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Welcome to this issue of the *Wright State University Magazine*.

Hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful summer. I know I'm ready for the cooler, crisper days of autumn and welcoming our students back to campus.

We begin the new academic year with one of my all-time favorite events—Move-In Day! I always look forward to the flurry of activity as incoming students move into the residence halls for the first time. For me, the best part is getting to meet our newest students and their parents and welcoming them to the Wright State family.

As I get to know our first-year students at various events during Welcome Week, I always try to share a few words of wisdom on how to fully embrace the college experience. Along with the requisite advice to study hard and make new friends, I encourage them to begin thinking about studying abroad.

In this issue, we'll take a look at some of the enriching experiences our students are having as they journey around the globe. You'll also meet some of the international students who are earning their degrees at Wright State. Did you know that during the last year, 1,039 students from 60 different countries studied at Wright State? We are especially proud of the growth in our international student enrollment and hope to continue this upward trajectory.

At this year's Move-In Day, I am especially looking forward to welcoming 15 students from the first graduating class at the Dayton Regional STEM School. These extraordinarily bright and talented young people are now our newest Wright State Raiders. I had the distinct honor of speaking at their commencement ceremony in June, and let me tell you they are impressive. It wouldn't surprise me if they one day become the next Ricky Peters, Morley Stone, or Michael Deis—three Wright State alumni who are spearheading many of the research initiatives at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Make sure to read about this trio of superstars and their cutting-edge work at the Air Force Research Laboratory.

Until our next issue . . .

Warmest regards from campus,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David R. Hopkins". The signature is fluid and cursive.

DAVID R. HOPKINS
PRESIDENT
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

The summer 2013 Tropical Field Ecology class in front of a mammoth ceiba tree in the Peruvian jungle. Pictured, L-R: (back row) Associate Biological Sciences Professor Tom Rooney, students Jeff Howell, Zachary Eakes, and Rhett Rautsaw; (front row) students Elizabeth Engle, Erica Hile, Ashley Althouse, Emily King, Senior Biological Sciences Lecturer Marcia Wendeln, and student Catherine D'Amico.



globetrotters

wright state's growing international education program is leading students around the world

By SETH BAUGUESS

ON THE SAME DAY FABRICE SHEMA, a senior finance major from Paris, France, finished his last bit of coursework in Rike Hall, senior Jordon Coffman from Mercer County helped build and program a robot in Jena, Germany. Separated by an ocean, but linked by Raider pride, they are part of a growing demographic at Wright State—students seeking to travel the world to find international opportunities for their college education.

“The size of the campus, the suburban location, the superior support network—these are reasons why international students can thrive at Wright State,” said Shema, who followed the advice of a cousin and chose Wright State when he came to the United States for college.

Shema and Coffman are not alone.

Over the last five years, Wright State has seen a 63 percent increase in international student enrollment, which now represents nearly 6 percent of the general student population. It’s a shift that’s changing the face of campus.

At the same time, study-abroad opportunities among domestic students are on the rise. Students have less interest in trips that focus only on cultural experiences. They are also seeking college credit and professional gain from their international travels.

“This has become a big priority for our students and our campus—to have more of an international experience,” said Michelle Streeter-Ferrari, director for the University Center for International Education (UCIE). “Whether it be a chance to come to the U.S. for a first-class education and the opportunity to learn English, or going abroad to round out their college experience, more and more students want these opportunities.”

A chance to learn English

Last fall, 1,039 students from 60 different countries chose Wright State as degree-seeking or exchange students. Students from three countries—Saudi Arabia (498), India (158), and China (134)—comprised 76 percent of that group.

“The past seven years we’ve really worked on recruitment and focused on the resources that we had, like embassies and sponsored students,” said Streeter-Ferrari. “One of our greatest selling points is our English-intensive program, LEAP.”

Born 15 years ago, the Learning English for Academic and Professional Purposes (LEAP) program was designed to help students learn the English they would need to succeed in a Wright State classroom. The program began building momentum several years ago, and today its reputation has pushed well beyond its Dayton campus borders.

“LEAP participation has really taken off over the past three years with a projected increase of another 171 percent next year,” said Jeannette Horwitz, LEAP director.

About 20 percent of Wright State international students spend multiple semesters in LEAP classrooms before ever starting their formal academic careers.

“I came to Wright State to learn English,” said Jen-Chi Chen, an alumna from Taiwan who recently turned her newly minted nursing degree into a position at Grandview Medical Center in Dayton. “I never imagined I’d finish a degree.”

Chen, an engineer by trade, spent more than a year in LEAP classes, discovered nursing, and battled learning both English and dense medical terminology.

“The nursing textbooks and lectures are not like an English novel where if you don’t know the word you can read on and figure it out later,” said Chen. “You can’t skip medical words. If you skip, you might kill the patient.”

Chen might never have come to Wright State if not for a university policy change that allows conditional enrollment for students who have not yet passed or taken an English proficiency exam.

“We can teach the English here instead of requiring them to pass the test before they are admitted,” said Streeter-Ferrari. “That’s extremely appealing to students who might struggle to get a visa to study English. Here they can get a conditional admittance to study business, for example,

but must first complete the English program to do that.”

Shema and Chen both parlayed a solid LEAP foundation into demonstrable success in the classroom. Both graduated with grade point averages well above 3.0. Shema served on the business school’s dean’s advisory board and plans to begin his MBA studies this year.

According to a recent report conducted by Wright State, international students who pass the English proficiency test before coming to campus produce an average GPA a half point lower than students who complete LEAP or take some LEAP classes. Graduates of the program average a 3.46 GPA.

“They are just better prepared, and the word is getting out internationally,” said Horwitz. “Because of LEAP, they have not only learned English, but have already gained experience navigating the academic system, participating in university classes and developing professional and academic connections in their fields.”

Jungle life

Imagine standing alone in the pitch-black Amazon jungle, unable to see your hand inches in front of your face, acutely aware of a symphony of nocturnal forest sounds.

It was a life-changing experience for graduate student Emily King and seven other biological sciences students last summer when they traversed remote parts of the Peruvian jungle during a field study trip for their Tropical Field Ecology class.

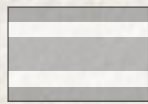
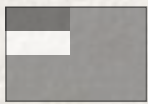
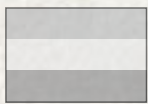
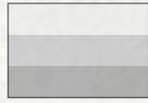
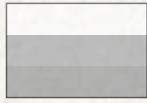
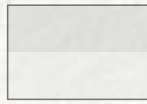
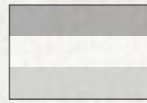
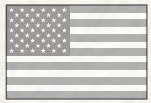
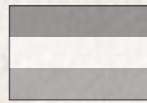
“That is a darkness that cannot be described,” said King. “You could hear every single noise, every leaf fall, every insect, frog, monkey, bird, everything. It was alive with activity, even in the dark.”

The purpose of the nighttime excursion is part of what Tom Rooney calls two-eyed vision. “By the time we leave, I want the students to try to see the jungle as both a visitor and a native,” said Rooney, associate professor of biological sciences.

King’s experience is not unlike those of the 252 other domestic students who



WORLD



traveled abroad last year for academic credit, co-ops, internships, and community service.

“The majority of our students participate in short-term programs for their first experience,” said Streeter-Ferrari. “They’re with a faculty member; it’s a great first-time experience abroad.”

The University Center for International Education (UCIE) organized seven trips in 2013, which took students to China, Costa Rica, Germany, Japan, Taiwan, Tanzania, France, and Spain. At least 12 trips are already planned for 2014.

Ten years ago, international educational experiences were minimal at best at Wright State, and primarily for liberal arts students.

“Back then, the experience was much more about learning the culture or a language,” said Streeter-Ferrari. “Now students want to participate in service learning and improve their professional resume in addition to the benefits of the exposure to another culture and language.”

A challenge to German engineering

Today, study-abroad opportunities that earn academic credit like King’s trip to the Amazon or Coffman’s journey to Germany are on the rise. These trips prioritize classwork first and tourism second.

While in Germany, Coffman and his mechanical engineering peers from the Lake Campus not only took a German language class, but also classes in microcontrollers and electrical drives. The group took challenging classes, built several robots, and tried to outperform German engineering students in a battle bot competition.

“What attracted me to this trip was the ability to receive credit while studying abroad,” said Coffman. “I wanted an opportunity to see Germany but I also didn’t want to waste my summer by not taking classes. The electrical engineering classes were difficult but we learned so much.”

Coffman and King had never traveled out of the country, or even set foot on a plane. King boarded eight planes on her trip alone.

Travelin’ man

Shema, on the other hand, is a globetrotter extraordinaire—perhaps the best example of a new kind of Wright State student set on making international experiences part of his education.

The native Rwandan, his mother and older sister followed his father’s work to France when he was 6. His parents returned to Africa to work

for the United Nations while Shema was in high school. Shema stayed in France with his sister until college and came to Wright State with almost no ability to speak English. After three semesters in the LEAP program, he began to pursue a bachelor’s in finance. He was selected for a summer internship before his senior year with the U.N. International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

Shema worked in the finance department with more than 200 interns; many were law students from universities like Notre Dame, Chicago, Harvard, and NYU. He made friendships he says will last a lifetime.

“It was an amazing experience. I spent the entire summer there, but it felt like just a few weeks,” he said. “It was familiar for me because I am from Africa, but it was a time that I will never forget.”

Premium on international education

The growth in undergraduate international students on campus is undeniable, yet Streeter-Ferrari said she believes growth in the international graduate student population will be the next big change on campus.

“We’ve always had a few hundred, but I believe we are poised to see more international students for graduate programs because it’s becoming a greater priority,” said Streeter-Ferrari. “We’re trying to look at diversifying even more.”

Streeter-Ferrari said she expects Wright State to attract students from Turkey, Brazil, and other countries with emerging middle classes. The university’s growing arsenal of international agents and partnerships is a vast improvement over past recruiting initiatives.

Ten years ago, Wright State employed zero representatives to recruit international students. Today that number has increased to 40, a big reason for the recent growth.

Though the number of domestic students studying abroad has not risen as quickly, gains are being seen there too. A demographic shift away from the traditional female liberal arts student also appears to be on the horizon.

“We want more STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) students, more minority students, more students with disabilities. We also want to diversify the kinds of places they are going,” said Streeter-Ferrari. “The traditional European summer abroad can be very impactful, but a trip to Tanzania, the Amazon, who knows what else, might just open a student’s eyes to a whole new world.” **W**

Opposite page, clockwise from the top: Fabrice Shema stands in front of the Arusha International Conference Centre in Tanzania. Jordon Coffman works on plans for the robot he and his team built for their Microcontrollers class in Jenna, Germany. Students practice conversational and academic English in LEAP class. Saudi Arabian students don traditional clothing on stage at the International Friendship Affair. Jen-Chi Chen smiles at commencement after earning her nursing degree.



wright state grads drive air force research

successful wright state alumni
have helped strengthen the
university's connections with
wright-patterson air force base

By JIM HANNAH

*Clockwise from top: Ricky Peters,
Michael Deis, Morley Stone*



THEY HAVE JETTED TO THE STRATOSPHERE of research in the U.S. Air Force. One oversees the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL). Another is chief scientist for human performance. A third heads up research on sensors.

All are Wright State University graduates and senior executives at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base whose careers were launched in the STEM disciplines—science, technology, engineering, and math.

Ricky Peters, Morley Stone, and Michael Deis are part of a pipeline of talent that has flowed from Wright State and now heavily populates labs and offices at Wright-Patterson.

Ricky Peters

An unopened pack of Lucky Strike cigarettes stands at attention on his office shelf.

