

# SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Fall 2020

## *Learning to Adjust* Faculty and Staff Tackle Fall Semester

Shippensburg University faced a new normal this fall semester in response to COVID-19 mitigation procedures.

The College of Arts and Sciences took on these changes and challenges with vigor as faculty and staff worked to create the most meaningful educational experiences possible for their students.

Dr. Carol Wellington, professor of software engineering, saw some positives to teaching remotely, since her software engineering students are “pretty comfortable with the technology.”

“The switch to hybrid courses is also an excellent experience for computer science students because of their eventual workplace environment,” said Timothy Boyum, computer science and engineering systems administrator.

According to Boyum, “One of the major advantages for [software engineering] students is that we enforce the fact that you are in college to learn the process of learning because the technology field is always changing.” The pandemic has served as an opportunity for engineering students to face



“...students have stepped up and are working hard,” says Dr. Robin McCann, professor of biochemistry pictured above.

the inevitable, given their ever-changing fields.

While opportunities for growth always exist in times of change, students still needed support in this uncertain environment. With this in mind, faculty and staff invested in plenty of preparation to ensure the quality of their students’ education.

Dr. Robin McCann, professor of biochemistry, admitted, “this environment has created some big challenges in the classroom and laboratories, but the students have stepped up and are working hard.”

Because of the nature of the work, chemistry laboratory courses remained face-to-face. While some students opted out of labs this semester, the majority decided to come on campus to complete them. Faculty therefore implemented strict

social distancing protocols, created pre-lab equipment demonstration videos, and provided students with plenty of gloves and face shields. Dr. McCann said, “If you see a student walking around with a face shield on, you know they just left one of our labs!”

The School of Engineering was able to hold many of their classes virtually using Zoom and the Discord server. Wellington found that Zoom is quite useful for upper-division students learning how to code as well as coaching all students through developmental strategies. “The ability to share a screen and remotely control a keyboard gives an excellent way for me to coach.”

Faculty and staff went above and beyond to support students through difficult circumstances. Yet, the physical disconnect from the Ship family was trying for many.

Senior English major, Angela Piper, reflected on “a very strange semester” of mainly virtual Zoom classes. While she said things have improved from last spring, she still missed the tangible joys of being an English major, like annotating and providing written feedback on classmates’ papers.

Despite these challenges, Piper said, “Our professors have been really trying to find new ways for us to engage with each other because they have also felt the awkwardness of Zoom meetings, so I appreciate their efforts.”

Like Piper, senior psychology major Tonji Bell missed attending class in-person and participating in hands-on experiences, but felt very supported by Ship faculty. “All of my professors have been extremely helpful and have been understanding when it comes to technical issues.”

No one was sure what this semester would look like. Thankfully, Ship has sailed through another great academic year, and the College of Arts and Sciences continues to propel its students forward as skilled and competent future professionals.

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## UPCOMING *events*

For more information,  
visit [ship.edu/events](http://ship.edu/events).



# D *Message from the* **DEAN**

## Change is Constant

Fall 2020 has been a semester like none we have seen before at Shippensburg University. To paraphrase President Carter, “we found that flexibility and adaptability was the wind in our sails” as we adapted how we learned and how we taught. Our faculty are to be commended for their creativity, diligence and the care and concern demonstrated as they offered instruction in a variety of modalities. The commitment of faculty, staff and students to the Raider Respect pledge allowed us to end the semester on a successful note.

In addition to the changes brought on by the COVID-19 environment, there have also been changes brought on by more pleasant circumstances. Dr. James Mike, our leader for the past 14½ years, retired in mid-December to pursue an opportunity at the University of Hawai’i, Hilo as Dean of the College of Natural and Health Sciences. Although many have known and worked with Jim far longer than I have, in the two and a half years we worked together he made a great impression on me. He worked tirelessly to promote the vision and mission of the College of Arts and Sciences. His enthusiasm about the College and Shippensburg in general was clear to me as I sat in a conference room with him during my interview and was one of the deciding factors in my decision to join the College of Arts and Sciences. It has not taken me long to learn that there is indeed something special here. And I am honored and pleased to be called upon to serve as the Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. I look forward to continuing our tradition of excellence and integrity.

**Lesley R. Brown, PhD**  
Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

# SU Foundation Volunteers

## Shippensburg University Foundation

**Shippensburg University  
FOUNDATION**  
Nurturing Excellence

Volunteers are an integral part of the Shippensburg University Foundation. Whether an alumnus, parent, or friend, loyal and dedicated volunteers provide advice, support, guidance, and hands-on assistance with different projects. Whatever your experience or field of interest, there are opportunities for you to help.

