

Fall 2017 2017 Chanlende THE MAGAZINE

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Alumni enjoying Alumni Weekend 2017

#### 2 Rediscovering the Red Doors at Alumni Weekend 2017

Approximately 2,000 alumni, family and friends returned to campus September 15-17.

#### 4 2017 Alumni Achievement Award Winners

Find out more about the accomplished individuals who were honored at "An Evening of Distinction."

#### 7 2017 Volunteer Recognition Awards

Earlier this year, Muhlenberg recognized alumni who give generously of their time as volunteers.

8 2018 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Seven individuals and one team will take their place among the College's greats in April.

9 Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

An exhibit on display in Trexler Library traces the history of Lutheranism and Lutheran education.

- 1 Alumni Board President's Message
- 12 Door to Door
- 16 Muletin Board
- 18 Class Notes
- 27 In Memoriam
- 33 Last Word

The red doors of Muhlenberg College are a gateway to a community bound by care and commitment.

the past year brought our community together to mourn the loss of beloved and respicted friently, staff, alumni, trustees and friends.

Still, we continue to celebrate the orgoing achievements of mulenberg graduates. alumni across the globe began a journey here at muhlenberg, and we honor the pursuit of excellence in the workplace, classicom and laboratory; their athletic provess; their performances and artistic pursuits; and their tireless performances and artistic pursuits; and their tireless proport of worthy causes.

these achievements inspire us to assist and encourage the students of muhlenberg, by joining the muhlenberg hetwork, serving as a mentor, offering a shadow experience, making a gift to the college to provide financial aid or grow the endowment, or finding additional worky endowment, or finding additional worky volunteer experiences. Noturteer experiences. Thank you, my fellow alumni, for all that you do thank you, my fellow alumni, for all that you do to keep our community and the muhlenberg experience dive and strong.

Steph J. Hart 176 President, Alumni Board

### REDISCOVERING THE RED DOORS AT ALUMNI WEEKEND 2017

Alumni Weekend 2017, held September 15-17, saw the return of over 2,000 alumni, family and friends to "Rediscover the Red Doors." The weekend included homecoming events and served as reunion for the Classes of 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007 and 2012. Additionally, the Class of 1962 marked its 55th reunion with a special dinner and program.

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The atmosphere on campus was electric throughout Alumni Weekend 2017, and reunion classes rallied together to demonstrate generosity and support of their alma mater.

The Class of 1977 exceeded the fundraising goals it set, with **31 percent of the class** raising \$367,595.

The Class of 1982 established a new, endowed **THE CLASS OF 1982 LIFE SCHOLARSHIP** as their 35th Reunion Class gift.

Overall, Muhlenberg's 2017 reunion classes raised almost **\$1.4 million** for their alma mater.

WATCH A VIDEO on Alumni Weekend fundraising success at MuhlenbergConnect.com/ AlumniWeekend. Muhlenberg alumni are leaders, innovators and scholars. They push the boundaries of what is possible. Their support enables Muhlenberg students to apply their passions, talents and studies to the world beyond the red doors upon graduation. On September 15, 2017 at "An Evening of Distinction," held in the Ilene and Robert Wood Dining Commons, more than 300 alumni, friends and family gathered to celebrate accomplished members of the Muhlenberg community and generous benefactors.

Since 1952, the Alumni Board has honored approximately 400 outstanding individuals with Alumni Achievement Awards, the highest distinction of Muhlenberg's Alumni Association. These recipients have distinguished themselves in a number of ways, whether through career accomplishment in a specific field, service to the **College or lifetime** achievement.

Get to know the 2017 Alumni Achievement Award recipients.

# **MUHLENBERG COLLEGE 2017 ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

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### **Michael Bruckner** Service to the College by a Friend



While never winning a formal election, there's little question Michael Bruckner was the "Mayor of Muhlenberg." Bruckner joined Muhlenberg in 1996 and made valuable contributions over more than two decades in media relations, crisis management and community relations. He was also heavily involved in the College's Board of Associates and oversaw commencement

activities, WMUH-FM, athletics communications, theatre marketing, the 'Berg Bookshop and the Woman's Auxiliary. He retired from the College in June 2017 having served as a professional in higher education for 39 years.

During his tenure, Bruckner chaired or served on several search committees that influenced the direction of the College into the 21st century. Bruckner also received various industry awards, including the prestigious 2017 Don Hale Award at the annual College & University Public Relations and Associated Professionals conference.

However, Bruckner's greatest contribution to Muhlenberg may have been his efforts as a community galvanizer, connector, supporter and mentor. His friendship to alumni, students, faculty and staff is what most will remember about his Muhlenberg tenure.

### **George Christ '82** Alumni Achievement in Life Science Research



Dr. George Christ has demonstrated sustained excellence in teaching and research and has acquired an international reputation in the field of tissue engineering and muscle physiology. He has been an innovator in basic and transitional cell and tissue engineering for almost two decades.

Christ is co-inventor of 26 national and international patents that were either

issued or pending issue related to gene therapy for the treatment of human smooth muscle disorders and tissue engineering technologies. He has authored more than 215 scientific publications and served as co-editor of a book on integrative smooth muscle physiology and another on regenerative pharmacology.

In 2014, Christ was recruited to the University of Virginia, where he currently holds the Mary Muilenburg Stamp Professor of Orthopaedic Research as a tenured full professor of biomedical engineering and orthopaedic surgery. Recently, his work has focused on regenerative medical approaches to bladder, blood vessel and skeletal muscle repair and regeneration.

### Marion E. Glick '82 Alumni Service to the College

From the start, Marion E. Glick has championed the ethos of Muhlenberg College. She was an active student at Muhlenberg and served as a student representative to the Muhlenberg College Alumni Association Executive Board prior to her graduation.

Glick has compiled an unparalleled record of service to the College including co-founding the Maryland/Washington,



D.C. regional alumni club in 1986, serving as a Co-Class Fund Chair since 2014 and Class Reunion Chair in 2012 and 2017 and acting as a mentor to current Muhlenberg students.

Glick served in a leadership capacity as a member of the Board of Trustees for 12 years. On October 23, 2015, she was formally elected to a three-year term as a Trustee Emeritus. She has financially supported the College every year since graduation and established the Marion E. Glick '82 Scholarship Fund.

#### **Diane Henley Sonnenwald '76** Alumni Achievement in Information and Library Sciences

Diane Henley Sonnenwald is considered an international leader in research, teaching and engagement in information and library science. Her research focuses on collaboration, technology design and use, and human information behavior in a variety of contexts. She has authored or coauthored more than 100 scholarly, peer-reviewed publications and has edited four books. Sonnenwald has also



received numerous awards and honors, including the Elfreda A. Chatman Research Award in 2014.

Currently, Sonnenwald is a professor of information and library science at the University of Copenhagen, one of the top-ranked universities worldwide. Previously, Sonnenwald was head of school and head of subject and chair of information and library studies at the University College Dublin, where she initiated the creation of an information and social computing undergraduate program and a master of science program in information systems.

Sonnenwald was the first person working outside of North America to be elected president of the Association for Information Science and Technology, the largest professional association in her field.

#### **Theodore Wachs '62** Alumni Achievement in Psychology-**Child Development**



Dr. Theodore Wachs has devoted his professional career to understanding the risks that can compromise childhood development. He currently serves as emeritus professor of psychological sciences at Purdue University, where he began teaching and engaging in research in 1967.

His plethora of study, research, writing and professional contributions to understanding the effect of children's

home and cultural environment on growth and development has emphasized the impact of nutrition. During his career, Wachs was a member of the editorial boards of six research journals in his field, including the two top-rated journals, "Child Development" and "Developmental Psychology." In addition, he has authored or co-authored 89 articles in research journals and has authored or co-edited 10 books and 41 book chapters in his field. Wachs also chaired the publications committee of the Society for Research in Child Development and serves on the steering committee of the Global Child Development Group.

#### **George Wheeler** '72 Alumni Achievement in **Conservation of Art and Architecture**



George Wheeler is one of the leading experts in stone restoration and conservation. He became director of conservation in the graduate historic preservation program at Columbia University in 2004 after a distinguished 25-year career in the Department of Scientific Research at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where he continues to serve as a senior research scholar. Wheeler has published more than

50 scholarly articles, chapters in books and has co-edited several other volumes.

He is the only alumnus in Muhlenberg's history to receive the much coveted Rome Prize by the American Academy in Rome. In 2016 he was bestowed with the Harley J. McKee Award—the highest award of the Association of Preservation Technology. His recent restoration projects include the conservation of Cleopatra's Needle, the Egyptian obelisk in Central Park in New York City. Wheeler served as the chief scientific advisor for the conservation of the Renaissance artist Tullio Lombardo's Carrara marble sculpture of Adam, and as the conservation science advisor for the new master plan for the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas.

#### **Benjamin Wilfond '81** Alumni Achievement in Medicine-**Bioethics**

Dr. Benjamin Wilfond is recognized as a world-class pediatric pulmonologist, an expert on cystic fibrosis and a groundbreaking bioethicist. He is a professor of pediatrics and chief of the division of pediatric bioethics at the University of Washington School of Medicine. Wilfond is also founding director of the Treuman Katz Center of Pediatric Bioethics at the Seattle Children's Hospital and Research



Institute. From 1998 through 2006, he worked with the National Human Genome Research Institute to establish their bioethics research program.

As one of the nation's most highly regarded medical ethicists, Wilfond has been at the forefront of the movement to empower patients to have control of their medical destinies. He conducts research on ethical and policy issues related to genetic testing, genetic research and pediatric research. Wilfond has recently worked on issues related to newborn screening, disclosure of genetic research results, pediatric biobanks and direct-toconsumer advertising of genetic tests.

### Paul Zeitz '84 Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Paul Zeitz is a physician, an epidemiologist and a tenacious, energetic, award-winning advocate for global justice and the realization of human rights. Throughout his career, he has been active in strategic political advocacy for human rights, equal opportunity and justice.

Zeitz has more than 25 years of worldwide experience advancing data-driven decision making, transparency, and



Most recently, he served as director of the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development, at the U.S. Department of State, where he helped catalyze the creation and launch in 2015 of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.



Zeitz is an accomplished media spokesperson, appearing frequently on television and radio news programs, print and published op-eds.



# VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS

In addition to the Alumni Achievement Awards, Muhlenberg annually recognizes alumni who give generously of their time as volunteers. Awarded in April at a luncheon during the Volunteer Summit—an event with more than 100 alumni gathering for training, campus updates and recognition of their efforts—the Volunteer Recognition Awards celebrate a range of milestones by Muhlenberg ambassadors. Thank you to all these Muhlenberg alumni for everything they do to support the College!