For Ricky Peters, executive director of the Air Force Research Laboratory and a non-smoker, it serves as a reminder.

“I worked for a general once, and his comment always was: ‘You know, when things get really pressured and you think it’s too much, just take a break and smoke a Lucky.’” Peters said. “So everybody had a pack of Lucky Strikes at work, just in case things got too tight and you had to make a tough decision.”

Peters has to make many important decisions these days, but he doesn’t seem to need a Lucky.

“This is a fun job,” he said. “I think I have the best job in the Air Force.”

Peters manages the Air Force’s \$2.5 billion science and technology program and a workforce of about 10,400 people in the lab’s component technology directorates and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research.

He arrived at this summit after a boyhood spent in rural western Ohio and a journey that took him through Wright State University, AFRL at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Arnold Air Force Base in Tennessee, the Pentagon, and finally back home to Wright-Patterson.

Peters grew up in the tiny village of New Lebanon just west of Dayton. He attended Dixie High School, where he was a drummer in the band and played basketball for the Dixie Greyhounds.

His interest in mechanical engineering

came naturally. His father was a machine repairman at General Motors, and Peters would work on cars and farm equipment. He was hoping to work for GM as an apprentice, but got a scholarship to Sinclair Community College in Dayton and obtained his associate’s degree.

Peters then became a technician at AFRL as a civilian. The Air Force paid his tuition to attend Wright State, and Peters emerged with a bachelor’s degree in systems engineering.

A highlight for Peters at Wright State was his senior design project. His team built a mini Baja car and took part in a competition, but the students’ hopes of victory were dashed when they burned up a belt when the vehicle was forced to stop on a hill during a yellow flag.

“It was an awesome experience, a great time, and I still remember that,” he said. “It was a lot of evenings, a lot of weekends we worked on the car, but it was a great time.”

Peters said Wright State gave him a solid foundation in engineering principles and prepared him when he returned to AFRL at Wright-Patterson as an aircraft survivability engineer. His job was live-fire testing—firing live munitions on test U.S. military aircraft to determine how survivable they were to foreign threats.

“As these shells go inside an aircraft, they actually explode and throw all of these fragments out,” Peters said. “You have hydraulic lines, electrical lines, and because it bursts inside, it messes up everything. Sometimes when you would get a fire in a fuel tank, you get some pretty good explosions and large fires.”

As a result of that work, Peters and his team members were asked by the FAA to help with the investigation of Pan Am Flight 103, which was destroyed by a terrorist bomb in 1988 while en route from London to New York. All 243 passengers and 16 crew members were killed, as were 11 people on the ground in Lockerbie, Scotland.

Congress wanted to know how big of an explosive it takes to bring a commercial airliner down. The conclusions drawn by Peters and his team were used to develop detection technologies.

“The things you see in the airports today, and the amount and the size they

can detect were based on the research and the findings that we had in that program,” Peters said.

Hanging on a hook in Peters’ office are a pair of safety goggles and a white lab coat patchworked with stains from the time he served as advanced development manager at the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate in the mid-1990s.

Peters insisted on wearing a used lab coat, one that had absorbed its share of spills.

“When I would go to the lab I’d always wear it, and they’d think ‘This guy’s been here for a long time,’” Peters said with a laugh.

The white and yellow hard hats Peters keeps on his office shelf are a reminder of Peters’ time in 2006 to 2008 at Arnold Air Force Base, a hypersonic wind tunnel testing area where he was executive director of the Arnold Engineering Development Center.

After a stint at the Pentagon as director of test and evaluation, Peters fulfilled his goal to return to AFRL in the spring of 2013, when he returned to Wright-Patterson as the executive director of the organization where he laid the underpinnings of his career.

Peters and his wife, Sheri, who has a master’s degree in engineering from Wright State, settled in Brookville, west of Dayton.

Peters, who has spent a total of 24 years at AFRL, is heartened by the youthfulness of his workforce. As many as 40 percent of the workers have been at the lab 10 years or less.

“Just to be out with them and see the exciting things they’re working on is awesome,” he said. “It brings me back to when I was in the lab as a junior person.”

His challenges include dealing with budget constraints and balancing AFRL’s portfolio to meet short- and long-term Air Force technology needs.

“A laboratory can’t continue to do the same things year after year, so it gives us a chance to look at where we go in the future,” he said. “There is always opportunity, I think, any time there are financial pressures.”

It turns out that hard work—not Lucky Strikes—is the key to a successful career in the Air Force.

Peters says he learned the lessons of hard work on the mini Baja and the long hours studying engineering at Wright State, for which he is grateful. Continued interaction with the university, he says, gives him energy for the future of technology.

Morley Stone

It was a course that changed the course of his life.

Microbiology. Sophomore year. Wright State University.

It launched Morley Stone on a journey that has led him to a mountaintop of his profession—chief scientist, 711th Human Performance Wing, Air Force Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Stone said the course got him thinking about things with a cellular and sub-cellular perspective.

“That background just started to ignite a fire,” he recalled. “The next year I took biochemistry courses, some medicinal chemistry courses, and then finished up with some molecular biology coursework. I knew at that time that I was hooked on trying to figure out things at the cellular and sub-cellular level.”

Stone’s interest in biology may have come even before that, perhaps subliminally.

He grew up in the tiny steel-producing town of Steelton in eastern Pennsylvania and worked for his father, who was the town funeral director. Anatomy and physiology came with the job.

“It also started sparking an interest in the biochemical basis of what’s going on underneath the skin, so to speak,” Stone said. “It began planting those seeds of interest.”

After graduating from high school, Stone packed his bags, tossed them into his van, and drove to Dayton, where he moved in with his brother, a student at the Air Force Institute of Technology.

Stone enrolled at Wright State and was bowled over by orientation.

“One of the things that really impressed me about the university at that time was just how personalized the attention was that I received,” he said. “That meant a lot to me; it still does.”

Sophomore year, the young biology student began working at Wright-Patterson.

“Coming through these doors as a 19-year-old kid, how much awe I had,” he recalled. “I had never seen people who could sit down and just write computer code so fluently, like they were a native speaker. That was just incredibly influential to me. I didn’t even know people like this roamed the planet.”

The opportunity to work on Air Force research projects while completing his bachelor’s degree at Wright State was such a powerful combination that the Air Force sent Stone to Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh to get his Ph.D.

“I walked into those first-year graduate courses incredibly prepared,” he said, “much better prepared than my classmates coming from top-tier universities. They didn’t have near the breadth of experience that I had because of this unique environment that goes back and forth between Wright-Patterson and Wright State. It was a unique linkage between coursework and real-world science and technology application.”

When Stone returned to Wright-Patterson, he was asked to set up a biotechnology group for AFRL’s Materials and Manufacturing

Directorate. He learned his way around Washington, D.C., and obtained funding from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research.

Stone’s mission was to figure out how biology makes materials and senses the environment and then use those principles to design systems for the Air Force. In one example, his group studied single-cell algae, called diatoms, that produce intricate structures made of silica, an oxidized form of silicon, widely used in the manufacture of computer chips.

“We started a project trying to figure out what’s the molecular basis that the diatoms use to actually impart control over that silica. Is there any way that we can replicate that outside of the cell?” Stone said. “And the answer is yes, we can. We were very successful at that.”

Stone then spent three years in Washington, D.C., at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). DARPA produces new technologies for use by the military and has helped develop such things as the Internet and stealth technology. Stone was a program manager for bio-inspired technology and also worked on sensing and molecular computation.

“You’re there with people who have been chosen from academia, industry, and government. You’re all jammed together,” Stone said. “Being there with such bright people—all who are there to get a lot of work done in a short period of time—is a very exciting experience.”

In 2006, Stone returned to Wright-Patterson to head up the Hardened Materials Branch of the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate. Two years later—after serving as senior scientist for molecular systems biotechnology in the Human Effectiveness Directorate—he was named chief scientist for the 711th Human Performance Wing.

Stone said the biggest challenge in that role is trying to keep up with the breadth of work that is occurring in the human sciences and the rapid advances being made in the health and biosciences.

“Everything from neuroscience, cognition, wearable sensors, human machine teaming; there are just so many fronts where there is such exciting work taking place,” he said.

Stone’s advice to students seeking research jobs with the military is to accept that it will be a career of lifelong learning and to develop your critical thinking skills.

“You’re preparing for careers in research areas that don’t even exist yet,” he said. “So by definition you’re going to have to be very facile; you’re going to have to continually embrace learning new areas as they develop because that’s just the nature of our current accelerating technology-focused world.”

Michael Deis

His hilltop office offers a spectacular view of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the Dayton skyline and the horizon of western Ohio. Geese will sometimes take a flying break, swooping down to rest on the ledge outside his window.

Michael Deis has also ascended to these kinds of heights in his career.

As director of the Sensors Directorate at the Air Force Research Laboratory, he heads up efforts to develop the Air Force’s science and technology in intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, precision engagement, and electronic warfare. He oversees an

annual budget of more than \$850 million and the activities of about 1,300 scientists, engineers, and others.

“What it really boils down to is how do we protect and how do we ensure that our warfighters are able to accomplish their missions in a hostile environment?” said the Wright State University graduate. “How do we counter the enemy’s air defenses? How do we make sure our fighters get in to perform their mission and return home?”

Books on Deis’ bookshelves suggest both an interest in military history and administrative command—*Combat Search and Rescue in Desert Storm*, Norman Schwarzkopf’s *It Doesn’t Take a Hero*, and *Leadership Secrets of Colin Powell*.

Deis’ journey began in west Dayton, where he grew up as the son of an electrician who worked at General Motors Corp. The family later moved to Fairborn and then Xenia, where Deis attended Xenia High School.

The school allowed Deis to substitute all of the basic science courses with those on electronics.

“I took electronics because I loved electronics,” Deis said. “My dad was an electrician, and he used to wire houses. I started doing that with him when I was 10 years old.”

Deis enrolled at Wright State, but found that his lack of preparation in biology, chemistry, and physics hurt him. So he left, enlisted in the Air Force, and married Karen, his high school sweetheart and now wife of 40 years.

Horses had brought the couple together. Karen had them. Deis told her he knew how to ride them. “She learned very quickly that I didn’t have a clue about how to ride a horse,” he said with a chuckle. “But we became best friends.”

After finishing Air Force tech school in Denver, Deis and his new bride shipped out to the RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge, about 80 miles northeast of London.

A mentor encouraged Deis to go back to school and get his engineering degree. So he returned to Wright State and did just that. His wife also has her degree from Wright State, in human factors psychology.

Deis worked for Systems Research Laboratories in Beavercreek and served as a combat communications engineer with the Ohio Air National Guard before coming in 1987 to AFRL at Wright-Patterson, where he was a controls engineer in the Flight Dynamics Lab. He was promoted two years later and went into the test and evaluation of electronic warfare systems with the AF Electronic Combat Office.

In 1992, Deis was off to Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, where he spent the next 15 years in test and evaluation of munitions and weapons systems. He returned to Wright-Patterson in 2007 as technical director for Air, Space, and Information Operations at Air Force Materiel Command, then deputy director, and in January 2012 became director of the Sensors Directorate.

The directorate develops technologies for electronic devices, radio frequency sensing, electro-optical sensors and countermeasures, and automatic target recognition.

Deis has been working hard on how to advance Air Force capability in a “contested environment.”

“Frankly, we haven’t had a contested environment in over a decade now and we’ve maybe lost a little bit of our skills and

knowledge,” he said. “It’s regrowing that capability again, not only with our scientists and engineers in the Sensors Directorate, but also the technologies we provide to the warfighters so they can raise their skill levels up to where they need to be to safely accomplish their missions.”

