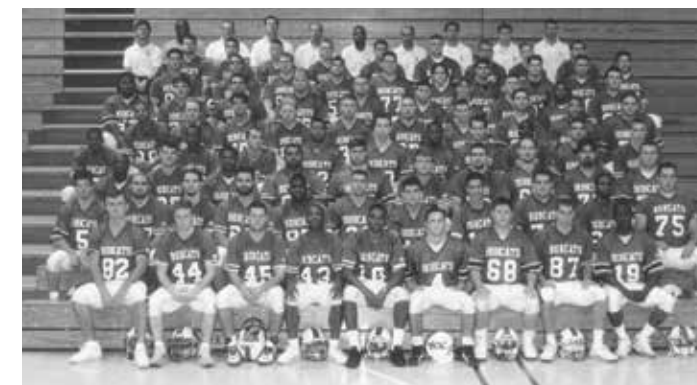
All-American following her senior season in 1986. She was also a two-time Brine Regional All-American and was twice voted Frostburg's Most Outstanding Attacker.

Mark Wells '90, football, was a Champion/USA Division III All-American Honorable Mention offensive lineman and ECAC Football All-Star as a senior in 1990. He helped Frostburg to its first two nine-win seasons in program history in 1989 and 1990 and helped FSU to 13 straight wins during that span. Wells blocked for an offense that ranked fourth in the nation in rushing (327.0), seventh in scoring (36.7) and 20th in total offense (406.8) in 1990. That same season, Frostburg made its first postseason appearance in program history in the ECAC South Championship bowl game. ■



The **2003 women's soccer team**, coached by **Brian Parker '92**, will be honored on its 15th anniversary. Some accomplishments:

- Finished 16-5 overall
- Advanced to the NCAA Tournament
- Earned the program's only victory in an NCAA tournament
- AMCC Champions – regular season and tournament



The Hall of Fame will celebrate the **1993 football team**, coached by **Mike McGlinchey**, on its 25th anniversary. Some accomplishments:

- First team to advance to NCAA tournament
- Finished with a season record of 10-2
- Opened the season with eight straight wins
- Scored a total of 363 points, third most in a season in program history

Frostburg State softball is a program that has earned respect from its competition, with frequent tournament appearances and players earning all-conference honors. But the varsity softball team is just over 20 years old, and its status owes a lot of credit to **Christine Chappel Reid '94** and **Nevin Reid '94**, two student-athletes who pushed for the game they loved to get the recognition it deserved.

Today's Softball Has a Tenacious Team and Title IX to Thank for its Status

By Nicole Leighty '18

When the Reids came to Frostburg, softball was a club sport. The team already had tough competition, playing Prince George's Community College, the U.S. Naval Academy and University of Maryland's club team. Frostburg consistently beat them.

Christine said "It was really rudimentary but we were able to play," said Christine. "We had some really good players."

Christine and Nevin had such a strong love for the game and for their teammates that they worked tirelessly to elevate the team to varsity status. As both played multiple roles on the team, they decided it had to be taken a step further.

In their junior year, Christine, Nevin and others connected to the team requested that the administration make the team a varsity sport, but they were rejected. It was then suggested that the status of the team be presented under Title IX federal regulations that require that men and women have equitable opportunities to participate in sports. During their senior years, Christine and Nevin decided to approach the voting body that would decide on the team's status

with the implication that Frostburg was not providing women with an equal opportunity to compete. That did it. Varsity softball would begin in the 1995-96 school year.

For the inaugural season, **Ray Kiddy '79/M'86/M'03** was asked to lead the squad as head coach. He jumped at the opportunity. Kiddy's fondest memories of that first squad were its earning a record of just over .500 – 14-12 – on the season and snapping Bethany College's undefeated season.

Wes Landrum, who has coached Bobcat softball for the past 13 seasons, is very aware of his first few years trying to grow the program. He and **Dr. Kristine Jackson '02/M'05** recall the days of not having a field and having to share the space with other teams because, at that time, Bobcat Stadium had no turf, limiting the number of sports that could use it. It wasn't until 2012 that Bobcat Field was fully enclosed to play softball.

Landrum notes that resources are a huge advantage to being a



Members of the Frostburg's club softball team celebrate taking second place in the 1994 Frostburg Invitational, which featured Maryland schools.

varsity sport, but even more significant is the improved competition pool. And varsity athletics bring advantages to the student-athletes, too.

Allison Short '18, a recent graduate and four-year member of the Bobcat softball team spelled it out: "Entering Frostburg as a freshman and having the team as a set group of friends who are there to support you throughout your college career and having such a caring coach who always had our backs were crucial to my success at Frostburg as an athlete and a student."

Short also noted the successful history of the program has given each incoming class high goals and expectations for Frostburg's level of play each season.

Christine and Nevin were glad to have created these opportunities for women in the future.

"In 1972 (the year Title IX was enacted), the ball started to roll for women, and now the opportunities are amazing," Christine said. ■



Riggleman Managing Again

Jim Riggleman '74 found himself back in the manager's seat this summer, when he was named interim manager of the Cincinnati Reds in April following a dismal start. He's since led the team to a .512 record by the All-Star break and has received praise for how he has handled the team. He's pictured with fellow alum and former Bobcat teammate **Ken Coffey '77**, who is wearing a hat from his playing days.



