It’s Personal

Our most ambitious and personal fundraising effort ever
THANK YOU.

These two very simple words express my sincere gratitude for your personal commitment to Bloomsburg University.

I thank you, the members of our extended campus community, for the difference you make in the life of this institution through your meaningful gifts of time, energy and financial support. Every personal connection has an impact and a story.

Nowhere was your thoughtfulness more apparent than last fall during a series of events to kick off the public phase of It’s Personal: The Campaign for Bloomsburg University. Over the course of 10 days in October, we joined with students, faculty and staff for a rally on the Academic Quad and celebrated with alumni, donors and friends at events in Nelson Field House and Philadelphia’s Franklin Institute.

The momentum built quietly for five years during the campaign’s private phase. As a result, we constructed a downtown building, established and awarded endowed scholarships, initiated institutes, created professorships and supported students’ career-related activities. You have learned about these endeavors and met many of the donors in previous issues of Bloomsburg: The University Magazine.

In this special issue, we share stories about the It’s Personal campaign and its focus on four areas: academic scholarships, athletic scholarships, faculty support and professional experiences. As we head toward the $50 million goal, every gift is important to enhancing educational experiences for our students today and in the future.

So, again, I say thank you to every individual who has given back to Bloomsburg University in time, talent or treasure and invite others to join in this ambitious campaign. Together, we will have a lasting personal impact on the lives of our students.

DAVID SOLTZ
President, Bloomsburg University

Editor’s note: BU President David Soltz regularly offers his opinions on issues in higher education and his vision for Bloomsburg University at bupresident.blogspot.com.
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Bloomsburg: The University Magazine is published three times a year for alumni, students’ families and friends of the university. Bonus content and back issues may be found at www.bloomu.edu/magazine.

Visit Bloomsburg University on the Web at www.bloomu.edu.

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BU WOMEN’S RUGBY CLUB inside center Nicole Snyder blasts past defenders in a match against Michigan’s Grand Valley State University in the women’s Division II 15s Rugby nationals. Bloomsburg won the match 78-5.

Celebrating their 20th anniversary, the club earned third in the nation in women’s Division II 15s Rugby, defeating sides from Rutgers, Ithaca and Vassar College and falling in a close match to Davenport University. This was the first time in club history that the team went to the Final Four.

A FORCE TO RECKON WITH
STUDENTS ENTERING the criminal justice field confront a perception that criminals are violent and aggressive. A course is tearing down those stereotypes and the societal walls between the imprisoned and those on the outside.

Incarcerated Women: Rehabilitative Programming in Women’s Prisons was offered for the first time in fall 2015 at the State Correctional Institution (SCI) Muncy, near Williamsport. BU students commuted to the prison to attend the class taught by criminal justice professional John Adami. What makes the experience unique is that their classmates were incarcerated women serving time at SCI Muncy.

Adami has more than two decades of experience in the criminal justice field. A unit manager at the federal maximum security prison in Lewisburg, he supervises a group of case managers and counselors who interact daily with inmates.

“We’re trying to show university students what it’s like inside a prison,” says Adami. “The whole idea is to give students some hands-on experience.”

Modeled after The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program started at Temple University in 1997, the course is designed to expose students directly to various aspects of the prison environment. Inmates and students interact and collaborate in a classroom setting.

“I look forward to this class every week. These women are smart, motivated and kind-hearted,” says Brooke Spence, a junior criminal justice student from Hellertown. “It really changes your perspective on the inmates, the staff and the prison system itself.”

The course exposes BU students to career opportunities in correctional facilities, while inmates are given the opportunity to share their experiences and prepare for their eventual return to society.

“They want to know about what it is like outside of the prison, since a lot of them have been in there for over 10 years,” says Spence. “When you’re on the outside, you have this stereotype that prisons are filled with violent criminals. In reality, a majority of them are there for nonviolent crimes and just want to better themselves and get back to their families.”

Working alongside prison inmates is a challenge for students. Spence admits it is difficult to learn about the struggles of incarcerated women.

“We do not have the right to judge these women,” she says. “Being in this class has reassured me many times that I am in the right major, and that finding a career that involves interacting with inmates, especially women, is what I want to do.”

— By Nick Cellucci ’16
Read more at bloomu.edu/magazine.
Military Friendly

VICTORY MEDIA AGAIN RECOGNIZES BU

ONCE AGAIN, BU has earned the title of Military Friendly School from Victory Media, publisher of GI Jobs magazine. BU welcomed 71 new military students in fall 2015, bringing the total to 299. Military students are defined as current and former military members, their spouses and dependents who are using benefits.

As a Military Friendly School, BU is ranked in the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools working to embrace military service members, veterans and spouses as students ensuring their success on campus.

To meet the needs of military students, BU provides preferred class scheduling and has established a military students lounge. The BU Student Veterans Association offers opportunities for social and educational activities and is involved in fundraisers to benefit organizations such as The Wounded Warrior Foundation and the American Red Cross.

Vocation Exploration

PCM AWARDED $85,000 GRANT

LILLY ENDOWMENT INC. has awarded a grant of nearly $85,000 to Protestant Campus Ministry (PCM). PCM will use this grant to fund the Vocation Exploration Initiative at BU (VEI-BU). VEI-BU, open to all undergraduate students, will offer experiences and practical tools to help students make career and life decisions reflective of their faith, values and unique calling. The program, funded through 2019, will also bring nationally known speakers to campus each year.

PCM’s partners in this initiative are BU’s Zeigler Institute for Professional Development and Center for Leadership and Engagement, Princeton Theological Seminary’s Institute for Youth Ministry and Bloomsburg area churches.

Town Government to BU

DAN K NORR ‘07 IS DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS

DAN KNORR ’07 joined BU last fall as director of external and government relations. Formerly the Borough of Danville’s administrator of government affairs, Knorr served as mayor of the Town of Bloomsburg from 2008 to 2013 after two years as a member of Bloomsburg’s Town Council.

As director of external and government relations, Knorr serves as an advocate for the university and Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education. He monitors legislation and public policy, seeks out opportunities for state and federal funding and economic development, and builds relationships with higher education organizations, local governments and other entities.

He fills a vacancy created by the retirement of Jim Hollister ’78.
BU’s Vision: 2014 President’s Report

won the MarCom Platinum Award, administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals. Approximately 16 percent of entries won this award. Additionally, Bloomsburg: The University Magazine won MarCom’s Gold Award, presented to approximately 23 percent of entries, for issues published in fall 2014 and winter and spring 2015.

One or more of Bloomsburg University’s publications has been honored by MarCom every year since 2010. These publications have included the university Viewbook, Celebrity Artist Series mailer, Football Campaign booklet, and Living and Learning Communities booklet.

A BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY faculty member and his Florida State University adviser won the Nobel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education in Chemistry for their work studying the little-known element californium. Florida State Gregory R. Choppin Professor Thomas Albrecht-Schmitt and his former graduate student Matthew Polinski, now an assistant professor of chemistry at BU, received the award from the American Chemical Society (ACS) in recognition of Polinski’s doctoral dissertation research under Albrecht-Schmitt’s supervision. That thesis work became a major part of a paper Albrecht-Schmitt authored in Nature Chemistry — with Polinski as a co-author — on the element californium.

Californium is a man-made, radioactive element known as Cf on the Periodic Table of Elements. It is also part of what’s called the actinide series, a part of the periodic table where all of the elements are radioactive. It is a wildly unstable element, but Albrecht-Schmitt’s team was able to show that it had very unusual chemistry, marking the beginning of a new type of chemistry not previously observed. They also found it was extremely resistant to radiation damage, which could further research on how to develop materials for storing radioactive elements. Polinski’s work was a key part of that discovery.

THREE FACULTY MEMBERS received inaugural fellowships established as a result of the It’s Personal campaign. Each two-year term includes an annual award stipend of $2,500 to augment scholarship and create professional and applied learning opportunities for students.

The faculty honorees and their fellowships are:

• Mark Bauman, associate professor of teaching and learning, Vicki and Jack Mihalik Fellowship in the College of Education
• Stephen Clickard, professor and chair of music, Jack and Helen Evans Fellowship in the College of Liberal Arts
• Victoria Geyfman, professor of finance, Michael and Bree Gillespie Fellowship in the College of Business

A HOT TOPIC in athletics today, at all levels, is the matter of concussions and their effect on the brain. BU’s new Institute for Concussion Research and Service is a collaboration between interdisciplinary faculty and students working to better understand concussions.

