Dr. Claire Jantz, Assistant Professor of Geography/Earth Science, was the recipient of this year’s Provost’s Award for Extraordinary Service. Jantz is the leading faculty recipient of sponsored research funding, generating over a half million dollars in research in the past five years. Jantz is a nationally recognized expert on land use change and frequently partners with colleagues at Shippensburg University as well as with experts from across the country on projects that reflect that specialty. Her efforts have also translated into graduate assistantships and undergraduate employment opportunities for several Shippensburg students.

“Grant acquisitions by Dr. Jantz reflect her scholarly entrepreneurship, engagement of students in research, and fulfillment of the institution’s responsibility for outreach to the state, Mid-Atlantic, and beyond,” commented Dr. Barbara Lyman, Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Lyman presented Jantz with her award during the opening faculty meeting held on August 25, 2010. She received a plaque and a $500 travel grant which she can use to attend a conference of her choice during the academic year.

The Provost’s Award for Extraordinary Service is bestowed for exemplary accomplishments in teaching, research/scholarly activities, and/or service. Previous award winners include Dr. Sean Cornell and Dr. Jose Ricardo (2009) and Dr. Sue Morin and Dr. Kim Weikel (2008).
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**

**Mr. Neil O. Connelly** – Assistant Professor in English. Mr. Connelly received his M.F.A. in 1996 in Creative Writing: Fiction from McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Mr. Connelly was an Associate Professor at McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA.

**Dr. Deborah L. Gochenaur** – Assistant Professor in Mathematics. Dr. Gochenaur received her Ph.D. in 2005 in Mathematics Education from American University, Washington, D.C. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Gochenaur was an Assistant Professor at Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA.

**Dr. Amanda M. Olejarski** – Assistant Professor in Political Science. Dr. Olejarski received her Ph.D. in 2009 in Public Administration and Finance from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Olejarski was a Teaching Assistant at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA.

**Dr. Virginia E. Pitts** – Assistant Professor in Psychology. Dr. Pitts received her Ph.D. in 2010 in Industrial & Organizational Psychology from Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Pitts was an Instructor at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO.

**College of Business**

**Dr. Joseph B. Beck** – Associate Professor in Management & Marketing. Dr. Beck received his Ph.D. in 2010 in Management from the University of California, Irvine, CA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Beck was an Adjunct Instructor at the University of Oregon, Eugene, OR.
Mr. James E. Benton – Associate Professor in Accounting & Management Information Systems. Mr. Benton received his M.S. in 1998 in Personal Financial Planning from Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA; Juris Doctor in 2001 at Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, and is currently a doctoral candidate at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Mr. Benton was an Adjunct Professor at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.

Dr. Joseph T. Catania – Associate Professor in Accounting & Management Information Systems. Dr. Catania received his Ph.D. in 2004 in Information Systems from New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, N.J. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Catania was an Assistant Professor at La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Susan T. Sadowski – Associate Professor in Accounting & Management Information Systems. Dr. Sadowski received her Ph.D. in 1994 in Accountancy and Information Technology Management from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Sadowski was the Edward T. Bitting Endowed Chair of Accounting at Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA.

College of Education & Human Services

Ms. Rebecca A. Blahus – Assistant Professor in Teacher Education. Ms. Blahus received her M.Ed. in 1987 in Early Childhood Education from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA, and is currently a doctoral candidate at the Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Ms. Blahus was an Early Childhood Advisor at the Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Harrisburg, PA.

Mr. Andrew L. Dunlap – Assistant Professor in Social Work. Mr. Dunlap received his M.S.W. in 1997 from the University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, and is currently a doctoral candidate at Smith College, Northampton, MA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Mr. Dunlap was the Assistant Director for Clinical Services at Susquehanna University Counseling Center, Selinsgrove, PA.

Dr. William K. Cowden – Assistant Professor in Educational Leadership & Special Education. Dr. Cowden received his D.Ed. in 1994 in Educational Administration from Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Cowden was the Superintendent of Schools, Big Spring School District, Newville, PA.