Appel Named Coach of the Year for 8th Time

For the eighth time and fifth consecutive year, **Todd Appel '92/M'02** was named the Area High School Football Coach of the Year by the Allegany County Dapper Dan Club. Appel has led Fort Hill High School in Cumberland to five straight Maryland 1A state championship games, winning four straight. In 10 seasons his teams have a record of 118-14 for a winning percentage of .894. University of Connecticut head coach, Randy Edsall, praised Appel for his program and the players he produces. "They have a tremendous work ethic," Edsall said. Appel's team had a collective GPA of 3.59 in 2017, while 47 earned All-Academic honors.

New Head Men's Basketball Coach Returns to Familiar Territory

By Noah Becker M'06

Alumnus and former Bobcat assistant basketball coach **Sean Brown, Sr. '03/M'05** will return to familiar territory to become the 14th head men's basketball coach in the 76-year history of the program.

"It is a great honor and privilege to return home to my alma mater as the next head men's basketball coach at Frostburg State University," said Brown. "My wife, **Jennifer (Hardcastle Brown '03/M'05)**, and I have been very impressed with the transformation the Athletics Department has taken under the leadership of Mr. **Troy Dell**, and we look forward to coming back to a place so near and dear to our hearts."



Sean Brown, Sr. '03/M'05

No stranger to Frostburg, Brown earned his bachelor's degree in recreation and parks management and a master's degree in education from Frostburg and served as an assistant coach from 2002-04 and again from 2007-15.

Brown inherits a Bobcat squad that returns three starters and eight total players from this past year's CAC Tournament team.

Junior **Edwin Cole** and sophomores **Daniel Alexander** and **Lawrence Pettis, Jr.**, scored more than 300 points this past year, while Cole finished fourth in the nation in offensive rebounding (4.27) and 10th in total blocks (68).

Brown served as head coach at Pitt-Bradford for the last three seasons.

Over his first two years at Bradford, Brown coached the Panther women's basketball team to 34 wins, including two spots in the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Tournament. The Panthers led the AMCC in scoring both seasons, while in his first season, Brown's team finished in the top-20 in Division III in scoring and forced turnovers.

Last season, Brown took over the reins of the Pitt-Bradford men's program.

During his second stint at FSU from '07-'15, Brown helped the Bobcats to 115 wins, including back-to-back 17-win campaigns in 2008-09 and 2009-10. In his final season in 2014-15, Brown helped the Bobcats to a 76-67 win over No. 13-ranked Randolph-Macon.

Brown served as Frostburg's graduate assistant coach for two seasons from 2002-04 and assisted the Bobcats to 25 wins, including an AMCC Tournament appearance in 2003-04.

Brown was a standout student-athlete for the Bobcats men's team from 1997-02. He was a two-time team captain, held Frostburg's single-season school record for three-point shooting percentage and was a First Team All-AMCC selection as a senior.

As a junior, he helped lead Frostburg to the AMCC Tournament Championship and ECAC South Region Runner-Up trophy. ■



Matthew Robinson Awarded Medal of Inspiration

Frostburg junior track & field hurdler **Matthew Robinson** was one of two recipients of the Capital Athletic Conference Medal of Inspiration Award, after he donated a kidney to his father. His selfless act caused him to miss nearly all of the indoor track and field competitions along with the first month of outdoor meets. Still, in just three weeks of outdoor competition, Robinson qualified to compete in the CAC Championships in the 110-meter hurdles and the 400-meter hurdles, where he ended up placing in the top 10.

Athletic Team Reunions



Field hockey alumni took to the field for a game and reunited at a reception in April.



Alumni from men's lacrosse teams across the eras gathered in April to support the current Bobcats in a conference match against St. Mary's College of Maryland.



The 11th annual **Football Golf Outing and Reunion** in June brought together former players, coaches, trainers and their families for some fun, competition to support for Bobcat Football.



HOMECOMING '18

Recapture the Frostburg Feeling! 🐾 October 25-28

Hey Bobcats! Remember how beautiful the Western Maryland mountains look in the fall? Here's your chance to surround yourself in autumn color, breathe the crisp mountain air and experience the fun and friendship that you remember from your time at Frostburg. A great slate of events awaits – athletics, the arts, reunions and, most of all, connecting with friends, old and new. It's all waiting for you at FSU's 2018 Homecoming!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25

Noon, ARMAH, LUC

Retired Employee Luncheon

By invitation only. RSVP Deadline: October 19.

6:00 pm

Field Hockey vs. York College

Bobcat Stadium

7:00 – 8:00 pm, Main Arena, Cordts PE Center

Pep Rally

Sponsored by the Student Homecoming Committee

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

9:00 am – Noon, Campuswide

Career Expo – “Grow”

For more information, contact Dr. Robbie Cordle or Donna Sivic, Career and Professional Development Center, at 301.687.4403.

5:00 pm, ARMAH, LUC

Bobcat Hall of Fame

Induction Ceremony and Dinner

Join us to welcome six new inductees and commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the 1993 Football Team and the 15th Anniversary of the 2003 Women's Soccer Team. **RSVP Deadline: October 19.** Cost: \$30/adult, \$12/children 12 and under. CASH BAR. No walk-ins admitted.

6:00 pm, Main Arena, Cordts PE Center

Volleyball Match

Bobcats vs. Salisbury University

7:00 – 9:00 pm, Roper Gallery, Fine Arts

In the Shadows & Under the Bed

Illustrations by Greg Orfanos and David Ferreira
The elusive creatures and entities of myth, legend, literature, film and folklore.
FREE Admission

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

9:00 am, Women's Tennis Locker Room, Cordts PE Center

Locker Room Dedication

In Memory of Lea Pfluger Flaim '82. Recognizing the generosity of Kurt Pfluger '80 and family.

