

BloomSBurg

THE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Pulling Together

When BU moved to remote instruction in March, faculty and staff pulled together to accomplish something that had never been envisioned.

Page 6



*We look forward to
our return*

ALSO INSIDE

Strengthening The Pack

Hundreds of Huskies come together to aid students affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Page 13

Celebrating Discovery

A retiring dean leaves a legacy to aid students in their scientific endeavors.

Page 19



President Bashar Hanna

Dear BU Family,

Since the year 2020 began, much has happened across our country and the world. Here at BU, we have overcome many challenges related to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, most notably our transition to online instruction in March. Most recently, we have witnessed protests on behalf of people of color in response to recent unjustifiable murders. The outpouring of grief, frustration, and anger in these protests arrived at a time when the pandemic had already ravaged communities, seeded fear, and placed physical distance between us. Later in this message, I will speak more about the countless ways our faculty, staff, students, and alumni stepped up in response to the COVID-19 virus, but first would like to address our University's commitment to becoming a more welcoming, more inclusive, and safer campus community.

Becoming a Stronger and Better BU

When I arrived at BU in July 2017, my first year was spent meeting with many constituencies, listening, and observing. Based on what I learned that first year, I identified diversity, equity, and inclusion as an area of opportunity for our community and an area that will be one of three pillars in our strategic plan that will guide BU for the next decade.

In my second year, I established the President's Commission for Diversity and Inclusion, co-chaired by Dr. Shavonne Shorter, associate professor of communication studies, and Mr. Wayne Whitaker, assistant director of diversity and retention. Comprised of faculty, staff, and students, this commission was formed to assess all that we do in the areas of equity and inclusion, and to recommend measurable, meaningful ways in which we may become a stronger and better BU in every way possible.

The commitment to make our University a more diverse, inclusive, and supportive community has never been more important or more urgent. This criticality was galvanized in November 2019 when faculty, staff, and I walked arm-in-arm with our students demanding diversity, inclusion, and safety.

On our campus, we recognize that education is an effective antidote for discrimination and bigotry. There is no better way to challenge our own notions and appreciate our cultural differences than to open-mindedly learn from one another. On that note, we have been hosting virtual town halls for faculty, staff, and student leaders this summer, and we will continue these important discussions for all (including students and alumni in the fall) so that we may educate one another and become a better BU.

I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Dr. Shavonne Shorter as the Special Assistant to the President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, effective Aug. 1, 2020. In this role, Dr. Shorter will continue to serve as co-chair of the Commission, which also serves as one of three working groups dedicated to developing the framework for BU's next strategic plan. As a member of the President's Leadership Council and a regular contributor to the President's Cabinet, she will be responsible for developing a comprehensive University-wide plan that promotes and advances a welcoming and inclusive climate for all members of our campus community. I am grateful to Dr. Shorter for serving in this important leadership role, and I look forward to updating you this fall on our progress in this area in particular, and our strategic plan in general. As I have stated to my colleagues recently, each of us must do our part to inspire our communities. We must appreciate what makes us different, honor our differences, and steadfastly remain true to our common humanity.

The Husky Heroes Amongst Us

I remain amazed and so very proud of the myriad of ways in which we all overcame the uncertainties and challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In March, we quickly adapted to the new normal and moved 100% of our classes online for the remainder of the semester. Our faculty, students, and staff showed their customary Husky spirit, grit, and determination by deftly pivoting to our new virtual reality in less than two weeks. My heartfelt thanks to the Husky Heroes amongst us who put in long hours to assist with this necessary transition.

When we learned of students who needed assistance with laptops and cameras or who lacked proper connectivity, we had an outpouring of support to provide those students with the items needed to complete the semester. The dollars raised for Our “Strengthen the Pack” emergency aid fund, which totaled \$105,100 from 241 donors, were directed to students who were most impacted by COVID-19. THANK YOU to all of you who contributed to this important initiative in support of our students and their success.

Bloomsburg: The University Magazine

In this issue highlighting BU’s response to COVID-19, you will learn about a collaborative effort between the Zeigler College of Business and the College of Science and Technology where we used our 3D printers in the Nicholas J. Giuffre Center for Supply Chain Management to produce masks and face shields, which helped local hospitals in need of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE).

Further, you will learn of our faculty who stepped up to aid their colleagues in online teaching, and of one student who adjusted to distance learning and became a teacher himself. You can also read about BU nursing alumni – heroes in the truest sense of the word – who continue to battle on the front lines of this pandemic. Cheers to them and all Husky alumni in the healthcare field during these especially challenging times.

Wishing Dean Aronstam Well

Finally, I hope you will join me in wishing Dr. Robert Aronstam all the best in retirement after a 40-year career in academia, the last five of which he served as dean of our College of Science and Technology. Thanks for your leadership, Bob!

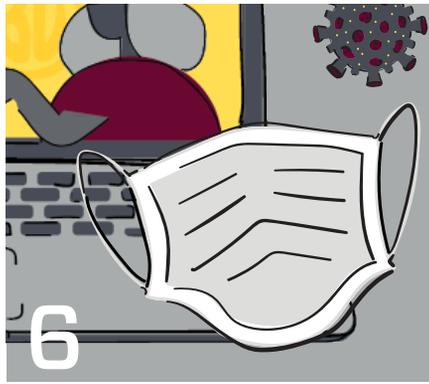
As we face uncertain times together, I look forward to soon welcoming our students back to campus, while we continue to follow health and safety protocols and prepare accordingly for an atypical semester. As always, our number one priority remains the health and safety of the entire BU community. On that note, I wish each of you well and hope that you and yours continue to stay safe.

GO HUSKIES!

Sincerely,
Bashar W. Hanna
President



Summer 2020



Contents

4	SHARING EXPERIENCE AND MOVING FORWARD	19	CELEBRATING DISCOVERY
6	PULLING TOGETHER	20	PREPARED TO HEAL
11	HUSKIES DELIVER	21	HUSKY NOTES
13	STRENGTHENING THE PACK	26	VIEW FROM THE TOP
15	COMMON GROUND	29	THEN AND NOW

Connect with us

bloomu.edu        

Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education Board of Governors

Cynthia D. Shapira, Chair
 David M. Maser, Vice Chair
 Samuel H. Smith, Vice Chair
 Aven Bittinger
 Representative Tim Briggs
 Audrey F. Bronson
 Nicole Dunlop
 Alex Fefolt
 Donald E. Houser, Jr.
 Senator Scott Martin
 Marian D. Moskowitz
 Thomas S. Muller
 Noe Ortega
 Secretary Pedro A. Rivera
 Representative Brad Roae
 Senator Judith L. Schwank
 Meg Snead
 Neil R. Weaver
 Governor Tom Wolf
 Janet L. Yeomans

Chancellor, State System of Higher Education

Daniel Greenstein
Bloomsburg University Council of Trustees
 Judge Mary Jane Bowes, Chairperson
 Nancy Vasta, Vice Chairperson
 Brian O'Donnell, O.D., Secretary
 Amy Brayford
 Edward G. Edwards
 Duane Greenly
 Daniel Klingerman
 Colin McIntyre
 Secretary John E. Wetzel
 Raymond Zaborney

President, Bloomsburg University

Bashar W. Hanna

Executive Editor

Jennifer Umberger

Co-Editors

Eric Foster
 Tom McGuire

Designer

Stacey Newell

Sports Information Director

Dave Leisering

Marketing/Communications Coordinator

Irene Johnson

Contributing Writers

Thomas Schaeffer '02
 Andrea O'Neill '06

Cover Illustration

Stacey Newell

Bloomsburg: The University Magazine is published three times a year for alumni, students' families, and friends of the university. Back issues may be found at issuu.com/buhuskies.

Address comments and questions to:
Bloomsburg: The University Magazine
 Waller Administration Building
 400 East Second Street
 Bloomsburg, PA 17815-1301

Email address: magazine@bloomu.edu

Visit Bloomsburg University on the web at bloomu.edu.

Bloomsburg University is an AA/EEO institution and is accessible to disabled persons. Bloomsburg University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, ancestry, disability, or veteran status in its programs and activities as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other applicable statutes and University policies.



congratulations
CLASS OF **2020**





“Our own family in Bloomsburg is not insulated from what is going on in the larger community. We can’t get past this moment without listening to each other and learning from each other.”

— **President Bashar Hanna**

Hanna recalled coming to Bloomsburg in 2017 and realizing that the university needed to be more systemic in its approach to diversity. “The Commission on Diversity and Inclusion came into being two years ago. For most of the second year, they focused on listening and learning. They held town hall meetings, and a campus climate survey was administered in fall 2019. The data was being assessed as COVID-19 struck.”

“One of the most important things we can do is begin with education,” said Hanna. “It starts the first semester with every one of our students who arrives — recognizing the richness of diversity and how we can learn from each other instead of being afraid of each other. That’s what is killing our society, not just in Bloomsburg, but more broadly. We need to focus on educating each other and making each other realize the kind of pain we dish out. Even sometimes, not intending to be malicious.”

“We have to confront the fact that racism is real,” said Shorter. “Black lives matter. George Floyd’s life matters. We watched him die on video. We say their names to

honor their legacy and to let them know they did not live and die in vain. It’s because of them we are here. We’re tired of dying. We’re tired of being profiled. We’re tired of being discriminated against. We’re tired of just being judged for who we are.”

“It isn’t just when we are interacting with the police. It’s in all facets of life. When we’re going to school. When we’re going to work. When we’re going to seek medical care,” said Shorter. “We can’t even sleep. We can’t even be in our own house. They are so many people who have died doing those very things.”

“We need to make Bloomsburg is a place that is inclusive, equitable, and welcoming to everyone,” said Shorter. “It hasn’t been good enough. Our goal is to make it good enough.”

In addition to workshops for first-year students, plans are underway to make diversity training available for faculty and staff.

“This is an opportunity. Timing is everything and we have to grab it,” says Commission Co-chair Maddy Rodriguez ’95/’98M, who runs the office of multicultural affairs and directs the Multicultural Center.

“Our students need it and we need it to build unity. We need to come together and dialogue about race and appreciate differences. We’re going to be creating more intentional programming. We need everyone to participate, not just students. We need administrators, police, staff, and community members.”

“When we tell someone when they came to our university that you’re part of our family, we need to treat them like family. We need to educate through programming, Black History Month, Native American History Month, Pride Month. We want everybody to be involved,” said Shorter, who emphasizes that the Commission’s charge includes diversity of religion and socio-economic background as well as race and ethnicity.

“We need to open our eyes, hearts, and ears and listen to each other,” said Hanna. “The pain we dish out is so remarkable. If that energy could be harnessed in a way that would celebrate diversity, imagine how great a town, a university, a region we would have for others to emulate. That’s my challenge for our own university. It’s looking at tomorrow and working together to make tomorrow better than yesterday.”



“There have been so many instances of social justice moments going on right now. We’re seeing a major shift in the conversation. People are letting their values be known. We are seeing people come out as allies. It’s hope-giving.”

