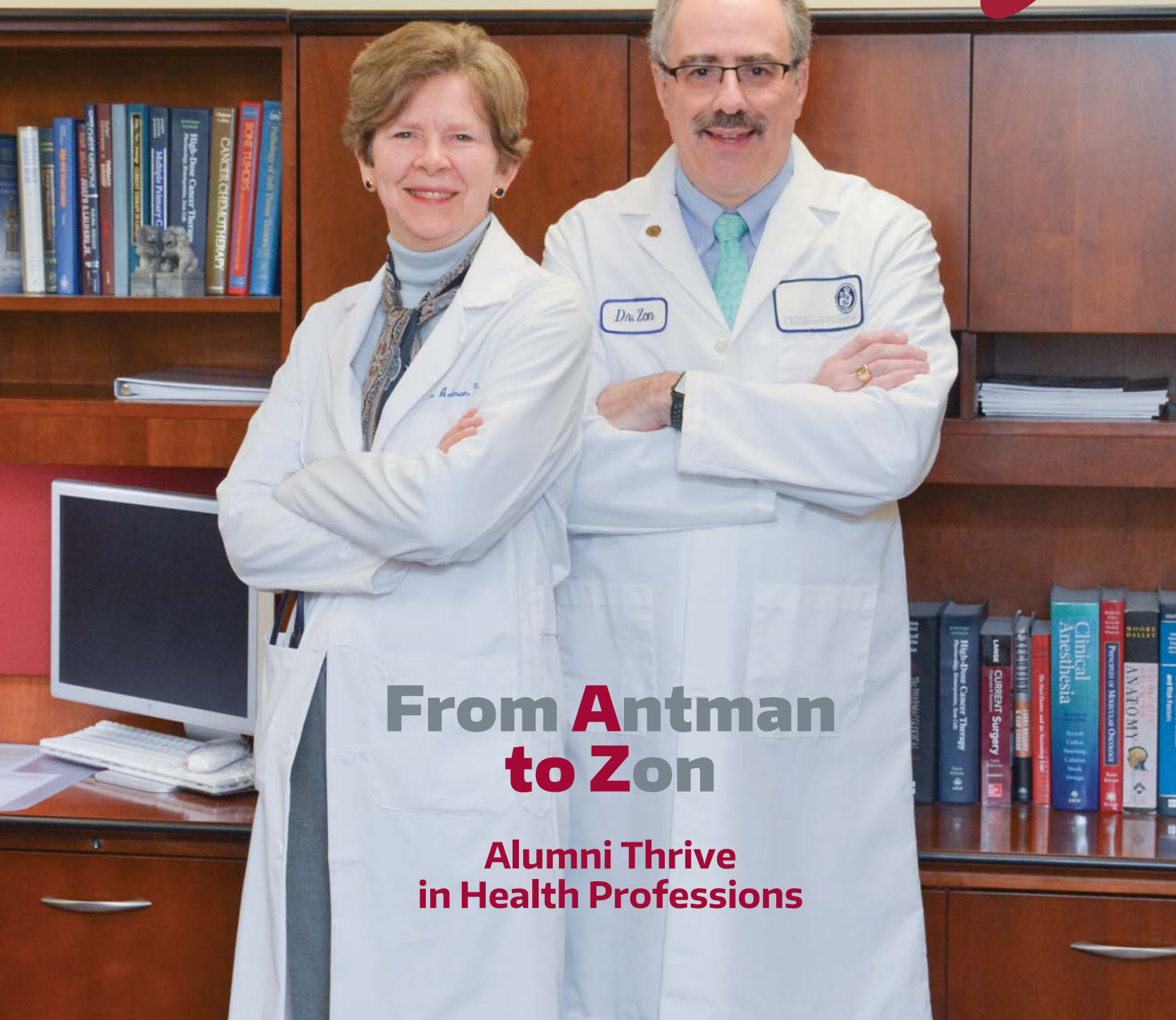


Summer 2017

Muhlenberg



From **Antman** to **Zon**

**Alumni Thrive
in Health Professions**

Muhlenberg

THE MAGAZINE

Muhlenberg magazine is published three times a year by the Communications Office.

Articles are written by members of the communications staff and guest editor, unless otherwise noted.

Professional photography by Amico Studios, Bill Keller and PaulPearsonPhoto.com unless otherwise noted.

Design by Tanya Trinkle.

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Throughout this issue, you'll learn more about a handful of alumni who have worked—and continue to work—in health-related careers. Their specialties are as varied as their Muhlenberg experiences, ranging from thoracic surgery to aerospace medicine to public health. As you saw on the cover, their names run the alphabetical gamut, too, from Antman and Auster, to Zatcoff and Zon. Our features are by no means inclusive, and we'd love to hear from others who are working in health professions. Drop us a note at magazine@muhlenberg.edu.

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Editor's Note: In our last magazine, we mistakenly neglected to recognize the Office of Global Education for its outstanding work with Muhlenberg students and faculty. The reception from our readership on our last issue was remarkable, and we could not have produced our global education issue without the assistance of Donna Kish-Goodling, dean of global education, and her colleagues. While their names and department were not mentioned explicitly, the stories presented in those pages speak to their tireless passion. We apologize for our oversight.

Cover: Karen Hamm Antman '70 and Leonard Zon '79 are two alumni in health-related careers in the Boston area. Read more about Antman on page 4, and Zon on page 10. Photo by David Keough.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Muhlenberg Remains a Pre-Med/Pre-Health Powerhouse

Once upon a time, long, long ago, Muhlenberg's campus was comprised solely of buildings north of Chew Street, and there was no Philip Johnson-designed Baker Center for the Arts and no theatre & dance department. Throughout at least the bulk of the second half of the 20th century, the College was known primarily as a pre-med institution—one offering an outstanding, rigorous preparation in the sciences for aspiring doctors and dentists.

During that time, there were larger-than-life biology professors—Dr. John V. Shankweiler, for example—who oversaw the pre-med program with great verve and charisma. According to "Connecting the Past, Present, and Future: Muhlenberg College," a history of the College written by Susan Clemens-Bruder, long-time member of the history department (and revised in 2012 by Carol Shiner Wilson, then the dean of academic life), "Dr. Shankweiler—'Doc' Shankweiler—was a beloved member of the biology department, noted for his untiring

advancement of the sciences, excellent teaching and Pennsylvania Dutch humor and accent. John V. Shankweiler and his wife Leah committed much time to the College. Serving for 43 years from 1921 to 1964, 'Doc' Shankweiler, professor of biology, founded the Pre-Medical Society in 1931 and continually strove to put his students in touch with the medical field. He was reported to be patient and enthusiastic for his entire career; he stayed late in the lab to assist students who needed extra help, and he even personally drove students to medical school interviews. His fatherly advice was delivered in a heavy Pennsylvania Dutch accent."

A positive letter or phone call from "Doc" Shankweiler to a given medical school would ensure immediate admission. Natural science was the major of choice for most Muhlenberg premeds of that era, and the major remains available today. Dr. John Weston, who oversaw strong growth in Muhlenberg's pre-med program through the 1970s and 1980s, succeeded "Doc" Shankweiler.



Since the creation of Muhlenberg's department of drama in 1982 (long since renamed theatre & dance), Muhlenberg's reputation in the performing arts has grown as well. In fact, Princeton Review ranks Muhlenberg's theatre program as the best in the nation, an honor that has led some to conclude erroneously that Muhlenberg specializes only in the performing arts now and the days of strong preparation for the health professions are gone and forgotten. Nothing could be further from the truth.

While far fewer students now major in natural science, Muhlenberg's pre-health tradition is alive and well. In fact, between 2011 and 2016, 179 Muhlenberg students/alumni applied to medical school. Of those, 159 (89 percent) were accepted, a track record that stands in rare company and exceeds those of many other colleges more widely known and recognized as "elite" academic institutions. (By way of comparison, the overall acceptance rate at most medical schools is less than 10 percent.) Natural science has been replaced by biology and neuroscience as the majors pursued by most pre-med students at Muhlenberg today.

Neuroscience has become one of the most rapidly growing majors at Muhlenberg. We are one of only three liberal arts colleges in the U.S. to have an independent department of neuroscience. (The other two are Oberlin and Pomona.) We have recently hired a new, tenure-track professor in the department, thus expanding our faculty strength in this new and exciting discipline.

continued on next page



In this archival photograph, longtime Muhlenberg professor of biology "Doc" Shankweiler (right), discusses specimens in the biology museum with biology professor John E. Trainer.

In addition to the acceptance rate at medical schools, Muhlenberg students and alumni are having great success gaining acceptance to a wide variety of health-related programs. From 2011-2016, the following number of Muhlenberg students/alumni applied to a variety of health-related programs:

	Applied	Accepted	Percentage
Medical School	179	159	88.8%
Physician's Assistant	37	21	56.8%
Dental	37	31	83.8%
Physical Therapy	26	21	80.7%
Occupational Therapy	21	18	85.7%
Veterinary	8	7	87.5%
Optometry	5	4	80.0%
Pharmacy	5	4	80.0%
Podiatry	3	2	66.7%
Naturopathic	1	1	100.0%

The College's records indicate that we have had over 2,330 doctors and dentists among our alumni, distributed as follows:

Graduation from Muhlenberg	Doctors and Dentists	Total Alumni (Living & Deceased)	Percent
1940s	161	1,613	10.0%
1950s	234	2,432	9.6%
1960s	291	3,260	8.9%
1970s	548	3,741	14.7%
1980s	536	3,798	14.1%
1990s	357	4,424	8.1%
2000s	183	6,005	3.1%
2010s	24	4,738	0.5%
Total	2,334	30,011	7.8%

The percentage of our alumni in the health fields has declined as the College has expanded enrollment, while the number of our alumni who are practicing medicine or dentistry has remained strong for a college our size. In recent years, given the advances in biotech, many more of our science majors are going on to Ph.D. programs in the sciences, which also reduces our health field numbers.

A concern I hear from some alumni from the 1980s and earlier is whether the growth in the performing arts has led to any sort of intellectual decline among the student body. Here, as well, nothing could be further from the truth. As shown in the included table, the average SAT scores of students entering Muhlenberg have increased steadily, particularly in relation to the national average scores.

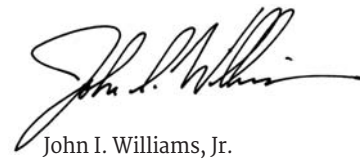
Entering Class	VERBAL SCORES		MATH SCORES		COMBINED SCORES	
	Muhlenberg	National	Muhlenberg	National	Muhlenberg	National
1996*	579	505	580	508	1159	1013
1997	570	506	577	511	1147	1017
1998	580	505	581	512	1161	1017
1999	582	505	586	511	1168	1016
2000	592	505	601	514	1193	1019
2001	592	506	602	514	1194	1020
2002	595	504	606	516	1201	1020
2003	600	507	612	519	1212	1026
2004	608	508	612	518	1220	1026
2005	610	508	620	520	1230	1028
2006	607	503	612	518	1219	1021
2007	602	502	612	515	1214	1017
2008	606	502	613	515	1219	1017
2009	604	501	606	515	1210	1016
2010	616	501	615	516	1231	1017
2011	612	497	619	514	1231	1011
2012	619	496	623	514	1242	1010
2013	617	496	614	514	1231	1010
2014	609	497	615	513	1224	1010
2015	605	495	613	511	1218	1006

*Re-centered scores begin in 1996

There is a great deal of overlap between our performing arts students and our pre-med students. Indeed, one of our science professors recently said, "many of our best pre-med students are dance majors." The ability to double major in, say, theatre & biology or dance & neuroscience brings many students to Muhlenberg, and we are all the stronger for it.

While the College has evolved a great deal over the decades, Muhlenberg remains a pre-med/pre-health powerhouse, not only due to the strength of our programs in the natural sciences. Medical schools and other health professional schools today are looking for applicants who not only have performed well in the sciences, but who also have the ability to speak and write well, who have a strong ethical grounding and who have demonstrated they will be able to relate well with patients. Here again, Muhlenberg shines, which may be part of the reason our students and recent graduates do so well in medical school and other health program admissions.

In the years ahead, Muhlenberg will continue to be a college where aspiring doctors, dentists, physician's assistants, nurse practitioners, veterinarians and more will enroll and succeed, not only as health professionals, but in life more generally.



John I. Williams, Jr.
President, Muhlenberg College

History and Medicine at Muhlenberg

By Daniel J. Wilson, Professor of History

During a recent personal medical crisis, three of the four physicians I consulted were Muhlenberg graduates, a common experience during my nearly 40 years on campus. By the time I joined the faculty in 1978, Muhlenberg's pre-medical program already had a long and proud history that has only continued into the new millennium.

I feel that tradition strongly as I reflect on a professional career of studying and teaching about the history of medicine, one colored by my own battle with a once-dreaded disease that has now been all but eradicated around the world.

I became interested in the history of medicine in the late 1980s when I began to experience the late effects of the polio that I contracted in 1955. I was looking for a new and original research project and decided to explore polio epidemics through the experiences of those who had the disease. Previous scholarship had focused on the scientific search for the cause and subsequent efforts to develop a successful vaccine. What was needed, I believed, was a more personal approach. I was also motivated by the ongoing AIDS epidemic, since much of the fear and stigma associated with that disease were reminiscent of the polio years.

It was around this time that I decided to teach a course on the history of medicine, both to help me learn the broader social and cultural context of medicine and because I thought that Muhlenberg premeds would find it interesting. My "History of Medicine in America" has now been going on regularly since the early 1990s, along with related courses added more recently—"History of Public Health" and "Epidemic America," which look at U.S. history through the lens of epidemics such as smallpox, yellow fever, cholera, influenza, tuberculosis, polio and AIDS.

After completing my research on the experiences of those who contracted the disease in the epidemics of the 1940s and 1950s, I published several scholarly articles on survivors' experiences. And in 2005, on the 50th anniversary of the Jonas Salk vaccine that changed the world, I published "Living with Polio: The Epidemic and Its Survivors." Other publications have followed.

In the early 20th century, new antibiotics were created regularly, beginning with sulfa drugs in the 1930s and penicillin in the 1940s. The development and use of vaccinations expanded greatly during the 1960s and 1970s, promising life-long protection from many childhood diseases. All of this contributed to the expectation that infectious disease could be eliminated.

But the sense of triumph was short-lived. Over the last 35 years, we have seen a resurgence of infectious diseases—not just AIDS but also Lyme disease, West Nile virus, SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory

Syndrome), MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome), new strains of influenza, Ebola and most recently Zika. Then, too, older diseases such as tuberculosis have made a frightening comeback in drug-resistant forms, as have both measles and mumps, the result of anti-vaccination movements that have reduced herd immunity.

The other major change in medicine in recent decades has been domestic efforts to provide health insurance to the millions of uninsured. After President Clinton failed to secure passage of his proposals in the 1990s, President Obama won passage of the Affordable Care Act early in his first term. But he faced innumerable roadblocks from its inception, and, as it stands now, the ACA's existence is in jeopardy as a result of the recent election.

Change has also been a constant in Muhlenberg's sciences and pre-medical programs over the decades. While those programs have remained strong, the college has added what have proven to be popular majors in neuroscience (attracting both biology and psychology students), and most recently public health.

I tell students that I can't predict how medicine will look in 40 years—who could've predicted AIDS?—but I am sure that it will differ significantly from what exists today. And given Muhlenberg's evolution in this field, I suspect that we will be on top of it.



Daniel J. Wilson is a professor of history. Since coming to Muhlenberg in 1978, he has taught courses on a variety of topics relating to the cultural and intellectual history of the United States. Since the early 1990s, his scholarly work has focused on the history of the polio epidemics in the United States. Wilson is also interested in the subject of masculinity and disability and has been active in disability studies.



¹ Of the 159 accepted applicants, 155 actually enrolled. Of those 155, 111 attended allopathic medical schools (MD) and 44 attended osteopathic medical schools (DO).

Karen Hamm Antman '70

Girls can't be doctors. Why not just be a nurse? Hey, you're going to give up medicine when you get married anyway.

That was part of the soundtrack of Karen Hamm's teenage years. She thought she knew what she wanted to do with her life, but somebody was always telling her she couldn't.

It wasn't so bad at home on the dairy farm in Green Lane, Pa., where Walter and Grace Hamm never set limitations on their daughter, teaching her to drive a stick-shift tractor by the time she was 12. But in high school, where Hamm aced physics tests, cleaned up in the science fairs and had as a role model a female pediatrician who had treated her when she was 13, many told her to stay away from medicine.

Well, with one caveat:

Perhaps medicine is okay, Karen, as long as you want to become a pediatrician.

But both Hamm—not to mention the world of cancer treatment—found a different attitude when she arrived at Muhlenberg in the fall of 1966.

"I just loved the college experience," says Hamm, now Dr. Karen Hamm Antman and four decades into one of the country's most distinguished medical careers.

"My professors were encouraging. I found out that I could compete with all the men in premed. In fact, my roommate [the late Dr. Linda Roenning Roe, who died of pancreatic cancer 20 years ago] was in premed, too. It was a wide-ranging education, and no one said you couldn't do anything."

Something significant happened away from campus, too.

"I did a summer exchange program in Czechoslovakia after my freshman year," says Antman, "and found out that half the doctors over there were women. That gave me even more confidence."

After she graduated (Phi Beta Kappa) in 1970, Hamm wasn't thinking specifically about cancer research. She went to med school at Columbia, and did a residency in internal medicine at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center before landing an oncology fellowship at Harvard's esteemed Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston in 1977. On her way she married medical school classmate, Dr. Elliott Antman, now a Harvard professor of cardiology.

"I thought I was going to be taking care of cancer patients for the most part," remembers Antman. "But when I got there I was told, 'Oh, no, you have a responsibility to move the field.' What that meant was, figure out the best treatment for diseases we didn't have a handle on. In other words, take cancer research to the next level."

That's what Antman and her fellow researchers did. She found her calling in deciphering the baffling cancer puzzle, balancing the efficacy of drug cocktails with the withering reality of side effects.

Her team had a breakthrough in the treatment of mesotheliomas and sarcomas, but Antman looks upon that triumph with ambivalence. "It's kind of sad that the regimens we came up with in 1988 are still the standard treatments," says Antman. "Wouldn't it be nice if they had found something better?"

One who benefited from the findings of Antman's team was Stephen G. Gould, the legendary evolutionary scientist and essayist.

"He walked in one day and said, 'I have mesothelioma, and I know that it's invariably fatal with standard treatment,'" Antman remembers. "'So what do you have that's experimental?'"

Gould was cured of his mesothelioma. He died 20 years later in 2002 at age 60 of lung cancer and dedicated one of his books to Antman.

Through her work, Antman became a household name in the cancer world, an expert in the treatment of not just mesotheliomas and sarcomas but also breast cancer. Over the years she has written or edited more than 300 publications and five books relating to treatment and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine, one of the most prestigious medical organizations in the world. (There are only 300 members and you don't join; you get elected.)

In 1993 she returned to Columbia as the Wu Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology and also directed the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1993 she was voted senior faculty teacher of the year by the residents. Then it was on to the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Md., where she was deputy director



for Translational and Clinical Sciences at the National Cancer Institute.

In 2005, Antman became provost of the Boston University medical campus and dean of BU's school of medicine. She remains in that position today, recruiting faculty, teaching medical students, raising money for student scholarships and research and also being a respected voice in public health policy discussions. The latter is nothing new to her—she has testified before Congress about the need for federal research dollars.

Obviously, the resistance to medicine that the young Karen Hamm endured was not passed on to her daughter, Dr. Amy Antman Gelfand, a pediatric neurologist at the University of California San Francisco.

"Amy tried very hard not to be a physician," says her mother, "but halfway through an internship at NASA she decided she didn't want to sit behind a desk. So she switched to medicine."

Son David also followed the family blueprint—he's an emergency medicine doctor in Connecticut. His wife and Amy's husband are also in medicine, so it's not hard to guess the topic of conversation at family get-togethers.

"Everybody is pretty well-versed on the most recent articles, and we do a lot of comparing and talking about them," says Antman. She adds with a laugh: "It's pretty medical."

The young Karen Hamm didn't have those conversations, but, thankfully for the world of cancer research, that didn't stop her.

The Bug Guy

"I understand ticks aren't everyone's favorite," Dr. Marten J. Edwards says with a smile, "but there sure are a lot of them out there."

And that means a lot of collection and analysis for Edwards, professor of biology, and his half dozen or so student researchers, who team up to form a formidable weapon in the battle against tick-borne Lyme disease.

Edwards, known around campus as The Bug Guy (a nickname that does not bug him), and his intrepid researchers can be found wherever ticks are. They look for all the world like a HAZMAT team in their protective gear, dragging sheets of white corduroy along the forest floor.

The fabric is fuzzy, so ticks think they've found a mouse and climb on board. It is white, to make it easier for the team to spot the poppy-seed sized bloodsuckers. The hitchhiking ticks are then collected with some fine forceps and swiftly popped into a vial of alcohol. This strategy has been working well: one summer they collected over 2,000 ticks!