9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Lobby, LUC

Alumni Welcome Center

Refreshments, games and activities for kids! Update contact information, leave a note for fellow alumni and register to win prizes.

10:00 am – Noon, ARMAH, LUC

Jim Anderson Memorial Baseball Brunch

RSVP Deadline: October 19. Cost: \$20/adult, \$10/children 12 and under. No walk-ins admitted. Co-sponsored by the Frostburg Baseball Alumni Association.

10:30 am, Stadium Lot

Tailgating

Cost: \$10 per space. Parking on a first-come, first-served basis. For a complete list of rules and regulations, visit our website at www.frostburg.edu/homecoming

11:00 am – 1:00 pm, 3rd Floor, Library

Library Employee Reception

We welcome back all former student employees and library staff. Light refreshments will be served. **RSVP Deadline: October 19.**

11:00 am, MLC, Gira Center

Dynamic Earth

Full-dome movie. Explore the inner workings of Earth's climate system.

11:00 am, Upper Lobby, LUC

Walking Campus Tour

Get a chance to check out the old and the new!

11:30 am, Gira Center, Room 397

Golden Anniversary Reunion Celebrating the Class of 1968 and Years Before

By Invitation Only. **RSVP Deadline: October 19.**

Noon, Atkinson Room, LUC

Accounting Alumni Reception

By invitation only. **RSVP Deadline: October 19.** Sponsored by the FSU Accounting Association and the FSU Alumni Association.

1:00 pm Bobcat Stadium

Football Game

Bobcats vs. Southern Virginia University

1:00 pm, Main Arena, Cordts PE Center

Volleyball Match

Bobcats vs. Clarkson University

Share your weekend memories with Alumni Relations by tagging your photos with our official homecoming hashtag:

3:30 – 5:00 pm, Gira Center

Phi Beta Sigma

40th Anniversary

3:30 – Cocktail Hour – 1st Floor Lobby

4:00 – Formal Program – Room 397

RSVP Deadline: October 19.

4:00 pm, MLC, Gira Center

Dynamic Earth

Full-dome movie. Explore the inner workings of Earth's climate system.

5:00 pm, Main Arena, Cordts PE Center

Volleyball Match

Bobcats vs. SUNY Geneseo

5:00 – 7:00 pm, South Addition, LUC

Student Government Association Reunion

By invitation only. **RSVP Deadline: October 19.**

5:30 pm, ARMAH, LUC

Leadership Donor Reception

By invitation only. **RSVP Deadline: October 19.**

9:00 pm, ARMAH, LUC

Annual Homecoming Dance

\$3/FSU Student, \$10/Guest of FSU Student

For more information, call 301.687.4192.

Sponsored by the Student Homecoming Committee

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

9:30 am, Room 397, Gira Center

Alumni Association

Board of Directors Meeting

All alumni are welcome and encouraged to attend. **RSVP Deadline: October 19.**

10:00 am, Main Arena, Cordts PE Center

Men's Basketball Alumni Game

For more information, contact Coach Sean Brown at sebrown@frostburg.edu or 301.687.3241.

Noon, Main Arena, Cordts PE Center

Women's Basketball Alumni Game

For more information, contact Coach Carrie Saunders at cesaunders@frostburg.edu or 301.687.3222.

Noon, Lobby, LUC

Student Government Association Big Event

Join our students to clean up the streets of Frostburg!

To RSVP for any event

Contact the Office of Alumni Relations and register by one of the following options:

Online: www.frostburg.edu/homecoming

Phone: 301.687.4068

Email: alumni@frostburg.edu

Find additional information on social media at Frostburg State University Alumni Association.



MLC – Multimedia Learning Center
LUC – Lane University Center
ARMAH – Alice R. Manicur Assembly Hall

#homesweetburg

CLASSNOTES

ClassNotes listed are those received as of June 4, 2018.

1969



Rebecca Yates Shorb is the recent recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award established by Catocin High School in Thurmont, Md. She spent her

28½-year career teaching art in Frederick County, Md., public schools. Her passion for self-expression, for finding and using unique gifts, and her belief that anything is possible encouraged many students to pursue their dreams.

1970

Barry M. Hecker was selected to be a guest speaker for the USA Basketball Academy in Southern California. Guest speakers deliver on- and off-court sessions on basketball and leadership topics. He has also been chosen as the director of Basketball for the Hoop Forum and will make his third trip to Senegal to work with the Strategies for Ecology Education, Diversity and Sustainability program. Barry is a former NBA coach.

The Hon. Larry D. Kump won the Republican nomination for election to the West Virginia House of Delegates District No. 59. He previously served in the West Virginia House of Delegates from 2010 until 2014.

1975

Kathy Barger Snyder M’85 joined the Allegany County Animal Shelter’s Management Foundation Board of Directors. She served as vice president of Human Resources at FSU before her recent retirement.

1976

Charles L. Croft, Jr. M’81, was elected chairman of the Board of Directors for the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce. Charles is vice president of commercial lending at First Peoples Community Federal Credit Union.

1978

Danny R. Carter M’85 was appointed as principal at Mountain Ridge High School in Frostburg. Danny has worked for Allegany County Public Schools since 1979 and served as the principal of Braddock Middle School in Cumberland for 16 years.