— **Shavonne Shorter**

PULLING TOGETHER

By Eric Foster



When more than 8,000 students left BU for spring break in early March, most expected a relaxing week away from classes and maybe some sunning on a beach before returning to BU.

Returning to campus was not to happen. The highly contagious COVID-19 virus, just getting a foothold in the state in March, saw to that.

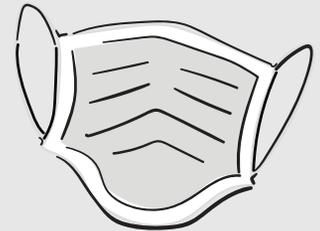
Returning to learning and education, however, did happen. And all because of the remarkable adaptability and resilience of faculty, staff, and students themselves — pulling together like Huskies to accomplish something that, just a few weeks prior, was never envisioned.

More than 530 faculty found a way to teach their courses remotely. To make it happen, staff found ways to get critical technology to the faculty and, in dozens of cases, to get the technology to students. The dramatic shift to remote instruction — the most significant disruption in university history — helped faculty forge new relationships across campus, bridging departments and colleges to accomplish the mission.

When faculty resumed teaching on March 23, they collectively spent thousands of hours adapting their courses, training, and familiarizing themselves with new technology.

“That was the most unusual semester of our professional careers,” says Diana Rogers-Adkinson, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. “Our Teaching and Learning Enhancement (TALE) team was critical to the success of the transition.”

“The faculty’s ability to adapt in a span of less than two weeks was extraordinary,” says President Bashar Hanna.



“This has been the most unusual semester of our professional careers,”

— Diana Rogers-Adkinson, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs

Going Remote but Keeping it Personal

“The Thursday before spring break, I’d been asked to put together some plans for training in case there was a suspension of classes,” says Lisa Stallbaumer, a veteran history professor and TALE director.

Things moved quickly when the word came about moving all classes online, and the first training sessions were offered just a week later.

Training accelerated the following week, with another 20 sessions offered through the collaboration of TALE, Media and Design, and the Office of Technology. The Department of Instructional Design scheduled open triage sessions where faculty members Karl Kapp, Lynn Hummel, Jessica Briskin, and Mary Nicholson took questions from their peers.

“We were so pleased that we had skills we could share with other people,” says Nicholson, professor of instructional technology. “Colleagues across campus reached out to us, and in the sessions I sat in, I continued to learn new things. That was awesome. I’m presenting, and I’m still learning.”

“In our first session, we had 30 faculty, then it grew to 80 for the other sessions,” says Stallbaumer. “Every training session had someone to talk about technology. And someone to explain the pedagogy. We needed faculty members to speak to usage, then the technology.”



“In our first session, we had 30 faculty, then it grew to 80 for the other sessions. Every training session had someone to talk about technology. And someone to explain the pedagogy. We needed faculty members to speak to usage, then the technology.”

— Lisa Stallbaumer

“I’m just really pleased with the technology team. And the faculty — once they were faced with temporary remote teaching, then the suspension of on-campus classes — they rallied,” says Stallbaumer. “I saw a lot of collaboration and support. A lot of gratitude.”

Faculty played a crucial role in sharing information. “Pedagogy is my thing, but I did not have much experience with discussion boards,” says Stallbaumer with a chuckle.

“But Dennis Frohlich (assistant professor of media and journalism) and Regina Bobak (assistant professor of academic enrichment) could talk about those things. Karl Kapp talked about how he uses PowerPoint to create lively recorded sessions and Mary Nicholson showed how to have discussions using Zoom.”

Innovating

When classes resumed, the TALE team remained active, with a daily morning Zoom coffee hour to allow faculty to share frustrations, find solutions, and make connections that hadn't existed before.

One of the coffee hour regulars, Beth Rogowsky, associate professor of teaching and learning, shared her experiences with different technologies and applications with her students.

"My students are going to be teachers. You should be open to trying different tools. Every week, we used a different tech tool and rated whether it was effective," says Rogowsky. "I was thinking about how I teach and trying to find tools that will allow me to use those same techniques. We used the Zoom whiteboard ... that was a flop. The next week we tried breakout rooms. You have to make sure that it's brief. Think. Pair. Share. Teacher poses question. They think about it. Pair up, then share."

Through the coffee hours, Rogowsky connected with Dan McCurry, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry, who introduced her to Padlet, an online collaborative bulletin board. "My absolute favorite online teaching tool," says Rogowsky. "Dan really embraced teaching online. He met with me, virtually, on Saturday to show me how to use it."



"Grades stayed right where they were, I'm impressed by how much students took ownership of their learning."

— Dan McCurry

For his part, McCurry invested in a high-quality webcam and a digital drawing tablet, a tool more commonly found in art studios. "I can pull up an assignment on screen and draw right on it so students can see it," says McCurry. "This forced me to take the opportunity of trying the things I was thinking of trying, like having some online office hours in the future."

Despite the move to remote teaching, "grades stayed right where they were," says McCurry. "I'm impressed by how much students took ownership of their learning."

"In my world, if you're interested in marketing, you want to be online," says Thomas Tanner, assistant professor of marketing. "But not every student wants to be online for learning. They may be on social media. That's different than online learning. Even some of the more obvious things, I've had to take a step back and look at it through their eyes. Everybody is seeing things differently. I have to show them in multiple forms. Send it to them via Twitter, Bolt, email and Zoom sessions."

Some courses in the arts, sciences, and health care had additional challenges because they traditionally have an in-person, hands-on element.

Science professors made videos of experiments and demonstrations at their homes, faculty in the arts set up cameras in their studios, and academic leaders in several disciplines sought out simulations for their crafts. (See "Preparing the Next Generation of Nurses," page 9.)

For her students, Cynthia Venn, professor of environmental, geographical and geological sciences, filmed excursions to area wetlands and demonstrations in her driveway in what she laughingly calls her "garage door" classes.

Faculty in the arts and performing arts adapted to remote teaching by using social media platforms in robust ways. They created accounts on Instagram and YouTube for students to share artwork and performances and to conduct virtual critiques and feedback sessions.

Meeting students where they were and taking the tools they had into account was a university-wide mission. Even though he had a studio in his home, Chad Andrews, assistant professor of art and art history, taught



"I was at home with my six siblings. For my younger siblings, I had to help them with their school work."

— Steven Lopez

his printmaking courses from his kitchen table. "I have two studios that are set up and very efficient to work in," says Andrews. "But I wanted to put myself in the students' position and work with the same resources that my students had. And have the real-life interruptions that don't happen in a studio, like my daughter coming in and asking me to make lunch while I'm working."

For graduating senior Steve Lopez of Hazleton, the transition to remote learning put him in the shoes of both student and teacher. "I was at home with my six siblings. For my younger siblings, I how to help them with their school work. My youngest sister, she's 6 and learning how to read in kindergarten. How do you teach someone had to read? It was a learning experience for both of us."

"When we had to switch it was a struggle," says Lopez, a psychology major with a minor in Spanish who is now pursuing a master's degree in college student affairs. "I prefer the in-class experience. But there were some classes that can be done online. I was taking psychology of learning, which is about different types of conditioning and how people learn things. The professor was great, Dr. (Julie) Kontos. She worked with us. She was super understanding."

Lopez adapted by being very disciplined about scheduling. "I needed to find stability. Planning when I would turn in assignments. Dedicating certain days to certain subjects. My goal was achieving the dean's list. To achieve that goal, I needed to have that structure."

New Perspectives

For Stallbaumer, the biggest surprise of transitioning to remote teaching wasn't pedagogical, but personal. "I'm teaching a course, Hollywood in History, and I missed seeing my students' reaction to the movie that we're watching — being able to pause and discuss it in that moment together."

She wasn't alone in her feelings. "I think like every other professor, I will never take face-to-face teaching for granted again," says Andrews. "It gave me a greater appreciation for what the school provides me."

As weeks of online instruction went by, students saw professors in a new context, sitting at their kitchen table or making videos in their driveway. But faculty also saw their students in new ways that have changed how they approach teaching.

"Having students tell me, I don't have a computer, I don't have internet. These are struggles that we weren't aware of," says Angela La Valley, associate professor of communication studies. "This has been an eye-opening experience. My daughter in third grade had an assignment about the difference between wants, needs, and luxuries. This situation has changed people's perspective on wants, needs, and luxuries."

"We're there for the students, that's our whole purpose," says La Valley. "This has made me a more empathetic instructor. Students have different backgrounds that I don't know about that will impact them. We have to do the best we can and meet them where they are and help them navigate this too."



"Having students tell me, I don't have a computer, I don't have internet. These are struggles that we weren't aware of."
— Angela La Valley



"The faculty stepped up. It would be easier for a faculty member to say 'that's on the student.' But they didn't."
— Mark Bauman

Connecting to Students in Need

As BU transitioned to remote teaching in mid-March, some students were missing critical tools for remote learning: a computer and an internet connection.

"Early in the transition to remote learning, Provost Diana Rogers-Adkinson sent a message to faculty, 'If you have students who have fallen off the radar, let me know,'" says Mark Bauman, then interim vice provost and dean of undergraduate education.

"The faculty stepped up. It would be easier for a faculty member to say 'that's on the student.' But they didn't," says Bauman. "I got a lot of emails from faculty who said I'm concerned about students A, B, and C. The student was engaged and now they're not. I had faculty members contacting me about students with housing and food insecurity. And I took it from there."

"There was a term years ago ... the digital divide. Not everyone has a computer or internet at home," says Bauman. "When our students are on campus, they don't feel it, we have computer labs and Wi-Fi on campus. When they had to go off-campus, then the problem came to the surface."

Bauman found about 50 students needed a computer and another 50 who needed internet access. It was the mission of Bill Barnes, technology support services manager, to find solutions.

"The normal supply chain collapsed for items like laptops and webcams," says Barnes. "We had a significant number of students that did not have technology except for smartphones. I raided the Greenly Center for 16 laptops. Staples had some in a warehouse. I got them. A few students got computers from family members. In the end, we were able to provide for all the students who needed them."

Students living near campus were able to pick up the hardware at the BU police station from Sgt. Joe Clauser, who cleaned and disinfected it. Students living farther away had the computers shipped to them.

Internet connectivity was a tougher problem to crack. In many cases money from the BU Foundation's Strengthen the Pack Fund helped students get the connection they needed. A web form was created for students to request help. Marty Wygmans, associate VP of student success, and Kara Shultz, special assistant to the president, went through the requests to connect students with resources. (See story on page 13)

And it wasn't just technology that was in short supply. "There were students with housing issues, with food and other insecurities," says Bauman. "The Strengthen the Pack Fund was able to help to cover those gaps."