Mr. Thomas C. Gibbon – Assistant Professor in Educational Leadership & Special Education. Mr. Gibbon received his M.S. in 1990 in Special Education from Western Maryland College, Westminster, MD, and is currently a doctoral candidate at Grambling State University, Grambling, LA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Mr. Gibbon was an instructor at Mount St. Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, MD.

Dr. Rebecca S. Overholt – Assistant Professor in Teacher Education. Dr. Overholt received her D.Ed. in 2008 in Educational Administration and Supervision from Rutgers University, New Jersey. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Overholt was a School Principal, Tuckerton School District, Tuckerton, NJ.

Ms. Konnie R. Serr – Assistant Professor in Teacher Education. Ms. Serr received her M.Ed. in 1999 in Early Childhood Education from Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Ms. Serr was a First Grade Teacher at James Burd Elementary School, Shippensburg, PA.

Stewart Hall surrounded by the glorious colors of a Shippensburg autumn
SU is very happy to welcome Dr. John Kooti as he joins the university, becoming the sixth dean of the John L Grove College of Business. Before starting at SU in July, Dr. Kooti was a professor and dean of the School of Business Administration at Georgia Southwestern University. Prior to that, he was a faculty member at Albany State University. In addition to teaching at Albany State, he held many administrative positions, including MBA coordinator and director of the Center of Business and Economics Research and Development.

After earning a bachelor’s degree from Jundi-Shapour University in Iran, Dr. Kooti earned his master’s and doctoral degrees from Michigan State University. His studies focused on economics, quantitative methods, and finance. He remains active in professional organizations and continues to pursue scholarly interests, publishing articles and making presentations.

"After more than 12 years of serving as a Dean of the School of Business Administration and following a successful AACSB International accreditation, I was looking for another challenge in my professional career," says Dr. Kooti. "I found that Shippensburg University’s John L. Grove College of Business the best fit for me and the South Central Pennsylvania community is the best for me and my family. After 3 months of being the Dean of the College of Business, I found the statement to be absolutely true. I am enjoying my work, my wife is enjoying the area, and Cameron and John are adjusting to their new home and high school very well.”

“Shippensburg University and the John L Grove College of Business are fortunate to have John’s proven leadership in AACSB accreditation and quality standards as well as in supporting student and faculty excellence,” commented Dr. Barbara Lyman, Provost. “Dr. Kooti also brings a strong track record of mutually rewarding relationships with the business community and of successful resource management and program development.”

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Kooti to the campus community!

**Teacher Education Department Receives Advising Excellence Award**

The Department of Teacher Education was selected as the recipient of the 2010 Academic Advising Excellence Award. Due to new regulation from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Teacher Education Department has recently undergone a make-over, and has relied on various advising techniques to communicate the changes to their students. Realizing that a single, cookie-cutter approach will not address the spectrum of student needs, several types of advising, as well as delivery methods, are used. Students are advised one-on-one, in groups, and by peer-mentoring on topics as diverse as scheduling, new programs, PRAXIS preparation, student teaching, and career planning. The department’s use of technology was particularly noted by the selection committee. For example, students can access a video advising series, planning forms, interactive quizzes, and more on the departmental website.

Provost Lyman noted, “The importance of high quality advisement by faculty cannot be overstated and I applaud the Department of Teacher Education for its creative and comprehensive approach to advising students.”

The Academic Advising Excellence Award includes $5000.00 funded by the Provost and the President. The department may use the funds for the benefit of undergraduate teaching and learning.
SU Announces New Academic Programs

Shippensburg University approved a number of new programs in recent months. All of the additions build on existing strengths of the institution and demonstrate a conscious effort to utilize resources wisely while meeting demands of students.

Management Information Systems Certificate: This 12-credit post-baccalaureate certificate program provides an academic option to professionals who wish to update their management and/or technical skills.

Bachelor of Computer Engineering: This program is designed to provide a quality engineering education at an affordable price and prepare students to meet the identified need for computer engineers in the work force. Program to be implemented following Chancellor’s Office, Council of Trustees, and Board of Governors approval.