Under the supervision of Joseph Hazzard, assistant professor of exercise science, the institute has two main goals: to give medical professionals a better understanding of concussions, symptoms and their outcomes, and to provide a service to the medical community that will assist them in making better return-to-play decisions. The two-part portable testing system, which is unique to BU, gives Hazzard and his team the ability to travel to the athletes. The institute began last fall working with student athletes from BU and Berwick and Danville high schools.

Inaugural Fellowships
FACULTY RECEIVE INAUGURAL AWARDS

MarCom Awards
PRESIDENT’S REPORT, MAGAZINE HONORED

Going to Californium
CHEMISTRY ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, MENTOR EARN ACS RECOGNITION

In One-Two Test
INSTITUTE WORKS TO SAFEGUARD ATHLETES’ BRAINS

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A DIAGNOSIS OF CANCER at any age is traumatic, but getting that diagnosis a few months before high school graduation is especially devastating. Senior Hailey Vonasek from Sparks, Md., faced that scenario four years ago when she received the news that she had ovarian cancer.

In early March 2011, as a senior in high school, Vonasek suffered discomfort in her lower abdomen while playing soccer. Her doctor initially thought she was suffering from a sports hernia or a cyst. Instead, her symptoms were caused by a 13-centimeter mass on her ovaries. A week after having surgery to remove her ovaries, she learned the mass was cancerous.

Rather than making carefree high school memories, Vonasek spent much of her senior year getting chemotherapy, four rounds every three weeks, at Franklin Square Hospital in Baltimore, Md. She lost all of her hair, but still was able to graduate with her class at Notre Dame Prep, albeit bald.

“It was scary thinking that I could die,” says Vonasek, “but then I said ‘I need to keep a positive outlook on this.’ I think my mom was more scared than me, but I didn’t want this to affect me.”

Vonasek’s soccer career was put on hold as she underwent treatments. Her only workouts came every three weeks, when she was physically able following her chemo.

“I was headed to the University of Rhode Island to play soccer, but ended up having to take a medical red-shirt,” Vonasek says. “When the doctors told me that there was no way I would play again, I was determined to prove them wrong.”

Vonasek left Rhode Island after a short time and enrolled at BU where she is majoring in exercise science. “Coming to Bloomsburg was a good fit academically and athletically for me,” Vonasek says. “Plus it allowed me to be closer to home for my monthly treatments.”

The first time she played in a game was very emotional. “I cried after my first pre-season scrimmage,” Vonasek adds. “I didn’t think I’d be so emotional, but it felt so good to be back on the field.”

Now cancer-free for four years, Vonasek is looking forward to July 16, 2016, when she hits the five-year mark. “It’s a date I think about all the time,” she says.

Tom McGuire is BU’s director of sports information.
EZRA RANCO of Collegeville had an unlikely childhood. He was born into a family of three children, his dad barely present. When he was 5, he was put up for adoption by his birth parents. “It got to the point where my parents couldn’t take care of us,” Ranco says, “so one of us went to live with our grandparents. I was the one that got picked.”

In the span of 11 years, he bounced from one foster home to another, the equivalent of 27 foster homes, two hospitals, and a group home facility. At one point, Ranco had three foster families within a little over three years.

He met his current parents, Nelson and Ellen Ranco, when he was 13 and was officially adopted three years later. “Of all the things that have happened in my life, I feel like they’ve all had a major impact in the course of how my life has turned out now,” says Ranco.

The red-shirt junior began to play football his freshman year of high school and spent his free time on the field. Football alone was not a coping mechanism for Ranco, who also ran track and played basketball. He found having close relationships with his adoptive family and friends helped.

As high school came to an end, it was time for another large transition – college. Ranco chose Bloomsburg University, where he is a criminal justice major, because both academic and athletic sides appealed to him.

Ranco, who received the Jahri Evans Football Endowed Scholarship, praises the many role models in his life, including coaches. “Coach (Chet) Henicle told me I had so much more to play for. Nothing’s really holding me back,” says Ranco, who was named second team All-PSAC (Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference) East in fall 2015 after leading all BU defensive linemen with 38 tackles on the year and seven tackles for loss, including 5.5 sacks.

With his parents’ support of his athletic and academic endeavors, “I really have the best of both worlds,” Ranco says. After graduation, he plans a career where he can give back what life has given him. — By Dana Shirley ’16
“We know it’s an ambitious goal, but we believe it is attainable.”

With those words, Bloomsburg University President David Soltz announced the public launch of It’s Personal: The Campaign for Bloomsburg University on Oct. 16, 2015.

The $50 million fundraising campaign, the largest in Bloomsburg University’s history, is about impact, Soltz said, “impact that is personal to you as a donor or volunteer and personal for the students and faculty members you support.”

The It’s Personal campaign raised nearly $37 million during the private phase that began July 1, 2010, demonstrating the support of thousands of alumni and friends. That total reached $38.2 million by Dec. 31, 2015, but, Soltz acknowledged, “there is still more work to be done.”
WHY IT’S PERSONAL? Because that’s Bloomsburg University’s ultimate goal: to provide a personal educational experience with a profound impact each alumnus will carry far beyond graduation.

Every BU graduate has a story about his or her BU experience ... stories about new friends, new ideas and new opportunities that helped shape them into the people they’ve become. No matter how different those stories may be, each reflects the university’s commitment to preparing students for personal and professional success. Through the It’s Personal campaign, BU is strengthening that commitment.

As the campaign was officially launched inside a transformed Nelson Field House on Oct. 16, 2015, BU President David Soltz and other speakers made it clear that the goal was not just to raise $50 million. “Tonight, we celebrate our opportunity to make a lasting impact on the lives of current and future Bloomsburg University students,” Soltz said.

Then, with the help of Roongo, BU’s mascot, and several student-athletes, Soltz shared the result of contributions received from more than 14,800 donors during the campaign’s private phase: nearly $37 million.

The campaign and its priorities also were introduced at a similar event in Philadelphia’s Franklin Institute and an outdoor rally for faculty, staff and students on the Academic Quadrangle.

Areas of Opportunity

“In 2010, President David Soltz and Bloomsburg University identified areas of opportunity where support would be most effective in helping to elevate Bloomsburg University to even greater heights,” said Duane Greenly ’72, chair of the campaign cabinet. “Tonight, that vision is coming to fruition with the launch of the It’s Personal campaign and its ambitious goal of $50 million.

“The end result of the campaign is
The Carver Hall Bell

The 1-ton bell in the tower of Carver Hall, silent since Jan. 1, 1989, when it rang to celebrate BU’s 150th anniversary, started ringing again last October. Featured on the cover of this issue, the bell now chimes each day at noon and to signify landmark events connected to the It’s Personal campaign. Installed in Carver Hall in June 1867, the bell stands today as a symbol of the very powerful and personal nature of giving. Learn more about the bell’s history on page 30.

its impact on students: ensuring access to high-quality faculty, a curriculum tailored to students’ passions, and opportunities to help them ease the debt they may incur throughout their time here.”

Money raised during the campaign will be dedicated to funding areas identified as most beneficial to current and future students and to the university’s continued success. They are: new academic and athletic scholarships; recruitment, support and retention of outstanding faculty; and professional experiences for students.

Key to the success of the It’s Personal campaign are alumni, friends, parents and other members of the Bloomsburg University community whose participation, support and generosity will help the university reach its goal. “Bloomsburg University is fortunate,” Soltz said, “to have individuals who share their time, talents and resources in support of our students.”

The impact of the campaign will be heard, as well as felt. “After being silent for nearly 25 years, the bell located atop Carver Hall has finally rung again,” Soltz added, explaining the significance of recent repairs to the bell located inside the iconic building’s tower. “Throughout the course of the campaign, its ringing will serve as a symbol of the very powerful and personal nature of giving.”

As the campaign launch event continued, stories from alumni, performances by theater students, and testimonials from supporters illustrated that It’s Personal is more than just a campaign theme. The strongest example came from Courtney Dunn, a 2015 BU graduate and recipient of the Helen and Ervene Gulley and Ellen Barker Memorial scholarships.