Theirs is important work with a critical need in the region, and the results of Edwards' research are in high demand. The majority of support for this particular study comes from the Dr. Luther V. Rhodes III Infectious Disease Research Endowment from the Lehigh Valley Health Network.

After collection and a shower to check for tick bites ("That's a hard and fast rule," says Edwards), the tick teams returns to the lab to check the ticks for infection using molecular tools.

"Friends from major research universities see our well-designed research spaces here in the New Science Building," says Edwards, "and they're jealous."

"A rule of thumb is if the proportion of infected ticks in a given area is 20 percent or higher," explains Edwards, "then physicians often prescribe an antibiotic to any adult who shows up in their office as the victim of a deer tick bite. That's standard procedure for anyone who has had a tick latched on for at about a

Biology professor Marten Edwards and his students provide a valuable public health service to the Lehigh Valley through their research on tick bites and Lyme disease.

day, which is the time it takes for the ticks to transmit the offending bacteria. If there's a one-in-five chance that you've been bitten by a tick that carries Lyme disease—causing bacteria, some say it's best to start treatment right away and ask questions later."

Of course, rules of thumb are not the same thing as medical practice, and the information that the Edwards lab provides is just part of the puzzle. Nevertheless, Muhlenberg's tick team has found that for the past three summers, the rate of infection in the Lehigh Valley region consistently exceeds that 20 percent threshold.

There was almost no Lyme disease in the Lehigh Valley when it started to appear in the early 1990s, says Edwards, but over the years this area has become among the worst in the country for infected ticks. "That's why we were called in," says Edwards.

For Edwards, bugs have always proved captivating and ripe for research; in fact, you could say that from an early age, he had been raised to do exactly that.

"I grew up thinking that looking for bugs was a normal activity, since my dad was a beekeeper and an entomologist who took me along on his class field trips and let me help take care of his bees," says Edwards. "I remember my first grade teacher being less than amused when I brought a live scorpion to class for show and tell."

He got his bachelor's in biology at Reed College and spent his undergraduate summers in a research lab that explored the way that hormones work (in six-inch long and alarmingly green tobacco hornworm caterpillars). His Ph.D. in entomology came from the University of

Arizona, where he worked on how insect hormones control the way that yellow fever mosquitoes manufacture their eggs.

Parents of tick-enthusiast students should not worry, says Edwards.

"We are very, very careful," says Edwards.

"With our protective permethrin-treated, tick-repellent gear, we look more like we're going into outer space than for a stroll in the woods. It's not like our students shy away from tick study; it's become a draw."

Anyway, even the most tick-wary students would seem to have somewhat of a protective shield in Edwards. "I have never been bitten by a local deer tick," says Edwards, "even though I walk through some of the most tick-infested areas in the state."

Even when he got a shipment of sterile ticks and tried to get bit for the purposes of a video, the ticks didn't pierce his skin. (Still, the video of Edwards demonstrating the proper method to remove a tick, which he made for Runner's World, is available at <http://tinyurl.com/mkhq5mv>).

From time to time, Edwards also gets out in nature to pause and smell the flowers. That's usually when he accompanies his wife, Dr. Amy E. Faivre, a professor of biology who studies the reproductive biology of plants at Cedar Crest College, on her outings.

But does she come along with him?

"Well, not often," he admits with a smile, "and I understand that. But I have more than enough students who share this passion and the backing of the college to do it. I feel very fortunate."



Marten Edwards works with Thomas Yanushefski '18 on tick research supported by the Dr. Luther V. Rhodes III Infectious Disease Research Endowment from the Lehigh Valley Health Network.



Celebrating Contributions to the Sciences

By Deborah Kipp P'04, P'06
Senior Associate Vice President for Development

This magazine issue, celebrating your peers in health care related fields, illustrates the range of contributions by Muhlenberg alumni. With more than 2,800 health care alumni professionals in our database, not everyone could be included in this issue. Please know that we are proud of your accomplishments and hope to get to know more of you through The Muhlenberg Network, national alumni events and your visits to campus. In this issue, we are excited to share some of your names and stories.

Let's also celebrate the philanthropic alumni and friends of Muhlenberg who build the College's science laboratories, create stipends for student science research experiences and endow scholarships and professorships related to the sciences. Let's herald our alumni volunteers who arrange their busy professional schedules to make time to mentor our students on their own journey to health care fields. Let's provide tribute to our donors, who ensure that Muhlenberg provides a four-year experience that solidly qualifies our health care graduates for their myriad future career directions. Thousands of students, present and past, undoubtedly benefited from one or more of these extraordinary treasures during their Muhlenberg experience.

Donor support continues to deliver a campus culture that attracts talented students and draws world-class faculty to our College. Muhlenberg professors teaching in the Sarkis Acopian Professor of Ornithology and Conservation Biology, Truman Koehler '52 Professor of Mathematics, the William D. '49 and Virginia D. Miers Chair in Entrepreneurial Studies and Business, the Rita and Joseph B. Scheller Chair for the Director of the RJ Fellows Program and The Stanley Road Endowed Chair of Neuroscience hold prestigious influence in their disciplines among their peers and students. We are most grateful for the enlightened donors who created these academic chairs: positions that attract the best faculty to Muhlenberg and encourage their retention. Alumni continually express the

privilege of learning under Drs. William Dunham, Eugene Fiorini, Daniel Klem, Richard Niesenbaum, Lora Taub-Pervizpour, Jeremy Teissère and others. The College hopes to realize chairs in additional disciplines to ensure that talented faculty continue to be attracted to Muhlenberg.

If you took a Muhlenberg neuroscience or organic chemistry course, you likely walked into one of two laboratories dedicated to the Davenport Family Foundation. You won't find a Davenport transcript in the Office of the Registrar. These large gifts that shaped student instruction and research resulted from a grateful friend of Wayne Keck '49, a former Muhlenberg trustee. At one point, Mr. Davenport shared with me that Muhlenberg received more of his philanthropy than his own alma mater because we were such strong stewards of his funds. We aim to treat every donor with similar appreciation.

Muhlenberg alumni have taken experiences in the classroom and laboratory and transformed them into successful careers as leaders in health professions, building upon the College's reputation as a differentiator in the sciences. Soon after my arrival to Muhlenberg as the grants director, I was rather surprised by the multi-year, six-figure contribution of the Walter H. Annenberg Foundation to the College. This is of special note as the Annenberg Foundation does not support colleges outside of Philadelphia. When a gifted cardiologist saved Mr. Annenberg's life, Annenberg asked his specialist if there was something he could do for the good doctor. The cardiologist replied, "Make a gift to my alma mater: Muhlenberg." And Annenberg did.

Thanks to the foresight of hundreds of alumni, Muhlenberg enjoys healthy endowments and awards supporting summer student science research. Muhlenberg Research Experiences in Biochemistry and Chemistry founders, including Dr. Russell and Margaret Smart, Drs. Louise '70, P'02 and Donald Shive P'02, Dr. Wilson '61 and Barbara Gum, and Carolyn '61 and Robert Buzzard '62; The James Vaughan Endowment Fund; The

John Trainer Endowment; and The Harry Raub Fund all facilitate undergraduate student participation on scientific inquiry teams. These research funds are in excellent company with the KeriLyn C. Burrows, Ph.D. '72 Research Fund in Honor of Donald W. Shive, Ph.D., the David Stehly/Russell Smart Fund, The Crist Family Student Research Endowment in Biology, The Lake Road Research Fellowships in Neuroscience and the Biological Sciences and the Sentience Foundation awards for student research. There are many alumni who contribute to these funds supporting student research. We value and appreciate their philanthropic vision. The alumni and students who are supported by your gifts thank you for putting them on the road to lifelong scientific inquiry. Indeed, these undergraduate experiences led many Muhlenberg graduates to health care research at the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Institute of Standards and Technology and other nationally and internationally acclaimed research organizations and corporations.

Finally, it is the endowed scholarship donors that we celebrate. Muhlenberg will be forever grateful. The cost of medical and graduate school today is prohibitive, especially with graduate students arriving with undergraduate debt. Scholarships to Muhlenberg cut that undergraduate burden, thereby making advanced education possible. If you find yourself inspired, I hope you will contact us to explore your dream by providing a Muhlenberg student a high-quality undergraduate education through scholarships, research and exposure to the best faculty by calling 484-664-3247 or emailing advancement@muhlenberg.edu.

It is a small world. One day, you or a member of your family may benefit from the expert opinion, practice and research of a health care professional once championed by your generosity to Muhlenberg College.

FROM THE DESK OF Natalie Kulp Hand '78, P'07



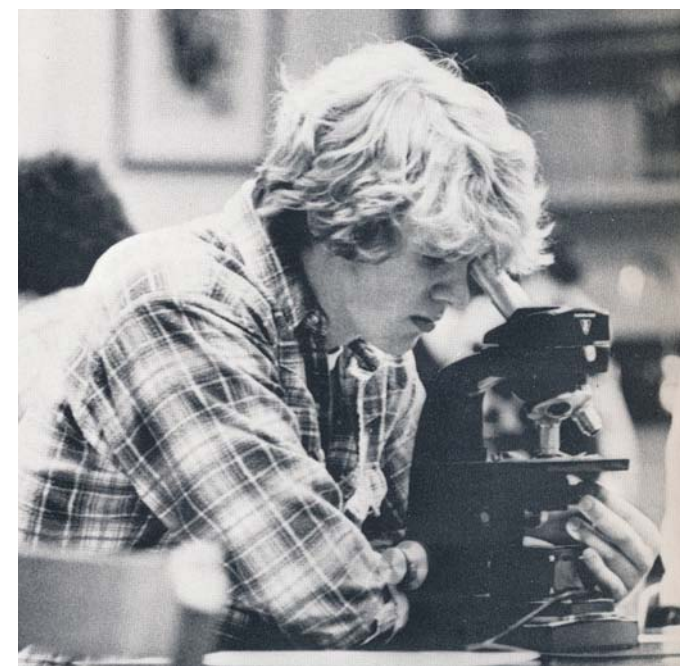
If you ask anyone who entered Muhlenberg as a premed in the 1970s, they will share with you that one of their first memories was in Dr. Charles Mortimer's class when he directed his first-year students to "Look at the person to the left of you, look at the person to the right of you—only one of you will graduate from Muhlenberg College and go on to medical school."

Well, I must have been to someone's left or right, because although I came in as a pre-med student, I quickly joined the ranks of those who weren't going to medical school.

Although my medical career was never realized, there are thousands of Muhlenberg alumni whose intellect, drive and gift to heal led them to professions in health care. This issue of the magazine touches on only a fraction of those who are serving as doctors, physical therapists, psychologists, researchers, veterinarians and public health advocates. They are among the best and brightest in their field, and their accomplishments are remarkable.

In the summer of 2016, the alumni affairs office surveyed alumni we could identify as working in the field of health care to gauge interest in creating a Muhlenberg Health Professionals Network (MHPN). Over 350 alumni responded and indicated their eagerness in connecting with peers in health professions. They also expressed enthusiasm about providing guidance and mentorship both to current students and recent graduates. Guided by the efforts of alumni leadership, MHPN seeks to create and promote opportunities for health professionals to connect with each other and with students. If you are a Muhlenberg alumnus currently working in a health profession, this network is for you! For more information on MHPN events and programs, or to become a volunteer, please contact Diana Tirendi '07 at dianatirendi@muhlenberg.edu or 484-664-4354.

And for those of us who found organic chemistry undecipherable and a stumbling block to securing admission to medical school, we count our blessings that you, our classmates and fellow alumni working in the healing arts, are there to care for us!



Archival photographs from the Ciarla yearbook provide a glimpse into life in the sciences in the late 1970s.





One Last Scholarship

For Dr. Arthur Altman's '53, P'84, GP'13, a Muhlenberg education came down to the wire.

Can one day change your life?

It did for Arthur Altman. The summer of 1948 was not only the era of "Give 'em Hell, Harry," Lauren Bacall and Francis Albert Sinatra, it was also when a 17-year-old had one heck of a big meeting.

Sweating bullets because of the weather and nerves, he arrived in a smartly adorned office on the campus of Muhlenberg College. It was the habitat of President Levering Tyson, the school's fifth president. Tyson and senior members of the faculty were there to focus their attention on young Arthur, a mining-town boy from Hazelton, Pa.

"My Muhlenberg education was dependent on this meeting," he remembers. "There was no way I could afford to attend Muhlenberg on my own."

That wasn't unusual. A lot of kids in that decade could not afford college. But those missed dreams are often just a statistic we hear about today.

Well, Altman was determined not to be a statistic. At least not like that. In his mind, he was going places. He wanted to be a doctor. But that's how it starts: It starts with a dream.

"Coming from a small town, I wanted a small school," he notes.

Memory may not be perfect, but you tend to remember the important stuff. That day was pretty darn important. Dr. Altman remembers the initial story was, "Sorry son,

we'd like to help, but you're out of luck."

"All the scholarships had been distributed," he says.

Sometimes life gives you lemons—sometimes lemonade. And sometimes you get a break.

Altman got a break. One last search for scholarships located a yet-to-be-awarded \$500/year scholarship intended for a student interested in becoming a Lutheran minister. While not something Muhlenberg would normally consider, the College made an exception back in the fall of 1949. The president was willing to overlook Arthur's one shortfall: he wasn't Lutheran.

"I received a four-year scholarship, and that made the difference for me to attend Muhlenberg," he says with a twinkle in his eye.

Altman was on his way. Someone showed confidence in him, and someone put their money behind him. If you talk to him today, all these years later, you know it changed his life.

"I have never forgotten the result of their confidence in me," he says.

That confidence built him up. It was at Muhlenberg that Altman ensured his dream to attend medical school to become a physician would become a reality.

His Muhlenberg memories remain vivid. Oh how he still recalls his professors.

"John Shankweiler's course in histology was so thorough and complete," he notes. Then there were two ministers on the faculty—Rodney Ring and Robert Marshall—who taught the Bible as a scholarly work. It was mandatory at that time for all students to attend two 20-minute Egner Chapel services per week. Altman sang hymns, listened to sermons and prayed. It provided him a peace you don't find on earth.

One professor stood out. His name was Frank Schmoyer, a Yale grad from the class of '02. That's 1902. When it came to grammar, Frank Schmoyer was the authority.

"His grammar was impeccable, as was his enunciation," he said "He spoke classic English. His voice enveloped a sense of grammatical pride...we learned grammar."

You bet Altman learned grammar. He also learned how to write, to show, don't tell. There's value in being able to describe something, even the most mundane thought, in vivid detail. Thanks to Muhlenberg, Altman still can. That command of words

served him well as a doctor.

Altman graduated with his pre-med major and attended the School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, the nation's first and oldest medical school, where he specialized in pathology. After proudly serving in the Air Force during WWII, he worked for years as chief of pathology at Warren Hospital. As a pathologist, description is often critical. That's one area his fluency in writing paid off, thanks to Muhlenberg professor Frank Schmoyer.

"A liberal arts education exposes you to enough of the world to be able to think and act for yourself."

In 2014, Altman established The Phoebe J. Altman P'84, GP'13 and Arthur A. Altman '53, P'84, GP'13 Scholarship. He took advantage of the Muhlenberg Match Scholarship program, which ends June 30, 2017. The scholarship was crafted particularly to honor of his wife, Phoebe. His memories of Muhlenberg and life thereafter consistently include their stories. Upon meeting the first Muhlenberg student who received this scholarship, Art's first thought was how pleased Phoebe would have been to meet her.

"She was exactly the kind of young adult who we hoped to reach with our scholarship," he says.

Altman is a Trustee Emeritus of Muhlenberg College, having served for more than 16 years on various committees. His most notable contributions include service to the buildings and grounds committee, where he influenced construction of the new Life Sports Center. He and Phoebe became members of the Lifetime Giving Society, and Arthur remains a loyal member of the Henry Melchior Muhlenberg Society. His daughter Suzanne graduated from Muhlenberg in 1984, and his grandson Adam Offit graduated in 2013. Andrew Offit P'13, Altman's son-in-law, served on the Board of Trustees from 2012 to 2013.

At a time when the value of a liberal arts education may be called into question, Dr. Arthur Altman gives an answer. He has personally witnessed the intellectual and individual development this small environment can offer each student. He is proud of Muhlenberg and remains active in its future through his family and the scholarship he established with his beloved wife, Phoebe.

Trailblazing Trina

Dr. Trina Poretta '92 was already an innovator—the first in her family to attend college—when she decided to become a doctor.

To know the story about Dr. Trina Poretta '92, we must start when she was a little girl. That was when her dad died.

"Although my family was devastated emotionally, and honestly financially, we were blessed with loving family and friends," she says.

They helped her and her two sisters, Jill '93 and April '95, grow up, mature and believe they could do what they set their minds to do.

"I knew in high school I wanted to be a doctor," Poretta says. But it wasn't going to be easy. She'd have to not only work hard, but also be a family trailblazer.

"I was a first generation college student, so med school was truly shooting for the stars."

That journey began with a trip to the campus of Muhlenberg College in the West End of Allentown with a high school classmate. Ask Poretta today, and she still recalls the handsome, tree-lined campus.

"It's even more beautiful today," she says.

But it was Muhlenberg's sterling academic reputation that sealed the deal.

"I wanted pre-med and knew the program was solid, challenging and reputable."

As noted previously, cash was in short supply. She needed help.

"Muhlenberg accepted me and gave me some aid—and more than that, gave me the very best memories of life," she says today. "I'm grateful to Muhlenberg for both my education and my best friends. I still faithfully get together with seven of my dearest friends, who I met at college through our sorority, Alpha Chi Omega."

Poretta's time at Muhlenberg was not cake. Shooting for the cosmos isn't always sugar and icing.

"Muhlenberg prepared me for the perseverance necessary for a career in medicine," she says. "Discipline in the commitment to study and manage time is something Muhlenberg instills in its students. The College knows this is the launching pad to the career, grad program, med school or law school that each student will ultimately choose."

The professors made the difference. They taught, they challenged, they cared. Who stood out?

"James Vaughan. He was truly interested in the student's understanding of the material," Poretta says. "Dr. Vaughan was always approachable, funny and engaging."

The value of her Muhlenberg education was learning that learning itself isn't always a straight path.

"I was deeply involved in the science curriculum, but I welcomed the balance of my history, religion and yes, even physical education classes."

The diversity of Muhlenberg's curriculum made the difference.

"A liberal arts education prepares you well for the many demands of life," Poretta says. "You do not realize that in your late teen or early twenties, but it comes around to you later. Then you have what I like to call your 'aha moment.'"

Those "aha" moments come often as a doctor. Poretta has been in private practice as a hematologist/oncologist for almost 15 years.

"I do 100 percent clinical work encompassing a busy office practice and hospital work," she says. "My expertise spans all types of cancer and blood disorders, both benign and malignant. I have a particular interest in breast cancer."

Poretta is, of course, interested in medicine, but she's also aware that being a physician is not all about science.

"I have immense compassion and empathy for my patients and their families," she says. "Hand-holding, sitting next to my patients, embracing them in good times and bad



is part of my daily routine."

Giving back to Muhlenberg was natural. It was the same for Jill and April. Together the siblings established the Poretta Family Scholarship. When they created the scholarship, they were able to take advantage of the Muhlenberg Match Scholarship program, which ends June 30, 2017.

"When I was financially stable, there was no doubt in my mind that a scholarship at Muhlenberg was paramount to help another student achieve the very best of what he or she would expect from life if they work hard, commit themselves and find fun along the way!"

Fun. It's a word not often associated with academics. But Dr. Trina Poretta proves that fun is part of a Muhlenberg education and part of shooting for the stars.

Stem Cell Science

Dr. Leonard Zon '79 makes his mark on genetics research.