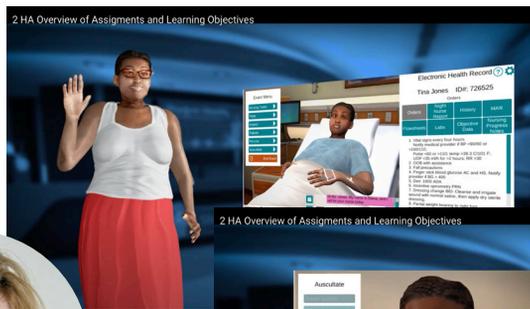
"It didn't always end in a success story. Try as you might, there are some students that you never connect with. Those who I did reach were appreciative," says Bauman. "I've talked with students who have lost family members because of this. I've actually had students expressing concern that our faculty have had to make these changes too. The patience the students showed was moving."

Preparing the Next Generation of Nurses, Virtually

When medical professionals are on the frontlines of a battle against a new virus, students preparing to be the next generation of nurses faced a special hurdle, as hundreds of them at BU could no longer participate in hospital clinical experiences.

However, because they already had completed more than half of their clinical experience, student nurses could use simulation software provided by generous donors to complete the semester, and seniors were able to graduate on time.

“The programs are a computerized illustration of a patient. The student and virtual patient can both ask and answer questions regarding symptoms, location of the symptom, and the responses are evaluated as to what is the best response by the student and why,” said Sue Fetterman, then interim department chairperson. “It is a complicated system that allows the faculty to evaluate the student’s



“As the student speaks to the avatar to develop a patient history, and do a head-to-toe exam with an avatar, the program provides the learner with immediate feedback on how to improve their skills.”
— Kim Olszewski

ability to take care of a patient with specific pathology. Most importantly, it allows the students to learn how to interact with patients as well as what symptoms to look for and understand for certain pathologies.”

Kim Olszewski, Breiner Family Endowed Professor of Nursing, suggested purchasing software through funds provided by Ed '77 and Julie Breiner '77.

“We are honored to be able to help,” says Julie Breiner. “Society is seeing now firsthand how valuable it is to have properly trained nurses. Since BU nursing students couldn’t complete the normal clinical process, this is the next best way to continue their education.”

For graduate students, the program Shadow Health is particularly sophisticated. “This program is an avatar that students interact with to do specific health assessments (digital clinical experiences),” says Olszewski. “As the student speaks to the avatar to develop a patient history, and do a head-to-toe exam with an avatar, the program provides the learner with immediate feedback on how to improve their skills.”

Strengthening the Online Platform

For the staff of BU’s technology departments, the shift to remote learning meant one thing. More.

More users. More files. More bandwidth. More support. And the tech team delivered in a big way.

“This is one of the largest team efforts we’ve ever done on campus,” says Bill Barnes, manager in technology support services. “Nobody’s doing everything, but everybody is doing something. I take a lot of pride in how well we worked as a team. And how some of the more tech-savvy faculty stepped up to help their colleagues.

There is no way any one of us could have made this happen alone.”

Barnes, with more than 20 years of experience at BU, played a key role in marshalling the expertise of the university’s technology staff to meet academic needs.

When the campus closed in March, Sam Josuweit’s network services team immediately reconfigured the university’s network to handle far more external traffic to the drives where shared information is stored — going from several hundred to a thousand simultaneous connections. Overnight, Douglas Hoffman, network and server administrator, upgraded the software that enabled faculty and staff to remotely access their office computers.

Instructional support specialists Jared Kishbaugh and Jonathan Hedrick guided the faculty who did not use all

of the capabilities of the Bloomsburg Online Learning and Teaching (BOLT) system. Jason Stettler, information technology technician, adapted spare document cameras for faculty to use like transparency projectors while teaching remotely.

And use of BU’s Mediasite, where faculty post video, audio, and narrated PowerPoint files for classes, exploded.

“We’ve had Mediasite for 10 years,” says Asa Kelley, video production specialist in Instructional Media Services. “The growth has been exponential. In the first month of remote teaching, usage doubled from the previous 10 months. In the next month, it was triple.”

“For the professors, this has been no small task,” says Kelley. “To rebuild the lab table and replace the 20 seats with a camera.”



HUSKIES DELIVER

By Tom McGuire

Bloomsburg University has long believed in the importance of giving back to the local community which opens its arms to thousands of faculty, staff, and students each year. As the COVID-19 pandemic struck in March, that spirit of giving was on full display.

In the early days and weeks of the pandemic, hospitals and health care facilities quickly learned that personal protective equipment (PPE) was in critically short supply should there be a surge in cases. When BU suspended on-campus classes, PPE and other items normally used in the classroom were sitting on shelves, and the administration directed them to be boxed up and delivered to Geisinger Medical Center, Geisinger Bloomsburg Hospital, and Evangelical Hospital in Lewisburg.

Supplies were found in the nursing, chemistry and biochemistry, and physical plant departments. The area hospitals received more than 1,200 N95 masks of various types, 3,700 tie-on surgical masks, 20 face shields, 300 medical isolation gowns, 160 pairs of sterile gloves, and 50 Tyvek coveralls.

“Health care workers are on the front lines of this pandemic,” says President Bashar Hanna. “We are grateful for the personal sacrifices they are making to help those suffering with COVID-19, and donating to give Geisinger Medical Center and Evangelical Hospital items that will help keep them safe was the least we could do.”

“The ingenuity and expertise of BU faculty and students also helped solve a critical shortage of face shields and face masks at Geisinger Medical Center.”

Todd Shawver, dean of the Zeigler College of Business, and faculty members Carolyn LaMacchia from information technology and John Huckans from physics and engineering technology, along with several students, teamed up to produce hundreds of the items to help protect health care workers from the virus.

Using 3D printers in the Giuffre Center for Supply Chain Management and physics department, BU produced more than 380 face shields, 425 face shield frames, 60 visors, 390 small buckles, 160 straight straps, and 14 three-piece face masks, and continue to produce more each week.

The project required some out-of-the-box resourcefulness. “We were originally having some issues with the face shields,” says Shawver. “We searched online for Mylar and other similar clear materials and came up empty. We have a laminating machine in the office, and I have one at my home. We had three mil laminating pouches in the office. So, I ran one of those through the machine, and it came out wavy. I then went to an office supply store, picked up five mil and ran it through the laminator at the three-mil setting, and it came out perfect. These were attached to the face shield headbands that are being 3D printed.”

BU shared this process with a Los Angeles-based hospital to help beef up its PPE stockpile.

“When we learned our manufacturing method had been shared with a hospital in Los Angeles we were moved, knowing we could help even more people,” Shawver says.

“

“Health care workers are on the front lines of this pandemic. We are grateful for the personal sacrifices they are making to help those suffering with COVID-19, and donating to give Geisinger Medical Center and Evangelical Hospital items that will help keep them safe was the least we could do.”

— BU President Bashar Hanna

Small Gestures Big Impact

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced BU to close the campus, not all students were able to immediately return home. Nearly 30 students, including some from abroad, remained on campus, housed in Soltz Hall.

With students being isolated and away from family and friends, BU Police collected money from members of the department to purchase gift cards to local supermarkets so the students could buy food.

“We believed it important to show great empathy and concern for our students that were still on campus,” says Chief Leo Sokoloski. “Whether it’s University Police or the faculty, staff and other persons here, many organizations came out and said they want to do things not only for the students that were on campus but as well some students are living off campus and couldn’t get home, or couldn’t go home. We want them to know the importance of them being here and being comfortable in this difficult time.”

The University Store also played a role. When campus closed, the store had many perishable items on its shelves which manager Laura Heger distributed to students remaining on campus and to employees of Geisinger Bloomsburg Hospital.

“When the opportunity presented itself to help someone, it was a no-brainer to go ahead and do it,” says Heger. “We were faced with losing a few thousand dollars worth of product and felt it would be better to give it away.”

Heger made bags for each of the students remaining on campus which included cookies, candy, potato chips, microwave popcorn and pretzels, along with toiletries, a BU hat and pennant.

The bags were dropped off in the lobby outside the BU Store for students to pick up so as not to come in contact with any store employees.



“When the opportunity presented itself to not only help someone, it was a no-brainer to go ahead and do it.”

— Laura Heger

“I know the students appreciated the small gesture and it brought a smile to my face knowing it made a difference,” Heger continued.

For Geisinger Bloomsburg employees, the store boxed up and dropped off iced tea, crackers, doughnuts, toaster pastries, cookies and a variety of other snacks.

“We all know a snack can go a long way in helping a worker get through a shift,” says Heger.

BU Lends a Hand for Business Recovery

The Zeigler College of Business has established a Small Business Recovery Program to assist local businesses in recovery from the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We know these are challenging days for small businesses throughout the region, and we want to be a partner to help solve those problems,” says Todd Shawver, dean of the Zeigler College of Business.

The program will assist regional small businesses with any aspect of their business, except for financial assistance. Services can include, but are not limited to:

- Professional sales assistance
- Social media and marketing strategy
- Business strategy redevelopment
- Cost structures and monitoring
- Tax guidance
- Open to customizing services depending on business needs.



Frank Doone



Chyna Perry

Thank You for Strengthening the Pack

By Thomas Schaeffer '02

The COVID-19 pandemic put a strain on the finances of many BU students. Since the hallmark of a Husky pack is to work together as a team and lift others up, donors and friends of Bloomsburg University did just that to aid BU students.

For many students, the transition to online classes and remote learning was challenging. That's why from March through early June, 147 students requested help through the Strengthen the Pack Student Emergency Aid Fund. Alumni and donors showed their support for these students resulting in 241 individuals contributing more than \$105,000.

To date, the Strengthen the Pack Fund has provided \$82,347 in support to students and their families who faced urgent short-term needs — ranging from internet connections and textbooks to groceries and housing.

The fund also helped university officials distribute laptops on loan to more than 50 students who were taking classes remotely.

“

“I reached out to people at the foundation and they provided me with a place to live for the summer and are helping me to keep my journey going,”

— Chyna Perry

The remaining funds will provide emergency scholarships and additional support to help students facing longer-term financial stress due to the pandemic return to BU in the fall.

For a student like art major Heather Maldonado '20, a graduating senior from Tobyhanna, online class became more daunting because the class required software her computer couldn't handle.

"My computer just couldn't run the programs I needed for class along with Zoom meetings," Maldonado says. "I reached out to my professor, and he put me in contact with people at the university who provided me with a laptop. I was so grateful. Then I found out it was provided through support from donors and I was even more grateful because it's so incredible to see that there are people out there who are thinking of the students and helping make sure we're able to finish the semester. Without this laptop, I don't know what I would have done."

Another significant need came from students who were facing the dilemma of not having a place to live after being displaced from their on-campus housing.

"After spring break, when everything was shifting to online courses and we had to leave campus, I didn't know where I was going to go. I couldn't really go home because I was having a lot of medical issues and all my doctors were here in Bloomsburg," says Cassandra Thomas '22, of Pittston. "I reached out to Amy Cunningham in the Office of Residence Life who told me about the Strengthen the Pack fund. I was so relieved when I was granted the award. Thanks to these generous donors, I now have a place to stay for the summer and they also helped me with the money I needed for food."