“Throughout my time as a Husky, I was fortunate enough to be surrounded by people who helped raise me up,” Dunn said. “From the scholarships I received and the donors who made those scholarships possible, to the faculty who mentored me and helped me find my passion, I know that it’s these individuals who have helped shape my life forever.”

Tom Schaeffer is communications coordinator for the Bloomsburg University Foundation.
(Opposite page) The Concert Choir performs at the It’s Personal launch event.

(This page) Members of the It’s Personal Campaign Cabinet, from left, are Nick Giuffre ’78, Dr. Joseph Mowad ’08H, Steph Pettit ’89, chair Duane Greenly ’72, Terry Zeigler ’76, Pat Mica ’67, Drew Hostetter ’76, Ed Breiner ’77 and Mike Boguski ’85 (top). Nelson Field House is transformed for the Oct. 16 event, left. The Franklin Institute provides an elegant background for the launch in Philadelphia.

PHOTOS: COLE KRESCH
Theater majors and recent graduates share compelling stories while portraying scholarship recipients (top). BU mascot Roongo draws admirers during the rally on the Academic Quadrangle, left. BU President David Soltz addresses the crowd at the on-campus rally. BU President David Soltz addresses the crowd at the on-campus rally announcing the It’s Personal campaign.
EACH OF US HAS written our own story with Bloomsburg University and no two stories are alike. The It’s Personal campaign asks you to look into your heart and recall the details of your unique connection, your fond recollections, the personal experiences that made you who you are.

I know firsthand how those experiences can change the trajectory of a young person’s life. Having grown up only a few miles from the campus, then attending and graduating from the university in 1972, both Bloomsburg University and the town of Bloomsburg have impacted my life tremendously.

It’s that personal impact that helped my wife, Sue, and me decide on our own commitment to the It’s Personal campaign. We knew we wanted to give back, and we were in agreement that our gift had to be personal. After exploring our options we discovered that we could make a gift that would have an impact, not only on the university, but also the community.

With the construction and dedication of the Greenly Center, we had the opportunity to help strengthen BU’s partnership with the downtown community. It created a new home for the BU Foundation, added classroom space to the downtown area and established an art gallery where BU students and faculty can share their work with the public.

Making an impact and creating a legacy that represented our personal connection to the Town of Bloomsburg and the university – that is what ignited our passion and inspired us to make a difference though this campaign.

The It’s Personal campaign will continue to transform the educational and personal experiences for BU students. We are committed to helping students be better prepared for success after graduation by ensuring they are taught by dedicated faculty and have access to a curriculum tailored to their passions and opportunities to help ease the debt they may incur.

I encourage you to think about your own BU experiences that helped shape the person you are today. Through this campaign, we each have the opportunity to create a legacy by passing those experiences forward to the next generation of Huskies.

The stories that follow illustrate the positive impact of talented faculty, the benefit of scholarships and the value of giving back to our university in a way that is meaningful – personal – to you.

Duane R. Greenly
AT BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY, each experience is a personal experience. Ask an alumnus about memories of the campus, and you will hear about a one-on-one relationship with a special faculty member or lifelong friend. Ask a faculty member to reflect on her career, and you will hear about a superior student from decades ago who continues to share milestones in his personal life and career. Ask a student to name someone who brings a smile or makes a difference every day, and you will hear about a wonderful staff member who helped her schedule a class or someone who keeps her residence hall spotless.

At Bloomsburg University, our story is our people. Students. Faculty. Staff. Alumni. Donors. Friends. Individuals. So, the name, It’s Personal: The Campaign for Bloomsburg University, is a natural.

Focus on Three Areas
The It’s Personal campaign focuses on three areas: academic and athletic scholarships, faculty support and ProfessionalU.

• Academic and Athletic Scholarships: Bloomsburg University is devoted to providing high-quality, accessible education. Today, rising operational costs and limited public funding put a heavy financial burden on students and their families. Scholarships keep a college education affordable, create opportunities and help the university attract the best and brightest students.

• Faculty Support: Many alumni attribute their success to dedicated faculty who mentored them, inspired them and provided career-building experiences. Faculty who were the source of life-changing “aha” moments. Competition is fierce in recruiting and retaining talented educators and distinguished scholars who thrive on building personal connections with students. With investments to aid in recruiting, retaining and recognizing high-achieving, passionate faculty, more doors will open for student success.

• Professional U: Professional U is a campus-wide initiative that provides students with annual experiential learning opportunities, including internships, job shadowing, undergraduate research projects, international study, service-learning and alumni networking events. Financial support for Professional U helps provide relevant experiences so all students may develop the strong skills they need for career success.

Learn More
Bloomsburg University students are following in your footsteps, pursuing their own personal paths to their degree. Learn how you can convey your passion for BU and impact today’s students at itspersonal.bloomu.edu.
Scholarships: Changing Lives

by SUE A. BEARD

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE MORE than financial rewards for academic achievement or exceptional talent. Scholarships change lives.

Some 84 percent of Bloomsburg University’s full-time undergraduates receive financial aid, including state and federal grants and loans. In addition, this year 765 BU students are benefiting from nearly $1.4 million in scholarships from both annual and endowed funds.

Each of their stories is unique. A sampling:

Elijah Campos

Philadelphia freshman Elijah Campos, 18, and his two older brothers were being raised by their grandparents until a private school in central Pennsylvania changed his life. Founded by the philanthropic chocolate industrialist, the Milton Hershey School offers a free education to children from low-income families. From second grade until high school graduation, Campos found a nurturing, supportive and inspiring haven that encouraged him to hone his vocal talents.

“I started singing when I was around 5,” remembers Campos, one of eight children in his family. “When I sing, it feels like all the stress in life just goes away.”

At Hershey, Campos performed in all of the school’s vocal ensembles, including the Milton 5, a student group modeled on the 1960s and ’70s pop and soul group, the Jackson 5.

“Milton Hershey School set a new standard for me. It made me want to achieve more than anyone expected and taught me responsibility to keep my life on track, no matter what comes my way.”

A vocal music major with aspirations of becoming a rapper, R&B and Latino-infused singer and songwriter, Campos graduated from Milton Hershey School with $80,000 in scholarships earned through academic success and chose BU in part because his oldest brother, Eric Cambuzano, lives nearby. After Campos auditioned for admission to BU, the music department awarded him the Harold H. and Melba Beck Hyde Memorial Music Scholarship. He expects to graduate debt-free in four years.

“Receiving the scholarship will push me to work harder than ever because I know someone truly believes in me,” he says, “and I will not let them down.”

Kim Kepner

The single mother of 5-year-old twin girls, Kim Kepner, 24, cares for infants in a day care center while taking social work classes — a career inspired 10 years ago by her terminally ill father’s hospice worker.

A nontraditional student who graduated from Luzerne County Community College (LCCC) in May 2014, Kepner, from Berwick, dropped out of college when she became pregnant in her freshman year, but never gave up on her education.

While she relies on loans and a few grants, the Harold H. and Melba Beck Hyde Memorial Social Welfare Scholarship has helped her buy textbooks, which are not always covered by financial aid, and to be more flexible with her work schedule. She received the one-time $500 award for an essay about why she chose to major in social work.

On track to earn her bachelor’s degree in December 2016, she plans to land a job after graduation and then study for her master’s degree at Marywood University. Eventually, she wants to work in a hospital pediatrics ward, where she would incorporate the grief counseling training she’s received as a volunteer at Camp Courage, a bereavement camp for children in nearby Millville.

Kepner credits the faculty at LCCC, who encouraged and supported her decision to follow her heart and transfer to BU to become a medical social worker.

And she still remembers vividly the hospital social worker who was there for her every day during her dad’s illness and on the day he died. “If I can make just one person feel like she made me feel, I’ve done my job.”

Sue A. Beard is a retired newspaper editor and freelance writer based in Fort Myers, Fla.
Kimberly Abney will be the first to tell you she wasn’t ready for the academic challenges ahead when she came to Bloomsburg University. Abney arrived six weeks before fall classes began to attend the university’s Act 101/Educational Opportunity Program, designed to help students prepare for college. After earning a 3.0 grade point average in the summer program, Abney thought she was ready.

But problems soon arose. She was a part of a group of girls who always traveled around campus together, skipping class and getting into trouble for pulling pranks, and Abney kept getting into trouble. Soon, she was on academic probation with a 0.58 GPA.

