

Penn College

MAGAZINE



PENN COLLEGE WILDCATS

NEW TURF

Synthetic turf is among the upgrades at the newly dubbed UPMC Field

SEE PAGE 24

Penn College Magazine, a publication of Pennsylvania College of Technology, is dedicated to sharing the educational development, goals and achievements of Penn College students, employees and alumni with one another and with the greater community.

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Lacrosse joins NCAA offerings

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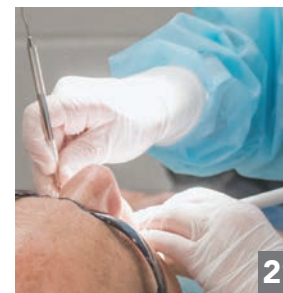
Making a difference with every dish

Rob Wood, '17, is executive chef for the restaurant of a literal rock star. But his inspiration comes from his clients.



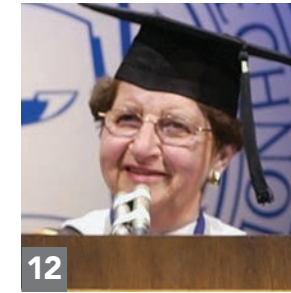
Electron beam welder becomes first

The college's enlarged Lycoming Engines Metal Trades Center is home to an electron beam welder that is the first to be placed in a U.S. college or university.



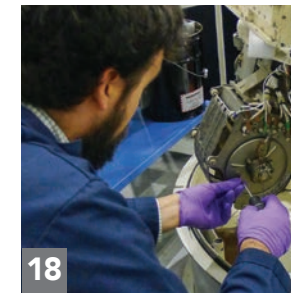
Restoring smiles and lives

Lisa M. Zimmer's resolute spirit has helped her to overcome hurdles, including addiction. Through her senior project, she started a nonprofit to help others.



A reluctant legend

Generations have benefited from the work of former provost Veronica M. Muzic (1936-2019).



Lindbergh's boots and cosmonaut chicken

In a Smithsonian Institution conservation lab, Daniel Ravizza, '14, combines his hands-on skills, meticulous nature and passion for history.

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degrees that work.

ON THE COVER

A revamped athletics field, now dubbed UPMC Field, welcomed guests in the fall. The highlight of the field's updates is a synthetic turf playing surface. See Page 24.

ATTENTION, ALUMNI

Share your story and catch up with classmates online at magazine.pct.edu/cn

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Human services majors add restorative justice focus

Mirroring trends in the field, Penn College has expanded its human services majors to include significant emphasis on restorative justice.

Restorative justice aims to transform communities, schools and criminal justice by repairing the harm caused by crime. Penn College's associate degree and bachelor's degree in human services and restorative justice prepare graduates to provide supportive and preventive services in a range of roles: social services caseworkers, drug and alcohol counselors, youth development specialists, and restorative justice coordinators, as well as probation, parole, police and corrections officers.

Graphic design students receive national honors



The American Advertising Federation awarded a National Student Gold Award to Brandon M. Wolff, left, for his "Trailblaze Chocolate Co. Packaging" and a National Student Silver Award to Jared D. Kosko for his "Rue Morgue Brewing Co. Packaging." In the design industry, the awards are referred to as ADDYs. Both graduated in May.

Students serve 2,000-plus patients in Dental Hygiene Clinic

Dental hygiene students provided dental care to more than 2,000 patients in the college's Dental Hygiene Clinic during the 2018-19 academic year.

The college's state-of-the-art Dental Hygiene Clinic is open to the public and provides low-cost services that include cleanings, exams, X-rays and sealants.

To learn more about services offered – and their costs – visit www.pct.edu/dentalclinic or call 570-327-4500 to schedule an appointment.



GUARANTEED MOMENTUM

Incentive program freezes tuition for baccalaureate students

Baccalaureate students who commit to completing their degrees in four years can freeze their tuition rates as part of the Momentum Incentive Program. Students can opt in for a Fall 2020 start. The program is open to first-time, full-time bachelor-degree students who enroll by May 1, 2020.

To keep their incoming-year tuition rate the same for the remaining three years, students must complete at least 30 credits each academic year and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Learn more at www.pct.edu/momentum.



Student completes coveted research assignment

Nichalus S. Kibler was one of 11 students selected for a National Science Foundation research program devoted to high-performance computing.

Kibler is pursuing bachelor's degrees in both game and simulation programming and information assurance and cyber security.

During the 10-week Research Experience for Undergraduates, Kibler worked on projects with experienced research faculty mentors, developing technical and analytical skill in mathematical modeling, algorithmic development, and parallel and distributed programming.





Manufacturing students to study in Germany

The National Science Foundation reaffirmed its confidence in Penn College's efforts to combat the manufacturing skills gap by providing a supplemental grant to facilitate study abroad in Germany.

The grant will cover the cost of sending 10 Penn College manufacturing students and two faculty members to Germany this summer to receive training at the Eckert International Vocational School and various companies on the cutting edge of computer numerical control and automation technology.



New degrees for Fall 2020

New baccalaureate degrees in **automation engineering technology: mechatronics**, and **automation engineering technology: robotics and automation** help to meet the growing demand for advanced skills in automation.