Ward J. Clem has retired after more than 37 years with the state of Maryland. For most of his career, he was employed as a professional counselor with the Department of Public Safety, providing mental health counseling services to the adult prison population. Additionally, Ward served as a site supervisor for the Shippensburg (Pa.) University Counseling Department, and for the last several years provided supervision to master’s-level student interns as they completed their practicums and field experiences. He continues to be active in his union and is executive vice president for AFT Healthcare-MD.

1979

John R. Isaac was chosen for the Northwestern Mutual Forum (Top

Producers Club), and his branch of Northwestern Mutual was one of 12 companies selected to attend the Rose Bowl.

1980

Edmund J. O’Meally was named Best Lawyers 2018 Lawyer of the Year for the Baltimore area in Education Law. He has worked closely with superintendents, boards of education, colleges, private schools and private sector employers across Maryland for more than 30 years.

1982



David A. Zawodniak was recently promoted to senior advisory engineer at Northrop Grumman’s Mission Systems in Baltimore. David resides in Ellicott City, Md., with his wife, Sherry, and their sons, Grant and Garrett.

1983



Maj. Ron L. Martin M’83 has been appointed for 2018 to the Commission on Standards & Guidelines for ASIS International, the leading organization for security professionals worldwide. He is also a member of the ASIS Physical Security Council and serves as ASIS’ regional vice president for Region 3D (Louisiana/Mississippi).

1990



Ty DeMartino was awarded an Individual Artist Award in Playwriting from the Maryland State Arts Council for his new play, *Sedona*.

Michelle E. Hamilton M’93 joined The Arbor Company in Atlanta as its new

senior vice president of Operations. She previously worked for Country Meadows Retirement Communities in Pennsylvania as senior vice president and chief of Senior Living Operations.

Rich W. Plaskon received a promotion to national Next Gen sales manager with Vector/Cutco Corporation. He is a former Silver Cup winner and member of the Hall of Fame and was recently the Virginia Division manager.

1991

William M. Holman, Jr., has been appointed as Ginger Cove’s chief executive officer. Ginger Cove is Anne Arundel County’s only internationally accredited retirement community.

Rodney E. Raymond retired from the *Cumberland Times-News* after 45 years of service.

1992

William W. Whittington, Jr. M’92, was selected as the associate director for the Cyber Security Operations Center, Department of Veterans Affairs. He is responsible for the overall management of the Cyber Incident Response and Advance Analytics and Digital Media Analysis teams.

1993

Andrew M. Corl passed the Certified Safety Professional Exam on Feb. 26, 2018. The exam is a comprehensive assessment of knowledge in safety, health or the environment.



Jonathan M. Hutcherson was recently named a member of SHIFT Society, a mission-driven, localized, invite-only entrepreneurial membership community. The organization is

committed to creating meaningful, sustainable change in communities and solving issues facing the world.

1994



Lisa V. Byrd received the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation. She is the Event and Business Development director for the Greater Baltimore Committee.

Patrick M. Ryan announced that Arnold Palmer Golf Management acquired his golf company, TOUR GCX Partners, Inc., which comprises a network of exclusive private golf and country clubs. Patrick serves as director of Country Club Services.

1995



Barbara L. Baker M’95 was selected as the 2018 Garrett College commencement speaker. She is the superintendent for the Garrett County Public School System. Barbara began her career as a German instructor at Southern Middle School in Oakland in 1990 and served in a variety of roles before being selected as superintendent.

Kathy J. McKenzie Friend was promoted to executive director at Maryland Salem Children’s Trust in Frostburg. She has been employed by Salem for 10 years, filling the roles of overnight awake staff, residential specialist, personnel clerk and personnel director before accepting the executive director position.

Amy J. Hixson Grimm has been named the 2017-2018 St. Johns County (Fla.) Teacher of the Year. She is a first-grade teacher at Julington Creek Elementary School in St. Johns, and resides with her husband, Jason, and their two children.

Aaron W. Hendrickson M’04 was appointed the attendance director for Mineral County (W.Va.) Schools in February. He serves on the city of Cumberland’s Planning and Zoning Commission and is a local real estate agent.

Dr. Jeffrey S. Raykes recently completed his Doctor of Education degree in Administration and Leadership Studies at



Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He has held a number of key positions in the public and private sectors, including community planner at Indiana County Office of Planning and Development, Indiana Borough manager and consultant and founder of Stuart Group Consulting, LLC.

Dr. Molly O. Winner Stewart M’03 has been named principal at Braddock Middle School in Cumberland. She has also served as an assistant principal at John Humbird Elementary and Mount Savage Middle School before moving to West Side Elementary in 2010 as the school’s principal.

Mary “Cissy” Spates VanSickle M’95 received the Garrett College Board of Trustees Award for Outstanding Contribution.

1997



Greg B. Gelewski was recently elected as vice president of the U.S. Composting Council’s Board of Directors. He is the recycling operations manager at the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency in Syracuse, N.Y., where he assists with the management of its award-winning and nationally recognized composting program.

Brian G. Mattox accepted the position of senior portfolio manager at Kendall Capital Management in Rockville, Md.

1998

David W. Boisture has been promoted to partner with Novogradac & Co. LLP, a national accounting and consulting firm. David is a partner in the firm’s Government Consulting and Valuation Advisory Services group out of the Washington, D.C., office.

Jason E. VanSickle was identified by his State Association as a scholarship recipient for the ABA Government Relations Summit and the fifth annual Emerging Leaders Forum. He is the vice president and director of Strategic Growth at First United Bank & Trust.

