

Spring 2016

Muhlenberg



Community Connections

Alumni, students and faculty make a difference through their lives and careers

Spring 2016

Muhlenberg

THE MAGAZINE

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Cover: Katelynn Maxwell '18 mentors a William Allen High School student on the college search and admissions process through the College Admissions Mentoring Program (CAMP). Find out more about CAMP on page 3.

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Carolyn (Magan) Albright '83 and Tom Albright '84 returned to Allentown to found Ripple Church, a community-focused church that serves diverse and underserved populations. Find out more about the Albrights on page 19.



How Muhlenberg Prepares Students for Successful Lives of Leadership and Service



This year's World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland recently published a list of the top 10 skills that will be needed for careers in 2020:

- Complex problem solving
- Creativity
- Coordinating with others
- Judgment and decision making
- Negotiation
- Critical thinking
- People management
- Emotional intelligence
- Service orientation
- Cognitive flexibility

The list is remarkable, both for what it includes and for what it doesn't; and for the fact that it is as timeless as it is forward-looking. For our purposes, it serves as a useful gauge for the value of the education our students receive here at Muhlenberg College.

As I reflect upon the list, I realize our graduates will smile as they read it, reminded that a Muhlenberg education focuses on skills that will be valuable across a lifetime.

Our current students may work for nine or more organizations over the course of their careers. They will almost certainly need to engage with co-workers living in countries all over the world. They will manage products and processes invented long after they graduate. For example, our current first year students were born into a world without Google. In just 18 years, Google – or, if you like, Alphabet – has grown from a startup to the world's most-valued company. Now, in just a few years, these same students will emerge from Muhlenberg into a world that promises self-driving cars, autonomous drone-delivered packages and massive databases in which one's every taste and choice is analyzed in order to maximize profit.

Yet, for all this techno-wizardry, the critical skills on WEF's list for careers in 2020 resemble closely those that have defined the leaders who have emerged from Muhlenberg for decades. We have structured our academic curriculum and residential life programs in ways proven over time to produce graduates who excel in all of these skills. Specifically, every Muhlenberg student, regardless of major, must demonstrate the following prior to graduation:

- Effective thinking, writing, and speaking skills
- Competency in writing clear and cogent expository prose
- Basic skills of language acquisition and usage
- The ability to understand and utilize mathematical and/or logical relationships, to analyze data, to construct and assess arguments and to make sound judgments
- The technical skills, problem-solving ability, judgment and courage necessary to create new work in the visual, performing and literary arts, together with the knowledge of the theory, history and social context of artistic practice

- The ability to interpret and evaluate issues of human concern, experience and expression by means of analysis, critical reasoning and historical reflection
- Understanding of human activity and world views across time, geography and cultures
- Facility with biological, computational, mathematical and physical theories and paradigms, using quantitative and scientific problem solving skills to investigate natural phenomena
- Understanding of how modern institutional structures and social, political, economic and cultural practices shape and are shaped by individual choices, group behavior and public policies, developing an understanding of the operations of power and ideology across social contexts, relationships and practices
- Understanding of human difference and the intellectual and civic skills required for participation in an increasingly diverse and interconnected world

The overlap with the World Economic Forum's list couldn't be stronger, and that's because careers of the future will emphasize so many of the multi-dimensional cognitive skills and reflective, adaptive habits of mind developed here at Muhlenberg.

At the same time, Muhlenberg has always been committed to preparing students for more than just career success, including contributions to society more broadly. Since our founding, Muhlenberg has focused not only on the development of not only intellect, but also character. Our alumni view service to others as a core element of life success. They go on to support their families and serve local communities faithfully and effectively as civil servants, volunteers, political and civic leaders, clergy, physicians, research scientists, philanthropists and in many other roles.

Impact on the world around us requires a combination of intellect and an ethical framework that prepares our graduates to sort right from wrong, and better from worse. Muhlenberg College continues to evolve over time in a variety of ways. However, some dimensions of our College remain the same. As the good people in Davos keep coming up with new lists, we'll keep doing what we've done for 168 years: Educating the next generations of successful leaders who will have great impact on the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John I. Williams, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "W".

John I. Williams, Jr.
President, Muhlenberg College



Janine Yass

Janine Yass '81

Co-Founder of Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School and education reform advocate

It's been over 40 years since an iconic and oft-repeated advertising slogan told us that "a mind is a terrible thing to waste."

Few would agree with that statement more than Janine (Coslett) Yass '81, who co-founded Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School after witnessing the huge gap between the education that her own children were receiving at a private school in the Philly 'burbs, and that of poor, inner-city children.

"I wanted to give the boys growing up in the city the same opportunities as my kids," Yass says.

The cum laude business administration graduate's interest in social issues within cities began long before her odyssey with Boys' Latin. After graduation and a stint at The Morning Call newspaper in Allentown, Yass moved to and fell in love with New York City, where she wrote press releases and annual reports for a Wall Street company. From there, she moved to Philadelphia and worked at the Philadelphia Stock Exchange before getting her master's degree in city planning, with a focus on housing issues, from the University of Pennsylvania.

"My love of cities and a yearning to do work that was more involved in social concerns led me to get my master's, then into the nonprofit housing world and eventually into my work in education," says Yass.

Once her own four children were settled in school in the late '90s, Yass became interested in getting more involved in her community on a volunteer basis and got to know David Hardy, a veteran teacher and education administrator in Philadelphia. It was Hardy who further opened Yass' eyes to the challenges facing the Philadelphia education system.

Around the same time, Pennsylvania passed a charter school law, and Yass and Hardy began the long—and at times frustrating—journey to open a charter school in Philadelphia.

"I would see hundreds of families in the city line up for the chance to attend a charter school, and most were denied that opportunity," says Yass. "The whole process really opened my eyes to how this country is set up to benefit the privileged and wealthy. There is nothing more separate and unequal than education in this country. If you are born in a certain poor zip code, you have less than a 50% chance of graduating. I saw too many city schools where no real learning was happening. Poor families don't get to choose where they send their kids to school."

After several charter denials, challenges and roadblocks, Yass and Hardy persevered, and got the charter for Boys' Latin, founded in West Philadelphia in 2007. The school even expanded to include a middle school in the past year. The frustration, Yass says, is that they can't further expand the school to girls due to budget issues at the state and local level and the politics surrounding education.

Still, Yass recognizes the success of their labor of love. "We're really proud of all that we've accomplished with Boys' Latin. Last year, 100 percent of graduates got into college, and each year the college retention rate

improves."

Since opening Boys' Latin, Yass founded The Philadelphia School Partnership with a group of others who are passionate about education in the area. They work to raise money for great charter, district and private schools, which meet certain criteria and milestones.

She also joined the board of the national Center for Education Reform, based in Washington, D.C. That organization honored Yass in 2006 as an "Individual Who is Rare," for the tenacity she and Hardy exhibited when pursuing the charter for Boys' Latin.

For Yass, her mission has always been simple: Provide great learning environments for all children, regardless of socioeconomic class, location or ethnicity.

"I adore and admire great teachers," she says. "I was so lucky to have wonderful teachers at both my public high school in Pennsylvania and at Muhlenberg. Great teachers are my heroes, and the system does not do enough to recognize high-quality teaching. Every child should have the same opportunities I had, my fellow Muhlenberg alumni had and my children had."



Students at Boys' Latin



Grace Bourgault '17, left, meets with a CAMP student at William Allen High School.

Forget S'mores and Singalongs

This CAMP prepares high school students for college with mentorship from their soon-to-be peers

by *Dr. Michele Moser Deegan, chair and associate professor of political science*



Michele Deegan

When students enroll at Muhlenberg, they join the community of students, faculty and staff immersed in the pursuit of a rich liberal arts experience. Some of our students don't realize that attending Muhlenberg also means that they have joined the community of residents in the City of Allentown.

As a member of the faculty, I want to create opportunities for our students to experience their college and city homes and become good neighbors and residents in both. So, when Dr. Tahereh Hojjat, professor of economics at DeSales University, asked me to work with her on an Innovation Grant funded through the Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges to help students in the Allentown Promise Neighborhood, I couldn't resist.

Along with Dr. Kerrie Baker, professor of psychology at Cedar Crest College, we received funding and built the College Admission Mentoring Program (CAMP). Since Kerrie and I had recently gone through the complex college admissions process with our oldest children, we decided to focus on admissions mentoring. Realizing the amount of time and commitment that it took for us to help our children navigate this process, we knew that the path from interest to enrollment was not obvious, or easy, for parents who do not have the time or experience to assist their own children.

We also realized that the best partners for high school students in need of mentoring

through this process were our enrolled students.

Starting this semester, CAMP connects 36 William Allen High School juniors with 30 undergraduates across the three college campuses. While the primary goal of CAMP is to increase the number of Allen students enrolling in college, we also recognize the additional benefits of this partnership, as it will help those students identify career interests, develop "soft" skills such as making eye contact and engaging in active listening and provide a greater understanding of college life.

Our goals for college students are to broaden their understanding of human difference, develop civic skills necessary for participation in an increasingly diverse and interconnected world and enhance their interpersonal communication and other soft skills critical to career success.

CAMP meetings are held bi-weekly at Allen during the semester. Each college student is paired with one or two Allen students who work together through our program curriculum with ample time for college students to share their own experiences navigating the college admission process. The spring semester starts with identification of students' career interests and proceeds through conversations about college types and majors, to navigating financial aid and scholarship applications, and ends with the creation of a list of colleges of interest. In the

fall, the program will more closely focus on identification of colleges of interest and mentorship through the admission application requirements for these schools.

Our hope is that by the conclusion of the fall semester, Allen students will have applied to colleges that are a good fit for their families and their futures. The program also provides training and time for reflection at the undergraduate level. We share ideas and reflection through an online course site in addition to in-person monthly training sessions so that students can build connections across our campuses too.

Many of our college student partners are connecting as city residents for the first time, which has already increased their excitement about other civic engagement opportunities. Through interactions with their younger Allen partners, our students are learning a great deal, not only about the community in which they live and the importance of civic engagement, but also about themselves.



Dr. Michele Moser Deegan is chair and associate professor of political science and teaches courses on inequality and poverty. She is also the founding director of the Lehigh Valley Research Consortium and currently serves on the Measurement and Evaluation Committee of Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley.

Neuroscience Named Newest Department



Neuroscience will be the College's first new academic department since the addition of the drama department (now theatre & dance) in the 1980s. The nationally recognized neuroscience major will mark the transition to a department at the beginning of the 2016-2017 academic year.

The evolution of neuroscience from an interdisciplinary program to an academic department propels Muhlenberg to the forefront of undergraduate liberal arts neuroscience programs. Oberlin College and Pomona College are currently the only other liberal arts colleges with neuroscience departments.

"This is the result of the collaborative energy and dedication of

students, faculty, administration and alumni over the 12 years of our history as an interdisciplinary program," says Dr. Jeremy Alden Teisseré, associate professor of biology and neuroscience and director of the program. "We hope that by becoming a formal stand-alone department we are increasingly able to attract bright, unique, high-achieving students and faculty to our dynamic department."

Neuroscience is among the top nationally recognized and popular majors at Muhlenberg College. In March 2014, the department gained an endowed professorship when Teisseré was selected as the inaugural Stanley Road Endowed Chair, a \$1 million grant coupled with a \$250,000 matching grant from the Muhlenberg Match fund challenge.

Not Clowning Around: Muhlenberg's Circus Troupe Stages Workshop for Jefferson Elementary Students

In December, Muhlenberg's Circus Troupe hosted fifth graders from Jefferson Elementary School at its first Circus Extravaganza.

The event, conceived by neuroscience major and music minor Adam Halpern '16, involved a performance in Empie Theatre, a Q&A session with the performers and an interactive session during which the children learned circus-performing skills.

"With various arts and physical education programs cut in the Allentown School District, this event fills a necessary void," says Halpern. "By experiencing the imaginative Circus Extravaganza, the students will see the impossible become possible."

Muhlenberg launched its Circus Workshop in January 2014 under the direction of Noah Dach '16 and Henry Evans '16. The troupe is made up of 30 Muhlenberg dancers, actors, gymnasts and aerial acrobats.

The Muhlenberg Circus has also performed for the Jefferson Arts after-school program, Sands Bethlehem, Zoellner Arts Center at Lehigh University and Muhlenberg's Best Buddies.



SENIOR STAFF CHANGES: Provost John Ramsay and Dean of Students Karen Green Step Down

Both provost John Ramsay and dean of students and vice president for student affairs Karen Green announced they'll be stepping down from their roles at the conclusion of the 2015-16 school year.

Ramsay will continue to serve the College in his appointment as professor of education.

In a letter to the campus community, President John I. Williams, Jr. wrote, "Provost Ramsay has provided excellent leadership and vision in his seven years as provost, and I feel quite fortunate for his assistance and guidance during my first year as President."

While Ramsay will remain on campus, Green will retire at the end of May. At the conclusion of the school year, Green will have completed 10 years of service at Muhlenberg College, capping a career of more than 35 years in student affairs.

"My time at 'Berg has been a 10-year love affair," says Green. "It was a difficult decision because I have had such a full, rich and rewarding experience with the entire Muhlenberg community."

Green joined Muhlenberg College in June 2006, with 26 years of student affairs experience already under her belt. She had previously served as dean of students at Wells College in Aurora, N.Y.

In her first year at Muhlenberg, Green founded Muhlenberg's Gospel Choir, "Rejoice." She has regularly held weekly lunches with student leaders and has committed her time to important causes, such as the college committee for campus life, the college committee for fitness and athletics, multicultural counsel, multicultural advisory board and the senior year experience.



Neil Gaiman Headlines Living Writers Series in its 20th Year



Gaiman and Coppa

The Muhlenberg College English department again offered its Living Writers series in fall 2015. The semester-long course brings both burgeoning and established authors to campus.

Students enrolled in the class read recent works from the selected authors and then interacted with the writers directly as they visit campus for a day. Writers attend classes, have lunch with students and then give a public reading of their work in the evening.

The 2015 line-up of writers included poet Patricia Smith, memoirist and poet Stephen Kuusisto, novelist Maggie Shipstead, poet Aracelis Girmay, short fiction writer Phil Klay and graphic novelist and fiction author Neil Gaiman. Gaiman was interviewed by English professor Francesca Coppa in front of a packed Empie Theatre.

SGA Spurs GQ Lounge Dedication

By Heather Fox Lavin '08

The new and improved General's Quarters Lounge was dedicated January 22 in a ceremony that recognized a \$150,000 contribution from the Student Government Association (SGA).

Renovations were completed over winter break and resulted in a brighter and more flexible space with an open floor plan. Special features include new seating, environmentally-friendly lighting, a performance area and USB-charging receptacles. Members of the Board of Trustees, alumni, students, faculty and staff gathered in the new space to hear the story from President John I. Williams, Jr., Rebekkah L. Brown '99, vice president of advancement and current and former members of the SGA.

"The result is a dining room and social space that creates a unique and comfortable social place where our entire Muhlenberg community can gather for a meal, to engage in conversation or just to relax," said President Williams.

Though renovations were completed swiftly over winter break, the project began behind the scenes over two years ago. In 2013, SGA recognized a substantial amount of unused funds in their account. The group approached Glenn Gerchman, director of Seegers Union & Campus Events, about options for a purposeful use of the money. Matthew Dacher '16, former SGA treasurer, said "the point wasn't to just spend the money; we wanted to create an indelible mark on the Muhlenberg community."

The prospective gift was unanimously approved by the SGA General Assembly in December 2013, and the planning began immediately. Student leaders were included in the process through the Seegers Union Student Advisory Board. SUSAB contributed a great deal to the vision of the refreshed space by reviewing blueprints, furniture samples and lighting fixtures. Many people were involved, but Gerchman received credit for leading the project through the years.

"Glenn was an ever-constant resource and source of vision," said Rebecca Romano '14, former SGA president.

SGA is known for organizing events, meeting with administrators and funding student clubs, including 59 budget requests last semester. According to Christian Balodis '17, the newly elected SGA president, the



The renovated General's Quarters Lounge includes charging stations given by the Alumni Trust fund and approved by the Alumni Board.

organization is "...working toward one goal, and that's making Muhlenberg a happier and safer place for each and every member of this community."

President Williams reminded the crowd that this is the first in a series of renovations to Seegers Union. Future projects include expanding and renovating the GQ service area, information desk and the Seegers Union offices.

A new plaque was mounted in the GQ Lounge to recognize the contributions of the SGA.

The value of this renovation goes beyond comfort and appearance for Romano. Her final words to the crowd highlighted the value of giving back to Muhlenberg.

"I hope the success of this project serves as a reminder of the importance of giving - particularly student giving. As students and young alumni, we are the future of Muhlenberg."

EVENT SPEAKERS:

Rebekkah L. Brown '99, *Vice President of Advancement*

Matthew Dacher '16, *Seegers Union Student Advisory Board*

Christian Balodis '17, *Student Government Association President*

Rebecca Romano '14, *former Student Government Association President*

President John I. Williams, Jr.