Students seeking the mechatronics degree will learn the mechanical and electrical aspects of automation.

Robotics and automation students will understand the complex automated systems used in the manufacturing of products.

A Bachelor of Science in **health science** prepares students to enter the workforce in a variety of allied health and health care settings, including, but not limited to, health care administrator, laboratory scientist, public health, health care education, medical research, medical equipment sales and pharmaceutical sales.

An associate degree in **electrical construction** emphasizes electrical construction practices, electrical machinery requirements, circuitry, safety and the National Electrical Code. The new major complements the college's associate degree in electrical technology, which is tailored to the manufacturing and controls side of the field.

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To find more comprehensive versions of the articles in Campus News – and to read other news stories about Penn College – visit PCToday, the college's news-and-information website, at pctoday.pct.edu

SCOOPING UP SKILLS



"Volvo is king in Portugal," said Jonathan G. Vasconcelos as he sat in a Volvo EC220 excavator recently loaned to the college by Volvo Construction Equipment and facilitated by Highway Equipment & Supply Co.

Vasconcelos' family hails from the Azores, a nine-island archipelago off the coast of Portugal. Specifically, his father's side of the family is from Graciosa, and his mother's side is from Terceira.

"I was baptized there, and we've been spending the summers there for the past 23 years (all of his life) in order to see the rest of the family; there's a large portion of us still remaining there," the December graduate said.

Vasconcelos was born in Massachusetts, but his first language was Portuguese. He now resides in New Hampshire, where he returned after earning Penn College associate degrees in the operator and technician emphases of heavy construction equipment technology. The New England states offer abundant year-round work operating equipment for landscaping, construction, logging and snow removal – and Vasconcelos has his work cut out for him with numerous job opportunities to choose from.

"I've been interested in equipment since I was a little boy and was looking for a school to assist me in getting a jump start on the industry," he said. "Most schools I found had a decent program, but only gave a certification or a license at the end of the course or had only a mechanic course or an operator training program.

"Penn College came up in my internet results, and I took the drive from Windham, New Hampshire – that borders Massachusetts – to Williamsport. When I toured the school, I applied that day. The program is so much more well-funded and beyond any other school, that I did not hesitate. I am thoroughly excited to get back to work."

See more "Penn College Family" profiles at family.pct.edu

LACROSSE JOINS NCAA OFFERINGS

by Matt Blymier, assistant director of athletics for compliance and athletics communication

ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING SPORTS in the United States is coming to Penn College.

The college announced in September its plans to boost its men's lacrosse club team to an NCAA Division III sport for Spring 2021.

"We are very excited to elevate our men's lacrosse club team to NCAA Division III level," said Penn College Director of Athletics John D. Vandevere.

"This is going to make a significant impact on our campus and our department, and it will create another great event for our growing fan base of Wildcat Athletics."

The national and regional popularity of lacrosse will allow Penn College to expand its recruiting footprint. Lacrosse is the fastest-growing sport in the country, according to U.S. Lacrosse, boasting a 24% increase in the number of high schools sponsoring the sport since 2012, while the college ranks have had approximately 140 new programs begin since 2014. In Pennsylvania, 205 high schools sponsor lacrosse and are sanctioned by the PIAA, while neighboring states New



York and Maryland combine for approximately 500 high schools that sponsor the sport.

"We are excited about the prospect of adding one of the fastest-growing sports in the U.S., particularly in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, to our intercollegiate athletics portfolio. For years, the lacrosse community has told us that we could readily recruit and field competitive teams," said Penn College President Davie Jane Gilmour. "Success in this high-intensity

sport not only requires endurance, strength and vision, but also demands discipline, strategy and teamwork – characteristics that just so happen to be the hallmarks of a Penn College student."

"And it's fun to watch, too," she added.

Since 2012, Penn College has offered men's lacrosse as a club program, which generally fields a team of 22 players. The intercollegiate program will have a roster size of approximately 35-40 players and will play its home contests on the newly constructed UPMC Field.

Penn College will compete as an NCAA Division III program in the North Eastern Athletic Conference, which consists of 12 institutions in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C. The Wildcats are already members of the NEAC for 12 of their 15 intercollegiate sports. ■

CLASSROOM SUCCESS

Penn College set a school record with 60 student-athletes selected as North Eastern Athletic Conference Scholar-Athletes. The Wildcats finished fifth among the conference's 12 full members and topped their previous mark of 58 selections in 2017-18.

To be selected, a student-athlete competing in a conference-sponsored sport must achieve a combined GPA of 3.4 or higher for the fall and spring semesters and must have been in good standing on his or her team.

Penn College Athletics inducted its inaugural class into Chi Alpha Sigma national college athlete honor society. The honorees comprised 21 student-athletes, representing 15 teams and a GPA of 3.769.

Penn College is a member of the Alpha Iota Chapter of Chi Alpha Sigma, which was officially chartered on Jan. 8, 2019, and joins more than 220 Division I, Division II and Division III colleges and universities, including three NEAC schools, in recognizing elite student-athletes who succeed in their sport and in the classroom.

Student-athletes must be in their junior or senior year with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.4 to be eligible.