“My friends started leaving. The first one left after the second semester and three more left the next semester. I was embarrassed when I had to spend the summer after my freshman year at Community College of Philadelphia,” Abney recalls. “When you start seeing your friends not completing the goal we all set out to complete, which was to obtain a degree, it wakes you up. I knew I had to shape up.”

Kimberly Abney did “shape up.” With help from BU’s Academic Support Services, she maintained a 2.5 GPA and, in 2009, earned her bachelor’s degree in psychology – graduating on time with the rest of her class. She then earned a master’s degree from Eastern University in Philadelphia. Today, Abney is a certified school counselor for a private charter school in Philadelphia, working with students in need of emotional and behavioral support.
“Scholarships allow us to admit students on their ability ... not their ability to pay.”
— Jerome Dvorak, BU Foundation

Giving Back

Abney never forgot how Bloomsburg helped her mature and succeed. And she wanted to give back.

She got her chance through a BU Named Virtual Endowed Scholarship. Under the program, donors give four annual gifts of at least $1,000 for a student scholarship and commit to a minimum deferred/planned gift of $25,000 for a permanent endowment. Donors can select eligibility criteria for recipients, such as a field of study.

Abney’s scholarship will be given to a student who, like her, attended the Act 101/EOP and has a GPA of at least 2.5. She’ll be able to read the application essays and see firsthand the good she is doing. The Kimberly Abney College Fund will make its first award of $1,000 in 2017.

“T...
ON A TYPICAL DAY in the fall semester, psychology professor Mary Katherine Waibel Duncan teaches five classes in a row. Instead of feeling exhausted, Waibel Duncan feels energized.

“You’d think by 2 p.m., I’d be done, but instead, I’m like, ‘What else do you have for me?’ Teaching fills me up,” says Waibel Duncan, who has taught at Bloomsburg University for 15 years.

Waibel Duncan’s joy for teaching, and her emphasis on good character and service-based learning, has not only inspired her students, but has made her their role model — both inside and outside the classroom.

Waibel Duncan was named the first Joan and Fred Miller Distinguished Professor of Good Work, which recognizes her accomplishments and provides funding that can be used for research or to advance a project focusing on good work. Faculty support, along with scholarships and Professional U, is a focus of the It’s Personal campaign. She also was selected in spring 2015 for a Teaching and Learning Enhancement (TALE) Outstanding Teacher award, after being nominated by students.

“When she begins teaching, all eyes turn to her and you’re enraptured. She takes a simple subject and immerses you so thoroughly that you’re not staring at the clock or glancing at your phone, because you might miss something,” says Mary McCauley, who graduated in May 2015 with degrees in psychology and criminal justice. “Aside from her abilities as a teacher, she’s an amazing person. From her unshakable stance on ethics, to her commitment to her students and her family, she’s the type of person everyone wishes to see more of in the world.”

In the classroom and through the university’s Good Work Initiative, a project focused on student excellence, ethics and engagement, Waibel Duncan champions the idea that “a noble end, without a noble means, is not noble.”

“We live in a world where people cut corners to get to the top first. I want my students to know that success without coming by it honestly, without earning it through merit, is not good work,” says Waibel Duncan. “I want my students to be successful in whatever they do but, more than that, I hope they are people of good character.”

Cary Tessein, who graduated in
WINTER 2016

December 2015 with a degree in psychology, calls Waibel Duncan one of the most influential professors she’s ever had.

“The thoughtful way in which Dr. Duncan taught class not only allowed me to learn the incredible field of positive psychology, but it caused me to think about myself as a student and grow as a person,” she says.

Ashley Schoener, also a 2015 psychology graduate, hopes to emulate Waibel Duncan as she furthers her career. “I hope to one day display the degree of class and intellect upon which she carries herself. I will always remember Dr. Duncan as a professor who helped me develop the foundations on which I will build the rest of my academic, professional and personal life,” says Schoener, now enrolled in the University of North Dakota’s master’s program in counseling psychology.

Waibel Duncan’s positive contributions extend beyond the classroom to the greater campus community. In 2011, she founded the university’s Toy Library, which offers hundreds of toys, games and puzzles designed to teach literacy to students of all ages and developmental abilities. The library’s resources are available for volunteer work, service learning, internships, teaching and clinical work.

She was inspired to start the Toy Library after her son was diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder. “The doctors said my son may not develop functional language but, through play, he’s developed it,” Waibel Duncan says. “I had to unleash the power of play in homes and schools.”

Last spring Waibel Duncan, along with her psychology colleague Jennifer Johnson and a team of undergraduates, completed three community service projects for the literacy initiative, Handmade Literacy for Our Hometown. The National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi Literacy Award funded the projects.

“I never before felt as though I was making meaningful contributions to my field and the community at large,” says Laurie Ganey ’15, who helped with the projects and is now a graduate assistant in California University of Pennsylvania’s school psychology master’s program. “I hope to never forget the way that Dr. Duncan inspired me to be a better person than I ever thought possible.”

Though her students say Waibel Duncan inspires them, the reverse is also true.

“Some of the most pivotal moments in my career came from working one-on-one with students,” Waibel Duncan says. “In this profession, you have eyes on you at all times, and that motivates me to do outstanding work in the most ethical way possible.”

Susan Field ’11/’12M is a freelance writer based in Philadelphia.
Everyone has a story. Tell us yours!

Personal Stories

Join us as we celebrate the life-changing, profound impact of Bloomsburg University. We’re collecting stories. Stories of first-generation college students. Dedicated faculty members. Record-setting student-athletes. Successful alumni. Together these personal experiences illustrate the value of a Bloomsburg University education.

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SEAN ROTH AND PAUL ROSA met in 2010 in the offices of BUNow, a student-run news and information website, and immediately formed a connection talking about sports. Five years later, the 2013 graduates are business partners who founded Sploops, the first video sports forum for mobile application. The social media app was released in the Apple App Store in November 2015.

“We loved calling in to radio talk shows and posting in online forums,” says Rosa, a mass communications graduate. “We saw mobile on the horizon and said, ‘Let’s create a website and a mobile app and evolve the sports forum into something better.’ ”

“Our app allows people to get on the phone on a whim and rant about something that just happened,” says Roth, who earned a bachelor’s degree in management. “Whether it be their favorite team losing or winning … someone getting hurt … a big trade. It captures that emotion then and there better than any text or radio can.”

The friends came up with the concept for Sploops during a brainstorming session in Andruss Library and their idea took off, capturing third place in the Pennsylvania State System Business Plan Competition and first place in the Keystone Innovation Zone Competition. The prize money, along with their own funds, provided seed money and concept validation, which led to a beta website with 150 users. In 2014, they decided to bring the concept to mobile.

“There was $138 left in the business bank account when we presented the concept to BU alumni,” says Rosa. “The connections we made led to a $115,000 investment.”

“Once you get that funding, it accelerates everything. We knew that was going to propel us to the next point,” Roth adds.

**Why Sploops?**

The app’s name is derived from the original design for the Sploops website that featured a spinning combination lock to represent Rosa and Roth’s vision of sports loops. It was christened early in the business plan competition process.

“We’ve had a lot of controversy about the name,” says Rosa. “I think that’s why we love it so much.”

A launch party for Sploops was scheduled on campus in late January. ●

*Learn more about Sploops at bloomu.edu/magazine or sploops.com*
'60s

John Murtin '65 was recognized at the 2015 Little League Baseball World Series as the Little League Volunteer of the Year. Before his retirement in 2004, Murtin was a social studies teacher in the Mahanoy Area School District (MASD), principal of the Mahanoy Area Middle School and MASD superintendent.

Gayle Thorpe Baar '71 retired after 19 years as a Texas public school librarian.

Jim Doyle '72 published the book, The Best Seat in the House: My 48 Years in Local Sports Broadcasting. The hardcover book contains BU sports history, including game descriptions; features on former coaches Danny Hale, Charlie Chronister and Jan Hutchinson; and access to 74 audio clips. Available at bestseatdoyle7@gmail.com.

Edward Krzykwa '72 of Chiropractic Family Practice, Vicksburg, is accepting patients into the new natural health care method, Positive Polarity Therapy. Krzykwa has been in practice for 39 years.