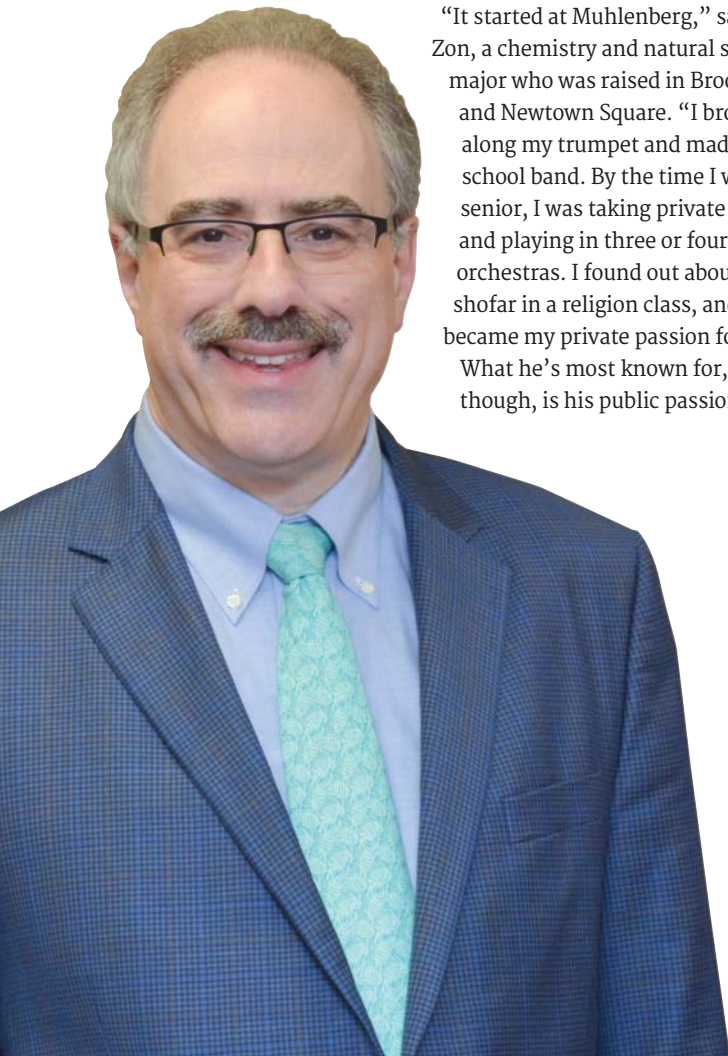


Among the millions of time-wasting options available on YouTube is a clip of a smiling, mustachioed man playing “When The Saints Come Marching In” on the shofar, an instrument made from a ram’s horn that is used in Jewish religious services. (<http://tinyurl.com/hn8ps3v>) Well, just another hopeful with too much time on his hands trying to rack up page views, right?

Not exactly. Dr. Leonard Zon '79 is an accomplished shofarist, serious about its place in Jewish ritual and, not incidentally, by its entertainment value. He is also one of the nation’s foremost genetic researchers, the director of his eponymous stem cell laboratory at Children’s Hospital in Boston, a professor of pediatric medicine at Harvard and an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, an honor given to scientists with the potential to make significant research breakthroughs.

All in all, a kind of busy life. But, first, the shofar.

“It started at Muhlenberg,” says Zon, a chemistry and natural sciences major who was raised in Broomall and Newtown Square. “I brought along my trumpet and made the school band. By the time I was a senior, I was taking private lessons and playing in three or four orchestras. I found out about the shofar in a religion class, and that became my private passion for life.” What he’s most known for, though, is his public passion. At



Jefferson, where he earned his M.D., he became interested in hematology and pursued that study at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, one of Harvard’s teaching hospitals. Zon arrived during the HIV/AIDS outbreak and became one of the pioneers in describing abnormalities of the blood system caused by HIV. It was then he decided to become an oncologist and accepted a fellowship at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where he met fellow alumnus Dr. Karen Hamm Antman '70 (page 4).

“I heard about the Muhlenberg connection, sought Karen out, and she gave me some guidance,” says Zon. “I was impressed that someone from Muhlenberg had made it to that level.” (He and Antman still see each other at professional conferences from time to time.)

Zon soon climbed to his own level, discovering his gift for research, which had been honed at Muhlenberg. “I spent three years in Dr. Russell Smart’s laboratory, and he was a very, very precise person,” says Zon. “One of the really great things at Muhlenberg was working one-on-one with a professor and being able to go into the lab whenever you wanted to. I learned that you have to do science the right way, the precise way. It’s almost like learning the scales on a violin.”

Zon had an early major success in gene cloning, and the paper he published on the subject in 1991 led to a position at Boston Children’s, where he remains today.

In 1993 he was invited to become a Hughes investigator, which requires him to both hold an academic position and stay active in medical research. Zon’s research areas are twofold: first, identifying the genes that direct stem cells to become cancers or to develop into more specialized blood or organ cells; second, developing chemical or genetic suppressors to cure cancers and other devastating diseases.

Right now, much of his research is being done with zebrafish, which, against all odds, have a similar genetic code to humans in addition to two other qualities that make them ideal for study.

“They are completely transparent,” says Zon, “and each mother has about 300 babies per week. As a result of studying those zebrafish, we’ve discovered five new human diseases.”

Zon, whose wife, Dr. Lynda Schneider, is the director of the allergy program at Boston Children’s, doesn’t have much time to return to Muhlenberg. But he did stop by several years ago on a college visit with his son, Tyler (who subsequently chose Swarthmore), and looked up Dr. Donald W. Shive, professor of chemistry and head of the interdisciplinary science program.

“He found an old grade book and looked up what he had given me in Analytical Chemistry,” said Zon.

And? “I got an A,” he said.

For his revolutionary work in the ever-developing field of stem cell research—not to mention some entertaining licks on the shofar—that grade sums up Leonard Zon’s whole career.

Zon was honored at Muhlenberg’s 169th Commencement on May 21, 2017. He was awarded a Doctor of Science honorary degree during Sunday’s ceremony, and had the opportunity to address the campus community on Saturday, May 20, during at the inaugural Evening of Excellence programming.

Dr. Henry David Abraham '63 can talk about his life-saving connection to the Lutheran Church, his distinguished career in pediatrics and psychiatry, his counseling work with families and drugs that led to two books, his ongoing political advocacy and with all that throw in some licks on the violin. But he knows what you really want to get to.

“Yes, the Nobel Peace Prize,” Abraham says. “Of course I’m proud of it. It’s a big part of my life. But there have been other things, too.”

Lots of them. But first let’s talk about what led Muhlenberg’s only Nobel laureate to Allentown.

“I was raised in a dysfunctional, half-Jewish, half-Armenian family in West Philadelphia,” he begins, “and I was kind of adopted by the Lutherans.”

The local Cub Scout troop meetings happened to be held in a Lutheran church, and it changed his life. “I was hungering for the stability, structure and moral instruction of religion,” says Abraham, “And I got it from the Lutherans. They were extremely welcoming and rescued me from a dangerous situation.”

It was through those connections that Abraham was drawn to Muhlenberg and its esteemed pre-med program.

“Early on I wanted to be a physician,” says Abraham, “Maybe because I wasn’t exactly raised with the best medical care. Something would be wrong with me, and my father would take me to an osteopath who for two bucks would give me a dose of cocaine.”

During his freshman year at Muhlenberg, Abraham also audited courses at Harvard, where he later studied psychiatry. “On a course-to-course basis,” says Abraham, “Muhlenberg was better than Harvard.”

Abraham says he was most influenced by science courses taught by Dr. Charles Mortimer (chemistry), Dr. Harry Raub (physics) and Dr. Russell Smart (organic chemistry) and enjoyed a memorable out-of-major experience with Dr. Harold Stenger in Shakespeare.

After Muhlenberg, Abraham got his M.D. at Johns Hopkins and fell in with a group of people interested in stopping nuclear proliferation, in particular Dr. Jerome Frank, a recognized voice in the anti-nuclear movement.

“I was a child of the 1950s,” says Dr. Abraham. “Air raids, hiding under the desks, all of that. I went through the Cuban missile crisis while I was at Muhlenberg. We were insulated by the news, by and large, but the more I learned, the more I realized how vulnerable we were.”

In 1978 Abraham helped launch a Hopkins chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility—“We had lunch with the Berrigan brothers,” Abraham said of the famed anti-war priests—and over time he became, as he puts it, “sort of the pen” of the anti-nuclear movement.

Physicians for Social Responsibility blossomed into the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW). At one time that organization had a membership of 150,000 and



Muhlenberg's Nobel Laureate

included doctors from 40 countries. Abraham traveled widely—Tasmania was among the countries he visited—on behalf of the organization and became one of its best-known figures.

And so on a morning in 1985 ...

“I was driving to work when I heard on the radio that IPPNW had won the Nobel Peace Prize,” Abraham says. “It was overwhelming. I had to pull the car to the side of the road.”

“I was proud to be among those who represented the organization at the ceremony in Oslo. It was unforgettable. But success has many mothers. I was just one of a group. And there’s only one Nobel given. In that respect, it’s sort of like the Stanley Cup, right?”

Keep in mind that Abraham, who in 1990 received an Alumni Achievement Award for Attainment in Life and in 2014 an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters

from Muhlenberg, accomplished all of that alongside a storied medical career that spiraled off in several directions. Accomplished in both pediatrics and psychiatry, Abraham also wrote and produced public information programs on local TV and radio stations, published dozens of articles, and lectured widely.

He eventually developed an interest in treating victims of drug addiction, which led to his publishing two books: “What’s a Parent To Do? Straight Talk on Drugs and Alcohol” and one for teens, “The No Nonsense Guide to Drugs and Alcohol.” They come out of his experience in counseling over 90,000 patients and families.

Abraham left full-time medicine in December of 2016 and moved to Florida with his wife, Carol Belding, who had run a women’s health clinic in Massachusetts. But as you might suspect, Abraham isn’t exactly whiling away his days on the shuffleboard court. In his new home in Sarasota, he helped start a chapter of Indivisible, a group that lobbies—or as Abraham jokingly puts it “harasses”—local politicians to oppose what he calls the “current illiberal political administration.”

“You have much more leverage if you work on a local level,” says Abraham. “Marco Rubio never takes my calls. Neither does Elizabeth Warren for that matter. But local Congress people? They talk to me.”

If talking doesn’t work, perhaps Abraham could pull out his violin and woo them with some strings—he plays with the Venice (Fla.) Symphony Orchestra and the Sarasota Community Orchestra. And to get back to his “adopted roots,” he sometimes plays music in a Lutheran church.

One thing he doesn’t do when he’s lobbying is talk much about that long-ago Nobel. He doesn’t have to. He can cull experiences from so many other parts of his life.

“I finished a memoir [of course he has], and the editor said, ‘Well, you have to start with the Nobel Prize, and say what turned you into a peacenik,’” says Abraham. “I said okay. But there’s a lot more to talk about.”

Academic Preparation for Health Careers at Muhlenberg

By Victoria Marsala '17, Communications Intern



Many students come to Muhlenberg to prepare for an eventual career in a health-related field. This is not only because Muhlenberg fulfills their desire for a rich curriculum, but also because students can choose the path they take from a number of diverse offerings. There are a variety of academic departments and programs that give students solid footing at the start of their health careers—each providing top-notch opportunities for work in the classroom or lab, student-faculty research and mentorship and career preparation through internships and networking.

While the following list may not cover the field of study of every future doctor, researcher or health professional who has walked through the red doors, these are some of the common departments, programs and offices students look to as they prepare for health-related careers.

Biology is a popular major for students who are interested in taking the pre-health track because it prepares students for whatever niche they plan on pursuing: whether that niche be research, medicine or health care law. Internship and shadow opportunities are abundant, with placements at Lehigh Valley Health Network, the Phoebe Home, St. Luke's Hospital, Lehigh Valley Zoo and optometry and podiatry offices. The department contains Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified integrated research facilities, including two field stations—the 63-acre Graver Arboretum and 38-acre Raker Wildlife Preserve—and a greenhouse on campus. There is a plethora of student-faculty collaboration that leads to published works and professional presentations as well.

The **chemistry** department is another place where students interested in health careers can pursue their goals. Those in the department share the common goal of developing (and becoming) the next generation of chemists who will help tackle the scientific challenges ahead including: energy, clean water, new materials and nanotechnology. Research opportunities are available as early as freshman year, with chances to do research both during the academic year or the summer. The

opportunities are collaborative and cross-disciplinary, sometimes involving botany, environmental science or neuroscience. Those who graduate from this department are highly sought after by employers, graduate schools and professional schools. Many students who go through the chemistry department go on to careers as doctors, dentists, optometrists, researchers, lawyers and technical salespeople.

Studying **biochemistry** helps to prepare a student for future endeavors in many areas of science. In addition to basic and applied research, biochemistry students also find themselves well-equipped for work in health care fields, particularly as our understanding of human health and medicine at the molecular and chemical level continues to increase.

The **public health** major at Muhlenberg is another route students can take if they are interested in health professions. It is an interdisciplinary major centered around the protection and improvement of individuals' health, as well as communities and populations that may be at risk for injury and disease. This major includes courses in natural science, mathematics, social sciences and humanities, allowing students to get a well-

rounded perspective on the subject matter. Students that have majored in this course have gone on to work in the National Health Corps, the Peace Corps and various non-profit organizations, as well as study at medical schools and top public health schools such as Johns Hopkins University. Students interested in public health can also get involved in the Peer Health Advocates at Muhlenberg, which is a group directly linked to the public health major and the Health Center, dedicated to encouraging wellness and empowering the campus community to make responsible decisions.

Muhlenberg is one of the only liberal arts colleges of its size that offers a major in **neuroscience**, and its strong curriculum prepares students to analyze both theory and data, ensuring that they are well-rounded. The department boasts research strengths in the structure and function of neurotransmitter receptors, sensory neurophysiology, molecular and behavioral pharmacology, the neural basis of learning and memory and the analytic and phenomenological foundation of consciousness and cognition. The training is hands-on, allowing neuroscience majors the opportunity to practice with human electroencephalograms (EEGs), research animals and more. Additionally, there are opportunities to collaborate with professors, presenting findings at both local and national meetings. The program prepares students for careers in academia, industry or medicine.

While not an area of academic study, Muhlenberg's **Office of Health Professions** has an impact on every student who hopes to pursue a health-related career. The office aims to advance the quality of the undergraduate pre-professional student's life-long learning process. At the heart of these efforts is Cailin Pachter, director of pre-professional advising. The office's goal is accomplished by providing students with self-assessment workshops, opportunities for independent or collaborative research, experiential learning and preparation for professional school application. Mentorships are one way students can gain this experiential learning. For example, alumnus Ray Fritz '82 (pictured at right) has mentored many Muhlenberg students in his podiatry office over the years. Fritz even keeps students working in his office during their gap years, which has become increasingly more common for students.

For more on the academic disciplines that send students into health-related fields and research opportunities, visit our website this summer.



Dr. Ray Fritz '82 knows that Muhlenberg is the perfect starting point for a successful career in medicine. For generations, students have benefited from transformative relationships with faculty and enjoyed lasting mentor connections with those who have gone before them in the health professions. He's committed to continuing the legacy; in addition to Dr. Pam Baker '92, who works with Fritz in his Allentown Family Foot Care podiatry practice, he's mentored countless Muhlenberg students interested in pre-med and pre-health careers. Fritz is so confident in the power of the Muhlenberg network that he's sent all four of his children to the College: Ray '12, Daniel '14, Nicholas '15 and Julia '19.



A Muhlenberg Moment: Dr. Mark Zwanger '78

Dr. Mark Zwanger '78 grew up in a supportive family that encouraged education and learning.

That mindset led him to accomplish his goal of practicing medicine. As a young man, he realized Muhlenberg College provided the perfect path to realizing that dream.

Zwanger credits his Muhlenberg experience for providing the depth to his successful application into medical school. He also credits the College with supporting him as he took the next step to becoming a doctor; four years later he became an alumnus of the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital.

Today Zwanger is a board-certified emergency medicine physician. He has worked at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and works as a physician advisor at Executive Health Resources.

He and husband Dr. Malcolm Kram established The Dr. Mark L. Zwanger '78 and Dr. Malcolm A. Kram LGBT Scholarship in 2016 in memory of classmate and friend Michael Murphy '78 and cousin Allen Koppelman.

The scholarship was established during the Muhlenberg Match program to take advantage of Muhlenberg's drive to increase financial aid, which ends June 30. Creating your own Muhlenberg scholarship can open doors for the students of today and tomorrow.



Dr. Mark L. Zwanger '78 (right) and husband Dr. Malcolm A. Kram (left)



All in the Family

RISLEY

Walter P. Risley Jr. '63, D.D.S. and Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry, will celebrate 50 years in dentistry this June and has been lucky enough to spend the last nine years practicing in Allentown with his daughter, Jennifer K. Risley '02, D.M.D. Both received their dental degrees from the Temple University School of Dentistry, and Jennifer took over her father's general dentistry practice in January 2008. Her father still works there a half day each week.

Walter's son, **Walter P. Risley III '88, M.D.** graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1992, completed a residency at the University of Florida Health in anesthesia and served four years in the Air Force. He practices in Ocean Springs, Miss., in a group practice.

Jennifer chose a husband with health interests, too. She is married to **Shawn M. Quinn '00, D.O.**, who went to what is now Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, graduating in 2010. He completed his residency in emergency medicine for Lehigh Valley Health Network and now works there as a physician and assistant residency director.

"My husband and I sometimes consult each other on cases we have," Jennifer says. "He has called me from the ER to ask questions about a dental case that came in, and I've called him from my office with questions about medications or medical conditions about a certain patient."

MARDER

Carey Marder '68, M.D. had plenty of company at Muhlenberg when he set his sights on medicine. As a member of Phi Epsilon Pi (now Zeta Beta Tau) Marder says that out of 22 pledges in his fraternity class, 19 went on to become doctors.

Marder, a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology, graduated from Thomas Jefferson University Medical College in 1972 and completed his cardiology fellowship at St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1979. He relocated to Virginia in 1981 to found The Cardiovascular Group, which later became Virginia Heart.

With 46 years in practice, Marder says: "I have had the opportunity to witness great advances in cardiovascular care. At one point in my career, all you could do for a heart attack was to watch and wait. Now we have the ability to prevent it, or at least minimize heart damage."

Lindsay Marder McCrory '06 grew up listening to her dad talk about medicine and was fascinated by the complexity. It wasn't until 2010 when she began working for a top independent review organization that she found her niche within the industry working in regulatory compliance. Lindsay says her ability to research and decipher complex federal and state regulations for Inova Health System in Northern Virginia can be traced to what she learned as a history major at Muhlenberg.

Her father's work ethic and dedication inspire her, and she appreciates being able to turn to him to get a physician's perspective when she's working on compliance issues.

PETERS

Allentown internist **Charles D. Peters '54, M.D.** has two children who became doctors, but they took a very different approach to choosing their preferred patients.

Peters' daughter, **Amanda Peters Kinney '97, D.V.M.** preferred four-legged patients to two-legged ones. Kinney graduated from Tufts Veterinary School in 2001 and now lives in Wellesley, Mass.

Peters' son, **Charles D. Peters Jr. '94, M.D.** graduated from the Medical College of Pennsylvania and became a cardiologist. He served 11 years in the Navy, including a year in Kuwait, and now serves in the Navy Reserves. Charles Jr. practiced with the Heart Care Group with Lehigh Valley Health Network before joining the Geisinger network at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre.

After graduating from Penn Medicine in 1958, Charles Peters Sr. served in the U.S. Army as the only military physician in Iceland,



with 1,600 soldiers in his care. He practices internal medicine in Allentown. His oldest child, Melinda, graduated from Muhlenberg in 1984.

The elder Charles' brother **Ray Francis Peters** was at Muhlenberg during World War II as part of the U.S. Navy's V-12 program, in which the Navy worked with about 130 colleges to turn out officers quickly and in larger numbers for the war effort. Ray graduated from the two-year program in 1944 and was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Navy Reserves. He went on to University of Pennsylvania Dental School and into private practice in Allentown, while serving in the Reserves of the Navy Dental Corps. He died in 2001.

LESSIG

Harry Lessig '67, M.D. of Huntingdon Valley, Pa. has had a busy career in nuclear medicine and administration but still found time to drive up to Muhlenberg whenever any of his four children who attended got sick.

Lessig graduated from Hahnemann Medical College and completed his residency in nuclear medicine at Hahnemann University Hospital. He served in the Navy from 1975-1977 at Philadelphia Naval Regional Medical Center.

He has worked as director of nuclear medicine at hospitals in the Philadelphia area and taught at the Temple University School of Medicine.

Lessig is currently a consultant medical director for the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners and a physician adviser. He practices nuclear cardiology part-time.

"I don't plan to retire for another 10 years," he says.

His son, **Louis R. Lessig '93**, is a partner in the law firm Brown & Connery in Westmont, N.J. Daughter **Erica (Lessig) Lindon '00** works in Jewish early childhood education in Deerfield, Ill. Daughter **Rachael (Lessig) Israel '01** is a doctor of physical therapy working in early childhood illnesses in Baltimore, Md. Daughter **Amanda Lessig '03** is a child life specialist in Woodbridge, N.J., who works with medical teams to make sure the needs of children with serious illnesses are being met.

KATZ

Twins **Arnie and Mickey Katz** were in the Class of 1963 but left Muhlenberg after their third year when Arnie got into medical school and Mickey into dental school.

"The fact that we were able to get into graduate programs with just three years of college speaks well for the quality of the undergraduate program at Muhlenberg," says Mickey, who graduated from University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine in 1966.

After a general dental internship in Queens General Hospital in New York, Mickey entered the United States Public Health Service Division of Indian Affairs, working in a one chair dental trailer next to an elementary school in Jay, Okla. He later got a Master of Science degree in dentistry at the University of Pittsburgh orthodontic program in 1971. He returned to Oklahoma and opened his orthodontic practice where he was the first orthodontist in Tulsa to combine orthodontics with surgery to achieve significantly better facial appearances. After 39 years in practice, he retired in 2010, remaining in Tulsa.