NEW SOFTBALL COACH

Angela L. Hunley, formerly an assistant for NCAA Division II Mansfield University, was named head softball coach. As a player, she was a standout catcher for Bucknell University before playing professionally in Sweden.

THIRD IN NEAC PRESIDENTS' CUP

Penn College finished third in the North Eastern Athletic Conference Presidents' Cup. It was the highest finish for the Wildcats since joining the conference in 2014.

The NEAC determines its Presidents' Cup winner by calculating athletics success, as well as academics, sportsmanship and community service.

Penn College won the Senior Woman Administrators' Cup for community service after raising \$4,168, with 2,225 hours of service and 864 total participants. The Wildcats finished second in the Athletics Direct Reports' Cup for sportsmanship.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Penn College reached the North Eastern Athletic Conference semifinals for the fourth consecutive season after compiling an 8-3 conference record (10-9-1 overall). The Wildcats tied a program record with seven All-NEAC selections, as **Dominique Brown** was named to the first team; **Tiffany Brown**, **Francesca Timpone** and **Taylor Gonzales** made the second team; and **Abby Williams**, **Kaelan Cronan** and **Sloane Tressler** were named to the third team.

MEN'S SOCCER

Junior midfielder **Chris McFarland** was named to the All-NEAC second team.

MEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY

Penn College placed in the top five at three meets and ended the year with a fifth-place showing at the North Eastern Athletic Conference championship.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

PENN COLLEGE INDUCTED FOUR NEW MEMBERS

into its Athletics Hall of Fame during Homecoming and Parent & Family Weekend.

The 2019 inductees are Teresa S. Burrill, Zachary J. Buterbaugh, Cody B. Buterbaugh and Christopher P. Brennan.

During the spring seasons in 2003-04 and the fall season in 2004, Burrill dominated on the tennis courts for Penn College. In 2003, Burrill won the Pennsylvania Collegiate Athletic Association No. 1 women's singles championship and was half of the winning doubles entry. In the spring of 2004, she repeated as the PCAA No. 1 singles champ, and that fall

From left: Zachary J. Buterbaugh, Christopher P. Brennan, President Davie Jane Gilmour, Cody B. Buterbaugh and Matt Blymier, assistant director of athletics/sports information director. This year's fourth inductee, Teresa S. Burrill, was absent due to employment in Romania.



she captured the title yet again when the college joined the Commonwealth Campus Athletic Conference.

A center fielder, Zachary Buterbaugh earned three straight Pennsylvania State University Athletic Conference first-team honors from 2012-14. He was named to the United States Collegiate Athletic Association first team in 2014, when he compiled a .442 batting average and ended the season with a 1.46 earned run average and four saves as a relief pitcher.

A four-year starter beginning in 2011, Cody Buterbaugh, a second baseman, was named to the PSUAC first team as a junior. He also won the prestigious conference John S. Egli Scholar-Athlete Award with a perfect 4.0 GPA. Cody repeated on the PSUAC first team his senior season and was a USCAA honorable mention that year.

During the three seasons the Buterbaugh brothers played together on the diamond, from 2012-14, Penn College baseball

teams went a combined 71-42.

Brennan was a four-year starter for the Wildcats men's soccer team from 2010-13 and earned PSUAC first-team honors each season. In addition, he won the conference Newcomer of the Year Award in 2010, when he also was a USCAA honorable mention selection, and he was named the PSUAC Player of the Year in both 2012 and 2013. In 2012, he was a USCAA second-team member, and in 2013, scoring 28 goals and recording 60 points, landed on the USCAA first team. He was named the Penn College Male Athlete of the Year in 2013.

During Brennan's career, Penn College teams went 58-20-3, winning three PSUAC championships from 2010-12, and finished among the top four in 2013. In 2010, the men's soccer team also earned a top four finish in the USCAA, and in 2011 a top-seven finish.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE WITH EVERY DISH

2017 culinary arts and systems graduate Rob Wood is executive chef for the restaurant of a literal rock star, but it's his customers who inspire him.

by Jennifer A. Cline, writer/magazine editor

**HOPE
IS
DELICIOUS**



Watch video of Wood's work at JBJ Soul Kitchen at magazine.pct.edu/md.

FARM TO TABLE TO SOUL

In a small, modern farm-to-table restaurant in central New Jersey, Executive Chef Robert Wood spends a Tuesday morning prepping for the next day's customers: He mixes the marinade for maple-glazed chicken, browns butter for a savory cod dish, prepares a peach cobbler, and blends, tastes, seasons then continues to blend a yellow split pea soup.

The fine, fresh food on his menu could tempt anyone's taste buds. But this chef's relationship with his patrons, his coworkers and his food is unlike the average restaurant chef.

"We're not just feeding the wants," he said. "We're feeding the needs."

Since October 2018, Wood has been running the kitchen – and the dining room – at JBJ Soul Kitchen, a "community restaurant" in Toms River.

Like most restaurants, patrons are waited on at their table and select what they want from the menu. Unlike most restaurants, the menu includes no prices.

"We feed paying customers and food-insecure customers alike," Wood said. "We don't ask questions. We don't check their salary or any of that. They come in. They sit down. We give them an envelope. If they put money in the envelope, it offsets the people who aren't able to put money in the envelope."