Making a monetary gift is one way you can have an impact on the work that is done at the SU Foundation. Your gift benefits the students at Shippensburg University and helps to nurture excellence by advancing the university's mission of teaching, research, and community service.

You also can help with your gift of time. The CAS Advisory Board and Advisory Councils for Comm/Journ, Computer Science, Geo/Earth Science, and the Fashion Archives and Museum are critical to the ongoing success of each of their respective areas. These boards and councils are made up of volunteers who attend two meetings per year to advise the dean, the department chairs, and students on current trends and needed skills in the marketplace.

The SU Foundation relies heavily on volunteers to help with annual fund and special event mailings. Volunteers have fun and joke around with other alumni and friends while stuffing envelopes. During our spring Thankathon, volunteers call donors to thank them for their support of the SU Foundation. As classes approach their 35th, 40th, 45th, and 50th reunions, committee members assist the SU Foundation with fundraising efforts for their Class Reunion Gift project.

The SU Foundation treasures volunteers; they are a precious commodity. Through you, we help advance the university's mission. We provide essential support so Ship can open its doors to more students, broaden its academic programming, expand critical research, and engage the region in powerful new partnerships.

Providing a scholarship or an internship at your place of business also is a valuable way to support the students at Ship by giving them industry experiences that will foster their growth as individuals in their field.

If you would like to make a gift of your time, treasure, or talent, or want to learn more about how you can help, e-mail [contactus@sufoundation.org](mailto:contactus@sufoundation.org) or call (717) 477-1377.

There also are opportunities to volunteer with the Alumni Association to recruit students and answer questions from our confirmed students. Sending congratulatory notes to newly accepted students adds a personal touch from a non-admissions Ship Family member. Many alumni have held small, informal receptions in their homes to welcome confirmed students and parents by sharing the Ship experience.

By mentoring a current student, you help to build confidence, provide meaningful feedback from a professional in their field of study, prepare them for life after college, and build relationships that can last a lifetime. You can contact the Alumni Office at [ship.edu/alumni](http://ship.edu/alumni).

**sufoundation.org**

## ADVISORY BOARD *Profile* SUSAN RIMBY

Growing up in time where there were only three professional jobs available for women, Susan Rimby (right) knew teaching was for her.

"I entered the field of secondary education because I thought it would be the easiest way to combine having a family and career," Rimby said.

From the Berks County suburbs of Reading in Exeter Township, Rimby attended two Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) universities before beginning her career at Shippensburg University. She graduated from both Bloomsburg and Kutztown.

But after her time there was over, she felt there was more to learn. The history faculty at Kutztown encouraged her to enter a PhD program.

"That's what led me into college teaching," Rimby said. She later earned her doctorate at the University of Pittsburgh. She also served as an adjunct faculty member at Millersville before becoming a professor at SU in 1992.

"I competed successfully at Pitt with students from Big 10 and Ivy League schools, Rimby said. "I wanted to give back to students like me."



She taught general education and elective courses at Ship from 1992 through 2012, as well as secondary education courses for history, geography and political education majors. During the 2012-2013 academic year, she also served as the Interim Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences. From there, Rimby went to Lock Haven University to serve as the Founding Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Education from 2013-2017.

As a current member of the advisory board at SU, it is her job to listen carefully to Dean Mike and give her informed opinions on matters that would enhance the Ship experience for students and faculty.

The board member also acts as an informal advisor who understands college curriculum and pedagogy, as well as trends in employment and best practices in higher education.

"I love coming back to Ship," said Rimby. "I get to reconnect with former colleagues and meet students. Being on the board allows me to satisfy my "college student fix!"

# *Student receives Emmy® Nomination*

## Hitz Makes his Mark in Sport Commentating

Jacob Hitz '23 (right), made history this fall with a nomination for a Student Production Award Crystal Pillar in the category of College/University Student Production-Talent, the collegiate version of an Emmy®.

The nominees were announced August 5 by the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Hitz, a native of Newmanstown, is the only student from Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education to be nominated. He was nominated along with four students from Temple University and one student from Penn State University.

His nomination is the latest for Shippensburg University Television (SUTV), a student-run organization which has consistently been recognized for its production and on-air talent over the last two decades.