2001



Meghan R. Wrathall Biss joined Caplin & Drysdale as an “of counsel” in its Exempt Organizations group, located in the firm’s Washington, D.C., office.

Dr. Jessica L. Yahnert Masser was elected as the vice president of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physician Society. She will serve a two-year term.

Books by Alumni

The Woods: A Twisted Fairy Tale

Maria Luzon ’18

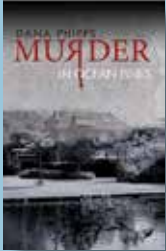
Luzon, using the nom de plume Mia Nozo, illustrated and wrote her first book during her senior year at FSU. It tells the adventures of Hansel and Gretel, abandoned in the woods, where they begin the adventure of a lifetime. They meet a questionable wolf and a cannibalistic witch, and learn the truth to their past, involving Red and Jack.



Murder in Ocean Pines

Dana Phipps ’65

Set near Assawoman Bay on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, Cici King worries that she pushed her husband, Greg King, to have an affair. Her worries are more serious, however, as Greg despises everything about Cici and is planning to murder her. Phipps creates a brave, feisty character in Cici, who endures unthinkable abuse but can still fight the unimaginable.



Losing You

Candace Meredith ’08

These three novellas deal with loss in varied ways. *Dear Caroline* tells of a man who grapples with the loss of his wife from behind bars. In *Not My Daughter*, a daughter mourns her mother and learns about loss and forgiveness. *The Marathon Runner* addresses the loss of friendship and efforts to rekindle the past while struggling with the present.



The Day My Life Went to the Dogs

Judy Applefeld ’76

Applefeld captures the humor, emotion and richness that pets bring to our lives in this series of interconnected stories about Applefeld’s experience and what she has learned from her pets. From injured rescues to orphans, from canine to avian, she relates how she grew to understand their differences and integrate them into her pet family. Book proceeds benefit Noah’s Arks Rescue.



2002

Nicholas T. Hadley was appointed to the Allegany County Board of Education by Gov. Larry Hogan. He is employed as a commercial lines account manager in the Select Business Unit at CBIZ Insurance Services, Inc., in Cumberland.

Jennifer L. Arnold Virts was named the 2018-2019 Garrett County Teacher of the Year. She is an English and theatre arts teacher at Northern Garrett High School in Accident.

2003

Marcus N. Doe’s book, *Catching Ricebirds: A Story of Letting Vengeance Go*, an autobiography about his journey as an orphan refugee from Liberia, West Africa (see Fall 2017 *Profile*, p. 31), is now being used for professional development for high school teachers in Maryland. He resides in Denver.

2004

Tiffany Beachy Moran, a 14-year veteran at Westernport Elementary School, was selected as the 2018-2019 Allegany County Teacher of the Year. She has taught first and third grades and reading intervention. Tiffany is also a member of the school’s Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports team, Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education Leadership team and Partnership Action team.

Join the Conversation!

Join **Shannon Gribble ’98** and **Brooke Kirchner** via Facebook for **Thursday Night LIVE** from the Alumni Center at 7 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month.

Ask questions, share comments or just watch for an update on what’s going on at FSU.

TNL

THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE
- at the Alumni Center -

Frostburg State University Alumni Assn

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 8
Bobcats at the Ballpark
Pittsburgh Pirates
Picnic: Noon
Game Time: 1:05 p.m.
Miller Lite Rooftop, PNC Park
\$65/person

SEPTEMBER 15
Alumni Crab Feast
7-11 p.m.
Martin's West
6817 Dogwood Road
Baltimore, MD
\$60/person

SEPTEMBER 22
**Kinesiology & Recreation
Alumni Reunion**
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
FSU Campus, Clock Tower Quad

OCTOBER 25-28
Homecoming Weekend
FSU Campus
Schedule on Page 28

NOVEMBER 3
**WFWM Donor Appreciation
Reception & Concert**
5-8 p.m.
Lyric Theatre & Palace Theatre,
Main Street, Frostburg, MD
By Invitation Only

NOVEMBER 16
Career Summit
USAC, Washington, D.C.
Hosted by: Wayne Scott '89
By Invitation Only

2019
JANUARY 26
**Alumni Assn. Board of Directors
Meeting**
USM-Hagerstown

MARCH 9
**Sloop Institute for Excellence in
Leadership**
5-8 p.m.
ARMAH, Lane University Center

APRIL 13
**Alumni Assn. Board of Directors
Spring Retreat**
FSU Campus

Alumni Awards Banquet
5-8 p.m.
ARMAH, Lane University Center
By Invitation Only

APRIL 26
**Children's Literature Centre Spring
Festival Alumni Meet & Greet**
5:30-7 p.m.
ARMAH, Lane University Center

JUNE 8 & 9
Football Golf Outing & Reunion
Rocky Gap Casino & Golf Resort

**For more information, please
visit the University Master
Calendar on our website at
www.frostburg.edu.**

**To RSVP for any event above
or to get more information,
please call 301.687.4068 or
email alumni@frostburg.edu.**

PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH!

YOUR alumni association wants to recognize your personal and professional successes and make sure the voices of all alumni are heard and represented. We encourage you to contact us at **ALUMNI@FROSTBURG.EDU** with your questions, concerns and suggestions.

UPDATE YOUR INFO ONLINE at www.frostburg.edu/alumni-update.

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA! Look for Frostburg State University Alumni Association on:



Shannon E. McQuillan Norris spent 2017 fighting breast cancer and won! She is in remission with NED (no evidence of disease)!

