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# *Shippensburg University's* Provost Office Press

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## Pre-Forensics Team Receives Provost's Award

*Dr. Todd Bricker, Dr. Laura Patterson, and Dr. Lucinda Elliott receive their award from Dr. Rick Ruth. Not pictured: Dr. Eugene Fiorini*

Interdepartmental collaboration resulted in not only a stronger Pre-Forensics program for Shippensburg University students, but also receipt of the Provost's Award for Extraordinary Service. Dr. Todd Bricker, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, Dr. Lucinda Elliott, Associate Professor of Biology, Dr. Eugene Fiorini, Professor of Mathematics, and Dr. Laura Patterson, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice were all recognized for the contributions they made to the program. Bricker, Elliott, and Fiorini were instrumental in crafting an agreement between County District Attorney's Carlisle Forensic Laboratory. This agreement allows SU students the opportunity for hands-on training, thereby giving them an edge when they hit the job market. Patterson has provided crucial assistance by locating funding through external sources to support the Pre-Forensics program.
Popular with Shippensburg students, the program has also produced a Forensics Camp for high school students. With support from the faculty members and the Cumberland County Forensics Lab, university students gained practical experience while assisting the high school students explore the world of forensics through staged investigations.

"CSI: Shippensburg? Why not?" quipped Interim Provost, Dr. Rick Ruth.

The Provost's Award for Extraordinary Service was presented at the general faculty meeting in August 2007. Recipients of the award get a $500 travel grant which they may use during the academic year.

# Welcome Aboard, New Faculty!

Pictured Front Row, L-R: Horst, Galioto, Van Nyhuis, Ricketts, Anderson, Minnick, Minetola. Back Row,L-R: Schoening, Cella, Newton, Zume, Black, President Ruud, Ruth (Interim Provost & VP of Academic Affairs), Siahaan, Douglass, Ziegenfuss, Morin (CFEST Campus Support), Frielle.

Shippensburg University welcomed several new tenure track faculty this semester. The campus community will benefit from the addition of these highly qualified individuals.

### *College of Arts & Sciences*

**Ms. Stephanie N. Anderson** – Assistant Professor in Communications Journalism. Ms. Anderson received her M.F.A. in 2005 in English from the Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Ms. Anderson was an Instructor at Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, PA and a Freelance Writer, Editor and Proofreader for local publications.

English from the University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr Cella was an Instructor at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.

**Dr. Thomas Frielle** – Assistant Professor in Chemistry. Dr. Frielle received his Ph.D. in 1982 in Biochemistry from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Frielle was the Staff Scientist, Cognitive Learning Systems, Inc., Harrisburg, PA.

**Dr. Erica D. Galioto** – Assistant Professor in English. Dr. Galioto received her Ph.D. in 2005 in English from the State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Galioto was an Instructor at the State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY.

**Dr. Neil B. Miller** – Assistant Professor in History/Philosophy. Dr. Miller received his Ph.D. in 2002 in History from Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Miller was an Assistant Professor at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA.

**Dr. Joel Schoening** – Assistant Professor in Sociology/Anthropology. Dr. Schoening received his Ph.D. in 2006 in Sociology from the University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Schoening was an Instructor at Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR.

**Mr. Freddy Siahaan** – Assistant Professor in Economics. Mr. Siahaan received his M.S. in 1999 in Economics and is currently a doctoral candidate at City University of New York, New York, NY. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Mr. Siahann was an Adjunct Lecturer at Brooklyn College, New York, NY.

**Dr. Alison J. Van Nyhuis** – Assistant Professor in English. Dr. Van Nyhuis received her M.A. in 2003 and her Ph.D.in English from the University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Van Nyhuis was an Instructor at the University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

**Mr. Joseph T. Zume** – Assistant Professor in Geography/Earth Science. Mr. Zume received his M.S. in 1999 in Applied Geophysics from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria and his Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma, Norman OK. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Mr. Zume was a Carl Albert Executive Fellow at the Oklahoma Water Resource Board and an Adjunct Instructor at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.

### *College Of Business*

**Dr. Tara L. Horst** – Assistant Professor in Accounting & Management Information Systems. Dr. Horst received her Ed.D. in 2007 in Adult Education from the Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Horst was an Assistant Professor at Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, MD.

### *College of Education & Human Services*

**Dr. Samuel R. Benbow** – Assistant Professor in Social Work/Gerontology. Dr. Benbow received his Ph.D. in 2007 in Administration and Leadership from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA. Prior to his current appointment, Dr. Benbow was the Assistant Director for the Academic Success Program, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA.

**Dr. Charles B. Black** – Assistant Professor in Exercise Science. Dr. Black received his Ph.D. in 2004 in Kinesiology from Texas A & M University, College Station, TX. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Black was an Instructor at Osher Institute at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY.