For some students who have no other forms of support, the generosity of donors has made all the difference. Frank Doone '23 left home in Shamokin when he was 17 and enlisted in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard to put himself in a more positive situation.

"The check I receive from the Army, the refunds I get at the end of each semester, along with my job at a restaurant, are usually enough to carry me through to the next semester and cover rent, food, and utilities in my

apartment," says Doone. "But with the pandemic, I was laid off from my job and some of the drills that I would have been paid for by the National Guard weren't available. Plus, with all courses switching to online, I had to upgrade my internet subscription. The support I was granted through the Strengthen the Pack fund saved me, and I just hope I can pay it back through good grades, graduating on time and community service."

For Chynah Perry '23 of Philadelphia, the support she received kept her college journey on track. One of eight siblings, Perry's mother died when she was just 13. She and her five brothers and two sisters lived with their grandmother, who did all she could to provide for them. But last summer, Perry made the decision to be the first in her family to go to college.

"I came here through the Act 101 program and started last summer, and I just love it," says Perry, a business management major. "I was devastated when I learned we were going to have to leave campus because I knew that if I went home, I might not make it back."

Perry's adviser, Shannon Musgrove in the Act 101 office, told her about the Strengthen the Pack Fund. "I reached out to people at the foundation and they provided me with a place to live for the summer and are helping me to keep my journey going," says Perry. "I was so relieved because things were going so well for me and I was on my way to reaching my goals. But then I was devastated when I thought I would have to leave. This gift has meant everything to me."

For more information on the Strengthen the Pack fund, or to find out how you can provide support for students in immediate need, visit the BU Foundation website at giving.bloomu.edu or call 570-389-4138.



Cassandra Thomas



Heather Maldonado

Four Join Council of Trustees

By Tom McGuire



^ Duane Greenly



^ Colin McIntyre



^ Dan Klingerman



^ Ray Zaborney

BU's Council of Trustees has four new members, including prominent businessmen, a political strategist, and a computer science student.

Duane Greenly '68 and Ray Zaborney '16 joined the council in January, while Dan Klingerman '87 and student trustee Colin McIntyre were confirmed in May. All were appointed by Gov. Tom Wolf and approved by the Pennsylvania State Senate.

Greenly and Zaborney replace Ramona Alley and Charles Schlegel '60, whose terms expired, while Klingerman will fill the vacancy of Pat Wilson '91. McIntyre fills the vacancy of John Thomas '20, who recently graduated. Alley joined the Council of Trustees in 1983, Schlegel in 2007, and Wilson in 2010.

"I'm delighted to welcome the newest members of our council and look forward to working with each of them," says the Honorable Mary Jane Bowes, chair of the trustees. "I express my deep appreciation and gratitude to our outgoing trustees for their leadership and service to Bloomsburg University and the Council of Trustees."

"Our university's priority is our students and their success during and after their years at BU. We never lose sight of this focus, thanks in large part to the efforts of our faculty and staff, and also because of the leadership and support of our trustees," says President Bashar W. Hanna. "While I am saddened to bid a formal farewell to our outgoing trustees, I am ever grateful for their contributions and look forward to reaching out to them for their continued guidance. I also look forward to welcoming our newest trustees in person when it is safe to do so."

Greenly earned a bachelor's degree from BU and a master's degree from Morehead State University in Kentucky. He enjoyed a successful career with Deering-Milliken & Co.,

BF Goodrich, Newell Rubbermaid, Morgan Door, Barry Controls, and Ames True Temper and continues to work as a business consultant and mentor. He served two terms as president of the Bloomsburg University Foundation Board of Directors. The Greenly Center, BU's first physical presence in downtown, is named for Duane and his wife, Sue Basar Greenly '72.

Zaborney, who earned a degree in political science from BU, is the co-founder of Red Maverick Media, a media strategy group in Harrisburg. He is also the founding partner of State Street Strategies, a lobbying and government relations firm he operates with his wife, Jen. *Campaigns & Elections* magazine named Zaborney one of the five most influential Republicans in the state. In 2013, Zaborney won one of *Central Penn Business Journal's* "40 under 40" awards. He has been named one of the top 17 most influential people in the state by PennLive.com and as one of the hundred most powerful people in the state by *City & State* magazine.

Klingerman graduated from BU with a degree in accounting and a minor in economics. He owns and operates the Liberty Group, a private equity holding and investment company focused on the acquisition, development and financing of hotels, restaurants and commercial ventures. Klingerman is also involved in many nonprofit organizations, local boards, and committees focusing on economic growth and job creation. Klingerman holds board seats on various nonprofits such as the UPMC Susquehanna Health System, and The First Community Foundation Partnership.

McIntyre, a rising senior, is a computer science major from Marietta. A member of the Honors College, McIntyre is a five-time Dean's List honoree, plays club tennis, and served as a member of the campus food service committee and the campus shuttle bus committee.

Instructional Technology Ranked Second in the Nation

BU is ranked second nationally among top online schools for instructional technology in 2020 by the College Affordability Guide.

BU is one of two institutions from Pennsylvania, and the only university from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education ranked in the top 20.

Karl Kapp, chairperson of the Department of Instructional Technology and director of the Institute for Interactive Technologies, is thrilled by the ranking.

"We are extremely proud to be featured for two reasons. First, it shows just how affordable a master's degree in instructional design and technology [formerly instructional design] from BU can be. Many of our students say the degree pays for itself in just a short time after graduation," says Kapp. "Second, it validates the knowledge, contribution, and impact our graduates make in the field of instructional design. Our goal is for our students to go out and dent the universe and this ranking shows they are having an impact."

"This ranking also shows why our students have won the DevLearn DemoFest student design/development contest five years in a row," says Kapp. "Our students consistently rise to the occasion and are shining examples of what BU can produce."

BU students in the online program leading to a Master of Science in Instructional Design and Technology receive hands-on experience working for a real-world client. Each student is matched with an external organization, which could be a business or nonprofit, and creates a working instructional technology product for that organization. BU's affiliated Institute for Interactive Technologies receives requests for instructional technology assistance from organizations all over the country.



Hummel Named Interim Dean of Science and Technology

Lynn Hummel, a two-time graduate of BU and expert in distance education, has been named interim dean of the College of Science and Technology. He succeeds Robert Aronstam, who retired in June after five years of service to the university.

"I believe Dr. Hummel's experience in educational technology will be a great support to the college given COVID-19," says Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Diana Rogers-Adkinson, who announced the appointment in May. "He has experiences in leadership in both P-12 and higher education as well. I am confident in his ability to continue to move the college forward during these difficult times."

Hummel graduated from BU as a dual major in elementary education and early childhood education in 2002 and earned his Master of Science in Instructional Technology in 2003. He earned a Doctor of Education degree in educational leadership and administration from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2012. His previous professional experience includes serving as assistant principal and assistant superintendent in the public school system and as an instructional technology specialist and cooperative education coordinator at a career and technology center.

Since joining BU in 2014, Hummel has served as associate professor, distance education coordinator, interim department chair, and faculty fellow for the College of Science and Technology. He is also a violinist in the University Community Orchestra.

Hummel was a board member of the Education Consortium of the Upper Allegheny, which was responsible for the founding and establishment of the Northern Pennsylvania Regional College. He volunteers for the Pennsylvania Association for Educational Communications and Technology (PAECT) and serves as the representative to the International AECT organization. Through this role, Hummel is the co-founder of the Technology Education Research Symposium, which recently held its fourth annual event. He is also a member of the International Society for Technology in Education and frequently presents on educational technology topics at its annual conferences.



New Scholarships Established to Help Students' Climb

In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, BU leaders have established new scholarships to help students continue their education.

The BU Alumni Board has reallocated \$80,000 to help students who face immediate financial needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic enroll at BU. The funds will jumpstart the Alumni Association Academic Promise initiative as the coronavirus crisis will continue to have a dramatic impact on BU's enrollment and retention, especially for those students who are at greatest financial risk. In 2019, 46% of BU students came from households classified as low- or very low-income.

"This responsive and thoughtful collaborative effort from the Bloomsburg University Alumni Board is a testament to its commitment to supporting our students and exemplifies the Husky spirit of resilience and togetherness," says BU President Bashar Hanna. "We are fortunate to have such dedicated board members, and I am very grateful for their flexibility in providing opportunities for our future Huskies."

The BU Alumni Association will redistribute funds from the Alumni Reserve originally designated to support program funds or specific colleges. The funds will create scholarships to help BU attract qualified students, regardless of their current financial situations, that may have been negatively impacted during these times.

"Scholarships can often be the difference between a prospective student choosing between BU and another school," says Chris Lapos, associate vice president of undergraduate admissions. "Having any extra incentive that allows us to help students make the transition to BU a little easier is an advantage for us in a very competitive market, especially during these times."

"These funds were originally dedicated to a variety of specific areas and programs within the university," says Alumni Association President Todd Argenziano. "But with this unusual situation, we realize many students will be facing the reality their families won't be able to afford to enroll them due to job loss and other circumstances. We thought this would be the best way to provide those students with the help they need to begin their BU journeys."

Helping Hand for Students in Act 101

Students have been awarded seven new performance-based scholarships funded from the Joan and Fred Miller Distinguished Professor Award.

The Millers created the Distinguished Professor Award to support students' pursuit of academic work that is outstanding in quality, socially responsible, and personally meaningful. The recipient of the Distinguished Professor Award, Mary Katherine Waibel-Duncan, professor of psychology, worked with BU's Office of Access and Success to establish the Hike! and Line Out! performance-based scholarships.

"Making a difference in the lives of young people has been a big part of Drs. Joan and Fred Miller's focus for years and these performance-based scholarships are another way to continue their legacy at BU," says Waibel-Duncan.

The \$1,000 Line Out! scholarship, renewable for four semesters, is for students in the Act 101 Program's Emerging Scholars Program. The student must also

participate in the Out of the Classroom: Into the Community initiative from the office of Access and Success.

Dajana Applewhite, Nastalgia Jenkins, and David Wilson are the first three recipients of the scholarships. Applewhite is a sophomore pre-social work major from Allentown. Jenkins is a senior majoring in mass communications and is a Philadelphia native. Wilson is a junior from Philadelphia, majoring in business management and information technology management.

The Hike! scholarships will be awarded to four incoming students in the Act 101 program.

To learn more or to make a gift in support of BU students facing financial hardships due to the coronavirus crisis, visit giving.bloomu.edu/GiveNow or call 1-855-282-4483.

Students Sweep Cybersecurity Top Spots



⌘ Nelson Maher participating in a BloomCon cybersecurity conference.



⌘ Austin Pasquel presenting his research at a conference.

BU digital forensics majors Nelson Maher and Austin Pasquel finished one-two at the Pennsylvania National Guard Wi-Fighter Challenge held in April. The event was part of the third annual Cyber Security and Digital Forensics Conference hosted by the Pennsylvania National Guard.