Michael H. Thompson won a top Juror's Award in the Cumberland Valley Photographers exhibition for his photo "Koolwink." The photo also won Best of Show at the Allegany National Photography Competition and Exhibition at the Saville Gallery in April 2017.



Mark Freeman '11 and Greg Brightbill '11 reconnected in May when they both received their MBA degrees from the University of Maryland University College.

2005
Dr. Timothy J. Smith accepted a new position with Delaware Eye Clinics located in Southern Delaware. He serves as president of the Delaware Optometric Association and is actively involved in the American Optometric Association.



2011
Brehanna S. Edwards received her second master's degree, a Master of Science in Law with a specialty in Crisis Management Law, from the University of Maryland's Francis King Carey School of Law in Baltimore.



2006
Tricia R. Austin Bennett recently completed her Master of Science degree in System Engineering from the Johns Hopkins University Whiting School of Engineering. She is employed as a systems engineer with Praxis Engineering Technologies in Annapolis Junction, Md.

2007
Nicole R. Wigfield D'Atri M'08 was elected as the second vice chairwoman of the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce. She is president of Conxx NE Inc. and a consultant for Skypacket Networks, Inc., both located in Cumberland.

2009
Timothy R. Beckman M'17 has been appointed as regional physician practice director of orthopedics in the Baltimore region with the MedStar Medical Group. He resides in Arnold, Md., with his wife, Andrea, and daughters, Avery and Haley.

Jessica L. Palumbo was named the marketing and sales manager for the Allegany County Department of Tourism. Jessica had previously been director of FrostburgFirst Inc., a Maryland Main Street community, for 2 1/2 years.



Dr. Jaclyn M. Franzak received her Doctor of Physical Therapy from Columbia University in New York. She is pictured with her dad, **Jay Franzak '83**.

2016
Kristin A. Waters D'16 was awarded the Emerging Leader Award by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. She serves as the director of Enrollment Management Services for Borough of Manhattan Community College in New York.



Katherine O'Neill '15 married **Ryan J. Kraus '15**.

Sara L. Greaves M'16 was promoted to chief financial officer of the Washington County Board of Commissioners. She resides in Smithsburg with her husband and three children and serves on the board of the nonprofit, Together With Families.



Cheranjana "Jana" L. Thuyacontha was selected to play the role of Olympia in *Pinocchio* with the Boston Conservatory Opera.

2017
Amanda M. Godwin recently joined Sheppard Pratt as a mental health worker. She is pursuing her master's degree in clinical counseling. ■



When **Niki L. Newcomb '13** and **Zackry P. Hromanik '14** tied the knot on July 21, 2017, there were plenty of fellow Bobcats in attendance to share their joy.

Marriages



William K. Griggs married Beth Johnson on April 29, 2018.

2012
January R. Mullen married **Andrew J. Diamond '10/M'12** on April 13, 2017. The couple resides in Bluffton, S.C.

2014
Stephanie M. Werner married **Marcus M. Bullock '14** on Nov. 13, 2017, in Cumberland, Md..



Jessica K. Listman-Ward married John Leverage, Sr., on Oct. 14, 2017.

2015



Brooke A. Dolan married **Marcus Kyriacou '15** on July 8, 2017, in Baltimore, Md.

Families



Megan E. Jensen Lupoli and her husband, **Shawn '00**, welcomed their daughter, Blair Verona, on March 1, 2018. She joins big brothers, Bowen and Baxter.



Shannon Gribble adopted her son, Jacob Ronald Gribble, on July 6, 2018. He turned 3 in January. He joins big sister, Samantha.

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2000



Joseph P. Comer and his wife, Dr. Michele McCourt Comer, welcomed their daughter, Anna Kathleen, on May 7, 2018. She joins big brothers, Luke and Henry.

2001



Jason A. Nunn and his wife, Car, announce the birth of their son, Niko, on Dec. 9, 2017.



Keith M. Tabor and his wife, Reeny, announce the birth of their daughter, Abby. She joins big sister, Emma, and big brother, Brian.

2005



Melanie Spears Harper is the proud mother of Walter Harper.

2006



Megan E. McElwee Parquette and her husband, **Jason '08**, are the proud parents of baby Madison Ann and Grace Katherine.

2007



Melanie Tepsick Branigan and her husband, **Andrew '08**, welcomed their son, Tucker James, on May 17, 2018. He joins big brother, Ace.



Kathryn A. Macdonald Hager and her husband, **Josh '08/M'10**, announce the birth of their son, Jacob, on Jan. 23, 2018.



Cindy S. Schoonmaker Ott and her husband, **Elliott '07**, announce the birth of their son, Cameron. He joins big brother, Connor, and big sister, Hailey.



Stacie L. Hyson Wilson and her husband, **Nicholas '08**, welcomed their daughter, Addison Rose, on April 28, 2018.

2010



Lisa M. Green Crowder and her husband, **Ben '11/M'13**, welcomed twins, Cole and Madison, on April 14, 2018. Ben is an athletic equipment specialist at FSU.



Jamie M. Fisher Pratt and her husband, **Matthew '10**, announce the birth of their daughter, Hazel Mae, on March 1, 2018.



Claire M. Downey Raveia M'10 and her husband, Steve, welcomed their daughter, Jillian Suzanne, on April 19, 2018. She joins big sister, Katelyn Adaline.

2011



Kristen N. Smith Dearman M'13 and her husband, **Garrett '13**, welcomed their son, Peyton, on May 18, 2017.



