Tech Pioneer
Barbara Romano '83 has made a career of computer networks. At BU, she helps build networks of people. See Page 16.

ALSO INSIDE

Real Research. Real Results.
BU students have a hand in research with impacts beyond campus. Page 10.

Mapping the Road to Family
A bequest from John Enman creates opportunities for students. Page 14.
Dear BU Family,

I hope that 2019 is off to a great start for you – may the new year be a healthy and happy one for you and your families! The past 18 months have gone by quickly; it does not seem long ago that I was just beginning my tenure at BU. It has been a pleasure getting to know so many Huskies and I look forward to meeting with many more of you in the future – whether at athletic contests or Homecoming events here on campus, or at alumni receptions around the country.

There is a lot of excitement “on the hill” these days for several reasons. First, we have begun construction on a new Arts and Administration Building, which will be located next to Centennial Hall on the quad. This building will provide a new, modern home for faculty and staff from our Waller Administration Building, Old Science Hall, and Simon Hall. As part of our focus on student success and enhancing the overall experiences for our current and prospective students, this building will also house our offices for admissions, the registrar, and financial aid. We are confident that this facility (scheduled to open August 2020) will become yet another gem on our beautiful campus.

In the coming months, we will begin to roll out our new brand. We have received a tremendous amount of valuable feedback from faculty, staff, students, and – with great thanks to so many of you – our alumni. The high level of interest strongly indicates that you, our alumni and friends, wish to see BU build on its many successes and continue to serve as a leader within our State System, across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and beyond. We are excited to see what the results of the research show us. As I indicated previously, our maroon and gold colors (and the Husky) will not be changing. Further, our steadfast commitment to our students – and to their success during and after their years here at Bloomsburg – will never waver.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Bloomsburg: The University Magazine. From our cover story featuring Ms. Barbara Romano ’83, president of the BU Alumni Association, to the many great stories showcasing the great work of our faculty and students, we celebrate the accomplishments of all in the BU Family.

As always, THANK YOU for your support and GO HUSKIES!

Bashar W. Hanna
President
REAL RESEARCH. REAL RESULTS.
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campus as students and faculty mentors undertake
studies related to our health, environment and
community.

MAPPING THE ROAD TO FAMILY
Geography professor John Enman found a home at
Bloomsburg and, long after his retirement, he stayed
connected to colleagues and his department. Now
his bequest is opening doors for a new generation of
students.

TECH PIONEER
Barbara Romano ’83 began her career in computers
in an era of floppy disks and mainframes. Now she is
responsible for the business systems of a $1.4 billion
energy services holding company. In her role as
president of the BU Alumni Association, she helps
create opportunities for students and alumni to
connect.

A MISSION IN TEA
Steve ’94 and Jennifer Lorch ’97 found their lives
transformed by a cup of tea in Kenya. Today they have
a tea plantation in South Carolina.

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MARQUEZ NORFORD KNOWS the toll football takes on the body. A defensive lineman during his undergrad years at BU, his final season was spent wearing a cast on his dominant hand due to dislocated fingers.

“Coach Paul Darraugh referred to me and some of the other seniors as the ‘duct tape boys’ because it was as if we were held together each week by duct tape,” says Norford.

“I still have a very close relationship with our athletic trainer, George Salvaterra, because of the various injuries I accumulated over my career.”

A second-year exercise science graduate student, Norford is conducting a study on football players, measuring the changes their bodies experience throughout the season.

Pre-season, he conducted performance tests such as a vertical jump, broad jump, a pro-agility test and a body fat analysis of each player. Then, throughout the season, he monitored their workouts and compared them with similar pre-season tests to determine whether a change occurred.

“It’s not just about speed and strength — body composition changes. This is a pilot to expand the program,” says Norford, who is working on the project with Kyle Beyer, assistant professor of exercise science.

“There is no data anywhere on this topic, so we could create norms for the NFL from this research.”

“There are some other research
studies that have tracked college athlete performance during a competitive season, but they can be fairly rare,” says Beyer. “While most people would think that a relationship between an exercise science department and athletics department would be natural, it is not always the case.”

In November, Norford took his study to the 41st annual Scientific Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine to present his data. “I presented in front of 50 people,” he says. “One of the people who asked me questions after my presentations, Dr. Paul Devita from East Carolina University, was an expert in biomechanics and was very interested in the findings of my study.”

He does not want to stop with football either. Norford hopes this study will create a bond between athletics and the exercise science department to apply the concept to other BU sports.

“While we weren’t looking at injuries in this study, working with other teams, we do a lot of exercises to strengthen the knees, ankles and shoulders because those joints tend to take the most beatings in most sports.”

From the defensive line on the field of Redman Stadium to the countless hours of research, Norford is ready to take his study to the next level.

“The sky’s the limit.”

Exercise science graduate student Marquez Norford ’17 works with defensive back Josh Salak ’17/’18M, a red-shirt senior who earned his MBA at BU in December.
CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ARTS AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING at BU is underway. The new 131,876-square-foot building will be located next to Centennial Hall near the intersection with Second and Chestnut streets.

A highlight of the four-floor building will be an open atrium with a skylight for more natural lighting. On the lower level, the art department will have its metal and wood shops, photo labs, student studio, plaster room and a theatre lab. The first floor will house admissions, financial aid, registrar’s office, the language lab, and six classrooms. The second floor will include offices and studios for the departments of art and art history, languages and cultures, and history. The top floor will house the offices of marketing and communications, human resources, administration and finance, and procurement.

Lobar Inc. is the general contractor for the project, which will cost an estimated $33.17 million. Completion is expected by August 2020.
Three Named to Council of Trustees

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATE unanimously confirmed the nominations of three individuals to the Bloomsburg University’s Council of Trustees. Newly named to the council for a six-year term are Amy Brayford ’91 and Barbara Hudock ’75, while Nancy Vasta ’97/’99M was reappointed to a second six-year term.

Amy Brayford ’91 has served in various leadership roles at Geisinger Health System since 1997, and now serves as executive vice president, chief human resources officer, and chief of staff to the CEO. Brayford is responsible for human resource operations for the 30,000-employee organization, and leads its human resources strategy. She is also the senior leader working with internal audits, compliance, development, and board relations.

Barbara Hudock ’75 is the chief executive officer and founding partner of Hudock Capital Group, LLC. She is a former Bloomsburg University Foundation board member and is actively involved in the community, serving on the boards of the Susquehanna Health Foundation, Woodcock Foundation for the Appreciation of the Arts, the Community Arts Center, and WVIA Public Media.

Nancy Vasta ’97/’99M, vice chairperson of the Council of Trustees, is vice president at Cigna, a global health services company that operates in 30 countries, and is responsible for customer health engagement. She has presented at the World Health Congress, the Institute for HealthCare Consumerism and the Healthcare Analyst Conference. At BU, she is actively involved in fundraising for the Bloomsburg University Foundation and was instrumental in reviving the Henry Carver Fund, the annual fund for BU, which now raises more than $1.5 million annually.

Chancellor Greenstein Visits Campus

DANIEL GREENSTEIN, the new Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education chancellor, visited the BU on Oct. 18 as part of a tour of all 14 PASSHE campuses in the fall. During an open forum, he touched on the challenges facing all of the universities, including declining enrollment, diminished funding and a shrinking population of high school students. Greenstein, who previously worked for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is convening a task force to look at new strategies for student recruitment and ways to make college more affordable. Greenstein spoke of redesigning the State System so that “we can continue to serve all Pennsylvanians with the affordable, high-quality postsecondary education that they need to sustain themselves and their families, participate effectively in the 21st century economy, and contribute to our communities.”
Gifts Provide Experiential Learning Opportunities

THE BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION received two major gifts totaling $775,000 last fall building momentum behind the university’s initiative to provide students with experiential learning opportunities.