Bachelor of Software Engineering: A program which will meet the increased need for this specialized field, graduates will be trained in the technical, communication, and leadership abilities needed to succeed. Program to be implemented following Chancellor's Office, Council of Trustees, and Board of Governors approval.

Dual Masters Degree in Applied History/Library Science (with Clarion University): Though both degrees already exist in their own right, interested students will be able to earn their MA in Applied History and their MLS in Library Science at the same time. This dual degree will enhance their skill set and their marketability to employers.

Post Baccalaureate Directors Credential: Child care directors required to obtain a Directors Credential from the state can now take their coursework at Shippensburg University. Prior to this point, available courses to the directors were non-credit bearing. The Shippensburg University courses are being offered as graduate credit-bearing, thereby better meeting the continuing education needs of the participants.

Center for Juvenile Justice Training & Research at Home in Shippensburg

Nestled in Horton Hall is a nationally respected center devoted to juvenile justice. Since 1982, Shippensburg University has been home to the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R), part of Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission (JCJC). The CJJT&R provides training for juvenile probation officers, juvenile court judges, and residential facility staff. Approximately 3,000 such professionals attend various CJJT&R training sessions every year.

Full-time Pennsylvania county juvenile probation officers have the opportunity to participate in a graduate education program offered through the Department of Criminal Justice which leads to a Master of Science in Administration of Justice. With schedules built to meet the needs of working professionals, students meet five weekends each semester for two years. There is an average of thirty students enrolled in this program each year.

In addition to training and educational opportunities, the CJJT&R at Shippensburg University is also home to the Information Technology Division (ITD) of the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission. The ITD compiles and publishes juvenile court statistics for the state. It also generates reports based on that data as requested to various local, state, and federal agencies.

“The JCJC and the CJJT&R relationship that has existed with Shippensburg University for nearly 30 years,” says John Cookus, Director of the CJJT&R. “We are proud of the leadership and support Shippensburg University has provided to not only our agency, but to the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System as well.”

“Pennsylvania has consistently been recognized as having one of the finest and most innovative juvenile justice systems in the United States,” adds Dr. James Johnson, Dean, College of Education and Human Services. “At Shippensburg University we take great pride in the fact that the research outcomes from the Center have influenced both training and policy in the State and the nation.”

New programs meet student demands while utilizing resources wisely

Huber Arts Center in the midst of renovation. When finished, it will have additional classroom, office, and studio space as well as a completely updated infrastructure.

“We are proud of the support Shippensburg University has provided not only to our agency, but to the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System as well.”

– John Cookus, Director of CJJT&R
And Now A Word From Our Sponsor....

Barbara G. Lyman, Provost & Senior VP for Academic Affairs

What does the future hold?

While nobody can know the exact answer to that timeless question, we must nevertheless plan, and do so boldly, for the probable answers to this question. Part of my job as Provost is to plan for the academic future of Shippensburg University. While juggling regulations, spreadsheets, and wish lists from various constituencies, I always keep my eye on the true goal of academics: to educate and prepare our students to best meet their own futures.

SU—Wroclaw University Exchange Takes Off

With the inking of an agreement in April, a full exchange partnership was formed between Shippensburg University and the Wroclaw University of Economics in Wroclaw, Poland. The finishing touches were put in place during a visit the Rector of Wroclaw University, Dr. Boguslaw Fiedor, paid SU in the spring. Results from the nearly two years of hard work that went into forming this partnership can already be seen as SU hosted its first student from Wroclaw this fall.

The Wroclaw University of Economics was founded in 1947 and specializes in undergraduate and graduate degrees in various business fields. It currently serves approximately 17,000 students each year.

Dr. Tom Verney, Acting Associate Dean of the College of Business; Dr. Barbara Lyman, Provost; Dr. Tony Winter, Interim Dean of the College of Business; Dr. William Ruud, SU President; & Dr. Boguslaw Fiedor, Wroclaw Rector make it formal!

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