"Being nominated is truly an honor, and something I never anticipated when I came to Shippensburg a year ago," Hitz said. "It couldn't have happened without the rest of the crew at SUTV, who have helped me in so many ways over the last year in becoming



better while on-air, and in my preparation before broadcasts."

Hitz served as the lead play-by-play voice for SUTV sporting events in 2019-20 and was also a fixture on weekly newscasts.

Hitz added, "My experience at Ship and with SUTV has been incredible, and I never expected to achieve this much in such little time. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity and I've had an incredible time since. I've also been lucky to have some great talent with me on-air, which I think helps brings the best part of me out during a broadcast. Without them, I don't think this could've happened."

Michael Gardner, director of broadcasting, said of Hitz, "He is one of the most prepared commentators I have ever worked with, including paid professionals. You can hear the hours of hard work and content preparation when you listen to Jacob call a game. It is no surprise to me that he was nominated for a Student Production Crystal Pillar Award. Jacob has a very bright future."

Shippensburg's Communication/Journalism program is the only one in the State System with accreditation from

the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications.

SUTV News produces a live news, weather and sports program every Thursday night at 7 p.m. that airs on Comcast channel 21 and campus channel 82. SUTV also produces and airs special events and sports contests.

The full list of nominees is available at [natasmidatlantic.org/students/collegeuniversity/2020-college-university-student-nominees](http://natasmidatlantic.org/students/collegeuniversity/2020-college-university-student-nominees).



## *Student Spotlight: PAIGE STEFFY*

Senior Paige Steffy (right) has taken advantage of the many opportunities outside of the classroom at Shippensburg University by becoming actively involved in various environment organizations which serve as the forefront of the University's green initiatives.

While Steffy currently serves as the president of Green League, which strives to educate the campus and surrounding community on sustainable, agricultural, environmental practices through service learning opportunities, she wasn't always an environmental leader at SU.

Steffy became involved in the fall of 2017



when classmate, Margaret Dunkelberger, took notice of her shirt that read, "Plants are Friends." From there, Dunkelberger encouraged Steffy to attend a weekly meeting for her club, Students for Environmental Action and Sustainability, also known as SEAS.

Today, Steffy is the president of Green League, which "was formed after recognizing the overlapping of the environmental groups on campus, namely SEAS, the SU Farm Club and GESO (Geography Earth Science Organization)."

"We wanted to group all the sustainable activities together under one umbrella, making it

# A Flashback of Fashionable Dances

## The Fashion Archives & Museum's Current Exhibit Goes Virtual

The Fashion Archives and Museum's current exhibit, "Fashionable Dances and Dancing Fashions," explores the interplay of fashion and dance from the early nineteenth century through the twentieth century. From the waltz to the disco, this exhibition gives viewers a unique and personal view of the couture that defined each decade of dance.

"Dance is not just about steps that people navigate singly or as a couple," said Bohleke; "changes in fashions force changes in choreography and choreography itself evolves according to many different sources of influence."

The current exhibit encompasses many angles of these influences in an integrated way, including costume, social and racial history.

The exhibit, like many others at the museum, are created by Bohleke's graduate assistant, undergraduate/graduate interns, work-study student employees and community volunteers, providing them with hands-on experience that does not exist in comparable programs at the university.

"The students learn to dress

"THE EXHIBIT REMAINS  
AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC TO  
VIEW THROUGH A VIRTUAL TOUR,  
ALLOWING EXPLORATION OF  
*social dance*  
DURING A TIME OF  
*social distancing.*"

the mannequins - a major and detailed undertaking that must do no damage to garments that are easily 100 to 200 years old -install both graphics and platforms and work with visitors, giving them event planning experience" said Bohleke.

The Fashion Archives and Museum's astonishing 15,000-item collection is composed mostly of donations dating back to the eighteenth century. It is a dynamic learning environment for students.

"It is a unique, all-around experience that gives Ship students an edge when applying for public history jobs."

Despite the recent outbreak of COVID-19, the exhibit remains available for the public to view through a virtual tour, allowing exploration of social dance during a time of social distancing. The short video tour can be found on Shippensburg University's

YouTube channel.

The museum's planned 150th anniversary celebration of SU has been postponed until the 2021-2022 academic year. This collection will give visitors, for the first time, the opportunity



to see an immense quantity of Ship-related artifacts gathered together to signify the university's 150-year history.