Richard Jarman '73 is chairman of the board of directors for the National Advanced Mobility Consortium (NAMC). NAMC is a nationwide alliance of small businesses, large defense contractors, academic institutions and other research organizations involved with the translational research and development of prototype, ground vehicle and robotics systems and technologies.

Douglas Yocom '73 is president and CEO at Precision Medical Products Inc., Northampton. The firm was honored as a Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania for 2015 by the Central Penn Business Journal. For more than 50 years, PMP has provided engineering, manufacturing and contract packaging of medical devices.

Steven P. Keifer '74 retired as superintendent of Hamburg Area School District. Keifer completed 41 years of service to public education including 33 years in the Danville Area School District as teacher and superintendent. Keifer volunteers with the United Way of Berks County, is president of Our Town Foundation, a Hamburg area economic development organization, and works with the Hamburg Area Education Foundation.

Thomas Williams '74 serves on the board of directors of Berks Encore. A partner in Senior Family Wealth Guardians and CEO of ParenteBeard Wealth Management, Williams has written articles for financial advisory journals and given presentations on financial planning and tax matters. He is a Certified Public Accountant and a certified financial planner. Williams and his wife, Dawn, reside in Mohnton with their daughter, Faith.

Carl Bilotta '75 was commissioned by the Lakeland School District to paint murals on the school’s walls. Bilotta retired after more than 30 years of teaching fourth grade in the district.

William Patrick Martin '75 recently published Wonderfully Wordless: The 500 Most Recommended Graphic Novels and Picture Books. His trilogy of best book guides began with A Lifetime of Fiction and The Mother of All Booklists, both issued in 2014. Martin is also the editor of four books of liberal quotations.

Robert B. Meeker '75 retired as emeritus professor of library science from Chicago State University after 35 years of service. Meeker received three Faculty Excellence Awards and wrote more than 25 publications.

Sandra Millard '75 is interim vice provost and director of libraries at the University of Delaware. She attended the Harvard Leadership Institute for academic librarians, chaired the Governor's Task Force on School Libraries and is a member of the American Library Association, Library Administration and Management Association and Library Information Technology Association.

Richard White '78 retired from Global Geophysical Services, Houston, Texas, where he was president, CEO and a member of the board of directors.

Diane Teel Flyte '79 retired from the Pen Argyl Area School District after teaching business and computer courses for 35 years.

Michelle Hopkins '79 retired from Montoursville Area High School after 36 years with the district. Hopkins taught English, speech and journalism and served as English department chairperson, Peer Helper founder and adviser, student assistance professional team member and chair, junior high girls’ basketball coach, and Scholastics Writing Contest scorer.

'80s

Mark Derr '81 is the administrator of York County. He was previously the regional service group manager of financial services for HRG Inc., and manager of York Township. He and his wife live in East Manchester Township, and have three adult children.

Brian Mahlstedt '81 is first senior vice president, senior lending officer at First National Community Bank (FNCB), Dunmore. He oversees FNCB’s commercial lending and business development teams and develops and manages business relationships with the bank’s commercial customers in Northeastern Pennsylvania. President of the Deutsch Foundation and past President of the Abington Youth Basketball League, he resides in Clarks Summit.
JACK MULKA ’66, long-time BU administrator, and Ed Breiner ’77, retired CEO of Schramm Inc., are the newest members of the Bloomsburg University Foundation Board.

Mulka, whose BU career ran from 1968 to his retirement in 2002, served his alma mater as director of student activities, director of Kehr Union, dean of student development, dean of academic support services and special assistant for university advancements. For his service, Mulka was awarded BU’s Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award and the BU Alumni Association’s distinguished alumnus award. He is married to the former Kathy Matzko ’68, who retired from BU’s admissions office.

Breiner began his career as a cost accountant at Ingersoll Rand. Twenty-two years later, he finished his career as vice president and branch manager of an Ingersoll-Rand sales and service facility in Harrisburg. He joined Schramm Inc., a global design and manufacturer of mobile rotary drilling equipment, in 2000 and retired in 2014 as president and CEO. He is married to the former Julie Miller, who also graduated from BU in 1977.

Sherry Bartlett Griggs ’82 is the superintendent of the Sayre Area School District. Griggs previously was a principal in the Loyalsock School District.

Joseph Di Gangi ’83 is president of ELANA Financial and Settlement Architects, Easton. Di Gangi is a certified financial planner.

Judith Mariotz Maloy ’84 is chief executive officer and managing director of Polaris Direct, a New Hampshire mail processing firm. Business NH Magazine named Polaris Direct one of the top women-led businesses in the state in two categories: 17th on the list of the top 20 fastest growing women-led companies and 10th out of the top 80 women-led businesses.

Melanie Berger Wiscount ’84 was nominated for the Presidential Award in Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Award. Wiscount earned a doctorate in educational leadership with an expertise in educational technology from Wilkes University in June 2015.

Christine Kuperavage Zanis ’84 is vice president and senior trust officer at Riverview, Halifax and Marysville banks. Zanis oversees trust business development, administration and operations.

William Covert ’85 is chief financial officer of Stephano Slack, Wayne. Covert is a Certified Public Accountant and chartered global management accountant and earned personal financial planning certification. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Sandra J. Breznitsky Sacrison ’85 is the radiology system service line administrator at Vidant Medical Center, Greenville, N.C. She received her doctorate in health sciences from Nova Southeastern University. She lives in Edenton, N.C., with her husband, Jeffrey, and two children.

Diane McElhiney Esposito ’87 is associate dean for graduate nursing programs at Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Donna Snyder ’87M is executive director of Student Services Inc. (SSI) at West Chester University. SSI manages the campus bookstore, the Ram e-card program, and check-cashing and ticket services, as well as providing financial services in support of student organizations, student publications, student programming, athletics and the graduate student association.

Carol Aranos Fastrich ’88 is assistant vice president of marketing and communications of the Pennsylvania Credit Union Association. She has more than 20 years of communications and marketing experience, 15 of them focused on credit unions.

Aaron Menapace ’88 was named the 2015 Berks County Interscholastic Athletic Association (BCIAA) Athletic Director of the Year. Menapace, athletic director at Hamburg Area School District, is certified as a master athletic administrator by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. He serves as president of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association District 3 Athletic Director’s Association and treasurer of the Berks County Athletic Director’s Association, and sits on the BCIAA Board of Control. He is certified by the American Sport Education Program. Menapace resides in Mohrsville with his wife, the former Stephanie Jepko ’95, and their two children.

Dana Kiessling Moser ’89 is general manager of rabbittransit’s Northumberland County transportation division. Moser oversees operations in Elysburg, which provides nearly 500 paratransit trips a day. She has more than 25 years’ experience in transportation and operations.
Bret Lieberman '90 is vice president for North America at New Holland. Previously head of New Holland’s North American manufacturing unit, he began working for the firm in 1990 in the service parts division. He also held positions in purchasing, human resources, quality management and hay tools production.

Wendi Maio Achey '91 is professor of business marketing at Northampton Community College, Bethlehem. Achey was previously employed at B. Braun as a marketing manager and at Integrated Biosciences as the director of marketing and advertising. She won an ADDY Award, which is presented to designers in the advertising field.

Michael Smith ’91 opened a new eatery in Bloomsburg, Smitty’s Steaks. Previously, Smith worked as a chef and manager at Ridgway’s and Rose Marie’s, both in the Bloomsburg area.

Duane Carey ‘92 was appointed to Governor Hogan’s One Maryland Blue Ribbon Commission to help streamline state procurement policy. Carey is president of Maryland Business for Responsive Government, an organization that educates Maryland’s business and political communities and the public on matters related to business and job growth, and IMPACT Marketing and Public Relations, which recently won SmartCEO's 2016 Future 50 award for fastest growing Baltimore companies.

Brian Ralph ’92 is president of William Peace University, Raleigh, N.C. Ralph previously served as vice president for enrollment management at Queens University of Charlotte, N.C. He’s served as a part-time senior associate consultant with Buffalo Noel Levitz since 1999, specializing in strategic enrollment planning. Ralph and his wife, Kristen, have three daughters.

Keely Walsh Mahan ’92 is a teacher at Davis Elementary, Southampton.

Todd Neuhard ’92 is assistant to the superintendent, secondary education, in the Lower Dauphin School District. Neuhard previously was principal of Lower Dauphin High School and principal and assistant principal of Central Dauphin East High School.