Kerby Confer, owner of Forever Broadcasting, pledged $375,000 to extend his support of the Confer Radio Talent Institute held at BU as well as an annual scholarship awarded to students majoring in mass communications and a faculty fellowship at BU. Confer also agreed to fund 50 percent of the cost to upgrade BU’s campus radio station, WBUQ-FM, which will provide aspiring broadcasters with a professional environment as they prepare for careers in the radio industry.

Stephen Jones ’83, president and CEO of Covanta, made a $400,000 pledge to establish four Professional U Faculty Fellowships. The fellows will receive funding to collaborate with faculty and deans to create a menu of professional experiences, both existing and new, for each department within each college.

“We are deeply inspired and grateful for Steve and Kerby’s gifts,” said BU President Bashar W. Hanna. “These gifts both offer extraordinary support to expand our university’s strategic goals, and they directly reflect the personal significance that each of these remarkable donors places on the profound impact of experiential learning opportunities as part of the Husky experience.”

Each gift will fund a variety of professional experiences, such as internships, study abroad opportunities, and collaborative research with faculty. The gifts align with the university’s Professional U focus, which aims to provide one professional experience per year per student.

Mass Comm student named a Mack Truck Top Dog

By Jenna Fuller ’18

MASS COMMUNICATIONS SENIOR Andrew Fox put his video skills to work last summer for an internship with Mack Trucks, Inc. in Macungie. His work resulted in Fox earning the truck behemoth’s Top Dog Award for Continuous Improvement.

For his internship, Fox, of Skippack, wrote scripts, made shot lists, filmed, edited, produced and directed small films for the company’s training department. He created six, four- to six-minute films to train employees in standard procedures. Three films garnered him the Top Dog Award, an award Mack gives to employees who have helped the company grow and move forward. Fox’s winning films are “Pedestrian Forklift Safety,” “HERCA” (Human Error Root Cause Analysis), and “Multi Fill Process.”

“The award is given to employees who have the best “Kaizen” form, Japanese for ‘moving forward,’” says Fox. “This Kaizen form helps improve the company in some way by saving money, preventing injury, and making things more efficient.”

After his May graduation, Fox aspires to work for a television advertising company. “I really want to create or write commercials,” Fox said. “To be able to see my work on TV would be pretty cool as well.”
SPECTATORS AT HUSKY HOME FOOTBALL games this past fall were treated to a new state-of-the-art LED video scoreboard as a result of a gift from former BU and NFL great Jahri Evans ’07.

The Jahri Evans Scoreboard, manufactured by Daktronics of Brookings, South Dakota, stands more than 23 feet tall and 31 feet wide and provides an enhanced fan experience when watching games at Redman Stadium. The LED videoboard has video, graphical, and instant replay capabilities, previously unseen at the stadium. It also comes with a new sound system to further enhance the game day environment.

Evans committed $500,000 for the new Danny Hale Field scoreboard at Redman Stadium after previously contributing $500,000 to the First & Goal Campaign to endow a football scholarship.

Evans’ name was added to BU’s Wall of Distinction in August. Located near the fountain on BU’s Academic Quadrangle, the Bloomsburg University Wall of Distinction recognizes donors who have contributed $1 million or more to the university.

On the field, Evans was one of the most decorated offensive linemen to put on a BU football jersey. He went on to have a prolific career in the National Football League, primarily playing for the New Orleans Saints. With the Saints, Evans earned a Super Bowl championship ring for the 2009 season.

Evans graduated from BU in 2007 with a degree in exercise science. In 2009, he established a full scholarship for out-of-state minority students enrolled in Bloomsburg’s Master of Science in clinical athletic training program. He established the Jahri Evans Football Endowed Scholarship in 2014.

Evans and his wife, Takia, welcomed their first child, Atlas, on March 16, 2018.

BU AND LACKAWANNA COLLEGE have signed a transfer agreement that will provide a seamless program-to-program pathway for Lackawanna students to complete their Bachelor of Applied Science degree in technical leadership. Under this new partnership, students in good academic standing who complete their associate degree at Lackawanna can transfer to Bloomsburg with junior (third-year) status. The bachelor’s degree in technical leadership aims to build on the expertise students have gained through their associate degree program to build working professionals ready to take charge of technical work groups, project teams, and service departments.
AS A POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW, Beth Rogowsky, associate professor of teaching and learning, spent hours commuting by train as she studied for her advanced training in neuroscience.

To make the hour-long trip more productive she listened to audiobooks. But as an educator focused on reading, Rogowsky felt she was “cheating.” But was it? The result of those train rides and her “guilt” fascinated her enough to explore whether reading text or listening to audiobooks created more comprehension.

So in 2016, Rogowsky conducted a study of 100 adults, aged 25–40, each of whom had a bachelor’s degree. Results of her study were recently featured in the Sept. 6, 2018, issue of *Time* magazine. (time.com/5388681/audiobooks-reading-books)

Participants in her study read on an e-reader, listened to, or read and listened simultaneously to sections of *Unbroken*, by Laura Hillenbrand. They took a comprehension test immediately afterward, and then took another test two weeks later.

Her findings: no significant difference in comprehension between reading, listening, or both. Rogowsky does note that participants did not have the option to rewind or reread and that they learned to read on paper rather than growing up as digital natives.

“That is the key to where this research is headed,” says Rogowsky. “Does a digital platform make a difference in comprehension?”

“Real learning requires a lot of effort,” says Rogowsky. “If you are passively listening or reading without taking notes and refreshing your memory through discussion or quizzing, you aren’t at the level that understanding and retention requires. But when you just want to enjoy the next best seller for an intelligent conversation in book club, listening to an e-book is not cheating.”
Growing up outside of Annapolis, Maryland, Shavonne Shorter dreamed of being the next Oprah Winfrey. In college, a wise adviser suggested she have a backup plan in case the “being famous” thing didn’t work out. He suggested becoming a professor.

After earning her Ph.D. at Purdue University, she interviewed on campus at only one place, Bloomsburg University, and instantly fell in love with the school and the area. Now in her fifth year, in addition to being assistant professor of communication studies, Shorter is head coach of the Frederick Douglass Debate Society, a Frederick Douglass Institute Collaborative initiative in which underrepresented students from participating Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education campuses debate controversial current issues. BU’s team won first place in the 2018 debate tournament about Confederate monuments.

Her latest research project is the Inclusive Future Faculty Initiative, which pairs underrepresented students with underrepresented faculty and allows students to interview faculty about their careers. The goal is to encourage more of these students to pursue careers in higher education.

She shares some tips for communicating in a diverse and wired world.

**HOW CAN WE COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY WITH SOMEONE WHO WE DISAGREE WITH STRONGLY?**

As a society, we need to listen to one another. We want to talk and get our viewpoint across, but we don’t often leave space for people to state their opinions and to tell us why they hold them. If you want to be a better listener, you need to be cognizant of your biases and try to be more open-minded. Find points of commonality with others where you can open up the discussion. People often have very strong opinions yet don’t take the time to have a conversation with someone with an opposing viewpoint. You learn and grow from hearing different opinions.

I find myself inundated with messages on social media from both sides of the political spectrum. After an election, a man who went to school with me and held a differing political view hopped on my Facebook timeline and came after one of my friends for having a similar view as I did. I said to him “I know you as a decent, respectful human being. And this isn’t decent or respectful.” Immediately, he came back and said “You’re right. I apologize. Let’s have a real conversation.” Sometimes, you have to remind people of who they are.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS ON USING EMAIL?**

Never write an email while you’re mad. You can’t undo it. When students write an email to me in anger, I bring them into my office afterward and have them read it. When they see it, they say “oh, I’m so sorry.” I forgive them. I’d rather they make this mistake with me now than as a professional where it could impact their career.