Arnie graduated from SUNY Downstate College of Medicine in 1966.

He did a rotating internship and year of surgical residency at Long Island Jewish Hospital in New Hyde Park, N.Y. Arnie then served in the U.S. Army in South Korea and Columbia, S.C. before returning to Long Island Jewish Hospital to complete his surgical residency. From 1973 to 2007, he was a general surgeon in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., before retiring. He divides his time between Boynton, Fla., and Stockbridge, Mass. and still does disability reviews for an insurance company.

BURKHOLDER-MCDONALD

Thomas Burkholder '70, M.D. and **Judith McDonald '71, M.D.** were pre-med students at Muhlenberg but didn't get to know each other until several years later when they were physicians practicing in the Lehigh Valley.

Burkholder, an ophthalmologist, met McDonald at a lecture he gave to medical residents when McDonald was the chief medical resident at what is now Lehigh Valley Health Network.

When they started dating, he gave her grief when she misspelled "ophthalmology" in a note.

"We were trading barbs," McDonald recalled. "I said 'When did they teach ophthalmologists how to read?' and he said to me 'At the same time they taught interns how to spell.'"

Burkholder attended Temple University School of Medicine. He graduated in 1974 and did a one-year internship at Cooper University Health Care Anderson Hospital in Camden, N.J., and completed his residency in ophthalmology at Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia.

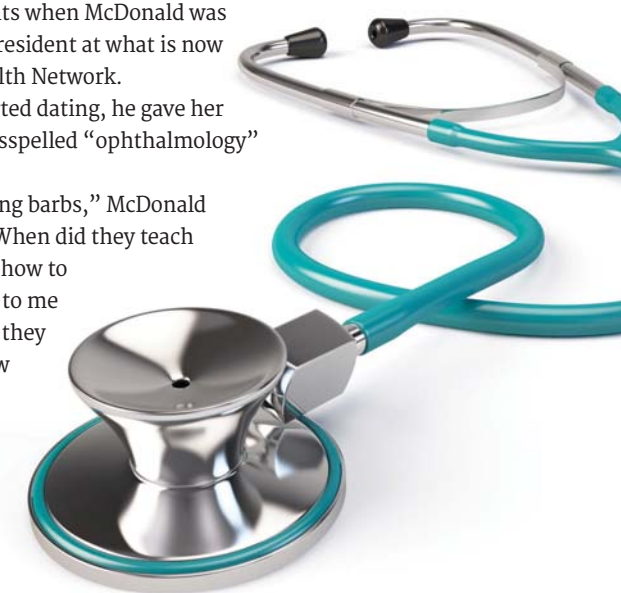
He set up his ophthalmology practice in Allentown, taking on more partners in what is now the Lehigh Valley Eye Center.

McDonald attended Hahnemann Medical College, which is now Drexel University College of Medicine, graduating in 1975. She did a three-year residency in internal medicine with Lehigh Valley Health Network, with a fourth year as the chief medical resident. She also worked for the Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic in Allentown.

McDonald and Burkholder married and had two daughters, Bryn and Alissa. McDonald stayed home with them until they went to school, and then she joined Lehigh Valley Internists in Allentown, where she still practices. Burkholder retired a couple of years ago.

McDonald said being married to an ophthalmologist has been a benefit—and not just to her.

"If I had a patient with an eye problem, I'd just pick up the phone and get a free consult on the spot," McDonald laughed.



Aerospace medicine is where **Richard C. Kipp '04, M.D.** found his calling. Kipp is a major and senior flight surgeon, medical corps, in the United States Air Force. His accomplishments include service as chief of flight medicine and medical standards branch of Air Education and Training Command. Kipp is an associate fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association and serves on the American Board of Preventive Medicine's exam writing committee. He was a Young Alumni Achievement Award recipient in 2004, is a member of Muhlenberg's Loyalty Society and has presented on campus as a pre-medical career speaker.

Biototechnology is the focus of **Nancy Thornberry '79**, CEO of Kallyope. Thornberry is a former Merck research scientist and one of two recipients of the Discoverers Award, the highest honor from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America. She and her colleague Ann Weber were recognized for their leadership in the discovery of JANUVIA®, a once-daily pill that helps patients with type 2 diabetes control glucose in conjunction with diet and exercise. Thornberry serves on the Muhlenberg College President's Advisory Council.

Cosmetic dentistry has a notable professional in **Peter Auster '76**, who serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD). The AACD recognized his outstanding volunteer work and awarded him the 2015 Humanitarian of the Year Award, a distinction given only to the most exemplary individuals in the AACD who dedicate their time and resources to helping others.

DeCherney, Alan – Class of '63 is Chief of Reproductive Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. A former Board of Trustee member, a Lifetime Giving Society member and Muhlenberg College President's Advisory Council member and Shankweiler Society Fellow, he created the endowed DeCherney Family Scholarship in Film Studies.

Edgar Nace '61 has had a distinguished career as a psychiatrist. After Muhlenberg,

Nace went to the University of Pennsylvania Medical School on deferred military service status, then was assigned to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where he studied the heroin addiction of U.S. service members. Nace eventually moved to Dallas when he was recruited to the best rehab facility in the U.S. at the time. He has worked with individuals suffering from PTSD, serves on the Halliburton Foundation and the Muhlenberg College President's Advisory Council, is a Henry Melchior Muhlenberg Society (HMMS) member and endowed the Sarah Grater Nace Scholarship Fund.

A-Z

Who's Who Among Muhlenberg Alumni in Health

Falco, Jim – Class of '81 is founder of Bethlehem Dental Care. He was a top graduate of Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, where he received distinguished recognition from the Pierre Fauchard Academy, an international dental honors organization. He is a member of the American Dental Association, Pennsylvania Dental Association and Academy of General Dentistry and remains active with Muhlenberg College.

Gynecologist and obstetrician **Nate Hirsch '61, P'99** is managing partner/owner of the South Miami Ob/Gyn Association, LLC. He is the founder and president of FemWell, a multi-state management services organization catering to physician practices. Hirsch is a former member of the Muhlenberg College Board of Trustees; a HMMS, Lifetime Giving Society and *Circle of 1848* member and founder of the endowed Dr. Nathan Hirsch '61 Scholarship Fund in honor of Dr. Shankweiler.

Hanau, Cheryl – Class of '85 is professor and Richard Shuman, M.D. Chair of the Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine. In addition to her service as chair, Hanau served in a number of other leadership positions at Drexel as associate dean for admissions and as the program director of the Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Residency.

International Medicine at Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children is where **Christopher Raab '93** serves as Medical Director. Part of his position includes travelling around the world, helping the hospital offer health care for those that cannot afford to come to America for treatment. He also serves as advisor and consultant on better treatment options for doctors in developing nations. Raab often brings interns and residents on these trips, which serve as transformative experiences; many of these students come to realize the benefits and advantages offered by a strong health system and advanced technology.

Jeff Dobro '77 is chief medical officer at RedBrick Health, a health engagement and behavior change technology firm. Dobro joined RedBrick in 2011 with over 20 years of thought leadership in integrated population health management solutions, including comprehensive care management, condition management and well-being programs as well as provider-based solutions for employers, managed care and provider-based companies. Dobro is a HMMS member and has participated in The Career Center's Career Exploration Day for students majoring in the sciences.

Ken Ryder '79 owns a family practice in Schnecksville, Pa. He is a HMMS and *Circle of 1848* member and serves as a mentor to Muhlenberg's public health students. In addition to creating the Dr. Kenneth G. Ryder '79 Scholarship in honor of Drs. Charles E. and Joanne S. Mortimer, he continues serving his alma mater in unique ways—as a strong supporter of Summer Music Theatre and a member of the Allentown Band, where he has played at every Muhlenberg Commencement since his own graduation.

Lance Bruck '89, P'21 is chief medical officer at Westchester Medical Center Health, MidHudson Regional Hospital. He serves on the Muhlenberg College Board of Trustees. Bruck is a HMMS and Lifetime Giving Society member and a career center volunteer.

Madison, Wis., is the home of **Alfred Nicolosi '80**. He is a thoracic surgeon, a HMMS member and an active Muhlenberg College volunteer. Nicolosi is a 2010 recipient of an Alumni Achievement Award in Science, and he remains connected to current students through mentoring opportunities facilitated by the career center at Muhlenberg.

Nuss, Robert – Class of '58 is a member of the Florida Board of Medicine and emeritus professor at the University of Florida College of Medicine department of obstetrics and gynecology. In addition to his service as a HMMS, Lifetime Giving Society and *Circle of 1848* member, Nuss is a Shankweiler Society Fellow. He is the founder of the Drs. Robert C. Nuss '58 and Ann Harwood-Nuss Endowed Scholarship.

Orthopedic surgeon **Edward Bloch '65** is a former member of the Muhlenberg College Board of Trustees; a HMMS, Lifetime Giving Society and *Circle of 1848* member; and the creator of the endowed Edward J. Block MD '65 Scholarship in Natural Sciences.

Professor of pediatrics **Nancy Hutton '75** is employed by the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and medical director of the Harriet Lane Compassionate Care Team at Johns Hopkins Children's Center. She is a member of the Muhlenberg College Board of Trustees, as well as a HMMS member.

Quite the overachiever, **Edward R. "Ted" Bollard '79** earned both an M.D. and D.D.S.

and currently serves as associate dean for graduate medical education and professor of medicine at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. He is listed in The Best Doctors in America and has received an award or honor almost every year since 1992, including a 2016 Alumni Achievement Award in Science from Muhlenberg. Bollard is a HMMS member and has served various communities as the medical director of a free clinic serving the homeless, a charity fundraiser and as a member of the Muhlenberg College Alumni Board.

Rochmis, Ann – Class of '61 is a psychiatrist and was among the first class of women to graduate from Muhlenberg. She received a 2011 Alumni Achievement Award in Science for her outstanding career in medicine.

Singer, Raymond – Class of '80, P'21 is a cardio-thoracic surgeon. He serves as vice chair for the department of surgery at LVHN, is a member of the Muhlenberg College President's Advisory Council and an active career center volunteer.

Texas Children's Hospital employs **Lucy Puryear '81** as medical director of The Women's Place: Center for Reproductive Psychiatry and the co-director of The Menopause Center at Texas Children's Pavilion for Women. She also serves as Maureen Hackett Endowed Chair for Reproductive Psychiatry and associate professor for the department of obstetrics and gynecology and the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine. She is a member of the Muhlenberg College President's Advisory Council, a HMMS member and a recipient of the 2016 Alumni Achievement Award in medicine.

University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine employs **Glenn Ault '87**

as senior associate dean and associate professor of colorectal surgery. Ault is a member of the Muhlenberg College President's Advisory Council and actively supports the career center through pre-med advising.

Veterinarian **Shelly Epstein '81** is owner of Wilmington Animal Hospital in Delaware. She is a recipient of the 2013 American Veterinary Medical Association's Holistic Practitioner of the Year Award. Epstein authored the first homeopathy case report published in a current North American veterinary journal.

Waterhouse, Barry – Class of '71 is professor and chair of cell biology and neuroscience at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine. He maintains an NIH funded laboratory and is a Shankweiler Society Fellow.

X-ray – **Robert Kricun '68** is chair of the department of radiology & diagnostic medical imaging at Lehigh Valley Health Network. He is a member of the American Board of Radiology and the Muhlenberg College Board of Associates.

Yale University School of Public Health's Samuel and Liselotte Herman Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences is **Jeanette Ickovics '84**. She is the founding director of social and behavioral sciences at the School of Public Health and director of CARE: Community Alliance for Research and Engagement, and deputy director for the Yale Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS, where she has directed a pre- and post-doctoral training program since 1999. Ickovics is a member of the Muhlenberg College President's Advisory Council.

Zatcoff, Brad – Class of '09 is a physical therapist at ATI Physical Therapy in Jamison, Pa.

Muhlenberg Grads Head State Medical Societies

Steven Jarrett, M.D. '65 wrote to us to let us know of not one, but two Muhlenberg graduates who are currently heading state medical societies. Jarrett's cousin, **Stephen Rockower '71**, an orthopedic surgeon, is the president of the Maryland State Medical Society. **Charles Rothberg '79**, an ophthalmologist, is the new president of the Medical Society of the State of New York. Send us a note at magazine@muhlenberg.edu if you know of other Muhlenberg alumni who are leading or have led state medical societies!



Hands-On Experience and Camaraderie Draw Students to MCEMS



MCEMS lieutenant Gregory Kantor '18 (left) and captain Melissa Edgar '18 (center) frequently work with Muhlenberg Campus Safety officers, including sergeant Carlos Cueva (right).

An acute stress response—what we colloquially call “fight or flight”—is a reflexive reaction. It’s our body’s way of getting us moving when we perceive an action or event that might hurt us. And often, that response serves as the pivotal moment our bodies and our minds say to each other: “let’s get out of here.”

But for some individuals, that rush of adrenaline is the start of a reaction to run towards danger, to reach out and offer help to those who need it most.

That’s especially true for members of the Muhlenberg College Emergency Medical Service (MCEMS) team. The group serves as a quick response service for medical needs on campus and serves an essential role in the safety and health of Muhlenberg’s campus community.

For MCEMS students, every response—from a need as critical as performing CPR or delivering shocks with an automated external defibrillator to more routine care like minor injuries or sudden illness—is treated promptly and with courtesy.

It’s that professionalism that makes them sought after for Muhlenberg events. You’ll see MCEMS students at Master Choreographers dance performances, at signature College events like Commencement and President Williams’ 2015 inauguration and at once-in-a-lifetime visits by national figures, like the 2016 visit by vice-presidential candidate Tim Kaine, where over 20 members worked alongside the Secret Service.

As for the type of student drawn to the duties and responsibility of this type of service? While there’s no academic requirement for service in MCEMS, patterns do emerge.

“A lot of us want some sort of career in the health field through service as doctors, nurses or physician’s assistants,” says MCEMS captain Melissa Edgar ’18. “Most of us want a future where we end up doing something that’s going to impact people, either on a patient-provider level or through policy work and broader public health fields.”

Melissa arrived at Muhlenberg as a certified EMT in her home state of New Jersey before obtaining her Pennsylvania certification. Her experience is a common one, but some students obtain their EMT license after serving as a “shadow” for two semesters with senior members.

That training period acts as a helpful indicator of the scope and breadth of responsibilities MCEMS students can be expected to fulfill. Members like Greg Kantor ’18 found the training program that MCEMS provided to be a way to become involved with the group while working towards the certification that would enable him to serve as a first responder. The structure gave a network of peers he could learn from while introducing him to the vital role of an EMT.

“We act very much like a family,” says Greg, a public health major and MCEMS lieutenant. “We consider ourselves, in some sense, like any Greek life chapter. We get meals together, hang out on the weekends, conduct trainings and teambuilding exercises—we’ve had an opportunity to build out a social sphere beyond the responsibilities



MCEMS officers act as first responders for the entire Muhlenberg community.

of MCEMS membership.”

Greg and Melissa credit that camaraderie as one of the reasons the group has had such a rich membership over the years, regularly surpassing 50 active members each academic year. The students tend to think of themselves as a family unit, an analogy that strikes even truer when you consider the close bond still present with the group’s founder, Frank Caria ’01.

When he first arrived on campus as a student in 1998, Caria advocated for a campus EMS program in a presentation to President Arthur Taylor, who asked him to work with campus safety director Ken Lupole, health services director Sam Miranda and dean of students Rudy Ehrenberg.

As a result of his efforts, the fledgling group obtained the necessary insurance, equipment and authority to serve on campus. With the donation of a retired 1991 Chevrolet Caprice campus safety vehicle—soon upgraded to a retired 1996 Chevy Blazer—MCEMS was up and running. In that first year alone, MCEMS answered over 400 calls for medical assistance, including the successful revival of a referee who went into cardiac arrest during the 1999 Homecoming soccer game.

Within a few years, Caria built the program into a structured campus organization that has since served as a model for other colleges and universities. Current Muhlenberg students attend annual collegiate EMS conferences where Caria—officially designated “Life Captain” by MCEMS—is a regular presenter. His leadership and

involvement with the group continues strong to this day, and he never passes up an opportunity to meet and advise with the current student leadership that carries his mantle forward.

And the group has seen significant progress since those first years on campus. For nearly two decades, students have served with campus safety officers as uniformed first responders during weekend shifts. Now, with the access made possibilities by smart phone technology, students can utilize an app to coordinate immediate plain-clothes response during the week as well. All members receive immediate notice of a report from their peer dispatchers and can notify the other members when they’re available to respond.

Still, some find it tough to welcome fellow students when they arrive to a call with campus safety. And Melissa acknowledges that she understands some may be apprehensive to call for help, especially if that call involves a drug-, alcohol- or behavior-related incident. But most students quickly realize that their safety is everyone’s top concern, and the College has made that clear with their support of MCEMS and through adoption of an amnesty policy that sets aside judicial repercussions in favor of increased reporting that can save lives.

“As EMTs, we want our community to know we do what we do so they remain safe,” says Melissa. “That’s the draw to emergency medicine in the first place; when people really need us, we’ll always be there to do what’s best for them.”

From Red Jersey to White Coat

Two former women's basketball players' lives run in parallel on and off the court.



Susan Marchiano in 2004



Jill Crosson in 2004

More than a decade after wrapping up their Muhlenberg women's basketball careers, **Susan Marchiano '04** and **Jill (Friedman) Crosson '04** are wearing the same uniform again.

The former is Susan Marchiano, DO, a hospitalist at Main Line HealthCare in suburban Philadelphia. The latter is Jill Crosson, DO, a physician at OAA Orthopaedic Specialists in Allentown.

They are just two of the many former Mule athletes who have gone on to careers in the health professions, combining their desire to help others and rigorous Muhlenberg education with the values learned on the playing fields and courts to find success in their fields.

And just as Marchiano and Crosson took alternate paths to becoming all-conference basketball players, their routes to becoming doctors were markedly different.

THE SYSTEM

After a solid first season of basketball, Marchiano emerged as Muhlenberg's top player as a sophomore, earning first-team All-Centennial Conference honors after leading the team in scoring and rebounding. She also helped the Mules to a then-school-record 21 wins in Ron Rohn's first season as head coach.

Crosson, on the other hand, appeared in just four games as a freshman and saw her playing time steadily increase over the next two years, especially as injuries began to curtail Marchiano during their junior season.

As seniors, Marchiano and Crosson were part of one of the most entertaining teams in Muhlenberg athletic history. Running "The System"—a style that featured pressure defense all over the court and plenty of three-point shooting—the Mules

averaged a Division III-leading 90.8 points per game and topped the 100-point mark eight times.

A key component of "The System" was mass substitutions every 45 seconds to a minute, and since Marchiano and Crosson both played the five spot (center), they were on different "lines" and never took the court together. Nevertheless, both were named to the All-CC team, with Crosson earning first-team laurels after leading the Mules in scoring and rebounding.

SERVING HER COUNTRY

A few years after experiencing the frenetic pace of "System" basketball, Marchiano found herself overseas in the fast-paced military world.

She wasn't necessarily looking to join the military until former dean of students Rudy Ehrenberg, a retired Army colonel, suggested the Health Professions Scholarship Program, which would pay for her medical education in exchange for service.

"I mulled it over quite a bit and ultimately decided that I wanted to become a doctor but also wanted to do something a little bit unique," she recalled. "For me, this was the best opportunity."

It was unique all right. After four years at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine, Marchiano spent a year studying internal medicine at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, then took a spot as a flight surgeon and was assigned to the 347th Rescue Group at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia.

While at Moody, Marchiano contributed to the care of more than 1,200 patients. She also helped train pararescuemen, combat medics "that kind of do a little bit of everything—they jump out of airplanes, they go scuba diving, they rescue people



Susan Marchiano during her time in the U.S. Air Force



from all sorts of crazy places."

Marchiano got a firsthand look at the combat medics during her two deployments to Afghanistan. Stationed at Camp Bastion in the Kandahar province, she worked in the equivalent of a Level 1 trauma center. She also saw action flying in HH-60 and HC-130 helicopters on casualty evacuation missions.

"The helicopters would pick [wounded] up and we would stabilize them in the air and then take them to a higher echelon of care," she explained.

Marchiano distinguished herself in her service, so much so that the 2002 Lehigh Valley Small College Basketball Player of the Year was named the 2011 U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeon of the Year. In a letter of recommendation, Lt. Col. David Blocker, the 23rd Aerospace Medicine Squadron commander, noted that "Marchiano ... is directly credited with 82 saved lives and 143 assists."

Now that's a double-double. (And for the record, Marchiano had 38 assists in her four-year Mule basketball career. Blocked shots were more her thing—she accumulated 84, tied for the seventh-most in program history.)

Several factors, including a desire to be closer to home, led Marchiano to decide to end her military career. She received her honorable discharge in 2013 and returned stateside to finish up her internal medicine residency at Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia. She now makes her rounds on foot, rather than in helicopters, treating admitted patients.