Joseph Lettiere '94 is vice president of CAN DO Inc., Greater Hazleton’s economic development organization. Lettiere previously was an economic development specialist, marketing director and vice president of marketing.

Patricia Marr Cross Coleman ’95 is superintendent of the Sullivan County School District.

Susan Drescher Cunningham ’96 joined Keller Williams Real Estate in Montgomeryville, specializing in residential real estate in Montgomery and Bucks counties.

Kara Gordon Seesholtz ’96 is director of donor relations and communications for The Central Susquehanna Community Foundation. Seesholtz, who has been with the foundation since 2004, lives in Mifflinville with her husband and two children.

Jennifer Dreisbach Bumgardner ’97 is senior director, Doctivity, Physician Optimization and Data, at SystemCare Health in Moorestown, N.J.

Christie Van Horn Livengood ’97 is distribution manager with the Power Packs Project, Lancaster. Power Packs provides weekend food and nutritional information to families when the school lunch program is not available.

Paul Cutrufello ’98 is an associate professor at the University of Scranton.

Lyndell Davis ’98 is principal of Truman High School, Levittown. Previously vice principal of Hopewell Valley Central High School in New Jersey, Davis was named National Association of Secondary School Principals’ New Jersey Assistant Principal of the Year and New Jersey Supervisors and Principals Association’s Visionary Leader of the Year in 2014. Prior to Hopewell, Davis was assistant principal at Upper Moreland High School in Montgomery County.

Keith Eopechino ’98 is the assistant director of admissions at Penn State Harrisburg.

David Manbeck ’98 is president-elect of the South Central Chapter of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Manbeck is a director with Boyer and Ritter CPAs and specializes in nonprofit organizations.

Brandon Ortman ’98 vice president/commercial lending officer of First Columbia Bank and Trust Co., graduated from the American Bankers Association Stonier Graduate School of Banking in Philadelphia. Ortman began his banking career in 1999. He serves as treasurer of the Columbia Child Development Program and is on the boards of the Columbia Child Development Program and the Columbia County Traveling Library Authority.

Jeremy Kipp ’99 is Boise State’s women’s swimming and diving head coach. Kipp spent the past eight seasons on the staff of University of Southern California’s men’s and women’s programs.

Ryan Moran ’99 is assistant to the superintendent for curriculum and instruction for pre-K to fifth grade at East Stroudsburg Area School District. Moran and his wife, Lori, have two children, Cayden and Brynley.
James Murray ’99 was named High School Teacher of the Year at the St. Francis Indian School, a private school on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota. St. Francis Indian School enrolls 200 students in ninth through 12th grades.

Robert Pretopapa ’02 is a wealth adviser at One Financial Services, with offices in Allentown and Bethlehem.

Shelton DuVall ’03 is the director of recruiting at Northwestern Human Services (NHS), Lafayette Hill. NHS is the nation’s largest and human services and behavioral health care provider.

Crystal Skotedis ’03 was selected as a Woman of Influence by the Central Pennsylvania Business Journal. She is a director at Boyer and Ritter, Camp Hill, where she manages financial services.

Samantha Basalik Duemig ’04 is a special education teacher with Bucks County Intermediate Unit 22.

Evan Witmer ’04 is vice president, retail market manager, at Meridian Bank, Malvern. Witmer leads Meridian’s retail banking strategy.

Sarah Shief ’05 is mortgage specialist at West Milton State Bank, Milton. She has been in the banking industry for nine years, and began her career with West Milton State Bank in 2012.

Andrew Besancon ’05 is global sales manager at NinjaTek, Manheim, where he works with the power transmission and conveying industry and additive manufacturing.

Pamela Collier ’06M is an ad representative at The News-Item, Shamokin.

Lynn Warmkessel Freeze ’06M is a Danville High School alumni honoree for outstanding lifetime achievement and community service. Freeze is a deacon in her church and served as a medical missionary in Honduras.

Mark McHugh ’06 is an administrative specialist at Regional Hospital of Scranton. McHugh is attending the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre. He is a member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Healthcare Executive Network.

Anthony Keffer ’06 is vice president and general manager at The Sportsman’s Shop in East Earl, where he oversees daily retail operations and buying. Keffer previously was the firm’s manager with shared buying responsibility. He resides in Ephrata with his wife, Jessica.

CFOs Honored

RICHARD KING ’86, treasurer and chief financial officer for Schlouch Inc., Blandon, was among top financial executives honored by the Lehigh Valley Business Journal. King was named 2015 CFO of the Year for private companies with revenue over $25 million. Three other BU graduates, Mark Singley ’82, Neil Cooper ’84 and Marianne Nastasiak Kitzmiller ’88/’99, were finalists.

King worked for Kreischer, Miller & Co., Toll Brothers and Beard Miller Corp. before joining Schlouch in 1998. Schlouch leadership nominated King for helping to lead the construction company through the recent financial crisis, implementing changes in business practices and systems.

Singley, vice president of finance and chief financial officer, Convergent, Bethlehem, was a finalist in the category for private companies with revenue up to $25 million; Cooper, chief financial officer, Pocono ProFoods, Stroudsburg, was a finalist in the category for private companies with revenue over $25 million; and Kitzmiller, executive director for finance and administration, First Presbyterian Church of Allentown, was a finalist in the Best Turnaround Specialist category.
Gina Ormont Sabo ’06 is a technology integration specialist for St. Joan of Arc Elementary/Middle School of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

Jahri Evans ’07 joined Philadelphia Soul's ownership group as part of the Arena Football League. Evans is a New Orleans Saints’ offensive lineman and Philadelphia native. His Philadelphia-based foundation, JEF, focuses on helping student athletes further their education and athletic careers.

Jo’nelle Smith Fetzer ’07 is a client services representative with Hartman Group, Williamsport. She is responsible for coordinating renewal processing, developing medical cost and benefit comparisons, and facilitating solutions to claims and billings issues to support clients. She lives in Milton with her husband and their two children.

Nicholas Fox ’07 has been chosen for research at Oxford University. He earned his master’s and doctoral degrees from Texas A&M.

Joette Leshinski ’07 was a contestant on Wheel of Fortune. Leshinski, who lives in Los Angeles, works behind the scenes in entertainment productions and lends her voice talents to the production of audio books.

Jillian Ibbs ’08, marketing coordinator for the Larson Design Group, coordinated the firm’s Daniel C. Baker 125th anniversary celebration, which received a 2015 Marketing Excellence Award from The Zweig Group. The Zweig awards recognize effective marketing in the architecture, engineering, planning and environmental consulting industry.

Kelly Renner ’08 received a Master of Arts in Urban Education from The New Jersey City University. Renner has been a kindergarten teacher for eight years at Public School #6 in West New York.

Tristan Zelinka ’08 is a guidance counselor at Solanco High School, Quarryville.

Sarah Lenig ’09 is a sales associate at RE/MAX EDGE of Danville. She has taught middle school reading in the Line Mountain School District for the past five years.

Laura McCourt ’09 attended her white coat ceremony during her first year as a student at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, W. Va. She received a master’s degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Travis Petty ’09 is an attorney with Marinos and Knecht, Berwick. Petty is a graduate of Widener University’s School of Law.

Alison Carney ’10 is head coach of the women’s tennis program at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Carney previously served as an assistant coach for Susquehanna’s men’s and women’s tennis programs.

Michael Hamlin ’10 is assistant men’s basketball coach at Bloomsburg University. Hamlin returned to BU after one year as an assistant at Mansfield University.

Brett Jacobs ’10, a Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Norfolk officer, was selected for the NAVSUP Internship Program. Jacobs, who has been in the Navy for four years, was selected for a Navy Acquisition Contracting (NACO) internship.

Alicia Kittle-Burk ’10/’15AuD joined Hear PA Audiology as an audiologist. Kittle-Burk serves clients at the firm’s six locations.

Kenneth Lawson ’12 is senior credit analyst, Hudson Valley Loan Production Office, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Lawson was previously with Sussex Bank in Rockaway as a credit analyst. He received the 2014 Sussex Bank President’s Award.

Kathryn Pavlick ’12 is the girl’s tennis coach at MMI Preparatory School in Freeland. She is a fourth grade teacher at Freeland Elementary/Middle School.