Stephanie N. Spano-Wilson and her husband, **Scott '13**, announce the birth of their daughter, Adalyn Nicole, on Dec. 17, 2017.

2013



Shaleena M. Troutman Yantz and her husband, Frankie, announce the birth of their son, Maddox Gerard, on May 17, 2018. He joins big brothers, Carson and Paxton, and big sister, Ali.

2016



Heather N. Vincent Sanders and her husband, **Kody '15**, welcomed their son, Peyton, on Dec. 25, 2017. ■

In Memoriam

Alumni

- 1938 Eleanor Wilson Eaton McCollister** Aug. 14, 2016
- 1941 Mary King Sleeman** Feb. 9, 2018
- 1943 Myra R. Snyder Clipp** Feb. 17, 2018
- 1944 Mildred Llewellyn Sleeman** April 18, 2018
- 1953 Raymond A. Poffenberger AA'51/M'67** March 1, 2018
- 1955 Robert McAlpine AA'53** March 19, 2018
- Norma L. Nelson Fagan** April 19, 2018
- 1957 Robert D. Kirk M'66** April 29, 2018
- Charles W. Smith** March 5, 2018
- 1959 George A. Hays** April 16, 2018
- Mae M. Rice Opie** Dec. 24, 2017
- Thomas J. Richards, Jr.** May 7, 2018
- The Rev. Dr. J. William Talbott AA'59** March 26, 2018
- Robert L. Wetzel** Feb. 8, 2018
- 1960 Dr. Robert R. Hardman** March 25, 2018
- 1962 Katherine M. Cadle** Jan. 30, 2018
- 1963 Dorothy J. Twigg Dorn Serf M'67** Jan. 27, 2018
- 1965 Eldon E. Koogle** July 11, 2016
- 1966 John D. Turner** Feb. 25, 2018
- 1967 Ruth A. Schunk Baumgardner** Feb. 19, 2018
- 1970 David W. Skiles** March 11, 2018
- 1971 Susan Lofland Grote** Feb. 27, 2018
- Linda K. Coakley Hess** May 27, 2018
- Bonnie M. Otto Lantz** April 17, 2018
- 1972 Ellen Thomas Cross** April 5, 2018
- Joseph J. Milos M'72** Aug. 4, 2017
- 1973 Richard L. Tegethoff** April 9, 2018
- 1974 Michael G. Ruppenkamp** May 3, 2018

- 1975 George H. Leith** April 14, 2018
- 1978 Stephen T. Cost M'78** Feb. 17, 2018
- Glenn R. Scott** May 29, 2018
- 1984 Carolyn A. Rich Oland M'84** April 11, 2018
- 1985 Flora E. Jarrell Crider** March 7, 2018
- Norris K. Johnson** Jan. 24, 2018
- 1989 David B. Diamond** Jan. 30, 2018
- 1997 Robin L. Yeakle Barrows M'97** Feb. 5, 2018
- 2000 Roger L. Schrock** April 16, 2018
- Rebecca L. White-Morris M'00** April 7, 2018
- 2006 Aaron L. Wilhelm** March 15, 2018

Friends of the University

- Louis J. Akers, Jr.** Dec. 1, 2016
- Cleopatra Campbell Anderson*** March 8, 2018
- Matthew L. Barber** May 24, 2018
- Lillian Fleigle Becker*** April 2, 2018
- Ronald M. Bond, Jr.** Feb. 26, 2018
- William E. Bugg, Jr.** March 2, 2018
- Thomas W. Burton** May 24, 2018
- Jesse E. Davis*** March 29, 2018
- Kathryn A. Hoadley Eagan*** March 11, 2018
- James A. El-Shafey** Feb. 22, 2018
- John P. Fisher, Jr.** March 7, 2018
- Jean S. Milford Goshorn** April 25, 2018
- Louise Needy Goshorn** Oct. 2, 2017
- Ronald H. Gribble** March 31, 2018
- Mary M. Brumage Griffin*** Feb. 21, 2018
- Larry H. Gunter** May 3, 2018
- Patrick F. Harvey** May 22, 2018
- Bunny Hayden** Jan. 31, 2018
- Gloria J. Wolford Joy** April 22, 2018

Dr. John McDonald “Jack” Riley, who died on April 15, 2018, was a professor emeritus of geography who taught from 1966



Dr. Jack Riley

to 1998 and stayed involved with FSU long after his retirement. He served local and state organizations, including the Maryland Planning and Zoning Commission, and supported the Great Allegheny Passage. The Frostburg trailhead is named in his honor. He is survived by his wife, **Ruby Riley**, longtime Student Government Association secretary, and sons **John Riley '85** and **Dan Riley**, who established the Dr. John “Jack” and Ruby Riley Elementary Education Scholarship to honor his parents.