### W. Chester Hill '20 Award for Leadership by a Class Fund Chair

This award is presented to a class fund chair who has provided exemplary service to Muhlenberg on behalf of their class and whose efforts played a critical role in securing financial support for The Muhlenberg Fund. **The 2017 recipient is Christopher Parkes '91.** 

#### **Reunion Volunteers Award**

This award is presented to reunion volunteers who have shown great dedication and enthusiasm in planning class activities for Alumni Weekend and encouraging class engagement with Muhlenberg. **The 2017 recipients are Stephen Hart '76 and John Dunne '76, P'12.** 

#### The Muhlenberg Network Volunteer Award

This recognition, formerly known as the MuhlNet Volunteer Award, is given to someone who has demonstrated a deep commitment to the advancement of our career services and network initiatives. The recipient consistently volunteers their time, talent and energy to promote professional relationshipbuilding within our Muhlenberg community. Their dedication has made a direct impact on students' career development and serves as a model for all alumni. **The 2017 recipient is Dana Iannuzzi '03.** 

#### **General Pete Award**

This award is presented to the person or organization who recently began or renewed their volunteer service to Muhlenberg, has demonstrated success in both quality and quantity of volunteer service to the College and shows promise for continued service and leadership. **The 2017 recipient is Sharon Brewer Lowe '65.** 

#### Young Alumni Volunteer Award

This award is presented to someone who graduated within the past 10 years; has made significant contributions of energy, time and talent; and has demonstrated a commitment to the advancement of Muhlenberg through the engagement of our young alumni. **The 2017 recipient is Amy Venuto '11**.

# Volunteer Leadership Service Award

This award is presented to someone who has demonstrated a significant pattern of volunteer service to the College that has made a positive impact on Muhlenberg and its mission. Recipients of this award have been actively engaged as a leaders in volunteer work on behalf of the College over a number of years, through a variety of initiatives such as involvement with the Career Center, regional clubs, events, fundraising initiatives, affinity groups, Reunion and the Alumni Board. **The 2017 recipient is William D. Miers '49.** 

# Muhlenberg to Honor 2018 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Muhlenberg College will induct seven individuals and one team into its Athletic Hall of Fame in 2018. The induction ceremony is scheduled for April 28, 2018.

Taking their place among the College's greats are Rebecca Armstrong '05, Tyler Cathey '02, Mike Donnelly, Kyle Farris '08, Connie Kunda, Courtney Tapkas '06, Becki Toth '05 and the 2007 football team. For more on the inductees, visit muhlenberg.edu/magazine.

#### **REBECCA ARMSTRONG '05**

Armstrong is the only player in Muhlenberg women's soccer program history named to the All-Middle Atlantic Region team all four years (first team in 2001 and 2003 and second team in 2002 and 2004). A four-year starter as a midfielder and forward, she also was named to the All-Centennial Conference (CC) first team all four years.

#### TYLER CATHEY '02

Cathey was a two-sport star in football and wrestling and is one of only two Muhlenberg male athletes to compete in the NCAA Championships in a team sport and an individual sport. A four-year letterwinner as a linebacker and defensive lineman in football, he earned All-Centennial Conference honors in 2002 (first team) and 2001 (second team). In wrestling, Cathey was a four-year starter at heavyweight, compiling a career record of 66-14 with 21 pins and winning four CC titles.

#### MIKE DONNELLY

Donnelly coached the Muhlenberg football team from 1997 until his passing in October 2017. The winningest coach in program history with a career record of 143–76, Donnelly led the Mules to seven CC championships and 13 postseason appearances. He also was the coordinator of a stingy defense that led all four NCAA divisions in total defense in 2004. For a former player's tribute to Donnelly, see page 32.

#### **KYLE FARRIS '08**

Farris was a four-year starter and top scoring threat as a midfielder for the men's lacrosse team. He holds the program's career records for goals (101) and hat tricks (18) and season records for goals (36) and hat tricks (7). The team's leading goal-scorer for his last three years, he is second all-time with 120 career points.

#### **CONNIE KUNDA**

Kunda was a strong advocate for women's athletics in her time as a member of Muhlenberg's Athletic Department from 1966 until her retirement in 2001. She served as interim director of athletics—the first woman in that role at Muhlenberg—from 1995 to 1996 and spent five years (1996-2001) as associate director of athletics. She also served as senior woman administrator from 1982 until 2001.

#### **COURTNEY TAPKAS '06**

Tapkas rewrote Muhlenberg's record book in women's lacrosse and was the first four-time All-Centennial Conference selection in program history, earning first-team honors as a junior and senior. She also was a two-time all-region pick and graduated holding the school records for points, goals and hat tricks in a career; points, goals and hat tricks in a season; and goals in a game.

#### **BECKI TOTH '05**

Toth was one of the top softball players in Mule history. The team leader in batting average three times, she holds the school record with 182 hits and was a career .366 hitter. She ranks in the program's alltime top 10 in batting average, runs scored, doubles, extra-base hits, total bases and stolen bases.

#### 2007 FOOTBALL TEAM

The 2007 football team finished with a record of 11-1, setting a school record for wins. The Mules won their first outright CC championship and became the first and only Muhlenberg football team to go through the regular season undefeated.



Clockwise from left: Cathey, Donnelly, Farris, Kunda, Tapkas, Toth, 2007 Football Team and Armstrong



# Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with Documents as Old as It Is

A new exhibit in Trexler Library's Rare Books room traces the history of Lutheranism and Lutheran education from 1517 until today.

When the Allentown Seminary was founded in 1848, it aspired to train teachers, in particular, as well as to offer a more general "classical" (liberal arts) education for other professions. The large, local German Lutheran population felt the need for a place to equip their children with the higher education that would make them suitable leaders in society. By the time the Seminary was reconstituted as Muhlenberg College in 1867, it had a strong record of sending many men and women into careers of teaching, law, medicine and ministry, each fulfilling their "vocation" in a civic or private occupation.

This idea of discovering that one's gifts and talents are meant serve the world at large has been a "driving force of the Lutheran ideal of higher education," says Peter Pettit, associate professor of religion studies and director of the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding. Even as American higher education expanded and Muhlenberg's place as a selective liberal arts institution has come to greater prominence, the idea of vocation signals a distinctive dimension of the College's mission. It puts the individual's sense of purpose and responsibility into a generative conversation with the needs and opportunities of society.

Today, the focus on vocation continues to identify Muhlenberg as a college of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, though just 3 percent of the student body identifies as Lutheran. The College is religiously diverse, with the greatest number of students identifying as Catholic (28 percent) or Jewish (27 percent). "This idea of vocation, which emerges within Lutheran theology, has cognates in other religious and philosophical traditions," Pettit says. "So, our students, faculty and staff can frequently find within their own worldviews the same dynamics or commitments that Luther identifies in this rubric of vocation."

An exhibit currently on display in Trexler Library's Rare Books room, "Opening Luther's Door: Lutheran Education from Wittenberg to Allentown," traces the history of vocation from when Lutheranism began 500 years ago through the College's current interfaith traditions and liberal arts foundation.

The exhibit coincides with the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, which began when Luther posted his 95 Theses on October 31, 1517. While the exhibit contains documents from the Reformation's early days, it also includes pieces from when Muhlenberg was founded as the Allentown Seminary in 1848. Special collections and archives librarian Susan Falciani (right) credits Pettit for helping provide context to the artifacts she assembled. The exhibit's final portion, which chaplain Callista Isabelle helped put together, reflects what a Lutheran education means in a modern context. "The church is not called to serve itself; it's called to serve the world," says Pettit. "In a Lutheran understanding of higher education, we're not about training Lutherans or making Lutherans more prominent. We're about serving the world, and that means in all the variety of the arts and sciences and trades and also across the diversity of human religious experience."



Some of the featured pieces in the exhibit include portraits of Martin Luther, Luther's German Bible and more. The exhibit is open through March 31, 2018. If you're not able to see it in person, find out more about some of the featured pieces on our website at muhlenberg.edu/magazine.

Top image: Luther's German Bible: Luther translated the Bible into German from ancient Greek and Hebrew into Early New High German for the use of laypeople. He completed the New Testament in 1522, building upon the work done by Erasmus in his 1519 edition of a Greek New Testament. His reliance on the relatively new Renaissance scholarship of the ancient languages gave him access to versions of the Bible that he believed were largely unaffected by the church's corrupting influence, transmitted through the Latin Vulgate. Without the development of the European universities and their classical curricula, Reformation theology could not have developed its foundational principle of "scripture alone" (sola scriptura) in the same way.

# WELCOME, CLASS OF 2021!

This August, Muhlenberg College celebrated the arrival of 564 new members of its community, the Class of 2021. The class brings with it a diversity of experiences and backgrounds. Find out more about the Class of 2021.

#### Students with Pre-Muhlenberg Accomplishments Including:

- Performing on NBC's Sound of Music Live! and in a world premiere Italian opera
- Studying at England's Oxford University
- Being named "Sports Kid of the Year" by Sports Illustrated
- Starting their own businesses in a range of fields
- Writing a novel and being published as a poet
- Working with and learning from marine biologists and physicians specializing in neurology
- Teaching music in Honduras and figure skating in Brazil

# \$**13.3 Million** Awarded in Institutional Gift Aid

# Geographic Distribution



**90%** RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID FROM ALL SOURCES

**20.4%** Students of Color

# #MULEMENTUM 2017 WEDID IT!

November 16, 2017 was #MULEMENTUM, the College's fifth Annual Day of Giving. We exceeded our goal of 2,500 participants, and we couldn't have done it without you. Thank you to all who contributed!

Opening doors isn't just something that happens on campus. Every day, alumni, students, parents and friends open doors because they are proud of the life-changing Muhlenberg experience. That's why "Opening Doors to Endless Opportunities" was this year's #MULEMENTUM theme.

Find out more at mulementum.com.

### MAKE A GIFT FROM AN APPRECIATED ASSET OR IRA ROLLOVER



Making a gift to Muhlenberg College from an appreciated asset such as securities or a mutual fund allows you to give more and your gift will not negatively impact your cash flow.

Let's look at the tax savings benefits available when you make a gift of your appreciated securities. Consider the amount of taxes you will owe this year with the highest (federal) ordinary income tax bracket at 39.6 percent plus the 20 percent capital gains tax bracket plus 3.8 percent Medicare surtax plus state income and capital gains taxes, if you sold your appreciated securities.

There is potentially good news. Capital gains tax and the Medicare surtax can be avoided through charitable giving. The tax savings from a gift of an appreciated asset can be significant and much higher than the tax savings afforded from a simple cash contribution.

If you own appreciated assets, gifting them instead of cash may be a tax-wise strategy.

**Convert a Burden into a Benefit** - If you are 70<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> or older, you are likely familiar with the IRA required minimum distribution (RMD). Each year, the IRS requires you to withdraw a certain amount from your IRA whether you need the funds or not. And you pay income tax on every distribution you take. For many IRA account holders, the taxes can be a significant and an undesirable annual burden.

**Major Gift with Minor Effort** - Many people are discovering that they can make a big difference to help further our mission with an IRA rollover gift. For an added benefit consider designating our organization as a beneficiary of your IRA.