Held virtually this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the three-hour Wi-Fighter Challenge “gamifies” concepts to teach the foundational skills required by cybersecurity experts.

To maintain the physical interaction involved in previous exercises, the organizers mailed the first 50 registered participants a Raspberry Pi kit—a mini-computer popular with hardware hacking, which was the focus of the exercise.

Maher and Pasquel, both of Nazareth, competed against more than 70 other contestants from 11 states. The expanded reach was the greatest benefit of the virtual event, according to organizer Capt. Sean Smith, deputy cyber team chief for the Pennsylvania National Guard.

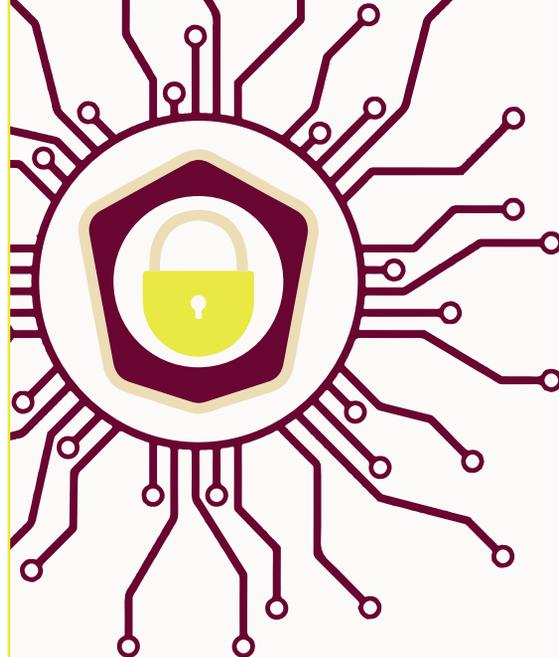
First-place finisher Maher entered the event to put what he learned at BU into action. “I learned how to better apply the skills taught in the digital forensics program,” says Maher. “A Raspberry Pi is a small, USB powered single board computer. Due to its size, cost, and ease of use, it’s widely used in educational and enthusiast projects.”

“As someone who has done a few cyber competitions, I was very pleased with how this one turned out,” says Pasquel. “The challenges started with background info on the Pi, to how to set it up, basic Linux commands, intermediate Linux knowledge, up to the final challenge of a reverse engineering problem.”

For Maher, this area of study has always been an interest. “It’s the reason I chose BU. The maturity, age, and depth of the digital forensics program at BU completely blew the offerings from other institutions out of the water.”

Maher moves right into a job creating computer tests to simulate cyber crimes. “I will start work as a junior penetration tester, but I want to continue to learn and teach others about the field.”

Pasquel, who graduates in Spring 2021, also selected BU for its digital forensics program. “This is one of the best cybersecurity/digital forensics programs out there as the program was built from the ground up with that specific focus. All my faculty have been great. Dr. (John) Riley has been very influential and is my adviser on my research project.”



BU Selected for Cybersecurity Scholarships

The Department of Defense Cybersecurity Scholarship program selected five BU digital forensics majors — the largest group to date — to receive the coveted awards.

Two students were awarded returning scholarships and three were awarded new scholarships. Due to the sensitive nature of the positions, the student recipients cannot be named.

The valuable scholarships are available to BU students because the university is designated a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education. Each cyber scholar receives full tuition, fees, a book allowance, and a stipend for living expenses in exchange for civilian service at a Department of Defense agency upon graduation. The package is worth approximately \$27,000 per student. Students attending CAE designated schools also become eligible to apply for related scholarships and grants through the Federal Cyber Service Scholarship for Service program.

Celebrating Discovery

By Thomas Schaeffer '02

FOR BOB ARONSTAM, EDUCATION IS INSEPARABLE FROM DOING.

"The heart and soul of the university is based on learning, discovery, and doing, not just teaching," says Aronstam, reflecting on the final five years of his 40-year career in academia, which he spent as dean of BU's College of Science and Technology.

"When the opportunity came up to work here, I knew we would be able to bring those two things together while also engaging students in everything we do."

Since beginning his career, Aronstam believed success for the academic community, specifically in the area of science and technology, comes from getting things done and being able to engage in high-impact practices.

"In five years, no faculty member who came to my office and needed support for research or publication was told no," he says. "That was my goal. When you can do that, the faculty will be happy, and the students will be more engaged."

But doing things costs money — which is why one of Aronstam's proudest accomplishments at BU was growing revenue and creating the resources needed to pursue those endeavors.

One of the mechanisms he brought to BU to help achieve that goal was the cDNA Resource Center. A molecular neuroscientist, the focus of his research was the human brain. Aronstam spent the early part of his career working with colleagues, graduate, and undergraduate students to clone and sequence proteins that are useful for work in a variety of fields, including medical and pharmaceutical research.

"I started the cDNA lab when I worked at Guthrie Medical Center, and then I took it with me to the University of Missouri, so it's been at three different places," says Aronstam. "It was never my job to do this. It was an offspring of my research and creating the tools we needed to have. But once we had the tools, we realized we better share these."

Since he brought the cDNA lab to BU, it has distributed DNA clones to scientists throughout the world and generated more than \$430,000 in revenue. All profits generated are managed through the BU Foundation and go directly toward strengthening BU's academic community.

Before Aronstam retired on June 5, he wanted to make a gift to ensure his passion for strengthening the academic community stayed strong at BU. That is why he has chosen to give the cDNA lab to Bloomsburg, so the profits can continue to benefit faculty and students who will use them to engage in their own high-impact research practices.



"There are faculty at BU who are very skilled and will be quite capable of maintaining and expanding this collection, specifically Ellen Kehres and Michael Borland from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry," adds Aronstam. "I've been approached occasionally to make it commercial and sell it, but I didn't want to do that. My heart and soul is the academic community, so I wanted it to stay here."

In addition to the cDNA lab, Aronstam has created the Aronstam Family Fellowship, which will be awarded to faculty members to recognize and support research efforts. Funds from the fellowship will help cover the cost of equipment and supplies needed for research efforts.

"We're a small science institute, so we're not going to get large grants from major institutions," Aronstam says. "But pound-for-pound, Bloomsburg will out-publish any institution. We just need more mechanisms like this in place to provide support for our faculty."

Aronstam is now looking forward to the next chapter of his life and spending more time with his wife Joan and his grandkids. He is also hoping to do more traveling and sharpen his gardening skills.

"I'm ready. I've been doing this for 40 years. It's a long time. But I've been lucky in a lot of things, especially to work with the people I've worked with here."

✧ *Bob and Joan Aronstam with grandchildren Moxie Kettinger, Sienna Duga, Patrick Aronstam, Julia Duga, Luke Aronstam, and Olivia Duga.*





Prepared to Heal

By Eric Foster

In early April, as COVID-19 cases began to spread across Pennsylvania, nurse anesthetist Christopher Heiss '19M knew that there would soon be cases at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville.

Heiss, a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), remembered seeing a picture on the internet of a box-shaped transparent barrier that would protect hospital personnel while treating patients infected with COVID-19 virus.

"It was a plexiglass box with armholes. I brought the idea to Geisinger's leadership, and they told me to move forward with it. The vice president of facilities (Al Neuner) at Geisinger told me we could make these in-house, so we started working in the carpentry shop together. And I had permission from the anesthesia department to put these into practice."

After the hospital's internal physical plant staff created prototypes, a manufacturer was enlisted to build

dozens of polycarbonate versions in sizes to fit anyone from a child to the largest adult, according to Heiss. One week later, multiple versions of the barriers were available throughout the Geisinger Health System.

One of the tasks that nurse anesthetists undertake is placing and removing breathing tubes in patients — and it's one of the procedures that carry the most significant risk for health care providers. "During that process, patients can cough and spread germs," says Heiss. "The aerosolization barrier helps protect us during those events. If the patient can't breathe, we can support them with an endotracheal tube and still protect ourselves."

The Barrier for Respiratory Aerosolization (BRA), as Heiss calls it, is also useful for patients who require a nebulizer — a device that works like a continuous inhaler to deliver medicine to open small airways in the lungs.

"From idea for the barrier to the point where every hospital had them was seven days," says Heiss. "Two days after that there was a second version and in the days that followed a portable PVC version with clear plastic sheeting was ready for EMS programs and Life Flight."

During the rapid development process — with leadership support from Dr. Douglas Kupas, emergency medicine physician and statewide EMS director; and Dr. Scott Vaughan, anesthesiologist — Geisinger staff shared input in an email chain that grew to more than 50 people.

The diversity of Heiss' background made him an ideal fit to spearhead the effort. His medical career began as an EMT as a teenager, followed by functioning as a paramedic in rural communities, and eventually serving as a flight nurse on a medical helicopter. Within the hospital, he's worked in the operating room, emergency room, and intensive care units. "I've been wherever critical patients are found," says Heiss.

"I've managed both suspected and COVID-19 positive patients. I'm more worried about asymptomatic people," says Heiss. "I feel more comfortable around suspected or positive patients because we're all taking precautions. I know I'm going to be protected."

"One of the most valuable things we had in all this was time — that time has been valuable. Not everybody had that time," says Heiss. "It took less than a week to implement the barriers throughout an entire health system," says Heiss. "I've never seen something unfold that quickly."

'60s

» **Harry Davies '67** was elected to the Delaware Baseball Hall of Fame. A member of the 1965 Bloomsburg University baseball team that won the state conference championship, Davies coached high school baseball in Delaware for 20 years.

'70s

» **Gary Choyka '74**, a member of LPGA International Golf Club of Daytona Beach, Fla., had two hole-in-ones in the same round on the Jones Course on Jan. 20.

» **Patricia Farnack '74** retired as news anchor on WCBS Newsradio 880, where she worked for 19 years. Her radio career spanned nearly five decades working at iconic stations such as 66WNBC and KYW in Philadelphia.

» **Mary-Elaine Wszalek Perry '75** retired from St. Joseph's University after 42 years as a higher education professional. Perry served as assistant vice president for student development for 12 years and, more recently, as the Title IX and bias response coordinator.

» **Bob Schweppenheiser '75** co-authored a book, "Looking for Love", which addresses the harsh reality of abuse and bullying.

» **Carl Poff '79** was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

'80s

» **Garry Benfer '81** is senior vice president and chief credit officer of Mifflinburg Bank and Trust, where he has worked for 23 years. He is responsible for consumer and retail lending, residential mortgage lending, agriculture lending, and business and commercial lending.

» **Kevin Crosley '81** received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the 2020 commencement of Herkimer County Community College, Herkimer, N.Y. He is president and CEO of Arc Herkimer, a nonprofit agency supporting people with disabilities.

» **Rick DiLiberto '82** received the Delaware Law Related Education Center's Board of Trustees Award at the Delaware High School Mock Trial Awards Banquet sponsored by the Delaware Supreme Court. DiLiberto was recognized for his many years of service to the law education center, which provides mock trial training and democracy and constitutional education training to hundreds of Delaware high school students. He is a personal injury section partner at Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, Wilmington.

