

## Shippensburg University

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*Accountability Report Summary 2011-2012, prepared by President William Ruud*

Shippensburg University maintains multiple measurements of its performance so it can remain accountable for its performance to its varied internal and external constituencies, and to make the most effective and efficient use of funds entrusted to us on behalf of the citizens of the Commonwealth. The University is also part of the accountability process conducted by the Chancellor's Office of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Based on the various measurements, the university had a significant number of successes during the 2011-2012 academic year.

Some recent University accountability successes include:

- Approval to begin two new academic programs to meet the ever-changing needs of the region. The new degree in software engineering will prepare students for careers developing large-scale software systems while working in highly effective development teams and fills the need for trained software developers in the Commonwealth and surrounding region. To meet the growing need for highly-qualified high school and middle school science teachers, Ship will offer a new Master of Arts in Teaching–Science Education degree. Cohorts will complete seven, eight-week courses in 18 months via face-to-face classes, online instruction, and video conferencing plus field experiences and student teaching.
- Between July 2011 to May 2012, Ship faculty and staff were awarded 21 externally sponsored grants and contracts. These awards totaled \$3,267,465 including funding from the National Geographic Education Foundation, the Statewide Coalition for Prevention and Reduction of Underage and Binge Drinking, and the USA Jobs Act to the Small Business Development Center.
- The university remains ranked among the best universities in the North and in the nation by a number of publications, including *U.S. News and World Report*. In addition, that publication recognized the John L. Grove College of Business as among the best business programs in the nation. In addition, The Princeton Review named Grove College as one of the best business schools in the nation in its “The Best 296 Business Schools.”
- The U.S. Agency for International Development awarded Ship a two-year, \$500,000 grant to help Iraq re-establish its finance and banking education in its business colleges. This grant, which supports the foreign policy goals of the United States, is the first of its kind for the university. The work will include conducting a feasibility study for a center for excellence in finance and banking in Baghdad, developing a center for excellence for Iraqi colleges of management and economics, and using the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) standards to assure quality programming. Dr. John Kooti, dean of the John L. Grove College of Business, was joined by Dr. Melodye Wehrung, executive director of social equity, and Dr. Sarah Bryant, professor of finance and supply chain management, for the initial meeting in Baghdad in January.
- The International Association of Counseling Services reaccredited the Counseling Center as it continues to be the center for behavioral health care of students. Accredited since 1984, the center must provide regular status reports and re-apply every five years. The center offers behavioral health counseling for individuals, groups, and couples.

- Shippensburg is the lead partner in a \$749,506 National Science Foundation grant to promote the recruitment, retention, and advancement of women academics in STEM disciplines. Under the auspices of the PA STEM University Partnership for the Advancement of Academic Women (PA STEM-UP) program, faculty from Elizabethtown College, Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, and the Innovation Transfer Network join the Shippensburg leadership team of Dr. Kate McGivney, professor of mathematics, Dr. Alice Armstrong, assistant professor of computer science, and Dr. Robin McCann, associate professor of chemistry. The team will conduct research to understand what attracts women to careers in the sciences, why they abandon those careers prematurely, and what can be done to change that paradigm.
- Shippensburg received a \$1.8 million share in the four-year \$46 million federal grant to expand the Reading Recovery program, one of the most successful reading intervention programs in practice today. According to Dr. Janet Bufalino, associate professor of teacher education and Reading Recovery trainer, she expects to train an additional 173 teacher-leaders over the course of the grant. Reading Recovery, an early-intervention program for first graders who struggle with reading, offers one-on-one and group reading instruction from trained teacher leaders. The university is one of just 23 Reading Recovery training centers in Canada and the United States and serves school districts in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- The joint student-faculty research programs continues to expand as more than 500 undergraduate and graduate students shared their diverse and innovative student-faculty research activities at the annual Celebration of Student Research Conference. A highlight this year was a keynote talk by Dr. William E. Klunk, a 1978 alumnus and one of the nation's leading experts in the early detection of Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Klunk is co-director of the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.
- Shippensburg University is one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to a new survey by The Chronicle of Higher Education. The results in The Chronicle's third annual report on The Academic Workplace were based on a survey of more than 42,000 employees at 277 colleges and universities. Only 97 of the 277 institutions achieved "Great College to Work For" recognition for specific best practices and policies.
- For the second consecutive year, Shippensburg University was named one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to a survey by The Chronicle of Higher Education. In addition, The Chronicle also honored Shippensburg in the leadership and careers areas, for collaborative governance and for tenure clarity and process.
- Plans were finalized to expand academic programs to various parts of the region. The MBA program is now available in York and East Stroudsburg (in collaboration with East Stroudsburg University). The fully accredited Master of Social Work program will be available during the 2012-13 academic year in Schuylkill County. Shippensburg operates the MSW collaboratively with Millersville University. This new partnership with the Schuylkill Community Education Council (SCEC) is in response to pressing needs for more master's-level trained social workers in rural areas of central Pennsylvania.