JBK Soul Kitchen was founded nine years ago by the Jon Bon Jovi Soul Foundation after the world-famous singer and his wife, Dorothea, visited a restaurant with a similar model. Dorothea was inspired. She envisioned how the JBJ Soul Foundation could build on that model and spearheaded the creation of the Soul Kitchen. The first location opened in Red Bank in 2011.

The Toms River restaurant opened in May 2016 as part of the BEAT Center. BEAT stands for Bringing

"It's not just free food.

... They're helping,
becoming part of
the community.
They're helping us to
stay open, because
without them, we
couldn't exist."



Everyone All Together. The center provides a location for a food pantry, job training and other community services.

HAPPY ARE THE HANDS THAT FEED

Inside the restaurant, Wood, along with a sous chef and a social worker, is one of just three paid staff members.

"We are 90 percent volunteer-run," the 2017 Pennsylvania College of Technology graduate explained.

In fact, 2,000 people volunteer at the two JBJ Soul Kitchen locations. Just like its customers, some are food insecure; others are not. But all share a desire to help the nonprofit restaurant and those who dine there.

Helping others improves a person's outlook. It provides a sense of hope and empowerment. Helping one another builds relationships and bonds communities. Research studies have long proven those facts. Wood sees the proof in the lives of those who join him as volunteers.

"It's not just free food," he said. "They're helping, becoming part of the community. They're helping us to stay open, because without them, we couldn't exist."

About half of the Soul Kitchen's customers pay for their three-course meals. (The suggested donation is \$20.) Forty-six percent earn their meals through volunteering.

"If they don't want to, or they can't,

or they think that they can't, then we don't push it," Wood explained. "We suggest: 'Hey, if you're done eating, if you want to clear your table, that helps us out a long way. If you want to come in a little bit early and help us sweep out the place, that helps us. Or we're getting ready to close, do you mind taking out the trash?' Little things like that kind of help them feel like they're not getting a handout. ... We're empowering them in some sense. They're helping us, and we're helping them, and it's kind of a team effort."

Volunteers can also help by waiting on customers, busing tables, washing dishes or helping at the kitchen's 1-acre organic farm, which provides super-fresh ingredients. Fresh ingredients are also donated by a local family farm.

HOPE IS DELICIOUS

Helping others is making a positive impact not only on those who volunteer at the Soul Kitchen. It puts a smile on Wood's face, too.

"Food is food, for the most part," the chef said. "I love cooking and I love all that stuff. But ... it makes a big difference, knowing that this is something that they really want, something that they really need."

Wood grew up just 20 minutes from Toms River, participated in sports and spent a lot of time on the beach. He didn't focus much on his grades – until his sophomore year in high school, when he wanted to impress a girl. Before he knew it, he was at the top of his class. But still unsure what he wanted to do, and feeling it was too late to apply for college, he joined the Marines, serving for eight years as an air-ground task force planner.

While stationed in Japan, Wood invited the five to 10 Marines who worked for him to his home for dinner on Wednesdays. He wanted to give them a break from barracks life and the mundane "chow hall" menu.

The instant gratification he felt when seeing whether his guests liked his food >>

WHAT DOES 'FOOD INSECURE' MEAN?

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the defining characteristic of very low food security is that, at times during the year, the food intake of household members is reduced and their normal eating patterns are disrupted because the household lacks money and other resources for food.



While Wood preps in the kitchen, the sunny yellow dining room awaits customers. Messages of hope and the Soul Kitchen's manifesto decorate the restaurant, which serves 30-40 customers a day. About half of them pay.

ON-CAMPUS EFFORTS

The Cupboard at Penn College is an on-campus food pantry designed to assist Penn College students who are struggling with food insecurity.

The Cupboard was opened in 2016 after a Penn College Dining Services survey found that 58.9% of students who responded had skipped a meal at least once because they did not have the money or resources to eat.

sparked an interest in cooking.

After his return to civilian life, Wood pursued an associate degree in culinary arts from Brookdale Community College. He was older than many of his classmates and found himself acting as a mentor and tutor – another role he savored. That sparked an interest in teaching.

When he was told that teaching culinary arts requires a minimum of a bachelor's degree, that's where he set his sights. And that led him to Penn College.

According to Wood, caring instructors are key to the quality of the Penn College culinary arts program.

"We didn't have the largest classes, so you really built good relationships with your instructors," he explained. "They knew you; they knew your capabilities, what you were able to do, what you weren't able to do, and really guided you that way. A lot of instructors took people under their wings."

For Wood, that instructor was Chef Frank M. Suchwala, associate professor of hospitality management/culinary arts.

"Rob always volunteered when given an opportunity," Suchwala said. "He was always a help to anyone that asked, is good-natured through and through, and has a great deal of patience. He is a responsible, selfless and driven person with a lot of heart."

Wood volunteered with Suchwala as the chef-instructor developed "A Taste of Technology: Sweet and Savory Science," which presents the chemistry of food and its reaction with our taste receptors. Suchwala and the college's School of Business & Hospitality have twice taken the popular hands-on demonstration to the USA Science and Engineering Festival in Washington, D.C. Wood was part of the first team that made the trip.

When Wood was selected to give the student address at commencement, he saw it as another opportunity to be of service. At the time he found out, he was recovering from the shock of a breakup and, with it, broken dreams.