**WHAT ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR PEOPLE WHO FEAR PUBLIC SPEAKING?**

The best way to overcome the fear of public speaking is to get experience doing it. Push your boundaries as you are able so you can start to feel comfortable speaking in different settings. Sometimes it might be starting as small as answering a question in class or taking on speaking roles in meetings. Just doing something like that can increase your comfort level.

Great oral communication skills are among the top five skills employers want. In every class I teach, there is a public speaking component. I feature public speaking prominently because my students are going to have to do that with regularity in the future.
As day fades to night, the hustle and bustle of a typical day in a college academic building is complete. Offices are dark and a pin dropping can be heard from one end of the hallway to the other. But, there is one place where the buzz of the lights and the voices of faculty and students can still be heard late into the evening – the research labs.

Increasingly, the research of BU students and their faculty mentors has impacts far beyond the campus as they take on projects related to our health, environment and community.

Sadie Hauck, director of research and sponsored programs at BU, notes the university receives more than $480,000 a year for research from federal, state and private sources. That money provides equipment and pays for travel and stipends for dozens of student research assistants.

Support for student research is layered into the BU experience. Each year, hundreds of students present research posters on campus to their professors and peers at research day events. To further boost these research efforts, the university provides additional funding for students to work on summer projects through the Undergraduate Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity program. Donor-funded Professional Experience Grants (PEGs) have funded an additional 42 research and 30 conference experiences for students since 2015.
**ADDICTION STUDY**

Kevin Ball ’01, professor of psychology, Kozloff Fellow and a behavioral neuroscience expert, has spent his career unraveling the ways that addiction changes the brain and searching for ways to help addicts overcome those changes. A focus of Ball’s research has been how chronic stress contributes to relapse and exploring ways to break the link between stress and relapse.

“Students are essential in keeping the lab running on a day-to-day basis,” says Ball, who has been awarded $333,319 from the National Institute of Health (NIH) for his research over the past nine years. That funding supported 28 student researchers and resulted in seven peer-reviewed articles in journals, including *Addiction Biology*, one of the top journals on substance abuse.

“I’ve always enjoyed the how and why of science. The brain is such an interesting organ – my personal passion has always been with neuroscience,” says Hannah Bodnar ’18, a psychology major who worked with Ball on a project looking at the relapse rate of addiction in rats. Bodnar, who graduated in December, notes that it’s not uncommon to spend 14 to 18 hours a day in the lab. “That’s what I expected from experimental research. But it’s exciting for me and I really enjoy being in the lab. I plan on applying to a post-baccalaureate program before medical school to pursue my passion in neurology. Dr. Ball has been immensely helpful in helping me discover a career path I have true passion for.”

**RIVER HEALTH**

Jennifer Soohy ’19M, a second-year graduate student in biology, is among the dozens of summer BU student researchers. Working with Steven Rier, professor of biological and allied health sciences, on a project to restore the ecological health of the Susquehanna River, Soohy is tapping into a lifelong interest. “I grew up right at the confluence of the two branches of the Susquehanna. When I was younger, we always talked about how polluted the river was. We talked as if it was too late for the river. I never imagined that there were scores of people who didn’t even grow up in the area who had an interest in cleaning up and taking care of the river,” she says.

“I would not have even considered doing this project if students were not involved,” says Rier. “Through research students get a better sense of what science is about. It’s not just about memorizing facts. It’s adding new facts, and new information.”

Rier is part of a consortium of researchers working on the three-year Precision Conservation project, which aims to restore the ecological health of the Susquehanna River. Project partners include Chesapeake Conservancy, Susquehanna University, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, which supported Soohy’s graduate assistantship. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has provided BU with $115,311 for the project while the Sunbury-based Degenstein Foundation provides $25,000 in additional funding each year to support additional BU students’ work on this and other river-related projects.

The BU researchers analyze water chemistry and ecosystem functions in tributaries to the Susquehanna River. A particular focus is on nutrients such as nitrates and phosphorus, which can affect plant and animal life in the streams. For Soohy, this means long hours planning field trips, collecting water samples, testing the samples back in the lab, plugging the results into a computer, and then helping analyze the data.

Beyond the science, Soohy gets to see how public outreach, marketing, and even the search for funding all combine to turn the wheels of a major environmental research project.

“I get to know a huge number of people from different backgrounds. And I work with them as a peer,” she says. “On the agendas for project meetings, I’m listed as a participant, not ‘the grad student.’”

The benefits don’t end there, of course. “You’re expanding your knowledge, but you also get to know one topic in depth as you hone in on specific areas,” Soohy says. “That’s exciting. I’m learning what questions to ask.”
CONCUSSION RESEARCH
Over three years, Joseph Hazzard, associate professor of exercise science, has had 23 graduate and undergraduate students serve as research assistants in BU’s Concussion Institute. Through the Care Consortium 2.0, funded by the Department of Defense and NCAA, BU will receive more than $535,000 to study concussions by the project’s completion in 2020.

“The consortium is collecting data about concussions across 30 institutions, including Division I, II and III universities, and four military academies,” says Hazzard.


The benefits for BU’s concussion research hits particularly close to home. “Our student-athletes have the leading protocol in the world for concussion treatment applied to them. It’s like having the latest and greatest medical techniques available to them,” says Hazzard. “And our students involved in athletic training are graduating with real knowledge on how access and monitor mild traumatic brain injury. Many athletic training students don’t have that opportunity.”

To share concussion expertise more broadly, BU is now offering an online certificate for professionals interested in assessment and management of concussions and mild traumatic brain injury.

Concussion is also on the research agenda for Toni Trumbo-Bell, professor of chemistry and biochemistry. Trumbo-Bell is working to develop a saliva test for concussions that will be more reliable than the current methods of CT scans and self-reporting.

“The innovation is the part I love the most,” says biochemistry major Alison Martin ’18, who has worked with Trumbo-Bell on the project. “You have to think on your feet and come to new findings based on the data. You have to think outside the box.” Martin plans to attend law school and draw upon her chemistry education by specializing in intellectual property and patent law.

“It’s something professors love to do. We see it as our responsibility to give students these opportunities,”
“Students get to make discoveries that no one has ever made before. They become independent thinkers and researchers.”

For Trumbo-Bell one of those opportunities she offers her student researchers every year is a trip to the American Chemical Society gathering. There, students can talk about their research and be immersed in a fertile learning environment with 20,000 chemists, including Nobel Prize winners. Just as importantly, they’re able to connect with grad school recruiters.

**AFTER BLOOMSBURG**

“Medical and graduate schools are looking for research experience. We send many of our students to graduate school,” Trumbo-Bell says. “They go on to Cornell, Penn State, the University of Montana — they’re highly sought after.”

“I’ve heard from directors of graduate programs that my students’ research experience was a critical factor in their decision to extend an offer,” says Ball, who’s own career was shaped by a mentor at BU. “I became interested in neuroscience while taking Dr. Alex Poplawsky’s behavioral neuroscience class.”

An undergraduate researcher when he attended BU, Ball counsels students that “things don’t always work out the way you would like — such as negative findings — but that’s OK. What we’ve learned is that for all of the research investigating the neurobiology of addiction, there are relatively few effective treatments. Many investigators, including myself, are starting to use new models that more closely mirror the human experience.”

For students preparing for their careers after BU, it’s the experience that matters. “Experience” is a word that Eric Stone ’16, uses when reminiscing about his days as an undergraduate researcher. Now a full-time neuroscience researcher, Stone is eyeing graduate school, and credits the years spent in Ball’s lab for helping set him on his path.

“It was one of my favorite experiences,” says Stone, who worked with Ball on the same addiction study as Hannah Bodnar, even staying after graduation to focus on the project as a part-time paid researcher. “It opened the door to research and my career.”