**Reduce Taxes and Increase Impact** - The IRA charitable rollover provides several benefits. It allows you to transfer up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to a nonprofit this year. You pay no taxes on the transfer and your gift counts dollar-for-dollar to support our important work. You can also count the gift against your required

minimum distribution, which lowers your income and taxes this year.

Act Now To Save on Taxes - This year, instead of paying more in taxes, use your IRA for a noble purpose. If you are 70<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> you can roll over up to \$100,000 from your IRA to charity. You won't be taxed on the transfer and it counts towards your required distribution. Best of all, it's easy.

Contact Gregory M. Wilson, CAP,<sup>®</sup> director, leadership gifts and planned giving, at 484–664–3224 or gwilson@muhlenberg.edu or your advisor or IRA administrator—to see how you can make a gift from an appreciated asset or roll over into tax savings.

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Professor of psychology Laura Edelman (back) works on a summer research project with Christine Cimpian '19 and Erik Berger '19.

## Muhlenberg Receives Three-Year Grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded Muhlenberg College a \$600,000, three-year grant to advance the liberal arts, interdisciplinary learning and facultystudent collaborative scholarship.

The funded initiative, "Practicing the Liberal Arts: Developing and Applying Scholarly Skills," will strengthen Muhlenberg through four initiatives across the humanities and humanistic social sciences curriculum:

• Deepening faculty expertise in teaching liberal arts scholarly skills to first-year students

The Center for Ethics enters the spring semester continuing the 2017-2018 theme,

"Troubling Truth." Up-to-date information

on events is available at muhlenberg.edu/cfe.

- Strengthening the curriculum in programs to include a focus on disciplinary research methods early in a student's experience, particularly in humanities and humanistic social science programs
- Developing new curricular approaches that progressively advance student learning and research aptitude across the entire Muhlenberg experience
- Supporting new faculty-student research collaborations in the field, including in local communities and others around the globe

"Our faculty and students are deeply engaged in the practice of the liberal arts and advanced integrative learning across the curriculum," said provost Kathleen Harring. "This exciting new grant builds on Muhlenberg's array of initiatives in high-impact educational practice, including our new human diversity & global engagement requirement and new opportunities for short-term student study abroad. We are grateful for the additional momentum that this grant gives us to support the passion our faculty and students feel for bringing the liberal arts to life in the classroom, scholarship and interdisciplinary studies."

## MUHLENBERG MOMENTS

#### Troubling Truth: 2017-18 CFE Theme Black Acting Methods Certificate Offered

The College recently announced a certificate program in Black Acting Methods for the 2017–2018 academic year. Sharrell Luckett, assistant professor of theatre, leads the program.

#### Growing the Digital Humanities

Muhlenberg, Ursinus and Gettysburg partnered on a project to grow the digital humanities, which is supported by the Pennsylvania Consortium for the Liberal Arts and an Arthur Vining Davis Foundations grant. The funding will support efforts in faculty development, blended/digital learning and interfaith initiatives.



Andrew Ardizzoia



Vincent Trovato



Lufei Teng



Leticia Robles-Moreno



Purvi Parikh



Mary Brown



Gilles Colin

# Muhlenberg Welcomes New Faculty for the 2017–18 Academic Year

Muhlenberg College has welcomed 14 new faculty hires for the 2017-18 school year. The individuals that joined the faculty come from a wide variety of backgrounds and areas of expertise, ranging from the anthropology of gender and Chinese history to international economics and finance.

"This distinguished group of faculty brings energy and new perspectives to our community through their teaching and scholarship. They enrich our community in multiple ways that support our mission and the practice of the liberal arts," said provost Kathleen Harring.

The new hires include: Andrew Ardizzoia, assistant professor of music and director of composition and instrumental studies; Mary Brown, visiting assistant professor of art; Gilles Colin, visiting lecturer in French; Giancarlo Cuadra, assistant professor of biology; Matthieu de Wit, assistant professor of neuroscience; Tineke D'Haeseleer, assistant professor of history; Katie Fitzpatrick, visiting assistant professor of English; Donna Genay, visiting lecturer in accounting; Christopher Jackson, lecturer in choral conducting and voice; Casey James Miller, assistant professor of anthropology; Purvi Parikh, assistant professor of religion studies; Leticia Robles-Moreno, visiting assistant professor of theatre; Lufei Teng, assistant professor of economics; and Vincent Trovato, staff accompanist and instructor in music.



Casey James Miller



Christopher Jackson



Giancarlo Cuadra



Matthieu de Wit



Tineke D'Haeseleer



Katie Fitzpatrick



Donna Genay

### DOOR TO DOOR

# Muhlenberg College Again Recognized for Theatre Excellence by The Princeton Review

The Princeton Review features Muhlenberg College in the 2018 edition of its flagship college guide, "The Best 382 Colleges." In addition to the College's #7 ranking for "Best College Theater," Muhlenberg



dining services earned a #17 ranking for "Best Campus Food."

Muhlenberg appeared on both of these lists in the 2017 guide, landing at #1 for "Best College Theater" for the second time in six years and #16 for "Best Campus Food." The theatre program has ranked in the top 12 of the "Best College Theater" list in nine of the last ten years.

"Muhlenberg is a leader in providing world-class preparation for a career in the performing arts," said President John I. Williams, Jr. "Our theatre & dance graduates are working both on and off the stage, on Broadway and in professional theater companies throughout the United States, and our alumni open doors for those coming along behind them. Many of our theatre & dance students choose Muhlenberg because, here, they can double major in any of our other programs, including pre-med, neuroscience, media & communication, business, finance and public health. At Muhlenberg, theatre students—like all our students—can have it all."

Muhlenberg College students participate in six mainstage shows each year, in addition to numerous student-produced productions. Last year's mainstage season included Chekhov's "The Cherry Orchard" (directed by Matthew Moore). Photo by Ken Ek.

# Wescoe School Offers Data Analytics Certificate

A team of subject matter experts from the banking, energy, insurance, accounting and healthcare industries worked with the Wescoe School to design and develop Wescoe's new data analytics certificate curriculum based on the need to compete in a data-driven world.

MUHLENBERG ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIPS WITH BOSTON UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND QUESTROM SCHOOL OF BUSINESS Two new collaborations build upon Muhlenberg's existing cooperative program relationship with Boston University that began in 2016. That relationship provides exceptional master's program candidates from Muhlenberg with an early acceptance program to Boston's School of Public Health, one of the top graduate programs for public health in the country.

The partnership with Boston University School of Medicine provides Muhlenberg students early access to one of the nation's premiere medical schools and gives qualified students a clear path to acceptance midway through their Muhlenberg career.

"Pre-health has long been an exceptionally strong program at Muhlenberg College," said President John I. Williams, Jr. "Between 2011 and 2016, 89 percent of students enrolled in Muhlenberg's premedical program were accepted to U.S. medical schools, a track record



# **Muhlenberg Partners with Top Institutions** for Programs in Economics and Finance, Public Health and Theatre

Muhlenberg recently announced three partnerships with other colleges and universities to expand possibilities for top Muhlenberg students entering graduate and professional programs.

Through an agreement with American University's Kogod School of Business, Muhlenberg's outstanding students can pursue scholarships and receive preferential access to American's master's of science in finance (MSF) program. The collaboration gives Muhlenberg economics and finance students—who complete required courses, meet specific academic criteria and have the recommendation of a designated faculty member—preferred access to American's MSF program and eligibility for a \$10,000 tuition scholarship.

An agreement with The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine will enable top students to pursue early assurance to a master's program in public health. The collaboration will allow Muhlenberg students who are public health majors or minors, in good academic and social standing and who meet specific academic criteria to apply to the Penn State program as a junior. Muhlenberg faculty members will then review applications and make recommendations. Once recommended and provisionally accepted during their junior year, students will apply to Penn State master's program through normal channels and gain official acceptance during their senior year.

The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS)—ranked in the top three of the

prestigious Quacquarelli Symonds global university rankings for performing arts—is partnering with Muhlenberg, which offers one of the leading undergraduate theatre programs in the U.S. The partnership will enable high-performing American students to experience arts education in one of the world's most successful multi-arts learning and teaching environments.

The partnership, the first of its kind for RCS, will see up to 10 Muhlenberg students go through a rigorous application process each year who, once accepted, will join modern ballet, production and technology management, contemporary performance practice, production art & design and music students at the RCS's award-winning campus in the center of Glasgow for one or two academic terms.

that stands in rare company among many other colleges. We are delighted that our students will now receive opportunities for early access to one of the nation's premiere medical programs through our relationship with Boston University's School of Medicine."

Muhlenberg students will typically apply to the program in the second semester of sophomore year, after having completed three semesters and taken six biology, chemistry or physics courses at Muhlenberg. (Juniors will be considered as well.) Qualified Muhlenberg students will then be offered an interview the summer after the student's junior year. Satisfactory completion of an admissions interview will result in conditional acceptance to the joint program pending completion of program requirements.

Boston University's Questrom School of Business offers a master's program designed for recent non-business graduates interested in

building a foundation in business. This experiential master's class program was named one of The Most Innovative Business School Ideas of 2015 for its program design that works without syllabi, textbooks, exams or grade ranking.

"Our new partnership with Boston University's Questrom School of Business affirms the lifelong skills and career potential provided by an education that practices and embraces the liberal arts," said Williams. "Muhlenberg prepares students as effective, integrative learners empowered to recognize and solve problems and work creatively, collaboratively and comprehensively to meet future challenges."

Qualified Muhlenberg students will receive early conditional admission to the Questrom School of Business prior to graduation from Muhlenberg.

# Muletin Board

# Upcoming Alumni Board Meetings

February 3, 2018 April 21, 2018 All meetings of the Alumni Board are open, and all alumni are welcome.

# **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 classmates, got promoted, retired or celebrated a milestone birthday. 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: Winter issue: December 31, 2017 Spring issue: February 15, 2018

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

## **NETWORK OPPORTUNITIES Connect to Mules Worldwide:**

- · Join The Muhlenberg Network at TheMuhlenbergNetwork.com.
- Help students discover their passions by becoming a Shadow Host. More information on MuhlenbergConnect.com/shadow.



The annual Muhlenberg T.H.A.W. (Toast Heard Around the World) is the one night each year when alumni and friends gather across the country and around the world to celebrate the College and each other. Join us in celebration on January 18, 2018. More information on MuhlenbergConnect.com/thaw

### Commencement 2018

Join us to celebrate the Class of 2018 during Commencement Exercises on Friday, May 18. More information on muhlenberg.edu/commencement

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BERG



# People, Culture, Art:

Cuba with President John I. Williams, Jr. & Diane Pierce-Williams

#### December 9-17, 2018

Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime trip. More information at MuhlenbergConnect.com/AlumniTravel

### SAVE THE DATE!



September 21-23, 2018

Come back to campus for Homecoming and to celebrate reunion for classes ending in 3 and 8!