"It was definitely an educational experience," Marchiano said of her time in Afghanistan. "I learned a lot about myself. You definitely get a lot of respect for these people that are out there doing this day in and day out."

SERVING HER ALMA MATER

Crosson gets a lot of respect from the patients whose care she oversees—because she was once one of them.

For the past four years, Crosson has been the Primary Care Sports Medicine Team Physician for Muhlenberg. Her duties include being a supervising physician for the Mules' athletic training office, seeing injured athletes in the training room on a weekly basis, organizing and conducting yearly physicals and covering Muhlenberg athletic events.

"I think you can relate to the players a lot since you were in their shoes at one point," she said. "I love it because in my position, you get to work with all different athletes and so it brings on a new meaning, kind of coming full circle. I played at Muhlenberg, and now I get to take care of the athletes. I love what I do."

Crosson graduated from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed a residency at Mercy Suburban Hospital in Norristown. She started in orthopedic surgery but realized she would rather see patients in the office full-time rather than in the operating room.

That led her to the field of sports medicine, which led her to a fellowship at St. Luke's Health Network. It was there that she met Dr. Robert Palumbo, the Mules' longtime orthopedic sports medicine team doctor and the founder of OAA's Sports Medicine Institute. After her fellowship was over, Crosson was hired at OAA.

One of Crosson's specialties is concussion management. Certified by the Pennsylvania Medical Society and Sport Safety International as a ConcussionWise Physician, she regularly lectures to other health care professionals and members of the community about concussion prevention and protocols.



Jill Crosson

continued on next page

“I want to educate people,” she said. “I think that’s a responsibility as a physician to pass the message along and get that information out there.”

Crosson frequently sends concussion patients to Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital, and it was through that relationship that she got to associate with Muhlenberg basketball again in a unique way.

Good Shepherd received a grant to study vision training, a growing component of sports enhancement training popular with NBA players such as Steph Curry that also relates to concussion prevention. During the 2016–17 season, the Mule men’s basketball team participated in the study, donning strobe glasses and meeting with Good Shepherd doctors once a week. At the conclusion of the study, Crosson and the Good Shepherd doctors analyzed the data.

Crosson, who also is a member of the United States Ski and Snowboarding Association’s Physician Pool, says she “couldn’t be happier. I’ve achieved a lot of what I set out to do. I have a great family [husband David and a baby girl]. The office is busy, and I have a lot of great patients.”

LIFE LESSONS

Whether they’re 6,000 miles from home or a 15-minute drive down Tilghman Street, Marchiano and Crosson carry their Muhlenberg experience, and the lessons they learned as Mule athletes, with them at all times.

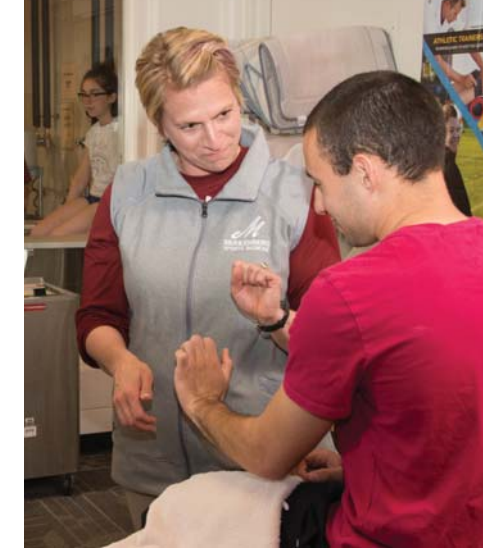
“One of the things I value about Muhlenberg was the well-rounded education that I received,” says Marchiano. “I got opportunities to get exposed to a lot of different things, and I think that made me a more well-rounded individual and it has allowed to me look at things in a different perspective than maybe if I had solely gone to a very focused school. In medicine and again in the military, you have to think outside of the box, and I think that education was a good stepping stone to provide me with the skills that I needed to do that.”

“I loved my education there, I really did,” said Crosson. “I think I was very well prepared for medical school. But not only that, I had a lot of other great experiences at Muhlenberg – I was a double major, I studied abroad, I can speak to patients in Spanish. I really had a great experience.”

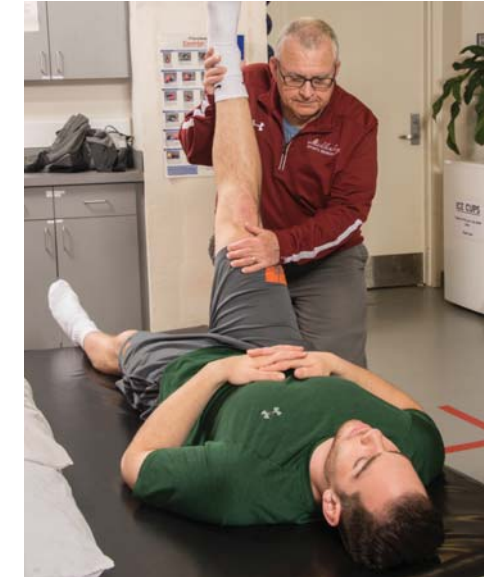
Basketball, of course, was part of that experience, and the teamwork needed to produce a successful season on the hardwood has proved invaluable in the medical world.

“Learning how to work with a group of people and lead people, those were all valuable lessons that stem from Muhlenberg,” said Marchiano, the former basketball captain-turned-Air Force captain. “In basketball it’s getting the hoop in the basket or winning the game. In the military it’s seeing the mission done and the hospitals getting people out safely. The physician is one member of a big team, so you have to be able to interface with everybody.”

Marchiano summarized her time at Muhlenberg this way: “I got a pretty cool liberal arts education, I got a strong science background, I was able to get into medical school, which was my ultimate goal, and I got to play basketball, which is what I loved. It was the best of all worlds.”



Poremba (above) and Nemes (below) interact with student-athletes.



Muhlenberg Sports Medicine

By Alex Horowitz '19

The behind-the-scenes life of an athlete is rarely understood, particularly the preparation it takes to get ready to play and what happens when an injury sidelines a player. Luckily for those athletes looking to get back in the game, Muhlenberg is fortunate to have a renowned sports medicine program that attends to athletes in all of its 22 varsity sports.

“We’re working with athletes starting at 6 a.m. all the way until as late as 10 at night,” says Muhlenberg’s head athletic trainer Steve Nemes, who was recently presented with the President’s Recognition Award by the Eastern Athletic Trainers Association for dedicated service to the profession. The “jack of all trades,” as Nemes refers to himself, knows what it takes to successfully plan and operate a daily college athletic training program, a testament to his 35 years on this one campus.

Along with Nemes, three other members of the team typically occupy the athletic training office—associate athletic trainer Lindsay Poremba and assistant trainers Sean Morse and Jamie Scalise. They are tasked with a variety of responsibilities, depending on the season and specific day. Sometimes they’ll be at a game, attending to a specific sport in which they have extended interest and expertise. Scalise, for example, is the point person for football, which means he’s at every game home or on the road. Nemes holds the same duties for the wrestling team. “We do our best to make sure that every sport is

covered,” says Nemes. “Sometimes the times of games are overlapping, which makes our job more difficult.”

Off the field, this quartet practices “the healing art” of athletic training. When an athlete is injured, he or she is initially examined by a doctor. For something common, like a sprained ankle, the ensuing procedures are aimed at reducing the swelling and increasing range of motion. Nemes makes sure that no athlete is cleared to play before he or she is ready.

“The recovery time for a sprained ankle will typically range from ten days to two weeks, at a minimum,” says Nemes. “But the ultimate goal for any athlete entering our training facility is to get back in playing condition with minimal possibility for further damage.”

Muhlenberg athletes are thankful for the services provided by the training center. One of them is Kailey Fandl '18, a defender for the women’s lacrosse team, who after one week of attention by the training staff was almost fully recovered from shin splints and a sprained ankle.

“I was never injured in high school,” says Fandl. “Despite my injuries I find the athletic training program at Muhlenberg a comforting setting.”

Pete Luther '20, a midfielder on the soccer team, spent significant time at the training center this month rehabbing a groin injury. “When I came here, the trainers gave me a

good routine to follow,” says Luther. “I know that I shouldn’t push anything.”

March marked “Athletic Training Month.” Nemes sees this as a time for people to recognize the profession of athletic training and to further eliminate the stereotypes surrounding athletic trainers.

“Athletic trainers are not confined to working with only athletes anymore,” says Nemes. “The profession has expanded to work in the scholastic, clinical and professional industries as well.”

The sports medicine program at Muhlenberg has consistently been beneficial to the students here on campus. So with all the wonderful things that the training program does for students, how does Nemes come to sum up the overall goals of the athletic trainers?

“Our philosophy is to provide the best preventative care and treatment care for student athletes,” says Nemes. “We try to do our best on a daily basis.”

A Runner for All Seasons

If there was a gathering of the top distance runners in Division III in 2016–17, Jaryd Flank was there.

The 2017 Muhlenberg graduate had a historic senior season, qualifying for the NCAA Championships in cross country, indoor track & field and outdoor track & field. He was only the fourth athlete in program history—joining Will Elson in 2002–03, David Chorney in 2008–09 and Samantha Mayden in 2012–13—to compete in the national meet in all three seasons.

Combined with his NCAA appearances in cross country in 2014 and 2015 and in outdoor track in 2016, that made Flank the first athlete in College history to compete on the national level six times.

Flank, who also wrestled his first two years at Muhlenberg, didn’t just appear in the national championships—he made an impact. He finished 26th in Division III in cross country, becoming the first All-American in program history. He added two more All-America honors at the indoor meet, finishing seventh with the distance medley relay team and eighth in the 3,000 meters despite sustaining a sprained ankle during the latter race.

Muhlenberg’s seventh three-time All-American, Flank closed out his career at the NCAA outdoor meet by advancing to the final in the steeplechase, where he finished 13th.

Flank graduated as the holder of four school records in track. He won four Centennial Conference gold medals in track and crossed the finish line first in six cross country races, including the 2016 CC Championships.

The double major in environmental science and public health went the distance in the classroom too, earning Academic All-District honors.



Muhlenberg's Three-Time All-Americans

JOSHUA CARTER '01
football (1999, 2000 and 2001)

WILL ELSON '03
men's indoor track and field (twice in 2003), outdoor track and field (2003)

MATT LOESCH '07
wrestling (2005, 2006 and 2007)

JOHN DELUCA '09
men's lacrosse (2008 and 2009), football (2008)

ALEX FAUST '10
women's outdoor track and field (2009 and 2010), indoor track and field (2010)

CODY ANTONINI
men's soccer (2009, 2010 and 2012)

JARYD FLANK '17
men's cross country (2016), indoor track and field (twice in 2017)





The End of a Muhlen-era

On June 30, Muhlenberg will say goodbye to two individuals who have served as the College's greatest servants and fans. **Chris Hooker-Haring** and **Mike Bruckner** will retire after decades of service to Muhlenberg.

Chris Hooker-Haring '72, P'08, P'10 is responsible for coordinating the teams that begin each student journey. He has spent the last 30 years in service to his alma mater, successfully building Muhlenberg's national reputation and increasing the quality of student applicants. His efforts ensure that a Muhlenberg education is seen as a worthwhile investment—now and in the future.

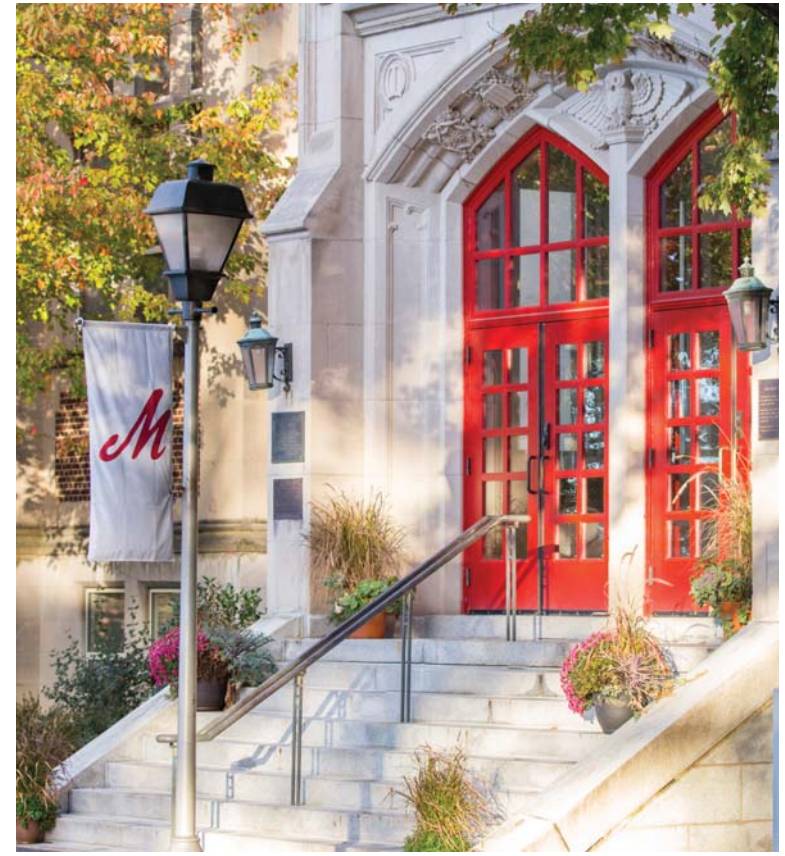
His leadership has resulted in increased diversity of the student body, contributing to a richness of experience that benefits all members of the College community. His voice has served as a national authority on issues of enrollment, retention, value and financial aid, and he has served as a powerful advocate—and personal example—of the value provided in a Muhlenberg College liberal arts education.

Mike Bruckner has served Muhlenberg for 21 years as vice president of public relations and, more recently, as vice president of external affairs and community relations. From his first days on campus, the

“mayor of Muhlenberg” took a communications role that required strategy and agility and added his own charm, personality, knowledge and passion to serve as Muhlenberg's ambassador to the city of Allentown, the Lehigh Valley and beyond.

He has built relationships with some of Muhlenberg's most enduring partners, maintained personal relationships with alumni, provided direction in times of crisis, has welcomed new members to our community, sought to spread word of faculty and student expertise and broadcast the valuable contributions of the College's service and professional staff. Muhlenberg's red doors are famous as a sign of welcome, and as countless people have experienced, Mike Bruckner was the one ready to offer a first greeting.

Chris and Mike have touched the lives of tens of thousands of students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the College over their 50 years of combined service. It would be difficult to fully state the impact and contributions they've made to the community that Muhlenberg is today; so from Muhlenberg magazine's editorial staff, on behalf of Mules everywhere, we offer our sincere gratitude, admiration and love. Best of luck, Chris and Mike.



Muhlenberg Featured as a 2017 Princeton Review “College That Pays You Back”

The Princeton Review featured Muhlenberg College as one of the nation's best colleges for a Return on Investment (ROI). The strong education and career preparation that students are provided at an affordable price put Muhlenberg on the list. The ratings weighted 40 data points which covered topics such as academics, tuition and financial aid; student debt and alumni salaries; graduation rates; and job satisfaction.

The editors at The Princeton Review stated that Muhlenberg is “an excellent place to go if you're serious about academics, and you want to try a lot of different things throughout your undergraduate career.” The article mentioned professors' willingness to listen and engage with students and the friendly, encouraging atmosphere—both factors that motivate students to work harder to achieve their goals.

Muhlenberg's profile on The Princeton Review shows that 42 percent of Muhlenberg graduates believe their careers are benefiting the improvement of our society. The abundant opportunities offered by the school, coupled with its strong academics, has provided students with the confidence they need to attain any job after graduating. The resources allocated to students for career preparation are pointed out as well, particularly the online catalog of available internships and research opportunities.

President John I. Williams, Jr. (front) joined director of Trexler Library Tina Hertel, Allentown Art Museum President and CEO David Mickenberg and associate professor and chair of art Margo Hobbs, (left to right) at the signing of the agreement.

Muhlenberg College and Allentown Art Museum Announce Agreement

This spring the Allentown Art Museum (AAM) and Muhlenberg College announced their joint commitment to the visual arts. Their agreement aims to strengthen the relationship between the two organizations and included benefits for the AAM professional staff and the members of Muhlenberg's community. AAM's professional staff members are allowed access to print and audio-visual resources, electronic databases, interlibrary loan services, campus WiFi and help-desk assistance in Muhlenberg's Trexler Library. Students benefit from this agreement with unlimited free admission to the AAM with their student ID during business hours, and faculty receive free admission to visit the museum with their classes. The President's Office receives 100 free passes per year as well. Students and faculty will also gain free access to collections on display for independent study work in art history or art studio classes as well as consultation between AAM staff and Muhlenberg faculty to identify parts of the collection and incorporate them into curriculum.

“Muhlenberg College is delighted to partner with the Allentown Art Museum in this way,” said John I. Williams, Jr., President of Muhlenberg. “The Allentown Art Museum is a wonderful cultural institution located so close to us, so we are delighted that this agreement gives our faculty and students privileged access to these collections in ways that advance our teaching and scholarship.”



Muhlenberg Welcomes C.F. Martin IV of Martin Guitar as 2016-2017 Executive-in-Residence

C.F. Martin IV, CEO and chairman of Martin Guitar, visited Muhlenberg's campus this March, where he engaged with students and faculty on the topics of career development and entrepreneurship. He became immersed in the community, visiting classes, personally meeting with faculty and students and holding a lecture titled "Building and Leading a Cultural Enterprise" for the campus.

C.F. Martin IV is the sixth generation of Martin family members to take over the family business. The Lehigh Valley native received his degree from UCLA and later went on to work in the guitar factory. He worked his way up, starting as an assistant to the president and then moving to vice president of marketing, finally being promoted to chairman and CEO when C.F. Martin III passed away.

Martin has taken the business to greater heights through his leadership, reaching new levels of success while maintaining the company's integrity and esteem. He has pushed the company towards refocusing on its strengths, reestablishing Martin Guitar's international reputation as makers of the world's best acoustic guitars.

Martin received an honorary degree from Muhlenberg in 2013.



Three-peat! Women's Basketball is Centennial Conference Champion

The women's basketball team set the bar high this year, winning its third consecutive and 10th overall Centennial Conference championship. The team beat out Gettysburg with a final score of 74-61, becoming the first school ever in women's basketball CC history to get that "three-peat." Muhlenberg has won eight of its last nine CC championship game appearances.

The Mules were in a deficit their first period, but fortunately made a comeback. They outscored the Bullets 20-9 in the second period, entering halftime with a five-point lead. Muhlenberg extended its advantage through the third and fourth period, attaining the victory. The team earned an automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament with its win, later going on to compete against SUNY Geneseo. While the team's NCAA Tournament run was short-lived, losing against SUNY Geneseo by 12 points, junior Brandi Valley '18 made history. She became Muhlenberg's all-time career leader in assists with 460, which also happens to be the fourth most in CC history.



Career Center Receives Professional Development Suite Funding from George I. Alden Trust

The Muhlenberg College Career Center was awarded \$100,000 by the George I. Alden Trust that will transform an existing space into a professional development learning media suite. The renovated space, scheduled for completion by August 2017, will provide a lively, flexible and dynamic media room equipped with multiple smart high definition screens, audio equipment, a sound-proof recording booth and voice detection video equipment.

This type of interactive and technologically advanced space will impact four major areas: production of virtual programs and digital resources to support Muhlenberg's career education content; enhanced mock interview

experiences providing students deeper training in interviewing techniques; integration into mentoring initiatives connecting students with mentors who have volunteered to be part of the Muhlenberg career community through technology that will simulate face-to-face conversation with network members who are not local and enable a richer experience for both mentees and mentors; and providing a presentation practice space—a virtual meeting place serving as a dynamic tool in practicing presentations and pitches for classes, conferences or employers.

In addition, the media suite will provide faculty and their classes the opportunity to

have professional career networking sessions—specific to the academic discipline—with alumni virtually connected, and geography not serving as an impediment to their participation.

The grant is the most recent of many generous contributes made by the George I. Alden Trust. The trust has assisted Muhlenberg in many projects and initiatives, including a 2012 grant of \$125,000 towards a renovation of the third floor organic chemistry lab in Trumbower Hall, a 2008 grant for the renovation of the Theatre Rehearsal House and a 2005 grant which assisted building the New Science Building.

Muhlenberg Baseball Plays in Coca-Cola Park

On April 11, Muhlenberg's baseball team took to Coca-Cola Park, home of the Lehigh Valley IronPigs, to play Eastern University. The team walked away with a 17-8 win against Eastern, managing two home runs in the process. Senior Robbie Hopes '17 hit a three-run homer and freshman Billy Brittingham '20 had a pinch-hit grand slam, accounting for the biggest offensive output by Muhlenberg in four years. The previous game the Mules played in Coca-Cola Park took place in 2009 against DeSales.