To support Muhlenberg College, visit muhlenberg.edu/makeagift

MUHLENBERG MOMENTS

Faculty members earn tenure

Two members of the faculty were promoted to associate professor and granted tenure in January—Elizabeth Nathanson (media & communication) and William Gryc (mathematics & computer science).

Psych department earns top APA honor

The psychology department was awarded the American Psychology Association's 2015 Departmental Service Award, which recognizes departments that consistently support service by faculty and students, and demonstrate a commitment to service in the psychological sciences.

Kosher kitchen kudos

Jonathan Powers, Muhlenberg's "mashgiach," or supervisor of kosher food preparation, was featured in a Philadelphia Inquirer story this winter. Powers' mother is the kosher supervisor at Dickinson College and his father holds the job at Franklin & Marshall College.

Wounded Warrior speaks on campus

Marine Corps veteran Dan Lasko gave a lecture, "Wounded Warrior: Stronger Than Ever" at the Conrad W. Raker Lecture this fall. The event was co-sponsored by the College and Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network.

U.S. News: Muhlenberg Ranks Among Nation's Top Liberal Arts Colleges

Muhlenberg was ranked among the nation's top liberal arts colleges in U.S. News & World Report's 2016 Best Colleges ranking.

Muhlenberg was recognized in several categories: #72 (tie) National Liberal Arts Colleges and #52 (tie) Best Colleges for Veterans. The College also made the A-Plus Schools for B Students list.

The U.S. News National Liberal Arts Colleges rankings highlight schools that award at least half of their degrees in the liberal arts fields of study.

The Princeton Review also recognized Muhlenberg as one of the nation's best colleges for students seeking a superb education with great career preparation and an affordable price, according to their 2016 "Colleges That Pay You Back: The 200 Schools That Give You the Best Bang for Your Tuition."

Earlier in 2015, the College also earned a spot in the "The Best 380 Colleges: 2016 Edition," with a #6 ranking for "Best College Theater" and #17 for "Best Campus Food" from The Princeton Review.



Misinformation and Manipulative Practices were Focus of Center for Ethics Programming

The Center for Ethics has long encouraged the College community to carefully consider and discuss complex ethical issues. The 2015-16 school year was no exception.

With programming on topics ranging from the USA Patriot Act to whistleblowers and Edward Snowden and the War on Drugs to mass incarceration, the fall semester centered on the theme of "Influence & Information: Whose Safety/Whose Security?" An interview between Sunday Times of London security correspondent Richard Kerbaj and activist and former Islamic radical Maajid Nawaz was a highlight of the fall.

Spring semester programming centered on "Influence & Information: Manipulation Nation," which explored topics such as high-technology as a form of mind control, manipulative tactics used in health care industry public relations and the anti-vaccination movement.

ADVANCEMENT

*From the desk of Natalie Kulp Hand '78, P'07
Assistant Vice President, Alumni Affairs and Career Services*

Hold the Red Doors Open for the Students That Come Behind You

During a recent visit from my three-year-old granddaughter, Ada, a crisis of "no ice cream for a treat" was resolved by a trip to Weis. Given that our sole reason for the trip was to secure some Ben & Jerry's, I decided to make the excursion fun by giving Ada one of those small "customer in training" carts. But since I can't leave any grocery store without racking up \$50 worth of items, her cart filled up quickly.

As we headed for the ice cream, Ada decided that she wanted to sprint. Soon she was so far ahead of me that I called a caution to her to slow down and come back. She tried, but turning a shopping cart on a dime is apparently why customers need to train. The cart and its contents spilled. As I picked up my pace to get to her and the adults around her scanned the store for her caretaker, a young boy—no more than eight himself—ran over to Ada. He righted the cart, replaced the groceries, positioned her in the right direction and assured her that everything was okay.

The tears that threatened just moments before were forgotten, and Ada was once more the confident "customer in training." Before I could get there to thank him, the boy was gone.

What struck me about this simple act of kindness was that it was so pure. The young boy did not stop to think that there were others around who were more capable of helping. He did not stop to consider whether he could take the time out to help. He did not wait to be asked. He did not wait to be thanked. He simply saw someone in need and responded.

This issue of Muhlenberg magazine is filled with stories of alumni who have embarked on lives of service. Some have made service their profession; others as volunteers. As former Miss America Heather French Henry stated, "volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help."

Our campus is known for the small gesture of holding the red doors for whoever is coming behind. It makes a difference. For those of you who give the gift of time and financial support to help the next generation of Muhlenberg students, I want to thank you. For those of you who do not, I encourage you to consider holding the door for those students coming behind you.

Natalie Kulp Hand '78 P'07

Assistant Vice President, Alumni Affairs and Career Services

The Call to Serve

Community engagement and commitment to social justice are causes that are at the heart of the Muhlenberg experience. These passions connect to and expand upon the dedication to service that has been engrained in the fabric of the College since its 1848 founding.

Recalling the Muhlenberg family's long history of service and the College's commitment to community, President John I. Williams, Jr., in his inaugural address, said:

Throughout our history, the Muhlenberg experience has always been more than an opportunity to learn and grow. It is a call to action—to go above and beyond—and extend the power of our spirit and desire to achieve good.

Yes, at Muhlenberg, we are called to serve. We are called to look beyond ourselves in service to each other, our college, our community and the global communities of which we are a part.

At Muhlenberg, "service" is not something we do because it looks good on a resume. Service is not something we do solely because "it makes us feel good." No, at Muhlenberg, the call to serve is at the center of our ethos.

Spread throughout the pages of this issue of *Muhlenberg* magazine, you will read about alumni, students, faculty, staff and other members of the Muhlenberg community who have put that ethos into practice. These are the stories of individuals who have indeed gone Above and Beyond to affect change in their communities, from Allentown to Appalachia, Muhlenberg to Malawi.

What better place to begin learning about community change than those affecting it right here on campus, leaders of both today and tomorrow, Muhlenberg College students.

By working with the Office of Community Engagement (OCE) and others on campus, and largely through their own interests and initiative, students work to impact their communities both in the Lehigh Valley and beyond.

Students volunteer their time for a variety of organizations and causes including: Shape it Up! physical fitness program for elementary students; Caring Place after school youth development program; Habitat for Humanity; Best Buddies program for individuals with disabilities; America Reads literacy program for elementary students; College Connect program to bring students to campus; ESL/ELL programs; and more.

The motivation for students' engagement and interest in their communities is as varied as the students themselves. For Sophia Goodfellow '17, a trip to Honduras during high school opened her eyes to the realities of life there and why so many Hondurans choose to immigrate to the U.S. When she came to Muhlenberg and learned about the large immigrant population in the area, Goodfellow wanted to further understand the Allentown immigrant community, learn from them and provide what help she could. She started by teaching free English classes at Latino service nonprofit Casa Guadalupe, eventually getting involved in a number of organizations.

The motivation for Jose Flores '16 and Julia Burns '16 is deeply personal. For Burns, a sister with disabilities connected her to the Best Buddies program, as well as a number of other organizations. As someone who is a non-native speaker of English himself, Flores strives to help others learn the language. "I want to help because I know that a new language can be tricky to learn. It's that personal connection to the program that drives me," he says.

Texas native and transfer student Hannah Nussbaum '17 jumped head first into engagement within the Allentown community to ease her own challenging transition. "I moved across the country to come to Allentown. It was a very different environment than what I was used to, but being engaged in community makes me feel good, like I'm home," she says. Nussbaum knows firsthand how engaging someone, even in a small way, can make their day. She's seen it in her own life, as well as through Youth2Seniors, a Texas-based nonprofit she helped get up-and-running, which connects kids and seniors.

Regardless of motivation to get involved, students make one thing clear: as much as the community may benefit from their involvement, it's the students who are the real winners. They come away from each community engagement experience with a richer knowledge of the world, a new appreciation for the experiences of others and a better understanding of themselves and their future goals.

"I love working with the Allentown community and other communities. I love meeting new people and learning from them. Moreover, I enjoy the opportunity to be a part of change within individuals, including myself, as well as within the community," says Nick Ellen '16.

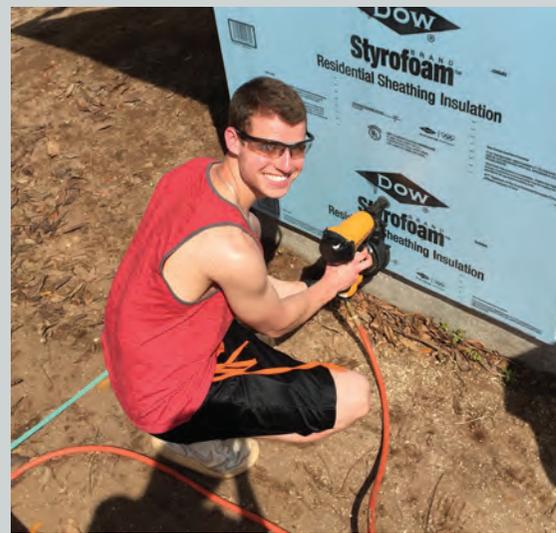
Read on to find out how just a few Muhlenberg students have made an impact on the world around them.

▼ NICK ELLEN '16

Studying: Neuroscience

Community involvement: OCE student worker, College Connect and Shape it Up coordinator, Habitat for Humanity vice president and spring break trip coordinator, Caring Place volunteer

"I don't wish to be an individual that goes into places and projects my assumptions of needs onto communities. I hope that through my community engagement work I can really propel change within systems, individuals and communities based on communities' self-identified desires."



▼ SIMONE BECKER '18

Studying: Theatre (directing and stage management) and elementary education

Community involvement: Muhlenberg Theatre Association (MTA) community engagement chair, coordinator of theatre workshops in local schools

"MTA has expanded our community engagement efforts this year, and we work on theatre arts workshops at Jefferson Elementary as well as at two local high schools. Building those partnerships has proven valuable both for the school districts that may not have resources to devote to theater and the Muhlenberg students who have the opportunity to design workshops around their areas of interest and teach others those skills."





◀ **JULIA BURNS '16**

Studying: Biology and sociology

Community involvement: OCE student worker and intern, Habitat for Humanity spring break trip leader, Best Buddies and America Reads volunteer

"I came to Muhlenberg looking for communities to get involved in. I'm glad I was able to make so many connections here. Part of the challenge moving forward into my career and life after Muhlenberg is figuring out how to continue to incorporate engagement into my life. Habitat has been a common thread since high school, so I will likely continue my work with them, and I look forward to seeing what other opportunities come along."



▲ **ADAM HALPERN '16**

Studying: Neuroscience and music

Community involvement: Circus Extravaganza workshop creator and coordinator (see more on page 4), Shape it Up! and Caring Place coordinator, Civic Fellow, APO community service fraternity officer

"When I participated in Civic Fellows, I was able to reflect on what community engagement means vs. community service, and I began to think about getting involved as a responsibility to the community I live in. Working with these different programs is the least I could do for a community that has given me so much. And these interactions are not only in one direction, me to the community. They're multidirectional. I've gotten so much out of my community experiences."

The Faces of Change

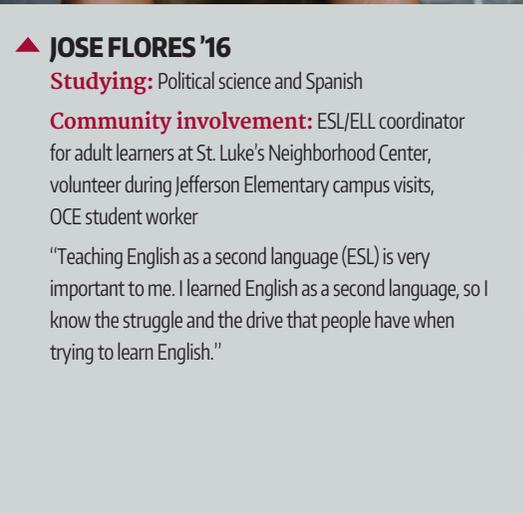
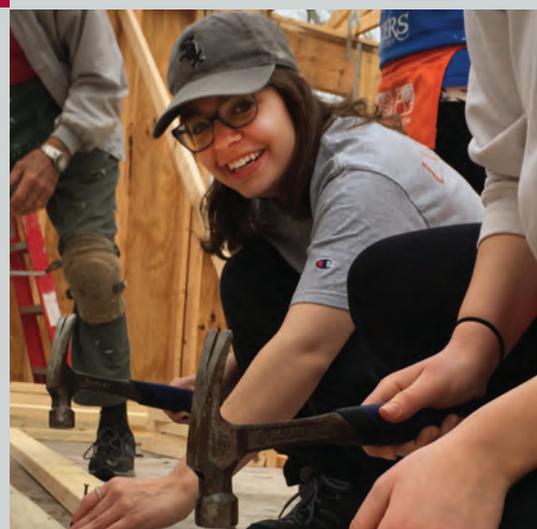


▼ **SOPHIA GOODFELLOW '17**

Studying: Spanish and international studies with a concentration in global public health

Community involvement: Civic Fellow, OCE's English Language Learning coordinator, community engagement coordinator for Costa Rica Muhlenberg Intergrated Learning Abroad (MILA) course, Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition and Grupo de Apoyo volunteer, immigrant rights activist

"Involvement in your community means using your passions and talents in order to contribute or help a neighbor. We live in Allentown—we aren't just residents of Muhlenberg, but of Allentown too—I think that's an important thing to understand. So many people in Allentown don't know that our College exists. To me, that just means that we need to be even more engaged."



▲ **HANNAH NUSSBAUM '17**

Studying: Neuroscience and Spanish

Community involvement: OCE intern, Civic Fellow, APO community service fraternity officer, AmericaReads, Best Buddies and Habitat for Humanity volunteer, Youth2Seniors board member

"Community engagement has been linked to my own sense of home and feeling good, so I know that I will continue to get involved, from incorporating small things into my daily life to taking on larger projects. Wherever I go in the future, it won't be home until I have that link to the community."

Biology and Sociology Meet at Lehigh Gap Nature Center



by Alexandra Loeser '16

Dr. Kimberly Heiman, lecturer for the biology department, and Dr. Benjamin Carter, assistant professor of anthropology, are two faculty members dedicated to instilling a mindset of engagement and awareness in their students.

They co-taught the cluster course “Sowing and Reaping: Human Use & Abuse of the Environment” for the past two years, in which service learning is a key component. Students fulfill this requirement by conducting projects at the Lehigh Gap Nature Center (LGNC), a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the restoration of the Lehigh Gap in Pennsylvania, located at the foot of the Kittatinny Ridge. This area had been ravaged by zinc smelting prior to the 1980s and is classified as a Superfund site.

Through the dual lenses of anthropology

and biology, students enrolled in the class engage in on-the-ground learning at the Center, touring, mapping and conducting research on the area.

“To me, that’s what a liberal arts education is,” says Carter. “Bringing students out of the classroom and working with members of the community to solve real-world problems.”

In the most recent iteration of the cluster, the students’ final projects included creating informational signage for the center and restoration plans for bringing back some of the biodiversity that has been lost to the area. The students engage in a mutually beneficial relationship with a particular service organization, gain an interest in and ability to make a difference and directly benefit the community.

“I think the most important thing we’ve



given the students is a reality in what real-world problems are like and what it takes to create real-world solutions,” says Heiman. “The solutions to large-scale problems come from collective, rather than individual efforts.”

The efforts of Heiman and Carter culminate in the intent to burst the “Muhlenbubble” and foster long-lasting interest in community engagement among their students.

Immigration Issues, Spanish Skills at Forefront of Students' Engagement with Local Hispanic Communities

by Alexandra Loeser '16

When Dr. Erika M. Sutherland, associate professor of Spanish, wraps up a class, her work is only half done. As director of the Grupo de Apoyo e Integración Hispanoamericano, an immigrant support group and network in the Allentown area, she seeks to provide education and empowerment to Hispanic immigrants. Sutherland and her Grupo volunteers work to advance immigration reform and to provide access to greater opportunities for members of the Hispanic immigrant community.

But that's not all. Sutherland also helped to design and implement the LVAIC Cooperative Spanish Service Learning Initiative, which brings students involved in Spanish programs at Lafayette, Cedar Crest, DeSales and Muhlenberg together to work with the Hispanic community. They engage in service opportunities such as teaching citizenship classes and helping to complete citizenship applications.

Back at 'Berg, Sutherland also teaches two service-learning courses—"Spanish for the Community: Interpretation" and "Spanish for the Community: Translation." Enrolled students are required to complete a number of service hours at a placement of their choice in the community. They spend the semester working within their placements to hone their Spanish skills and to engage with the community.

"Service learning placements give students a sense of why what they're learning in the classroom matters," says Sutherland. "As a teacher, I can tell students what is important to pay attention to, but it's not until they can see for themselves, out in the community, in a less-scripted or even unscripted environment, that students begin to get a sense of the difference they can make."



Dr. Erika Sutherland



Year of Service Springs from Muhlenberg's Lutheran Roots

Lutheran Volunteer Corps provides community and faith-based experiences



A common thread of community engagement at Muhlenberg over the years has been the connection between service and the College's Lutheran tradition.

This is evident, for example, in the significant role College Chaplain Callista Isabelle plays when it comes to service trips to places like New Orleans and Florida over school breaks. It is also evident in the choice some alumni make when they feel called to do a year of service after graduation.

The Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) offers an alternative to programs like the Peace Corps, while encouraging participants to get involved and make a difference in a community, right here in the U.S.

LVC volunteers spend a year living in a community, serving at a social justice nonprofit and practicing simple and sustainable living, while exploring spirituality.

"LVC presents people—particularly young folks—with a really good and different view of the world. Volunteers see how individuals from different backgrounds live, while living with others going through similar experiences. Those insights

can be powerful and life-changing," says Julie Hamre '72, who serves as LVC comptroller. Hamre has been involved with LVC since its early existence, as the program began (and offices remain) at her home congregation.

Bruce Albright '74, a member of LVC's Board of Directors, also has connections to the program since its early days too. Albright sees other benefits to the program, as individuals consider a year of service, "LVC is a very accepting organization. The program is welcoming to a diverse set of volunteers, and that can be comforting for an individual who is concerned about being accepted for who they are. At LVC, you have a safe haven, and that's important, because doing volunteer work can be stressful. Having the support of housemates who are going through the same experiences is vital."

For two Muhlenberg grads (coincidentally both named Amy), who graduated almost three decades apart, the draw of LVC was similar: they wanted to engage in a community while working on social justice issues and living with other volunteers, all while exploring their faith more deeply. LVC's three tenets—building community, working for justice and living simply and sustainability—were a slam dunk.

"I knew other people who had volunteered for LVC, and it seemed like a good fit for me. I wasn't quite ready to go to grad school, and

Amy Asendorf

If you make the time to sacrifice a year of your life to provide service to others, you gain something intangible that will serve you well personally and professionally.

– Bruce Albright '74



Amy Reumann

LVC's three tenets were appealing to me. I embraced the opportunity to be with like-minded people," says Amy Reumann '85, who served in Jersey City, N.J. soon after graduation.

"I wanted to experience a year of service to gain skills and work experience in a non-profit setting as well as to experience intentional community with an emphasis on spirituality," adds Amy Asendorf '13, who served in Baltimore City, Md. in 2014 and 2015. "Entering my LVC year, I planned to attend seminary the following fall, and thought it would be wise to learn the skills involved in managing a nonprofit, case managing with individuals and families and even offering pastoral care to the clients. I was also excited about living with other adults who were interested in social justice in an urban setting and growing with them."

Reumann is grateful for the variety of experiences she had during her time with LVC in the '80s. Among those experiences were time with an emergency food program and tenant and community organizing groups, where she tried to learn as much as she could about people in need and connect them with the necessary services.

"My job was to know everyone, including people who lived on the street and lived marginally. My job was hearing their stories," said Reumann, who designed her own major around religion and international affairs. "That taught me a lot of compassion, and a lot about the root causes of poverty and how complex it is. Having those relationships with people with different experiences set the tone for the rest of my life. After LVC, I was better able to understand people I may not identify with."

Asendorf, too, appreciated her experiences and the impact they had. She served at St. Peter's Adult Learning Center as a case manager and instructor for adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. She embraced St. Peter's mission to empower these adults to be contributing, self-sufficient and dignified members of society. Asendorf's role was to assist clients with finding employment, to supervise volunteer sites and experiences such as the Salvation Army or the Dollar Tree, to document community activities through case management and to attend client meetings. She says her experiences opened her eyes to the deficiencies of integrated social programming for individuals with disabilities, as well as the lack of meaningful discourse about the challenges these individuals face.

Both Reumann and Asendorf acknowledge that their LVC year was a significant experience in preparation for their careers and future. Asendorf is now in her first year of studying for her Masters of Divinity at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). She hopes to graduate in the spring of 2019 and be ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) as a Lutheran pastor.

After LVC, Reumann pursued a one-year internship with the United Nations and the Lutheran Church, during which time she continued to work on social justice issues, before going to seminary, moving around to several congregations and eventually returning to social justice. She is now the director of advocacy for the ELCA.

"My work with pastors in Jersey City during my LVC service changed my idea of what pastors could be. They were engaged and out

on the street. Their ministry was their whole neighborhood. I liked that concept," Reumann says. "Now, in my current role, I recently applied to have an LVC volunteer join us next year. It's funny how things come full circle, and I look forward to seeing the impact LVC has on someone else's life."

Albright agrees that a year of service like the one LVC offers can be invaluable when pursuing one's career. He argues that if an individual takes the skills learned at Muhlenberg, and builds upon them with what is learned during a year with LVC, those experiences and skills will carry that person into whatever comes next.

He adds, "As someone who hires for the federal government, if I see some sort of service on a resume, I want to hire them. That individual will be more mature than those coming directly out of school. They've had experiences with real people with real problems and worked with a service agency with a small budget. People like that find solutions for challenges and learn to get along with all sorts. They have seen life from a different perspective, including a lot of social injustice. If you make the time to sacrifice a year of your life to provide service to others, you gain something intangible that will serve you well personally and professionally. The year of service instills a self-awareness in you that cannot be taught."

Reumann and Asendorf are just two of a number of Muhlenberg graduates who have served through LVC. Want to share your experience? Contact us at magazine@muhlenberg.edu. To find out what another LVC alumna is up to today, check out the story on Carolyn Albright '83 on page 19.



Diverse Experiences Abroad Attract Grads to Peace Corps

Much in the same way Muhlenberg grads are drawn to domestic service in programs like the Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Teach for America and AmeriCorps, many alumni find the potential to serve in a new country appealing.

A desire to immerse oneself in a new culture and community to affect change, combined with a sense of adventure and wanderlust, make the Peace Corps the perfect service commitment for many individuals after graduation.

Over the past decade, 24 Muhlenberg graduates have served as Peace Corps Volunteers (PCV), and since the Peace Corps began in 1961, almost 100 Muhlenberg alumni have served overseas.

Read on to find out more about some of the alumni who have joined the Peace Corps.

These are just a few of the almost 100 Muhlenberg graduates who have served as Peace Corps Volunteers. Want to share your experience? Contact us at magazine@muhlenberg.edu.

Scott (Boyd) Anders '91 *Peace Corps Mali*

What did you study, and what were your extracurricular interests at Muhlenberg?

I studied international politics, and was a resident assistant and founded the Outing Club.

Why did you want to join the Peace Corps?

I wanted to live abroad and I was considering a career in international development.

What was your role in Mali?

I worked in a five-village region to introduce new agricultural and health ideas, including cultivating and incorporating into the local diet soy beans, building wood-saving mud stoves and coordinating AIDS and family planning education.

How did your Peace Corps experience impact you?

It was life changing in many ways. For one, I met my wife there. She was also a PCV and it has been a long-lasting Peace Corps romance. My Peace Corps experience also altered my thinking about just about every aspect of my life, from what it takes to be happy to how to be resourceful to understanding that no matter their background, most people are pretty much the same, and want the same things out of life.

What has your path been like since Muhlenberg and the Peace Corps?

I went into Peace Corps the winter following my

graduation from Muhlenberg. After Peace Corps, I went to graduate school to get a masters from the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy. From there I worked at a small policy think tank in Washington D.C. that focused on economic solutions to environmental problems. We were doing research on environmental taxes like carbon taxes. After that, I moved to San Diego and started working at the Center for Sustainable Energy. I was one of the first employees and had the experience of building an

organization. After that, I came to the University of San Diego to launch the Energy Policy Initiatives Center, an academic and research center that focuses on climate and energy policy.

Do you have anything else to add about your experiences?

I think Peace Corps is a wonderful experience and would encourage students to consider it. I recall having a conversation with someone right before graduation. When I told her I



was wanted to go to Peace Corps for two years, she thought that was a long time. It may seem like a long time to a 20-year-old, but there is no better time in your life to take on such an adventure. In reality, my time in Mali flew by. Looking back, those two years seem like a small blip on the timeline of my life. Bottom line: if you are considering Peace Corps but have concerns about the time commitment, don't worry about it and go for it!



Heather Harlen '97

Peace Corps Russia

What did you study, and what were your extracurricular interests at Muhlenberg?

I was an English major with secondary English education certification. I was a campus tour guide and worked with teen moms at William Allen High School through the Second Chance program.

Why did you want to join the Peace Corps?

Peace Corps was the perfect combination of service, teaching and travel. I knew that when I went to college, it was time to spread my wings and fly out of northeastern Pennsylvania. My first stop was Allentown at Muhlenberg. Then I studied in Spain the spring of my junior year and solidified my love of travel. Dr. Gillian Schofer was an education department professor who was instrumental in helping me and other classmates apply to Peace Corps. She provided a support network, which helped me through the process.

What was your role in Russia?

I was on the foreign language faculty and taught English to fourth - 11th graders. I also became very involved with a program called The Center for Humanitarian Aid. We provided meals, clothing and other support to homeless people.

How did your Peace Corps experience impact you?

The impact of my Peace Corps experience is still revealing itself 17 years later. At first, it was about sustaining my love of culture, travel and teaching. As I get older, I feel more of a responsibility to share culture and social issues with my students, friends and family. Living in Russia has also made me love winter and taught me a lot about the value of hospitality. Russians may be gruff to strangers, but when they welcome you to their home, you're never a stranger again. It has also deeply influenced my writing, since I am the author of a thriller trilogy. You can find out more at HeatherHarlen.com.

What has your path been like since Muhlenberg and the Peace Corps?

After Peace Corps, I moved to northern Virginia and lived with fellow Muhlenberg alumna, Johanna Hollway '97. I worked at the Institute of International Education in Washington, D.C. for two years but missed teaching, so I

taught at a therapeutic, alternative high school in Fairfax County, Va. My husband and I then moved back to Pennsylvania and settled in the Lehigh Valley. I have been working for the Allentown School District, where I am currently an English teacher at Building 21, a new, competency-based high school. I am a National Writing Project Fellow and have taught for Penn State Lehigh Valley. I am also a writer. My first book, HOPE YOU GUESS MY NAME: A THRILLER, was published recently by Northampton House Press, an independent press from Virginia. I'm working on the edits for the sequel, SHAME, SHAME I KNOW YOUR NAME.

Do you have anything else to add about your experiences?

The tagline for Peace Corps used to be "The toughest job you'll ever love," and it was totally true. Peace Corps isn't for everyone. You need to be able to embrace discomfort, uncertainty and loneliness. It was also one of the most fun, exciting and rewarding times in my life. Every day was literally an adventure. From working at an English language immersion camp to befriending a homeless man named Vladimir who spoke perfect English to playing American field day games with my fourth graders, it was worth all of the tears and frustration. I am so grateful to my Russian students, friends and colleagues who taught me so much about life and grit.

David Cooper '11

Peace Corps Paraguay

What did you study, and what were your extracurricular interests at Muhlenberg?

I was a philosophy major and political science minor. I was also involved in the RJ Fellows Program, and through that program, went to Costa Rica with Dr. Rich Niesenbaum for two weeks. Two other experiences that were incredibly influential were my role as a Writing Center tutor and the student-run pep band.

Why did you want to join the Peace Corps?

I had an interest in the State Department and foreign service, but opportunities for that just didn't work out. 'Berg was culturally very different from where I grew up in rural Maine, so I knew that I wanted to travel and explore more cultures.

What was your role in Paraguay?

I was a rural health and sanitation volunteer, which, at the time, was in transition to becoming a "community health" volunteer. I was picked to do that because I had experience doing construction work on my house in Maine with my family. Our group was a diverse mix of people with construction, engineering and health backgrounds. I was in one of the most rural communities, a group of 75 houses that had never had a Peace Corps Volunteer before. The people there did a lot of subsistence agriculture, grew sugarcane, made charcoal from burning wood and sold cheap commodities. They lived OK, but never really got ahead. I spent a lot of time getting to know my community and their needs. I lived with nine different host families, more than most PCVs, while I worked on my own house. I worked with brick cook stoves for the community, and the community got a water tank while I was there. But my biggest project ended up being my work at the school, where I taught a lot on oral health and tooth brushing. It started when I read a "Mr. Brush" story from another volunteer to the kids, and they loved it so much that I wrote a series of other stories to continue to read to kids. My Writing Center experience really came in handy for that project!



continued on next page

How did your Peace Corps experience impact you?

I can't say how much I appreciate the time I spent in my community. While one of the goals of the Peace Corps is development, the other, equally important goal, is cultural exchange. I tried to strike a balance between the two, but the cultural exchange was so enriching to me. I learned that while one person in one community has a much smaller impact than, say, a big foundation can make, that's a deliberate choice on the part of the Peace Corps. That enables volunteers to really get to know their communities and focus on projects attuned to those communities. One of the accomplishments I'm most proud of is that I learned the local language, Guarani, while I was there. The people I was working with appreciated that. It showed my interest and commitment to their community.

What has your path been like since Muhlenberg and the Peace Corps?

I returned to the United States in April 2014. I received a scholarship to attend Middlebury Language Schools for Portuguese. I did a short stint with the Maine People's Alliance doing campus voter registration. I then applied for an AmeriCorps job in Reno, Nev. After about six months in the role, my boss left, and I was hired in his place. So, I'm currently working as a legal representative for an immigration assistance program, and seeking accreditation.

Josh McHale '98

Peace Corps Morocco

What did you study, and what were your extracurricular interests at Muhlenberg?

I was a biology major and had an interest in pre-med. I was also involved in a fraternity on campus.

Why did you want to join the Peace Corps?

I have wanted to be in the Peace Corps since high school, and it was actually my parents who introduced me to the idea. In high school, I met someone who served through City Year in the U.S., and that sort of got the ball rolling. When I was a junior at Muhlenberg, I saw an ad for Peace Corps on a bulletin board and began the process. I knew I wanted to be in the healthcare field (and I still do, in fact). Peace Corps offered me the opportunity to get hands-on experience in the healthcare field. It was something I could do immediately without much training.

What was your role in Morocco?

I was at a rural site. I lived in a mud house with no running water or electricity. It was pretty much your stereotypical Peace Corps experience. I was a health

and sanitation volunteer, so I taught the people in the community about water sanitation and other related topics.

How did your Peace Corps experience impact you?

I had a hands-on, ground-level experience in healthcare. I quickly learned that without the healthcare structure we have in the U.S., many people are left to fend for themselves. I also learned a lot about various healthcare-related career paths outside of the traditional. Peace Corps changed my career trajectory. I originally thought I wanted to be a direct care provider, but that experience sent me into the public health sphere.

What has your path been like since Muhlenberg and the Peace Corps?

From 2001-2003, I pursued my master of public health in epidemiology at the University of Michigan. I stayed in Michigan for a while working for a healthcare nonprofit before moving back to Massachusetts to do healthcare consulting, working for the commonwealth, and doing healthcare research at Boston Children's. I now work at a local hospital group doing healthcare analytics.





Megan (Wilhelm) Nejjari '07

Peace Corps Morocco

What did you study, and what were your extracurricular interests at Muhlenberg?

I majored in international studies with a concentration in conflict and peace studies. I was involved in a number of organizations and activities on campus, including Muhlenberg Activities Council, head of security for concerts and comedians, student advisor for the class of 2008, Phi Mu Fraternity (secretary

2004-2006), community service at Jefferson Elementary School, Seegers Information Desk worker and intramural soccer.

Why did you want to join the Peace Corps?

I've always been fascinated by other countries and cultures, and I have a passion for helping people. Peace Corps fit these passions perfectly. Becoming a PCV was important to me, because it was a way for me to learn about other peoples and cultures while giving them the technical assistance they need as well as learn more about myself. Growing up, I had traveled extensively but had never lived or worked overseas, and I wanted that experience. Peace Corps gave me that opportunity.

What was your role in Morocco?

I was a youth development volunteer. Those volunteers work with youth, up to age 35 in Morocco, and women on a variety of projects and programs. I taught English and aerobics, assistant coached a girls' soccer team, facilitated an HIV/AIDS peer education and leadership workshop and assisted with camps, including a Girls Leading Our World (GLOW) camp for girls and young women to provide leadership and self-esteem training in a fun atmosphere.

How did your Peace Corps experience impact you?

I've become a much more open and patient person. Before living in Morocco, I had only read and studied

about Islam and Arab culture. Living there taught me more about the nuances of Islam, how Muslims live their daily lives and that not all residents are Arab—I lived in a Amazigh (Berber) community. Much of what I experienced has changed my outlook on life. I want to spend my life assisting others, whether through development or education or direct assistance. I will definitely spend the rest of my life traveling and learning as much as I can about the world around me.

What has your path been like since Muhlenberg and the Peace Corps?

After graduation, I worked as a government contractor in Washington, D.C. for 4 ½ years. At the same time, I taught dance classes at the studio where I grew up in northern Virginia. While in Morocco, I met and married my husband, who has since immigrated and joined me in the United States. Post-Peace Corps, I returned to the U.S. and moved to Virginia Beach where I work as the community health worker network coordinator at the Virginia Beach Department of Public Health.

Do you have anything else to add about your experiences?

The best piece of advice I can give for anyone thinking about joining Peace Corps is the same advice I received from a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer: "Do it. You'll never regret going, but you'll regret not trying." I am so glad I listened.

Mark Cunningham '97

Peace Corps Romania

What did you study, and what were your extracurricular interests at Muhlenberg?