Stone’s interest in neuroscience research has its origins in a traumatic childhood incident: When he was 7 years old, Stone suffered a stroke due to complications from surgery to remove his adenoids. The stroke left him blind in one eye and with a slight weakness on his left side. Today, as a researcher at the Kessler Foundation in West Orange, New Jersey, Stone is involved with projects that aim to improve function and quality of life for people with spinal cord and traumatic brain injury, stroke, and other neurological and orthopedic conditions.

What advice does he have for students who want to emulate his success?

“Seize any opportunity,” Stone says. “Once you graduate, it’s hard to get your foot in the door because everyone wants experience. Bloomsburg was where I gained experience. It was a huge bonus and I’m thankful for the opportunity.”

*By Willie Colón, a freelance writer based in Philadelphia, Eric Foster, and Tom McGuire*
Mapping the Road to Family

By Thomas Schaeffer

John Enman always valued his colleagues and students in the Department of Geography as his family. That sentiment was still strong as he neared the end of his life in 2016.

A New England native, Enman earned his B.A. in geography and geology at the University of Maine. He was called up for active duty in the Army Air Corps in 1943, after previously enlisting in the Reserve Army Corps. His skills were especially valuable when he served as a cartographer in India, helping to accurately map areas that were essential for the planning of air strikes, troop landings and other military operations.

Enman used his time in the military to explore the countries where he was stationed — not just of the land, but also of the culture and the people who lived there.

“I got to go to Calcutta frequently, by train, and I usually bought third-class tickets. Not because they were cheaper, but to get to ride with the Indian peasantry,” Enman wrote in his WWII memoirs, “We Put India on the Map,” which were published in the book Second World War in the First Person.

When he returned home, Enman earned his master’s degree from Harvard and went on to teach at Washington and Jefferson University in Washington, Pa. In 1959, he joined the faculty at BU as a professor of geography and earth science, where he also served as the department’s cartographer.

Enman’s passion for geography stretched far beyond his ability to read or create maps. For him, geography was more about relating to the environment and the people who inhabit it. He did just that when he arrived in Bloomsburg and was happy to find a place that he would call home. Enman immersed himself in the Bloomsburg community and connected with his surroundings. He was a mainstay in the BU geography department until he retired in 1984.

His relationship with the department didn’t end. He returned to campus weekly for a department breakfast where he met with faculty members and other retirees to discuss curriculum and to do what he could to support his geography family.

“Our department has always felt like a family,” says Sandra Kehoe-Forutan, professor in what is now the Department of Environmental, Geographical and Geological Sciences (EGGS). “From the day I arrived here in 1992, John mentored me and treated me as an equal. It was important to him to build that sense of community to make all the faculty, staff and students feel like they belonged here.”

He maintained his relationships and connections with his EGGS family for as long as he could until his health began to fail in 2014. That was when he turned to the colleagues he loved to help him with basic needs.

“Because of the relationships he had built with us, he was comfortable turning to us for help with everyday things like getting groceries or...
transportation to appointments,” says retired EGGS faculty member, Brian Johnson. “And we were happy to pull together to help him, because that’s what he would have done for us.”

The department family all helped, including Kehoe-Forutan, department chair Michael Shepard, Johnson, department secretary Cheryl Smith, Jenn Haney ’04 and her husband, Paul, and two students, Melissa Matthews ’15 and Kevin Rooker ’16.

“It was very uplifting to see the community come together to help out one of their own — from shoveling snow to delivering medicine,” says Shepard. “Faculty, staff and students all rose to the occasion when Dr. Enman needed them, and that’s because of that close-knit environment that he helped to create here.”

Moved by the outpouring of support he received, as one of his final gestures to his departmental family, Enman made a $700,000 gift from his estate to carry on his legacy of supporting the EGGS department. With the gift, the EGGS department is already bolstering student support through equipment upgrades, and providing funding to sponsor field trips and experiential learning opportunities for students.

“This money will allow us to give our students more opportunities for the kinds of experiences that make the difference between a good and a great education,” says Shepard. “John truly loved this department and considered it his home in many ways. This gift is an expression of that love.”

Thomas Schaeffer is communications manager for the Bloomsburg University Foundation.
Tech Pioneer

Barbara Romano ’83 has made a career of computer networks. At BU, she helps build networks of people.
college was not in the plans for Barbara Bogart Romano as she wrapped up her senior year at Warrior Run High School in rural Turbotville.

“My parents were blue collar. I was a waitress and I was going to continue down that path,” says Romano ’83, who now serves as president of the Bloomsburg University Alumni Association. Her high school teacher, BU alumna Barbara Dodson ’72, asked what she was going to do after high school. “When I told her she said, ‘No, you’re going to Bloomsburg.’”

Dodson recalls the conversation. “I said ‘Barbara, you better rethink that.’ She was such a good student that as a teacher, you did the extra things to help.”

Like 35 percent of today’s BU students, Romano was the first in her family to attend college. But once she decided to go, there was no turning back.

“When I decide I’m going to do something, I’m going to do it,” says Romano. “For me, it was never not going to work.”

Her transition to college was helped by having a mentor in her high school teacher’s husband, BU computer science professor Doyle Dodson ’57. Dodson hired Romano to work in the university’s computer lab and she soon became so entranced with programming that she switched majors from accounting to computer science.

The computers, installed in the basement of the Ben Franklin Building, were closet-size boxes connected to terminals. Punch cards were still used to load programs and data was stored on magnetic tape.

Romano loved the challenge. “The major was about solving problems. It was about how to instruct the machine to get something done.” And she discovered the satisfaction and value of helping others. “I was a tutor. That taught me a lot about how other people do things and it made me more adept at doing my own work.”

FROM CODER TO LEADER

Romano’s career, in many ways, maps the evolution of computers in our lives. When she graduated from BU in 1983 to begin her career working on government contracts in Maryland, a typical IBM PC had a processor approximately 500 times slower than today’s typical cell phone and 1,000 times slower than a modern entry-level computer. Storage took the form of floppy disks 5.25 inches square that could hold only enough data to handle a few seconds of today’s mp3 music files, though mp3s wouldn’t be created for another six years.

Romano moved back to Pennsylvania in 1988 to work with farm equipment manufacturer Case New Holland, where she managed systems that connected 10,000 clients. “It was a big enough company that I had a variety of experiences. I did database administration, moved into a manager position and was a recruiter, coming back to campus to find interns and new employees.”

In 2001, she went to QVC as an application development manager. While Case New Holland computer technology was centered on a mainframe computer, QVC’s technology was reliant on networked servers. “That was a move into the modern age from a technology perspective,” Romano recalls. At QVC,
she led a team that developed a custom workforce management self-service application for more than 4,000 call center employees. After seven years at QVC, Romano moved into consulting.

As she transitioned to management, Romano actively sought mentors. “You always need somebody to bounce an idea off of. Someone with a different background, different life skills and a different perspective. It’s important to have someone you can trust and have confidence in to ask the dumb questions.”

Today, Romano is a director of information technology for South Jersey Industries (SJI), a $1.4 billion energy services holding company with more than 1,200 employees and 680,000 residential customers. Romano no longer writes code in COBOL and Fortran as she did at BU, but still draws upon her university experiences and her hands-on knowledge. While she no longer gets the evening calls to fix bugs, Romano jokes, “I still get calls at night when a VP needs help with an iPad.”

“As a leader, I’m never going to ask someone else to do what I’m not willing to do myself,” says Romano, who oversees a team of 15 project managers and more than 100 vendor consultants who build and integrate the computer applications of SJI’s various divisions.

“When you get into management, the problems change. The critical thinking and problem solving become even more important. The things I do on a daily basis have to do with people and organizations rather than code.” At SJI, recent challenges include mapping data from 286,000 customer records of two new utilities to work within SJI’s integrated systems.

