

THE WESCOE NEWS

Muhlenberg College Wescoe School of Continuing Education • A Publication for Our Students and Alumni



First in Scholarship and Leadership

On Friday, April 5, Muhlenberg College Wescoe School of Continuing Education inducted nine new members into the Eta Chi chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda.

Adjunct instructor Amy Carbine-Stauffer and Assistant Dean Gregg Scully were inducted as honorary members for their commitment to adult education at Muhlenberg College. “It meant a lot to me to be chosen as an honorary inductee,” says Scully. “It was even more gratifying knowing that the nominations came from advisees/students of mine.”

Founded in 1945 by Dr. Rollin B. Posey, Alpha Sigma Lambda was created to honor dedicated adult students who achieve and maintain high scholastic standards.

The Wescoe School received its charter in 2009, joining over 300 chartered chapters in the United States. Alpha Sigma Lambda is currently the largest and oldest chapter-based honor society in the U.S. for adult students.

*Additional photos may be found in our Media Gallery – muhlenberg.edu/wescoemediagallery



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR INDUCTEES! First in Scholarship and Leadership

Michael Kovach • Amber Kucher • Richard London • Danielle Palumbo
Michelle Rumley • Michael Skrip • Brandon Smith • Corey Thrash • Jonathan Werner



Accelerated Degree Program Highlights

By Philip Howe, director of accelerated programs

Following the winter break, classes resumed in January. The spring semester typically has a number of cohorts completing their capstone projects and this year was no exception. Cohorts 19, 20, and 21 presented their projects in early March.

Cohort 19 presented their projects on March 8th. The team of Heidy Collado, Holly Decker, Amber Kucher and Michelle Rumley worked with Girls on the Run of the Lehigh Valley to develop a corporate sponsorship program. The team of Price Burger, Sherry Koch, Maria Ebert and Lissette Ortiz teamed with Easton Area Community Center in order to help the Center create a better process for identifying the skills needed by different classifications of volunteers.

The following evening we combined the presentations of Cohorts 20 and 21. The Supply Chain team of Richard London, Donielle Seunarine, and Michael Skrip completed an Indirect Spend Project for Knoll Inc. that involved the first complete analysis of indirect spending. From this analysis emerged a number of suggestions and the development of tools and documents that Knoll will use in the future to control indirect spending. The HR Leadership team of Shelly Fasolka, Deena Linn, and Christine McNeill partnered with NAMI Lehigh Valley to assist the organization in its desire to earn "The Seal of Excellence" accreditation awarded by the Pennsylvania Association of Non-profit Organizations. The team provided the

organization with extensive documentation and deliverables. The Supply Chain and HR teams comprised Cohort 20. Rounding out the evening's presentations was a two person IS team from Cohort 21 comprised of Douglas Kershner and Christopher McAtee. They undertook a project for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lehigh Valley that involved a volunteer management process and the development of a strategic information plan.

Our faculty spotlight for this column shines on Bernadine Douglas who teaches in the accelerated Information Systems program. When not teaching for us, Bernadine is an Independent Consultant focusing on Process Control Consulting and Program and Project Management. Bernadine holds a Master's of Science in Computer Systems Management and is a Certified Project Management Professional (PMP). Bernadine also has close to ten years of experience with major diversified organizations including Air Products and Harris Corporation.

I would like to end the spring column with a note about Wescoe's new Data Analytics Certificate Program. The Dean and I were part of a team that developed the program and it has drawn a lot of interest since we announced the program in late winter. The first classes in the program begin with the fall semester. There are six courses in the program and it is designed to be completed within a year.

Please send your story ideas to amybenninger@muhlenberg.edu.

Quick Clips

- **Nina Corona '13** has been accepted into Fordham University's Doctor of Ministry program.

- **Simone Phillips '13** has earned a Master of Clinical Social Work degree from Marywood University.



Judy Sitrler '17

- **Judy Sitrler '17** received the top senior award from the local chapter of The Institute of Management Accountants. Judy was chosen by faculty based upon her outstanding classroom performance, dedication to excellence and high degree of professionalism.

- In January, **Krystle Roth-Kidd '17** was hired by Muhlenberg College as the school's webmaster.



Krystle Roth-Kidd '17

- In February, **Leonard Lightner '12** was promoted to Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development for the city of Allentown. (See feature: page 2.)

- In March, **Paola Mosquera**, teacher certification student, was a speaker at the Multicultural Women in Leadership Seminar at the Historic Hotel Bethlehem. Paola shared her passion for education and her dream of becoming a Spanish teacher. In April, Ms. Mosquera was

awarded the Phi Sigma Iota Award for Spanish at the Muhlenberg Honors Convocation. Phi Sigma Iota scholarships are awarded to undergraduate students who excel in the areas of academic performance and achievement and/or extraordinary educational activities related to the field of foreign language study that uphold the ideals of Phi Sigma Iota.