I was a philosophy/political thought major and environmental studies minor. I was pretty focused on my studies, making friends and social networking.

Why did you want to join the Peace Corps?

My time at Muhlenberg was transformative as I'm sure it is for many students; however the experience was somewhat sheltered – very safe in so many ways. By the end of my senior year I was eager for a profound life experience, a challenge, something that exposed me to another way of life, an experience that hurled me way out of my comfort zone.

What was your role in Romania?

I was based in Alesd in northwestern Romania. I taught ESL to grades K – VIII, organized an afterschool clean-up, raised funding to build a new elementary school fence and ran a radio show in Pitesti during the Peace Corps training program.

How did your Peace Corps experience impact you?

After an experience like that, there is really no turning back. It lit a fire for me that continues to smolder 15 years later. We are only on this planet for a short period of time, and we should do all we can to leave behind a legacy of service and commitment to the betterment of our future generations. It's that "we're all in this together" kind of mindset. I remain both personally and professionally connected to Romania and Eastern Europe.

Serving as a Peace Corps volunteer was fulfilling on many different levels, both personally and socially. I learned a great deal about myself, but more importantly I also realized that we are all human with many of the same worries, shortfalls, dreams, priorities, wants and desires. I was able to learn a great deal about a country, its language(s), culture(s), food and neighborhoods. It's a really small world we live in, and at the time I was amazed at how influential America is to so many people around the world. The Peace Corps is a real-life opportunity for Americans to serve as cultural ambassadors (hopefully correcting some of the misunderstandings and stereotypes) in sometimes very rural parts of the world and at the same time internalize how other people live outside this country.



What has your path been like since Muhlenberg and the Peace Corps?

In 2000, I married a wonderful woman I met during my service. Her family remains in both Alesd and Cluj, Romania. In 2001, I earned my master of arts from the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary, soon thereafter returning to the U.S. Once back in the States, I worked for the Schuylkill River Greenway Association and then the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) in Washington D.C. and Bucharest, Romania. I now work in Washington D.C. for TechSoup, a company that equips changemakers with transformative technology solutions and skills they need to improve lives globally and locally.

Completing the Circle

Alumni Return to the Lehigh Valley (and 'Berg) to Make a Difference

They pursued different paths on campus—some led to internships, some to the chapel, others to the residence hall—but many of the service-oriented grads profiled in this issue got their start, or at least their push, toward their life's work at Muhlenberg.

Though some took circuitous routes, the individuals below found their way back to the Lehigh Valley, which is the center of their service work.



Deb Cummins '84

Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley

As CEO of Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley, Cummins runs a non-profit affiliated with Habitat for Humanity International, a global organization that has provided housing for more than two million people in American communities and around the world. The Lehigh Valley affiliate is one of 1,500 in this country, charged with finding homes for hardworking, disadvantaged families, who contribute 250 hours of what the organization calls "sweat equity" to build their home and the homes of neighbors.

At 'Berg, Cummins majored in social work, which is no longer a major at the College. "We only had about six people in the program," remembers Cummins, "and half of our classes were at Cedar Crest. But it was very, very important for my future. It prepared me so well for what I do now, the writing, the emphasis on a holistic approach. I see now the value of a liberal arts education and how it helps you with critical thinking."

After Muhlenberg, Cummins got a master's in organizational development from Villanova. But as befitting someone who never stopped moving on the Muhlenberg campus, Cummins never stopped moving after she got her advanced degree. Her first stop was back on campus, where from 1986 to 1991 she served as Muhlenberg's director of activities, where her busy docket included opening the Red Door Café and overseeing the Emerging Leaders program.

Over the next dozen years she worked at Lafayette College and Moravian Academy and found time to start her own leadership consulting firm before she became Habitat's leader.

And things continued to come full circle for Cummins. She came back to campus where she connected with Beth Halpern, 'Berg's director of community engagement, and together they re-invigorated a Habitat chapter that has gone on to be extremely successful.

"Coming back here and getting this going," says Cummins, "that's the heart of the story for me."

Stefan Goslawski '68

Community Bike Works

Goslawski's commitment to service began on wheels. He was a teacher, a bicycle shop owner and mechanic when in 1994 he read a Parade magazine story about a program in Indianapolis called Bicycle Action Project that was geared toward getting inner-city kids off of drugs and onto recreational activities such as bike riding. Over the years, Goslawski had sponsored and provided charity rides, but he didn't think much about the article until two weeks later when he received a letter from a woman in Allentown who had taught inner-city kids to sew. She had enclosed the Parade article and a brief note that said: Wouldn't it be neat if Allentown had such a program?

It clicked, and Goslawski began a long climb (bike riders are used to that; Goslawski did solo rides from Allentown to Florida and once ripped off a 1,300-mile trip in 11 days) to start Community Bike Works (CBW), which in 1997 incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. As CBW's executive director, Goslawski worked tirelessly to expand the group's flagship programs, Earn a Bike, Earn a Book and Afternoon Drop-In.

In all of those programs, inner-city kids work with adult mentors to learn not just the specifics of bike mechanics and safety but also responsibility and the core skills of reading and writing. Under Goslawski's leadership, about 3,500 kids have

participated in Earn a Bike since 1995 and over 80% of them have completed the program and earned a bike. CBW's volunteers have donated over 44,000 hours, worth over \$1 million. Its board of directors includes Karen Green, Muhlenberg's dean of students and vice president for student affairs.

Goslawski stepped down as CEO last July, but that didn't bring an end to his volunteering. His service commitments now include the Lehigh County Children and Youth Advisory Board, Apprise Medicare, Global Impactors and the Allentown Public Theater.

"The theatre work was on my bucket list," says Goslawski. "When I had a small role in 'Born Yesterday,' my blood pressure skyrocketed from 115/80 to 165/110, so I decided to use my skills as a stage manager, an assistant director and serving on various committees. I've always been involved with children as a teacher and coach, so I decided it was time to learn something new. That's the reason for my new venture in Medicare counseling."



Carolyn '83 and Tom Albright '84

Ripple Church

For the Albrights, the circle leads back to Muhlenberg, also. They are the pastors at Ripple Church, which they describe as a "Christ-centered, community-focused church that focuses its service at the margins of the community."

Diane Williams, wife of Muhlenberg's president, has met with Ripple pastors and congregants, and several Muhlenberg students have begun gravitating to Ripple, including Chris Baumgartel, a junior international studies major from South Jersey.

"Religion was not a major part of my life when I got to Muhlenberg, but things started to change when I was a sophomore," says Baumgartel. "And Ripple has been a big part of that transformative process."

Starting when they were students, the Muhlenberg chapel has been a big part of the Albrights' transformative process, too. The former Carolyn Magan was president of the Muhlenberg Christian Fellowship, which met in the chapel, when Tom wandered in one day, needing something to rekindle his faith. They started dating. They eventually got engaged in the chapel, married in the chapel, and several years ago chose that spot to renew their marital vows.

As students, Carolyn and Tom were involved with not just the Christian Fellowship, but also Alpha Phi Omega, the national service fraternity. Carolyn was a tour guide and a member of the choir, and Tom participated in a program called Adopted Grandparents in which he visited with an older gentleman in Allentown. They also attended off-campus Bible studies at Macungie Baptist Church, where the pastor at that time was Doug Seidel, a 1971 Muhlenberg grad.

But the call to service wasn't clear, at least for Tom. After graduation, Carolyn (a biology major) went off to Washington D.C. to participate in the Lutheran Volunteer Corps (check out our story on the LVC on page 12), while Tom, a business administration major, interned at a local restaurant with the thought that he would take over the family restaurant business. But things began to change when he took a couple of education electives during his senior year. Those courses involved working with kids, and that began to change his ideas about a life path.



After marriage, Carolyn returned from Washington and they both got education degrees at Lehigh. They joined a local Presbyterian church—the denomination wasn't important; Carolyn was Lutheran and Tom was UCC—and eventually moved to a Mennonite church closer to home. One day they were asked to meet with the bishop.

"We figured we had broken some rule," says Tom, laughing. It turned out that the bishop wanted them to become the

congregation ministers. Tom became ordained at the Eastern Mennonite Seminary six years ago and Carolyn will receive her ordination this year.

Eventually, the Albrights felt the call to, as Tom says, "minister more to the community." This led to their establishing Ripple Church, formed around the idea that service leads to a positive ripple effect through the community. The church met in various places around downtown Allentown, outgrowing all of them, before finding its current home at St. Paul's Lutheran on Eighth and Walnut streets.

Though Ripple is affiliated with the Franconia Mennonite Conference, the Albrights' ministry does not follow the ultraconservative tenets of that faith. "We have those same values of community and simplicity," says Tom, "but we consider what we do as church from the edge." They provide urban families in need with food, housing and clothing and sometimes negotiate the legal system, always with a Christ-centered philosophy.

Keep in mind that the Albrights both have full-time jobs—Carolyn as a fourth grade teacher in the Northampton School District, Tom as a career counselor for special education students at Freedom High School in the Bethlehem Area School District. But that's what service is all about—finding more than 24 hours in a day to get everything done.

Karen (Grady) Shoemaker '83

The Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties

Shoemaker moved around a bit after graduation before coming back to the Lehigh Valley, where she now heads the Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties, a service organization that each year provides a variety of programs and services for more than 1,900 Lehigh Valley children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. And she, too, has looped back not only to the Lehigh Valley but also to Muhlenberg, where she is a member of the College's Board of Associates, an organization of business, professional and civic leaders committed to fostering community understanding and support of the College.

Shoemaker's inclination toward service started with a college internship when she was a senior. "I had a wonderful experience at Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Services," says Shoemaker, a sociology major. "I was very interested in things related to human services and the mission of working with people with disabilities. My experience there just solidified what I was already thinking about."

Shoemaker, who got a master's degree in general administration and health care administration from the University of Maryland, eventually ended up as the associate executive director with United Cerebral Palsy of Washington and Northern Virginia before returning to the Lehigh Valley to take the reins at ARC in 1999.

But like so many of the grads who have given themselves to service, Shoemaker traces her life path back to 'Berg.

"I had some wonderful faculty who made an impact on me," she says. "There was always a very good feeling of community at Muhlenberg. And to be able to come back and watch the College grow has been very special."



These are just a few of the grads who have given so much of their lives to service. Let us know about others at magazine@muhlenberg.edu!

From Appalachia to Malawi

'Berg grads bring medical help to those who need it most.

by Jack McCallum '71 Guest Editor

For dozens of children in a women's crisis center on Long Island, Dr. Alan Greenfield is Santa Claus. In a literal sense. Every year during the holiday season, Greenfield dons the red suit, brings along his fiancé and kids to act as Santa's helpers, and does the ho-ho-ho thing, just one manifestation of a long line of service acts performed by this Good Samaritan/board-certified radiologist. For some citizens in Malawi, Dr. James Weis was Santa Claus, too, just without the suit. Weis just returned in January from a three-week stint in the landlocked southeastern African country where he performed—gratis of course—spinal surgery in a country that has one spinal surgeon for 15 million inhabitants.

Dr. Alan Greenfield '82

Greenfield brought the idea of service with him when he matriculated at 'Berg from his Long Island home of Roslyn in 1979. He was already one of the youngest CPR instructors in New York State when he applied. "For all I know," says Greenfield, "it helped me gain acceptance."

While at Muhlenberg, Greenfield volunteered with the Cetronia Ambulance Corps and in the summers worked at St. Francis Hospital on Long Island, always with the thought that medicine and service would be an important part of his life.

After graduating with a double major in natural sciences and psychology, Greenfield went to med school at the Sackler School of Medicine New York State Program of Tel Aviv University in Israel and then began his professional life in radiology. But that was only part of his life. CPR and emergency medicine engaged him as much as radiology, and he stayed up-to-date on techniques, which is why Sept. 11, 2001, meant something different to him than it did to most of us.

"Like everyone else I was watching the TV in horror when a banner came up saying that medical personnel were needed at Ground Zero," Greenfield says. "I felt a need to go. So I called the number, and the Suffolk County police took me to the police in Nassau County, who took me to Ground Zero."

In 2010, Greenfield heard about the horrific earthquake that hit near Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. A couple days later he was at Kennedy Airport with his passport and rescue gear. "For a week I lived outside on a tarp set up on a concrete block," said Greenfield, who helped set up a makeshift radiology center. "The things I saw—the violence, the drive-by shootings, the Haitian doctors who left the country instead of staying to treat their people—were disgraceful."

“I was just born this way, born wanting to help people. It's addictive. I honestly believe if you change the



Greenfield says he won't go back to Haiti, but he will be returning to the hills of Appalachia, where he works with the Health Wagon, a mobile clinic that was featured on "60 Minutes," which is where Greenfield heard about it. "I have to be a part of this," said Greenfield, and for the past two Julys he has been, administering radiological needs and emergency patchups to needy folks in rural southwest Virginia and the surrounding areas.

This past July, Greenfield was joined by Dr. Brad Cohen, a classmate and member of Muhlenberg's Board of Observers, who in turn brought along his daughter.

That was still not enough for the energetic Greenfield, who is able to (somewhat) manage his time because he does most of his radiological business from home, reading scans and filing reports via the Internet. He has manned the medical tent at Special Olympics events, and for the past two holiday seasons he has done his Santa thing at Bethany House in Baldwin, N.Y., a shelter for women in crisis.

"I wouldn't miss it for the world," he says. "I wouldn't miss any of this. I hate to sound mushy, but I was just born this way, born wanting to help people. It's addicting and it makes me feel good. I honestly believe if you change the life of one person, you've change the world."

Dr. James Weis '79

Weis's call to service came later in life. The Williamsport, Pa. native was a member of the Cardinal Key Society and a resident advisor but acknowledged that, like most of us, the majority of his Muhlenberg time was taken up by studies and friends. But who knows what unconscious influences teachers and coursework have on a person?

"Dr. Vos's Contemporary Drama course, Dr. Weintraub's Contemporary Art course, Tom Sternal's sculpture classes and a winter term course in the Florida Everglades are particularly memorable," says Weis. "They were important to me in learning to see the world from a different perspective."

Weis always had wanderlust. After graduation, he embarked on a long motorcycle trip around the United States, zooming back from Seattle to Philadelphia in five days to accept a place in Temple's medical school.

In 1989, as he was beginning to figure out whether he wanted to continue with his career in family medicine or switch to surgery, Weis and his wife took a car trip you won't find in the Fodor guide—Paris to Nairobi. "My goal had actually been to drive around the world," says Weis, "but reality whittled it down to this. Nevertheless, it was an extraordinary trip. The most amazing part was what we found in Uganda. This was post-Idi Amin, an utterly devastated area, thousands of orphans. It was hard to get it out of my mind."



He never did. Weis decided to go into spinal surgery full-time, and, after six additional years of training, he is now with Orthopedic Associates located in Allentown. "Just like in Tom Sternal's sculpture class, I find myself with a mallet and chisel," says Weis, "but instead of admiring my sculpture in the Center of the Arts, I'm admiring an X-ray in the operating room."

In January, Weis volunteered, through an organization called Health Volunteers Overseas, to spend three weeks in the impoverished country of Malawi. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter, both of whom worked in an orphanage. He admitted that it was partly a call to service and partly a desire to expand his medical horizons and see something new.

"From an education standpoint, there was so much to be learned over there," says Dr. Weis. "Pathologies that you just don't commonly see here. But it goes beyond that. I worked with an extraordinary surgeon named Nyengo Mkandawire, and to see what he does with limited resources is amazing. You realize how lucky you have it. And it inspires you to do more."

He plans to make more of these trips, maybe to India, maybe back to Africa. Who knows? A man with a scalpel, a thirst for travel and a desire to do good can accomplish amazing things.

Greenfield and Weis are just two examples of Muhlenberg grads who use their medical training to give back. Let us know of others at magazine@muhlenberg.edu!

and it makes me feel good.

the life of one person, you've change the world." – Dr. Alan Greenfield

Mules Lend a Helping Hoof:

Athletes engage in service locally and nationally

For many college athletes, “going back to basics” means setting aside the more advanced aspects of higher-level competition to return to fundamentals, kind of like going back to elementary school. But several members of Muhlenberg’s basketball and volleyball teams did exactly that in the literal sense.

The 'Berg basketball teams, in conjunction with the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, pay an annual visit to Jefferson Elementary in Allentown, stressing to the kids the importance of reading and helping them draw pictures of their hopes and dreams. The women’s volleyball team also goes back to school, reading to students at another city elementary school, Sacred Heart.

Muhlenberg teams have also hosted local students to celebrate National Girls and Women in Sport Day. Several dozen elementary and middle school girls from Allentown come to campus and learn the basics in a variety of sports. When the sessions are over the Mule athletes talk to them about making healthy choices in their daily lives.

This past fall Muhlenberg partnered with Mercy School for Special Learning, which caters to students with special needs, for the first Mercy Awareness Day, which took place on the day of the season-ending football game against Moravian. Mercy’s students were recognized at halftime, and T-shirt sales benefited the school.