According to Fashion Archives and Museum director, Karin Bohleke, the FA&M collection will house an array of university artifacts including "band uniforms dating back to the 1940s, banners from the 1920s, a graduation dress from the class of 1896, gym uniforms from the 1920s and freshman 'dink' caps."

Bohleke is partnering with Christy Fic, an SU archivist, in order to combine the museum's artifacts with those in the university's archives.

The exhibit is preparing for a soft opening in October 2021 with a grand opening slated for homecoming.

more streamlined," said Steffy. "I think that's really been emphasized this semester, which is great."

Serving as vice president on the executive board amidst the development of the organization in 2019, Steffy was able to learn from Dunkelberger, the club's first president.

"The benefits of Green League include the connections members make with one another in the department," Steffy said. "I have made friends both academically and socially."

She also said that the organization allows for students to make connections with alumni and faculty.

Last summer, she had the opportunity to conduct undergraduate research with Dr. Cornell and Dr. Marr, studying Native American quarry pits on South Mountain. There she utilized her geography and archeology knowledge. Steffy also learned how to operate a ground penetrating radar during her grant-funded research.

In the latter half of the summer, Steffy worked at the Center

of Land Use and Sustainability (CLUS) alongside Dr. Jantz on the Appalachian Trail Natural Resource Condition Assessment (NRCA). There, she worked on air quality reports for the various sections of the Appalachian Trail spanning 14 states.

Steffy is a Wood Honors College student and is expected to graduate in December 2020 with a bachelor's of science degree in geoenvironmental studies with a minor in geographic information systems (GIS).

# Hathaway Named Executive Director

## Advocating for the Success of Women Everywhere

Ship alumna, Moriah Hathaway '19, was named the executive director of The Pennsylvania Commission for Women. Hathaway explained, "As executive director of The Pennsylvania Commission for Women, I will collaborate with commissioners and stakeholders from across the Commonwealth to advocate for the needs of women and girls as well as amplify their successes. One of my goals for the commission is to focus on intersectionality and how it affects all women. I will do this by working with the Governor's other affinity commissions." Hathaway reports to the Secretary of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Hathaway is a 2019 graduate of the Political Science Department and currently

serves on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Previously, she served as special assistant to the Governor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Hathaway reminisced on her experiences at Ship and how each step prepared her for success. "I started my journey with the Governor's Office as an undergraduate [Ship] intern.

I gained this internship after attending an LGBT Out for Work event on campus and networking with the panelists. Shippensburg University gave me the tools I needed to gain this real-world experience. I wouldn't be where I am today without the help of the professors within the Political Science and

English departments."

The Pennsylvania Commission for Women is responsible for advising the Governor on policies and legislation that impact women; supporting economic and civic opportunities for women; encouraging mentoring programs for girls and young women; identifying programs and opportunities for the benefit and advancement of women; and serving as a resource center for Pennsylvania women. The Commission also acts as an advocate for policies and legislation it feels serves the best interest of women and girls in Pennsylvania.

Congrats to Moriah from the Ship family!

## Faculty Focus

### ART AND DESIGN PROFESSOR PROMOTES NETWORKING IN THE ART INDUSTRY

Adjacent to the Kauffman Gallery in Huber Visual Arts Center, students can find professor and Kauffman Gallery Director, Michael Campbell (right) working at his woodshop-styled desk, which sits in front of the large window spanning the entire wall of his work space. When he's not in his office making calls to museum curators inquiring about bringing art exhibits to SU, he can be found in the Kauffman Gallery.

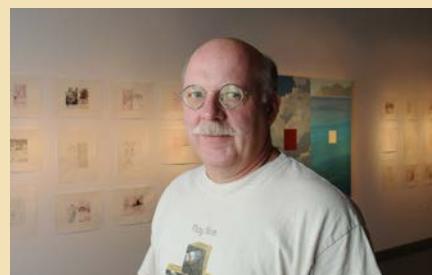
"I go to the university every day to play—not work," said Campbell.

The Lancaster county native began teaching at SU in 1990 after teaching at a community college. Campbell loves both the size of the university and the Shippensburg community.

"I wanted to see my students grow all four years, not just two," he said.

Campbell's passion for art began in sixth grade after he received a compliment on a collage he was creating with his best friend at the time. It is this comment that gave in the confidence to pursue art at a young age.

He later received his bachelor's degree in both studio art and art history in 1981 at Indiana University of PA. While



he thought he was destined to work in a museum following graduation, his internship experience junior year pointed him in a different direction.