"The announcement for this honor was a rainbow after quite a rough storm," he told the audience. "It reminded me that good things are yet

to come."

Wood's speech encouraged the graduates to fight through the hard times that will come, because they are just as necessary as good times.

"It's getting knocked down that teaches us how to fight," he said. "It's our failures that show us where we need to improve. If you're struggling through a storm in your life, keep your head up. It's the only way you're going to see that rainbow. I know."

"Anyone who watches his graduation speech can see the man he is and how deeply he cares about others," said Suchwala, who nominated Wood for the honor. "I play that speech for all my new students."

After graduation, Wood began work as a cook in nursing homes. He was the food service director at Seacrest Village in Little Egg Harbor when one of his community college instructors called to let him know about an opening at JBJ Soul Kitchen. Wood insisted that he was not looking for a job, but the instructor asked him to consider it.

So Wood visited the Red Bank location, learned about the operation,

All are welcome at our table
At the JBJ Soul Kitchen, we are ready for you if you are hungry, or if you hunger to make a difference in your community. For us, hunger is healthy, and you find the soul.

Friendship is our daily special
Introducing yourself to the person, social media or across the table. Stay awhile and stay informed of all the ways Soul Kitchen is dedicated to supporting hunger, building relationships and celebrating community.

Happy are the hands that feed
Those who volunteer are guided by Soul Kitchen staff through their tasks. Understanding of Soul Kitchen can lead to qualifications for job training.

Where there is love, there is plenty
As you will see, our menu has no portion. The intent is to share and not overindulge. It is made to complement your situation. If you are unable to identify, we invite you to join our community to learn about resources and volunteer opportunities.

Good Company whets the appetite
At Soul Kitchen, compliments from across the street or across the table, your friends, family, those in need of help and those with help to offer, come together and share a good meal and the warmth of good company.

End the meal with a slice of happiness
At Soul Kitchen, the main ingredient is love with a surge of hope. Our chef's prepare our healthy, delicious meals with the freshest ingredients, some grown on our own organic garden. At the JBJ Soul Kitchen all are treated with respect, kindness and respect.

and said, on the spot, "I'll take the job."

Though his ultimate goal is still to become a teacher, he's relishing the chance to serve others as they fight through their personal storms. Seeing the difference the Soul Kitchen makes helps to fuel him through 60-plus hour workweeks. It nourishes him to tirelessly take on any task when there isn't a volunteer to do it.

He takes extra care to make sure his menu has dishes that appeal to adults and children, to those with dietary restrictions, and most of all, that it is nutritious.

"These are people who are food insecure, who need the meal," Wood said. "So you're looking to make sure it's healthy, that it's substantial, farm-to-table type food."

Wood changes the restaurant's menu every two weeks to offer variety to its clients, since some eat there every day it is open. Each time, he sends the menu to Dorothea Bongiovi for final OK.

THE MAIN INGREDIENT IS LOVE

Service does not stop with the food. A social worker on staff sits down

with diners to get to know them and connect them with resources. A volunteer Employment Empowerment Team provides help with job skills, from brushing up a resume to more in-depth job coaching.

"It goes a long way when you can actually see the difference you're making in people's lives, seeing them change while you change," Wood said.

He talks about volunteers who began coming to the restaurant in need and now are working, but continue to give their time.

"A big part of what we do here is providing to those that are unable to provide for themselves for some reason or another," Wood said. "It could be they just lost their job or someone just got sick. We don't judge on anything like that. Someone could be driving in with a brand new Mercedes, and that might be the last time they have that Mercedes."

"We don't know what someone's going through," he added. "But we're just advocates for them. We want to provide them what we can. If it's not the food, it's the services. It's getting them

in contact with the right people."

WHERE THERE IS LOVE, THERE IS PLENTY

Since opening, JBJ Soul Kitchen has served more than 100,000 meals at its two restaurants.

Although Wood works long hours, he claims little credit.

"We're just small people in the whole situation," Wood said. "The people that really make the difference are those that come in and volunteer. At the end of the day, this is my job; I'm getting paid for this."

"It goes a long way that people do still care about people. They pay it forward. They help out where they can, when they can. And a lot of times you'll notice that the ones that have the least are willing to give the most. That drives us. That makes us want to work harder, want to do more, want to provide the best food, the best experience we can."

Hope certainly is delicious. ■



Muzic's "Master Teacher" portrait is the first in line in a Madigan Library display of all the award's recipients. Muzic was the first to receive the award, and when she retired from full-time service, it was renamed in her honor.

The work of **Veronica M. Muzic (1936-2019)** impacted generations of students – *and will influence many more*

by Tom Wilson, writer/editor-PCToday

CAMPUS LORE HAS IT THAT, while leading a tour through a hallway gantlet of classroom bustle, Veronica M. Muzic heard a student ask his instructor, "Does spelling count?" The then-provost (and former English instructor) broke stride only long enough to peek into the doorway and pronounce, "It most certainly does," before rejoining her group.

That far-from-apocryphal story sums up two of the principles that guided Muzic throughout 40-plus years at Williamsport Area Community College and Pennsylvania College of Technology: an unblinking focus on academics and an unyielding attention to students.