BUILDING PERSONAL NETWORKS

 Appropriately enough for a tech-savvy executive, Romano became involved in BU’s Alumni Association through email. “I kept getting emails from the Alumni Association to apply for the board of directors,” says Romano. “Those calls for volunteers came at the right time. I was looking for a volunteer opportunity. My children are in their mid-20s. I have time to give back.”

“She kept raising her hand. She was very good about giving time and talent,” says former Alumni Association board president Joe Hilgar ’75. “She was someone who had a passion for the university and remembered her roots. Whatever is asked of her, she’s glad to be involved.”

While her career involves electronic networks tying computers and programs together, on campus Romano is focused on making connections among people and giving students a strong personal and professional network they can connect to. “I put myself out there. I encourage students to connect with me on LinkedIn.”
Romano visits campus more than a dozen times a year for meetings of the Alumni Association board, commencement ceremonies, homecoming and for events like the annual Zeigler College of Business Conference and College of Science and Technology Career Pathways events and the Alumni Association’s Day of Dialog with students from underrepresented groups. She’s also working with university administrators to create an alumni mentoring program specifically for freshmen to help them succeed in their first year.

Beyond offering her time and experience, Romano has established a virtual endowment scholarship to help women pursue careers in the STEM fields: science, technology, engineering and math. “I feel I’m helping my younger self. Like Mrs. Dodson did for me. I feel like it’s my opportunity to give back and help someone see something in themselves that they don’t see in their mirror.”

A member of on BU’s advisory board for computer science, Romano encourages students to see their disciplines in a larger context so they adapt to change. “We’re not coding on cards and in COBOL anymore, but the underlying fundamentals are the same. As I moved into management, somebody said to me ‘you have to stay on top of technology, but you can’t be involved in all the nitty-gritty details.’ It’s like a bridge. On one side it’s super technical. On the other, you see the technology from a perspective of the types of problems you can solve and how you can help drive businesses forward.”

While the computer science field is defined by constant change, Romano has a knack for keeping connections, both old and new, strong. She stays in touch with Barbara and Doyle Dodson, who still live in Bloomsburg, and she keeps in contact with students she’s mentored over the years.

“As a student, I saw Barbara once or twice a month whenever she was on campus. We would meet for coffee or lunch. She was able to connect the dots for me in college, make my transition to a graduate a lot easier,” says a former Husky Ambassador Leigha Coates ’18. An assistant recreational leader for the City of Philadelphia, Coates took Romano’s guidance to heart to found a nonprofit, Just Keep Swimming Philly, which teaches inner-city youth how to swim. “I still see Barbara after graduation. She taught me to accomplish my own goals and help others to accomplish their goals.”

OPPORTUNITIES TO Connect

Whether you are a new graduate or a seasoned professional, volunteering for BU can take as little as 10 minutes, and you don’t even have to come to campus.

BU’s Professional U initiative relies heavily on alumni to help fellow Huskies begin their careers. Just connecting with a student in the BU Alumni Group on LinkedIn or posting a job opportunity on Handshake is helpful. Sit on a panel, present a topic, review a resume, or conduct a mock interview – either virtually or in-person.

OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:

- Present at industry-specific Career Connections Expos
- Host students on a Husky Career Road Trip
- Provide an internship opportunity or allow a student to shadow you in the workplace.
- Have a unique story or career insight to share? Volunteer to be interviewed for a 10-minute podcast.
- Participate in career events such as the Zeigler College of Business Conference, College of Science and Technology Career Day or College of Liberal Arts Symposium.
- Present at Husky Boot Camp.

Alumni who don’t have time to participate in an event but still want to help can support a student financially by sponsoring them at the next Career Intensive Boot Camp or provide a Professional Experience Grant that will enable students to attend a conference or study abroad.

Learn more about volunteer opportunities by emailing Nathan Conroy at nconroy@bloomu.edu. For more information about alumni socials, volunteering opportunities, or giving options, visit bloomu.edu/alumni or giving.bloomu.edu.
STEVE '94 AND JENNIFER (YEOMANS) LORCH '97 spent nearly a decade traveling the world and transforming lives in remote areas of developing nations by installing wells and water systems. In 2006, their own lives would be transformed by a simple cup of tea in Kenya.

For Steve, it was the first “real” cup of tea he’d ever had. “This tea had been picked fresh that morning,” he says. “Before then, the only tea I had was powdered Lipton.”

The couple was inspired to start growing tea plants at their South Carolina home and launched Table Rock Tea Company in 2014. Today, the Lorches have a 17-acre farm with thousands of tea plants in the western foothills of their state.

“We’re right on the scenic Cherokee Foothills Highway that brings 400,000 visitors a year to Table Rock Mountain,” says Steve Lorch. “Our tea heritage is Kenyan, but our slogan is ‘Uniquely American Tea.’ Tea is like wine. It derives its flavor from terroir (the land and soil) and microclimate. For example, our oolong has a natural note of chocolate. We also produce a very refreshing WinterLeaf cold harvest green tea not made anywhere else in the world.”

Where traditional Chinese lapsang souchong is smoked over pine, the Lorches use applewood and cherry to give their smoked tea a distinctly American flavor.

Jennifer Lorch has a favorite fact that she presents on tours: “Green, black, and oolong teas all come from the same plant. The differences are in the way the leaves are processed.” After being picked by hand, tea leaves gradually turn black (like a banana peel), a process growers call “oxidation” that takes anywhere from five to eight hours. The longer the oxidation, the blacker the tea. Firing in an oven or over a fire stops the process.

Their Christian faith has always played an integral role in the Lorches...
Valley is known for its wine.” “Tea Country” in 30 years like Napa is to have Table Rock known as provides good jobs here. Our goal something truly unique that but beautiful. We’d like to create area is economically depressed in the company’s future. “Our tea farmers overseas. provides microloans to small-scale

James Derr ’66 gave the commencement address at his alma mater, Antietam High School, Reading. He is a retired administrator of the Wyomissing Area schools and an adjunct professor at Wilkes University and the University of Pennsylvania.

Robert Boose ’68, executive director of the Massachusetts Dental Society, was named an honorary fellow of the International College of Dentists. The honor was conferred at the 2018 ICD USA Section Annual Meeting in Honolulu in recognition of his contributions to the dental profession and in appreciation of outstanding services rendered to the cause of oral science.

Carl Kishbaugh ’73 and his wife Caroline served as missionaries for 37 years in Haiti and France.

Kathryn Sophy ’79 is the director of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission’s (PUC) Office of Special Assistants (OSA). Sophy served as a deputy chief counsel for the PUC’s Law Bureau, and deputy director – legal for OSA. Her experience in public utility law spans 30 years.

Laurel Perry Shaffer-Spagnolo ’84 is director of major giving web-only for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Spagnolo’s prior duties with Presbyterian Senior Living in Dillsburg included conducting capital campaigns, cultivating and retaining donors, managing planned giving, coordinating special events, and working with volunteers.

Steve Lorch sees expansion in the company’s future. “Our area is economically depressed but beautiful. We’d like to create something truly unique that provides good jobs here. Our goal is to have Table Rock known as “Tea Country” in 30 years like Napa Valley is known for its wine.”
lion dollar producer. She is also the owner/operator of The Swell Tiki Bar and Grill in Rehoboth Beach.

Kris ten Humphreys Devlin ’95M is administrator of the Meadowbrook Christian School in Milton. Devlin joined the school five years ago as director of curriculum and instruction. She started her teaching career at the Pocono Mountain School District and later the Columbia County Christian School.

Todd Nichols ’97 is assistant principal of Federalsburg Elementary School, Federalsburg, Md. He began his teaching career at Federalsburg Elementary School and then was assistant principal at Greensboro Elementary.

’00s

Susan Bennett Fetterman ’00 retired from Geisinger Clinic as the chief administrative officer after 37 years of service. Fetterman had various roles within nursing, ophthalmology, and the division of medicine.