OTHER EFFORTS BY MUHLENBERG TEAMS TO SUPPORT THOSE LESS FORTUNATE INCLUDE:

- Volleyball joins the other 10 Centennial Conference schools in the annual “Dig for a Cure” campaign to raise money for Tanner’s Touch, a foundation that supports pediatric cancer research and families of children with cancer. The volleyball team has also hosted a Zumba-thon to benefit Autism Society Lehigh Valley and several youth clinics.
- The football team has a spring tradition of participating in lift-a-thons that have raised more than \$10,000 for Lauren’s First and Goal, a charitable organization that provides financial support for brain tumor and cancer services, offers financial and emotional support to families living with pediatric cancer and increases awareness of the disease. Mule coaches also volunteer as instructors at the annual LFG camp at nearby Lafayette College.
- Men’s soccer volunteers with TOPSoccer for intellectually disabled and handicapped individuals, playing games such as sharks and minnows, soccer golf, and the fan favorite, human bowling.
- The field hockey team raises money for the National Foundation for Cancer Research through sales of pink bracelets and T-shirts.
- The basketball teams help run a practice with Special Olympics athletes from the Lehigh Valley every year.
- Women’s lacrosse runs in the Women’s 5K Classic in Allentown, an event that supports breast cancer research, each fall. The team also devotes one of its games in the spring to a cause. In 2015, the team donned camouflage jerseys for their game against McDaniel and raised more than \$1,800 for veteran’s services.
- Men’s lacrosse has competed in the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers 5K, which honors the memory of a firefighter lost on 9/11 by raising money for wounded veterans. The race starts at Siller’s firehouse, NYFD Squad 1, and retraces his final steps.
- The softball team devotes a day in the fall to community service in downtown Allentown, assisting in cleanup efforts at the Sixth Street Shelter, an organization that provides temporary housing for homeless families with children, and volunteering at the Halloween party at Daybreak, a drop-in center for people living with mental illness or physical disabilities and those struggling with drug and alcohol abuse, as well as the neighborhood’s elderly.
- Members of the baseball team play “basebald” every year, joining the fight against pediatric cancer by getting their heads shaved following one of their games. Money raised goes to the Vs. Cancer Foundation, founded by a former college baseball player who was diagnosed with Stage IV brain cancer as a freshman at the University of North Carolina.
- Muhlenberg athletes also serve their fellow students. Every August, fall athletes already on campus for preseason practice help incoming first-year students transport their belongings into their new residence halls on “Move-In Day.”



Men's soccer volunteers with TOPSoccer.



The softball team volunteers at the Sixth Street Shelter.



The volleyball team volunteers in the local community.



The basketball teams practice with Special Olympics athletes.



The men's "baseball" team supports pediatric cancer.



Fall athletes help at first-year move-in.



The field hockey team advertises support for cancer research.



The softball team volunteers at Daybreak.



Women's lacrosse supports breast cancer research by running in a local 5K.



Mercy Awareness Day took place on the day of the football game against Moravian.



Men's lacrosse competes in the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers 5K.

Lady Mules' Magical Season Leads to Conference Championship, NCAA Tournament

Muhlenberg head coach Ron Rohn was realistic at the start of the 2015-16 women's basketball season. After graduating six seniors from a Centennial Conference championship team and returning only one starter, one reserve and the practice squad, Rohn figured his young team would take some time to hit its stride, perhaps in time to make a playoff run come February.

As it turned out, the team found itself much earlier, in the first game of the season, to be precise.

The Mules won at Moravian in their opener, setting the stage for one of the most incredible seasons in program history. They finished with a record of 25-3, spent most of the season ranked in the top 20 in Division III, captured their league-record ninth CC championship and earned the right to host the first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament, advancing to the second round before the magic ride ended.

But it wasn't just the fact that the Mules won; it was how they won, using an entertaining up-tempo style that produced unprecedented statistical accomplishments.

Leading the show—and it was a show—was sophomore Brandi Valley, who spent most of her rookie year recovering from injury. The point guard made her first career start at Moravian and recorded a triple-double. She proved it was no fluke by notching two more triple-doubles in the next three games, a feat that landed her in Sports Illustrated's Faces in the Crowd.

Valley ended the season with five triple-doubles, tying the Division III career record, and led Division III in assists. Her season total of 263 assists was the seventh-highest in Division III history and broke the previous school record by 99.

Many of her assists went to three-point shooter extraordinaire Rachel Plotke, another sophomore who had played sparingly the



Among the highlights of a season filled with them was the **300th career win for Rohn**, whose Mule record of 306-103 in 15 seasons gives him the **highest winning percentage (.748) of any basketball coach in Centennial Conference history.**



Brandi Vallely

year before. Plotke led the team in scoring with 15 points per game and set a school record by shooting 48.6 percent from three-point range – good for second in Division III. Plotke made at least one three-pointer in every game and also set a school and Centennial Conference record by making 55 consecutive free throws.

Complementing the guards was center six-footer Christina Santone, the only senior on the team. A year after breaking the school record for blocked shots in a season, Santone topped the career mark and also developed into a bonafide scoring threat. She averaged 12.1 points per game and scored at least 20 points four times in the final 10 games, including once in the CC championship game.

The three all-stars were joined by junior forward Maggie Zerbe, sophomore forward Chelsea Gary and sophomore guard Christina Manning in what was primarily a six-player rotation. The unit's cohesiveness showed at both ends of the floor, with Muhlenberg ranking in the top 10 in Division III in categories ranging from three-point field-goal percentage (fourth) to field-goal percentage defense (third).

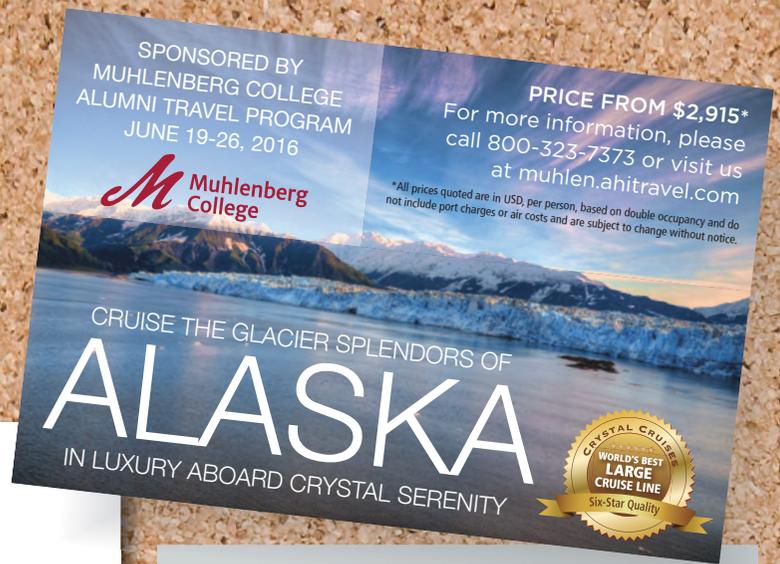
Among the highlights of a season filled with them was the 300th career win for Rohn, whose Mule record of 306-103 in 15 seasons gives him the highest winning percentage (.748) of any basketball coach in Centennial Conference history.

And with all but one player returning next season, the expectation is that many more wins will follow.

Rachel Plotke



Muletin Board



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Meet your Muhlenberg Neighbors

Join local alumni of all ages to connect with professionals in your area and welcome our newest alumni, members of the Class of 2016. These annual networking events offer the chance to mingle with friends and share your experiences in the city with recent 'Berg graduates.

Upcoming Welcome to the City events:

- New York City – June 7
- Washington, D.C. – August 9
- Philadelphia – August 31

Visit MuhlenbergConnect.com/WelcometotheCity for more details and to see if your city has been added to the list.

Class Notes

Your fellow Mules would love to know what you are up to! **Let us know if you got married or engaged, had a baby, got together with 'Berg classmates, got promoted or retired, celebrated a milestone birthday and more.**

Class Notes can be submitted to the Office of Alumni Affairs by mail at 2400 Chew St. Allentown, Pa. 18104, by email to bergalum@muhlenberg.edu or by posting on muhlenbergconnect.com.

Deadlines for submission:

- Summer issue: June 8, 2016
- Fall issue: September 1, 2016

Class Notes received after the deadline will be placed in the next issue of *Muhlenberg* magazine.

Join Young Alumni Council!

YAC aims to be a resource for Muhlenberg alumni in their first decade after graduation. Support provided includes: career networking, service opportunities, regional one-on-one alumni connections and fun reasons to come home to 'Berg. If you're interested in joining the Young Alumni Council, please apply by June 15 at MuhlenbergConnect.com/YAC16.

Correction: In the Fall 2015 Muhlenberg Presidential Timeline, we said that John H. Morey was President of Fitchburg State College in Maryland, when he was actually President of Frostburg State. Sorry for the mix up!

CLASS NOTES

Class Fund Chairs (CFC) and Reunion Chairs (RC) are listed at the beginning of each class year.

1949

*William D. Miers, CFC
wdmiers@hotmail.com*

1951

*Theodore C. Argeson, CFC
tca51mberg@yahoo.com*

1952

*Hal Weiss, CFC
weissshama@verizon.net*

Hal Weiss, Trustee Emeritus, and his daughter, Rebecca Bergman, the President of Gustavus Adolphus College, attended the inauguration of Muhlenberg President John I. Williams, Jr. in October 2015.

1953

*Joseph H. Jorda, CFC
jjorda1010@aol.com*

1954

Barry Altman had two books published recently. The first is an autobiographical treatise “Anthology of Innocence” about growing up in Brooklyn during WWII. The second is “I Can See Clearly Now,” a murder-detective story that takes place in France with a surprising conclusion.

1955

Jay Krevsky and wife Nancy were profiled in a Harrisburg Patriot-News article on September 16, 2015 for their contributions to the Theatre Harrisburg. The couple, for whom the Theatre’s Krevsky Production Center is named, is well-known in the arts community for their contributions to the community theater. They married after meeting at the theater and have participated in a combined 120 plays.

1956

*Richard Miller, CFC
rg.miller@comcast.net*

Alex Adelson, former Muhlenberg Trustee, represented the College as a delegate at the recent inauguration of the new president at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, N.Y.

1957

*Wolfgang W. Koenig
wkoenig1@cox.net*

1958

*Owen Faut, CFC
ofaut@frontier.com*

1959

*Lee Kreidler, CFC
leebar@ptd.net*

Paul Clymer was featured in the Upper Bucks Free Press in September 2015 for his installation as American Legion post commander at Perkasio Post 280.

1960

*Edward M. Davis, Jr., CFC
eddavis@ptd.net*

1961

*Dick Foley, CFC
rlfoley4@verizon.net*

*Douglas C. MacGeorge, RC
doug1@mackitchens.com*

1962

*Duane Sonneborn, CFC
duanesonneborn@comcast.net*

1963

Hank Webster and his wife Marianne and took their two grandsons on a 10-day trip to Colorado, during which they visited Pikes Peak and he wore his Muhlenberg sweatshirt with pride. “This takes our 50+ year marriage to new heights,” he says.

1964

*Patricia Dickson Hoffman, CFC
pathoffman@rcn.com*

Ed Bonekemper authored his sixth Civil War book, “Myth of the Lost Cause,” which is available on Amazon, and was released in October 2015. The book explains and shreds the myth, the false explanation of the Civil War created by mediocre Confederate generals and accepted by way too many Americans. It shows that slavery, not states’ rights, was the cause of secession and formation of the Confederacy.

1965

*John E. Trainer, CFC
jetrain2@gmail.com*

Julia Moore says that she attended law school at age 50 and practiced tax law for approximately 15 years. She retired from

working as a Deputy Attorney General for the State of New Jersey, Attorney General’s Office, Treasury Section. She lives with her husband, Gerald, a retired university professor, in central New Jersey. Julia stays in touch with **Judy (Riley) Rounds’64**, **Kathy (Faust) Sciacchiatano ’64** and **Jeanne Maraz ’64**. • **Wayne B. Wermuth**, a former psychologist, retired after 47 years of private practice and employment with the Allentown State Hospital. When he wrote, he and his wife, Jeanne, were anticipating the birth of their first grandchild.

1966

*Timothy A. Romig, CFC
explrs3311@comcast.net*

*B. Lynne (Hartmaier) Wescott, RC
blynnewesc@verizon.net*

Sally Kahn wrote in after reading a previous issue of the alumni magazine to say that she feels that her years as an English major at Muhlenberg have greatly enriched her career as a theatre costume designer. She also relayed an anecdote about how she wrote to former President Randy Helm about this very topic, and he, in turn, sent her a book on Medieval dress from his personal collection. “I have never met him or had previous communication with him. I was really overwhelmed! Such a generous, thoughtful gesture,” she wrote.

1967

*David Nowack, CFC
DLNowack@ptd.net*

Dr. Al DeRenzi represented Muhlenberg College as a delegate for the recent inauguration of the new president at Notre Dame of Maryland University in Baltimore, Md.

1968

*Russell Koerwer, CFC
wrkoerwer@aol.com*

1969

Sherry Hornberger writes, “On Sept. 22, 2015 I was privileged to be a member of the first All-Female Military Honor Flight from the Cincinnati area to the Washington, D.C. war memorials. Coincidentally, Pope Francis also came to Washington that day! Unfortunately, our paths did not cross, but what a spectacular day anyway!”

1970

Diane Schmidt Ladley, CFC
dianeladley@verizon.net

Diane Cicchino Treacy, CFC
tdseaglen@aol.com

Gloria (Thomas) Balliet recently represented Muhlenberg as a delegate for the inauguration of the new president at Hood College in Frederick, Md. • **Matthew Sorrentino** is chairman at Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, a full service law firm. The firm, which is headquartered in Bridgewater, N.J., with offices in New York, N.Y. and Allentown, Pa., was named one of the Best Places to Work in PA for 2015 by Central Penn Business Journal.

1971

Mary Daye Hohman, CFC
mdhohman@gmail.com

RuthAnn Alderfer Bartlett retired at the end of 2014, most recently serving as the administrative assistant in the music department at 'Berg. Previously she had served as a social worker for many years. She still loves flute, taking lessons from artist/composer Gary Schocker. • **Paul Bartlett** retired August 1, after 40 years as a Lutheran Pastor, serving congregations in the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Union and Lehigh in Pennsylvania. He is still an active volunteer with the Eastern Berks Fire Department and plays with trains large (Colebrookdale RR) and small (Lehigh Valley Garden Railroaders). • **James Bleakly, Jr.** joined QNB Bank as senior vice president/leasing operations, special assets, appraisal management.

1972

Eric C. Shafer, CFC
ericshafer@hotmail.com

Beth Anne Spanninger and her friends gathered for a reunion at Cape May Point.

1973

Jeff Dundon, CFC
jeffreydundon73@gmail.com

1974

Betsy Caplan MacCarthy, CFC
thebfm@yahoo.com

1976

Tom Hadzor, CFC
T.hadzor@duke.edu

Greg Fox, CFC
gfox@mmwr.com

Carolyn Ikeda, CFC
csikeda76@yahoo.com

Stephen Hart, CFC, RC
hartstephen212@gmail.com

John J. Dunne, RC
jdunne@acosta.com

1977

Steve Eisenhauer, CFC
steve@congruencewines.com

Sue Ettleman Eisenhauer, CFC
seisenhauer@deloitte.com

1978

Donna M. Tyson, CFC
dbtyson@gmail.com

James Hirschberg writes that the Class of 1978 Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers attended a New York Jets game on October 18, 2015. In addition to Jim, those in attendance included Kurt Althouse, Kurt Phillips, Ali Gyimesi and Andy Bausch. The group enjoyed a mini-reunion and a Jets victory! • **Dr. Mark**

Zwanger recently represented Muhlenberg as a delegate for the inauguration of the new president at Washington College in Chestertown, Md.

1979

Rudy Favocci, CFC
rudyfavo@yahoo.com

1980

Kim Barth Kembel, CFC
kim.kembel@tufts.edu

1981

Joan Triano, CFC, RC
jtriano@aol.com

Donna DeMaio was named President, Credit Lines for American International Group, Inc. on October 15, 2015. As President of Credit Insurance, she has oversight of a newly organized business line that includes AIG's mortgage insurance business, United Guaranty Corporation (UGC), as well as political risk, trade credit and surety.

1982

Bill O'Shaughnessy, CFC
wjos1024@gmail.com

Tammy Johnson O'Shaughnessy, CFC
wtoshau@verizon.net

Marion Glick, CFC
82marion@gmail.com

Dr. Raymond A. Fritz, Jr., president of Allentown Family Foot Care, recently celebrated the grand opening of a new state-of-the-art facility located at 2414 Walbert Ave. in Allentown. The opening of the new facility coincided with the 25th year for the practice.

1983

Tammy Bormann, CFC
tlbormann@comcast.net

Penn Community Bank President and CEO **Jeane Coyle** spoke at the spring 2016 Women in Banking Conference sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bankers Association in March. The conference brings together women leaders in the banking industry from across Pennsylvania to network and discuss trends and developments in banking.