Provost Kathy Haring and Paola Mosquera

- **Dean Jane Hudak** presented the opening remarks at the Future of Higher Education Symposium held in April.

- **Nicole Lewis '17** and **Allen Collins '17** received the Dr. George A. Frounkfelker Award, which is awarded to Wescoe Students for their excellence in continuing education.



Laura Pezzulich '19

We welcome, Laura Pezzulich '19, philosophy major, as Wescoe's next presidential assistant. Laura's interests range from art and drawing to writing and film. Please say hello to Laura on your next visit to the Wescoe School office.

Adiós, Paola Mosquera, and saludos! We say adiós to Paola Mosquera as the presidential assistant for the Wescoe School as she completes her teaching fieldwork next semester. Paola has been a wonderful addition to our team here at Wescoe and we are sad to see her go. Saludos!

SPOILER ALERT: Change is coming to the City of Allentown.

Okay, okay so this is old news. If you live in or near the Lehigh Valley area, you are very aware of the changes taking place in downtown Allentown. Businesses have moved in along with various new restaurants with upbeat menus and apartment buildings with their modern architecture. Walking down Hamilton has a very different feel now. It's called revitalization.

The City of Allentown has an entire department dedicated to revitalizing the area; the Department of Community and Economic Development (CED). The CED plays a major role in this change by offering resource assistance to both residents and small businesses, neighborhood and non-profit groups, religious organizations too.

The Director of Community and Economic Development is Leonard Lightner '10. Leonard supervises many of the city bureaus including planning, health, building standards and safety, economic development, community development, housing, business development and the city's federal Community Development Block Grant program. Among his other responsibilities, Leonard develops an annual operating and capital budget for the department, as well as serves on various boards and commissions.

Having spent most of his career helping the community, Leonard is all about inspiring and empowering people to achieve their goals. "Seeing that glimmer in their eyes when they figure out a solution



to a problem or when a team comes together and completes a project," is what drives Leonard's passion.

A California native but a resident of the area since 2001, Leonard earned his degree from Muhlenberg College Wescoe School of Continuing Education in 2010. Also a veteran of the United States Army, Leonard served his country for 27 years and retired as a Command Sergeant Major. Leonard went on to graduate from



Moravian's Theological Seminary with a masters in Theology. "Imagine if we all considered others' needs before our own?" says Leonard. "What if we were able to love people from all walks of life. Imagine how different our lives would be."

With the combination of Leonard's passion for his community and country,

along with CED resources, downtown Allentown is once again flourishing.

So the next time you are enjoying a concert at the PPL Center or a cocktail at The Hamilton Kitchen, remember that many people put their time and efforts into

the revitalization of Allentown. It may take a village to accomplish this renaissance, but passionate leadership makes all the difference.

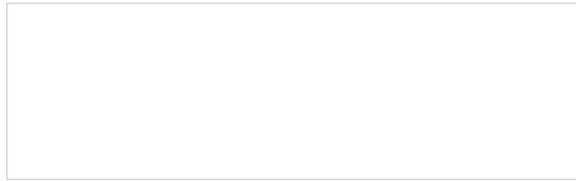
Leonard's future plans include earning a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership to enhance his dedicated service to the community.



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Are You In The Muhlenberg Network?

Ryan Smolko, Associate Director, Student Engagement and Transition

Muhlenberg wants to make it even easier for you to stay connected to your fellow Mules, or find new connections to unexplored opportunities. That's why we're asking you to join our new online networking platform, The Muhlenberg Network.

We launched The Muhlenberg Network last summer, and already over 1500 Muhlenberg alumni, students, parents, faculty and staff have joined. These Mules have shared over 150 updates advertising for assistance or connections. They've also posted close to 120 jobs, from entry-level to experienced positions perfect for mid-career professionals looking for their next move. Don't miss out on the chance to find your next business partner, career opportunity, or be the helping hand to pay forward the advice you received early in your career.

- > Go to The Muhlenberg Network (www.themuhlenbergnetwork.com) right now!
- > Join using your LinkedIn (suggested method), Facebook or email
- > Become a resource to students by sharing industry advice and career path insights
- > Start using The Network to help advance your own career
- > Access a job board with advanced level positions

Whether you're looking for advice or hoping to share your expertise, The Muhlenberg Network is the perfect place to go. We offer appointments in-person or over the phone during regular business hours as well as in the evening. Call 484-664-3170 to schedule an appointment.