# **Muhlenberg Wants YOU!**

#### **Reunion Chairs and Committee Members**

The Office of Alumni Affairs is looking for a few good alumni who are interested in helping their class celebrate reunion. If you are a member of a class ending in a 3 or 8, consider volunteering as either a reunion chair or member of the reunion committee. Contact us by phone at 1-800-464-2374 or email at bergalum@muhlenberg.edu.

#### **Class Connections Chairs**

Want to help your classmates remain connected to each other and to Muhlenberg? If so, consider offering to serve as a Class Connection Chair. This new volunteer position is designed to help facilitate communication, reduce the number of alumni "lost" to the College when they move or change email address and let Muhlenberg know of accomplishments and celebrations of classmates. If interested, please contact Diana Tirendi '07, senior associate director of Alumni Affairs at 484-664-4354 or by email at dianatirendi@muhlenberg.edu.

#### Nominees for 2018 Alumni Achievement Awards

If you know of a deserving member of the Muhlenberg community who you would like the Alumni Board to consider for an Alumni Achievement Award, consider nominating them. Visit MuhlenbergConnect.com/AlumniAwards to review the awards and nomination process.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: FEBRUARY 18, 2018

#### Nominees for 2019 Athletic Hall of Fame

If you wish to nominate someone for the Muhlenberg College Athletic Hall of Fame, please send an email with your name, the name of the nominee and supporting information to coreygoff@muhlenberg.edu. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: FEBRUARY 28, 2018



# The Muhlenberg College yearbook, the Ciarla, is online!

libraryguides.muhlenberg.edu/ciarla

Sponsored by the Muhlenberg College Alumni Trust Fund



#### 1938

**Henry Trumbower** turned 100 on Nov. 25, 2017. Trumbower entered Muhlenberg at age 16, during the height of the Great Depression, and was a chemistry major and mathematics minor. After graduation, he served in World War II, and had a successful career as a meteorologist. Well wishes can be sent to him at 602 Marlin Circle, Barefoot Bay, Fla. 32976.

#### 1949

William D. Miers, CFC mgb19744@verizon.net

#### 1950

Theodore Haas, CFC tnhaas@comcast.net

**Rev. Marvin Dewalt** was featured in the Reading Eagle in June. At age 90, Marvin still runs two miles a day. • **Joseph Rupp**, a forensic pathologist, was the first to post the theory that Catholic poet Francis Thompson could be Jack the Ripper. He contributed to the book "Jack the Ripper: The Works of Francis Thompson" by Richard Patterson. His original article can be found in the book's appendix.

#### 1951

Theodore C. Argeson, CFC tca51mberg@yahoo.com

#### 1953

Joseph H. Jorda, CFC jjorda1010@aol.com

#### 1954

Classmates **Bill Malkames, Larry Dottor, Mike Skweir, Larry Friedman** and **Frank Cutko**, along with Ed Kohn (from Lehigh) get together to tell old tales and swap lies from their time at Muhlenberg. A luncheon meeting was held in June in Philadelphia.

#### 1956

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

#### 1957

Wolfgang W. Koenig, CFC wkoenig1@cox.net

**Jim Bloomfield** represented Muhlenberg at the inauguration of Susan Traverso, the new president of Thiel College, on May 5, 2017.

#### 1958

Owen D. Faut, CFC ofaut@frontier.com

#### 1959

Lee A. Kreidler, CFC leebar@ptd.net

#### 1960

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

#### 1961

Richard L. Foley, CFC rlfoley4@verizon.net

**Wilson Gum** presented his grandson, Logan Gum, with a House citation for his Eagle Scout Award. Logan has followed his grandfather and father, Andrew, in earning the Eagle Scout Award.

#### 1962

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

**Joseph B. Blood Jr.** is still working and enjoying his career as geriatrician in his 43rd year at Guthrie Clinic.

#### 1964

Ed Bonekemper, CCC ebonekemper@comcast.net

George Franz, CCC gwfranz@verizon.net

Kammy Franz, CCC grammykammy3@gmail.com

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

**Lois Blood** is a part-time organist at church and enjoys being a grandmother of six.

#### 1965

Sharon Lowe, CCC lowe@ptd.net

Barbie Kepler, CCC bkepler@aol.com

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

**Kim Eric Williams** was honored last May by the Swedish Council of America with an Award of Merit for his work as translator and historian of the Swedish Colonial Society, especially the multi-volume series, "Colonial Records of Swedish Churches in Pennsylvania." The Swedish Council represents more than 360 local Swedish organizations in this country and Canada. • **Barbara Solt** took a three-week bucket-list trip around South America, from Santiago, Chile, to Buenos Aires, Argentina, by cruising through the Antarctic Peninsula with a stop in the Falklands. The summer high was 28 degrees. • **Marie Smuldis Gabrielson** is on the Board of the Institute for Learning in Retirement in Boca Raton, Fla. If anyone is interested in information and/or conducting a class *pro bono*, contact gabrielmjd@msn.com.

#### 1966

Timothy A. Romig, CFC explrs3311@comcast.net

#### 1967

David J. Nowack, CFC dlnowack@ptd.net

**Ellen Friedlieb Mayer** is living in the Los Angeles area with her husband of 50 years, Jack, their children and grandchildren. Ellen was recently awarded *Professor Emeritus* and retired from California State University after 25 years as a full professor in the Counseling Center where she began a nationwide program for the education and prevention of eating disorders among college students. She now is following her travel passion as founder/president of a boutique, luxury travel company, Asian Odysseys (asianodysseys.com) which leads small groups throughout Asia. She welcomes fellow alumni to join these exciting journeys.

#### 1968

W. Russell Koerwer, CFC wrkoerwer@aol.com

Morgan S. Phenix published his first novel, "Elizabeth's Story," in March. It is available for purchase on Amazon and Kindle. • Glen B. Moyer's first novel, "Tell It Abroad," was published in spring of 2017. It is a Christian historical novel about the early church and it is available on Amazon and the Barnes & Noble website.

#### 1969

C. Clifford Allen, CFC allencliff47@verizon.net

On December 22, 2016, **Jeff Schmitt** and **Carol Crown '70** were married by The Rev. Callista Isabelle in Egner Memorial Chapel. Among the friends and family present was former Muhlenberg tennis coach, Linda Andrews.

Allison Rischall '07 and husband Jonathan welcomed Eliana Lily on May 20, 2017.

MUHLENBERG

Five month old Madeline, daughter of Christina (Wendlek) '09 and Patrick McKean

AATEAN

EGE

Matthew Grossman '14 graduated from Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law.

Alumni at the wedding of Adam Roth '09 and Melissa Crowe A recent photo of Henry Trumbower '38 and his Ciarla yearbook photo

100

aura Hendsey '08 and Iason Schunkewitz '14 our a pork plant for their work at Quintiq.

The Mattielli Family - Marcus '01, Stephanie '01 and their children



Alexandra (Raymond) Schulman '07 and husband Rory welcomed Evan Randy on May 22, 2017.

Lindsay (Hatchey) Wolfer '07 and Eric Wolfer '07 welcomed Annabelle Carly on May 26, 2017.

> Anna Cosgrove '07 graduated with her doctorate in audiology in May of 2017.

> > AMSEOUL

TENNIS

Daniel Gardner '81 on site with his NGO, Ballz4Kidz 6) (6)

MUHLENBERG COLLECE Alumni at the wedding of Sara Bombaski '10 ar

Atlas Circus Company, founded at Muhlenberg by Noah Dach '16 and Henry Evans '16, mounted two productions this summer.

> Claire Ivy, daughter of Beth (Slakoff) McDonnell '05 and husband Matthew

ım Martos '11





Frank Pepe '05 with his son, Austin Jay, Austin's godmother, Katherine Salerno '03 and Joseph Salerno '03

THPO

Alumni at the wedding of Whitney Ellis '12 and Jon Blau '12

TIM

Rev. Marvin Dewalt '50, age 90, on his daily 2 mile run

AT

Lindsay Stackhouse '08 and William McCabe



Joseph Rocco Bruno Jr., son of Tina (Vergos) Bruno '09 and husband Joe

Alumni at the wedding of Elisa Colasanti '12 and Benjamin Dornfeld

E

Lauren Carballo '07 was married to Bryant Michels.

NBERG

11

HLENBE

Maya, daughter of Jason Finkelstein 'o6 and his wife, Christina



Friends and family at the wedding of Jeff Schmitt '69 and Carol Crown '70 Thomas Gorman '91 and Tim McElhinney '91 are principals at rival high schools.

P.A. SUBM

Lisa (Gingold) Tune '07 and Daniel Tune welcomed Hayley Adalyn, on October 13, 2016.

LENBERG



Dana Iannuzzi '03 speaks with Muhlenberg theatre majors

Alumni at the wedding of Amy Romm '04 and Brian Lockhard, photo by Sandor Welsh '92

Sarah '09 and Scott Ellis '08 celebrated the birth of their son, Colin Robert, on July 12, 2017.

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#### 1970

Glenn S. Kratzer, CFC gkratzer@gmail.com

Diane R. (Schmidt) Ladley, CFC dianeladley@verizon.net

#### 1971

Mary Daye Hohman, CFC mdhohman@gmail.com

#### 1972

Eric C. Shafer, CFC ericcshafer@hotmail.com

#### 1973

Kathy Dittmar Joslyn, RC wien7172@yahoo.com

Leslie Wexler, RC leswexler@rcn.com

Jeffrey R. Dundon, CFC jeffreydundon73@gmail.com

Ronald M. Fairman is now chair of the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS) Foundation. He had served as president of the SVS for the past 12 months. He is chief of vascular surgery and endovascular therapy at the University of Pennsylvania's Penn Medicine, and has a dual faculty appointment, as Clyde F. Barker–William Maul Measey professor in surgery and professor in radiology.

#### 1974

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

#### 1975

**Howard Gendelman** received the 2017 Jewish Federation of Omaha Humanitarian of the Year Award. He also recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his professional accomplishments.

#### 1976

Elizabeth Urmston-Fowle, CCC fowlehalla@gmail.com

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

#### 1977

Steven M. Eisenhauer, CFC steve@congruencewines.com

Susan C. (Ettelman) Eisenhauer, CFC Eisenhauer.sc@gmail.com

#### 1978

Barbara Kehr, RC bkehr@earthlink.net

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

Last March, **Marc Vengrove** finished second in his age group at the 2017 U.S. Track and Field 50K Championship Road Race in Lloyd Harbor, N.Y. After the race, he went to meet the first-place winner and it was classmate **Paul Arlt**. It was a coincidence that two Mules graced the podium.

#### 1979

Mitch Goldblatt, CCC mitchgoldblatt@aol.com

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

#### 1980

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

#### 1981

Joan C. Triano, CFC jtriano@aol.com

Daniel Gardner is a health professor at Namseoul University and the founder of the Ballz4Kidz NGO. The organization's mission is to provide athletic balls to children in remote, poor and dangerous locations.