1984

Michelle Rein Pressman, CFC
mjpressman@comcast.net

1985

Carolyn Ricca Parelli, CFC
csparelli@gmail.com

David Brenner and his wife, Lorena, are excited to announce (two years after the fact)

PROVENCE, FRANCE

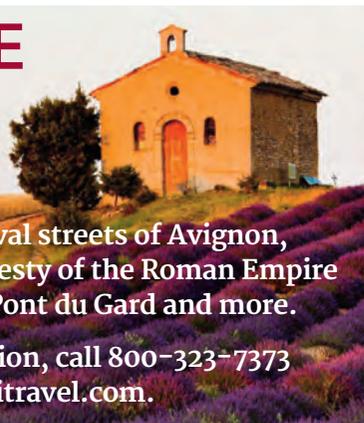
October 2016

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Gloria (Thomas) Balliet '70 representing Muhlenberg at the inauguration of the new president at Hood College.



Hal Weiss '52 and his daughter, Rebecca Bergman, the President of Gustavus Adolphus College, at Muhlenberg's recent presidential inauguration.



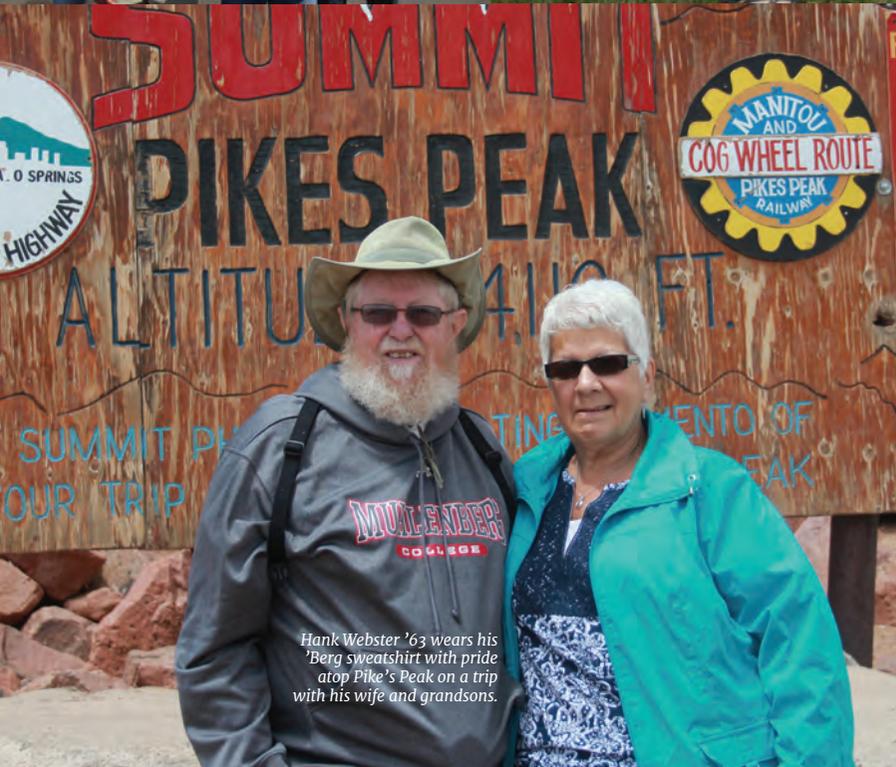
Paul Clymer '59 is installed as post commander for American Legion Perkasio Post 280. Photo credit: Christopher Betz, Upper Bucks Free Press



Class of 1978 Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers at a New York Jets game



Beth Anne Spanninger '72 and her friends gathered for a reunion at Cape May Point.



Hank Webster '63 wears his 'Berg sweatshirt with pride atop Pike's Peak on a trip with his wife and grandsons.



Dr. Mark Zwanger '78 representing Muhlenberg at the inauguration of the new president at Washington College.

CLASS NOTES

the birth of their first child, Sophia Brenner! Sophia was born on February 17, 2014. The family resides in Cardiff, Calif.

1986

Chip Hurd, CFC
pmhref@rcn.com

Jill (Vaughan) Muhr, RC
muhrja@rcn.com

1987

Eileen Collins Neri, CFC
ecneri@verizon.net

1988

Scott Koerwer, CFC
skoerwer@me.com

Scott Koerwer and wife Christine relocated back to Pennsylvania in 2015 so Scott could assume the positions of vice president for strategic initiatives & planning and professor of organizational systems & innovation at The Commonwealth Medical College in Scranton.

1989

Jeff Vaughan, CFC
jv@voncom.com

Recent Alumni Achievement Award winner **Tim Walbert** received the Chicago Area Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame Award from the University of Illinois at Chicago's (UIC) Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies (IES). The award recognizes distinguished business people who have demonstrated their entrepreneurial talent by fostering a thriving, diversified economic engine in Chicago and have enhanced Chicago's communities.

1990

Ramy Sharp, CFC
ramysharp@aol.com

Sharon Mahn, CFC
sharonmahn10@gmail.com

Cushman & Wakefield announced that **Robert Yaffa**, an executive managing director in its New York office, has been inducted into the David Rockefeller Fellows Program. "It is truly an honor to be selected as a Fellow. I am eager to join my like-minded peers and look forward to meeting with New York City's key decision makers so that we can discuss solutions to further improve our great city," he says.

1991

Christopher Parkes, CFC
cparkes@conceptiii.com

Kendra (Rupp) Hogan, RC
khogan135@comcast.net

1992

Trina Poretta, CFC
ranalli8@comcast.net

Beth Adderly married Ron Donaldson on June 26, 2015.

1993

Jill Poretta, CFC
jporetta@cozen.com

1994

Bret Kobler, CFC
bret.kobler@gmail.com

1995

Alyssa Picard, CFC
picarda@umich.edu

1996

Melissa Wasserman Daniels, CFC
mrs1daniels@yahoo.com

Mikel Daniels, CFC, RC
drmdaniels@wetreatfeet.com

Dr. Kristine Young has been named the eighth president of SUNY Orange in Middletown and Newburgh, N.Y. Kris is delighted to return to the east coast and thrilled with the timely opportunity to create relevant opportunities for access to and success in the public higher education sector.

1997

Courtenay Cooper Hall, CFC
Courtenay@bellanyc.com

1998

Josh Lindland, CFC
joshua.lindland@gmail.com

1999

Matt Sordoni, CFC
matthewsordoni@sordoni.com

2000

Drew Bitterman, CFC
drewbitterman@gmail.com

Cristina Genna writes, "In January 2016 I had the opportunity to fulfill a dream, to put on the pinstripes and play for the New York Yankees...at a Fantasy Camp for women at George Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, Fla. I had the pleasure of meeting Yankee greats including Bucky Dent, Mickey Rivers, David Wells and Jorge Posada. But no one was more special than former Muhlenberg student and All-Star pitcher, Al Downing. While Downing only spent a short time on campus (he was drafted into the Big Leagues in 1961) I was

happy to see how fondly he held Muhlenberg in his heart. Given that short time, it was uncanny how many students, coaches and staff he remembered, including Muhlenberg's beloved Sam Beidleman! Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think I would be wearing Yankee pinstripes and making a new friend in Al Downing. Muhlenberg sure has a special way of bringing people together. I look forward to seeing Al and other Yankees greats next year!" • On November 1, 2015, **Kurt Kunsch** received the Chester County Community Foundation's Door Opener Award, which is bestowed upon stellar professional advisors who take the initiative to bring legacy philanthropy to the attention of their clients and colleagues. He serves as president of the Phoenixville Area Economic Development Corporation, secretary for the Phoenixville Police Athletic League and as a board member of the Chester County Estate Planning Council. He has also served as board chair of Phoenixville Homes (now known as Petra Housing), secretary of the Schuylkill River Heritage Center and board treasurer of the Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area. Kurt throws in extra entertainment at charity events as a professionally-trained magician. • **Joshua Schwartz Esq.**, of Barley Snyder LLP, was named to Central Penn Business Journal's 2015 Forty Under 40 list.

2001

Chris Lee, CFC
christopher_a_lee@hotmail.com

Allison Barton Arnold wrote to tell us about a gathering she and classmates held at the Whippany, N.J. home of **Jacki James Pasqua**. Those in attendance also included **Amanda Giannini Caparosa, Lauren McCallion Gillivan, Shira Levin Horn, Kate Deacon DiFonzo** and **Kelly Commerford Shenoda**. • **J. Michael DeAngelis** was honored this past spring when he was inducted into the Springfield Arts Hall of Fame in his hometown of Springfield, Pa. He was acknowledged for his achievements in writing, acting and directing.

2002

Adam Marles, CFC
AMARLES@phoebe.org

Kristin Flagg married Scott Raynor at the William Penn Inn in Gwynedd, Pa. on August 15, 2015. Alumni in attendance included Kristin's classmates **Matthew Blaszk**, **Quyvan Le, Alicia (Murray) Motzer, Stephanie Stehman, Karen Nguyen Wu, Peter Alff** and **Melanie Ongchin**. • **Kate**

Become a Mule Career Champion

Think back to your time at Muhlenberg. How did your time on campus shape the person you are today? Without a doubt, one important step toward a productive career path includes experience, whether from the classroom, internships, a leadership role and beyond. These experiences continue to be invaluable as our students transition "Beyond the Bubble."

Given the demand for new hires who can hit the ground running and demonstrate their ability to make an impact, career-related experience is vital. As a Muhlenberg alumnus or alumna, you can provide support and experiences that will help current students rise to the top of the applicant pool.

There are many opportunities for you to help support the Career Center. Your commitment can be as minimal or extensive as your schedule permits, and the impact for students will be priceless.



For example, send us job or internship postings from your company. You don't have to be in a hiring capacity; just offer to give some guidance and advice to students who may apply. We'll list you as an alumni contact alongside application instructions. It's that simple. There is no obligation on your part, except to be a behind-the-scenes guiding voice for our students. Send postings or inquiries about other ways to get involved to careers@muhlenberg.edu. We appreciate your support of students in their career exploration as they prepare for lives of leadership and service.



Will Harrison Gorenstein, son of Kate (Laufer) Gorenstein '02 and her husband, Jeffrey



Alumni gather at the home of Jacki James Pasqua '01 in Whippany, N.J.



Kurt Kunsch '00 received the Chester County Community Foundation's Door Opener Award.



Alumni in attendance at the wedding of Kristin Flagg '02 and Scott Raynor



J. Michael DeAngeli '01 (back row, third from left) was inducted into the Springfield Arts Hall of Fame.

CLASS NOTES

(Laufer) Gorenstein and her husband, Jeffrey, welcomed Will Harrison Gorenstein on October 8, 2015. • In March 2016, **Matthew C. Jones** joined the Silver Spring office of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission as senior land use planner and forest conservation inspector serving Montgomery County, Md. He will support Montgomery County's Forest Conservation Program, which has saved 9,000 acres of forestland from development and resulted in 2,000 acres of new forest plantings since 1992. Matthew resides in downtown Frederick, Md. with his wife, **Annie Blanchard Jones '03**, and their son, Everett. • **Melissa (Eicken) Jost** and Robert Jost are thrilled to announce the birth of their second son, Kyle Brennan, born on October 15, 2015. Kyle joins the family, along with big brother Ryan. The family resides in Mount Laurel, N.J. • The Bridgewater-based law firm Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A., has announced that **Saleem Mawji** has been named a member of the firm, effective January 1, 2016. He has been an associate attorney in the firm's Pennsylvania office since 2010.

2003

Laura Garland, CFC
lgarland@muhlenberg.edu

Diane Johnson and her husband Rob (Chef

RoJo) recently launched a new food truck in the Lehigh Valley called Licensed 2 Grill. "L2G is our way of taking Chef RoJo's passion for cooking and turning it into something just a little bit more," she says. "Each time you visit our truck you will be treated to some of the best food in the Lehigh Valley." • **Danielle Snowflack**, director of education at Edvotek, a biotechnology education company, was featured in an article, "From Drosophila to kit design: Danielle Snowflack is teaching science in a creative way," in the August 2015 issue of ASBMB Today, the member magazine of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

2004

Robyn Duda, CFC
robynmduda@gmail.com

Greg Bird and **Jody (Seligman) Bird** are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Hayley Mae Bird, on August 2, 2015. • **Andrew Harter** wed **Michelle Kroop '05** on August 29, 2015. They reside in the D.C. metro region. Harter is a senior intelligence officer at the Defense Intelligence Agency and the former Kroop is a coordinator at the central office for D.C. Public Schools. • **Kevin Heenan** and **Melissa Heenan** are delighted to announce the birth of their third child, Finn Patrick, on October 21, 2015. Big

sisters Emily and Maggie could not be happier! • **Julia Urich**, along with husband Rocky, runs FireRock Productions, a full-service video production company in the Lehigh Valley. FireRock Productions won four 2015 Mid-Atlantic Regional Emmy Awards categories from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences on September 19, 2015 to push their overall claim to five.

2005

Chelsea Gomez Starkowski, CFC
CHELSEAGOMEZ@allstate.com

Michael Corso married new wife Jessica at the Inn at Longshore in Westport, Conn. on July 10, 2015. Alumni present included Michael's classmates **Michael Lazar**, **Weston Happ**, **Timothy Murtha**, **Brianne (Wiatrak) Angerame** and **Matthew Schoenfeld**, as well as **Brian Farrelly '06**. • **Danielle Falcone** married Daniel Molinari on July 10, 2015. Alumni in attendance included **John Westendorf '06**, **Lauren (Cohen) Westendorf '05**, **Sarah Harris '05**, **Jonathan Gray '05**, **Mike Piontek '05**, **Jeff Kraft '05**, **Shannon Solheim '05**, **Beth (Slakoff) McDonnell '05**, **David Seligman '05** and **Shannon (Burke) McNulty '05**. • **Marc Gollob** earned his MBA from Emory University - Goizueta Business School in May 2015. He graduated Beta Gamma Sigma (top



Finn Patrick, son of Kevin Heenan '04 and Melissa Heenan '04, with his big sisters



Julia Urich with husband and business partner Rocky at the 2015 Mid-Atlantic Regional Emmy Awards



Marc Gollob '05 earned his MBA from Emory University - Goizueta Business School in May 2015.



Andrew Harter '04 wed Michelle Kroop '05 in August.

20% of the class), received the Real Estate Achievement Award (highest GPA in Real Estate), and was the recipient of the most prestigious award that is conferred within the program, the Gordon Siefkin Outstanding MBA Leadership Award. • **Eric Prock** and **Meghan (Jones) Prock '07** are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Carys Bryn, who was born on June 7, 2014. Carys Bryn and her smitten parents live in Schuylkill County, Pa., where Eric has been practicing law for five years and Meghan enjoys being a full-time mom. • Cole Schotz P.C. announced that **Michael Yellin** was elected as a member of the firm. Based in Hackensack, N.J. and New York, Michael's practice focuses on representing private equity companies, hedge funds and real estate opportunity funds, as well as lenders, investors and business owners in connection with the acquisition and sale of distressed properties and debt, partnership disputes, commercial litigation, project development, asset disposition and judicial foreclosures. After graduating from Muhlenberg, Michael earned his J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law.

2006

Liz Hamilton Marrero, CFC
elizabethmarrero@gmail.com

Lauren (Teixeira) Barry, RC
ltexbar@gmail.com

Kevin Conrad completed a four-year judicial clerkship with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in August 2015. In September 2015 Kevin started as an associate attorney in the Lehigh Valley office of Philadelphia-based White and Williams LLP where he counsels and represents employers on a range of labor and employment law matters and litigation in federal and state court. • **Dr. Sabrina Krum** and Lt. Richard Sanzo were thrilled to welcome their daughter on May 9, 2015 at 4:33 a.m. Avery Josephina weighed 7 lbs and was 20 in.

2007

Jason Bonder, CFC
jmbonder@gmail.com

Courtney Roosa, CFC
courtney.marsallo@gmail.com

Carla (Kallman) Cooper and Matthew Cooper are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Arden Rose on May 2, 2015. Big sister Jaye Addison is loving her new baby doll. • **Dawn (Aniess) Haaz** and Matthew Haaz are proud to announce the birth of their son, Noah Joshua. Noah was born on May 21, 2015 at 1:35 a.m. • On September 5, 2015, **Kendra James** proposed to her best friend,

Alyson Hardy (Temple University '07) at the place of their first date in D.C. The two plan to wed November 5 in Leesburg, Va.

• **Andrew Wilkins** and **Ashley Wilkins** welcomed Jacob Logan on October 5, 2015.