In its approach to accountability and assessment, the University looks at various areas based on such areas as scholarship, leadership, partnership, stewardship and championship. Among the highlights are:

### **Scholarship**

- Nine Shippensburg faculty members co-authored *Sex Scandals in American Politics*, a collection of essays that explains why elected politicians who espouse ethical behavior risk their careers, and the socio-political

consequences of their actions.

- Dr. Doug Ensley, professor of mathematics, and Dr. Lea Adams, assistant professor of psychology, along with a colleague from the University of Rhode Island received a National Science Foundation grant of nearly \$175,000 to develop a smartphone application to increase student performance in pre-calculus, a course that can be a bottleneck for students pursuing degrees in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.
- Shippensburg is partnering with the University of Maryland and the USDA Forest Service to conduct research designed to protect the Chesapeake Bay. According to Dr. Claire Jantz, associate professor of geography/earth science and co-investigator, the group will map and monitor wetlands in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and then interpret their findings in a final report. A three-year \$750,000 NASA Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences (ROSES) grant funds the research.
- Dr. Corinne Eisenhart, assistant professor of educational leadership and special education, shared developmentally appropriate practices with Taiwanese educational leaders. While there, she and Dr. Mei Hue Wei from the National Taichung University collaborated on an idea that led to an article highlighting the cultural differences of their two countries and the effect on educational outcomes. The article was published in *Phi Delta Kappan*, the professional journal for educators.
- Dr. Paul Marr, associate professor of geography-earth science, was one of two guests on WITF's Radio Smart Talk program that focused on the history, growth, and future of the Interstate 81 corridor.
- Dr. Margaret Lucia, associate professor of music, performed contemporary Cuban music at the Festival Internacional de Música Contemporánea de La Habana in Cuba and conducted research during the trip.
- Dr. George Pomeroy, professor of geography/ earth science and secretary of the Asian Urban Research Association, participated in the 11th Asian Urbanization Conference in Hyderabad, India, where planning professionals and researchers came together to learn and to see planning projects in action. While in India, Dr. Pomeroy also presented a paper at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology.
- During the academic year, more faculty members were able to get instant feedback by asking questions and having their students use a credit-card size device, called a clicker, to provide answers. The interactive response technology, expanded to more than 500 devices at Shippensburg, gives faculty members data at a glance to help them assess topic understanding. Feedback can also be submitted via web browsers and smartphones with the appropriate app.

### **Leadership**

- *G.I. Jobs Magazine* named the University as a "Military Friendly School" for 2012. The magazine said that the designation places Shippensburg in the top 20 percent of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide and are "doing the most to embrace America's military service members and veterans as students."
- Shippensburg earned high marks from the *Washington Monthly College Guide and Rankings* in two critical areas: efforts to recruit and graduate low-income students and to encourage our students to give back to their country. The honor placed Shippensburg in the top 40 percent of all institutions ranked by the publication.
- In its first five years working with area businesses and entrepreneurs, the Small Business Development Center on campus helped create over 350 jobs, saved another 300, and reported over \$10 million in capital investments in client businesses. The center serves Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, and York counties.