Betty Gowland Workman '45, who died on May 1, was a three-term Maryland State Delegate for District 1B — playing an active role in FSU’s recognition as a university — and a veteran mathematics teacher in Allegany County. She served on the FSU



Betty Workman'45

Foundation Board and was among the first longtime board members to be named Director Emerita status in recognition of her many years of active service. She was

active in Democratic politics, including as a delegate to the 1984 national convention. Workman was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 1993. ■

- Joseph C. Kessler** March 16, 2018
- Donald E. Kunkle*** March 17, 2018
- Dr. Daniel Markowitz** May 25, 2018
- Jeremy W. Marsh** March 18, 2018
- Clarence L. Morgan** March 2, 2018
- Kerry F. Skelley Mowery** Jan. 30, 2018
- Elizabeth Halliburton Oxford** May 24, 2018
- Dorothy (Dot) E. Broadhead Wall** Jan. 28, 2018
- William J. Whitcomb, Sr.** Feb. 13, 2018
- Dorothy J. Sweeney Winn** May 13, 2018
- Meredith U. Wisner** May 25, 2018

** Former faculty or staff member. ■*

Farewell and Thank You

Frostburg State University wishes the following faculty and staff the best of luck in their retirements:

Pamela Braskey '75/M'94, administrative assistant in the Department of Educational Professions, joined FSU in 1995.

Dr. John Bowman, vice provost, joined FSU in 1978.

Harriet Douglas M'96, director of Programs Advancing Student Success, joined FSU in 1998.

Bebe Elrick, administrative assistant in the Department of Biology, joined FSU in 1980.

Joseph Gilmore '82/ M'84, instructor in the Department of Accounting, joined FSU in 1989.

Connie Groer '80/ M'82, associate professor in the Department of Accounting, joined FSU in 1989.

Robert Webb Hatch, men's basketball coach, joined FSU in 1999.

James Johnson, stationary engineer, joined FSU in 1979.

Paula Livingston, office clerk in the Residence Life Office, joined FSU in 2002.

Thomas Loy, stationary engineer, joined FSU in 1973.

Dr. Barbara Ornstein, professor in the Department of Educational Professions, joined FSU in 1990.

Steven Parsons, IT support assistant in Technology Services, joined FSU in 1997.

MaryJo Price M'01, faculty librarian in Ort Library, joined FSU in 1984.

Ian Reikie, storekeeper in the Procurement Office, joined FSU in 1979.

Richard Repac M'83, associate vice president of Administration & Finance and comptroller, joined FSU in 1978.

Kathy Snyder '75/ M'85, vice president of Human Resources, joined FSU in 1999.

Clarice Weimer, administrative assistant in the Admissions Office, joined FSU in 2001.

Retirements from March to August 2018.

THE LAST WORD



President Nowaczyk sent Ricky Arnold '85 a photo of the International Space Station crossing over Frostburg.

Arnold returned the favor by sending him this photo of Frostburg from space.

CES 2018-2019 SEASON

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CES Mainstage Series

- **Appalachian Festival Capstone Concert**
Kaia Kater
With Anna & Elizabeth
SEPT. 15 | 7:30 PM
- **CATAPULT: The Amazing Magic of Shadow Dance**
OCT. 2 | 7:30 PM
- **Maryland Symphony Orchestra**
Immortal Mozart + Schubert's Fifth Symphony
Featuring FSU Chorale
NOV. 11 | 2 PM
- **Carol of the King**
The Irish Dance Christmas Spectacular
DEC. 11 | 7:30 PM
- **Songs of Ireland**
A Celtic Celebration
MARCH 7 | 7:30 PM
- **A Columbia Artists Production**
Direct From Moscow, Russia
Russian National Ballet
Company of 50
Giselle
MARCH 12 | 7:30 PM

CES Concert Series

- **An Evening With LeAnn Rimes**
SEPT. 22 | 7:30 PM

CATAPULT

LeAnn Rimes
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AUGUST 1



RUSSIAN NATIONAL BALLET



LEANN RIMES

LIVE! at StarScape

- Valentine Dinner Show
René Marie *Experiment in Truth*
FEB. 15 | DINNER 6 PM | SHOW 7:30 PM
- **Banda Magda** APRIL 5 | 7:30 PM
- **Christian Sands Trio** APRIL 25 | 7:30 PM



CHRISTIAN SANDS TRIO

on the EDGE

- **Jeff Coffin and Rashawn Ross**
Featuring the FSU Jazz Orchestra and Jazz Faculty
OCT. 17 | 7:30 PM
- **1st Project** NOV. 15 | 7:30 PM
- **Stacey Kay** staceykaymusic.com
FEB. 7 | 7:30 PM
- **Six Appeal** APRIL 18 | 7:30 PM



SIX APPEAL



STACEY KAY



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CES is supported in part by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. On the web at msac.org. Funding for the Maryland State Arts Council is also provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. CES is supported in part by the City of Frostburg.

The presentation of LeAnn Rimes is sponsored by Weimer Automotive Group. The presentation of Maryland Symphony Orchestra is co-sponsored by First Peoples Community Federal Credit Union, Community Trust Foundation Iris and Peter Halmos Community Fund and by Mrs. Bernice A. Friedland, Ms. Janice S. Keene, Mr. Bill Mandicott and Dr. Lea Messman-Mandicott, the Honorable Mary Beth Pirolozzi, Mr. Victor S. Rezendes and Mr. John E. Minnich, Ms. Sandra K. Saville, Mr. Nicholas J. Scarpelli and Ms. Tama S. Scarpelli, and Mr. Douglas Schwab and Mrs. Betsey Hurwitz-Schwab. The engagement of Carol of the King is co-sponsored by the Enordo "Moose" Arnone Family and by Anonymous in recognition of the Western Maryland Health System Hospice Program. The presentations of René Marie and Banda Magda are sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Peter Halmos. The presentation of Russian National Ballet is sponsored by Dr. Julianne Ferris and Mr. Daniel F. McMullen, Jr. The presentation of Songs of Ireland is sponsored by the Lewis J. Ort Library in observation of Irish-American Heritage Month.



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