» **Rebecca Funk Campbell '83** is chairman, Direct-to-Consumer and International of The Walt Disney Company. Campbell oversees the company's streaming businesses globally, including Disney+, ESPN+, Hulu and Hotstar. In addition to leading Disney's streaming services and the technology organization that supports them, she is in charge of regional teams stretching from Europe to Asia to Latin America.

» **Brenda Schreffler Nichols '85** retired from Larson Design Group, Williamsport.

» **William Ryan '85** retired as the secretary of the Archdiocese of Washington's Catholic schools and superintendent of the archdiocese's Catholic schools for the previous four years. Ryan will become superintendent of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charleston, S.C.

» **Britt Trumbower '87** is senior vice president of sales at HealthSavings Administrators, Richmond, Va.

» **Thomas Beck '88** was promoted to senior vice president and chief risk officer of Mifflinburg Bank and Trust. He has 31 years of experience in audit, compliance, and risk management, 25 of which are with Mifflinburg Bank and Trust.

» **Nichola Delbalso Gutgold '88M**, professor of communication arts and sciences at Penn State Lehigh Valley, co-wrote a children's book with Jessica Armstrong, associate general counsel at St. Luke's Health Network, titled "Growing Up Supremely: The Women of the Supreme Court."

» **Rebecca Kenvin Warren '88** is part of the labor and employment, litigation, and business law practice groups of Norris McLaughlin, Allentown.

» **Debbie Waibel Hippensteel '89** is an investment portfolio manager with River Wealth Advisors, Allentown.

'90s

» **Lee Lesisko, Ed.D., '91** is superintendent of the Pleasant Valley School District in Monroe County. Lesisko served as supervisor of technology and data analysis at Wissahickon School District, a supervisor of technology at the Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, and a senior systems engineer and Novell instructor.

» **Annette Gimbel Villerot Tielle '92** is superintendent of the Del Valle Independent School District in Texas. Tielle has 28 years of experience in education, formerly serving as the assistant superintendent of curriculum in the Comal and Pflugerville school districts in Texas.

» **Melissa Redmond Trala '95** is communications adviser for the Episcopal Academy, Newtown Square.

» **Corey Cappelloni '97** was the first American to complete the Marathon de Sables Morocco, an ultramarathon race that Discovery Channel dubbed the "Toughest Footrace on Earth."

» **Christian Achuff '98** is an assistant football coach at Syracuse University. Achuff was formerly a defensive line coach for the NFL's Arizona Cardinals.

» **Jeremy Kipp '98** is head coach of men's and women's swimming and diving at the University of Southern California. Kipp competed in swimming at BU from 1994 to 1998, serving as team captain during his final two years.

» **Angela Larson '98** is president and CEO at Montereau Senior Living Retirement Community in Tulsa, Okla. Larson served as Montereau's chief financial officer for more than seven years and is also chairwoman of Life Senior Services. Before joining Montereau, Larson was vice president of senior living finance research and development at Ziegler, a privately held investment bank specializing in health care and senior living and education.

» **Jennifer Gadomski Orr-Greene '98** is eastern policy director at Trout Unlimited, a national nonprofit organization working to protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and watersheds.

'00s

» **Simon Fiscus '01** is executive director of Skyline Community Action Partnership, a nonprofit agency combatting poverty in rural Virginia.

» **Jason Minnick '05** is director of marketing and communications of the United Soccer League team Phoenix Rising, serving as primary contact for all media inquiries. Minnick served as communications coordinator for United Soccer League in Tampa, Fla.

» **Aniela Wasmanski '06** is a real estate agent with Haute Residence in Breckenridge, Colo.

» **Curtis Swanger '07** was District 3-0 employee of the month at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Swanger serves as an environmental planner specializing in erosion and sedimentation control, stormwater control, and regulatory compliance.

» **Gregory Nyce '08** was hired at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. Nyce is a career professional firefighter and EMT at West Point and a volunteer firefighter near his home in Pennsylvania. Nyce served eight years in the Army, including a combat deployment to Afghanistan.

» **Nicole Kratz Belick '09/'10M** is vice principal (supervisor of instruction) in the Allentown School District at Harrison Morton Middle School.

» **Josh Farr '09/'10M** received a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Wilkes University.

» **Alyssa Keefe Hitchcock '09** is brand marketing manager at River Wealth Advisors, Susquehanna Township. Hitchcock was the senior market and brand strategist for Capital BlueCross.

'10s

» **Kevin Moyer '10M** is practice manager of occupational medicine and urgent care at Rehabilitation Services Williamsport Regional Medical Center (RMC). Moyer oversees daily operations of the occupational medicine practice and the hospital's new urgent care center.

» **Lauren Erdman-Sheeler '14** received the Emerging Fundraising Professional of the Year Award from the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

» **Brendon Hitchcock '11M** is business manager of the Athens Area School District in Bradford County.

» **Anthony Sajone '11** is borough supervisor and secretary/treasurer of Shenandoah Borough.

» **Brianne Globig '12** is the head coach of the University of Toledo swimming and diving program. Globig spent the 2019-20 season as the team's interim head coach.

» **Phillip Prout '14** is property maintenance and zoning inspector with Barry Isett & Associates of Scranton. Previously, he worked for Verizon as a solution specialist and he holds an additional 15 years of experience in carpentry. Since beginning a career in codes, Prout has earned his Residential Building Inspector and Residential Plumbing certifications.

» **Katelyn Shaughnessy '16** is Milton Area School District's Elementary Teacher of the Year.

» **Zachary Manning '19** is an accounting associate at Boyer & Ritter CPAs and Consultants, Camp Hill.

» **Katrina Heiser '19** a communications specialist at SCL Health Montana, was recently recognized by Hermes Creative Awards with two gold awards and one platinum award. The Hermes Creative Awards is an international competition for creative professionals.



“

“I’m just a solo run business and some of the other business nominees were larger companies. Winning the award felt like a bit of validation for what I’m trying to do.”

— **Josh Nesmith**

Picturing a career in music

Josh Nesmith, a '15 graduate of BU's music and audio engineering program, has made a name for himself in Central Pennsylvania as a music videographer (nesmithfilms.com). Last winter, Nesmith was the inaugural videography award winner from the Central Pennsylvania Music Hall of Fame, being selected ahead of several larger firms.

The Camp Hill native chose BU because the university offered a music major (percussion) with a focus on audio engineering. “I’ve been a drummer since I was 16,” says Nesmith. “I knew it was the instrument I wanted to play right away.”

He found a mentor in percussion professor Gifford Howarth, who encouraged his sense of hustle. “I remember him talking about the idea of getting the big picture challenges from a piece,” says Nesmith, “and moving on to cover more material.”

“When I graduated from BU, I happened to start making promotional and live videos for musicians to get a foothold into recording. But the video aspect seemed to be more popular. I had a full-time job as a media specialist at Big Spring School District, so I could invest in some gear. Then I just kept doing video projects,” says Nesmith. “After a while I had a sustainable number of projects and I’ve been operating as a fully freelance director and cinematographer since November of 2018.”

The Central PA Music Hall of Fame nomination in December 2019 took Nesmith by surprise. “I’m just a solo run business and some of the other business nominees were larger companies. Winning the award felt like a bit of validation for what I’m trying to do.”

Marriages

Tammy Rae Benscoter '97 and Jason Robert Taney, Dec. 7, 2019

Kristin Wulterkens '01 and Jason Cooper, Sept. 29, 2019

Zachary Pearce '11 and Stacey Kay Duensing, May 24, 2020

Jessica Hawk '12 and Christian Pavlik '12, Aug. 11, 2018

Kayleigh Warg '12 and Michael Stouffer '13, Oct. 11, 2019

Clarissa Coffay '14 and Michael Mock, June 13, 2020

Angela Noviello '14 and Justin Kauffman, Oct. 5, 2019

Stephanie Serafin '17 and Eryn Seyler '15, Sept. 1, 2019

Births

Kristi Lesho Bachman '05 and husband, Brady, a daughter, Brityn, March 4, 2020

Danielle Crane King '05 and husband, William, a son, Dakstyn, May 7, 2020

Angela Dawalt Lannan '07 and husband, Joshua, a daughter, Lily Marie, Feb. 19, 2020

Michael Averno '07 and wife, Karissa, a son, Aiden, Dec. 31, 2019

Drew Hampton '07 and wife, Kimberly, a daughter, Madison, April 10, 2020

Shanna Ross Crisman '11 and husband, Brent, a son, Dustin, March, 16, 2020

Jessica Hawk Pavlik '12 and husband, Christian '12, a son, Lua, Nov. 24, 2019

Jessica Rothman Albertson '12 and husband, Matthew '12, a son, Garret Richard, April 20, 2020

Julie Carpenter Feiler '15 and husband, Matthew, a daughter, Emery, May 3, 2020

Obituaries

Mary Reilly '41

Ruth VonBergen Rosenstock '49

Marjorie Smith Reber '50

Robert Walther '50

Shirley Wismer Baker '51

Richard Ledyard '52

Rose Marie Domaleski Pogirski '52

Joseph Barkley '53

Clyde Bell '53

John DiRico '53

Doris Paternoster Wandishin '53

Edward Weaver '53

Judith Bauer Andrews '54

Harry Gray '54

Franklin Jones '54

Douglas Stauffer '54

Olive Fedrigo Yannes '54

Glenn Wiik '55

Ronald Krafjack '56

Eugene Schultheis '56

James Harris '57

George J. Miller '58

Eugene Berg '59

Elaine DiAugustine-Ego '59

Gary Egli '59

Sally Ann Smith Vickery '59

Margaret Dragna Jaeger '60

W. Teddy Oakey '61

Patricia Vaughn Park '61

Robert Walters '61

Jane Welch Roche '62

Ruthann Baer Upperman Willis '62

Gary Dietz '63

Shirley Kocher '63

Joseph Kovalovich '63

James Dysinger '64

Elizabeth Stask Goodwin '64

Larry Melick '64

Daniel Ritzman '64

Headley Killian '65

Louise Terruso '65

Milton Van Winkle '65

Sherryl Shaffer Cope '66

Gerald Gorman '67

Marlin Kester '67

Patricia Stickler '67

Mary Jo Brown Alter '68

Dennis Bobita '68

Edward Burtsavage '69

Paul Canouse '69

Leland Smeltz '69

George Beecham '70

William Evans '70

James Moore '70

Connie Keller Nespoli '70

Jean Passmore Polson '70

Randall Reich '70

Susan Skiptunas '70

Donna Jean George '71

Jeffrey Kleckner '71

Jack Kocher '71

Marian Kracoski McMahon '71

Barry Payne '71

Harris Wolfe '71

George Bruchko '72

Vicki Lewis Murphy '72

Bonnie Hagemeyer Kutz '73

Gregory Reinecker '73

Rosemary Osenbach Ricketson '74

Margaret Fest '76

Leda Pope '76

Michael Betz '77

Kenneth Stolarick '77

Stewart Dreisigacker '80

Patricia Fuchs Fulton '80

Anne Sobeck McCabe '81

Mary Jane Miller '82

Kathy Rampulla Clark '83

Susan Parry Pagni '84

Joseph Barnes '88

Sloan Sheridan '88

Maureen Fenner Faller '89

Susan Yost Grant '91

Pendrid Slusser '91

James Hurst '92

Cheryl Butchko '94

Donald Dobson '94

Ralph Norce '94

Bradley Snyder '94

Anne Moratelli, Morack Veronick '97

Amy Vitacco '98

Jeffrey Matyas '99

Rosewani Crock Crowther '01

Charlyne Obrecht Eichner '01

Jason Cudzil '02

Willard Hanlon '02

Timothy Groller '05

Jill Adams Wujcik '06

Chad Eddinger '08

Sean Michaels '08

Kara Stackhouse '10

Kathleen Deegan Hughes '14

Michael Dessino '14

Send information to: magazine@bloomu.edu

Bloomsburg: The University Magazine | Waller Administration Building | 400 E. Second Street | Bloomsburg, PA 17815-1301