The unified theme resonated during her time at WACC and Penn College and, after her June 18 death, at a communal celebration of a life collaboratively and colorfully lived. She was, in fact, larger than life, confidently holding court (and holding her own) in any environment where honest disagreement was resolved by solicitous discussion.

Muzic's institutional contributions were as ranging as the positions she held – from faculty member to provost – and could fill every page of this magazine.

"Veronica was an essential piece of the fabric of our college, and she will be forever missed," President Davie Jane Gilmour said of her longtime co-worker and mentor, who typically gave credit to others when occasion turned to accolade.

Kidding around with her English faculty officemates, from left, Ned Coates, Lynn Hanson and Peter Dumanis.

Many of the threads woven through that history long predate today's students, who nonetheless are beneficiaries of challenges Muzic accepted and battles she won.

During the transition from Williamsport Technical Institute to WACC, for instance, she inexhaustibly championed the infusion of academics into the college's industrial focus to produce well-rounded citizens as well as employable graduates – a philosophy that ultimately laid the groundwork for Penn College and its addition of bachelor's degrees.

"Some of the faculty in the trades were not especially fond of all this 'academic stuff,' but I was able to make a pact with a couple," she said, after surrendering to sit-down interviews in advance of the college's 2014 centennial. "We would share papers: I would read them as an English person, they would read them as a technical person, and we'd give two grades and then average them out, and that worked nicely."

She helped create developmental studies, offering a lifeline to those in the grips of math or English anxiety, and shepherding the creation of a still-vital Tutoring Center.

Muzic practiced "empowerment" before it was vogueish, often on behalf of specialized populations (Vietnam War veterans, displaced workers, adrift divorcees, the HIV community and prison inmates) who, lacking any sort of support system, bonded with classmates.

"I should have paid to teach that class instead of being paid to teach," Muzic said about one such group of nontraditional students. "The quality of the work, the respect for one another, the ease with which they worked together without any self-consciousness, their willingness to take direction and advice as people were responding to their work. Amazing students."

A 1,000-word encapsulation is incomplete by nature, and would be more so without mentioning Muzic's advocacy for women. >>



During the college's spring recognition banquet in 1977, Dave Heiney, assistant dean of student and career development, presents Muzic an award for her dedication to the developmental program (today known as the Academic Success Center).

Muzic looks over the work of students in the Tutoring Center. The photo accompanied a story in the Winter 2001-02 One College Avenue (the predecessor of Penn College Magazine) that was written by Muzic and told the history of academic support services. Muzic was assigned the lead role in establishing those services at the college in the 1970s.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUZIC FAMILY





Left, a new “graduate” of the college’s Dunham Children’s Learning Center receives her certificate from Muzic, then vice president for academic affairs/provost. At right, the 1975 Montage yearbook photographer catches Muzic looking over *Canoe* magazine.

Her college career is bookended by two programs that have enriched and transformed generations: the Women’s Series and SMART Girls.

One brought a top-notch parade of prominent authors to campus in the 1980s, their work integrated into the instructional curriculum; the other sidestepped stereotypical hurdles to remind young women that they, indeed, can excel in math- and science-related careers.

The Women’s Series blossomed from a peer group of adult female students into an impressive lineup of campus lecturers: Pulitzer Prize winners Alice Walker, author of “*The Color Purple*,” and playwright Marsha Norman (“*night, Mother*”); and poets Maya Angelou and Nikki Giovanni. Aided by Student Activities’ JoAnn Fremiotti, who Muzic said was “very good at finding money and grant-writing,” the series was a town-and-gown boon.

“I mean, what they had the opportunity to hear and meet was incredible. And the variety was equally incredible, what they brought to the campus and what they did for the campus,” she said. “We had buses coming from State College; we had Bucknell students bused up. We had the community here. ... Literally, we packed the (Klump Academic Center) auditorium. Now, granted, when I say we packed the auditorium, what – that’s 521 seats? But not bad for Williamsport and a technically focused institution. Yeah, not bad at all!”

SMART (Science and Math Applications in Real-World Technologies) Girls was no less inspiring.

Begun in 2001, the program exposed seventh and eighth graders to a sprawling canvas of opportunity – from dental hygiene to plastics to heavy equipment operation.

“I’ll never forget, they got into that slimy pond at (the Schneebeil) Earth Science (Center) without any consideration for what they were going to look like,” she said. “They were so absolutely open to anything. They didn’t

gripe. They didn’t complain, and we ran them ragged.”

The program later expanded to include a residential summer program for high school girls.

For every student whom Muzic impacted – directly or indirectly; then, now or tomorrow – there are dozens of “Veronica stories.” Many were shared during midsummer’s campus remembrance by Marcianne Muzic Laycock, one of her two daughters; niece Lisa Halberstadt, who read an Angelou poem; Gilmour; and former colleague Lynn Hanson, now a professor at Francis Marion University.

As the president noted upon Muzic’s in-name-only retirement in May 2006, “Veronica’s influence is in the air we breathe on this campus; that will never change.”

She would no doubt wince at all of the sentiment and acclaim, believing herself unworthy.

The college’s first recipient of the Master Teacher Award that now bears her name, an honor she humbly characterized as “unnecessary and uncomfortable,” Muzic especially squirmed at the mention of legacy.