#### 1982

Marion Glick, CFC 82marion@gmail.com

Tambria (Johnson) O'Shaughnessy, CFC wtoshau@verizon.net

William J. O'Shaughnessy, Jr., CFC wjos1024@gmail.com

#### 1983

Tammy L. Bormann, CFC tlbormann@comcast.net

#### 1984

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

Steven Binder joined MannKind as its chief financial officer with full responsibilities for leading the company's finance, accounting and investor relations organization on a global basis.

#### 1985

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

#### 1986

Chip Hurd, CFC pmhref@rcn.com

**Daniele Cervino** joined the Montvale, N.J. Law Firm of Beattie Padovano, LLC where she chairs the firm's environmental department. Danielle has 28 years of experience counseling clients on environmental aspects of complex real estate transactions.

#### 1987

Lauren Shanahan, CCC bhappy100@rcn.com Eileen (Collins) Neri, CFC ecneri24@gmail.com

#### 1988

Joann Gaughran, RC joann\_gaughran@merck.com

Lisa Wolf, RC lhwolf@comcast.net

Venard Scott Koerwer, CFC skoerwer@me.com

#### 1989

Tracy Bozik, CCC tbozik@moravianacademy.org

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

#### Thomas Gorman and Tim McElhinney

played defense on the football team together, were brothers in Phi Kappa Tau and suitemates their senior year in MacGregor Village, but now they are rivals in Bergen County, N.J. Thomas is principal at Ridgewood High School and Tim is principal just down the road at Bergen Catholic High School, Ridgewood's long-time athletics rival. Here's to another year of showdowns for these two Mules!

#### 1992

Trina A. Poretta, CFC ranalli8@comcast.net

#### 1993

Jill M. Poretta, CFC jporetta@cozen.com

**Rus Racine** recently received an AV<sup>®</sup> Rating from Martindale–Hubbell. The Martindale– Hubbell AV<sup>®</sup> Rating is a peer review rating system designed to reflect an attorney's ethical standards and professional ability.

#### 1994

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

#### 1996

Melissa G. Daniels, CFC mrs1daniels@yahoo.com

Mikel D. Daniels, CFC drmdaniels@gmail.com

#### 1997

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

Master illusionist David Caserta appeared on the hit television show "Penn & Teller: Fool Us" in July on The CW network. • Louis Crivelli was elected Chairman of the Board of the Maryland Chiropractic Association. He served as President of the association from 2013-2015 and was voted Chiropractor of the Year for 2016. He also serves as the Maryland delegate for the American Chiropractic Association and the Secretary of the Council on Chiropractic Guidelines and Practice Parameters. He has been practicing in Maryland since 2002. • Louis Schroeter obtained an MBA with a concentration in health care management from Saint Leo University.

#### 1998

Joshua A. Lindland, CFC joshua.lindland@gmail.com Brian Dunfee, interventional radiologist, opened the Interventional and Vascular Center in Melbourne, Fla.

#### 1999

Matthew R. Sordoni, CFC matthewsordoni@sordoni.com

**Benjamin David** is proud to announce the publication of "Seven Days, Many Voices," an

anthology of responses to the story of creation, published by the CCAR Press. He is the Senior Rabbi of Adath Emanu–El in Mt Laurel, N.J. He and his wife, Lisa, have three children. • **Chris Rigg** joined Deutsche Bank in January 2017 as a director and equity research analyst covering the healthcare facilities and managed care sector. Prior to joining Deutsche Bank, Rigg was a senior managed care and healthcare facilities analyst at Susquehanna Financial Group and was named one of Institutional Investor's "Rising Stars of Wall Street." Rigg earned his MBA from New York University. He is based in New York.

#### 2000

Drew J. Bitterman, CFC drewbitterman@gmail.com

**Madhavi Sabnis** and her husband Chaitanya welcomed Reyansh Chaitanya on May 15, 2017.

#### 2001

Christopher A. Lee, CFC christopher\_a\_lee@hotmail.com

Aileen Chumard Fuchs was named CEO of Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden in Staten Island, N.Y. • Marcus Mattielli and wife **Stephanie** have two children, Sophia, 8, and Louis, 6.

#### 2002

Adam Marles, CFC amarles@phoebe.org

#### 2003

Jen Dary, RC dary.jennifer@gmail.com

Dana Iannuzzi, RC yannuzz23@yahoo.com

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

Dana lannuzzi spoke with Muhlenberg theatre majors about the business of acting and what to expect after graduation. The talk was part of the five-week Summer Conservatory program at The Larry Singer Studios in New York City. • Jeanette Triano Sinn was named executive director of Servants to All in Pottsville, Pa.

#### 2004

Robyn M. Duda, CFC robynmduda@gmail.com

**Amy Romm** and **Brian Lockard** were married at The Merion in Cinnaminson, N.J. on July 9, 2016. Alumni in attendance included **Mike**  Driscoll '02, Nicole (Sarno) Driscoll '04, Laura (Friant) Dugan '05, Christy (Barnes) DeFiori '04, Elizabeth Einhorn '05, Emily Holod Spatz '04, Lauren (Jacobs) Miscioscia '04, Jennifer (Blatstein) Langley '04, Regina (Simone) Meehan '04 and Shira Roemer Greenbaum '05. The wedding photographer was Sandor Welsh '92.

#### 2005

Chelsea Gomez Starkowski, CFC CHELSEAGOMEZ@allstate.com

Frank Pepe recently had his third child, Austin Jay Pepe. Austin was baptized with godmother Katherine (Barboza) Salerno '03. Also in attendance was Joseph Salerno '03. • Beth (Slakoff) McDonnell and husband Matthew welcomed their daughter, Claire Ivy McDonnell, to the world on April 10, 2017.

#### 2006

Elizabeth R. (Hamilton) Marrero, CFC elizabethrmarrero@gmail.com

**Jason Finkelstein** and his wife, Christina, celebrated the birth of their second daughter, Maya, on July 26, 2017.

#### 2007

Jason M. Bonder, CFC jmbonder@gmail.com

Courtney (Roosa) Marsallo, CFC courtney.marsallo@gmail.com

Lauren Carballo was married to Bryant Michels. • Anna Cosgrove graduated with her doctorate in audiology in May of 2017 from Montclair State University. • Lindsay (Hatchey) and Eric Wolfer welcomed their baby girl, Annabelle Carly, on May 26, 2017. • Lisa (Gingold) and Daniel Tune welcomed their daughter, Hayley Adalyn, on October 13, 2016. • Alexandra (Raymond) Schulman and husband Rory welcomed son, Evan Randy, on May 22, 2017. He weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz., and was 19.75 in. long. • Allison Rischall and husband Jonathan had a daughter, Eliana Lily, on May 20, 2017. She weighed 7 lbs., 10 oz. and was 19.3 in. long. • Chris Scheer's theatre company brought Gruff!, a puppet eco-musical, to New York City this past spring. The production employed three Muhlenberg grads. The script originally premiered at Muhlenberg Summer Music Theatre. It is a family-friendly reinvention of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" that calls audiences to action in the fight against climate change.



#### 2008

Allison Klein, CCC allisonmichelleklein@gmail.com

Kristel R. Dow, CFC kristeldow@gmail.com

Allie C. Schnall Keller, CFC allieschnallkeller@gmail.com

Maura Hendsey and Jason Schunkewitz '14 work together at Quintig and took a tour of a pork plant in North Carolina. • Allie Schnall and Jon Keller were married on July 8, 2017, at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in Hampton, N.J. Alumni present included Hal Rose '80, Rebecca Kaesmeyer Kazal '83, Louis Kazal '80, Stuart Schnall '80, Wendy Schwab Schnall '78, Lauren Gurwicz Kratchman '08, Meredith Hamson Frankel '04, Alexia Evanovich Rose '82, Steve Rose '79, Sam Zucker '80, Duane Sossong '80, Lynn Boyle '08, Jeff Wiseman '80, Gary Kolber '08, Christina Harkness '08, Jenna Krauter '08, Barbara Longacre Wiseman '80, Matt Horn '09, Lisa Harrison Horn '08, Cathy Ryan Warner '81, Gwen Rover '08 and Brian Warner '80. • Lindsay Stackhouse of Exeter, Pa. married William McCabe on August 5, 2017.

#### 2009

Brittany A. (Barton) Bloss, CFC brittanyabarton@gmail.com

Sarah and Scott Ellis '08 celebrated the birth of their son, Colin Robert, on July 12, 2017, weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. and measuring 18 in. • Insley Fowler was featured in a December New York Times article along with CNN anchor, Jake Tapper. • Tina (Vergos) Bruno and husband Joe welcomed their first child, Joseph Rocco Bruno, Jr. (Joey) on June 13, 2017. • Christina (Wendlek) McKean and husband Patrick of Woodstock, Ga., welcomed their baby girl, Madeline Rose, on December 21, 2016. Madeline weighed 7 lbs., 9 oz. and was 20 in. long. • Jonathan Nelson's documentary "I Lived" premiered at the 2017 TriBeCa Film Fest. • Adam Roth was married to Melissa Crowe. Alumni present were Tim Letso, Matt Fash, Steve Tabb and Andrew Martin.

#### 2010

Jessica Davis, CFC jessdavis1@gmail.com

Jonathan Falk, CFC jfalk715@gmail.com

Alysea McDonald, CFC alysea.mcdonald@gmail.com

Ashley (Kendig) and Jonathan Leonardi had fraternal twin boys, Brayden Cole and Christian Anthony, on April 4, 2017. Older brother Brayden arrived at 2:45 p.m. and weighed 5 lbs. 2 oz. Christian arrived just one minute later at 2:46 pm and weighed 6 lbs. 8 oz. • Sara Bombaski and Adam Martos '11 were married in April 2016.

#### 2011

Amy Venuto, CCC amyevenuto@gmail.com

Catherine S. Schwartz, CFC c.schwartz89@gmail.com

On October 2, 2016, **Megan O'Leary** married James F. Clarkin IV in Philadelphia, Pa. The two met while attending graduate school for city and regional planning and thoroughly enjoyed their reception, which was held in an adaptive reuse along the Delaware River waterfront.

#### 2012

Lisa M. Peterson, CFC lisapetey27@gmail.com

Elisa Colasanti married Benjamin Dornfeld. Alumni in attendance were Corey Winkler, Danielle Seife, Mollie Lieblich '11, Michelle Heckman, Amanda Gavin, Zach Adler, Andrea Ladr and Rebecca Romano '14. • Whitney Ellis and Jon Blau were married.

#### 2013

Nina E. Pongratz, CFC nepongratz@gmail.com

Nashalys K. Rodriguez, CFC nashkrod@qmail.com

James Patefield and Mackenzie O'Connor were engaged in May. • Andrea Johnston and Alexander Levin '14 were married on May 28, 2017.