IN MEMORIAM

Carl Stuehrk Donor and Foundation Board Member

Carl F. Stuehrk, 92, of Waller, Pa., passed away March 19, in Centennial, Colo. A longtime member of the BU Foundation Board, Stuehrk was an Indiana native who served in the Navy, earned an electrical engineering degree and a master's degree in management, and had a long career with AT&T. In 1986, he moved to Pennsylvania with his wife Peg to restore an 18th century farmhouse and live and work on an active farm. An accomplished carpenter, designer and woodworker, he also worked as a real estate agent in Columbia County for several years. Donations in Stuehrk's memory can be made to: The Bloomsburg University Foundation, C/O Stuehrk Scholarship, 50 East Main St., Bloomsburg, PA 17815.

Richard Haupt, Retired Faculty Member

Richard B. "Dick" Haupt of Bloomsburg, 75, a retired faculty member, passed away March 24. A Shamokin native, Haupt was a member of the administrative faculty for 31 years, from his hiring in 1968 until his retirement in 1999. He spent the first 20 years in Student Life, as first assistant dean of men, which became assistant dean of student life in 1970. He was a resident dean in Elwell Hall from 1972 to 1976, then for the next 12 years was responsible for residence hall operations. From 1988 until his retirement, Haupt coordinated athletic operations. Among his survivors are his wife of 48 years, Mary Ellen, a '77 alumna of BU.

E. Ross Genzel Theatre Professor

E. Ross Genzel, 78, a faculty member in theatre from 1997 to 2005 (and director of theatre from 1998 until he retired), passed away on May 3. The many shows he directed for Bloomsburg include Assassins, Mother Jones, Into the Woods, City of Angels, The Adding Machine, Angels in America, and A Lie of the Mind. He also designed scenery and lights for multiple productions and served as technical director for some. His production of Angels in America (2003) was recognized for "Outstanding Production of a Play" at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. He was also a frequent collaborator with BTE, working with them on multiple productions and forging many connections with Ensemble members.

Lanny Conner Cross Country, Track and Field Coach

Lanny Conner, 70, of Berwick, former men's and women's cross country and track and field coach, passed away on May 9. At BU, Conner coached the men's programs from 1987-97 and the women's programs from 1993-97. The men's cross country team finished in the top five at the regional meet in 1992 and 1993. The '93 squad is the program's most successful, placing third at regionals before finishing 14th at nationals. His most successful season with the women's cross country team came in 1997 as the Huskies placed fifth at the PSAC meet and fourth in the regional meet. From 2000-2019, Conner coached at Southern Columbia High School, where he earned seven PHAC Coach of the Year awards.

Kenneth Stolarick Former Trustee

Kenneth E. Stolarick, 64, of Pine Grove, passed away on May 16. Stolarick served on the Council of Trustees from 2012 to 2017. He graduated from BU with a degree in business administration in 1977 and was an employee of M&T Bank for 35 years, serving as vice president of commercial banking. He was a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Pine Grove, Schuylkill Community Action, Schuylkill Economic Development Corp., Schuylkill YMCA board, Northeast PA Manufacturers and Employers Association, Pine Grove Area Education Foundation, and served as a Cub Scout master, and a manager for Pine Grove Little League.





1



2

HUSKY WEDDINGS



3

1. **D'EMIDIO and TAYLOR** — Alexandra D'Emidio '12 married Kyle Taylor '13 on Sept. 27, 2019, in Hackettstown, N.J. The service was officiated by alumna Emma Jean Grabowski '12
2. **TOCKET and BEAN** — Sarie Tocket '13 married Hayden Bean on Feb. 21, in Austin, Tex. The ceremony was officiated by Carl "CJ" Shultz '13. From left are: Justin McDonald '12, Richie DiSammartino, Kati Ruggiano DiSammartino '13, Hayden Bean, Sarie Tocket Bean '13, Carl "CJ" Shultz '13, Dr. Wenxian Tan, Joseph Fisher '13, and Jonathan Black.
3. **HAWK and PAVLIK** — Jessica Hawk '12 married Christian Pavlik '12 on Aug. 11, 2018.

THE SEASON THAT COULD HAVE BEEN

by David Leisering



COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CAREERS AREN'T SUPPOSED TO END THIS WAY.

As the world was coming to grips with the stark realities of the COVID-19 pandemic in early March, one by one professional sports leagues and NCAA collegiate sports were quickly shut down. For six Bloomsburg University winter and 29 spring student-athlete seniors that meant an abrupt end to their seasons or careers.

For the winter sport student-athletes, the cancellation of the NCAA wrestling and swimming championships on March 12 meant a season's worth of training and the hope of winning a national championship were gone — in some cases, forever.

Six swimmers — seniors Becca Cubbler and Kyle Dix, juniors Collin Hummel and Noah Cancro, and sophomores Colton Schnars and Pat Agnew — got just a day-and-a-half of competition in at the NCAA Division II Championships in Geneva, Ohio.

Cubbler earned her fourth All-American honor following a 10th-place finish in the 1000-yard freestyle on night one. The men's 200-yard freestyle relay team, featuring Dix, also received All-American status with a 15th-place result in the morning prelims on day two with Dix collecting his eighth career All-American award.

Then, everything came to an abrupt halt.

The NCAA later announced that individuals invited to compete in the events that did not take place would be named All-Americans. Cubbler became a three-time All-American for the second straight year while Schnars, who was also part of the relay team, earned All-America honors in the 100-yard backstroke. A silver lining if you will.



⌘ BU Swimmers at the NCAA Division II Championships.

The same, however, couldn't be said for the wrestlers — senior Trevor Allard and sophomore Alex Carida — who qualified for the NCAA Division I Championships in Minneapolis, never got to compete. Carida has two years of eligibility remaining. But Allard, who qualified for the first time in his career with an at-large bid in his final season, ended just four victories shy of 100 for his career.

"It was a stab to the heart because I finally made it and was going to get to chase my dream," says Allard. "Then, in the blink of an eye, it was gone. The last three years, I'd be one spot away or a couple seconds away, so to finally make it there, I felt like all the pressure was going to be off and it was going to be a time to shine."



"It was a stab to the heart because I finally made it and was going to get to chase my dream."

- Trevor Allard

Spring sports were also cancelled in mid-March, ending the season for nearly 150 student-athletes, including 29 seniors.

The spring season was already well underway. The baseball team was 9-1 and receiving votes in the national poll. Women's lacrosse was 4-1, with several individual milestones reached. Softball, which was in Florida when the NCAA announced the cancellation, was off to an 8-6 start. Both tennis teams played a couple of matches after a successful fall, and the outdoor track and field teams were ready to compete at Coastal Carolina to open their season that weekend.

For the seniors who had their final seasons end abruptly, the NCAA granted an extra year of eligibility. A handful of those 29 will come back for a chance to finish what they started. But others will move on to the next stage of their lives and challenges outside of athletics.

The Roster of Senior Spring Athletes

Brett Alaimo, Christian Ciotti, Chad Cooperman, Ed Herbener, Andrew Holmes, Nate Krizan, James Reardon IV, Gianni Sinatore, JJ Spehrley, and Cole Swiger (baseball); Angela DiPasquale, Cailyn Gormley, Grace Kelleher, Delaney Schappert, and Kirsten Wozniak (lacrosse); Kelsey Impink, Julia Knight, and Ashli Venokur (softball); Cassidy Calimer, Taylor Capoferri, and Vitoria Nery (women's tennis); Zach Bitner, Marcus Gray, Eric Heatwole, and Declan McDonald (men's track and field); Danielle Adornetto, Amanda Aulenbach, Zoe Berg, and Kirsten O'Malley (women's track and field).

Marvin to be Inducted into Pennsylvania Aquatics Hall of Fame

Former Bloomsburg University swimming standout and Huskies' current head men's and women's swimming coach Stu Marvin '78, will be inducted into the Pennsylvania Aquatics Hall of Fame part of the Class of 2020.

Marvin was an 11-time All-American performer for the Huskies, winning five Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) titles and setting six conference records. He twice won the Danny Litwhiler Underclass Male Athlete of the Year Award and received the Robert B. Redman Award as the top male senior athlete in 1978. In 1990, he was the first swimmer inducted into BU's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Marvin is a member of three other Halls of Fame: the Florida Gold Coast Masters Hall of Fame (2005), the Broward County Florida Sports Hall of Fame (2011), and the Upper Dublin High School Athletic Hall of Fame (2018). In 2002, the YMCA of the USA named him the recipient of the 2002 Joseph G. Rogers Award for outstanding service to their National Competitive Swimming & Diving Committee. After BU, Marvin oversaw the operation of the aquatic complex at the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Fort Lauderdale for 30 years.

Marvin became the head coach of the men's and women's swim teams at BU in 2008 and has coached numerous All-Americans, individual PSAC champions, and All-Conference performers. He is a six-time PSAC Coach of the Year honoree.

Wrestling One of Top Academic Teams in the Country

The National Wrestling Coaches Association released the top 30 Scholar All-American teams in late April, and BU finished 23rd in Division I with a team grade point average of 3.2183.

The Huskies finished ahead of such institutions as Duke, Brown, Oklahoma, Purdue, and Arizona State.

Two of the Huskies' grapplers – redshirt senior Trevor Allard (Mexico, N.Y.) and sophomore Alex Carida (Hackettstown, N.J.) earned individual Division I Scholar All-American honors. Allard boasts a 3.92 GPA while working towards his MBA. Carida sports a 3.73 GPA in supply chain management.



^ Trevor Allard (left) and Alex Carida (right) were named Scholar All-Americans

Evans, Quiteh Honored as Athletes of the Decade

Former BU football greats Jahri Evans and Franklyn Quiteh were honored for their success on the gridiron. Evans earned a spot on the NFL's All-Decade Team for his brilliant professional career – primarily with the New Orleans Saints – while Quiteh was recognized by d2football.com with a place on its All-Decade Team.