But it is a legacy, all the same, on campus and in the greater community, where a passionate patron nurtured education, culture and the arts through her service to such organizations as the YWCA of Northcentral Pennsylvania, the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra and the Community Arts Center.

Muzic, who, even after her retirement, proofread every edition of this magazine on its way to the printer, quite possibly would have highlighted for deletion anything that she deemed too laudatory or sentimental. With no apology for turning the light in her direction, she nonetheless gets the last word.

“My memory as faculty will always be my colleagues and my students,” she admitted – but only when pressed. “That’s what I remember best.” ■



Electron beam welder becomes first

by Jennifer A. Cline, writer/magazine editor, with reporting by Tom Speicher, writer/video producer

IN JANUARY,
Pennsylvania College
of Technology became
the first educational
institution in the United
States to house an
electron beam welder.



At top: A newly joined pair of pipes are seated in the college’s new 60kV electron beam welder. Instead of using a filler material, the heat from high-speed electrons melts and joins the materials, providing for a very thin welding bead. At bottom: A sample of the welder’s etching work. The actual size is about an inch wide.

“EB” welding is used in a wide variety of industries, including aerospace, automotive, energy, nuclear and sensor technology. As of 2013, the American Welding Society estimated there were 3,000 electron beam welders in operation throughout the world.

The process can produce very thin welds that can range from one-thousandth of an inch to 2 inches deep. The resulting bead is so thin, explains Michael R. Allen, instructor of welding and co-head of the department, that it requires a magnifying glass to see the detail. The process also provides efficient energy transfer, which results in low heat output and makes it safe to seal sensitive internal electronics packages into devices.

Students are eager for it to become part of their hands-on education.

“The thing that excites me most about Cambridge Vacuum Engineering’s electron beam welder is that it will raise the bar, academically, for Penn College welding students,” said Nathaniel H. Lyon, a senior pursuing a bachelor’s degree in welding and fabrication engineering technology. “To gain a mastery of any process, it’s important to understand how that process works. Well, with EB welding, there are some exciting physics principles involved that I think will push students outside of their critical-thinking ‘comfort zones’ – and that’s where real learning happens!”

The 60kV welder resides in a dedicated lab within the addition to the Lycoming Engines Metal Trades Center, which opened to students in the fall and was dedicated in February. The expansion nearly doubled the center’s instructional space and allowed the college to accept more welding students in Fall 2019, eliminating the popular program’s traditional waiting list. Construction of the 35,000-square-foot facility was funded in part by a \$2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The added space is well-equipped with leading technology, thanks to 21 corporations that provided more than \$2.5 million in equipment value through entrustments, discounts and donations, plus cash commitments from corporations, alumni and friends.

The new equipment, which includes the electron beam welder, a laser welder, and many other industry-standard technologies, not only expands >>

learning opportunities for students but also further benefits companies that had already been scrambling to hire the college's real world ready welding graduates.

The electron beam welder was acquired through a partnership with Cambridge Vacuum Engineering, of England. The company attests that Penn College is the first educational institution in the U.S. to acquire one of its EB welders.

"Industry has been calling us and asking us if our students have any training on this type of equipment," Allen said. "Now we can actually say, 'Yes.'"

Each year, more than 200 Penn College students will gain hands-on experience with the EB welder.

HOW ELECTRON BEAM WELDING WORKS:

- Parts are loaded into fixtures that will hold them securely in place throughout the welding process.
- The fixtures are attached to a computer numerical control table that is programmed to precisely move parts into position during the welding process.
- An electron gun generates electrons that move at velocities up to two-thirds the speed of light..
- Electrical fields accelerate the speed of the electrons.
- Magnetic fields focus the high-speed stream of electrons.
- As the electrons impact the materials to be joined, their energy is converted to heat.
- The materials melt and flow together.
- Welding occurs inside a vacuum chamber, which prevents air from diffusing the electrons. The walls of the chamber absorb the X-rays that are a byproduct of the welding process.

The college's new electron beam welder is housed in a dedicated lab in the recently expanded Lycoming Engines Metal Trades Center. While on site to train Penn College faculty, Thomas Nicol, senior product engineer for Cambridge Vacuum Engineering (the manufacturer of the welder), prepares a pipe weld.

"I have read job postings that asked for experience in electron beam welding," the soon-to-graduate Lyon said. "That used to be a little intimidating, but it won't be for long."

"Giving them (students) the opportunity to have hands-on exposure to this stuff I think is going to bring them to a whole new level, and it's going to take us with them," said Ryan P. Good, assistant professor of welding.

Good, Allen and four other welding faculty members received training on a similar welder in

Massachusetts before the college's equipment was delivered. After a day and a half of instruction, Tony Slater, technical sales manager for Cambridge Vacuum Engineering, gave the group a quiz.

"They scored higher than I've seen anyone do before," Slater said.

Slater was the driving force within Cambridge Vacuum Engineering for the placement of the welder at Penn College.

"After visiting (Penn College), I realized they are forward thinking, and their attitude toward the students would be a perfect match for us," Slater said.