#### 2014

Megan Lentz, CCC lentz.e.megan@gmail.com

Gabrielle Aboodi, CFC gabrielleaboodi@gmail.com

Michael R. Schramm, CFC michael.schramm14@gmail.com

**Matthew Grossman** graduated from Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law in Philadelphia with a Juris Doctor degree and received the Faculty Award for Academic Success as a Law Student. Matthew will be clerking for the Hon. Maureen Mantineo, presiding family law judge, Superior Court of N.J., Hudson County. He was President of both the Jewish Law Students Association and Family Law Society, a member of the Board of Overseers of the Jewish Graduate Student Network of greater Philadelphia and a student volunteer for Philadelphia Legal Assistance.

#### 2015

Holly M. Hynson, CFC holly.hynson2@gmail.com

#### 2016

Sarah A. Cromwell, CFC scrom94@gmail.com Atlas Circus Company, founded at Muhlenberg by **Noah Dach** and **Henry Evans**, mounted two productions this summer. The company performed "WILD!" as part of Muhlenberg's 2017 Summer Music Theatre and "Lucky" in New York City. Classmate **Tommy McCarthy** was featured in both productions.

#### 2017

Sadie Katz, CFC sadiekatz4@gmail.com Loren Sass, CFC lsass94@gmail.com

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

#### 1942

Frank J. Peck died on July 15, 2017, at the age of 101. His grandson Christopher and his daughter-in-law Patricia survive him. He was preceded in death by his brother and sister Aton and Anne, wife Elizabeth and son Barry.
B. Franklin Levy passed away on August 27, 2017, at age 96. He is survived by his brother Paul E. Levy, his son Warren M. Levy and his wife Flora, his daughter C. Erica Feigley and her husband Donald as well as six grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Benjamin F. Levy Jr., and two sisters, Ethel Hafler and Kathryn Stump.

#### 1944

Frederick H. Johnson, Jr. passed away on August 31, 2017. • Dr. Mark Samuel Reed died on June 11, 2017. He is survived by his wife Marcia and children Ellen, Joan, Lisa and Douglas. His 10 grandchildren and 12 greatgrandchildren also survive him. Mark was predeceased by his sister LaRue Reed Billig, brother Wayne Reed and grandson Andrew Mark Gobel. • Carman E. Santor passed away on July 24, 2017. Survivors include his children, Lynn O'Brien and her husband Christopher, Bryan and his wife Tracey, Cathy Merrill and her husband Hardy, Susan, Beth Stevens and her husband Brian and Margot and her companion Maurice. Carman was also survived by his brother and sister, Marjorie Connors and Thomas Santor, as well as his seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Margaret McCusker Santor.

#### 1945

Jay R. "Dick" Stauffer passed away on August 5, 2017. Dick is survived by his two sons, Jay R. Stauffer Jr. and his wife Dixie and Timothy B. Stauffer and his husband Lamont O'Neal. Also surviving are his two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Dick was preceded in death by his parents, wife and brother.

#### 1946

Ellis B. Delp passed away on June 7, 2017.

#### 1948

**Dr. Herbert L. Needleman** died on July 18, 2017. He is survived by his wife Roberta; his three children Samuel, Joshua with spouse Yael and Sara Kline with spouse Stephen; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

# The Rev. Dr. Harold S. Weiss '52

One of the highest compliments that can be paid at **The Rev. Dr. Harold S. Weiss '52**, who died at age 86, is that it's hard to decide how to define him. He was, to be sure, an inspiring minister, who served as pastor of Lutheran churches in Toms River, N.J. and Fleetwood, Pa. He was a high-ranking member of the Lutheran establishment, having served as assistant to the bishop of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod and then as bishop, an office to which he was reelected when the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was formed in 1987 and elected for a third term in 1991.





member of the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees, and as an interim director of the Institute for Jewish–Christian Understanding, an organization he helped found. His work at the College earned him an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree in 1978. And he was a notable figure in the community, too, a member of the board of the Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network, which in 2010 presented him with its Raker Memorial Award.

Vocalist? He had that covered. He and his wife of 62 years, Mary Anne, who survives him, were enthusiastic members of the choir at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Gardening? Bishop Weiss grew up on the family farm in Boyertown, and he relished gardening his entire life.

Through it all, what most distinguished Bishop Weiss, says one of his friends and Lutheran colleagues, was his ability to be both pragmatic and inspirational.

"One of his gifts was to see and pay attention to the concrete and specific such as governance and constitutional matters," says Nelvin Vos, emeritus professor of English, "and at the same time to be articulate about the larger dimensions of vision and mission of the organization. He wasn't fussy about it, but he knew parliamentary procedure and governance and constitutions, and he could be a bear about it. But he had a kind of wit and good humor about it. He was always pastorly."

Bishop Weiss's gifts were widely recognized. In addition to the honorary degree from his alma mater and the service award from Good Shepherd, he was presented with the Alumni/Alumnae Award for Distinguished Service from the Lutheran Theological Seminary, and the same organization gave him and Mary Anne the Soli Deo Gloria Award in recognition of decades of service to the church and the seminary. He was also named Bishop Emeritus by the Synod in 1996.

"Whatever he did, he always had a larger vision in mind," says Vos. "He will be missed by so many in so many ways."

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

#### 1949

Dr. Charles William Brown passed away on April 26, 2017. He is survived by his wife, Winifred Brown and their four children: Sheryl, George, Elizabeth and William. Also surviving are his 10 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his sister Elizabeth Carpenter. • Dr. Lloyd E. Eslinger passed away on October 3, 2015. He is survived by his wife Doris (Bogusko) Eslinger, as well as his nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. • Dr. Arthur Lloyd Feldman passed away September 25, 2017. Survivors include sons James, Andrew '77 and Thomas and daughter Lisa. He is also survived by nine grandchildren. • Richard Hermany passed away on February 1, 2017. • Richard A. Mattern died on May 19, 2017. Survivors include his daughter Cheryl A. Sullenberger and three grandsons. Richard was predeceased by his son Scott K. Mattern and his wife Ruth M. Stosh.

#### 1950

Earl W. "Buddy" Lichtenwalner passed away on May 23, 2017. He is survived by his son David Lichtenwalner and wife Debra, his daughter Susan L. Biondi and husband Wade, four grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. • Leo J. Martini Jr. passed away November 2, 2016. • Kenneth A. Mastron passed away March 6, 2017. • Rev. Frederick Mold, Jr. died on June 6, 2017. He is survived by his wife Doris, son David and wife Rebecca and daughter Lynne Mold-Haynes and husband Keith. • Donald Richard Myrus died on April 26, 2016. He is survived by his wife Joyce, son Richard and wife Alison, son Noah and wife Holly and four grandchildren. Donald is also survived by a brother and two sisters.

#### 1951

Marvin E. Berger passed away on September 29, 2017. He is survived by his former wife, Doris Lorraine Berger P'75 '82; sons Steven Earl Berger '75 with wife Cathy, David Berger and Todd C. Berger with wife Rebecca; daughters Lauren K. Dietz with husband John and Lisa A. Jones '82 with husband William; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. • Dr. James Robert Williams, known by his friends as "Bob," passed away on September 9, 2017. He is survived by his children, Dr. James R Williams Jr. with spouse Michelle Casario, Gerald C. Williams with spouse Margo Mooney, Katherine Williams with spouse Celestin Joseph, Debra Edmonds with spouse Roy and Bruce L. Williams with spouse Gretchen Coriales, as well as 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

#### 1952

Martin Joseph (Joe) Bayly, Jr. died on June 6, 2017. Joe is survived by his wife, Katherine (Kay) Miller Bayly, and children Mary with spouse Craig Skevington, Bonnie Bayly, Joy Wiley, Gregory Bayly and Carol with spouse Jeff O'Keefe. He is also survived by six grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews and extended relatives. • Col. Kenneth "Ken" Beers M.D. passed away on September 20, 2017. He is survived by his wife Cecil Mae; children Kenneth Jr. with wife Gretchen, Richard with wife Debbie, Jeffrey and Heather Klepitsch with husband David; stepchildren Sharon Mutter, Dane Mutter, Jr. with wife Joyce, David Mutter, Denis Mutter with wife Melissa; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and one greatgreat-granddaughter. • Dr. Richard "Dick" J. Thomas died on October 4, 2017. He is survived by Claire, his wife of 64 years, his son Peter with wife Deborah and his daughter Leslie with husband Jagdish Sabarad. He leaves his sister Jean Schultz and her husband Allen. He was predeceased by his brother Edgar and his wife Betty. He is also survived by his grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and dear friends. • Rev. Harold S. Weiss passed away on July 15, 2017. He is survived by his wife Mary Anne (Body) Weiss; two daughters, Rebecca with husband Thomas Bergman and Elizabeth with husband Guy Smith; and eight grandchildren. Rev. Weiss is also survived by his brother Gerald, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. See more on page 27.

#### 1953

Henry August "Hank" Folkman died on September 30, 2015. He is survived by his children, Donna Folkman Sibits and husband Dave, Marjorie Folkman Gearhart, Ron Folkman and wife Michelle, Ken Folkman and wife Debi and Carl Folkman and wife Ellen. He is also survived by 13 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife Setti. • John Mirenna passed away on May 12, 2017. John was a member of the United States Air Force and enjoyed a successful career in sales for many years.

#### 1954

**Benjamin Fierro, Jr.** died on December 28, 2015. He was predeceased by wife Josephine

(Rinaldi) Fierro, his parents Beniamino and Olmitella and his brother, Dominick Anthony. He was the loving father of Benjamin Fierro, D.M.D. and wife Annette and Jacqueline Cocchiola and husband Glenn. He is also survived by his six grandchildren. • John E Gallina Sr. passed away on June 17, 2017. He is survived by his wife Dolores; sons Kevin, Steven, Jeffrey and John; and six grandchildren.

#### 1955

The Reverend Lee E. Angstadt passed away September 20, 2017. He was the husband of Shirley A. (McNabb) Angstadt. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his sons, Glenn with wife Lynne and David, his daughters Lisa with husband George Schmidt, III and Amy, his 10 grandchildren and his nine greatgrandchildren. He was preceded in death by his brother Gene A. Angstadt. • Lee T. Hoffman passed away on August 13, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Lorraine L. Hoffman, sons Mitch Bast and Gary Bast, daughter Shelley Picciano and his four grandchildren. • Rev. Dr. Arvids Ziedonis Jr. died June 26, 2017. He was a professor at Muhlenberg College who created the Russian studies program and taught language, literature and religion. His survivors include his children Dr. Douglas M. Ziedonis and wife Patrice, Rev. Dr. Ruth S. Ziedonis and Eric A. Ziedonis, sister Ilga Ziedonis-Johnson and two grandchildren. See more on page 30.