Deis said the engineering degree he obtained at Wright State provided him with the foundation upon which everything else was built. He said powerful bonds have developed between Wright-Patterson and Wright State.

“Many of my scientists and engineers have strong relationships with Wright State,” he said. “We have many Wright State graduates here who stay in touch, help advise, or guide students with their thesis or dissertation.”

Deis himself serves as the Air Force advisor on the Wright State Engineering and Computer Science Board. “We’re all working hard to try to help our students, both academically and professionally,” he said.

Deis, who also a master’s degree in systems engineering from the University of Florida and a doctorate in organizational leadership from the University of Phoenix, said the Air Force has tremendous opportunities for STEM students.

“Even though we’re fighting budget pressures now, there is a recognition that students, future engineers, future scientists are the core and foundation of Air Force science and technology,” he said. “We’ll always be bringing young folks in to do that.”

Next Generation

It all began with a phone call.

Wright State University President David R. Hopkins rang up then-Education Dean Gregory Bernhardt and urged him to organize an effort to start a STEM school in Dayton. That was 2007.

On June 1, the Dayton Regional STEM School graduated its first class—52 talented seniors bound for the likes of Wright State, Emory, Purdue, Texas A&M, Ohio State, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, and other schools.

Along the way, the students learned Mandarin Chinese.

They immersed themselves in challenging math, science, engineering, and technology courses.

And they engaged in real-world problem solving—making presentations to lawmakers on a high-speed rail proposal, creating for health officials an anti-smoking campaign directed at teens, and building, packaging, and marketing a wooden, brain-teasing toy for the children of China.

“We’re well down the road to our goal of having prepared young people who are going to be the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, researchers, and employees in high-tech who have a relationship with real companies in this region,” said Bernhardt.

Bernhardt took the lead in putting the school together, working with public school leaders, the University of Dayton, Central State University, Sinclair Community College, Clark State Community College as well as the Air Force Research Laboratory, the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce, the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, and others.

The school is one of 12 public STEM schools across Ohio. They are designed to offer students a relevant, real-world education that prepares them for college and the working world. The students

participate in inquiry and project-based instruction that marries traditional STEM content with social studies, language arts, the fine arts, and wellness and fitness.

More than 540 students are expected this fall at the Dayton STEM school, an increase of about 120 students over last year. They come from more than 30 school districts in six counties.

“One of the things about the STEM school that interested me was that there were people coming from all over the community to try to build this school together,” said Bradley Hensley, a graduating senior.

This is the first year the school has operated at its full complement of grades 6–12, housing both middle and high school students and classes on one campus in Kettering.

“Some really cool stuff goes on here,” said Laurie McFarlin, director of communications and partnerships.

A stroll through the school bears that out.

Common areas are rimmed by computer stations, which draw huddling knots of students. Open classrooms reveal in-progress lessons of everything from art to computer modeling. A fitness commons is used for walking, weightlifting, Zumba, fencing, Tae Bo, and other activities.

Walls are dressed with posters of Mahatma Gandhi, Mt. Fuji with Japanese script, and an array of student artwork such as a collage of watercolor paintings of cells—an effort to fuse a lesson in art with biology. College pennants are pinned to the cafeteria wall, a tribute to the destinations of graduating seniors.

“This place is buzzing from 7:30 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon,” said McFarlin. “And the pep rally we had several weeks back for our robotics teams looked a lot like a sporting event.”

The school fields seven robotics teams, middle school and high school Science Olympiad teams, a Destination Imagination team, and a CyberPatriot team. Students have a chance to participate

in Science Fair, Student Council, Muse Machine, yearbook, and community service. And it recently inducted the first group of junior and senior students into its new chapter of the National Honor Society.

The school doesn’t operate in a bubble, but instead strives to build relationships and connect with the outside world. One Principles of Engineering course is taught by employees from Air Force Research Laboratory. And student artwork finds itself on public display at places like Wright State and the Dayton Metro Library.

The STEM school has become a living laboratory of sorts. Delegations of educators from as far away as Russia and East Asia have dropped in to check out the educational model.

Wright State is the school’s lead partner. All of the 37 faculty members and other eight workers are Wright State employees, but they are paid by the STEM school.

Kevin Lydy, who teaches U.S. history and comparative religion at the STEM school, said the school accepts students of all different skill and ability levels. But hard work is the common denominator.

“We want students who are going to be motivated by academic challenges and give us their all,” Lydy said.

Philip Bottelier teaches introduction to engineering, conceptual physics, and computer modeling and simulation. Student netbooks are equipped with state-of-the-art software and they work in teams on re-engineering projects. The school also has a 3D printer on-site.

“It’s high level,” Bottelier said. “They are remarkable kids.”

Hensley says the classwork is extremely challenging and there is encouragement for students to get their work done.

“It’s a very good thing,” he said. “I feel like I actually have to apply myself, have to do a lot of deep thinking. They teach you to be very independent.” **W**



Dayton Regional STEM School



filmmaker in the spotlight

through his new documentary, brent huffman is raising awareness for archaeological site facing destruction

BY BOB MIHALEK

FILMMAKER BRENT HUFFMAN WEARS MANY HATS when he's working on a project: director, producer, writer, photographer, editor.

But for his latest film, he's taken on a new role: advocate.

Huffman is using his film to try to build awareness for an ancient Buddhist monastery facing destruction.

In *The Buddhas of Mes Aynak*, Huffman documents the work of archaeologists as they try to preserve and rescue artifacts from Mes Aynak, a 2,600-year-old site in Afghanistan.

Mes Aynak is the home of an ancient Buddhist complex located on the Silk Road that functioned as a trading hub and destination for Buddhists traveling on pilgrimage.

It's also the location of the world's second largest untapped copper reserve, with an estimated worth exceeding \$100 billion.

In order to extract the copper, two Chinese companies that won the mining rights to the site will destroy the ancient complex, along with six nearby villages. The mining project will also pollute the area, making it uninhabitable.

"It's a beautiful, awe-inspiring site," said Huffman, who graduated with a B.F.A. in motion pictures from Wright State University in 2003 and is now an assistant professor at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, where he teaches documentary production and theory.

More than 400,000 square meters in size, Mes Aynak includes several monasteries, a fortress, and commercial and residential

structures. Archaeologists have uncovered more than 400 Buddhist statues, over dozens of stupes or domed shrines, painted murals, hundred of coins, manuscripts, glass, and pottery.

After making a \$3 billion bid in 2007, China Metallurgical Group Corporation (MCC) and Jiangxi Copper Corporation (JCC), both of which are owned by the Chinese government, won the mining rights to Mes Aynak for 30 years. MCC officials have said they were unaware of the Buddhist site when they were awarded the contract, according to Huffman.

For the last three years, archaeologists have performed "rescue archaeology" using primitive tools and with limited funding to extract what artifacts they can.

However, about 90 percent of the site remains underground and unexplored. Archeologists have told Huffman that it would take 30 years to properly document and excavate the site.

This year, archaeologists caught a break when MCC gave them more time to work on the site. Huffman said it appears archaeologists may have access to Mes Aynak through the end of 2013.

In the spotlight

Although he's still editing the documentary, Huffman is using the film to raise awareness about Mes Aynak, to try to save the site itself, or, at least, to buy the archaeologists more time.



Page 13: A gold-gilded seated Buddha overlooks the Chinese copper mine.

Top: Documentary filmmakers and husband and wife Brent Huffman and Xiaoli Zhou with Zum Kang Tashe (left), also referred to as the Rinpoche, a direct descendant of the seventh Dalai Lama.

Middle left: Afghan archaeologists work to preserve a 2,000-year-old Buddha head sculpted in the Gandhara style.

Middle right: Abdul Qadeer Temore, lead Afghan archaeologist, working on the large standing Buddhas.

Bottom: Huffman with Kabul police and residents of Chinarek, a village in volatile Logar province that is also threatened by the Chinese copper mine.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRENT HUFFMAN



"I couldn't live with myself if I just sat on this film and didn't use it to at least let an international audience know what was happening," he said.

Huffman has received attention from around the world for his work at Mes Aynak, including from the *New York Times*, CNN, *PBS NewsHour*, *The World* radio program, and *Tricycle: The Buddhist Review* magazine.

This spring, he screened rough cuts of *The Buddhas of Mes Aynak* at Northwestern, the University of Chicago, Harvard University, UCLA, and the University of California, Irvine. He also plans to screen it in Toronto, Rome, and the Netherlands. Huffman hopes to complete the film this fall, then show it at film festivals and on U.S. and international television and online.

Buddhist communities in Asia have rallied to the cause, thanks in part to Huffman's film and media appearances. In June, Huffman helped organize a protest in Los Angeles to raise awareness in Afghan and Buddhist groups in the United States about the plight of Mes Aynak.

To both help pay for the film's production costs and generate publicity, Huffman launched a Kickstarter campaign. By spring, he had raised more than \$35,000, 10 percent of which he donated to the Afghan archeologists to help them purchase digital cameras and computers.

"I think in part because of all this media awareness," Huffman said, "because of all this bigger public outcry, we were able to get MCC . . . and the Afghan government to give archeologists more time."

It's not unusual for Huffman to work so hard on a documentary. "Every film I work on is really a passion project," he said.

Life-changing experience

Huffman studied motion pictures at Wright State, where he worked closely with professors Julia Reichert, Steve Bognar, and James Klein. "The defining moment of my young career happened at Wright State," he said.

"I think Julia saw something in me early on," Huffman said. "I was this shy, nervous student, and she took this interest in me and showed me that I had a talent and I could be this documentary filmmaker and have this future."

As a student, Huffman worked as an assistant editor on Bognar and Reichert's award-winning documentary *A Lion in the House*. The filmmakers also let Huffman use their camera and sound equipment while he worked as a student on a documentary about the Warren County, Ohio, prison.

"I can't imagine that happening anywhere else," said Huffman, who remains close to Reichert and Bognar. "The film wouldn't have been made without that support."

Wright State's motion pictures program, Huffman said, provides an incredible amount of support to student filmmakers.

"Instructors like Steve and Julia and Jim would do anything to see projects completed and to help students," he said. "They changed my life."

Telling 'impossible stories'

Huffman specializes in social issues documentaries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, and his work has aired on the National

Geographic Channel, the Discovery Channel, CNN, PBS, Al Jazeera, and Current TV. He has received numerous awards including a Primetime Emmy, Best Conservation Film-Jackson Hole, Best Documentary-Fresno, three Cine Golden Eagle Awards, and a Grand Jury Award at AFI's Silverdocs.

Initially, Huffman was attracted to the Mes Aynak project because of his experience in China. He had work in China examining the country's role around the world, and his last film, *The Colony*, which he produced for Al Jazeera, looked at China's growing presence in Africa.

He was interested in learning more about the Chinese employees living and working at Mes Aynak and their interactions with Afghans. "On top of that, you've got this ancient Buddhist city that's going to be destroyed," he said. "You've got this frantic race to save it."

He first visited Afghanistan in 2003, falling in love with the country and its people. "It's just an incredible place," he said. "The people are so warm and kind and giving. I think I'm ultimately making this film for Afghanistan."

The story of Mes Aynak, Huffman said, reflects the recent history of Afghanistan.

"Unfortunately, there's a long history of conflict, over 30 years of continuous war," he said. "Cultural heritage gets destroyed all the time. The ultimate victims of destruction and exploitation are the Afghan people."

If Mes Aynak were to be preserved, he believes that it could be significant resource and destination, like Machu Picchu, and could redefine the history of Afghanistan and Buddhism.

Mes Aynak is 25 miles southeast of Kabul in Logar province. It once was the site of an al-Qaida training camp and is now surrounded by Taliban.