Amy Glahn Hnasko ’01 is a professor in the College of Education at Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre.

Christopher Thompson ’02 is director of football operations for the Atlanta Legends, a newly formed professional American football team based in Atlanta. Thompson was formerly with the Albany Empire, an Arena Football League team in Albany, N.Y., and the Lehigh Valley Steelhawks of the National Arena League, as head coach and assistant general manager.

Elizabeth Weremedic Wittig ’03M is a certified registered nurse practitioner at Lehigh Valley Physicians Group-Schuylkill. Wittig spent time as a nurse practitioner at Bloomsburg University and a registered nurse at Geisinger Medical Center and Miners Memorial Medical Center.

Michelle Lockard Lockwood ’04/’05M is director of product at Global Platforms for Global Knowledge in Cary, N.C.

Joseph Goldfeder ’06 is vice president at Valley National Financial Advisors, Bethlehem. He is a certified financial planner professional, investment adviser representative, a registered representative and a licensed insurance agent in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Six BU alumni are among the former Mount Carmel High School students who have organized a dance marathon to raise funds for families whose children are fighting pediatric cancer at Janet Weis Children’s Hospital. The sixth-annual 12-hour dance marathon was held in November at Mount Carmel Area Jr./Sr. High School and attracted more than 400 student participants and 150 volunteers. This year the marathon raised $50,021 and over six years, a total of $184,575 has been raised. Shown from left are dance marathon committee members, back row: Bryson Purcell ’17/’19M, Megan Scicchitano, Ana Ditchev ’04/08M, Rachel Niglio. Front row: Cassandra Mace ’15, Samantha Spieller ’14, Cassandra Niglio ’16, Kimberly Andruscavage ’16, and Victoria Chapman.
**'10s**

Maxwell Tolan ’10 is a family medicine physician with the Commonwealth Health Physician Network in Sugarloaf. Tolan served as an emergency medical technical with the Army Medical Education and Training Campus, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

David Seresky ’11 retired as a federal corrections officer.

Ryan King ’13 is a police officer with South Whitehall Township. King graduated from the Philadelphia Police Academy in May 2015 and was a police officer in the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department.

Briana Davis ’14/’15M is the lead instructional designer for Graduate School USA in Washington, D.C.

Abigail Willcox ’16 is an English teacher at Pottsgrove High School.

Jacqueline Hauck ’17 is an associate with Boyer & Ritter, Camp Hill.

Sage Stevenson-Panchisin ’17 signed a contract with Marine Commissioning Programs and went to training in January with expected completion in March.

Jacob Rios ’17 signed a contract with Marine Enlisted Programs and headed to enlisted training in November 2018.

John Carlos Tavares ’17 is an associate with Boyer & Ritter, Camp Hill.

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**Husky Generations**

A CHANCE MEETING at the Bloomsburg Fair in September led freshman Audrey Edgell to enjoy the 2018 Homecoming celebration in style.

At the fair, Edgell and her mom saw Timothy Hoffman ’68 struggling to get back to his car. “I overdid it with my walking and by the time I walked around the fair, everything hurt” says Hoffman, who was recovering from back surgery. “I was looking for a place to sit and I hear this ‘Sir… are you alright, sir?’”

At first, Hoffman refused help, but eventually relented at their insistence. “We chatted about my background and how I wanted to go to my reunion and I joked that I wasn’t sure if I could make it without some backup,” says Hoffman.

Hoffman’s wife, also a Bloomsburg alumnus, had passed away earlier in the year. He was nervous not only about his physical condition, but also the idea of returning to campus with the loss of his wife still very heavy on his heart. Edgell formally offered to accompany Hoffman to Homecoming.

At Homecoming, Edgell rode with Hoffman on the campus tour, watched the parade from the Greenly Center, and shadowed Hoffman during the tent party where she met alums of all ages. At Redman Stadium, she met president Bashar Hanna and finished her day at the 50th reunion dinner at Monty’s where the class of 1968 shared stories of sit-ins, dress codes, “the Nook,” and the turbulent Vietnam War era.

“It was cool to hear their college experiences and nice how they wished me luck and told me to make the most of my time here,” says Edgell.

“She took an enormous amount of pressure off my shoulders and allowed me to enjoy the wonderful day,” says Hoffman.

_By Andrea O’Neill ’06, Communications Coordinator, Alumni and Professional Engagement_

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**Nicholas Giuffre Retires, Named The Wholesaler’s 2018 Person of the Year**

Nicholas Giuffre ’78 retired from Bradford White Corp., Ambler. Giuffre spent 40 years with the water heater company, most recently serving as president/CEO.

Giuffre was also named the 2018 Person of the Year by The Wholesaler, a publication focused on the plumbing, heating and cooling industry.

A member of the Bloomsburg University Foundation Board, Giuffre made a $2.5 million gift to BU in 2016 to establish the Nicholas J. Giuffre Center for Supply Chain Management.

He was actively involved with the American Supply Association (ASA), serving on several committees, including the Executive Committee and the Education Foundation. He served as chairman of the ASA Vendor Member Division. He went on to become a board member of ASA and the ASA Education Foundation. He chaired the ASAEF Investment Committee. ASA honored Giuffre in 2011 as the recipient of the Fred V. Keenan Lifetime Achievement award in recognition of his contributions and achievements in the plumbing, heating and cooling industry.

Giuffre was also involved with the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigerating Institute (AHRI) and received the AHRI Richard C. Schulze Award for his many contributions to the organization.
OBITUARIES

Sara Marie Dockey Edwards ’44
Dorothy Kocher Pugh ’46
Henry Talarsky ’50
J. Richard Wagner ’50
Joseph D. Kissinger ’54
George Richard Dietz ’55
Donald Smith ’55
C. Diann Jones Baurersfeld ’56
Regina Doraski Dowidchuk ’57
Arlene Rando Liddy ’57
Walter Smerconish ’57
Larry Bednar ’59
Walter Bednar ’59
Norman Watts ’59
Byron Krapf ’60
Theresa Yost Hartman ’62
Sarah Creasy Anthony ’63
John Jenkins ’63
Robert Eddinger ’64
Sandra Smith Stoddert ’64
Josephine Urban Crossley ’66
Francis Mulhern ’66
Thomas Switzer ’66
Frederick Dute ’67
Myra Schlesinger Griffith ’68
Stella Johnson Hill ’68
Richard Holly ’68
Eve Hunter ’68
Harold Latchford ’68
Ruth Gordan Kahler McHenry ’68
Dominick Netti ’68
Donald Schaars ’68
Van Booth ’69
Ivan Dinges ’69
Nancy Vachout Golly ’69
Nathan McKenzie ’69
Russell Palenkpo ’69
Janice Fenton Patey ’69
James Gavitt ’70
Blair Monie ’70
A. William Kelly ’71
Thomas Banyas ’73
Linda Lee Marz Crisman ’73
Roger Savage ’73
Karen Cralih Gehrett ’74
Debran Mower LeVan ’76
Michael Williams ’76
Donald Beaver ’78
Jane Helman ’78
Kathleen McCormick ’80
Robert Novelli ’81
Gertrude Cravatta DiNardo ’83
Sherry Severnak-locascio ’83
Rita Tocyloski ’83
James Huffman ’84
Tammy Drumm ’85
Susan Morrall Gavel ’85
Nancy Laidacker ’86
Karen York-Levine ’87
Jari Chandler Farr ’88
Alicia Brown Phillips ’88
Mike Waraksa ’92
Heather Morrell Morrell Belott ’94
Natalie Cibort ’95
Bernard Tostanowski ’00
Brian Billig ’07
Joshua O’Brien ’08
Kyle Brophy ’10
Devon Seier ’14