Coca-Cola Park is home field for the IronPigs, Triple-A affiliate of the Philadelphia Phillies, and has been one of the most acclaimed venues in professional sports since it opened in 2008. Coca-Cola Park has won various awards and honors, such as Ballpark Digest's "Ballpark of the Year" award and gameops.com's "Best Operations and Presentation" title. In addition, the park has been commended in reviews for its intimate feel, fan-friendly atmosphere and architecture.



Muletin Board

CLASS NOTES

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

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

Deadlines for submission:
Fall issue: July 15, 2017
Winter issue: November 15, 2017

SAVE THE DATE!



September 15-17, 2017

Come back to campus for Homecoming and to celebrate reunion for classes ending in 2 and 7!

Lifelong Learning at Alumni Weekend

One afternoon, and a lifetime's worth of ideas.

- Mule learning is a lifetime sport!
- Fascinating explorations with Muhlenberg's superb faculty.
- Spend an hour or a whole day pondering intriguing questions about our world, our society and our place in it.

Upcoming Alumni Board MEETINGS

September 9, 2017
November 18, 2017
February 3, 2018
April 21, 2018

All meetings of the Alumni Board are open, and all alumni are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE!
2017 Muhlenberg College Golf Classic



Friday, September 15, 2017
Riverview Country Club

CLASS NOTES

1949

William D. Miers, CFC
mgb19744@verizon.net

1950

Theodore Haas, CFC
tnhaas@comcast.net

Joseph Rupp wrote the foreword in a book by Richard Patterson regarding Francis Thompson, one of the greatest Catholic poets of the modern age. This book makes the claim that Thompson was also the nation's most notorious serial killer, Jack the Ripper. Rupp is a forensic pathologist who was the first to post the theory concerning the killer's identity. Rupp's early and previously unrecognized theory has been included in the book's appendix.

1951

Theodore C. Argeson, CFC
tca51mberg@yahoo.com

1952

Harold S. Weiss, CFC
weisshama@verizon.net

1953

Joseph H. Jorda, CFC
jjorda1010@aol.com

1954

Horizon Blue Cross and Horizon Blue Cross Foundation recently honored **Jim Skidmore** for over 30 years of service as a director.

1956

Richard G. Miller, Jr., CFC
rg.miller@comcast.net

1957

Wolfgang W. Koenig, CFC
wkoenig1@cox.net

1958

Owen D. Faut, CFC
ofaut@frontier.com

Richard Fragale retired in 2013 after 49 years as an educator, including 29 years as superintendent of schools and 13 months as interim vice president of business services at Imperial Valley College.

1959

Lee A. Kreidler, CFC
leebar@ptd.net

Martin Manger celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W.* from Old Town, Fla.

1960

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

Ed '60 and **Anne Davis** hosted their 10th annual alumni gathering in Hilton Head, S.C. They also watched the Muhlenberg women's lacrosse team play on spring break and took them out for pizza.

1961

Richard L. Foley, CFC
rlfoley4@verizon.net

Carolyn '61 and **Bob Buzzard '62** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Allentown, Pa. with Muhlenberg chemistry professor, Dr. Christine Ingersoll. • **Constance (Daniel) Gaynor '61** and **Michael Gaynor '62** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Naples, Fla.

1962

Duane G. Sonneborn, Jr., CFC
duanesonneborn@comcast.net

Lona M. Farr, RC
lmfarr2485@gmail.com

Joseph B. Blood Jr. is still working and enjoying his career as geriatrician at Guthrie clinic in his 43rd year. • **Lona M. Farr** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Honolulu, Hawaii.

1963

Gloria (Dussinger) Dialectic celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Tulsa, Okla. • **Judy (Frost) Morin** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Hendersonville, N.C. • **Mike Shelbert** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Hagerstown, Md.

1964

Patricia (Dickinson) Hoffman, CFC
pathoffman@rcn.com

Lois Blood is a part time organist at church, and is enjoying being a grandmother to six grandchildren, one of whom expressed an interest in attending Muhlenberg. Lois is hopeful, since she is the third generation to have attended Muhlenberg. • **Karin Kalmus** took a unique and adventurous expedition to Antarctica, including the Chile Fjords and Falkland Islands, aboard MS Midnatsol

[Hurtigruten line] with Vantage World Travels. They celebrated T.H.A.W. while hiking on Deception Island.

1965

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

Jake Piatt and **John Trainer** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Jacksonville, Fla.

1966

Timothy A. Romig, CFC
explrs3311@comcast.net

Nancy Fiedler won a prestigious Philadelphia Horticultural Society's Distinctive Garden Award for her backyard garden. Over 300 people submitted photos of their gardens from N.J., Pa. and Del., and 137 gardens won awards, including 12 from N.J. Three of the N.J. winners were from Nancy's Atlantic County Master Gardeners group. She lives in Galloway Township in a home with a backyard that, at one time, was all grass. Throughout her 12 years there she has added, changed and modified sections for pleasure and even has some orchids in the trees during the summer months.

1967

David J. Nowack, CFC
dlnowack@ptd.net

Bruce Cohen celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Sydney, Australia. • **Mary Jane Karger** was honored in October 2016 by her graduate school, Case Western Reserve's School of Applied Social Sciences, with a Professional Achievement Award for her 19 years of volunteer work with GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network.) Berg alumna, **Connie Curry Hughes** joined her at the event.

1968

W. Russell Koerwer, CFC
wrkoerwer@aol.com

1969

Cliff Allen, CFC
allencliff47@verizon.net

1970

Glenn S. Kratzer, CFC
gkratzer@gmail.com
Mrs. Diane R. (Schmidt) Ladley, CFC
dianeladley@verizon.net

*T.H.A.W. stands for the Toast Heard Around the World and was held on January 12, 2017.



Ed '60 and Anne Davis hosted their 10th annual alumni gathering in Hilton Head, S.C.



Alumni at the wedding of Class of 2011 couple Katie Greger and Dave Gwyn



Nancy Fiedler '66



Mary Jane Potts Karger '67 and Connie Curry Hughes '67 at Case Western Reserve's SASS's Centennial Awards Ceremony



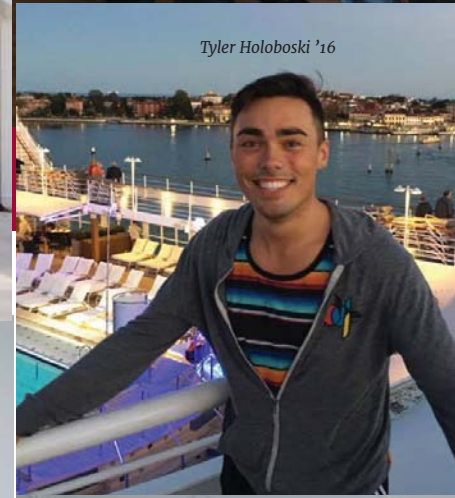
Julie Weiss '04 received The Walt Disney Legacy Award for her work in entertainment at Walt Disney World.



Rachel (Liebman) Franco '03 and her husband Andy welcomed Charlotte Anne on November 7, 2016.



Jenny McLarin '86, now known as Sister Christopher



Tyler Holoboski '16



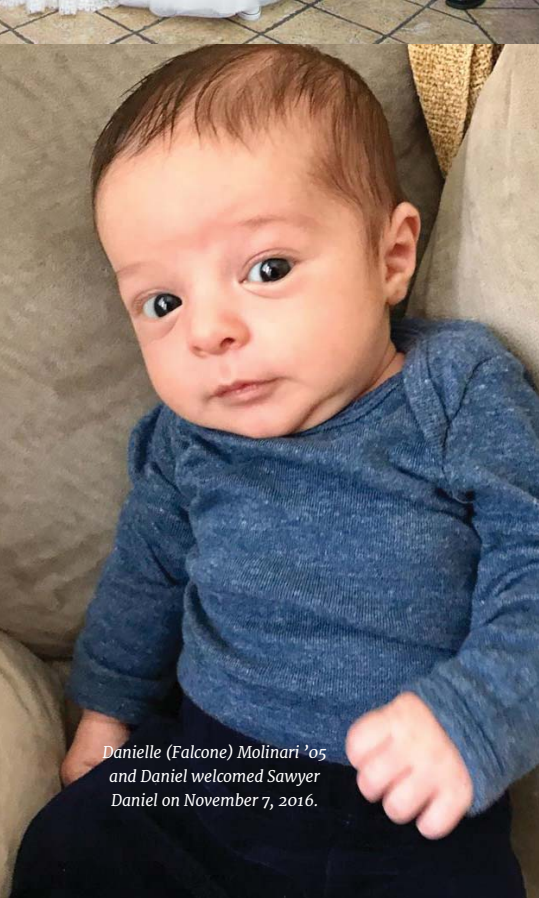
Dan McKenna '16



Alumni at the wedding of Kendra James '07 and Allison Hardy



Alumni at the wedding of Allison Covell '07 and Chris Dupont.



Danielle (Falcone) Molinari '05 and Daniel welcomed Sawyer Daniel on November 7, 2016.

CLASS NOTES

1971

Mary Daye Hohman, CFC
mdhohman@gmail.com

1972

Eric C. Shafer, CFC
ericshafer@hotmail.com

Jennifer (Jacobs) Wells hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Newport, R.I.

1973

Jeffrey R. Dundon, CFC
jeffreyledundon73@gmail.com

1974

Betsy (Caplan) MacCarthy, CFC
thebfm@yahoo.com

Bruce Albright hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Frederick, Md. • Jan Miller celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Coconut Creek, Fla.

1975

Joseph McGrath hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Fairfield, Conn.

1976

Gregory J. Fox, CFC
gfox@mmwr.com
Thomas B. Hadzor, CFC
T.hadzor@duke.edu
Stephen J. Hart, CFC
hartstephen212@gmail.com
Carolyn Ikeda, CFC
csikeda76@yahoo.com

Ted Lithgow serves as COO of Humacyte, one of the first companies to receive a regenerative medicine advanced therapy designation from the FDA. The designation is a testament to the significant potential for their product to address the unmet medical need for patients who are undergoing dialysis.

1977

Steven M. Eisenhauer, CFC
steve@congruencewines.com
Susan C. (Ettelman) Eisenhauer, CFC
Eisenhauer.sc@gmail.com
Debra J. (Higgins) Nagy, RC
scottseth@gmail.com

Susan (Ettelman) Eisenhauer celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Playa del Carmen, Mexico. • Kathy Kennedy celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from The Exploratorium in San Francisco, Calif.

1978

Donna M. (Bradley) Tyson, CFC
dbtyson@gmail.com

Paul Silverman hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Jersey City, N.J. • Marc Vengrove was in second place (for his age group) at mile 20 during the recent 2017 U.S. Track and Field 50k Championship Road Race in Lloyd Harbor, N.Y. After the race, he went to introduce himself to the runner he was behind for the last 4.5 hours, and it turned out to be Paul Arlt! Coincidentally, two Muhlenberg grads from the class of '78 were able to grace the podium together on March 5, 2017.

1979

Rudy A. Favocci, Jr., CFC
rudyfavo@gmail.com

Jeananne (Wilkinson) Goodhue celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Alta, Utah.

1980

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

1981

Joan C. Triano, CFC
jtriano@aol.com

Gail (Hayum) Barry celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Millburn, N.J. • Sheryl (LeBlanc) Guss hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Bridgewater, N.J.

1982

Marion E. Glick, CFC, RC
82marion@gmail.com
Tambria (Johnson) O'Shaughnessy, CFC
wtoshau@verizon.net
William J. O'Shaughnessy, Jr., CFC
wjos1024@gmail.com

Lary Mars hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Denver, Colo.

1983

Tammy L. Bormann, CFC
tlbormann@comcast.net

Carolyn (Magan) Albright celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Lehigh, Pa. • Jeane M. Coyle, President and CEO of Penn Community Bank, will serve as president of the board of directors of the Bucks County Opportunity Council for 2017. She previously had served as the board's vice president.

1984

Michelle (Rein) Pressman, CFC
mjpressman@comcast.net

1985

Carolyn (Ricca) Parelli, CFC
csparelli@gmail.com

Jane (D'Lauro) DiNola hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Honolulu, Hawaii.

1986

Paul M. Hurd, Jr., CFC
pmhref@rcn.com

Arthur J. Dichter has returned to Berkowitz Pollack Brant LLP in Miami, Fla., as director of international tax. Art specializes in international tax planning and compliance for high net worth individuals. • Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP elected Michael R. Halsband as partner. He is a member of the firm's corporate group and is based out of the New York City office. Michael has more than 25 years of leadership experience in the insurance and reinsurance industry, including investment banking, capital markets advisory and transaction. His transactional experience includes work on mergers and acquisitions, complex structured reinsurance transactions, insurance-linked securities (ILS), sidecar and cat convergence fund formation and management and distressed portfolio run-off administration and strategies. • Jenny McLarin, former Muhlenberg alumni director and associate director of admission, was received into the Novitiate at the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Conn., on December 8, 2016. McLarin entered the Abbey as a postulant in August 2013. As part of the Ceremony of Monastic Investiture, McLarin received the Benedictine habit and the religious name of Sister Christopher. Attending the ceremony were Chris '72, P'08, P'10 and Jan '75 Hooker-Haring, P'08, P'10 and former Muhlenberg dean of students, Karen Green. • Chris Seivard hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Harrisburg, Pa. • Robert Smith celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Harleysville, Pa.

1987

Eileen (Collins) Neri, CFC
ecneriz4@gmail.com
Robin L. Bardell, RC
rlbardell@gmail.com

Michelle (Aimone) Henderson, RC
mail2michelleh@gmail.com

Oliver Baer is the associate producer of "Puffs, or: Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic." His book, CD, writing, performing and

photos can be found at
http://tentacularity.wordpress.com.

1988

Venard Scott Koerwer, CFC
skoerwer@me.com

Beverly (Dorl) Brown celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Summit, N.J.

1989

Jeff Evans Vaughan, CFC
jv@voncom.com

1990

Sharon I. Mahn, CFC
sharonmahn10@gmail.com
Ramy B. (Shalotsky) Sharp, CFC
ramysharp@aol.com

1991

Christopher Parkes, CFC
cparkes@conceptiii.com

Elizabeth Zeigler was named CEO of Graham-Pelton Consulting Inc., a leading global fundraising and nonprofit management firm.

1992

Trina A. Poretta, CFC
ranalli8@comcast.net
Kristin Marie (Krouse) Smeins, RC
dorker17@hotmail.com

Erich Heilemann hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Shanghai, China. • Matthew Wingate hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Taipei, Taiwan.

1993

Jill M. Poretta, CFC
jporetta@cozen.com

1994

Bret G. Kobler, CFC
bret.kobler@gmail.com

Tyler Golembeski celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Minas Gerais, Brazil. • Jennifer (Ruckstuhl) Bariso celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Butler, N.J.

1995

Randall Cochran celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Grand Rapids, Mich.

1996

Melissa G. Daniels, CFC
mrs1daniels@yahoo.com
Mikel D. Daniels, CFC
drmdaniels@wetreatfeet.com

Jon R. Ansari was named to the board of

directors of Magyar Bancorp, parent company of Magyar Bank.

1997

Courtenay (Cooper) Hall, CFC
Courtenay@bellanyc.com

Pete Barry wrote a Robin Hood-inspired movie script "Marian" that was picked up for production by Sony Pictures. Margot Robbie is slated to star. Pete is a Lehigh Valley-based playwright, screenwriter, musician and director. • Kate (Moyer) Robertson celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from the Atlantic Ocean.

1998

Joshua A. Lindland, CFC
joshua.lindland@gmail.com

Jody Benick celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Prague, Czech Republic.

1999

Matthew R. Sordoni, CFC
matthewsordoni@sordoni.com

Elizabeth Byrne hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Pearl River, N.Y.

2000

Drew J. Bitterman, CFC
drewbitterman@gmail.com
Muhlenberg alumnae attended the wedding of Erica Heyer and Carl Johnson. • Jay Mitsch celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from El Segundo, Calif. • Rebecca Pierotti celebrated a Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. in Volcano, Hawaii. • Deirdre (Macrino) Varga hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Asbury Park, N.J.

2001

Christopher A. Lee, CFC
christopher_a_lee@hotmail.com

Chris and Jen Rogers hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Scottsdale, Ariz.

2002

Adam Marles, CFC
amarles@phoebe.org
Christina M. Coviello, RC
christinamariemcoviello@gmail.com

Josh Carter and Stephanie Huber '14 hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni at Muhlenberg College. • Emily (Eger) Donahue celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Nutley, N.J. • Sarah (Kessler) Pasternak hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Cherry Hill, N.J. • Kristy (Miles) Valladares hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni and their families at the College.

2003

Laura A. Garland, CFC
laura.a.garland@gmail.com

Rachel (Liebman) Franco and her husband Andy, along with big sisters Ellie and Olivia, are happy to announce the birth of their daughter and sister, Charlotte Anne, on November 7, 2016. They are thrilled to have three beautiful mini-mules in the family! • Laura Garland hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Raleigh, N.C. • Thomas Gasparetti celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Salta, Argentina. • Sarah Grube hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Boston, Mass.

2004

Robyn M. Duda, CFC
robynmuda@gmail.com

Beth (Murphy) Burnett celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Hiram, Maine. • Christina Coons hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Chicago, Ill. • Matthew Menard hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Willow Grove, P.A. • Kristen (Lutes) Reyes and Kate Arney-Cimino '05 hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Los Angeles, Calif. • Anthony Trimboli hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Memphis, Tenn. • Angelina (Young) Savage celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Pittsburgh, Pa. • Jennifer Yateman hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Baltimore, Md. • In February, Julie Weiss, dance major alumna, received The Walt Disney Legacy Award for her work in entertainment at Walt Disney World. This is the company's highest award and recognizes the outstanding achievements of Walt Disney Parks and Resorts cast, crew and imagineers who carry forth Walt Disney's main values to dream, create and inspire for guests, fellow cast members and the company as a whole. Just fifty-five out of approximately 12,000 Magic Kingdom cast members are selected annually. Julie has been performing in entertainment at Walt Disney World since June of 2010, which was her dream since early childhood, and she continues to be an inspirational magic maker through her work onstage and backstage.

2005

Chelsea Gomez Starkowski, CFC
CHELSEAGOMEZ@allstate.com

Marc Gollob celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Las Vegas, Nev. • Danielle



Nikki Gum '08 and husband Brandon welcomed Jack Anthony on February 9, 2017.



Class of 2008 couple David and Heather Lavin welcomed Ryder Thomas on November 4, 2016.



Jordan Posner '13 and Rachel Waldman '14 were engaged on campus in February.



Jen Bloom '02, Shelly Bloom '01, Erica Heyer '00, Christina Buu '01, Rachel Silberman '06 and Rachel Scheiner Karp '01 at Heyer's wedding.

CLASS NOTES

(Falcone) Molinari and Daniel are proud to announce the birth of their son, Sawyer Daniel Molinari. Sawyer was born on November 7, 2016 in Boston, Mass. • **Stephanie (Rosenau) Swift** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from London, England.

2006

Elizabeth R. (Hamilton) Marrero, CFC elizabethmarrero@gmail.com
Katherine Dilks celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Philadelphia, Pa. • **Jason Finkelstein** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Ridgewood, N.J.

2007

Jason M. Bonder, CFC jmbonder@gmail.com
Courtney (Roosa) Marsallo, CFC courtney.marsallo@gmail.com
Stephanie L. Conicella Bruno, RC Sbruno414@gmail.com
Camille (Rittenberg) Acosta celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Miramar, Fla. • **Jessica (Hand) Bryan** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Phoenixville, Pa. • **Allison Covell** married Chris Dupont in September 2016 and celebrated with Muhlenberg alumni. • **Holly (Kolesnik) Gawel** and **Mike Gawel '09** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Bethlehem, Pa. • On November

5, 2016, **Kendra James** and Allison Hardy were married on a gorgeous fall day at the beautiful Whitehall Estates in Leesburg, Va. • **Megan (Wilhelm) Nejjari** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Virginia Beach, Va.

2008

Kristel R. Dow, CFC kristeldow@gmail.com, CFC
Allie C. Schnall allison.schnall@gmail.com
Sarah Dilworth celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Buenos Aires, Argentina. • **David and Heather Lavin** welcomed their second son, Ryder Thomas, on November 4, 2016. • **Nikki (Rhoads) Gum**, Muhlenberg's

CLASS NOTES

director of college communications and editor of Muhlenberg magazine, and her husband Brandon, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Jack Anthony Gum on February 9, 2017. Jack was eager to arrive, and showed up a month before his due date in the midst of a snowstorm at 5 lbs. 12 oz. • **Chandra (Gossai) Martin** and **Dave Martin '13** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Stillwater, Minn. • **Allison Klein** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in New York, N.Y.

2009

Brittany A. (Barton) Bloss, CFC brittanyabarton@gmail.com
Emma (Bartholomew) Sedlak celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. in Sam Rit, Thailand.