Huffman describes the area as "incredibly dangerous" and difficult to access. You must go through many levels of approval, including from the Afghan Ministry of Culture and the Kabul police, to get permission to visit the site. Plus, it's in a mountainous desert region that is prone to flooding and often gets buried by snowstorms.

Because the roads are so bad, it can take up to 90 minutes to get to Mes Aynak. "And it's a scary 90 minutes through villages that support the Taliban," he said.

Huffman usually travels to the complex by taxi to avoid attracting attention. However, he can't stay at the site overnight, since, after sunset, the area is regularly the target of rocket fire and landmines from the Taliban.

Despite the danger, Huffman has traveled to Afghanistan four times to work on the film since 2011 and has visited Mes Aynak 25 to 30 times.

"I'm attracted to impossible stories that feel like they can't be told," he said, "and this one felt like that—and it still does."

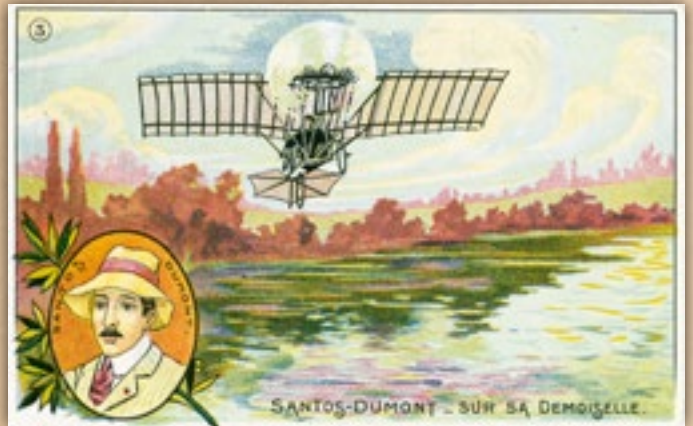
While Mes Aynak's culture and archeology are a significant part of the film, Huffman said the heart of the documentary is the archeologists who are risking their lives. For Huffman, documentary filmmaking provides him a means to tell people's stories.

"I wouldn't be able to get close to these archeologists and access this site without making this film," he said. **W**

flying machines

These vintage French aviation postcards, from the Charles Lewis Collection in Dunbar Library's Special Collections and Archives, highlight the precarious state of powered flight in 1909. Printed in Lille, France, by an unknown publisher, the postcards focus on numerous French aeronauts, including Henry Farman, Louis Blériot, Louis Paulhan, and Baroness Elise de Laroche. The collection also includes international aviation pioneers like Germany's Count Zeppelin, Brazilian Alberto Santos-Dumont, and Americans Wilbur Wright and Glenn Curtiss. These air pioneers were among the most famous celebrities of their day.

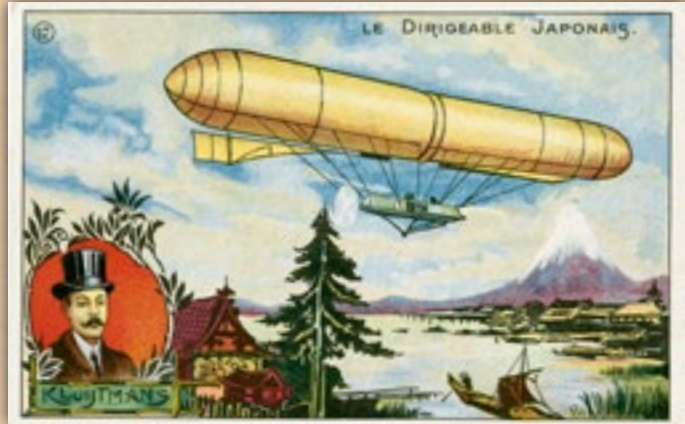
Visit www.wright.edu/postcards to see more of this collection and to read the details about each postcard.



1. In January 1908, Henri Farman (1874–1958) was recognized for flying the first observed kilometer in a closed circuit, although the Wright brothers achieved the same feat in 1904.
2. Louis Blériot (1872–1936) became the first person to cross the English Channel by airplane in July 1909.
3. In 1906, Alberto Santos-Dumont (1873–1932), a Brazilian engineer and balloonist living in France, made the first powered flight in Europe.
4. Wilbur Wright (1867–1912) and his brother Orville established the first pilot training school at Pau in southern France in 1909.
5. Hubert Latham (1883–1912), a popular sportsman, set the world endurance record for monoplanes in 1909.
6. Robert Esnault-Pelterie (1881–1957) built engines and designed monoplanes that included features that would become standard on modern planes.

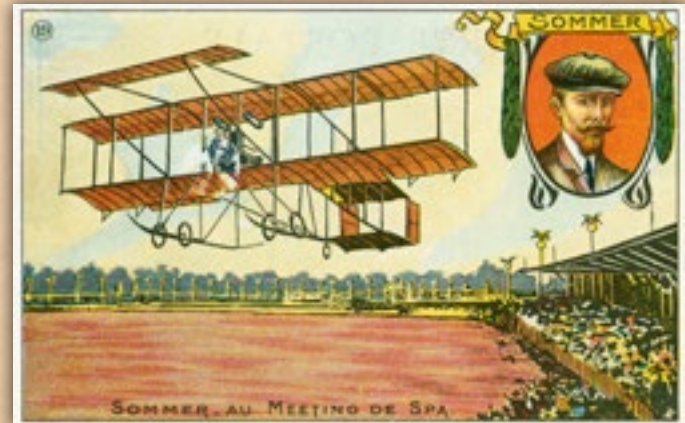
7. Count Ferdinand Graf von Zeppelin's (1838–1917) third airship design was one of the few successful early rigid airships.
8. In July 1909, Germé completed a frail biplane based on the Wright brothers' design.
9. Kluijtmans flew a biplane at the 1909 Rheims aviation meet, but may have had more success flying dirigibles in Japan.
10. Ambroise Goupy (1876–1951) built the first powered triplane to achieve flight and the first biplane with staggered wings.
11. Roger Sommer (1877–1965), an exhibition pilot, flew 37 miles at the First International Air Meet in Rheims in 1909.
12. An exhibition pilot, Louis Paulhan (1883–1963) is best known for winning the Daily Mail London to Manchester Race in 1910.
13. Known as Baroness de Laroche, Elise de Laroche (1882–1919) was a balloonist and the first woman with a pilot's license in 1909 at Chalons, France.

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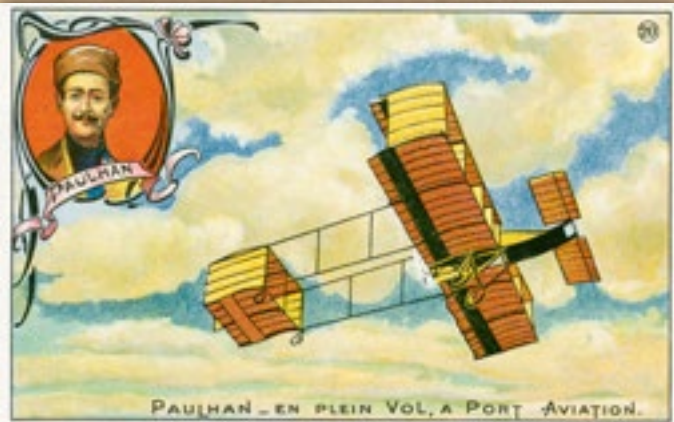
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tech tactic

wright state researchers use social media and other online information to track emergency efforts during natural disasters

AS A KILLER FLOOD WAS DEVASTATING HIS NATIVE INDIA, Wright State computer science student Hemant Purohit decided to put the research he was doing into practice.

Heavy rainfall in the Indian state of Uttarakhand had triggered heavy flooding and landslides. More than 1,000 people had lost their lives and many more were missing.

Starting with his social computing team's research platform—Twitris, the techy marriage of Twitter and Tetris—and applying algorithms, his team at Wright State University's Ohio Center of Excellence on Knowledge-enabled Computing, or Kno.e.sis, monitored the situation by quickly summarizing social media content and users.

But this was inadequate given the lack of social media users participating from the region of crisis. However, a lot of important information was flowing via government websites, forums, and news articles scattered around the web.

So Purohit launched a collaborative editing Google spreadsheet in which digital volunteers around the world were able to fill in information—of an actionable nature with geo-coordinates—by monitoring the news media, reports from government agencies, and non-government organizations, Twitter, Facebook, forums, blogs, and other news sources. That generated meaningful information from an ocean of data about flooded areas, affected roads, people who had been rescued, people who remained stranded, relief camps, and medical centers.

The Kno.e.sis team hosted the geo-located information from the spreadsheet to provide to its initial partner, the Google Crisis Response team, which made the critical information available on the crisis map for the Uttarakhand floods.

"This initiative was turned into a collaborative effort after receiving support from volunteers of well-known organizations, including StandBy Task Force, Info4Disasters, OpenCrisis, HOT, and CrisisMappersUK. The Humanity Road was also contacted and activated to support. This big effort involved several university students from around the world," said Purohit.

Purohit was ideally equipped to put research into practice. A graduate researcher at Kno.e.sis, Purohit is part of a National Science Foundation-funded project titled "Social Media Enhanced Organizational Sensemaking in Emergency Response."

The multidisciplinary project is led by professor Amit Sheth, the principal investigator, LexisNexis Ohio Eminent Scholar of and the director of Kno.e.sis. Co-principal investigators include professors Valerie Shalin and John Flach from the Wright State Department of Psychology and professor Srinivasan

Parthasarathy at The Ohio State University.

Twitris first mines Twitter for relevant users' live tweets and analyzes interactions to identify connections, engaging with important players in the social media community. They often consist of professionals working in academia, media, humanitarian work, politics, journalism, and medicine.

Twitris then allows users to look at communication patterns among these "influencers," helping a potential humanitarian-aid workers' media team, for example, to speed up digital response by engaging with targeted members of the network. It also finds key phrases in trending stories to quickly summarize the situation. Finally, it provides background information from sources like Wikipedia and news and blog sites to provide relevant context.

"These sets of information presented together give you a good picture," Purohit said. "Twitris' current research will be in providing more critical answers during a crisis such as: What if there is a resource center that has been set up 10 blocks away from a disaster victim who needs food and fresh water? How would the two connect? What if a humanitarian-aid team lands in Uttarakhand and needs to better understand the region to help those on the ground? How can we generate recommendations for assisting decision making? How can we evaluate the effective use of such tools?"

In many situations, software like Twitris cannot give a complete picture because not all information can be processed by computers, and the software cannot replace knowledge from humans who are on the ground and familiar with the local situation.

"We need to understand that many times human computation power cannot be replaced by machine-processable information," Purohit said. "The role of digital volunteers in such scenarios becomes critical to extract information that will help heighten situational awareness to better coordinate relief efforts."