**Dr. Marcy J. Douglass** – Assistant Professor in Counseling. Dr. Douglass received her Ph.D. in 2005 in Counselor Education from College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Douglass was an Instructor at the College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

**Dr. Janice R. Minetola** – Assistant Professor in Teacher Education. Dr. Minetola received her Ed.D. in 2002 in Educational Theory and Practice from Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Minetola was an Assistant Professor at Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA

**Ms. Dorlisa J. Minnick** – Assistant Professor in Social Work. Ms. Minnick received her M.S.W. in 1998 from the State University of New York – Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY, and is currently a doctoral candidate at The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Ms. Minnick was a Program Specialist II-A at The Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County, MD.

**Ms. Kathryn S. Newton** – Assistant Professor in Counseling. Ms. Newton received her M.S. in 2004 in Professional Counseling from Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA and is currently a doctoral candidate at Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Ms. Newton was a group therapist at the Atlanta Medical Center, Atlanta, GA.

**Dr. Melissa L. Ricketts** – Assistant Professor in Criminal Justice. Dr. Ricketts received her Ph.D. in 2005 in Criminology from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Ricketts was an Assistant Professor at the University of Louisville, Louisville, KY.

**Dr. Robert G. Ziegenfuss** – Assistant Professor in Teacher Education. Dr. Ziegenfuss received his Ph.D. in 1990 in Education Policy, Planning & Administration from the University of Maryland, College Park, MD. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Ziegenfuss was the Team Leader at Mount View Middle School, Howard County Public School, Marriottsville, MD.

# SU / University of Wroclaw Plan Exchanges

*University of Wroclaw, Poland*

Through the efforts of Mr. William Minsker, an alumnus of Shippensburg University, we are in the process of exploring an "exchange relationship" with Wroclaw University of Economics in Wroclaw, Poland. Professor Boguslaw Fiedor (Rector) and Professor Jaroslaw Witkowski (Vice-Rector) visited Shippensburg this past summer and were impressed with our university. After their meeting with President Ruud, they expressed a sincere interest in developing an "exchange relationship" with us, and extended an invitation to President Ruud and several others to visit Wroclaw this summer. In the meantime, Dr. Tom Verney's Global Business class is coordinating video-conferencing sessions between Shippensburg students and Wroclaw students. The first two topics are Corporate Social Responsibility (presented by Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE)) and The Operation of the U.S. and Polish Stock Markets (presented by the Investment Management Program (IMP) and Finance Club students). The Global Business class students, together with their Wroclaw counterparts, are also planning a "Selected Topics in International Business: Poland" course this summer that will include a 10-14 day trip to Poland which will most likely take place during the early part of summer. According to Dr. Steve Holoviak, Dean of the John L. Grove College of Business, "Given the increasing trends in globalization, it is imperative that we, as an institution of learning, do everything within our power (and budget) to expose our students to the impact of culture on business. The best thing that we can for our students is to encourage and support their efforts to study abroad and acquire some fluency in a second language."

# Psychology Department Receives Advising Award

*Dr. Kathryn Potoczak and Dr. Scott Madey receive the Advising Award from Dr. Rick Ruth*

The Fifth Annual Academic Advising Award was given to the Psychology Department. Presented during the opening faculty meeting in August, this award recognized the department's innovation and creativity in meeting the needs of its students. The department has devoted much time and effort to advising, as is evident in their many advising goals, which include faculty-student research opportunities, student involvement in departmental curriculum committees, advising workshops, and advisor self-assessment. The department also has advising committees and checklists; regular communication with, career assistance for, and social interaction with students; departmental honors programs; and internships – all of which contribute to the successful advising of their students.

"Some think of advising as only part of the process of scheduling for classes, but advising and mentoring students is part of the day-to-day relationship between faculty and students," said Interim Provost, Dr. Rick Ruth. "Ship is all about relation**ship**s."

The Academic Advising Award is co-sponsored by the President and the Provost offices. Recipients are given $5000 to be used towards the advancement of undergraduate teaching and learning.

# Schoolcraft Named Associate Provost & Dean of Graduate Studies

*Dr. Tracy Schoolcraft, Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies*

Dr. Tracy A Schoolcraft has been named Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Schoolcraft served as the Interim Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies and, as a Professor of Chemistry, had served as the chair of that department.

Dr. Schoolcraft earned her doctorate in physical chemistry from Pennsylvania State University. Her bachelor of science degree in chemistry was earned from George Washington University.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to continue serving the university," said Schoolcraft. "Shippensburg is a wonderful university that I'm proud to call my home. In this position, I get to interact even more with the campus as we work together to continue and enhance Ship's track record of excellence."