## **Partnership**

- The H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center continues to deliver outstanding performances and memorable speakers to the Shippensburg community and residents of the region. Since opening in 2006, the Luhrs Center has hosted more than 150 performances. Ticket sales and sold-out shows continue to increase annually as performances attract guests from the surrounding Mid-Atlantic region. Now 442 members strong, the Circle of Friends grew 24 percent over the previous year.
- A new post-graduate education program provides an innovative way for future public school leaders to develop critical leadership skills. The Educational Leadership Residency Program (ELRP) allows candidates to remain in their current positions while being mentored and supervised by university faculty, expert practitioners, and school district leaders as they complete up to 600 hours of field experience in actual leadership situations. ELRP is designed for professionals interested in the Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility. The program is the first of its kind in Pennsylvania.
- Faculty members and undergraduate students made chemistry "cool" with programs in the region promoting the magic and wonder of chemistry. One presentation was at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg during National Chemistry Week. Dr. Joseph Shane, associate professor of chemistry and science education, and biochemistry professors Drs. Robin McCann and Thomas Frielle demonstrated "cool" chemistry in three half-hour presentations while six Ship chemistry students engaged visitors in interactive, hands-on activities.
- Shippensburg students and faculty continue reaching out to underprivileged students in the Dominican Republic. Reach Out, an Honors Program service-learning project, provides curricular materials and support for the Pathways of Learning School in Santo Domingo. Students gain experience raising funds, preparing curriculum, and teaching. Kady Taylor used her Reach Out experiences to apply for a position with the Teach for America program. Kady, an early childhood major with a minor in reading, was selected to teach at a low-performance school in Cleveland.
- More than 150 seventh-grade girls participated in hands-on learning opportunities as part of the Cumberland Valley ESTEEM (Exploring Science, Technology, Engineering, Earth Science, and Mathematics) conference. The girls identified aquatic insects, learned about squid anatomy, experienced "paper engineering" created pop-up greeting cards, participated in a disc-tossing experiment, and deconstructed a computer. The conference was jointly sponsored with Wilson College, Gannett Fleming, the Mathematical Association of America, and the Pennsylvania Alliance for Geographic Education.
- Shippensburg University signed a volunteer service pact with the Chambersburg 21st Century Partnership. The Executive Volunteer Connector Service (EVCS) matches volunteer executives with Franklin County non-profit agencies to provide management and consultative services. The service is affiliated with the John L. Grove College of Business and is funded by a \$5,000 donation from the Partnership.
- Twenty-five years ago, Shippensburg University founded a coalition of educators in the region to share solutions to common problems. Today, the Shippensburg University School Study Council (SUSSC) is a partnership of approximately 60 Pennsylvania school districts that seeks to improve education by highlighting successes and offering workshops to aid in overcoming challenges in education.

## **Stewardship**

- Reopening of the renovated and expanded Huber Art Center was a highlight to start the academic year. The center features new areas for art education, pottery, sculpture, drawing, painting, and computer design. The 12,700 square-foot addition is joined to the original building via a central glass-enclosed tower. It is home to the relocated Kauffman Gallery and provides spaces—large and small—to display art of all

types, sizes, and media while meeting new energy conservation standards.

- The expanded Ceddia Union Building fully re-opened, with the addition of new office and meeting areas for student services and groups, as well as places to eat, lounge, relax, and play. Outdoor spaces now include patio areas and an amphitheater. Shippensburg University Student Services Incorporated partnered with Follett to manage the University Store and with UPS to provide packing, shipping, and printing services along with managing mail for students who live on campus.
- Shippensburg made history when ground was broken on the university's largest single project—the construction of all-new student residence halls. The first phase of the three-phase project includes three new four-story buildings (924 beds total), two on the north side of campus and one on the south side. The buildings, which will open for the Spring 2013 semester, feature suite-style living with bathrooms shared by no more than two students. The second phase involves demolition of four current residence halls to make room for new construction. All three phases are expected to be completed in 2015 with the cost to be underwritten by student housing fees.
- Faculty members continue to provide valuable information to the region, especially during extremes of weather or natural disasters. Dr. Timothy Hawkins, associate professor of geography-earth science and current weather observer, frequently gave data, historical information, and analysis to local media on extreme temperatures that plagued the region. After the August earthquake, Dr. Sean Cornell, associate professor of geography/earth science, offered his expertise as he provided valuable tips for area residents in multiple television and newspaper stories.
- The 116-year-old fountain in front of Old Main was restored to its original beauty with a repair project that required piece-by-piece disassembly. The molded cast iron fountain was removed, crated, and trucked to Robinson Iron of Alabama for restoration. During Alumni Weekend, this iconic and most photographed landmark was rededicated.