Patrick Halcovage ’13 completed an internship with the Montgomery Township Police Department. He is a graduate of Montgomery County Community College Police Academy.

Sara Huff ’13 is the teen librarian at The William Jeanes Memorial Library, Lafayette Hill. Huff heads the library’s Youth Advisory Board, Teen Reading Lounge and other programs and activities.

Cassidy Sherman ’14 is a general assignment reporter for the Bedford Gazette, Hollidaysburg. Sherman writes a blog titled, Would You Like Some Cheese With Your Wine? Previously, she was a social media coordinator with EZTb-Use.com.

Kathryn Saulinas ’15 is a marketing associate at the Elmwood Park Zoo, Norristown.
Vice president named

SCOTT BEHRENT ’82 joined Merchants Insurance Group as regional vice president for the company’s New England regional office in Manchester, N.H.

Behrent has more than 27 years of property and casualty, underwriting and claims experience, most recently as director of commercial underwriting services with a regional property and casualty carrier based in New York. Most of his professional experience focused on the needs of clients in New England.

A resident of Massachusetts, Behrent earned the Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) and Associate in Claims (AIC) insurance designations.

Memorial golf tournament

PHI SIGMA XI fraternity brothers from the 1960s and ’70s dedicated their summer 2015 golf outing at Sugarloaf Golf Club, Conyngham, in memory of fraternity brother Gerry “Hoss” Edwards ’71. Golfers raised $2,000 in Edwards’ memory for the Norman L. Hilgar Scholarship, which benefits students in the College of Business. Edwards was an organizer and participant in the outing that has taken place for more than 20 years.

the line up

reunions, networking and special events

VANGUARD ROAD TRIP: Michael Baranowski ’97, left, led BU finance majors on a tour of Vanguard’s headquarters in Malvern during a Career Road Trip. Kimberly Laudenberger ’98 hosted the trip assisted by Vanguard employees Ed Artim ’97, Daniel Bauman ’00, Matt Hoch ’08, Julie Dennis Goodwin ’09, Spencer McHugh ’13, Ian Kennedy ’13 and Bradley Ungard ’13. Students are, from left, Eric Horowitz, Austin Pfeiffer, Benjamin Hendershott, Ace Ahmed, Joe DiMaggio, Jacob Warriner, Eric Linn, Cody Poepperling, Meredith Endy and Cameron Muth.

SWEET VISIT: Friends from the late 1980s get together annually and, this year, visited the Hershey Spa and Chocolate World. From left are, Sue Dougherty ’89, Monique Manning Heffner ’89, Sherri Shuman Kreisher ’89, Michelle Garrity Nolan ’89 and Tina LaGreca ’89.

MASS COMM GRADS: Five mass communications alumni who participated in a recent career roundtable discussion are, from left: Aaron Hagenbuch ’07, Francesca “Frankie” Stokes ’15, Greg Guidone ’14, Stephanie Della Torre ’14 and Erik Coyne ’10.
DECADES OF SERVICE: Former Husky Ambassadors who celebrated 30 years since the organization’s founding are, from left, front row: David Marcolla ’00, Zachary Pearce ’11, Neil Strine ’93, Mark Schiffer ’93, former Director of Alumni Affairs and Husky Ambassadors Adviser Doug Hippenstiel ’68, Matt Albertson ’12, Joe Yasinski ‘06, Greg Orth ’95 and Molly Alexander ’15; and back row: Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement and Husky Ambassadors Adviser Nate Conroy ’06, Ansley Dawidziuk ’98, Kyle Smith ’11, Kevin Cecco ’98, Michael Gillespie ’95, Lori Varney Jones ’87, Anysia Enssle ’07, Deanna Marchinko ’07, Tina Delorey Brown ’96, Jennifer Bean Adams ’98, Lisa Habakus Appleby ’89, Theresa Von Tobel McGrath ’94 and Brian Ladley ’95. The reunion included a pre-football game tailgate and a reunion dinner.

MEMORIES OF CARLIN: Former BU swimmers, from left, Rich Kozicki ’76, Paul Richards ’75, Stu Marvin ’78, Doug Thran ’77 and Pete Jones ’72, remembered former BU assistant coach, the late Jim Carlin ’71, at the Bloomsburg/Dickinson swim meet. (Photo: Ted Hodgins)

TOUR DE PINK: BU alumni, from left, Adam Black ’07, Shawn Venesky ’07, Michael Gillespie ’95 and Greg Orth ’95, set off with 200 other cyclists on the Tour de Pink, benefiting the Young Survival Coalition (YSC), which provides support to women with breast cancer. The three-day, 244-mile bike tour took the riders from Frazer, outside of Philadelphia, through Maryland and Delaware and culminated south of Rehoboth Beach, Del. Each rider raised at least $2,500 with every dollar going directly to the YSC. Gillespie says he logged more than 1,200 miles on his bike over the summer to prepare for the challenge.

CLASS OF 1965: Fifty years after graduation, members of the Class of 1965 met for a reunion during homecoming weekend. From left, front row, are: Barbara Szymianek Czepukaitis, Doris Farenkopf, Joan Stackhouse Bankus, Judy Radler, Geraldine Prior Gillung and John Skowronski; middle row: Alex Kozlowski, Tom Kaczmarek, Tom Gillung, Harry Ravert, Robert Donahue, Larry Kipp, Donald Franklin, John Phillips and Bonnie Davey Rae; and back row: Peter Fleming, Robert Griffiths, William Ross, James Goss and Larry Greenly.
VITAL STATISTICS

Marriages

James Myers Jr. '92 and Julie Saltzer-Lee, Aug. 22, 2015
Elizabeth “Betsey” Urban '00 and Brian Skitsko, June 27, 2015
Michael McLaughlin '01 and Janet McCullough, March 2, 2013
Brian Kamenetz '03 and Lisa McMahon, June 6, 2015
Samantha Basalik '04 and Kenneth Duemig Jr., Nov. 8, 2014
Katrina Trusa '04 and Kevin Emerich, July 12, 2014
Jennifer Kunetz '05 and Jack Drey, June 26, 2015
Sarah Shewack '05 and Dustin Bride
Alison Wascavage '05 and Brett Veach, June 26, 2015
Karalyn Jordan '06 and Norman Eifler '06, Sept. 26, 2014
Michele Pituch '06 and Hunter Livingood, April 12, 2013
Carissa Anthony '07 and David Tardiff, Sept. 6, 2014
Kasey Motter '07 and William J. Brenneman, July 26, 2014
Kelly Tarlecki '07 and Jonathan Lucas, May 16, 2015
Melissa Landis '08 and Jonathan Beer '06, Oct. 10, 2009
Jonathan Milliron '08 and Amanda Nagle, Oct. 18, 2014
Kevin Savage '08 and Shayna Martz, July 4, 2015
Ty Butler '09 and Sarah Knorr, July 4, 2015
Lauren Kopich '09 and Vincent Esser '09, Oct. 10, 2015
Chris Massell '09 and Jennifer Davis, July 25, 2015
Adrienne Rebarchak '09/12M and Michael Bannon, July 11, 2015
Gabriela Bresnock '10 and William Lovell '12, Oct. 25, 2014
Erica Coulson '10 and Jared Forrey '10, Sept. 26, 2015
Jennifer Apichell '11 and Michael Snarski III, June 27, 2015
Kathleen Morris '11 and Jeremy Singleton, May 22, 2015
Christopher Tressler '11 and Madeline Leeper, April 18, 2015
Morgan Peachey '12 and Joshua Detwiler, Nov. 1, 2014
Justin Pierce '12 and Rebecca Stitt '14, June 20, 2015
Leann Ickes '13M and Randy Womelsdorf, Oct. 24, 2015
Derrick Hicks '14 and Jill Dalykas, April 25, 2015
Kayla Drexel '14 and Patrick Welsh, Sept. 4, 2015
Cory Siegrist '15 and Jenna Kay Raup, March 6, 2015