Campbell earned a master of fine arts (MFA) in painting and drawing in 1989.

After 30 years at SU, he has learned that networking is key, for the exhibits he has brought to Ship happened through the connections he has made since his start at the university.

"You begin to build a track record," said Campbell, "which is important."

At the beginning of the spring 2020 semester, Campbell, alongside his gallery assistants, set up the Pace Prints exhibit in the Kauffman Gallery. It took about five years to bring this internationally-known

gallery to SU's campus after he spoke with the gallery director during one of his trips to NYC.

"New York is the contemporary art capital of the planet," Campbell said; "there are over 400 galleries there."

Campbell also connected with Esther Adler, the associate curator of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMa), which was a crucial part in bringing the Pace Prints exhibit to SU.

"New York exhibits tend to bring a broader audience to the Kauffman Gallery," Campbell said.

His goal is to continue bringing 'big directors' to the university at least once a year. In addition to the gallery itself, he also hopes to host lectures from the gallery's directors/curators, just like he did with Adler.

Despite being in the industry for over 30 years, Campbell is adamant on expanding his network and reputation.

"You are only as competent as your last exhibit," he said.



# Earning a Master's Degree Online

## New Online Graduate Psychology Program to Begin Fall 2020

Shippensburg University's psychology department has completed numerous revisions to its graduate program, but nothing quite like this one.

Beginning in the fall 2020 semester, the university began offering its first applied psychology master's program that is 100% online. The one-year, full-time program (or two-year, part-time program), is adapted for students looking to continue their education in an applied field outside of the therapeutic setting. Because the online setting allows for shorter classes, the program has five semesters a year, granting new students with the flexibility to start the program at five different points and still graduate in a year's time.

The original program was designed to prepare students continuing to doctoral programs. While the university's program did just that, the department saw a shift in the goals of its students.

Dr. Thomas Hatvany, a psychology professor and the graduate program coordinator said, "[the faculty of the department] noticed that only about 2.5 out of every 11 students were applying to doctoral programs. Instead, many were taking their new-learned psych skills and applying them to more applied settings."

This observation led to the development of the new online program, which Hatvany

assisted with alongside James Griffith, who has been actively involved with the psychology graduate program since arriving to the university in 2003.

In addition to the shifted focus of the program from doctoral to applied psych, Griffith and Hatvany chose to move the program online for a number of reasons.

"Over time, we noticed more demand from students who were working on a full-time basis and were beyond a reasonable commuting distance for face-to-face classes," said Griffith. "The options to accommodate these students were very limited."

**"IT'S THE DEPARTMENT'S OBJECTIVE  
TO CONTINUE TO *serve* OUR  
GRADUATE STUDENTS TO PROVIDE  
THE BEST *training* AND  
*preparation*  
THAT WE CAN OFFER."**

After determining that a program revision was a reasonable option, in spring 2019 Griffith began collecting data from current graduate and undergraduate students, alumni, job postings, the Bureau of Labor Statistics and similar programs at other institutions that offer a psychology master's degree. This information was then used

to assess the program that Shippensburg University was delivering to students since the program's last revision in 2009.

"Our intention was to develop a modernized, useful, effective and affordable program to serve the region and beyond," said Griffith.

"The online factor allows us to better cater to international students too," Hatvany commented.

Attached to the new online program comes a Behavioral Specialist Certificate, a bonus for individuals working towards the Behavioral Specialist License in Pennsylvania.

According to Griffith, Shippensburg University offers the only online M.S. program in Applied Psychology in Pennsylvania and is one of few across the nation.

A master's degree in psychology opens many doors for an array of students who may be entering a new field/profession, looking to advance in a current profession or continuing to a doctoral study.

"It's the department's objective to continue to serve our graduate students to provide the best training and preparation that we can offer; and we have restructured our program's focus and delivery in an effort to accomplish that," said Griffith. "As the world changes, we must as well."





# SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY

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one of these!

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## CAS *advisory board*

The College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board is composed of alumni, friends of Shippensburg University, and faculty emeriti of the college. Its purpose is to share professional and personal perspective on matters relating to academic philosophy and practice, internships and cooperative learning opportunities, and professional development for faculty; to provide financial assistance; and to become involved in the curricular and extracurricular programs of the college. With thanks, we recognize the current members of the board:

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Ms. Tracy Boak

Dr. Jack Brenizer Jr.

Ms. Denise Calabrese

The Honorable Barbara Cross

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