2008

Kristel Dow, CFC
kristeldow@gmail.com

Allie Schnall, CFC
Allison.Schnall@gmail.com

Megan Aronson married James Peter Gawrych, a 2008 Providence College grad, on August 2, 2015. She says, "I married my best friend James Peter Gawrych on Sunday, August 2, 2015. I was so happy to have my Muhlenberg crew there to celebrate with us." Alumni in attendance included Megan's classmates **Dan Hoffman, Nathan Spevack, Meg O'Keefe, Colleen Sherry, Leslie Jordan, Liz Pendley, Philip Sels** and **Jamie Goldman**. • **Tricia Conti** married Matt Bowman on October 24, 2015 at Rock Island Lake Club in Sparta, N.J. They were lucky enough to have 14 Muhlenberg alumni in attendance at their wedding, including **Krista (Mitchell) Khare '08, Amy Chrzanowski '08, Matt Horn '09, Lisa (Harrison) Horn '08, Gwen Royer '08, Jen Fellman '08, Tom Kelleher '08, Barbie (Macholz) Grimaldi '08, Matt Grimaldi '08, Christina Harkness**



Alumni at the wedding of Danielle Falcone '05 and Daniel Molinari



Nikki (Rhoads) Gum '08 and Brandon Gum at their wedding

Alumni at the wedding of Tricia Conti '08 and Matt Bowman



The wedding of Elizabeth Rattner '10 and David Porrino '11



Peter Ober: Photograph

Alumni present at the wedding of Matthew Sones '08 and new wife Megan



Alumni at the wedding of Megan Aronson '08 and James Peter Gawrych



Alumni at the wedding of Jenna Van Waalwijk '10 and Mark Miller '10



Alumni present at the wedding of Amanda Grube '10 and Jimmy Mills



Alumni at the wedding of Daniel Kuhn '10 and Rebekka Shaak '10



Jacob Logan Wilkins, the son of Andrew Wilkins '07 and Ashley Wilkins '07.



Carys Bryn, daughter of Eric Prock '05 and Meghan (Jones) Prock '07



Alumni at the wedding of Caroline Ambuhl '11 and James Laird '11

'08, **David Wrigley '08, Christina (Vergos) Bruno '09, Michelle (Yost) Shoultes '08 and Steph Scrofani '08.** • **Jacob Nelson** and his wife had a baby boy, Caleb James on August 11, 2015. • **Nikki Rhoads** married Brandon Gum on August 15, 2015 at Liberty Mountain Resort outside of Gettysburg, Pa. Nikki returned to Muhlenberg in June 2015 as director of college communications and editor of Muhlenberg magazine. Brandon, a graduate of Millersville University and Eastern Kentucky University, is a site safety manager for Amazon. • **Dr. Matthew Sones** married his wife Megan on August 2, 2015. Alumni present at the wedding included Matt's classmates **Scott Gordon, Dr. David Cohen, Matthew Rosenberg** and **Brian Goldberg**, as well as **Samantha Busa Goldberg '11** and **Jordan Sones '10.** • **Allison Fales** and Christopher Thayer were married on September 26, 2015 at St. James Lutheran Church in Barrington, R.I. The reception was held at the Herreshoff Marine Museum in Bristol, R.I. Alumni in attendance included Allison's classmates **Jeremiah Shipman, James Seward, Victoria Carhart, Kyle Casey, Meg (Coleman) Abolafia, Matt Roessler** and **Megan (Young) MacKinnon.** The couple currently resides in Cambridge, Mass.

2009

Brittany Barton, CFC
brittanyabarton@gmail.com
Jillian Carnrick, CFC

2010

Jon Falk, CFC
jfalk715@gmail.com
Alysea McDonald, CFC
alysea.mcdonald@gmail.com
Jess Davis, CFC
jessdavis1@gmail.com

Amanda Grube and Jimmy Mills exchanged wedding vows in Austin, Tex. on July 11, 2015. Muhlenberg College alumni present at the wedding included Amanda's classmates **Diana Ciciarelli, Christie Pfeiffer, Sara Gruner, Courtney Burke, Amy Hanes** and **Jessica Swerdloff.** • **Daniel Kuhn** and **Rebekka Shaak** married on August 22, 2015 in Egner chapel with a reception at Allentown Brew Works. Alumni in attendance included their classmates **Jessica (Walch) Shryock, Sarah Evans** and **Kathy (Pocherstnik) Kay**, as well as **Seth Kaye '09.** • **Elizabeth Rattner** and

David Porrino '11 were married August 29, 2015 in Tarrytown N.Y. Mules present included: **Sara Bombaski '10, Jason Steinberg '11, Ben Rosen '12, Justin Floch '14, Jason Richman '12, Matthew May '11, David Schutzbank '12, Cara Murphy '10, Andrea Shulman '10, Justin Demko '09, Alana Seedor '09, Brittany Doynow '10, Kellie-Ann Yamane '12, Stacey Fechter '11, Jeremy Berns '12, Andrew Rhodes '11, Adam Martos '11, Ross Litman '10** and **Rebecca Sachs '10.** • **Sarah Rosenthal** completed her M.A. in higher and postsecondary education in May 2015, and began working full time as an assistant director at the New York University Wasserman Center for Career Development in June 2015. • **Jenna Van Waalwijk** and Mark Miller were married on June 13, 2015 in Newtown, Conn. Alumni present were **Lacy Hall '11, Alyssa Epstein '11, Jed Reiff '10, Alexa DeMiglio '10, Kyle Detweiler '10, Brett Von Bergen '10, Jessica Kasza '11, Sam Prisco '10, Sarah Hoenigmann '10, Nick LaFalce '10, Jon Falsetti '10, Matt Boland '10, Sami Horrow '10, Andrew Horrow '10, Jane Iaconetti '10, Kiren Goyal '10, Pat Fligge '10, Jillian Bevacqua '11, Kelly Cresta '10** and **Phil Cresta '10.** • **Jessica**

Walch married Paul Shryock with several alumni in attendance. They included **Sarah Evans '10, Danielle Scala '08, Michelle Chatterton '08, Gina Colin '10, Rebekka Kuhn '10** and **Daniel Kuhn '10**, as well as Muhlenberg French lecturer Gilles Colin.

2011

Catherine Schwartz, CFC
c.schwartz89@gmail.com
Amy E. Venuto, RC
Amyevenuto@gmail.com
 Alumni were gathered on Long Island, N.Y. on July 31, 2015 for the wedding of **John Allen** and **Alyssa Bruckner.** Alumni present include **Jason LoPipero '11, Jessica Shegoski '12, Michael McClellan '11, Lisa Peluso '13, Shelby Smith '12, Melissa Katz '11, Michael Katz '11, Michael Porembski '12, Amanda Palmer '11, Mary McCoy '12** and **Richard Bruckner '00.** • **Caroline Ambuhl** and **James Laird** married on October 10, 2015 in Connecticut. The two grads were surrounded by loved ones including more than 25 fellow Mules! • **Molly Harper** and **Brian Levandowski** were married on January 2, 2015 in Egner Memorial Chapel, with a reception at

Historic Hotel Bethlehem. Alumni present at the wedding included Molly's classmates **Maggie Bernhard, Nick Gidosh, Michael Goodrich, Kim (Schmidt) Goodrich, Maura Golebiowski, Jamey Koury, Brian Sechrist, Katie (Shultz) Sechrist** and **Adam Yu**, as well as **Angela (Cenci) Wimer '05.** • **Brian Sechrist** and **Katie May Shultz** were married on August 29, 2015 at Blue Marsh Lake in Leesport, Pa. The couple met while attending Muhlenberg. They were surrounded by loved ones, including many fellow Muhlenberg alums.

2012

Lisa Peterson, CFC
lisapetey27@gmail.com

2013

Nina Pongratz, CFC
nepongratz@gmail.com
Nashalys Rodriguez, CFC
nashkrod@gmail.com

Sculptor **Jesse Nusbaum** was recently profiled in a web article for his work, including a pair of husky head sculptures he created and presented to UConn coaches Geno Auriemma and Kevin Ollie, in honor of the Huskies' twin national championships in 2014. They sit in the UConn women's and men's basketball trophy rooms.

2014

Gabrielle Aboodi, CFC
gabrielleaboodi@gmail.com
Michael Schramm, CFC
michael.schramm14@gmail.com

RachelMarie Asaro and **Conor James McLaughlin '13** are pleased to announce their marriage on October 18, 2015 in Egner Memorial Chapel at Muhlenberg College. • **Melissa Reitberg**, who is attending Pace Law School, was profiled in a web story for Pace. Read the profile in its entirety at law.pace.edu/profile/melissa-reitberg-2017.

2015

Holly Hynson, CFC
holly.hynson2@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

1937

Rev. John P. Stump, 96, died on April 11, 2012.

1940

Earl Zettlemoyer, 97, passed away on February 18, 2016. He was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Anna Cole. He worked as an Engineer/Manager for Corning Glass, The Budd Company, and Amtrak. Music was always his passion and he directed the Hal Miller Big Band Orchestra in the 1940's. He was the father of three children: Lana Raybold, wife of Robert Raybold, Dale Zettlemoyer and Linda Peddigree. He was also a grandfather of three and great-grandfather of six.

1942

Dr. Edward W. Klink died on July 7, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Gwen, and his children, stepchildren, grandchildren, step-grandchildren, great-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren. • **Benjamin R. Lewis**, 94, died on September 9, 2015. He served in the Army during World War II. His wife, Mary (Zimmerman) Lewis predeceased him in 1988. He was also predeceased by an infant son, Jeffrey. He is survived by his sister, Elizabeth Stormer and her husband John; his son, Thomas Lewis and wife Mary Beth; his daughter, Mary Beth Rutter and husband David; his son, Matthew Lewis and his wife Susan. He is also survived by his nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

1943

James E. Frederick, 95, died on Aug. 24, 2015. He was predeceased by his first wife, Emily in 1981 and his daughter Beverly Morley. Surviving is his wife Edna of 34 years; his daughter, Joyce Frederick; two stepdaughters JoAnne Hanna and Kathi Harter; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. • **Rev. Glenn G. Neubauer**, 97, died on July 29, 2015. His wife, Elisabeth F. (Farber) Neubauer died in 2007. He is survived by a son, the Rev. G. Randall Neubauer and his wife, the Rev. Dr. Beth Neubauer; two daughters, Nancy E. Kovacs and her husband, Frank Kovacs, and Judith N. Worsley and her husband, Dr. John Worsley Jr.; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. • **Dr. Grant C. Sheckler**, 93, a longtime veterinarian, died on Sept. 21, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Patricia McDowell Sheckler; a son, Grant (Megann) Sheckler; a daughter, Peg S. (Bill) Kennedy; a sister,

Christine (Edward) Koza; caregiver and companion Rommell Vassell; five grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

1944

Harold John Schupsky, 90, died on Sept. 20, 2015. He is survived by four sons, James and wife Roberta Ford, Mark and wife Maureen, Thomas and wife Beth, and Stephen and wife Kathryn. He is also survived by 12 grandchildren, a great-granddaughter, and a sister, Lydia Vidori. • **Robert A. Smith** died on Aug. 26, 2014.

1945

Rev. Theodore W. Jentsch died on Nov. 20, 2015. He is survived by daughters Dr. Lynda J. Grooms, wife of H.H. Grooms, III, and Nancy K. Enzweiler, wife of Phillip M. Enzweiler. He is also survived by four grandchildren and a stepson, Michael J., husband of Heather (Reed) Ludwig. • **Monro Roth**, 92, died on July 26, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Mimi (Gottlieb) Roth; daughters Melinda and Pamela Roth, and sisters Lucille Lehrich and Shirley Hershey. He was predeceased by a son, Andrew Roth, and a brother, Harold Roth.

1946

Rev. Charles Rinck, Jr., 90, Pastor Emeritus at Grace Lutheran Church, died on July 25, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Doris. He is also survived by daughter Linda Lake (Larry) and sons Charles "Bud" (Sandi), Richard (Judy), and Roger (Karen); sister Mildred Garrison (Richard); and sister-in-law June Fredericks. Rev. Rinck had eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

1947

Russell T. Wall Jr., 95, died on June 26, 2015. Surviving are a daughter, Constance Randolph, and a son, Dr. Russell T. Wall III and his wife, Ann. He is also survived by two grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and a sister, Dorothy Hendrickson.

1948

Rev. Craig J. Dorward died on Oct. 25, 2016 ending 66 years of ministry. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Marian; a daughter, Kristin Anne Schmidt, and a son, John Stephen Dorward. He also had five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Rev. Dorward is also survived by a brother, Rev. Dallas Dorward, and a sister, Anna Smith. • **Lewis S. Fluck** died on Oct. 2, 2015. He and his wife, Helen (Fretz) Fluck, had been married for 64 years at the time of her death. Surviving are two daughters, Evelyn Koffel and her husband, Jay, and Anne Gabel and her husband, Richard.

1949

Atwood R. "Woody" Kemmerer died on July 2, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Anna J. Kern Kemmerer. He is also survived by daughter Kathleen J., wife of Melvin Rissing; two grandsons, four great-grandchildren; and brothers Roderick and Nathaniel. • **William R. Riekert**, 88, died on May 28, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Doris (Grove) Riekert; children Lois Galligan (Thomas), Sally Houck (John), and Thomas Riekert (Darlene Choy); four grandchildren and siblings Muriel Pufahl (Charles), Robert Riekert, and Eleanor Hamel

Muhlenberg mourns the loss of 10th president Arthur Taylor

When Arthur R. Taylor passed away the evening of December 3, 2015, the thoughts and prayers of the Muhlenberg College community were with his wife, Kathryn, and his family.

Taylor served Muhlenberg for 10 years, and in that time, he led the College to almost triple its endowment and almost halve its debt. Under Taylor's leadership, the College's national reputation for its caring community and student excellence grew.

During his time as President, the College became regarded as one of the finest small liberal arts colleges in the country, noted specifically for its selectivity and acceptance rates. Taylor presided over the construction of the Trexler Pavilion for Theatre and Dance and the Forrest G. Moyer M.D. '35 Hall.

Taylor made an enduring impression upon the Muhlenberg College community, and his legacy will not be forgotten.



(Jack). • **Richard Wayne Shepherd**, 94, died on Aug. 25, 2015. He served in the Army during World War II. He leaves behind his daughter, Debbie, and her husband, Dan Polovina; two stepchildren and three great-grandsons. • **Joseph Staudinger**, 87, died on Aug. 24, 2015. He is survived by his wife, the former Karen Wiarda, and five children, Joanne Fantry, Linda Kay, Nancy Sliker, Kenneth Staudinger, and Kristen Silvestri. He is also survived by 14 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

1950

Paul S. Albert died on May 30, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, the former Alice Horne. He is also survived by his daughter, Karen, wife of Jamie McFadden; his son, Douglas and companion Cristy Breneman; and a granddaughter. • **Joseph A. Best** died on Aug. 25, 2015. An Army veteran, he was preceded in death by his wife Gloria. • **Richard C. Buss**, 86, died on Sept. 5, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Doris Pribilla; sons Daniel T. and David J. Buss; daughters Diane C. Rupnik and husband Walter and Valerie McNeill and husband Paul. He is also survived by five grandchildren. He was preceded in death by brothers Stanley Jr., Boyd “Jack”, and Donald. • **John Kercsmar** died on Jan. 1, 2016. • **Martin Rufus Martzall**, 90, died on Sept. 9, 2015. He was preceded in death by his wife, Alvesta (Busser) Martzall. He is survived by a son, James, husband of the late Linda Martzall; a daughter, Patricia, wife of Kenneth Brame; four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren; three brothers, Raymond, Roy, and Roger; four sisters, Kathryn Baker, Mary Loose, Minetta Jones and Louise Dohner of Akron. • **Dr. Armand R. Rosamilia**, 88, died on Sept. 15, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, the former Myrna Melchionne, and three daughters, Debby Rosamilia Sumski and her husband Robert Sumski, Donna Rosamilia; and Lisa Rosamilia Laughinghouse and her husband, Dr. Ken Laughinghouse. Dr. Rosamilia is also survived by five grandchildren and a brother, Peter. • **Rev. Dr. Edward Treichel**, entered eternal life on January 12, 2016 at the age of 86. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Gisela (Schiek); daughters, Valerie Jeske ‘76 and her husband Michael, and Marcella Curtiss; and son, Matthew and his wife Noriko; and grandchildren, Melanie and Andrew. • **Richard H. Welty**, 86, known as Big Dad, died on Jan. 21, 2013. He was the husband of the late Joanne Kistler. He is survived by daughters Candra Welty Valko and Melissa Welty Willenbring, one

granddaughter and two great-grandchildren.

1951

Rev. Paul H. Feil, 86, died on Oct. 19, 2015. His survivors include daughters, the Reverend Catherine A. and Anne W. Feil, and a brother, Andrew G. Feil Jr. • **Oscar E. Koch**, 92, died on July 23, 2015. He was the husband of Mae Elizabeth (Allison) Koch for 66 years. He is also survived by sons Matt, Todd, and Neal, daughters Lynn Welles and husband Lincoln, and Jill Kostenbader and husband Robert. He is also survived by four grandchildren. • **Walter Schray Jr.**, 88, died on Jan. 11, 2016. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, the former Susan Robertson, and his children, Julia and Robert. • **George C. Shoenberger Sr.**, 86, died on July 23, 2015. He was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Elsie (DeSordi) and his sister Jacqueline Shoenberger. He is survived by his children, George Jr. and wife Debbie Shoenberger; Sherri Shoenberger, Douglas and wife Carolyn Shoenberger, and Mark and wife Lisa Shoenberger. He is also survived by eight grandchildren.