Obituaries

Margaret Potter Steiner '38
Wanda Farnsworth Langdon '44
Louise Adams Missner '44
Walter James '50
Rodney Morgans '50
William Rishel '50
Donald Kearns '51
Philip Weinstein '52
Rosella Danilo Davis '53
Rose Marie Grant Kautz '54
Charles Yesson '54
Nancy Williams Betz '55
Yvonne Zeisloft Eyer '57
Louise Shepperson '58
Carl Shively '58
Frank Vacante '58
George Baury '59
Raymond Burger '59
Judith Burrows Walter '59
William Way '60
Henry Schnitzer '61
Ruth Thomas Pritchard '62
Madelyn Scheno Turock '62
Orva Wynings McNaney '64
Catherine Wolcott '64
Irene Manning Basalyga '65
Grace Devaney '65
James Knorr '65
H. Belle Mann Himes '66
Chester Faleski '67
John Poploskie '67
Frank Szalku '67

Births

Mike Amow '93 and wife, Shell, a daughter, Katherine “Kate” Elizabeth, May 20, 2015
Tara Clancy Newell '00 and husband, Jonathan, a daughter, Hudson Adley, July 15, 2015
Michael McLaughlin '01 and wife, Janet, a son, Killian Robert, Sept. 10, 2015
Jessica Snyder Eifler '02 and husband, James Eifler '02/05M, a son, Callen James, June 10, 2015
Samantha Basalik Duemig '04 and husband, Kenneth, a son, Carter James, Dec. 29, 2014
Jessica Silfies Muller '05 and husband, Joseph Muller '04, a son, James Abram, May 5, 2015
Michele Pituch Livingood '06 and husband, Hunter, a daughter, Lucille Mary, March 3, 2015
Kasey Motter Brenneman '07 and husband, William, a son, Gavin Liam, born May 29, 2015
Dana DiSalvatore Post '07 and husband, Stephen Post '06, a son, Hudson Bryant, Oct. 11, 2015

Send information to:
magazine@bloomu.edu
Bloomsburg: The University Magazine
Waller Administration Building
400 East Second Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815-1301
It has been 150 years since that day in March 1866 when an educator of many years’ experience came to Bloomsburg and, convinced to stay, announced plans to reopen the Bloomsburg Literary Institute. A man of drive and determination, Henry Carver tapped into the spirit of a community desperate for greater educational opportunities and raised $25,000 in donations from the townspeople. This financial support enabled him to construct a new building, which was dedicated on April 3 and 4, 1867. Originally called Institute Hall, it was formally named Carver Hall in 1927.

However, Institute Hall lacked a feature important to Carver: a bell for its tower. This time, he turned to three of his students, David Waller Jr., George Elwell and Charles Unangst, to raise the needed funds.

Waller gave the following account in a 1939 interview:

The story of the bell was more (a story) of the amazing magnetism of Henry Carver. His philosophy was that the individual could accomplish whatever he set out to do, if sufficiently determined. He had all the boys who expected to go on to college imbued with that idea.

It was just after the new building had been dedicated. The term had closed. Examinations were over. It was a Saturday morning [April 13] and we looked forward to the opening the following Monday of our last term of school here before leaving for college. The three of us were walking together up Main Street. At the Episcopal Church corner we met Professor Carver, coming down town.

We stopped to talk. There was nothing we enjoyed more than being with him.

“Well, there’s the new building and there’s the tower, boys,” he said. “But there is no bell in it. Now, we have to have a bell — and a good one. We want no cheap bell. The courthouse and the Presbyterian Church have good bells. We want one just as good, if not better. Now, hustle along and raise that money today for the bell. You three can do it. It will cost $1,200, at least.”

That was a jolt just as we thought ourselves tired and needing relaxation. But we took the counsel of the father of one of us. He gave us some good advice. We started out. We began to get subscriptions. It wasn’t long before the word was noised about town that we were out to raise the money for the bell in a one-day drive. The little town became interested. As the hours wore on everybody wanted to know how we were coming along. By nightfall we had the money.

According to the May 31, 1867, issue of The Columbian, it actually took about one week to solicit subscriptions for the donations. Regardless, the newspaper praised the local generosity which, it said, “casts much credit upon the citizens of Bloomsburg and vicinity for their display of liberality and public spiritedness.”

The bell was ordered from the Meneely Foundry of West Troy, now Watervliet, N.Y., one of the leading U.S. manufacturers of bells between 1826 and 1951, and arrived six weeks later on May 24. The next day, workers hoisted the 2,171-pound copper bell through a back window into the second-floor auditorium, and then through a ventilator opening into the upper part of the tower, where it rang for the first time at 8 p.m. The total cost of
purchasing, shipping and hanging the bell was about $1,115.

Just as the fundraising effort for the building had been successful, so was the campaign for a bell. The Bloomsburg Democrat echoed the praise of The Columbian when it said of the bell, “It is a matter of necessity and the citizens of our town and county justly merit praise for their liberal subscriptions; and we shall not fail to notice the energetic labor of our young men George Elwell, David Waller and Charles Unangst, who canvassed for subscription not only with vigor but success.”

The early story of the Institute Hall bell is one of a community that demonstrated unwavering support to help ensure the success of the school it had helped to create. Today, after 25 years of silence, it rings again.
Academic Calendar

WINTER 2016
Academic Calendar
Spring 2016
Spring Break Begins
Monday, March 7
Classes Resume
Monday, March 14
Classes End
Monday, May 2
Finals Begin
Tuesday, May 3
Finals End
Saturday, May 7
Graduate Commencement
Friday, May 6
Undergraduate Commencement
Saturday, May 7
Summer 2015
Session I: May 16 to Aug. 5
Session II: May 16 to June 24
Session III: June 27 to Aug. 5

Concerts
Listed events are open to the public
and free of charge. For information and
additional events, see bloomu.edu/
music-events or call 570-389-4286.
All programs, dates, times and
locations are subject to change.

Student Honors Recital
Thursday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall

Taste of the Arts
Saturday, Feb. 27
2 to 5 p.m.
Caldwell Consistory

Voice Studio Recital
Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.
Carver Hall, K.S. Gross Auditorium

University-Community Orchestra
Sunday, April 10, 2:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall

Percussion Ensemble
Tuesday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall

Husky Singers
Friday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall

Women’s Chorale
Saturday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall

Concert Band
Sunday, April 17, 2:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall

Guitar Ensemble
Tuesday, April 26, 7:30 p.m.
Carver Hall, K.S. Gross Auditorium

Jazz Band Festival
Wednesday, April 27, noon
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall

Celebrity Artist Series
Events in the 2015-16 Celebrity Artist
Series season will be presented in Haas
Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall, and
Carver Hall, Kenneth S. Gross Auditorium.
For more information and to order tickets,
call the box office at 570-389-4409 or
visit cas.buzz. Programs and dates are
subject to change.

Polish Baltic National Philharmonic
Friday, Feb. 5, 8 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall
$32 adults/$16 children and BU students

Clothesline Muse
Nneoma Freelon, Jazz Singer
Saturday, Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m.
Carver Hall, K.S. Gross Auditorium
$25 adults/$12 children and BU students

Don Quixote, The Moscow Festival Ballet
Friday, March 18, 8 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall
$35 adults/$17 children and BU students

Koresh Dance Company
With guest performers from local and
regional dance studios
Saturday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall
$30 adults/$15 children and BU students

Boom-Tic-Boom
Allison Miller, Jazz Drummer
Wednesday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.
Carver Hall, K.S. Gross Auditorium
$30 adults/$15 children and BU students

Clothesline Muse
Sofia Wilduhardt, Soloist
Friday, April 29, 8 p.m.
Carver Hall, K.S. Gross Auditorium
$30 adults/$15 children and BU students

Design as Art/Art as Design
Various Media
March 14 to April 8
The Gallery at Greenly Center
Reception: March 17, 1 to 4 p.m.

Senior Exit Show
Various Media
April 20 to May 7
The Gallery at Greenly Center
Reception: April 20, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Alumni Events
Visit bloomualumni.com for details on
these and additional events or to register.
For information, contact Alumni Affairs at
800-526-0254 or alum@bloomu.edu.

For the latest information on
upcoming events, check the
Bloomsburg University website
bloomu.edu.
The same BU gear you love. Just in a different location ... for now.

A new residence hall is being built at our campus location. So we’ve temporarily relocated to the Kehr Union where you can purchase your favorite BU items in person or online at bloomustore.com.

FEATURED IN PHOTO:
Knit hat, pom-poms, alumni coffee mugs, portable drinking cup and infinity scarf.
Big City Shows, Small Town Charm
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