BIRTHS

Stephanie Lapinski Steeber ’03/’05M and husband, Sean ’04, a daughter, Addison Grace, Sept. 13, 2018
Shannon Kileen Ferguson ’05 and husband, Kenneth ’04, a daughter, Charlotte Kathleen, March 6, 2018
Jennifer Mele Curry ’05 and husband, Glenn ’05, a son, Landon Glenn, Aug. 28, 2018
Jolene Bedics Hahn ’05 and husband, Garry, a daughter, Braelyn Marie, April 19, 2018
Kathryn Guenther Vagell ’06 and husband, Craig, a son, Tyler William, June 27, 2018
Christopher Ashcroft ’07 and wife, Valerie, a daughter, Blaire Aubrey, Sept. 12, 2018
Holly Humankl Alban ’08 and husband, Joseph, a son, Luke Joseph, April 9, 2018
Jennifer Sicinski Rasich ’09 and husband, Christopher ’08, a daughter, Nora Grace, July 14, 2018
Danielle Clark Horton ’10 and husband, Geoffrey, a daughter, Emery Gwen, May 31, 2018
Jennifer Diehl Linder ’11 and husband, Eric ’10, a daughter, Madison Louise, June 25, 2018

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Bloomsburg: The University Magazine • Waller Administration Building • 400 East Second Street • Bloomsburg, PA 17815-1301
Bill Kelly, Longtime Trustee

A. William “Bill” Kelly Jr. ’71, age 71, of Drums, a former chairperson of the Bloomsburg University Council of Trustees and adjunct BU faculty member, passed away Nov. 18. Kelly enjoyed a long relationship with Bloomsburg University. He graduated with a bachelor’s degree in English. As an adjunct faculty member, he taught courses in speech and mass communications from 1981 to 1990, was selected as the Young Alumnus of the Year in 1988 and delivered the university’s winter commencement address in 1994. Appointed to the Bloomsburg University Council of Trustees in 1995, Kelly served as the vice-chairperson from 1997–2002 and chairperson from 2002–2006. Kelly had a 40-year career in public broadcasting with WVIA, beginning as community relations director in 1974 and becoming the station’s president and CEO in 1991. Over his career, he received numerous awards, including the Pennsylvania Medical Society Walter F. Donaldson award for outstanding medical journalism and the Northeastern Chapter March of Dimes Outstanding Volunteer Leadership award.

Kelly served on many community boards, including the Community Medical Center in Scranton, the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts, Hospice of the Sacred Heart and Children’s Service Center, Marian Sutherland Kirby Library, Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, Volunteers in Medicine and the Sordoni Foundation. He was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Executive Management Institute.

Kelly is survived by his wife, Susan Prusack; son, Sean Kelly; daughters, Kristin Doran, Megan Mitchell, Jodi D’Alessio; stepchildren, Matthew Green, Steven and Luke Matyi.

Scholarship Established in Honor of ‘Biggie’ Smith

A scholarship for Bloomsburg University wrestling has been established in honor of Michael “Biggie” Smith ’69, who passed away on Jan. 17, 2018, and was a passionate supporter of BU wrestling. A pioneer in the amateur wrestling world in central Pennsylvania, Smith was a former high school, collegiate and international official and was named Wrestling USA Magazine’s Pennsylvania Wrestling “Person of the Year” in 2013.

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“WE ALL HAVE DREAMS,” said four-time Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens. “But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.”

Women’s cross country and track and field standout Morgan Ilgenfritz knows firsthand that success requires effort.

As a redshirt senior on the cross country team, Morgan earned all-PSAC honors with a fifth-place finish at the conference championships and all-region honors with a fourth-place finish at the NCAA Atlantic Regionals. Her finish at regionals earned her a trip to the NCAA Division II championships where she finished 92nd in the country. Not bad for someone who was a lightly-regarded runner as a freshman.

But her drive in the classroom is what led her to land a Professional Experience Grant (PEG) that will aid with her career goal of becoming a doctor.

“I took a course in neuroscience and was doing a project on chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE, a brain condition associated with repeated blows to the head), which inspired me to change my career track from physical therapy to pre-med,” says Ilgenfritz, who puts in some long days.

When Ilgenfritz is not training or competing, she can be found in the lab of Hartline Science Center.

Last fall she was awarded a PEG to fund a research project with her faculty mentor William Coleman, associate professor of biological and allied health sciences. PEG grants provide funding for student experiences outside of the classroom, such as internships, conferences or research projects.

“There are days where I leave my apartment at 6:30 in the morning and don't get back until 11 at night. However, I love it,” she says. “Yes, there are a lot of sacrifices to make, especially with my social life. But I know in the end it will be worth it.”

Ilgenfritz's work focuses on how neurons communicate from the nerve cell to the muscle cell. She and Coleman are using a laser scanning microscope to investigate the role of the neurotransmitter GABA (gamma-aminobutyric acid) on synaptic vesicles. “The GABA neurotransmitter is responsible for sending and regulating chemical messages through the brain and the nervous system,” says Ilgenfritz.

“This research can benefit others in the future because of how little we know about GABA signaling in the central and peripheral nervous systems,” says Ilgenfritz. “The GABA neurotransmitter controls muscle tone inhibiting muscle contractions. Understanding of GABA signaling can lead to a better understanding of certain conditions within the nervous system such as Spastic diplegia, a type of cerebral palsy caused by problems with GABA signaling in the spinal cord and lower body.”

Ilgenfritz's goal is to become a family physician with a specialty in sports medicine for the U.S. Navy. She first plans on completing a one-year graduate certificate program in biomedical science at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, then enlist in the Navy.

It's all a challenge she's definitely up to facing because she knows achieving a dream requires effort.
THE WOMEN’S SOCCER TEAM had a season to remember, finishing 2018 with a record of 17-3-3 while capturing both the PSAC Championship for the first time since 2002 and winning its first NCAA Atlantic Regional title. BU was also ranked fifth in the final United Soccer Coaches Association poll. The Huskies set a school record with 15 shutouts during the campaign – sixth among all Division II teams in shutout percentage.

Senior Allie Barber was named a 2018 United Soccer Coaches first team scholar All-American as well as second team All-American status from United Soccer Coaches. She also earned first team All-Region honors from both the United Soccer Coaches and the Division II Conference Commissioners Association. She garnered a spot on the All-PSAC first team for the second consecutive season. Academically, Barber was a 2018 Google Cloud Academic All-District First Team. She finished second on the team in scoring with six goals and four assists for 16 points.

Head coach Matt Haney, graduate assistant coach Allison Mack and volunteer assistant coach Rebecca Grubb were named the 2018 United Soccer Coaches Atlantic Regional Staff of the Year.

THE 37TH ANNUAL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME dinner and induction ceremony was held in October. Inductees from left: Jennifer Lefever ’96 (softball), Adam Clay ’05 (men’s soccer), Jahri Evans ’07 (football), Tom Vargo ’66 (wrestling), Joe Bressi (women’s basketball coach), Susan (Brophy) O’Donnell ’81 (women’s swimming), Megan LaBuda ’02 (women’s basketball), and President Bashar Hanna. Bressi is the all-time winningest coach in the women’s basketball program’s history. The induction of seven individuals brings the number of members in the Bloomsburg University Athletic Hall of Fame to 182.
Women’s Volleyball Finishes First Season

THE FIRST-YEAR WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL TEAM had an inaugural campaign posting a 6-22 record for head coach Dan Kreiger. The roster featured 23 freshmen, two transfers, and three former members of the BU club team.

The Huskies picked up the program’s first win on Aug. 31 in just their second match when BU downed Virginia Union, 3-1. The Huskies earned the first PSAC win in program history on Oct. 5 with a straight-sets home victory over Kutztown and then earned its first inter-divisional win, first road win, and first five-set win at Lock Haven on Oct. 30.