#### 1956

Pastor William Paul Robbins passed away on May 3, 2015. He was married to the former Shirley Pearl Trefsger, who survives. He is also survived by his children Deborah, Mark, Daniel, Joy, Jonathan, Sharon, Houser and Julie; 16 grandchildren; and 23 greatgrandchildren. He is also survived by sisters Elaine Dietz, Gloria Beishline and Kay Shutt. William was preceded in death by two brothers, John C. Robbins Jr. and Robert E. Robbins. • **Rev. Dr. E. Werner Weinreich** died on July 2, 2017. He is predeceased by his wife Vicki M. Zollner, and survived by his sons Peter and John.

#### 1957

George C. Goldenbaum passed away on May 20, 2017. Survivors include his wife Susan McClean; his children Anna Trifiletti and husband Lawrence, Lynn Marino and husband Miguel and Andrew Goldenbaum; and his five grandchildren. • Jack C. Stone passed away on October 12, 2017. Jack is predeceased by his parents and his sons Michael and Timothy

# Kenneth Butler, Executive Assistant to the President and the Board of Trustees



Kenneth Butler, executive assistant to the President and the Board of Trustees, passed away on October 24, 2017, after a struggle with cancer.

Butler joined the Muhlenberg staff in 1993, first serving as administrative assistant in what was then the drama and speech department. He was promoted to administrative coordinator in the theatre & dance department in 1999. Butler also served frequently as musical director and conductor for musical theatre productions and for Muhlenberg Summer Music Theatre.

In 2003, Butler became the executive assistant to the President. As the responsibilities of his position grew, Butler's title became executive assistant to the President and the Board of Trustees in 2014.

Beyond his professional roles and contributions to the Muhlenberg community, Butler is remembered as a friend, mentor and advocate.

Butler was born in Henderson, Ky. He earned a B.A. in music from Union University in Jackson, Tenn. He is survived by his husband, Edgar A. DuPont, and countless family members and friends. A celebration of Butler's life was held in the Paul C. Empie Theatre on November 12. "Ken transcended any role he was assigned, personally or professionally. While he was never a professor or formally employed as an educator through the College, he taught countless students not only about music and art, but about life," said Robert Grobman '99. "To so many students he was more than simply a mentor, and to so many faculty and staff members he was more than just an assistant. Many of us will miss his laugh, his love and his tireless support of the College community."

"Ken was a friend, a major LGBT donor in the Lehigh Valley and someone I deeply respected," said Adrian Shanker '09, founder & executive director of Bradbury–Sullivan LGBT Community Center. "As a student, I got to know him when I led an effort to add gender identity to Muhlenberg's non–discrimination policy. In 2014, after announcing our vision for an LGBT community center, he and his husband, Edgar, were among the first of our Founding Donors—and they continued as major donors each year. I'll be thinking a lot about Ken, Edgar and their impact on our community. Ken was a quiet activist and an even quieter donor. Nothing he did for the community was ever about him. It was always about what he believed our community could be."

"Ken was my boss and mentor at Muhlenberg, he was my friend shortly after I graduated and in the last few years he became part of my family," said Dana Iannuzzi '03. "I've come to realize, especially since losing Ken, that there are going to be moments that test your resilience. You will have to make the hard choices. Someone will take the time to listen to your decision-making, even when they, themselves, are going through the fight of their life, and they will tell you are a good person and you're doing the right thing. That is who Ken was for me and so many others."

"Ken was truly outstanding in his role in the President's Office at Muhlenberg College," said President John I. Williams, Jr. "He was a tremendous support and guided my entry to Muhlenberg. The Board and I relied extensively on his wide-ranging expertise and wise counsel. Ken had a deep appreciation and respect for people and their unique talents and gifts in ways that were extraordinarily helpful as we work to achieve greater diversity and inclusion at Muhlenberg. We miss him deeply."

Stone. Jack is survived by his wife Eva Stone and his daughters Julia Coy and Mary Dryer. He is also survived by many loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

#### 1958

**Robert B. Evans**, a retired colonel in the U.S. Army, died on May 29, 2017. Survivors include his wife, Barbara LaFleur, son John R. Evans and wife Beth, daughter Victoria Evans Adair and husband Kirk, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Robert was predeceased by his first wife, Barbara Pierce Evans, and daughter Judith Evans Boyd. Younis G. Joseph passed away on October 25, 2017. In addition to his wife, Patricia, Younis is survived by his son, Michael Y. Joseph with wife Shannon. Along with his parents, Younis was preceded in death by his sister Ramoz and brother Harvey. • **Ronald L. Moxey** died August 20, 2017. In addition to his wife, Jayne, he is survived by his sons Andrew and Timothy, daughter Beth, brother Richard Moxey, brother-in-law Charles Kuntzleman and wife Beth and six grandchildren.

#### 1959

**Dr. David E. Smith** passed away on January 12, 2017. He is survived by wife Marete and son David. • **Hans Toffer** died September 4,

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

2017. In 2016, he received the Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award. He is survived by his wife of 54 years Nancy, daughter Kristen with husband Peter and their children, son Jon with wife Lorena and sisters Taimi Toffer Anderson '60 and Annika Toffer Weber '65 and their families, as well as the family of his late sister Kristina von Rosenvinge '61.

#### 1960

Richard Jocelyn Anderson died August 31, 2017. He is survived by daughter Holly and son Christopher with wife Kimberly and their children Mallory and Tanner. • Robert W. "Bob" Hartje, Sr. passed away on May 25, 2017. He is survived by his beloved wife Evangeline (Angie); son Robert W. Hartje, Jr. and wife Michele; stepdaughters Jean Jacobs with husband Randy Bothwell and Pamela Short with husband William; and four grandchildren. • Ivan S. Snyder passed away on March 26, 2017.

#### 1961

Diana (Currey) Brobst passed away on September 26, 2016. Beloved wife of the late William C. Brobst '60 and devoted mother of Stefanie A. Brobst, Diana is also survived by her cousin William Miller. • Jerome Torrence Maddock passed away on September 22, 2017. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Karen Rhueama Maddock, and his brother Charles with wife Dorothy. He was predeceased by his brother, Richard C. Maddock, Jr. • Helen F. Schechter passed away on November 11, 2014.

## The Reverend Dr. Arvids Ziedonis, Jr. '55

The **Reverend Dr. Arvids Ziedonis, Jr.** died June 26, 2017. A native of Latvia, Ziedonis was a 1955 graduate of Muhlenberg College. He was ordained by the Philadelphia Theological Seminary and earned a Ph.D. from Temple University.

In addition to his 59 years of ordained ministry, Ziedonis—fondly known as "Dr. Z"—is remembered by many former students for his 40 years of teaching at Muhlenberg College.

Ziedonis came to Muhlenberg in

1962, where he created the Russian studies program and taught language, literature and religion.

He was a pioneer of global teaching and was known for taking students to study abroad long before that experience was a common occurrence. Almost every year he took approximately 40 students and faculty to the former Soviet Union during summer (and sometimes winter) break, visiting locales such as Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Riga and more.

When news of Ziedonis' death spread throughout the Muhlenberg community, countless alumni expressed their sadness at his passing and shared the influence he had on their lives. He is remembered as a dedicated teacher and a kind, caring person.

He was an outstanding professor, mentor and friend who made a profound impact on the lives of many students. Countless alumni said that Dr. Z was their favorite professor. While some noted that he introduced them to a favorite work of literature or poem, others said that they still utilize his wisdom in family and



Ziedonis with his daughter, Rev. Dr. Ruth S. Ziedonis '84

professional situations to this day. Undoubtedly, he will be missed by all.

Ziedonis is also well remembered by colleagues and friends. In his eulogy, Albert Kipa, who taught at Muhlenberg with Ziedonis for years, said:

"Arvids is perhaps best characterized as an exceptional, multi-talented human being: a loving, responsible family man; a devoted pastor and professor with

a flair for exuberance and compassion; an admirer of creative beauty in art, literature and music; a naturalized American citizen and scholar cognizant of his Latvian roots who believed in the goodness of people, the importance of love and truth, but was not worried about being perfect. His spirit was truly simple, life- and fun-loving devotion. And, he was a loyal and true alumnus of Muhlenberg College, which had offered him the opportunity of a lifetime—achievement of his American dream."

Ziedonis was predeceased by his wife Zigrida M. Ziedonis and his brother Janis G. Ziedonis '59. He is survived by his children Dr. Douglas M. Ziedonis, Rev. Dr. Ruth S. Ziedonis '84 and Eric A. Ziedonis, as well as his sister Ilga Ziedonis-Johnson.

The family hopes to dedicate a stained glass window in his honor and appreciates gifts supporting this effort. Contact Deb Kipp P'04, P'06, senior associate vice president for development, at debkipp@muhlenberg.edu or 484-664-3223 to discuss giving in Dr. Z's honor.

#### 1962

**Rebecca Ann (Mullen) Geesey** died on November 10, 2015. In addition to her husband, Rebecca is survived by her daughter Ellen Dean with husband Bruce, her son Dorgon with wife Yolanda, four grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. She was preceded in death by her daughter Robin, her sister Grace Mullen and her parents Hopwood and Rebecca Mullin.

#### 1963

**Sandra L. Henkel** passed away June 8, 2017. She is survived by her husband Jon Henkel and his sons Jonny with wife Karel and Scott with wife Chaya. She is also survived by her son Andrew and wife Laurie Kunz, 10 grandchildren, her siblings and numerous nieces and nephews.

#### 1964

**Robert E. Thilo** passed away on May 8, 2017. Bob is survived by his children, Sheri with spouse Dave, Amanda with spouse Terry and Michael with spouse Valorie. He is also survived by his sister Martha with husband Mike, his brother Peter with wife Peg, four grandsons and eight nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents Edward and Nancy.

#### 1965

Karen (Heisler) Good died October 15, 2017. She is survived by her son Brian with wife Erin Dean, her sister, Linda Heisler Love with husband James, her niece, Dr. Kathleen Love with husband Dr. Mark J. Johnson, her nephew, Patrick with wife Jennifer and her beloved dog Duffy. Karen was predeceased by her brother, John Edward Heisler. • Richard (Dick) Eugene Gysberts passed away on August 30, 2017. Richard is survived by three daughters Kimberli Gysberts, Kathryn Delmar with husband Daniel and Cody Elkins with husband Chris, five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, two sisters, a brother and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Richard was preceded in death by his wife, Linda Gysberts. • Suzanne S. Kratzer died August 22, 2017. She is survived by her aunt Lorraine Schappel, loving cousins, her beloved Beddington Terrier, Frosty, and numerous friends who were like family. Former Pa. State Senator Rev. Guy M. Kratzer predeceases her.

#### 1966

Mary Jane Kramer passed away July 1, 2017.

Mary Jane is survived by a brother, Paul Clinton Kramer, and several nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her sister, Ruthanne Hartung. • Alan E. Kravitz passed away on January 29, 2017. He was the beloved husband of Marilyn, loving father of William B. and David S. Kravitz, dear brother of Jill Sacks with husband Tom and brotherin-law of Charles and Marjie Isroff.