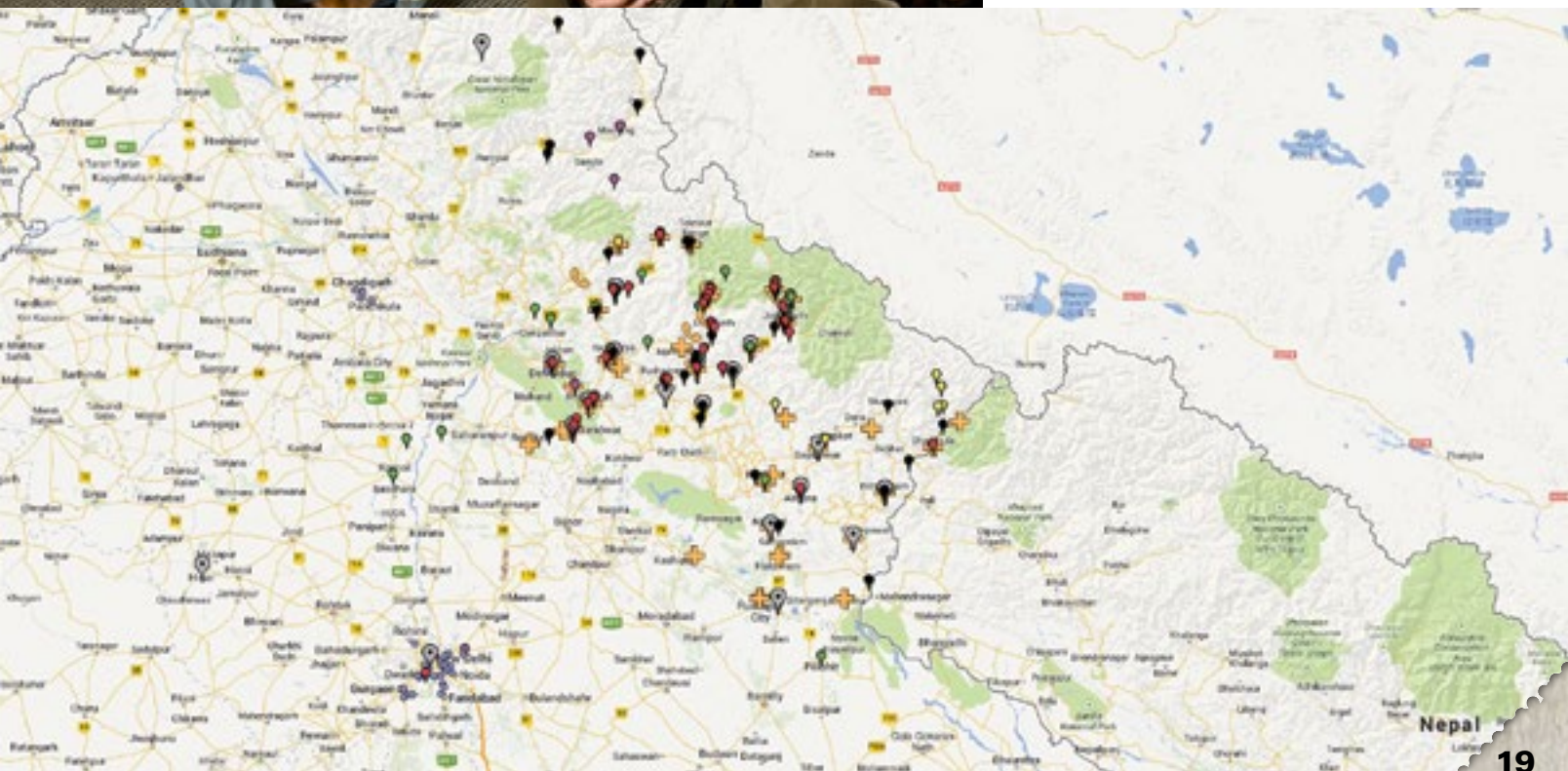
Purohit was able to utilize the power of the CrisisMappers network from the experiences of his mentor Dr. Patrick Meier, an international expert in humanitarian response and resilience from the Qatar Computer Research Institute, where Purohit had just completed an internship. The result was the creation of a significant and actively maintained computer-processable knowledge base.

"The outcome was an impressive application of training, research, and international collaboration, made possible in part by the National Science Foundation," said Sheth. "The research goal is to improve coordination during crises and improve efficiency of crisis response." **W**



Amit Sheth (left) and Hemant Purohit

Below: Crisis map showing roads, medical centers, relief maps, and stranded people in the flood-ravage Indian state of Uttarakhand.



forever in our hearts

scholarship fund honors the memory, bravery, and tenacity of a wright state student

BY KIM PATTON

They were always a welcome sight on the Wright State campus. Beautiful, dark-haired Samantha Laux and her adorable Golden Retriever service dog, Dylan. They left a permanent handprint—and pawprint—on the hearts of everyone they met.

“She pulled me out of being a hermit,” said Wright State student Megan Goettmoeller. “I didn’t hang out with other people. I went to class, got done with class, and came back to my room.”

Neighbors in Hamilton Hall, Megan and Samantha shared a friendship and the daily challenges of living with a disability. While both women were familiar with using a wheelchair for transportation, Samantha opened up a whole other world for Megan to explore.

Since a neurological condition—neurofibromatosis type 2 (NF2)—had left Samantha blind, deaf, and unable to walk, Megan learned American Sign Language to better communicate with her friend. Samantha also influenced Megan’s future career aspirations. “I wasn’t sure what kind of a social worker I wanted to be,” Megan explained. “But Sam inspired me to become a social worker that helps people with disabilities.”

Making an impact

While Samantha began losing some of her vision at age 4, she wasn’t diagnosed with NF2 until she was 15. Her family regards the late diagnosis as a blessing in disguise. As Samantha’s mother, Gail Laux, explained, “We would have bubble wrapped her and she wouldn’t have done half of what she did.”

When it came time for Samantha to go to college, she and her family began looking into schools that were highly regarded for their accessibility.

“I’d have to say that the biggest selling point for Wright State was the tunnels,” said Gail.

“Sam was still walking at that point, and she was not going to have somebody help her walk to class. The tunnels allowed her to navigate the campus without assistance.”

With her usual steely determination, Samantha began life as an independent college student. By Winter Quarter of her freshman year, Samantha had welcomed a new friend on her journey—the always lovable but rambunctious Dylan. The four-legged furball originally served as a balance dog, but when Samantha ended up in a wheelchair after a bad fall, Dylan began helping with her other needs as well.

For the Laux family, Dylan’s energetic nature was a constant reminder that he needed regular exercise. Since Samantha couldn’t see where Dylan was once she let him off his leash, she required a fenced-in area where she could let Dylan run.

Having a special place where the service animals of students could unwind was also becoming a priority for Jeff Vernooy, director of Wright State’s Office of Disability Services. After witnessing several service dogs get into fights outside his office, Vernooy met with students and posed the question: What can we do to make this a better atmosphere for service dog owners?

When the students suggested a dog park, the pieces began falling into place. After the university secured grants from the Kenneth Scott Charitable Trust of Ohio and the Laura J. Niles Foundation of New England, Gail Laux approached the Wallis Foundation in California, where her cousin, Beth, serves as president.

The Wallis Foundation provided the lead gift to name the Wingerd Service Dog Park in honor of Samantha and Dylan. (Wingerd is Gail’s maiden name.) When the Wingerd Service Dog Park was dedicated on October 4, 2008, it became the first dog park on a university campus built specifically for the service dogs of students.

Leaving a legacy

In the months leading up to her passing, Samantha’s Wright State friends knew they wanted to do something in her honor.

“I thought how happy she would be to see other students with disabilities succeed in attaining their dreams,” said Zach Holler, a 2012 Wright State graduate. “That is when the scholarship idea surfaced in my head.”

Zach, who was then serving as president of the student organization, Abilities United, helped to establish the Samantha J. Laux Scholarship. More than \$30,000 has been raised for the scholarship since it was created in early 2012.

Alex Woodall is the first recipient of the scholarship bearing Samantha’s name. While he never had the opportunity to meet Samantha, Alex discovered many commonalities after learning about Samantha from her family and friends. Like Samantha and Dylan, Alex is experiencing college with his service dog, Carlos. “It’s hard to imagine life without Carlos,” said Alex, who uses a wheelchair. “I don’t know how I would do it without him.”

Touched by Samantha’s story of courage and optimism, Alex says Samantha has inspired him to go out and meet new people. “If I’m able to show the world that I can accept other people for who they are, then they will, hopefully, accept me for who I am,” he explained.

It’s been more than one year since her passing, but the spirit of Samantha Laux is just as strong as when she was a student on the Wright State campus. It lives on in the people who knew her best—her family and friends—and in the scholarship that bears her name.

Every week after Mass, Megan Goettmoeller leaves the Campus Ministry building and heads to the nearby Wingerd Service Dog Park. There, she sits and reminisces about her dear friend, Samantha. “She will never be forgotten,” said Megan. “I still think about her every day.”

Remembering her beloved daughter, Gail Laux said, “When you met Sam, there was nothing broken about her. She probably was the most whole, had-it-together person out of any of us.” **W**





Voisard Honored with Diploma at Bedside

Great professors are generous, compassionate, unselfish.

Sherri Herrick, a management instructor in the Raj Sooin College of Business, was all of these things and more after she learned that one of her students, Brian Voisard, was gravely ill and could not attend the April 2013 graduation ceremony.

Herrick played an instrumental role in arranging permission to award the 21-year-old Voisard his diploma during a bedside ceremony at his home in the western Ohio village of Versailles.

Voisard was propped up in his bed. Pinned to his bedroom wall was a Wright State pennant.

Crowded into the room were Voisard's parents, relatives, friends. Looking on was the family priest, five nurses, a hospice worker. Representing Wright State were Herrick; College of Business Dean Joanne Li; management chair Bud Baker; and professor Melissa Gruys.

Li presided over the ceremony, giving Voisard's family a chance to rejoice, however briefly, in the glow of his exceptional achievements.

"His face beamed when I presented him with the diploma," Li said. "I felt so privileged to be able to serve Brian and his family. That is what Wright State should be about and is about."

Wright State researcher discovers mechanism to slow tumor growth

Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine professor Julian Gomez-Cambronero, Ph.D., and his research team have discovered a key protein that plays a critical role in the development of breast cancer tumors and the spread of the disease to the nearby lungs. Cambronero's findings, published in July in the leading cancer journal *Oncogene*, attribute the cancer's growth to a protein called Phospholipase D (PLD). Cambronero and his team found that by introducing two new chemical inhibitors of PLD they could shrink tumor growth and reduce subsequent metastasis by around 70 percent.

Women's tennis program honored by NCAA for academics

The NCAA recognized the Wright State University women's tennis program for its Academic Progress Rate (APR) with a perfect score of 1000, marking the fourth straight year that it has received the honor. Each year, the NCAA tracks the classroom performance of student-athletes on every Division I team through the annual scorecard of academic achievement known as APR. The rate measures eligibility, graduation, and retention each semester or quarter and provides a clear picture of the academic performance in each sport.

Hopkins elected chair of Inter-University Council of Ohio

Wright State University President David R. Hopkins was elected chair of the Inter-University Council of Ohio and will preside over the council of presidents who represent Ohio's 14 public universities. Hopkins' term runs from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, making Wright State the chair institution of the IUC.

In his role as chair, Hopkins, along with IUC President Bruce Johnson, will oversee IUC operations and its agenda. Through the IUC, the member universities collaborate and work with state government to help chart the future of higher education and make it an engine for economic revitalization in Ohio.

Nathan Klingbeil named dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science

Nathan Klingbeil, who has spent 14 years as a teacher, researcher, and administrator at Wright State's College of Engineering and Computer Science, was selected as the next dean.

Klingbeil is a three-time recipient of the college's Excellence in Teaching Award and was named the 2005 Ohio Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). He and his fellow researchers have been funded seven times by the National Science Foundation, and he has led externally funded research and education projects totaling over \$5.6 million.

Previously, he served as senior associate dean, the Robert J. Kegerreis Distinguished Professor of Teaching, director of student retention and success, professor, and associate dean for academic affairs.

Lake student named Wright State and Ohio Student Employee of the Year

A Marine Corps veteran and engineering student lauded for his work ethic as a laboratory and teaching assistant won both the Wright State and Ohio Student Employee of the Year Awards.

Kris Hyde, a mechanical engineering student at Wright State's Lake Campus in Celina, first became interested in mechanical engineering while serving as a heavy equipment operator in the Marine Corps.