### **Championship**

- The Editor's Choice blue-ribbon winner at the Maker Faire at the New York Hall of Science was Wonderfall, created by Ship's Women in Computer Science Club. The programmable waterfall, displaying messages to viewers, represents many design challenges ranging from circuit board layout to software programs that could both drive the hardware and create messages. Club members were also invited to exhibit Wonderfall at the USA Science and Engineering Festival in Washington, D.C.
- SUTV, the student-run television station, was nominated for outstanding achievement in a regularly scheduled newscast in the College Production-Newscast category. The students, along with their advisor Dr. Kim Garris, assistant professor of communication/journalism, are proud of their work and thrilled by the experience, even though they didn't win. Broadcasts were judged on overall content, presentation, enterprise, writing, and format. In addition, Dr. Garris received a grant from the Scripps Howard Foundation to serve for two weeks as a visiting professor in social media at WCPO-TV in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- More than 850 students nationwide vied for 74 invitations from the Council on Undergraduate Research to the prestigious Posters on the Hill Conference, and senior history major Kayla Reed was one of the 74. Her research examines the lives of women who traveled west on the Oregon Trail from 1840 to 1860. She worked on the project with her faculty advisor, Dr. Allen Dieterich-Ward, associate professor of history.
- Learning how to listen led Honors Program students in Dr. Laurie Cella's writing class to compile a book of essays based on the oral histories of clients at the Franklin County Literacy Center. The students presented the book, *Community Connections*, at the Pennsylvania Association of Adult Continuing Education Conference in March. Senior English major Jayda Coons, coordinator for the project, also volunteered at the Franklin County Literacy Center as an AmeriCorps service-learning project. During her 300 hours of

service, she tutored young adults in basic literacy and helped plan and organize council events.

- Shippensburg's student-athletes continue to be dominant both on the competitive fields and in the classroom. Of Shippensburg's 20 intercollegiate teams, 14 participated in PSAC tournament competitions and five earned championships. Nine teams represented Shippensburg in NCAA championship competitions. Nearly 40 percent of the student-athletes made the Dean's List with a semester QPA of 3.3 or better. College Sports Information Directors of America recognized 13 with Academic All-District honors.
- Students in the Investment Management Program (IMP) took first place in the growth investment area (one of six categories) at the R.I.S.E. XII (Redefining Investment Strategy Education) competition at the University of Dayton in Ohio. IMP is a highly selective, proactive class where seniors from within the John L. Grove College of Business are the sole portfolio managers, with oversight by finance professors, of a real-dollar endowment fund.
- Four Ship students spent 10 weeks at large research universities as part of the Research Experiences for Undergraduates program of the National Science Foundation. Alicia Briegel, senior chemistry major, researched bio-organics at Virginia Commonwealth University; Matt Fritz, junior chemistry major with a math minor, researched the three-dimensional structure of gracinia acid derivatives at Vanderbilt University; Chad Hoyer, senior chemistry major with a double minor in math and physics, researched theoretical chemistry at the University of North Dakota; and Brian Sirovetz, senior chemistry and math major, researched computational chemistry looking at the structure of liquids at Pennsylvania State University.
- The Software Engineering team earned an award at the Desire2Learn Edge Challenge for its program, *Tune In*, that allows students to tell their professors, in real time, if they understand the material being presented. The software interface, which resembles a car radio tuner, allows students to indicate if they understand the material by turning the volume up or down.
- Neshamah Crosby, junior political science major and English minor, worked in the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as part of the 15-week The Harrisburg Internship Semester.
- The Computer Programming Team participated in a 24-hour global programming competition in October and achieved impressive results. "Derazzed," one of four groups in the team, ranked 147 out of 1,516 teams.