2010

Jessica Davis, CFC jessdavis@gmail.com
Jonathan Falk, CFC jfalk715@gmail.com
Alysea McDonald, CFC alysea.mcdonald@gmail.com
Dr. James M. Ackerman is a 2014 graduate of Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine in Scranton, Pa. He is currently completing his third year of residency in general surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UMPC Mercy) and was recently chosen as a podium speaker at the 30th Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma Annual Scientific Assembly, held January 10-14, 2017, in Hollywood, Fla. • **Samantha (Unger) Horrow** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from an airplane over Nevada. • **Julia Korzeniewski** and **Doug Bucci '12** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Hoboken, N.J. • **Emily Morse** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Pittsburgh, Pa.

2011

Catherine S. Schwartz, CFC c.schwartz89@gmail.com
Lauren Bernton celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Eugene, Ore. • **Justine Brannon Buss** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Toronto, Canada. • **Katie Greger** and **Dave Gwyn** were married in July 2016. Alumni in the picture: **Steve Cavanaugh '11**, **Jon Liberty '11**, **Kevin O'Hara '11**, **Spencer Liddick '12**, **Mark Accomando '11**, **Ryan Malarick '11**, **Chase**

Nadell '12, **Mark Cassera '11**, **Ryan Foster '10**, **Sam Koch '11**, **Scott Gavin '11**, **Tommy Reilly '11**, **Deniz Uzel '11**, **Melissa Katz '11**, **Katie (Greger) Gwyn '11**, **Dave Gwyn '11**, **Christienne Raho '11**, **Emma Tushman '11**, **Nicole Aboyoun '11** and **James Cooper '11** • **Rachel Kitch** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Antigua, Guatemala. • **Deena Wolloch-Mesika** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Tel Aviv, Israel.

2012

Lisa M. Peterson, CFC lisapetey27@gmail.com
Philip I. Weisgold, RC philip.weisgold@gmail.com
Jeff Brancato celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Brisbane, Australia. • **Davi Gordon** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Columbus, Ohio. • **Kathryn Krull** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Connecticut. • **Taylor Ross** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from London, England. • **Lauren Wink** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Philadelphia, Pa.

2013

Nina E. Pongratz, CFC nepongratz@gmail.com
Nashalya K. Rodriguez, CFC nashkrod@gmail.com
Melissa Bodnar hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Washington, D.C. • **Sabrina Kamran** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Seattle, Wash. • In honor of the Chanukkah celebration this year, **Jacob Kraus** and his band performed at the White House. He and his group sang for and interacted with President Obama and the first lady, and he met Ruth Bader Ginsberg. • **James Patefield** and **Mackenzie O'Connor** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Portland, Maine. • **Jordan Posner** and **Rachel Waldman '14** were engaged on campus in February.

2014

Gabrielle Aboodi, CFC gabrielleaboodi@gmail.com
Michael R. Schramm, CFC mrschramm@protonmail.com
Carisa Aranyos celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Charlotte, N.C. • **Madison Ferris** performed, alongside Sally Field, on Broadway in "The Glass Menagerie." • **Mitch Hanna** hosted a Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. event for alumni in Allentown, Pa.

2015

Holly M. Hynson, CFC holly.hynson2@gmail.com
Lance Dotzman, the 2014 Centennial Conference player of the year, an All-American and an Academic All-American, was recently selected to play for Team USA at the 20th World Maccabiah Games, scheduled for July 4-18 in Israel. • **Joyous Rebecca Pierce** was admitted by SOAS (Study of Asia, Africa and Middle East – United Kingdom), University of London to the degree of master of science in African politics. She was recently awarded a four-month paid fellowship with The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute's Innovative Cultural Advocacy Fellowship (effective March 18, 2017). She will play an important role in growing a cadre of future thinkers and leaders in this field of arts advocacy towards creating eventual systemic changes that are necessary for our communities' survival and development.

2016

Sarah A. Cromwell, CFC scrom94@gmail.com
Adam Elwood celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Philadelphia, Pa. • **Tyler Holoboski** is working as a singer/dancer and company manager for Norwegian Cruise Lines on the Regent Seven Seas Navigator. He has been on a world cruise traveling to 45 countries from October through May. • **Helen Laser** is proud to announce that she will be playing the role of Anne Frank through the Anne Frank Center of New York City. • **Dan McKenna** has been pursuing a master of science degree in finance at American University in Washington, D.C. After he graduates this August, he hopes to pursue a career in the-atre administration, combining his finance degree with his passion for theatre. • **Jordan Robbins** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from Accra, Ghana, West Africa. • **Jessica Wilson** celebrated Muhlenberg's T.H.A.W. from the University of Michigan. • Members of The Fishbowl Collective performed in a "Muhlenberg Alumni Cabaret" on campus in January. The event benefited this year's Senior Showcase. Performers: **Mariah Dalton '16**, **Marie DiNordia '16**, **Bryan Dougherty '16**, **Tess Dul '15**, **Wesley MacBeth '14**, **Jessie MacBeth '13**, **Mac Myles '16**, **Zach Spiegel '11**, **Joseph Spiotta '13**, **Jamie Stapel '16**, **Eileen Veghte '15** and **Michael Witkes '15**.

IN MEMORIAM

1941

Rev. James Earl Ziegenfus, 97, of Kunkletown, passed away Saturday, February 25 in the Pocono Health System Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care Hospice House in East Stroudsburg, Pa. He was the husband of the late Olive Louise (Warmkessel) Ziegenfus. He is survived by two sons, Paul Ziegenfus of Kunkletown and James Ziegenfus and his wife Shirley of West Chester, Pa.; two daughters, Della Lord of Muncy and Pamela Wilson of Allentown, Pa.; eight grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

1943

Dr. William O. “Doc” Muehlhauser, 95, of Topton, died on Tuesday evening, April 4, 2017 in his residence. He is survived by his children, Dr. Linda A. (Muehlhauser), wife of Dr. Louis Emerson Ward, of Rochester, Minn.; Gayle E. (Muehlhauser), wife of John French of Bloomfield Hills, Mich.; Jane C. (Muehlhauser), wife of Kenneth Morrell of Annapolis, Md.; and William L. Muehlhauser of Key West, Fla. Other survivors include seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. • **Rev. Dr. James Yoder** was born on November 3, 1921 and passed away on Sunday, March 5, 2017. Rev. Dr. Yoder was a resident of Myerstown, Pa. at the time of his passing. A 1939 graduate of Allentown High School, Dr. Yoder earned an A.B. in 1943 from Muhlenberg College, and his Master of Divinity (1945) and Th.D. (1958) degrees from Princeton Seminary.

1944

John W. Gross, Jr., 95, entered the kingdom of our Lord at home March 2 surrounded by family. Arlene preceded him in death in 2014. They are survived by their two daughters and a son, Kaye and Dean Sensenig of Sinking Spring, Pa., Diane and Jim LaRocca of Mechanicsburg, Pa. and Brian and Edie Gross of Orrstown, Pa., 11 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

1947

Jack A. Yohe was born on September 13, 1924 and passed away on Saturday, March 25, 2017. He was preceded in death by his

loving wife of 60 years, Anna H. Yohe, who passed away on August 26, 2012; parents, Arthur V. Yohe and Anna Yohe; one grandson, John A. Yohe, III; brothers, Arthur, Edward; and sister, Anna Mae. Survivors include his four children, Jack A. Yohe, Jr. of Herndon, Va., Marianne Y. Smith and husband, Frederick, of Bristow, Va., Alice Marie Smith of Charlotte, N.C. and Joseph Yohe and wife, Ann, of New Smyrna Beach, Fla; eight grandchildren, Patrick (Robyn) Smith, Douglas Smith, Elizabeth Ann (Jimmy) Hicks, Captain John Yohe, USMC, Michelle Smith, Katie Yohe, Michael Yohe and Anna-Katherine Yohe; five great-grandchildren Bridgette, Melissa, Benjamin, Jackson and Madelyn; brothers, James (Nancy) Yohe of South Bend, Ind.; Joseph T. (Susan) Yohe of Annandale Va.; sister, Sister Alice Yohe, SSJ of Scotch Plains, N.J.

1949

Solomon Levine died on November 30, 2016. • **Dale E. Newhart**, 91 of Bethlehem died Friday, February 17, 2017, at Lehigh Valley Hospital – Muhlenberg Campus, Bethlehem, Pa. Born August 4, 1925 in Treichlers, Pa., the youngest son of the late Elvin G. and Stella M. (Bossard) Newhart. He was the husband of the late Phoebe Lillian (Simpson) Newhart. They were married for 53 years at the time of her death on Aug. 12, 1999. Survivors include sons Dennis D. Newhart and wife Patricia of Bethlehem and their children Allison and Stephanie; Ronald E. Newhart and wife Patsy of Lebanon, Pa. and their children James, Meredith and Samuel; Donald W. Newhart of Bellfonte, Pa. and daughter Nancy L. and husband Dennis Biechy of Whitehall, Pa. and their children Katie and Scott, along with eight great-grandchildren. • **Lt. Col. Richard S. Numbers** passed away on March 16, 2015.

1950

Dr. Leon E. Kehr, 89, husband of 62 years to Thelma M. (Langley) Kehr of the Peter Becker Community, Harleysville, Pa., died Wednesday, February 1, at Grandview Hospital in Sellersville, Pa. Surviving in addition to his wife is one son, Jeffrey L. Kehr and his wife Judy, Souderton, Pa.; two daughters, Joan K. wife of Michael Labosh, Harleysville, Pa.; Linda J.K. wife of Matthew Wiernusz, Collegeville, Pa; and three grandchildren, James J. Kehr and his fiancée, Colleen

Mahaffey, Sellersville, Pa; Peter N. Labosh, Harleysville, Pa.; Sophia L. Wiernusz, Collegeville, Pa. • **John Koptiuch, Jr.**, 91, passed away peacefully in his sleep on December 7 at his home in Heritage Village, Southbury, Connecticut. He was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Mafalda “Miki” Koptiuch, his twin brother Michael Koptiuch and his sisters Joan Korton, Olga Church and Catherine Langer. He is survived by his six children: Kristin Koptiuch, Leslie Carone (spouse Donald Carone), John Koptiuch III (spouse Frances Koptiuch), Kent Koptiuch (spouse Patricia Koptiuch), Merrill Gisondo (spouse Paul Gisondo) and Kimberly Kerrigan (spouse Michael Kerrigan). John was blessed with eleven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews that he took great joy in knowing. • **Joseph J. Menegus**, 91, of Pompton Plains, formerly a longtime resident of Upper Saddle River, passed away peacefully in his sleep on March 26, 2017. Joseph is survived by his daughter, Betsy Berry and her husband John; his son, Joseph Jr. and his wife Natalie; and his grandchildren, Megan Berry and Cecilia Menegus. He was predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth; and his sister, Madeline Castano. • **Edgar S. “Ed” Oerman**, loving husband, father, and Pappy, passed away peacefully on December 21, 2016 at the age of 93 in Hollister, Calif. Ed is survived by his two sons, E. James “Jim” Oerman (Jill Oerman) of Hollister, Calif. and Steven L. Oerman (Mary Oerman) of Menifee, Calif.; his four grandchildren, Justin Azevedo (Jill Bagley-Azevedo), Stephanie Oerman Snyder (Joe Snyder), Christopher Oerman and J. Michael Oerman; and one great grandchild with another on the way.

1951

Richard Bodenweiser, age 89, of Jupiter, Fla. passed away January 18, 2017. • The **Rev. Clarence Casper Moore**, 85, of Berlin, formerly of Martinsburg, died December 8, 2014 at Meadow View Nursing Center. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, the former Betty Jane Seeley and their children, Kirk, Elizabeth, Jeffrey and Arnold; grandchildren, Jarod, Andrea, Angela, Travis, Emily, Rebecca, Kira, Mason and Ethan; great grandchildren, Colton, Jordanna, Bennett and Casper. • **Donald Dean Moyer** died peacefully in his

home in Flat Rock, N.C. on December 27, 2016. Don is survived by his wife of 25 years, Peggy Moyer; his children, Christopher Andrew of Baltimore, Md., Elizabeth of Glen Falls, N.Y., Michael Dean of Baltimore, Md., Kevin W. Hall and his wife, Annette Hall, of Houston, Texas and Kelly L. Martin and her husband, Brad Martin, of Charlotte, N.C.; and his four grandchildren, Lauren Hall (15), Ryan Hall (13), Colby Martin (11) and Cooper Martin (7). He is preceded in death by his parents, Claude Tyson and Dorothy Ashenfelder Moyer; and his brother, Claude T. Moyer, Jr. • **Paul W.H. Weaver, Jr.**, 91, of Allentown, passed away Tuesday, January 10, 2017 in the Lehigh Valley Hospital, Salisbury Twp., Pa. He was the husband of the late Eleanor M. (Walker) Weaver. Survivors: Daughter: Suzanne M. Weaver of Allentown; Nieces: Kathleen Transue and Sandra Seidel; Nephews: Charles Seidel and Adam Nichols. Grandpuppies: Harley and Shadow. Paul was predeceased by sisters Althea Weaver Seidel and Jean Weaver Goryk.

1952

Jay S. Negin of Englewood Cliffs, NJ died January 6, 2017 at the age of 85. Beloved husband of 43 years to Roberta Paula Books, loving father to Martha Agensky (Adam) and Sam Negin, and grandfather to Leo and Simon Agensky. Devoted brother of Laura Negin and the late Carol Minkow. • **George W. Pike**, 88, of Forks Township, Pa., passed away on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at Easton Hospital. He was the husband of the late Elizabeth (Anginoli) Pike, who passed away on March 6, 2009. Born in Orange, N.J., on Dec. 17, 1928, he was the son of the late Eugene B. and Martha (Wadsworth) Pike. He is survived by a son, Mark J. Pike and his wife, Jane, of Stewartsville, N.J.; a daughter, Karin M. Zripko of Forks Township, Pa., and three grandchildren, Emma, Jack and Marin. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Linda A. Pike, in December 2016. • **Mr. Donald B Zippler**, 90, of Woodlawn Lane, North Augusta, S.C., entered into rest April 13, 2017. Survivors include his wife of 67 years Karolyn Wilde Zippler; three sons, Calvin and wife Kathy, Aiken of S.C., Blaine and wife Liz of South Chesterfield Va., Howard and wife Wanda of North Augusta, S.C.; three granddaughters, Emily Paradise, Jennifer

Zippler and Nyssa Zippler and one great grandchild Gabe Paradise. Donald is also survived by his brother Kenneth Zippler and family of Denville, N.J.

1953

Dr. Paul C. Brucker, 85, formerly of Ambler died March 23, 2017. He was the husband of Joan (Waite); loving father of Sheryl Kelly, and her husband, Kevin of Ambler, Linda Vozzo, and her husband, Thomas, of Thousand Oaks, Calif, Paul Charles Brucker, Jr., and his wife Jenifer, of Souderton; his brother Eric Brucker; and seven grandchildren. See more on page 39. • **Stephen J. Hayden**, 89, of Emmaus, passed peacefully at home on Sunday, February 1, 2015. He was born July 22, 1925 in Bethlehem; son of the late Stephen and Mary (Kozar) Hajdinyak. Stephen was married to his devoted wife, Eleanor J. (Roth) Hayden in 1950; enjoying 64 years of marriage together. He will be dearly missed by his wife; son, Stephen Hayden, Jr. and his wife, Patricia of Macungie; sister-in-law, Anna Hajdinyak; numerous nieces and nephews, as well as great nieces and nephews and his in-laws. Stephen was preceded in death by his sisters, Anna Horvath and Helen Rieger and his brother, John Hajdinyak.

1954

Gino M. Ancora, 84, of Brandon, Fla, formerly of Pompton Lakes, N.J., passed away Feb. 15, 2017. He was the son of the late Michael and Gelsomina Ancora and loving husband of the late Helen L. Ancora. He is survived by his children, Christopher Ancora and wife Helen Anne of Stockholm, N.J., David Ancora of Fairfield, Calif., and Catherine (Ancora) Brennan and husband Daniel of West Chester, Pa. along with his grandchildren, Matthew Ancora, Lauren Ancora, Bradley Ancora, Elizabeth Brennan; and great-grandchildren, Gino and Lia Ancora. He is survived by his loving sister, Ida Colavito of Bradenton, Fla. and was preceded in death by his sister, Angela C. Detore. • **Dr. John P. Cossa, FACS**, 83, of Downingtown, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016, at Paoli Hospital. He was the husband of Arlene (Melinchock) Cossa. In addition to his wife, Arlene, he is survived by his four children, Caryl Hanna (James), Corene Rossi (Louis), John ’85 (Kristen) and

Carla Mann (Michael). He is also survived by his sister, Mary Anne Cossa, and his eight grandchildren.

1955

Lt. Col. Robert Ralph Knauss, U.S.A.F. (Ret.), 84, passed away Wednesday, November 30, 2016. Surviving are his loving wife, Mary Jane Knauss, daughters, Sheryl Ann Knauss and Cathy LeeKnauss, and nephew, Scott Knauss. • **Richard A. Ohlweiler** died on December 26, 2015.

1956

R. Kenneth Gallagher, Jr., 84, passed away peacefully at home in Oxford, Pa. on Feb. 25, 2017. Ken is survived by his wife, Kathyne (Kay) Bateman Gallagher; daughters, Connie Gallagher and Carolyn Gallagher Hall; and son, Kenneth E. Gallagher; granddaughter, Sydney Marie Hall; son-in-law, Richard Allen Hall; brother, Ronald A. Gallagher; sister-in-law, Doris Gallagher and sister-in-law, Shirley Bateman Smith. He was predeceased by one grandson, Trevor Allen Hall. Ken was the son of the late R. Kenneth Gallagher, Sr. and Naomi Hoffman Gallagher. • **Rev. Walter L. Hafer, Jr.**, 87, of Penbrook, died Wednesday, December 7, 2016 in the Va. Medical Center, Lebanon. He was preceded in death by his son, Walter L. Hafer III and is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mary Pewor Hafer; daughter, Sally Mohler and husband, Nathan of New Bloomfield; brother, Robert L. Hafer and wife, Edna of West Hanover Twp.; three grandchildren, Cyle L. Sheaffer and wife, Christine, Carletta Elakrah and husband, Joseph, and Catrina Spano and husband, Charles; ten great grandchildren; and six great great grandchildren. Pastor Hafer and wife, Mary were also guardians to Robert and Michael (deceased) Freeman.

1957

Thomas A. Yasewicz, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend died peacefully at his home in the early hours of Thursday, April 6, 2017, after a long struggle with Alzheimer’s Disease. Tom leaves his loving wife of 62 years, Millie, and their beloved children and grandchildren, Janice and Ray Fournier of Palm Harbor, Fla. and their daughter, Ashley; Tom and Ann Yasewicz of Colchester, Vt. and their children, Elizabeth, Tommy and Grace; Mark Yasewicz

IN MEMORIAM

of Bow; and Claire and Paul Kennedy of Geneva, Switzerland and their children Charlotte and Peter. Tom is also survived by his dear brothers and their wives, Ted and Marie Jasiewicz of Westboro, Mass. and Ed and Hazel Jasiewicz of Boylston, Mass. He also leaves so many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly, and wonderful friends and neighbors who supported Millie and Mark through Tom's long struggle with Alzheimer's, especially Bruce and Sue Macey of Concord.

1958

Dr. Jerome J. Blum passed away on September 27, 2016. Husband of Gwen (nee Schmuckler). Father of Karen (Bill) Kramer, Debbie Blum (Andy Katz) and Nancy (Ray) O'Malley. Brother of Mickey Blum (Joan Berman). Grandfather of Melissa, Ben and Josh Kramer, Aaron and Daniel Katz, Stephen and Vicky O'Malley. • **Roy M. Clayton, Jr.**, of Dresher, passed away suddenly at the age of 81. He was the son of the late Roy Clayton, Sr., and Irma Clayton; loving husband of Elizabeth Ann (nee Blizard); beloved father of Judith C. Ehring (Jeffrey), Bonnie C. Kertland (David), Jill E. Adams (Steve), Melissa C. Budz (Matthew), Jeanne B. Shepherd (Andrew), Thomas S. (Jennifer), Abigail C. Harmon (James) and the late Roy M. Clayton III (Belinda); and devoted grandfather to 23 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. • **Thomas J. Scerbo Sr.**, passed away on Monday, Feb. 20, 2017, at the New Jersey Firemen's Home, Boonton. Predeceased by his wife, Maria (Faccia) and his brother, Frank Scerbo Jr., he leaves happy memories to his daughter and son-in-law, Stephanie and John Iacopelli; his son, Thomas J. Scerbo Jr.; his grandchildren, Nicholas, Michael and Maria Iacopelli; his dear brother, Richard (Edith) Scerbo; and many more dear relatives, friends and acquaintances.