Engineering lecturer Dennis Hance nominated Hyde for the award because of his exceptional work ethic and technical understanding.

Hyde resides in New Bremen with his wife, Christan, and their infant son, Everett.

Rowdy Raider wins Mascot Championship

For the first time in Wright State history, Rowdy Raider became the UCA Mascot National Champion. Matt Herman, who had been Rowdy for five years, capped off his senior year with a 90-second news-themed skit that brought the house down at nationals. Rowdy competed against nine other university mascots in April at the annual National Cheerleading Competition in Daytona Beach, Florida.

His journey to a championship began last summer during the Mascot Training Camp when he was crowned the Best Overall Mascot of the camp and a Mascot All-American, earning him an invite to the national competition. "When they called my name, I just stood there for several seconds in disbelief," said Herman.

Groundbreaking launches pioneering neuroscience-engineering building

Wright State University broke ground on a new state-of-the-art laboratory building expected to become a beacon for translational neuroscience and engineering research. The \$37 million, four-story Neuroscience Engineering Collaboration building is expected to be finished by February 2015. Neuroscientists, physicians, and engineers will focus on research and development of new technologies to improve treatment strategies and medical devices especially related to the fields of neurological disorders and traumatic injuries.

The goal is to help speed the commercialization and clinical use of research and the new technologies.

Deedrick earns Service Award

Often the first person in line to help a student dealing with terrible circumstances, Wright State's Office of Student Support Services Director Katie Deedrick received the 2013 Greene County Outstanding Community Service Award. When an incident takes place, she is the person who receives the phone call in the middle of the night and drives to the hospital to offer the university's help to the victim and his or her family. Deedrick also promotes personal safety among the student body and helps introduce community agencies to students who might utilize their services.

"She is 'all in' in terms of helping that student. Nobody else could do Katie's job the way she does it. She takes every incident very personally," said Kathy Morris, associate vice president in the Division of Student Affairs.



Dennis Hance, Kris Hyde, and Bonnie Mathies



Rowdy Raider



Interior, Neuroscience Engineering Collaboration building



Katie Deedrick



PHOTO: PHIL HUMNICKY

raider romance

from dayton to d.c., one couple reflects on their marriage, careers, and wright state experience

By KIM PATTON

ERIC AND MOLLY LECKEY ARE TWO OF NEARLY 6,000 WRIGHT STATE ALUMNI who are married to another Wright State graduate. For the Leckeyes, their romance blossomed out of a friendship that was formed on Wright State’s Model United Nations team. The two met during their junior year, when Molly joined the Model UN as a delegate. Eric and Molly became fast friends and eventually started dating their senior year.

Eleven years after graduating from Wright State, the couple is celebrating their 10-year wedding anniversary while balancing marriage, family life, and careers in the hustle and bustle of the nation’s capital.

Molly currently works as the legal advisor to the Clerk of the Board at the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, while Eric is the chief privacy officer at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). They both credit Wright State, and particularly the Model UN program, with giving them the foundation for their success today.

“The Model UN program really gave me the confidence that I could do more, be more,” said Molly, who graduated from George Washington University Law School in 2005. “It was the highlight of my college years—the things I learned, the relationships I formed with friends, with Eric, with professors we still stay in touch with 10 years later.”

For Eric, the Model UN program taught him the fundamentals any college graduate should have—strong research, public speaking, writing, negotiating, debate, cultural, and interpersonal skills. It also helped prepare him for a career in politics and public service.

Eric served as Shelby County chairman and regional coordinator for the Bush-Cheney campaign in 2000. Following graduation, he was appointed by the Bush administration to a position at the U.S. Department of Education. From 2003 to 2007, he worked on homeland security issues at both the White House and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

After two years in the private sector at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Eric returned to the Department of Homeland Security. He moved to FEMA in 2011. When Hurricane Sandy hit the East Coast in October 2012, Eric was deployed to New York to lead a team that worked on response and recovery in Long Beach.

“In the homeland security environment, every thing you do touches people,” Eric explained. “There’s really no better way and no better place to work where what you do really does directly impact on a daily basis the safety and security of the nation and the people who live here. That’s the most rewarding part of it.”

For Molly, who began her career as an attorney in one of D.C.’s top law firms, working for the federal government has allowed her to achieve a better work-life balance, where she can have a rewarding career while taking care of the couple’s two young sons, Truman and Tate.

The Leckeyes stay close to their Ohio roots, frequently returning home to visit family in Springfield and Sidney. They also continue to support the Model UN program, where their love story first began. They co-chaired the Model UN Advisory Board the first year after it was formed, and they have endowed a scholarship fund for Model UN students.

As Eric explained, “It became important to us to make sure that this program at Wright State lived into perpetuity.” **W**

Share Your Love Story

Did you meet your spouse or partner at the Dayton or Lake Campus? Tell us about your Raider Romance or Laker Love at: www.wrightstatealumni.com/romance



WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY **RAIDER** **HOMECOMING**

AND **2013 ALL-CLASS AFRICAN-AMERICAN CLASS REUNION** (Items listed in green are part of the African American Alumni Society All Class Reunion)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

“Soo Sunny Park: Unwoven Light.” open exhibit - Robert & Elaine Stein Galleries Creative Arts Center

1:00–5:00 p.m.

ASPIRE (reunion career fair) - Student Union Atrium

7:00 p.m.

Alumni Achievement Awards - Nutter Center Berry Room (by invitation only)

9:00 p.m.

The Game Train featuring “Sips for Scholarships” - Rockafield Alumni Center

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Alumni Flag Football

10:00 a.m.

Legacy Scholarship Brunch/Alumni Grove Dedication - Student Union Atrium (by invitation only)

noon–4:00 p.m.

“Soo Sunny Park: Unwoven Light.” open exhibit - Robert & Elaine Stein Galleries Creative Arts Center

noon

Cruisin’ Campus: A guided campus tour

Club Football Tailgate - Rinzler Sports Complex

(including the Model UN Alumni Gathering and the College of Nursing and Health Alumni Gathering)

2:00 p.m.

Club Football, Wright State vs. Oakland University - Rinzler Sports Complex

Swimming and Diving Alumni Reunion - Rockafield Alumni Center

Alumni Softball game

3:30 p.m.

Chili Cook Off Homecoming Festival - Rinzler Sports Complex

5:00 p.m.

Men’s Soccer, Wright State vs. Oakland University - Rinzler Sports Complex

7:00 p.m

Soul Food and Scholarships (Proceeds benefitting the AAAS Scholarship Fund) - Student Union Apollo Room

Visit www.wrightstatealumni.com/homecoming and www.wsualumni reunions.com to view these schedules online and register for events.

ten alumni honored as their college outstanding alumni

Wright State University recognizes its college outstanding alumni each year during Alumni Reunion Weekend. Ten honors were awarded in 2013 on Saturday, January 26, during the 14th annual College Outstanding Alumni Awards. These individuals represent some of the best and brightest in their fields and are a tribute to the education they received from Wright State University.

Each of our award winners were chosen by their college's deans based on the following criteria:

- *Achieving a significant level of accomplishment in their chosen profession*
- *Making a positive impact on a local, state, national, or international level*
- *Having demonstrated impressive volunteer service by giving significantly of their time and talents through professional and community service organizations*
- *Seeking the advancement of Wright State University*
- *Possessing high standards of integrity and character that positively enhance the prestige of the university*

During the 2013 ceremony, each college recognized former students who have gone on to make exceptional contributions to their professional fields while giving back to their communities. President David R. Hopkins and university deans presented the recipients with their 2013 College Outstanding Alumni Awards.



Back row, left to right: President David Hopkins; Raymond L. Umstead, '75 B.S.B. Raj Soin College of Business; Ronald P. Golovan, '89 M.D. Boonshoft School of Medicine; James D. Mamer, '88 B.S.Ed., '94 M.Ed. College of Education and Human Services; Clay Johnson (Christopher's brother); Christopher R. Johnson, '82 B.S. College of Science and Mathematics; Stephen R. Hampton, '80 B.M. College of Liberal Arts; and Sharon A. R. Stanley, '83 M.S. Wright State University–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health. Front row, left to right: Lori Crosby, '95 Psy.D. School of Professional Psychology; Patricia Adams Howard, '79 B.S.B., '99 M.B.A. Wright State University–Lake Campus; Michael R. Deis, '82 B.S.Egr. College of Engineering and Computer Science; and Sung K. Ahn, '83 M.S. Wright State University Graduate School.



rockafield alumni center

Rockafield Alumni Center opened in the fall of 2012, and for the first time in 43 years, Rockafield House served the university in a new capacity.

Built in 1969 for the university's first president, Brage Golding, and subsequently occupied by Wright State's first six presidents and their families, Rockafield has become the new home for Wright State University Alumni Association and the alumni returning to campus.

We welcome you to enjoy a photo tour of Rockafield Alumni Center on our website: www.wrightstatealumni.com

In what has been nearly a year, Rockafield Alumni Center has hosted over 100 events and meetings. A few features available through the use of the Rockafield Alumni Center include:

- *Alumni dinners*
- *Social gatherings*
- *Wine tastings and receptions*
- *Alumni reunions*
- *Meeting space*

big benefits for alumni and members

The Wright State Alumni Association has had the opportunity to partner with many local and national companies to provide exclusive benefits for our alumni and our Alumni Association members. Benefits range from insurance programs, travel programs, banking benefits, discounts on Wright State apparel through Barnes & Noble, as well as discounts on class rings and diploma display frames.

Our partnerships are continuing to grow throughout the year. We encourage you to take advantage of these programs as alumni, if you haven't already. Visit our website to connect with all of our current partners at www.wrightstatealumni.com

Alumni Insurance Program

Balfour

Barnes & Noble at Wright State University

Collette Vacations

Diploma Display

Go Next

Gohagen

Liberty Mutual Insurance

Oceania Cruises

Wright-Patt Credit Union, Inc.

2013

Casey McCluskey (M.D.) was presented with the 2013 Excellence in Public Health Award by the U.S. Public Health Service. The award recognizes medical students who are involved in public health issues in their communities.

Nicole Tompkins (B.F.A.) played Maria in the musical *The Sound of Music* on the Clinton Area Showboat Theatre in Clinton, IA.

2012

Randall Boll (B.A.), a Dayton-based financial advisor for Northwestern Mutual life insurance, received the company's Top Producer Award based on helping clients achieve financial security.

Lara Donnelly (B.A.) won the *Dell Magazine* Award for Undergraduate Excellence in Sci Fi and Fantasy Writing.

Prateek Jain (Ph.D.) is a research staff member at the IBM T. J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, NY, working on analysis of social network data and its commercialization.

Nathan Johnson (M.P.A.) was named assistant city manager of Scottsbluff, NB.

Sam Klepinger (B.S.B.) is working as a consultant with PQ Systems to assess the company's investment in web exposure. The Dayton-based company provides specialized software and training.

Taylor Ralston (B.S.B.) has joined Shumsky Therapeutic Pillows at the company's Dayton headquarters.

Cliff Rosenberger (B.S.B.), an Ohio state representative who chairs the Ohio House Higher Education Finance Subcommittee, was appointed to the state Controlling Board.

Bradley S. Roush (B.A.), a fireman in the U.S. Navy, completed basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL.

Misti Spillman (M.A.), an AmeriCorps member at the Ohio Historical Society, has created a toolkit as a guide for restoring cemeteries.

Nick Warrington (B.S.Ed.) was selected by Virginia Tech as a student representative serving as a liaison between the student body and the Board of Visitors, the university's governing body.

Brandy Zapata (B.A.) is director of *Gather & Share: Mary Worthington*

& *Friends*, a play written for the Paint Street Celebration in Chillicothe, OH.