1952

Dr. James C. Carver Jr., 83, died on April 4, 2014. Dr. Carver is survived by his wife, Anna Berrie Carver; two sons, James (Colleen) and Jon (Larke). He is also survived by his daughter, Marianne (Fred) Trent, and four grandchildren. • **George R. Finkbeiner**, 90, died on Feb. 21, 2015. He was the husband of Beatrice Brown Finkbeiner for 28 years and the late Edythe (Grauer) Finkbeiner, who died in 1984. In addition to wife Beatrice, he is survived by sons, Wesley (Patricia) and Mark; daughter, Lisa (Carsten) Gardan; brother, John; sister, Betty Worsinger; three grandchildren, two stepdaughters, a stepson, five step-grandchildren and a great-granddaughter. • **Peter Crone Popko**, 86, died on Feb. 5, 2015. His wife, Sarah Ann Hubbard (Church) Popko, predeceased him in 2006. He leaves behind his children, Susan P. Stenquist and her husband, Brad W. Stenquist; Peter F. Popko II, and Katherine P. Neidorf and her husband, Alan Neidorf. He is also survived by three grandchildren and close family friend Carl Chamberlain and his wife, Carol. • **Rev. Joseph W. Schwartz** died on Jan. 10, 2016. After graduation he earned a B.D. from Philadelphia Lutheran Seminary. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Joanna; daughters Sue, Jan (Williams), Paula (Ray) and Peter (Marie); 13 grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren. • **Robert W. Yerby** died on March 17, 2015.

1953

John L. DeLong, 88, died on Sept. 8, 2015. He was the husband of Grace M. (Smith) DeLong. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Paul T. DeLong, husband of Dorothy; a daughter, Gail M. DeLong, wife of David Heckman; a sister, MaryAnn Gaugler; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Frederick DeLong. • **Theodore F. Hopkins**, 83, died on July 19, 2015. He was the widower of Marlene (Proger) Hopkins who died in 2012. He is survived by two stepchildren, Craig A. Bressler, companion to Carol Hasson, and Lisa B., wife of Daniel Jenkins; twin step-grandchildren and friend Barbara Finkelstein. • **Oliver O. Moore**, 88, died on Dec. 24, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Jean. A lifelong baseball fan who played with the Allentown Patriots and the Patriot Old-Timers into his 80s, he is survived by his children Ross, Gail and James, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a granddaughter, Elisa.

1954

William F. Wolohan Jr. died on Dec. 30, 2013. He was the former owner of the Molten Paper Co., in Philadelphia.

1955

Rev. Edwin Luther Druckenmiller, 82, died on Sept. 9, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Doris R. (Waite) Druckenmiller, sons, Donald and Michael, three granddaughters, and a brother, Robert. • **Rev. Robert R. Strohl** died on June 30, 2015. He was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Muriel. He is survived by three daughters and their husbands, Ruth Strohl-Palmer and Ken Palmer, Carol and Howard Barina and Janet Strohl-Morgan and James Morgan; five grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and two step-great-grandchildren.

1956

Donald L. Grammes, 86, died on Oct. 21, 2015. He was the husband of the late Lorraine D. (Raph) Grammes. He is survived by a son, Roark D., and his wife Michele, and a brother, Dale. • **Peter J. Lord Sr.** died on Sept. 12, 2015. He is survived by his daughter, Holly Lord-Grecsek, three grandchildren, and a brother, Phillip.

1957

Fred Raymond Laws, 80, died on July 21, 2015. He leaves behind his wife of 42 years, Diane; six children Cynthia (Gary) Dunay, Patricia (Alain) Chevrier, Andrew Laws, Anne

(Louis) De Stout, Jennifer (Robert) Barker, and Raymond (Lisa) Laws; and 12 grandchildren. • **Edmund Levendusky**, 80, died on Sept. 18, 2015. He owned a dental practice in Allentown for 50 years before retiring in 2011. Surviving are sons Edmund T., and wife Mary, and Steven M.; a daughter, Lisa C., wife of John Lawlor; a sister, Barbara Semmel; and five step-grandchildren. • **Robert C. Schander**, 81, died on May 13, 2013. He is survived by two sons, Robert and wife Gail, and Charles “Chris” and wife Deb; a daughter, Carole Schander; foster sister Eleanor Brinker and five grandchildren.

1958

Robert Ronald Taschner, 78, died on June 20, 2015. He was the husband of Dolores J. Snyder Taschner, his wife of 58 years. Surviving in addition to his wife are daughters Deborah Donnelly and husband Joseph; Pamela Burgess and husband Timothy; Jenifer Narcise and husband EJ; and Jill Richardson and fiancé Lee Francisco. He is also survived by four grandsons, two granddaughters, two great-granddaughters, and his brother, Joseph E. Taschner and wife Joan.

1959

William Andrew Gallagher, Jr., 76, died on March 23, 2015. He was the husband of Gail (Ramsay) Gallagher. He is also survived by son William Andrew Gallagher, sister Kathleen Gutierrez and two granddaughters.

1960

Dr. Michael B. Kurtz, 76, died on Sept. 19, 2015. He was the husband of Dr. Rosa T. Kurtz and father of Steven (Karen) and Chris (Michele) Kurtz. He is also survived by a brother, Dr. John Kurtz, and five grandchildren. • **Robert R. Rosenheim**, 77, died on June 1, 2015. He was highly successful in the horse racing business, and though he had no children, he had a close relationship with his employees and friends.

1961

Alice (Budner) Cleary, 76, died on Oct. 9, 2015. She was the wife of James M. Cleary, to whom she was married for 50 years, and a graduate of Muhlenberg’s first coed class. She is survived by close friends Ann Carroll and Kath Minor, and sisters-in-law Jean C. Ugucconi and Gladys C. Rolls. • **Thomas E. Rehrig**, 75, died on Aug. 23, 2015. He was the companion of Judy D. Sharer. He is also survived by seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, a sister, Nancy Eckhart and her husband, Ralph, and a nephew. He was preceded in death by his son, Keith T. Rehrig, and a brother, Melvin.

1962

Sylvia L. Christy (Mull), 74, died on May 30, 2015. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Lynn Christy. In addition, she is survived by a son, Michael L. Christy, husband of Candy; a daughter, Laurel C. Christy wife of Richard M. LeClear; and two grandchildren. • **Frederick Schoellhammer**, 75, died on Aug. 15, 2015. He served in the Army as a language expert. He is survived by a brother, Richard.

1964

Ronald M. “Pop” Andrews, 73, died on Sept. 9, 2015. He was the husband of Cheri L. (Watters) Andrews, with whom he recently celebrated his 51st wedding anniversary. He is also survived by sons John R. (wife Anne Railton) and Mark E.; daughters, Joy A. (wife of Joseph Augustus) and Kimberly F., wife of Jamie Alackness. Other survivors include 11 grandchildren. He was predeceased by brothers John and Robert Jr. • **Robert E. Schmierer**, 74, died on Aug. 11, 2015. He was the husband of Linda (Pancoast) Schmierer, to whom he had been married for 48 years. In addition, he is survived by daughters Tara Brown (Dan) and Tracy Diehl (Craig), one grandson, three granddaughters and a sister, Anne Urban.

1965

Earl W. “Bud” Haydt Jr., 71, died on April 14, 2015. He was the husband of Carol A. (Shaffer) Haydt. Surviving in addition to his widow and mother are four sons, Timothy R. Haydt, and wife Sabrina, Timothy T. Wentz, and wife Barbara, Michael A. Wentz, and John M. Petrilyak, and wife Regina; a brother, Walter, and his wife, Nancy; and one grandson. • **Doris E. Parker (Emhardt)** died on June 10, 2015.

1966

David K. Croll, 70, died on July 17, 2015. Survivors include wife, son, brother and parents.

1967

Robert H. Levin, 69, died on Aug. 28, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Stephanie (Stein); daughter, Karen (Levin) Kennedy and her husband, Shawn; son Matthew Levin; brother Dr. Gene Levin and his wife, Ellen; and two grandchildren. While at Muhlenberg, he was awarded the Harry A. Bender Memorial Scholarship in 1966. He graduated with a degree in economics.

1968

Linda J. Stedman, a Woodstock Academy teacher and former investment banker, died on Sept. 26, 2015. She is survived by her



Linda Bips, assistant professor of psychology, passes away

The entire Muhlenberg community – including a cadre of family, friends, students and colleagues – mourned when Linda Bips passed away on January 14, 2016.

Bips was part of the Muhlenberg community for 30 years. As a licensed psychologist, she was director of the Counseling Center and an integral member of the Student Affairs team from 1985-1999 before turning to full-time teaching. She was nationally recognized for her program “Letting Go,” delivered to parents of students entering their first year of college.

In 1999, Bips joined Muhlenberg’s psychology department. She taught introductory psychology courses as well as abnormal psychology, the psychology of women and First Year Seminars in the psychosocial development of women and meanings of madness. She had also taught “Writing Identity Abroad,” a study trip and spring semester course with the English department’s Linda Miller.

Bips’ research interests included psychosocial development of women, counseling, college-age development and parenting. She was the author of “Parenting College Freshmen: Consulting for Adulthood.” She began a two-year phased retirement plan in Fall 2014 and had planned to retire fully at the conclusion of the Spring 2016 semester.

Donations in Bips’ honor can be made to Muhlenberg College and should be designated for the Linda Bips Memorial Fund.

brother, Kenneth A. Stedman, and her best friend of 47 years, Emily Meschter.

1969

Susan LeKites (Strimel), 66, died on Oct. 10, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Robert LeKites, a daughter, Sara Cunningham (husband Michael) and a son, Michael LeKites. She is also survived by five grandchildren, brother Robert Strimel Jr. and wife Kathleen, and one sister, Peggy Meyers and husband Jack.

1970

Ann C. Van Deusen (Clist) died on Aug. 16, 2015. She was the wife of James M. Van Deusen; mother of Jan Inguagiato (Larry), and James Van Deusen (Shannon), and grandmother of four. She is also survived by a brother Mark Clist (Chris).

1971

Rev. Douglas Thorpe Seidel, 66, died on Oct. 3, 2015. He is survived by siblings Bruce A. Seidel and wife Laura; Barbara J. Seidel, wife of Mark Holdbrook; and Stuart T. Seidel and wife Cheryl.

1972

Diane Maurice Williams died on Sept. 14, 2014.

1973

Rev. Robert R. Mitchell, Jr., 64, died on Jan. 24, 2016. He is survived by his daughter, Rebecca E. Mitchell, wife of John R. Acquaviva, and his son, Jonathan A. Mitchell, husband of Christina Mitchell. He is also survived by one grandson.

1975

Susan H. Aronchick (Hermany) died on Nov. 3, 2015. She is survived by her husband of 40 years, Dr. Craig Aronchick ('74), and their six children—Jennifer, Robert, Bryan, Jacqueline, Samantha ('11) and Jake. She is also survived by siblings David, Paul, Robert, and Ann, and four grandchildren. The Susan H. Aronchick Scholarship to assist a student in completing a music degree was established by Janet Balmuth, Class of '76.

1976

Richard E. Kalamar, 77, died on July 22, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Lorraine (Yeakel) Kalamar. He is also survived by sons Scott (Linda) and Brian (Sandra) and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his brother, Stephen Kalamar, Jr.

1977

Peter Nicholas Maluso, 60, died on May 25, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Rice Maluso; his mother, Alice (Mazzucco) Maluso; his brother, Paul, and his wife, Colleen; and his brother, David, and his wife, Nancy.

1979

Rev. Dr. Robert Stephen Miller died on March 2, 2016 after a long battle with cancer. He devoutly lived out his calling through pastoring Cornerstone Christian Fellowship Church (the church he helped to establish in 1989), serving as the president of the Identity School of Christian Ministry and writing a survival handbook to empower and train young pastors and missionaries. He also created and established JusticeRain, INC., an organization devoted to furthering God's vision for justice in the world and an online 40-day spiritual journey called TempleWork. Bob is survived by his wife Joni, his two children, Dana and Christie, his parents, Bob and Colleen Miller, and his brother and sister, Dave Miller and Beth Miller.

1980

Ed Martz died on Sept. 21, 2015. He lived in Strangnas, Sweden with his fiancée, Sinikka Franck. He is survived by his parents, Edward and Betty Martz, and his sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Ron Lueddeke. • **David C. Shapiro** died on Aug. 2, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Wendy Berger Shapiro, and sister Monica Shapiro. Five sisters-in-law, his mother-in-law and several nieces and nephews also survive him.

1987

Daniel P. Stark, 50, died on Sept. 4, 2015. He is

survived by his ex-wife, Linda; his children, Laura and John; his parents, Jean and Cas; his brothers, Raymond and Paul, and two nephews.

1989

Angela J. Voelcker died on Sept. 1, 2015. She is survived by her mother and father, Jane (Motto) and Richard Voelcker; her sister, Laurinda Voelcker; her brother and sister-in-law, Brian and Raven Voelcker; and a nephew, several aunts, uncles and cousins.

1999

Teresa Ann Roeder died on Dec. 29, 2015. She was married to Donald R. Roeder for 44 years. She is also survived by her mother, the former Myrle Tedor; daughter Jessica Henry; son Michael Roeder and his wife Julie; three grandchildren; and two brothers, John Pospischil and wife Ann, and David Pospischil.

2000

Holbrook "Brook" Edwin Kidd Kohrt, M.D., Ph.D passed away Feb. 24, 2016 from complications related to a lifelong battle with hemophilia. He was an assistant professor at the Stanford University School of Medicine, renowned for his clinical trials and research examining novel immunologic approaches to treat leukemia/lymphoma. He is survived by his parents, MaryLou and Alan; sister, Brie Kohrt; brother, Brandon Kohrt; sister-in-law, Christina Chan; nephew, Ceiran Kohrt-Chan; brother, Barret Kohrt; sister-in-law, Angela Carlson; cousin, T.J. Brunner; stepmother, Lois Kohrt; stepsiblings, Jennifer Baldwin, Katherine Czapla and Ryan Baldwin; and his girlfriend, Kendra Cannoy.

2009

Kristopher C. Pisarcik, 29, died Feb. 29, 2016. He was a contractor for the National Security Agency. He is survived by his wife, Holly; parents, Gail and Daniel; brother, David; maternal grandparents, Columbia and James Jiunta; paternal grandparents, Barbara and Daniel Pisarcik; and other family and friends.

One of Muhlenberg's first female professors, Joanne Stafford Mortimer, passes away

Joanne Stafford Mortimer, who served as professor of history at Muhlenberg for 26 years, passed away on September 12, 2015.

After graduating from Dickinson College, and while completing her Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania, Joanne moved to Allentown in 1957 to begin her journey as a professor of European history at Muhlenberg College. At Muhlenberg she met Charles Mortimer, a young chemistry professor, whom she married in 1960.

Joanne set an example as a professional woman at a time when few existed on campus. She received recognition as an historian and as one of Muhlenberg's first female professors. Over the years she and Charles shared their love of education, and each other, by teaching the History of Science together.

After she left Muhlenberg Joanne worked for a period of years as historical archivist at the Lehigh Valley Hospital. She also volunteered teaching reading in an adult literacy program.



Service: What's in a word?

The word “service” is fraught with assumptions, ideas and images. It is so broad that it cannot be simply defined, yet many feel they have a good sense of what “service” is or is not. Is picking up a piece of trash you see on the sidewalk service? What about the person who brings you food at a restaurant? How about chaining yourself to an old-growth tree in the woods so it isn't cut down? When we consider the ways in which we think about service, one thing becomes clear: The way we understand “service” is influenced by the inequitable distribution of power within our society.

Systems and structures at every level inform and create the human experience, often producing inequities. Much of our work in community engagement at the College focuses on alleviating the effects of these inequities on communities. For example, when a local school district was unable to fund arts and physical education programming several years ago, we worked to increase programming for youth in those areas. The work of connecting communities brings together people from diverse backgrounds to work toward common goals.

Through collaboration, we are able to specifically target ways in which we can make

our communities stronger: having children read at grade level by the third grade creates a more informed citizenry, exposing youth to forms of self expression through arts and media supports young people in using their voices. When people who have differing social identities collaborate to achieve common goals, we are also able to learn about our own perspectives and better understand ourselves and one another.

When we say we “serve” others, there is an assumption that people are not capable of, or shouldn't be, doing something on their own. Many believe that service is altruistic, that we are doing something not because we expect something in return but because it is the “right” thing to do.

But if we enter into relationships or engage with communities, believing that we aren't going to benefit in some way, doesn't that affect the very nature in which we enter those contexts? If we assume we have something to give, that we are doing something solely from altruistic motives, aren't we being just the tiniest bit arrogant? Aren't we showing a lack of respect for the communities around us and what they have to offer?

So what about if we begin to look at work

with communities as true engagement instead of “service?” What if we acknowledge the ways in which we all benefit from engaging with local communities—the stories that people so willingly share with us to enrich our lives, the more beautiful parks system we can enjoy with fewer invasive species or the greater understanding of how policy decisions inform experiences.

Ensuring voices are heard and change happens requires that people participate as active community members at every scale—direct assistance, policy change, organizing and direct action. Our democracy needs people committed to creating stronger communities through this multi-pronged approach, and we all benefit from the outcomes of these efforts. It's not about doing for someone, but about all of us collaborating for change.



Beth Halpern is director of community engagement at Muhlenberg. The Office of Community Engagement engages students, employees and local communities through partnerships intended to catalyze personal, institutional and community change.



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