1960

Robert H. Fasick passed away on May 21, 2006. • **Dr. Arnold Otto Steffens** passed away on March 10, 2017. Arnold was the beloved husband of Olivia Livvy Wagner Steffens; father of Paul Arnold Steffens (Julia), Mark David Steffens (Wendie) and Laura Steffens Thayer (David). Devoted

grandfather of Henry, Sarah, Helen, Amelia, Seamus and Keelyn. Brother of Beth and David Vassallo, Uncle Arnto Damien and James (Jamie and baby Ruby Vassallo).

1962

On October 31, 2015, **William Joseph Burton**, passed away. He was the beloved husband of the late Sue Burton (nee Mannion); devoted father of Chris Burton and his wife Kit, Tim Burton and his wife Susan Stephenson, Mark Burton and his wife Kim, and Doug Burton and his wife Sandra, loving grandfather of Brad, Meghan and Ryan Burton, Carson, Wyland, Graeme and Marshall Stephenson, and Frankie and Dannie Burton, dear brother-in-law of Thomas Mannion and his wife Pat.

1963

Deanna K. (Caterina) Celico passed away suddenly at her home in N. Kingstown, R.I. on Monday, December 5, 2016 at age 74. Deanna is survived by husband James P. Celico, of N. Kingstown, daughters Joelle Lagasse (Rick) of Cranston, R.I. and Leanne Haselden (Bruce) of St. Petersburg, Fla., sisters Arlene Cherwien (Dan) and Melinda Harmon of Vineland plus a granddaughter Tiana Kibbe of Cranston and seven nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, Nicholas and Elaine Caterina and brother-in-law David Harmon all of Vineland.

• **Robert E. Deppe II**, 74, passed away from complications related to lung cancer treatment. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Jayne Deppe; a son, Robert E. Deppe III.

• **Barbara "Barb" Anne (Bryan) Dively**, 75, of Worcester passed away peacefully at her residence on Tuesday, January 17, 2017. She was the beloved wife of John Milton Dively, Jr., to whom she had been married for over 53 years. In addition to her husband she is survived by her children Sharon "Shaie" Dively of Worcester, Pa.; Brenda Johnson and her husband, Nathan of Kalamazoo, Mich.; Neil Dively of King of Prussia, Pa; and her sister Lynne Neibert of Mechanicsburg, Pa.

• **William R. Peterson Jr., Ph.D.**, of Chandler, Ariz., passed away suddenly Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017. He was 76. Bill is survived by his son, William (Tiffany); daughter, Kym (Joe); partner, Renee Berman; sister, Joan Van Blarcom of Henderson, Nev.; and his three beloved grandchildren, Morgan,

Will and Evelyn.

1964

Gary Lynn Hiller, 75, of Rochester, N.Y., died unexpectedly and peacefully Monday morning, April 17, 2017, in Naples, Fla. He and his college sweetheart, Karen Carl Hiller, were married for 52 years. Gary is survived by his loving wife Karen Hiller, daughter Lori (Andy) Olbrich of Rochester, N.Y.; son Jeff (Margaret) Hiller of Piedmont, Calif.; grandchildren Courtney and Carly Olbrich and Megan and Genevieve Hiller; brother Stroud (Mary Helen) Hiller of Phoenix, Ariz.; and sister Frances (William) Derhammer of Emmaus, Pa. and many nieces and nephews.

1968

David A. Gearhart, 72, of Macungie, passed away February 9, 2017. He was the beloved husband of Diane Guinther. He was the father of Amy Gearhart Evans and Lauren Gearhart. He is survived by a brother, John. • **John L. Mancinelli**, age 69, of Fair Lawn, N.J., formerly of West Paterson, N.J., died Tuesday, December 27, 2016 at home with his family. Beloved husband of Alida (nee Koors) Mancinelli, devoted father of Jared I. Mancinelli, of Fair Lawn, and Ian E. Mancinelli and his wife Michele, of Enfield, Conn., loving son of Theresa Mancinelli, of Brick Township, N.J. and the late Louis J. Mancinelli, dear brother of Lisa M. Honan, of Brick Township, N.J., dear uncle of Gebhardt Zurburg and his wife Jaymie Gerard, of Fair Lawn, N.J.

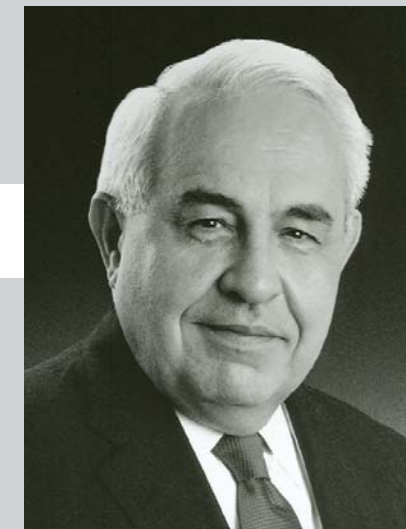
1969

Daniel C. Pettyjohn died on December 19, 2016.

1970

Kenneth A. Cranston, Jr., of Cromwell, passed away on Monday, January 2, 2017 at age 68 after a battle with glioblastoma. He is survived by his loving wife, Carol; daughter Amy Bowers (Andrew), Philadelphia, Pa.; son Ian Cranston (Ashley), Cromwell, Conn.; and granddaughters Lucy, Bea and Sylvie. He is also survived by mother-in-law Barbara Rosenbaum, Southington, Conn.; siblings Adair Larkin (Keith), Metairie, La. Chris Shivar (Greg), Winter Springs, Fla., Dave Cranston (Becky), Mint Hill, N.C., and Henry Cranston (Beth), Fort Myers, Fla.; sister-in-law Joan Costa (Frank), East Hampton, Conn.; as well as many nieces and nephews, cousins and

Dr. Paul C. Brucker '53



It is a matter of opinion rather than fact, but by all accounts Dr. Paul C. Brucker '53 lived a hell of a good life. He was a complex, visionary man, and a giant in the medical community. Intellectually agile, a vibrant leader and life-long learner, Brucker lived by a simple credo: he was devoted. His devotion to family, including wife Joan to whom he was married for 59 years, daughters Sheryl and Linda and son Paul Jr., along with seven grandchildren. His devotion to God in the Lutheran faith. And his devotion to medicine.

In an era where specialized medicine was the way to go, Brucker went the other way. He was a general practitioner, known in the country as a "family doctor." He knew what he wanted to do and did it.

He did it, in part, because Muhlenberg opened doors for him. Muhlenberg prepared him to achieve greatness.

"Muhlenberg has been, and continues to be, a very special, liberal arts college," he wrote in the spring 2005 edition of this magazine.

The small class sizes he encountered in the late 1940s and early 1950s remain today. The College attracted exceptional, well-trained faculty in the mid-20th century and does today in the early 21st century. The personal attention and support paid to all students then remains the case some 65 years later.

Brucker was focused. When he came to Muhlenberg, he wanted to be a doctor. But not all students have that clarity. To his last days, he understood how the four-year Muhlenberg experience allows students to figure out what they'd do with their lives. This is at the heart of a liberal arts education. During his undergraduate days, Brucker served as a proctor and student teacher. He claimed the experience was invaluable. It made him think. Kept him on his toes.

"There is no better way to learn organic chemistry than to teach it twice a week," he wrote. "Even then I was in a problem-solving mode, rather than a didactic mode."

Years later, he still marveled at the possibilities of learning. Back in the day, PowerPoint slides, electronic mail and electronic access to the library were strictly science fiction. He valued the experience of learning then, and now, at Muhlenberg.

"No matter how much the paradigm of teaching changes, personal contact and interaction will remain invaluable," he said of a Muhlenberg education.

It wasn't long after Brucker set foot on the University of Pennsylvania's campus to attend medical school he realized how thoroughly Muhlenberg had prepared him for it.

As noted, he wanted to be a family doctor. But most family doctors do not formulate their own graduate training programs

like Brucker did. His included a residency at Hunterdon, N.J. Medical Center and an internship at what is now Lankenau Medical Center.

After that Brucker joined a group practice in Ambler, Pa., and his stature climbed. He was a role model for many students during his 13 years in private practice. The leadership traits developed by his Muhlenberg experience served him, and others, well.

The year 1973 was a significant time in his life. Brucker was hired by Jefferson Medical College as a professor and founding chairman of the department of medicine. Under his direction, the department acquired national attention as one the best family medicine student and residency training programs.

It was 17 years later when his crowning professional achievement occurred. Brucker became president of Thomas Jefferson University. That, in itself, was a tremendous accomplishment. Yet more stunning was this: He was the only family physician in the country to hold that position. Brucker served in that capacity through his retirement in 2004. He had a track record for success and his 14 years at the helm at Thomas Jefferson proved no different. He led and success followed. The result was the formation of the Jefferson Health System, merging the school, its hospital and medical college with the Main Line Health System.

The Philadelphia Inquirer noted that Jefferson University and its hospital grew during his tenure, "even as other hospitals in the area and across the nation were buffeted by changing economic situations."

Once again Brucker was bucking trends.

His zest for knowledge and unwavering interest in education were developed at Muhlenberg. It was a constant companion throughout his life.

Another constant companion was Brucker's appreciation for Muhlenberg. He remained loyal to his alma mater throughout his life. He served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1991-2003, and after a one-year hiatus, returned in 2004 and served another eight years, this time as vice chairman. Brucker became a Life Trustee in 2012.

"I am grateful that Muhlenberg made me want to be a perpetual student," Brucker wrote.

Muhlenberg is grateful for Dr. Paul C. Brucker '53, November 15, 1931-March 23, 2017.

friends. • **Walter L. Reisner II** passed away Thursday, January 19, 2017, in Olean General Hospital following an illness, surrounded by his loving wife and family. Along with his loving wife, Ruth, Walt is survived by five children, Walter L. (Rochelle) Reisner of Mesa, Ariz., Todd W. (Annamaria) Reisner of Olean, Jeffrey P. (Theresa) Reisner, Janet R. (Raymond) Jones of Duluth, Minn., Adriann R. “Addie” (Dustin) Snavelly Raleigh, N.C.; 14 grandchildren, Hailey, Chandler, Skyler, Phoenix, Reyna, Annora, Torrey, Liberty, Jackson, Hudson, Lincoln, Mack, Ben and Teddy; a brother, Richard C. (Susan) Reisner of Allegany; three sisters, Elizabeth Murray of South Dartmouth, Mass., Julie (Jay) Carter of Hillsborough, N.J., Janet (Randy) Wilson of Sauquoit.

1974

Craig R. Scharadin, 65, of Macungie, died Feb. 28, 2017 at home. He was the husband of Bernice K. (Volak) Scharadin. Survivors: Wife of 44 years, Bernice; Son, Dr. Ryan Scharadin and wife Tara of Allentown; Daughter, Amy wife of Art Haverty of Flanders, NJ; Brother, Brian Scharadin of Allentown; Grandchildren, Lorelai, Lillian and Leighton; his beloved dog, Hollie.

1976

Dr. Scott Frederick Recker, 62, of Millcreek, passed away suddenly, on Wednesday, March 15, 2017. Preceding him in death were his mother Marybelle Donnan Recker, his father Harry Frederick Recker and his sister Christine Sweeney. Scott is survived by his loving wife Tina (nee Stevens); his eleven year-old twins Mark and Olivia; sister Cynthia Recker Bodger of Nipomo, California; brother Stephen Recker of Smithsburg, Maryland; nephews John, James and Henry; and nieces Claire and Marybelle. He is also survived by his adult children from a previous marriage, David, Matthew, Michael and Allison Recker.

1977

Elaine Nancy Joecks, 61, of Penn Laird, passed away on Thursday, April 13, 2017, at her home. Elaine was born on August 18, 1955, in Danville, Pa., and was the daughter of Mary Doris Joecks of Harrisonburg and the late Arthur Joecks. In addition to her mother, she is survived by sisters, Susan Lawrence and

husband, David of Harrisonburg, Anne Joecks of Collingswood, N.J. and Leslie Dutt and husband, Charles of Port Republic; and five nephews, Craig and David Altare, and Collin, Jared and Kyle Dutt.

1983

Victor “Vic” Kuzmicz, 55, of Columbus passed away suddenly on Sunday, April 16, at his home in Columbus. Surviving son of the late Aleksy Kuzmicz are his two daughters, Kirsten and Rebecca Kuzmicz, both of Columbus, N.J.; his mother, Marie Kuzmicz of Deutzville; his sister, Tammy Kuzmicz of Trenton; a niece, Rachael Marshall; as well as several aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

1986

Jeff Thomas Bucks, 53, of Kutztown, died suddenly on Monday, March 20, 2016, after being stricken in his home. Survivors: In addition to his parents, Terry and Brenda, Jeff is survived by a brother, Kip D., husband of Annabelle (Brice) Bucks, Anderson, S.C. Other survivors include his uncle, Charles, husband of Marie (Haydt) Moyer, Kutztown; aunts, Sandra (Moyer), wife of Melvin Hartman, Kutztown, and Sharlene (Moyer), husband of Rev. Andrew Stauffer, Oley; and many cousins. Jeff was predeceased by his maternal grandparents, Homer and Jennie (Snyder) Moyer; his paternal grandparents, Warren and Lulu (Miller) Bucks; and several aunts and uncles.

1987

Dr. Robert Ashton, Jr., 52, of Ft. Lee, N.J., thoracic surgeon and proud father of Alex and Chloe, son to Lillian and Bob Ashton, of Naples, Florida. Robert was born in Vineland, N.J., attended Muhlenberg College and then Medical College of Pennsylvania and did his cardiothoracic fellowship at Columbia, where he met his ex-wife Dr. Jennifer Garfein Ashton. Robert was the thoracic surgery director at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx and chief thoracic surgeon at Hackensack University Medical Center. He was deeply loved by his family, friends and countless people he helped in the many years as a physician.

1990

Christine C. (Terhune) Fox, 49, of Ocean Twp., passed away on Sunday, January 29,

2017. Christine was predeceased by her father, John R. Terhune, in 1999. She is survived by her beloved husband, David Fox, and her mother, Carolyn Terhune, of Ocean Twp. Also surviving are Christine's siblings and their spouses, Colleen Kerr, of Wall, John and Vickie Terhune, of Ocean Twp., Kevin and Samantha Terhune, of Tinton Falls, and Christopher and Christina Terhune, of Middletown, as well as eight nephews and nieces.

1993

Albert J. “AJ” Irvin Jr., 46, formerly of Mahanoy City, died Tuesday, April, 25, at Thomas Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia.

2005

Imogene Marie (Fritzinger) Dietrich, daughter of the late Earl and Marie (Bausch) Fritzinger unexpectedly entered the kingdom of heaven on March 16, 2017 at the age of 59. She is survived by her husband, William; children, Steven, wife Jess, and Stacey Scanlon, husband Kevin; grandchildren, Jeffery and Baby Scanlon; step-grandchild, Kevin Scanlon Jr., siblings, June Leiby (late husband, Ronald), Violet Henninger (late husband, Daniel), Barry Fritzinger, and Dorothy Boger, husband Kenneth, and nieces and nephews. • **Michael J. Della Pella** passed away on Tuesday, November 22, 2016 at his home. He was 33. Survivors include his loving parents, Michael H. and Mary Beth E. (nee-Cummins); his two sisters: Danielle Della Pella and Suzanne Carlough & her husband, Garrett; and his four nieces and nephews: Cavan Reilly, Kailyn Reilly, Finley Reilly and Jack Carlough.

Muhlenberg College provided me the opportunity of a lifetime. After taking time off following high school to work to earn money for my education, I looked closely into which schools were the most successful at gaining acceptance for their students into United States medical schools. It was already clear to me at that time that there was much more than good luck involved with plotting out one's career path.

By the time I was ready for college, I knew I wanted to be a surgeon. My next goal was to figure out how to get there. I needed a school that would provide me with the background and skills, while at the same time, emphasize the knowledge base that would be required to perform well on standardized examinations that were as heavily relied upon in 1982 as they are today.

Today, I am a board-certified neurosurgeon who has worked for the past 22 years in an academic job, and I reached the title of full professor by the age of 45. My practice mostly involves complex spinal surgery and revision spinal surgery. I have been very active in the national societies and have been the president of three separate major national spine societies over the past decade.

Much of what I was able to accomplish in my career directly relates to experiences at Muhlenberg College. As a natural science major, we had fabulous professors teaching our courses. They were also available to meet with the students and provide counsel and direction as needed. Even compared to friends and colleagues of mine who attended Ivy League universities, the academic experience at Muhlenberg College was unrivaled.

The supposed “top” schools used teaching assistants to instruct undergraduate students. The big-name professors were tied up in their own research projects and were essentially unavailable to undergraduate pre-med students. While these professors brought in

The Path to the OR

Muhlenberg academics prepared neurosurgeon for a career spent helping others

Dr. Robert Heary '82

Director of the Spine Center, Neurological Institute of New Jersey (Rutgers)



grant funding and prestige to the universities, mostly through graduate programs, the undergraduates gained virtually nothing from their presence other than saying they attended a “big-name” school.

On the other hand, at Muhlenberg College, I learned from brilliant, thoughtful individuals who found the time to help me. They guided me through a challenging learning process. In addition, the experienced educators at Muhlenberg College were able to focus our learning in a manner that allowed my fellow pre-med colleagues and me to excel on our standardized entry examinations. This aspect of our education can't be undersold.

In 1982, and in 2017, to gain acceptance to a United States medical school, the applicant needed excellent grades, strong board scores, good recommendations and evidence of volunteerism. Our Muhlenberg College mentors were well aware of these criteria and provided us with the groundwork to succeed. Having had many friends at large universities, these friends often felt lost within the hugeness of their own schools. Lacking appropriate guidance led many students to

finish four-year undergraduate schooling only to have no realistic opportunities for advancement into the graduate level schooling they desired.

At Muhlenberg College, a pre-med program was developed that required the participants to meet with their advisor every semester to assess their goals and determine whether their presumed career path was going to be a realistic opportunity for success. This type of personalized experience is incredibly valuable to students interested in pursuing a career in medicine. The days of just “being good in science” are long gone. Today, more than ever, there needs to be planning involved to advance one's chances of successfully getting accepted to a United States medical school.

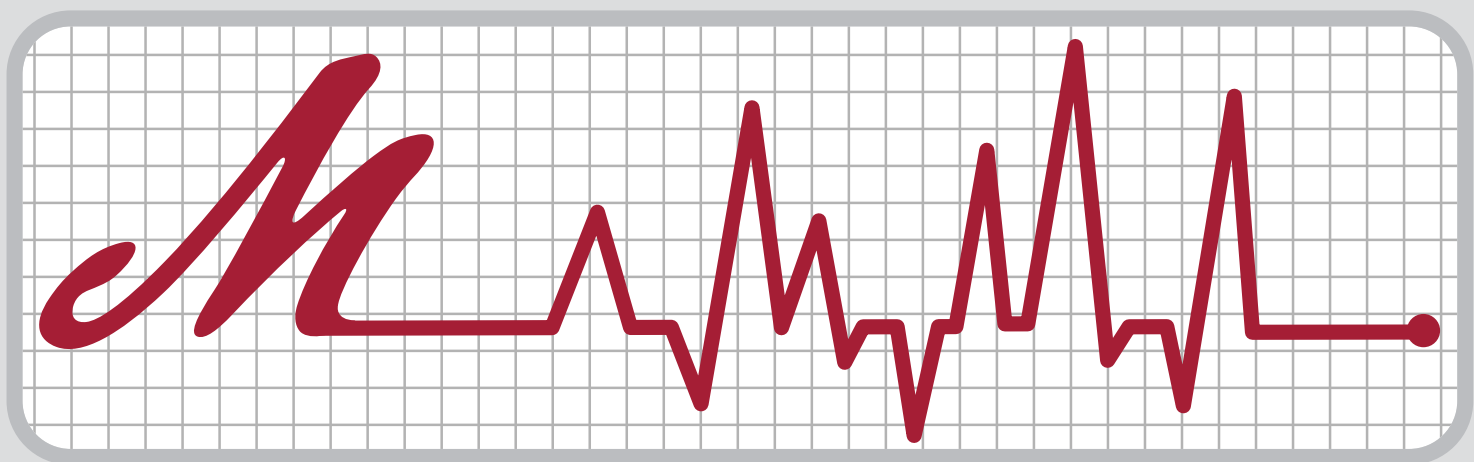
As a neurosurgeon, I get to think, I get to help people and I am well compensated. Few occupations can any longer make these assertions. With the very difficult challenges of paying for advanced education, I don't think it is any longer possible to pay for one's own schooling the way I did from 1978-1982. Furthermore, medical school expenses are monumental. I am not even sure how the students of today are going to manage to pay off all of their debts incurred from schooling.

With that said, the opportunity to help people through a career in medicine is something I would never sell short. It has been nothing short of fantastic, in my opinion, and I would not trade what I do with anyone else in the world. Neurosurgery is an amazingly interesting and challenging field where the more one knows, the better the job you can do helping your patients. Muhlenberg College started me on the path to this career, and for that, I will always be grateful.

Sincerely,
Robert F. Heary, M.D.
Class of 1982
Summit, New Jersey

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