Redshirt senior Sarah Gomish played her final collegiate year at BU after playing three seasons at Lock Haven. She finished her collegiate career with 1,195 career kills and 1,046 digs and will stay on to serve as the program’s first graduate assistant coach in the fall of 2019. She was one of 14 recipients across the country to be awarded with the 2018 American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Coaches 4 Coaches Scholarship which provides the opportunity for up-and-coming coaches to attend their first AVCA Convention.

Two Qualify for NCAA National Championships in Cross Country

SENIORS MORGAN ILGENFRITZ AND NICK MCGUIRE both capped their careers by qualifying to compete at the 2018 NCAA Division II Cross Country National Championships in Pittsburgh on Dec. 1.

Ilgenfritz was an automatic qualifier by finishing fourth at the NCAA Atlantic Regional Championships. It was her second trip to the national championships after participating in 2016 as a member of the Huskies’ national qualifying team. McGuire earned a trip to nationals as wild card after finishing sixth at the regional meet. His sixth-place finish at regionals was the Huskies’ best finish by a male runner since 2006 when Justin Shepherd placed fourth.

McGuire was also the first male to compete at nationals since Shepherd in 2006 and just the fourth individual men’s runner to earn a trip to nationals in the program’s history (BU qualified as a team twice). The last time BU had both a female and a male runner qualify for the NCAAs in the same year was in 2005, when Shepherd was 19th for men and Amber Hackenberg placed 48th in the women’s race.

Ilgenfritz, who was fifth at the PSAC Championships, finished 92nd at nationals while McGuire, who was third at the PSACs, placed 108th in very tough conditions at the Bob O’Connor Golf Course at Schenley Park in Pittsburgh.
Globally, 1969 was a big year for science. Most spectacularly, after a decade of advancements and progress beginning with the first Soviet and U.S. space orbits in 1961, Apollo 11 landed on the moon on July 20. Outside of space exploration, the 1960s saw the invention of the BASIC computer language (1964), pocket calculators (1967), and the artificial heart (1969).

Growing student population spurred the formation of formal, individual departments campus-wide in 1959, and over the decade that followed, enrollment more than doubled to 3,300. As enrollments grew and the sciences became increasingly specialized, the Department of Mathematics and Science separated into different departments. Mathematics and geography became individual departments in 1962 and biology became a department in 1965. Finally, in 1969 physical sciences split into chemistry and physics.

This organizational evolution culminated with the opening of Hartline Science Center 50 years ago this spring. Science courses were taught from BU’s earliest days, but without special facilities. Things changed in 1907 with the opening of Science Hall, then one of the most modern facilities for science instruction in the state. Following World War II, newer and larger facilities for science instruction were needed. The solution was to begin construction in 1958 on the first classroom building to be used solely for college instruction since Science Hall. Completed in 1960 and named Sutliff Hall after the first provost at Bloomsburg, William Sutliff, the new building featured science labs and classrooms on the first floor, while the second floor was used for business education.

The growth of Bloomsburg State College throughout the 1960s soon meant that another building was needed.
for science instruction. Funding was approved by the state and in 1967, land along East Second and Spruce streets was cleared. Construction began late that year and continued through 1968, with the building opening at the start of the spring semester on January 28, 1969.

University officials decided to name the new building for the first family of science in the history of Bloomsburg — Hartline. The father, Daniel, was born in Reading in 1866 and came to the Normal School in 1890 to organize the new manual training program. After earning a degree from Lafayette College, he returned to Bloomsburg in 1897 to teach the sciences, and was joined for several years by his wife, Harriet, who was an instructor. The third member of the family to show distinction in the sciences was their son, Haldan Keffer. Born in 1903, Keffer spent his entire academic career as a youngster at the Bloomsburg State Normal School, first at the model school and then in the regular curriculum at the age of 13. Graduating in 1920, he went on to earn a bachelor’s degree from Lafayette and a medical degree from Johns Hopkins University. Keffer spent more than 40 years in intensive research, studying vision and the optics of the eye, first with higher animals and finally with one of the simplest, the horseshoe crab. This research on vision resulted in him receiving a Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1967.

Daniel Hartline continued to teach the sciences at BU until his retirement in 1935. His replacement, Kimber Kuster, a 1913 Normal School graduate, was regarded as highly as his predecessor. When Kuster retired in 1962, he was no longer the lone instructor, but the first chairperson of the Department of Mathematics and Science.

The last step in the completion of the building was the dedication on April 26, 1969. Keffer Hartline returned to BU for the ceremony honoring his family and the building named for them. The new science center included 17 laboratories, 30 classrooms and lecture rooms, and offices for 58 faculty members. Daniel Hartline’s successor was also recognized, as the large lecture hall was named for Kimber Kuster.

Hartline Science Center has remained an active and growing facility. Growth in student enrollment majoring in the sciences — reaching more than 2,600 students last fall — spurred subsequent remodeling projects and the construction of a new wing in 2005. Today, BU’s College of Science and Technology is composed of nine departments, with communication sciences and disorders, exercise science, instructional technology and nursing joining the initial five departments established in the 1960s.
For the latest information on upcoming events, check the Bloomsburg University website bloomu.edu/events.
A Winning Photo from 1969 Recreated

Noted professional photographer Axel Brahnsen took this striking photograph of Theta Gamma sorority for the *Obiter* yearbook in 1969. Brahnsen (1907–1978), of Yellow Springs, Ohio, took the photograph because he knew BU yearbook adviser Robert Haller. Known as a "pictorialist," the dominant photographic art style of the 1930s and 1940s, the Photographic Society of America ranked Brahnsen among the world’s top 50 photographers after 1930. The sorority became Sigma Sigma Sigma in 1971 and in October 2013 sorority alumnae gathered to recreate the striking photograph. Three members in the original photograph returned for the recreation: Teresa Valente Montanaro ’70, with her leg on the planter; Gayle Thorpe Baar ’71, on the third step with chin in hand; and Lovey Kompinski Tominosky-Scully ’70, standing just to the left of the girl with the umbrella.

BU Concert Choir/Northeast Pennsylvania Choral Society
Saturday, April 13, 7 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts,
Mitrani Hall

Percussion Ensemble
Tuesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts,
Mitrani Hall

Jazz Concert
Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts,
Mitrani Hall

University Concert Band
Spring Concert
Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts,
Mitrani Hall

University-Community Orchestra and Women’s Choral Ensemble Concert
Saturday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.
Haas Center for the Arts,
Mitrani Hall

Knoebel’s Grove “Pops” Concert
Sunday, April 28
Jazz Band at 2 p.m.
and Concert Band at 5 p.m.

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

Piano Studio Recital
Wednesday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.
Carver Hall, Kenneth S. Gross Auditorium

Young Artists’ Recital
Saturday, May 4, 1 p.m.
and 3:30 p.m.
Carver Hall, Kenneth S. Gross Auditorium
Show your Husky pride. Whatever the weather.

NOW IN STOCK: Heavyweight hoodies, sweaters and jackets.

Shown from left: Katie Behie ’19, Lesley Reyes Cerda ’19, Keenan Huss ’19, and Carlos Mendoza ’20. Photo by Jaime North.

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FOOTBALL PLAYER AND VETERAN FINDURA FEATURED ON ESPN

Football defensive lineman Alexander Findura, a sophomore business management major, was featured on ESPN’s College GameDay during its Veterans’ Day coverage last fall. Before coming to BU, Findura served in the U.S. Marines for four years and, during his service, was primarily a member of an elite team known as the Body Bearers with a motto “The Last to Let You Down.” The section’s primary mission is to bear the caskets at funerals for Marines, former Marines, and Marine family members at Arlington National Cemetery and the surrounding cemeteries in the National Capitol Region. Findura’s story can be found on ESPN’s YouTube channel at youtube.com/ESPN.