2011

Amanda L. Kehres (B.A.), a microbiologist for the corporate laboratory of the John Morrell Food Group of Springdale, OH, was certified as a registrant of the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists.

2010

Erik Balster (M.P.H.) was named health commissioner of the Preble County (OH) General Health District.

Ryan A. Hughson (B.A.), Air Force Reserve Airman 1st Class, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX.

Chad Nabors (B.S.) expanded Final Touch House Cleaning, his house cleaning and window washing company, into the Columbus market.

Joshua J. (J. J.) Parkey (B.F.A.) won the Broadway World Boston Award for Best Actor in Cambridge, Mass., for his role in *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, an off-Broadway musical about a fictional rock band fronted by an East German transgender singer.

Joshua Skaggs (B.S.N.), who has twice deployed to Iraq with the U.S. Army, works as a registered nurse at the Dayton VA Medical Center.

Josh Smith (M.Ed.) is an intervention specialist at Piqua (OH) Junior High School, teaching students who have behavioral and emotional challenges.

2009

Kyle Forquer (B.F.A.) is directing and producing *The Bakery Boys of Fairfield County*, a film to be shot in Dayton, about the rivalry between two brothers who work side-by-side in a bakery and compete for the affections of their female co-worker.

Weike Peng (M.B.A.) was appointed a director of Adriana Resources Inc., a Toronto-based iron ore producer.

Anandapadmanaba

Perumalchettiar (M.B.A.), technical lead of master data management at LexisNexis in Dayton, was named a "Forty Under 40" award winner by the *Dayton Business Journal*. The award honors top young talent.

Andy Platt (B.S.B.), financial advisor with Northwestern Mutual in Beavercreek, OH, qualified for the Quality Award from the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors.

2008

John M. Donnelly (M.S.) wrote an article titled "The Case for Managing MRO Inventory" for *Supply Chain Management Review* magazine.

William Lutz (B.S.) (M.P.A.), development program manager for the City of Piqua, OH, was named a "Forty Under 40" award winner by the *Dayton Business Journal*. The award honors top young talent.

Andrew Rodney (M.P.A.) joined the city planning staff in Centerville, OH.

2007

Veronica Ford (B.S.) is working as an industrial engineer at Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technology (FM&T) in Kansas City, MO.

Juliet Fromholt (B.A.), reporter/webmaster/deputy operations director for WYSO in Yellow Springs, OH, was named a "Forty Under 40" award winner by the *Dayton Business Journal*.

Jason Gilder (Ph.D.) is director of infomatics for Explorays, a Cleveland-based company that analyzes and organizes data from hospitals around the nation.

Abby Hare (B.S.B.E.) (M.S.Egr.) was hired as a project engineer by DG Medical, a Centerville, OH-based manufacturer specializing in plastic molding of medical devices.

Andrew Lingg (B.S.) (M.S.) (Ph.D.) has joined the Cincinnati-based Etegent Technologies as a research scientist in the company's new Dayton-area office.

Teri Sholder (B.S.N.) was named chief quality officer for Kettering Health Network.

Joshua Styrcula (B.S.B.), financial planner for LifePlan Financial Group in Dayton, was named a "Forty Under 40" award winner by the *Dayton Business Journal*.

2006

Brad King (M.P.H.), health commissioner of the Norwood (OH) City Health Department, was named health commissioner of the Champaign Health Department in Urbana, OH.

Christopher J. Lohr (B.A.) was hired by Enon, OH, as its village administrator.

David R. Paoletti (Ph.D.), assistant professor of computer science at Pennsylvania State University-Beaver, was the primary author of "Inferring the Number of Contributors to Mixed DNA Profiles," which was published in *IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics*.

Nathan Ray (M.B.A.) joined Itasca, IL-based Discovery Health Partners as director of product strategy.

Dionysia Williams (B.F.A.) starred in *Forbidden Broadway Greatest Hits: Vol. 1*, an off-Broadway revue that spoofs the biggest Broadway stars and hits. The show was part of CATCO's season at the Riffe Center's Studio Three Theatre in Columbus, OH.

2005

Samantha Austin (B.S.) (M.Ed.), a teacher at Springfield (OH) High School, received the Excellence in Teaching award from the Springfield Rotary Club.

Hannah Beachler (B.F.A.) is the production designer of *Fruitvale Station*, a film that captured the top two prizes at the Sundance Film Festival, a premier showcase for independent film.

Jason W. James (M.B.A.), commander of the 45th Comptroller Squadron for the 45th Space Wing at Patrick Air Force Base in Florida, was promoted from the rank of major to lieutenant colonel.

Adam Koch (B.S.B.) (M.B.A.) was named superintendent of the Otsego Local School District in Tontogany, OH.

Avinash Konkani (M.S.), a graduate student in clinical engineering at Oakland University in Rochester, MI, was featured as a Global Talent on the official website of the Global Talent Retention Initiative of Michigan, whose mission is to retain international student talent as a strategy for economic growth.

Heather Liskiewitz (B.F.A.), who recently performed with the Minnesota Ballet, taught classes in the summer intensive program at the Young People's Ballet Theatre in Flint, MI.

Blake Lloyd (B.S.), a veterinarian, took over operation of North Fork Animal Clinic in Chillicothe, OH.

Julianne Nesbit (M.P.H.) was named health commissioner of Clermont County, OH.

Rachel Danielle Peterson (B.A.) was nominated for Best New Poets by *The Los Angeles Review* for her poem "Elegy of the Gun."

Bradley R. Schlessman (M.S.) (Ph.D.) was hired as a research scientist in human capital business analytics by Chally Group Worldwide, a Dayton-based performance and talent measurement firm.

2004

Cory Bliss (M.S.Egr.), an engineer at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, was guest speaker at the Memorial Day Ceremony in Rimersburg, PA.

Arthur W. Brumett II (B.A.) joined the law firm of Wickens, Herzer, Panza, Cook & Batista Co., in Avon, OH.

Jesse Hutchins (B.S.) won the HGM Hotels Classic at Rock Barn, NC (part of the eGolf Tour) with a four-round total of 15 under par.

Andrew Mott (A.A.), a teacher at Hilliard (OH) Heritage Middle School and Civil War re-enactor, arranges for professional re-enactors to visit the school to illustrate the life of a Civil War soldier and explain the causes and effects of the Civil War.

Rose Mary Shaw (Psy.D.), a clinical psychologist, opened the Mindfully Well Center in Englewood, OH, an integrative medicine practice with psychology, massage therapy, yoga, and herbalism.

2003

Satyanarayan Kantamneni (M.S.Egr.) graduated from Harvard Business School in the general management program.

Jessica Odorcic (B.A.) finished fifth in the Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon 10K in 34:18, the top local runner among the women.

2002

David Michael Beck (B.S.B.), a professional artist who produces images for major comic book companies such as Marvel, DC, and Dark Horse, worked with DC comics on the *Jonah Hex* series.

Brittany Brand (B.S.), associate professor of geology at Boise State University and expert on volcanoes, was the keynote speaker at UC Clermont, University of Cincinnati commencement.

Dan Schwieterman (B.S.Ed.) (M.S.Ed.) was named principal of Valley Elementary School in Beavercreek, OH.

2001

Brian Faust (B.S.B.), director of mergers and acquisitions for Myrian Capital in Dayton, was named a "Forty Under 40" award winner by the *Dayton Business Journal*.

Vasu Nagendra (M.S.Egr.), sales engineering manager for RSA's Payment Security Group, is responsible for strategic vision, solution architecture, and customer integration for RSA's encryption and tokenization solutions.

2000

Justen D. Chilbert (B.A.), an Air Force major who serves as a military assistant to the director of operations assigned to the Defense Threat Reduction Agency in Beavercreek, OH, was awarded the agency's Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

Billi Ewing (B.A.) was selected as one of three winners out of more than 2,500 entrants in the "Transition Me Beautiful" contest sponsored by Carol's Daughter, a natural hair care and beauty products company.

Monica L. Williams (B.F.A.) directed the Dayton premiere of Lynn Nottage's acclaimed 2003 drama *Intimate Apparel* at Sinclair Community College, spotlighting a black seamstress in New York City at the dawn of the 20th century.

1999

Robert Boley (B.A.) (M.A.) won Best in Show in Sinclair Community College's creative writing contest as well as first place for adult creative nonfiction for *Me Am Dad*, a memoir piece about an experience Boley had with his daughter that involves encouraging creativity and imagination.

Robert James Colvin Jr. (M.D.), a former emergency room physician, is an owner of the Skin Medical Spa in San Francisco, which specializes in noninvasive cosmetic procedures.

Jeffrey C. Dixon (B.S.Ed.) who teaches in the sociology and anthropology departments at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA, was promoted to associate professor with tenure.

Mark Green (M.D.), a Tennessee state senator and president and CEO of Align MD, an emergency department and urgent care management and staffing company

based in Clarksville, TN, was guest speaker at a Austin Peay State University military coin presentation ceremony to honor graduating active duty and military veteran students.

1998

Shanda McKinney (B.A.), vice president of human resources for the Wright-Patt Credit Union in Dayton, was named a "Forty Under 40" award winner by the *Dayton Business Journal*.

Aaron Sorrell (B.S.), director of the Department of Planning on Community Development for the City of Dayton, was named a "Forty Under 40" award winner by the *Dayton Business Journal*. The award honors top young talent.

Lisa G. Whittaker (B.S.Ed.), an attorney in the Porter Wright law firm's Labor and Employment Department in Columbus, OH, has been named to *Columbus Business First's* "Forty Under 40" 2013.

1997

Cedric Alexander (Psy.D.) was named chief of police for DeKalb County (GA), taking the reins of a 946-member police force in the Atlanta area.

Amy Novak (M.S.) was named president of Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, SD.

1996

Kimberly Fox (B.A.), a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force recently selected as a Squadron Commander candidate, received an Outstanding Academic Achievement Award from the Master of Theological Studies program at the Liff School of Theology in Denver.

Patrick Mauk (B.F.A.), an artist and gallery manager at the Dayton Visual Arts Center, showed 10 of his prints at the Works on Paper Gallery at Sinclair Community College in Dayton.

Marie C. Pfeiffer (B.S.Ed.), special education coordinator with Bridges Community Academy in Tiffin, OH, was selected as a professional member of the *Covington Who's Who Executive and Professional Registry* in recognition for excellence in education.

1995

Mike Hughes (B.A.) has been named chief operating office of Lifescape Community Services, Inc., a Rockford, IL-based agency serving older adults, families, and caregivers.

Adam White (B.F.A.), director of *The Restorers*, a 2003 documentary film about restoration of vintage warplanes, was among film presenters at the Reel Stuff Film Festival of Aviation at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton.

1994

Brian Applegate (B.S.), an associate biomedical engineering professor at Texas A&M University, had his research into noninvasive imaging of epithelia tissue featured on the cover of *Biomedical Optics Express*.

Darrin M. Bowser (B.S.B.), a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, took over command of the Army's 842nd Transportation Battalion during a ceremony at the battalion's headquarters in the Port of Beaumont, TX.

Marco Fagnoli (B.F.A.), cinematographer of the new film *Toy's House*, represented Wright State at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival, where the film was among an elite group of 16 in the Dramatic Feature competition.

Scot Rife (B.S.B.) was named mortgage loan originator by First Financial Bank in Centerville, OH.

Lisa Scheidt (B.A.), a mental health counselor at Southwest Florida Addiction Services, was named to the board of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Lee County (FL).

Eric W. Stennett (M.Ed.), principal of Hampton Middle School in Allison Park, PA, and adjunct instructor in the education department at Point Park University, was named the 2013 Middle School Level Principal of the Year by the Pennsylvania Association of Elementary and Secondary School Principals.