#### 1968

**Dorothy Robohm Brownley** passed away on May 18, 2017. She will be dearly missed by husband John, sons Chris and David, three grandchildren and two brothers, John and her twin, Donald Robohm. She was predeceased by one brother, Peter Robohm. • **Paulette Toppin Schiff** passed away on September 17, 2016.

#### 1969

**Rev. Roger W. Spencer** passed away on May 23, 2017. He is survived by his wife, Patricia '69, and his children Courtney and Shayne.

#### 1971

John P. Hunsberger passed away on September 26, 2017. He was preceded in death by parents Joseph E. and Mary and brothers Charles and Herbert. John is survived by five children, Linda, John Jr., Gail, Scot and Mark, nine grandchildren, many great– grandchildren, his brother Joseph and his sister Grace.

#### 1972

**Donna Portlock** passed away on January 1, 2016.

#### 1974

**Marty Boughey**, beloved wife of James D. Boughey, passed away on May 21, 2017. She is survived by her two stepchildren Lindsay and Conor Boughey and their young children, her older brother Anton and his wife Elizabeth Bodor, her two nephews, her uncle Lindsay H. Rush and her cousin Lindsay Rush and his wife Lisa.

#### 1977

John Lupton Van Kirk, beloved husband of Wendy Van Nieuwenhuyze Van Kirk, passed away peacefully on October 7, 2017. In addition to his wife, survivors include his two loving daughters, Lindsay Van Kirk with husband Nathan Graham and Aubrey Van Kirk, sister Carol Van Kirk and niece Rachel Wright with husband Scott and daughter Mary.

#### 1980

**Dr. R. Jeffrey Balla**, passed away on June 1, 2017. Jeff is survived by his sister, Jane Walker and husband David, four nieces and nephews, and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

#### 1982

**Michael Gerard Mazzeo** passed away October 11, 2017. He was the cherished son of Jean and Mike; loving brother to Joseph and Jeanette, godfather to niece Kristina and devoted, longtime friend to Chris Plummer. He was adored by his many aunts, uncles and cousins.

#### 1987

**Robert Edgar Brong II** passed away on July 1, 2017, surrounded by his wife, family and friends. In addition to his wife, Robert is survived by his sister, Lois, sons Robert and Kevin and two grandchildren.

#### 1997

**Dudley "Doug" C. Jinks**, died on July 2, 2017. Doug is survived by his wife of 36 years, Carol Jinks; daughter Deena K. Beard with husband William; son Jonathan with spouse Suzanne Jinks; and son Daniel Jinks. He is survived by his mother, Janet Shoup; brothers Albert Jinks with wife Patricia and Roger Jinks with wife Kathleen; and sister Jeanette Downing with husband Jeff. He was preceded in death by his father, Dudley C. Jinks, Sr.

#### 1999

Linda Dieterly passed away unexpectedly on October 12, 2017. Survivors include sisters Mary Lou Hughes and Joanne Dieterly, brother David Dieterly with wife Lois, sisterin-law Julie Dieterly and nieces and nephews. Linda was predeceased by her brother Stanley.

#### 2011

Brian Thomson passed away on June 7, 2017.

#### 2015

**Alma M. Rozier** passed away on June 8, 2017. Alma is survived by daughter Tammie T. Rozier and son SGM (ret.) Daniel Murphy. Alma is also survived by two sisters, Elsie with husband Butch Blackwell and Charlotte Blackwell, brother Pike with wife Rose Murphy and five grandchildren.



# Mike Donnelly Head Football Coach

Jason Brader '99 remembers football coach Mike Donnelly, who lost his battle with leukemia on October 4, 2017.

I remember the first time I met Coach Mike "Duke" Donnelly. I was a 20-yearold junior-college player at a crossroads in my life. It was already April, I hadn't committed to a college yet and time was running out.

My former high-school coach had signed on to coach running backs at Muhlenberg College and had contacted me to swing by when I came home over a long weekend from Lackawanna College.

When I arrived on campus, I was led into the Life Sports Center, and I remember walking up the stairwell next to the gymnasium. The building was anything but impressive. I wanted to shake hands and make a quick exit so I could get back home and meet up with a few friends.

When I got to the top of the stairs, Coach Donnelly greeted me and led me into his office. After we shook hands and sat down, the first thing that came out of his mouth was, "Our team stinks!" This took me by surprise because I had been on several recruiting visits and the coaches typically didn't begin their sales pitches by telling me how bad their teams were.

If you know Duke, though, he was anything but typical. He proceeded to tell me that he had watched my game film and that if I were to attend the college, I would be part of the biggest turnaround in school history. I would be the first juniorcollege transfer to play football at the College and would open doors for other players who were in similar situations.

At the time I thought he was nuts, because the program I was looking at won probably five games in the previous five years. Even though I thought he was off his rocker, there was something about Coach that I liked. He was a straight-shooter and had an intensity level that matched mine. He had a piercing gaze that seemed like he was looking into my soul, and he could see what I couldn't see in myself yet and could bring it out of me.

After our meeting, I decided I was going to give him and Muhlenberg a shot. It is probably the best decision I ever made.

The life lessons I learned from Coach are too numerous to count, but the one that has always stuck out for me is, "Find a way to win." I use that saying almost every day in my personal life and my work as a coach. I remember contemplating dropping out because I was struggling in one of my classes that I needed to pass in order to earn my degree. I could have taken the easy way out and packed my bags, but I could hear Duke in my ear telling me, "Brader, find a way to win. Dig in and make a play."

Whether it was on the field or in my everyday life, he taught me to always give my best and pay attention to the little details, because the little details will make a big deal in my performance.

My first game at Muhlenberg, I rushed for 23 yards. I went into his office the next morning and told him I didn't sign on to get my ass kicked. I was a recordsetting running back at Lackawanna and took a hit to my ego after the poor performance.

He told me to keep my head up, that the next game I would put it all together and to have faith in the process. I did just that and finished the season seventh in the NCAA in rushing yards. I was named the ECAC rookie of the year and first-team All-Centennial Conference.

Even though we finished 1-9, our offense was ranked first in the league, and we laid the foundation for the future. The following season we finished 5-5 and beat our rival Moravian for the first time in years. It was an outstanding season and I will remember it for the rest of my life—not only for the great football games but for the time I had with my teammates and the coaches. It was awesome considering I was doing something my parents and brother never had the opportunity to do: Go to college, earn a degree and set the stage for the beautiful life I have now.

I have been fortunate to have my wife Alyson, daughters Alexis and Gabriella and son JJ. I can throw around with my children and teach them the lessons Duke taught me on and off the football field. Some of these lessons are:

- 1. Life isn't easy, and don't expect anyone to hand you anything. When the times get tough, "Dig in."
- 2. Circle the wagon.
- 3. Pay attention to detail, because the details make a big difference.
- 4. Treat people with respect and dignity because that's the right thing to do.
- **5.** It isn't where you're from; it's where you're going. Make everything you do and every day count.
- **6.** Be a great teammate and citizen. Be a great contributor to a cause bigger than yourself.
- 7. Challenge yourself daily in everything you do, from academics to athletics.
- 8. Be a lifelong learner.
- **9.** Make an impact and be a leader. Pick up the people who are weaker and lead the way.
- 10. Find a way to win!

This spring Coach was diagnosed with leukemia, and it never crossed my mind that he wouldn't beat it. The past few months he fought for his life, while also becoming a big advocate for the Be the Match bone-marrow registry. He always was looking for ways to make an impact on his players and people he didn't even know.

Even though he lost his battle to cancer, his legacy will live on in all those he touched throughout his coaching career. I will remember him as a coach, mentor, father figure and friend for the rest of my life and do my best to pass on everything he taught me.

I love you, Coach, and I wish we could celebrate once again after Homecoming. You will be greatly missed by your former players and coaches and will be remembered for everything you have done to make us the men we are today. Rest in peace, Duke, until we meet again.

Jason Brader was inducted into the Muhlenberg College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011. Following his athletic career, Brader founded FASST, LLC. (Functional Athletic Speed & Strength Training), a nationally recognized athletic performance center.

### LAST WORD

# **Reflections on the Strength of the Muhlenberg Community**

By The Rev. Callista Isabelle

"To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." The author of the biblical book of Ecclesiastes speaks a truth about life at Muhlenberg College. Every semester, every academic year, is a season of sorts, with its ups and downs, its births and deaths, its joys and challenges.

On my very first day as college chaplain in February 2012, we learned of the death of a beloved student at the Wescoe School of Continuing Education at Muhlenberg. After introducing myself to some Wescoe faculty and staff members and before meeting with the peers of the student who died, I was informed that the college chaplain (wow, that's me now) sends an email out to the community when there is a death, birth or adoption in a staff or faculty member's family. Since that day in 2012, I have sent countless emails to the Muhlenberg campus community to share the news that a colleague has given birth to or adopted a new baby, has experienced the death of a close family member or has died. We are a community that celebrates life's joys and struggles together.

Many people speak of a sense of warmth and connection within the Muhlenberg community. The responses to these "In Celebration" and "In Memoriam" emails reflect this. A staff member whose spouse died recently told me that she was overwhelmed by how many people wrote to her upon hearing the news, extending condolences. She said she hardly knew some of these colleagues and was so grateful they had taken the time to write. New parents, too, often receive emails of good wishes from all across campus.

The strength of the Muhlenberg community comes from its connections between people: connections between students and their professors; connections between staff and faculty who collaborate to support student learning; connections between alumni and students seeking internships; connections between football players and the family of their beloved head coach; connections between past, present and future; connections between head and heart, faith and learning.

It has been a joy and a privilege to witness the strength of the Muhlenberg community over the past six years. When Muslim students wanted to celebrate Eid, faculty and staff participated in a lovely dinner and learned more about this important holy day. Protestant students attended Shabbat dinner to learn about their Jewish friends' practices, and the Jewish friends attended Chapel to experience the Protestant community in return. Students from several religious and nonreligious backgrounds took part in the Interfaith Fellows program to develop interfaith leadership skills.

Beyond religious life, I witness signs of a strong Muhlenberg community every day. Students show up to support their peers on the athletic field, on the stage and at musical performances all across campus. They also support each other through stresses and struggles. This fall we had memorial services for three beloved staff members over the course of six weeks, and I watched people support one another in deep sorrow. It has truly been a season of deep grief for many. And it has also been a season of joy. Such is life in a truly interconnected community.

As I prepare to wrap up my time as college chaplain, I am grateful to you, the Muhlenberg community, for welcoming me as your chaplain. As the second Secretary– General of the United Nations Dag Hammarskjöld put it, "For all that has been, thanks. For all that is to come, yes!"

The Rev. Callista Isabelle served as college chaplain from February 2012 until December 2017. She is an ordained pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She received a master of divinity degree from Yale Divinity School and served as associate university chaplain at Yale University prior to coming to Muhlenberg.



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