# New Cohort Programs

Three new off-campus cohort programs began this fall: Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Masters of Education degree in School Counseling, and a Bachelor of Social Work degree. Courses in these programs are taught at locations other than the Shippensburg University campus and are designed to meet the needs and schedules of working adults. Each course is offered once until the program is complete and classes are offered year-round. For more information on these or other off-campus degree programs, contact Carolyn Callaghan (cmcallaghan@ship.edu).

*Students display their research*

# On The Road

Provost Office personnel will be traveling to Tempe, AZ this February in order to give presentations at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities 2008 Academic Affairs Winter Meeting. Dr. Rick Ruth, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Tracy Schoolcraft, Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, will present *Eating the Assessment Elephant One Bite at a Time*. Dr. Ruth will also join Dr. Suzanne Morin, Professor of Psychology, in presenting *Fostering Connections Through the First Year: New Faculty Orientation*. If you'll be attending the conference, plan to stop by and participate in the sessions.

*Wherever you roam, there's no place like home!*

# SU's SHRM Chapter Receives National Award

The Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) has presented its Merit Award to Shippensburg University's SHRM Student Chapter. A higher level of achievement than the Honorable Mention Merit Citation the group received last year, this national award recognizes student chapters for outstanding activities and programs. The Shippensburg University SHRM Student Chapter was formed in 2002 and currently has about thirty active members. Under the guidance of their faculty advisor, Dr. Vicki Taylor, Associate Professor of Management/Marketing, and in cooperation with their sponsoring professional chapter, Cumberland Valley SHRM, the students planned and participated in a wide variety of activities, including workshops, professional development programs, conferences, interactions with local businesses, fundraisers, mentorships, and social events. "These activities allow our students to learn more about Human Resource Management while building relationships with local professionals and other students – and, of course, have fun," said Taylor.

The Society of Human Resource Management, founded in 1948, is the largest association in the world devoted to human resource management. Recipients of their Merit Award receive a Merit Plaque for display and are recognized in SHRM publications, website, and at the SHRM National Conference.

***"These activities allow our students to learn more about Human Resource Management while building relationships with local professionals and other students – and, of course, having fun."***
***- Dr. Vicki Taylor, Faculty Advisor***

# SU Welcomes New Dean of Extended Studies

Shippensburg University is pleased to welcome Dr. Christina M Sax as its new Dean of Extended Studies. Before coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Sax held a number of administrative positions at University of Maryland University College, including Interim Associate Provost, Interim Senior Dean for the School of Undergraduate Studies, and Assistant Dean for Social, Behavioral, Natural, and Mathematical Sciences.

Dr. Sax earned her doctorate in human genetics from the Medical College of Virginia and her bachelor of science degree in microbiology from the University of Rochester.

"I was drawn to Ship by a number of its characteristics," said Sax, " - a state university committed to access to higher education, a traditional residentially-based university diversifying through non-traditional and distance education programs, size, geographic location, and, most especially the instant feeling of community."

*Dr. Christina M Sax, Dean of Extended Studies*

## Office of the Provost

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### *About Shippensburg University*

Shippensburg University is a member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE). Located in on 200 acres in south-central Pennsylvania, it is home to over 7000 undergraduate and graduate students. It has served as an institute of higher education in the region since 1873.

**We're on the Web!**

**http://www.ship.edu/admin/provost/**

Shippensburg University


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# Update: Middle State Reaccreditation Efforts

Shippensburg University has successfully moved along the path to reaccreditation by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The Self-Study Design that was submitted by SU has been approved and the work groups have started tackling their tasks in earnest. Chairs and faculty representatives of the work groups met with the Steering Committee co-chairs periodically throughout the semester to clarify and answer questions as well as receive feedback from their colleagues. Each work group will be giving a final report of their findings to the full Steering Committee in December. It is expected that, over the semester break, the information presented will be crafted into a rough draft of the Self Study. When the Steering Committee reconvenes in the spring, the draft will serve as a starting point for further discussion about the tasks which need to be completed prior to Middle States Team Visit the next year.

# And Now A Word From Our Sponsor....

*Rick Ruth, Interim Provost & VP for Academic Affairs*

*Wisdom begins in wonder.*
*- Socrates*

My time serving as your Interim Provost is rapidly coming to a close. It has been a great honor and privilege to do so. I remain committed to public higher education; to Shippensburg University; and to our students, faculty, and staff. I sincerely believe that we – all of us – make a real difference in each other's lives, especially in the lives of our students. Thanks for all that you do; thanks for the opportunity to serve; and thanks for the difference you have made in my life!

Georgena and I wish you all the very best for a safe and happy holiday season.