Evans was selected in the fourth round by the Saints in the 2006 NFL Draft, chosen for six consecutive Pro Bowls (2009-14), named a First Team All-Pro in four consecutive seasons from 2009-12, and earned Second Team All-Pro accolades in 2013. Evans was also named a member of the New Orleans Saints' 50th Anniversary Team in 2016.

Among offensive linemen, Evans' six Pro Bowl appearances ranks second all-time in Saints' history. He also ranks second all-time in Saints' history with 169 career games played. He was named to his first Pro Bowl and earned First Team All-Pro recognition for the first time in 2009 – a season that was capped off with the Saints' victory over the Indianapolis Colts in Super Bowl XLIV.

Quiteh, one of the best running backs ever to play at the Division II level, finished his brilliant Huskies' career with 7,523 rushing yards – second all-time in Division II history – and won the Harlon Hill Trophy as the nation's top player in 2013. That season, Quiteh led the country in yards rushing (2,195) and rushing touchdowns (29).

He still holds 13 school records, five Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) records, and two Division II records – most seasons with at least 2,000 rushing yards (3) and most career games rushing for at least 100 yards (42).



^ Jahri Evans



^ Franklyn Quiteh

Students at the Victory Parade in Bloomsburg in November 1918 to celebrate the end of World War I.

A RECORD OF RESILIENCE

By Robert Dunkelberger

This spring, as Bloomsburg's more than 8,000 students found themselves taking classes remotely, their experience echoed the resilience of Huskies from more than 100 years ago.

While the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 has caused the most serious disruption to Bloomsburg University's operations in its more than 175-year history, the campus community has weathered floods and other health emergencies — including the 1918 influenza pandemic — rising to the challenge each time.



^ A 1916 view of the campus infirmary, a gift of the Class of 1915. It was removed in 1958 in preparation for the construction of Northumberland Hall.

The Community Comes to the Aid of the Campus

On Sept. 4, 1875, a fire swept through the Bloomsburg State Normal School dormitory, resulting in a total property loss, though no loss of life. One of only two buildings on campus at the time, this event could have been catastrophic. But a meeting was held at the courthouse, and a group of citizens

voted unanimously to help rebuild the dormitory and aid the students. Money was raised to replace lost clothing and books, while private homes were opened to board those who had been living on campus.

Only two days of instruction were lost, and the cornerstone of the new building was laid at the end of October. Work progressed rapidly, and the dormitory was completed by late spring. The minimal disruption to the Normal School would not have been possible without the support of the citizens of Bloomsburg,



The original campus dormitory after the Sept. 4, 1875 fire. ^

who less than a decade before had contributed the money to erect the first structure on campus, Institute (Carver) Hall.

In the three years leading up to the 1918 pandemic, three different diseases rippled through the Normal School campus and community.

Scarlet fever struck the dormitory in April 1915. Three ill students were confined, with a number of their friends sent home in a successful effort to stop the spread of the disease. The experience prompted members of the Class of 1915 to direct their class gift to remodel a small ice house on campus and turn it into an infirmary. The facility was a tremendous asset in the years to come.

In April of 1916, an outbreak of the measles led to a general quarantine of the town for 12 days, with schools, churches, and theaters closed. Resident students were kept on campus and could not travel into town, but continued with their classes. Day students had no alternative and remained at home in the community. When the campus reopened after several weeks, only one student had taken ill, and there was no impact on commencement.

And in the fall of 1916, an outbreak of infantile paralysis, or polio, caused a three-week delay in classes. The academic schedule was adjusted for the entire school year, pushing commencement back one week to June 27. This is the only occasion uncovered so far, until 2020, that there has been a delay in the graduation ceremony.

In 1918, as an influenza pandemic swept the planet, killing more than 50 million people, Bloomsburg was also affected. The campus was quarantined from early October into November. To allow classes for the 300 boarding students to continue, the professors living in town moved into the campus dormitory.

Fortunately, by 1918 the students and staff at Bloomsburg were experienced at dealing with infectious diseases and precautions taken had made a difference. At its peak, 34 students became ill, but by the time quarantine went into effect there were 12 cases, and no further cases developed after that. Though millions died worldwide, only one boarding student on campus passed away from the dreaded disease.

The state police command center in the new administration building, June 1972. ≈



A personal account of the 1918 pandemic

Among the students at Bloomsburg during the 1918 influenza pandemic was Edith Angeline Dennis '19, the school's first African American boarding student.

Dennis who was featured in the February 2020 issue of

Bloomsburg: The University Magazine, kept a diary of her time on campus. Her niece, Denise Dennis, shares diary entries from the fall of 1918.

On Sept. 27, she wrote about classmates who were stricken. "Elsie Snyder, who was taken to the hospital Tuesday with the Spanish Influenza, died today. It turned to pneumonia. Catherine Bitting went to the hospital today."

Three days later, on Sept. 30, Edith was ill. "Wrote Mama a letter. I went to see the nurse as I felt very sick and I can go home tomorrow if I am not improved." The following day,

EDITH DENNIS Wilkes-Barre

W B. H. S., Normal Course; Philo; Y W C. A., G. D. C.; G. A. A.

Edith came to us from Wilkes-Barre; and, although she lived there all her life, we wonder if she knows where Priscilla lives—because Edith is interested in a brother of Priscilla's.

She is very talent in giving orations, especially a nominating speech.

She did not believe in taking Botany, and therefore picked her own crowd to work with in Agriculture.

In cooking, Edith is in Class "A." We all know why,—I'll be a housewife some day" She is full of fun as well as work.

Edith always does things at the right time, and we hope to hear of her success in the future.

More recently, BU has served as a community resource during the floods of 1972, 2006, and 2011.

The Agnes flood of June 1972 impacted students minimally. But the campus quickly became a base of operations for the state police and National Guard, which set up in the newly opened administration building. College personnel and students staffed phone banks – at the peak taking hundreds of calls each hour. While troops slept on cots set up in the Centennial Gymnasium, county residents who were flooded out of their homes slept in Columbia Hall and were fed in the Scranton Commons.

Flooding in the summer of 2006 and September 2011 knocked out the town's water supply and forced the university to close. The 2006 flood inspired the creation of a disaster relief center for local companion animals, Annie's Place, on the upper campus.

In 2011, students remaining in town after classes were canceled, many from athletic teams, rose up to meet the challenge and worked for days in flood-damaged homes. They removed mud, debris, and ruined belongings, before tearing out floors and walls in preparation for rebuilding.



^ Student-athletes removing damaged flooring from a home near the Bloomsburg Fair grounds, Sept. 2011.

Meanwhile, university faculty and staff answered telephones at emergency operations centers, cared for pets kept at the upper campus shelter, and used university equipment for debris removal and transportation. The efforts were invaluable as the town, and surrounding areas worked to recover.

Each crisis has been met in the same manner, including today's COVID-19 pandemic. The campus community, often in conjunction with their neighbors in the community, demonstrated resilience to meet any and all challenges.



she writes, "Well, I certainly don't feel the best, nor does Pris [her roommate]. Lil Poust, a day student, died of Influenza in the hospital."

On Oct. 2. "Pris went home today. I'm feeling much better ... I wouldn't mind being home, not that I care about being sick."

The next day though, she writes, "Home again. The nurse gave me permission to go home, as my cold was worse. Also, she would not allow me to attend the Fair. So, I took the 6:00 p.m. home. All are well as yet unvisited by the flu. Mrs. Fagley urged me to go home."

Edith went to see the doctor on Oct. 4 and was diagnosed Oct. 7. "Very cool. Today Mama and I went over to the Dr. He said I can't go back to school ... also that I have the flu."

On Oct. 11, she writes, "I feel worse ..." and on Oct. 12, "Papa sent for Dr. Nurse and he gave me a prescription." (A physician, Dr. Nurse, was a friend of Edith's father.)

By Oct. 14, 10 days after she was diagnosed, Dennis was well enough to return to Bloomsburg, still taking medication, and completed the school year. She lived a long, productive life, and passed away in 1980, two months before her 81st birthday.



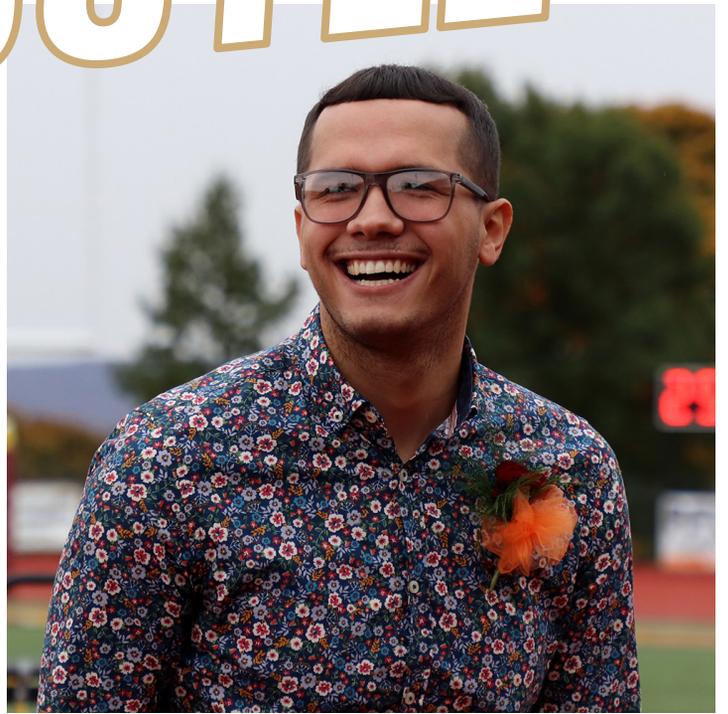
CLASS OF 2020





GRIT

AMBITION
HUSTLE





Office of Marketing and Communications
400 E. Second Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PPCO



ELEVATE YOUR CAREER

Make this year count with nearly 30 master's, doctoral, and professional certificate programs online, in person or hybrid.

Designed to fit your budget and life, our graduate programs cover a wide range of disciplines, from business administration to exercise science to education and emerging career fields like information technology, community health, and instructional design. GRE/GMAT waivers and graduate assistantships are available.

bloomu.edu/gradschool

A NOTE TO PARENTS

If this issue of *Bloomsburg: The University Magazine* is addressed to a daughter or son who has established a separate residence, please notify us of that new address by sending an email to: magazine@bloomu.edu

WANT TO UNSUBSCRIBE?

If you no longer wish to receive the print edition of the magazine, please notify us by sending an email to: magazine@bloomu.edu

RECEIVING DUPLICATE COPIES?

If you are receiving more than one copy of *Bloomsburg: The University Magazine*, please forward the mailing label panel from each issue you receive to:
Bloomsburg: The University Magazine
Waller Administration Building
400 E. Second Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815-1301