Dr. Charles Zeller (M.S.), an ear, nose, and throat specialist, has joined the Community Physician Network in Indianapolis.

1993

Shawn Heflick (B.S.), host of *Python Hunters* on the National Geographic Channel, made a presentation on nature and conservation at the Elmwood Park Zoo in Norristown, PA.

Dr. Warren Jensen (M.S.), a flight surgeon, serves as the Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Aviation in the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences at the University of North Dakota. Jensen also runs the school's altitude chamber.

Cathy Turner (B.S.Ed.) (M.Ed.), a seventh-grade teacher at Indian Valley Middle School in Enon, OH, received the Excellence in Teaching award from the Springfield Rotary Club.

1992

D.A. Dean (B.A.), an author, has published *The Ways of Eternity*, a novel that tells the hidden story of the Egyptian god Horus.

Bobbie Grice (M.Ed.), a former schoolteacher working as a curriculum consultant for the Warren County (OH) Educational Service Center, was named Citizen of the Year by the Little Miami Chamber of Commerce.

Renee Lukas (B.A.) made the quarterfinals of the Academy Nicholl Fellowships in Screenwriting competition.

Cheryl Markle (M.D.) joined the Akron Children's Hospital network of pediatric primary care offices as part of the hospital's new affiliation with the Pediatrics Department at North Canton Medical Foundation.

Veronica Murphy (B.M.) was named principal/CEO of Purcell Marian High School in Cincinnati.

Matthew J. Savage (M.B.A.), formerly managing director for PQ Systems Europe, is a consultant on statistical process control for manufacturing, health care, and service organizations.

1991

Kerry Coombs (M.Ed.), cornerbacks coach for The Ohio State football team, was also named the Buckeyes' special teams coordinator.

Joseph V. Homan (M.B.A.) was named chief operating officer of Zekiah Technologies, a La Plata, MD-based company that provides technical solutions in systems engineering, software development, and geospatial technologies.

Joell Mangan (B.S.Ed.) was named principal of Fairbrook Elementary School in Beavercreek, OH.

Ryan Roth (B.A.), an Elvis Presley tribute artist who has performed throughout the United States and Canada, performed with his band at Graceland during a celebration commemorating the 35th anniversary of Presley's death.

1990

Fred Boehler (B.S.B.) was appointed executive vice president and chief operating officer of Americold, an Atlanta-based company specializing in temperature-controlled warehousing and logistics.

Bob Coates (B.F.A.), an associate professor at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, presented 41 of his sculptural works at Sinclair' Burnell R. Roberts Triangle Gallery.

Tracey Hayes (B.S.M.T.), a colonel in the Air Force, took command of the 90th Missile Wing and F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, WY. The wing has 150 nuclear missiles and some 3,500 civilian and military personnel.

Eric Jack (M.B.A.) was named dean of the School of Business at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Steven D. Kleeman (B.S.), director of the urogynecology division at Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati, was the 2013 recipient of the Mentor of the Year Award from the 55,000-member American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

1989

Patrick Buchenroth (B.S.B.) was appointed controller and chief accounting officer for NewPage Holdings and NewPage Corp., a Miamisburg, OH-based producer of printing and specialty papers.

Cheryl Montag (M.Ed.), principal of J. F. Burns Elementary in Kings Local School District, was selected as Ohio's 2013 National Distinguished Principal.

1988

Brian Carlson (M.D.), a gastroenterologist, joined the Sonora Regional Medical Center, Sonora, CA.

1986

Tamara Evans (M.S.), vice president of marketing for the San Diego-based Ceatus Media Group, spoke about social media marketing at the annual American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and American Society of Ophthalmic Administrators Symposium and Congress in San Francisco.

Brad Sherwood (B.F.A.), a comedian who starred on the former ABC-TV improv show *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*, performed in *An Evening with Colin and Brad: The Two Man Group Tour*.

Tim Waggoner (B.S.Ed.) (M.A.), a Sinclair Community College professor of English and creative writing, has written a literary tie-in to the TV series *Supernatural*.

1985

Kevin Larger (B.S.B.) is working in business development for the Tipp City, OH-based Monroe Federal Savings & Loan.

Stephan Lubbers (B.S.) is employed as a senior software engineer at Beijing West Industries, where he develops embedded systems that go under the hoods of automobiles.

Swadeep Nigam (M.B.A.) (M.S.), a financial analyst for the Las Vegas Valley Water District in Las Vegas, was reappointed by Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval to the Nevada Equal Rights Commission, which oversees the state's equal employment opportunity program.

1984

Denise Reh (B.A.) was appointed vice president of development by the Columbus (OH) Association for the Performing Arts.

Cindy Thomson (B.S.Ed.) announced the release of *Grace's Pictures*, her novel that depicts a woman who has a run-in with gangsters as she tries to use her photographic skills for revenue to bring her mother from Ireland to America.

1983

Nannette Bernales (M.D.), associate medical director at Hospice of the Bluegrass in Northern Kentucky, was named Physician of the Year by the American Cancer Society.

John Hassoun (B.S.) (M.A.) was named corporate president of Vistrionix, a Reston, VA-based national security company that serves federal and defense customers in the areas of geospatial applications, systems engineering, command center operations, and cybersecurity.

1982

Warren Jensen (M.S.) is director of aeromedical research at the University of North Dakota's John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences.

Gary Nasal (B.A.) was appointed judge in Miami County Municipal Court.

Randy Phillips (B.S.) was appointed senior vice president of corporate development and chief strategy officer for TASC, Inc., a Chantilly, VA-based company that provides advanced systems engineering, integration, and decision-support services.

1980

Eric Jacobson (B.A.) is co-creator of *Camp Lakebottom*, an animated comedy for children scheduled to premiere on Disney XD.

Shauna Zerhusen (B.S.N.), a certified nurse midwife with Christ Hospital Physicians Obstetrics and Gynecology in Cincinnati, is opening a new practice in Crestview Hills, KY, along with her partners.

1979

Katie Deedrick (M.A.), director of Wright State University's Office of Student Support Services, was named by Greene County (OH) as winner of the 2013 Outstanding Community Service Award.

1978

Rosezelle Boggs-Qualls (B.A.) released *The Black Heart Book IV: The Legacy Lives On*, part of a non-fiction Christian series that chronicles the history of the Alex Turner family.

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni (M.A.), an award-winning author, poet, and teacher of creative writing at the University of Houston, had her book *Oleander Girl* recommended by Oprah Winfrey's Book Club as "One of 16 Books to Get Lost in this April."

Brad Purvis (B.S.) (M.A.) retired as science advisor to Air Force Special Operations and the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and is working as emeritus for the Air Force Weapons Laboratory at Eglin Air Force Base (FL).

1974

David A. Berona (B.S.Ed.), dean of library and academic support services at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, NH, edited *Eric Gill's Masterpieces of Wood Engraving: Over 250 Illustrations*, a book on one of the 20th century's most creative and prolific English artists.

1972

Terry Van Schaik (B.S.Ed.) is senior director of journal publications and publisher for the Alexandria, VA-based American Society of Clinical Oncology.

more notes online at
www.wright.edu/magazine



basketball preview

By ANDREW CALL

Women's Basketball

It was a season that, in many ways, ended before it really started.

Before the Wright State women's basketball team had played its fourth game last year, two of its best players had been lost to season-ending knee surgeries. The shorthanded Raiders finished 12–18 overall, 6–10 in the Horizon League.

The silver lining in that dark cloud was the many young players able to see significant playing time. Wright State is now a veteran team looking forward to much better things.

"We will have much more depth," Coach Mike Bradbury said. "We will be more physical and more athletic. We can play a lot faster and be more aggressive on defense."

Junior guard Kim Demmings was second-team all-Horizon League after leading the Raiders in scoring (19.6 points per game) and assists (4.5). Senior guard Ivory James averaged 11.2 points and was named to the league's all-newcomer team.

Junior guard Courtney Boyd has recovered from her knee surgery. Wright State's top two rebounders, juniors Tayler Stanton and Breanna Stucke, also return.

Five new players joined the team during the offseason, including 6-foot-5 Richelle van der Keijl from the Netherlands and Florida State transfer Tay'ler Mingo.

"We're excited," Bradbury said. "The talent level is where it needs to be to

compete for the top of the league."

Men's Basketball

The names are much the same. The expectations are very different.

A year ago, the men's basketball team was being picked to finish last in the Horizon League. Today, many see the Raiders as the 2013–14 preseason favorite.

"Our coaching staff didn't pick us to finish last; our players didn't pick us to finish last," coach Billy Donlon said. "Championships aren't won on paper, and we can't be any more concerned about what people are saying about us this year than we were last year."

Donlon was named the league's coach of the year after leading Wright State to a 23–13 overall record.

The top nine scorers return. They will be joined by Butler transfer Chrishawn Hopkins, a junior guard expected to make significant contributions when he becomes eligible in mid-December.

Senior forward Cole Darling was team MVP and second-team all-league after leading Wright State in scoring (11.3 points per game) and rebounding (4.6). Point guard Reggie Arceneaux averaged 8.9 points and was tops in assists and three-point field goals.

Other returnees who started at least 20 games include guards Kendall Griffin and Matt Vest and forward Tavares Sledge. Senior forward Jerran Young became a starter late in the season and averaged 8.8 points and 4.1 rebounds. Miles Dixon, J. T. Yoho, and A. J. Pacher saw much action in reserve roles.

"We were a pretty unselfish team," Pacher said. "Eight different guys led us in scoring. Notoriety didn't matter as long as we were winning. That needs to continue."



bowling powerhouse

The building process may have been quiet and gradual, but Wright State fans recently became aware that one of their teams is now among the nation's elite.

The Raiders placed third at the United States Bowling Congress Women's Intercollegiate Team Championships in April, their highest finish in four national tournament trips over the last five years.

"It was a statement of hard work being validated," head coach Jeff Fleck said. "From the first day of practice, there was a quiet confidence we could do this."

Senior Shayna Kanemoto, who led the team with a 196 average, was named second-team All-America. Junior Stacy Spitzer averaged 193, senior Katie Ruehl 192. Six of eight tournament team members are expected to return this fall.

"We think our program is ready to begin competing for a national championship every year," Fleck said.



BOWLING: JEFFREY FLECK

CAMPUS



Fisheye view of Turning Points, shot from above.



Presidential Lecture Series 2013–14

American Crossroads: Exploring the 21st Century Cultural Landscape



The Wright State University Presidential Lecture Series was developed to advance human justice and promote the university's commitment to creating a diverse community and learning environment. This year's speakers bring unique insights and experiences to address social issues of our time.



Rocsi Diaz
Entertainment host
and reporter
August 23
3 p.m.
Freshman
Convocation
Wright State
Nutter Center



David Frum
Conservative
author, former
speechwriter
to President
George W. Bush
November 14
7 p.m.
Student Union



LeRoy Butler
Former NFL player
with Green Bay
Packers, advocate
for disadvantaged
youth
February 11
7 p.m.
Student Union



Michio Kaku
Famed theoretical
physicist, Henry
Semat Chair at City
University of New
York (CUNY),
co-founder of string
theory
March 19
7 p.m.
Wright State
Nutter Center

JOIN US AS WE ALSO PRESENT

**Diversity in the
Multicultural Millennium
Conference**
October 3–4

Homecoming
October 7–14

**CELIA's Jane Austen
Bicentennial Conference**
October 10–12

**Student Success Center
& Classroom Building
Groundbreaking**
October 11, 2013

Madrigal Dinner
December 12–15

**Science Olympiad
Invitational**
January 11, 2014

ArtsGala
April 12, 2014