The expansion of the Penn College welding lab has also brought the addition of a laser welding cell, a dedicated CNC robotic welding lab, an air-pressure-controlled specialized welding room, additional capabilities and space for non-destructive testing, rigging and crane operations for work with larger parts, expanded space for pipe welding, and a space for hands-on training in Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards. ■

PENN COLLEGE OFFERS:

Bachelor's degree
**welding and fabrication
engineering technology**

Associate degree
metal fabrication technology

Associate degree
welding technology

Certificate
welding



Lindbergh's boots AND COSMONAUT CHICKEN

GRAD PRESERVES AVIATION HISTORY AT SMITHSONIAN

by Tom Speicher, writer/video producer

In a Smithsonian Institution conservation lab, manufacturing engineering technology graduate Daniel Ravizza combines his hands-on skills, meticulous work ethic and passion for history.

THE RANGE OF SCREW SIZES

is a typical early-semester topic for Keith H. English. The Pennsylvania College of Technology instructor describes the numbering system to his new machining students before revealing they will have access to the rare No. 12 thread that is usually omitted from screw-size charts.

It's standard stuff for the instructor, who has taught automated manufacturing and machining for more than a quarter century. But the response from one student during one of those discussions was anything but standard.

This student raised his hand to supplement the lecture. While he agreed with English that the No. 12 thread is unique, he explained that a very uncommon No. 14 thread also exists. The student proved his point at the next class. He brought a No. 14 tap from his private collection.

English laughed at the memory. "A 20-year-old who has a vintage tap and die collection," he said. "I thought, 'This kid is special!'"

The teacher was right.

Today, that "kid" is an objects conservator at the Smithsonian Institution's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia, the annex of the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. Daniel J. Ravizza has combined the technical skills honed at Penn College and within industry with his lifelong love for history to preserve prized artifacts for future generations.

"I've always liked old stuff more than new stuff. I get to take care of old things and work with them all day, so I'm definitely happy," said Ravizza, who resembles a bookish superhero rather than a federal contractor, thanks to his 6-foot-5 frame squeezed into a dark blue lab coat.

His appearance is appropriate for his domain. The center consists of two massive hangars full of items – from planes to satellites to the Space Shuttle Discovery – that serve as a tangible timeline of aviation and space flight. Ravizza spends most of his days in the conservation lab, where he is surrounded by numerous tables and computer workstations. Portable extraction trunks are nearby to suck up fumes emanating from organic solvents and adhesives, common ingredients to



preserve history's gems.

One day, Ravizza moves Neil Armstrong's spacesuit. The next, he reshapes a chin strap from the helmet of famed aviator Charles Lindbergh. Later, he devises a hygienic way to open cans of space food, long ago discarded by cosmonauts.

"We want to preserve the artifact in the condition it was last used effectively, rather than bring it back to how it might have looked when new," Ravizza said. "The preservation tasks I perform stabilize the object, so it does not get worse."

Today's "object" is a turbocharger that supplied extra air to the engine of an experimental German World War II high-altitude fighter. According to Ravizza's research, only three such aircraft were built. He's tasked with stemming the magnesium corrosion.

"Problem-solving is what I enjoy the most," he said. "Something comes in, and we have to figure it out. It's like, 'What the heck is this?' It's incredibly

Daniel Ravizza, '07 and '14, helped to conserve famous aviator Charles Lindbergh's insulated flying boots. In 1927, Lindbergh was the first to complete a solo flight across the Atlantic, flying nonstop from New York to Paris.

Ravizza's first project for the Smithsonian was cans of space food – including cans of Soviet veal, chicken and cheese that dated from 1970s. "I had to open these cans from the bottom and remove the contents," Ravizza said. "This was done with lots of PPE (personal protective equipment)!"

fascinating to find out what it is and what its purpose was and deciding how we are going to fix it."

Growing up in Honesdale, Ravizza loved to fix and build "stuff," and he collected old locks and keys. It's safe to assume he was the only kid in his class who amassed handmade European ones from the 16th and 17th centuries, as well as early American locks.

"That was always my kind of thing," Ravizza said, as if describing a bland baseball card collection.

Three years of high school metal shop convinced him to study machining at a college close to home before enrolling at Penn College, where he earned associate degrees in toolmaking technology and automated manufacturing technology in 2007.

"I liked the instructors, the facilities, access to other programs, a wide spectrum of things," Ravizza said. "I also liked how you could get an associate degree at Penn College and then go into the bachelor's program. You could stop halfway if you wanted and return and painlessly fit back in."

That's what Ravizza did. He worked as a machinist and toolmaker for about four years to "master the trade" before returning to Penn College and obtaining a bachelor's degree in manufacturing engineering technology in 2014.

He culminated his Penn College days by building a 1,000-pound forging hammer for his senior project. Powered by an air compressor, the machine includes a 350-pound anvil base and 90-pound hammerhead to form and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF STEVEN F. UDVAR-HAZY CENTER

At the Smithsonian Institution's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, Daniel Ravizza stands in a hangar full of objects that shaped aviation history. The center is the annex of the National Air and Space Museum.

"IT'S INCREDIBLY FASCINATING TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS AND WHAT ITS PURPOSE WAS AND DECIDING HOW WE ARE GOING TO FIX IT."

shape metal.

"Dan is certainly one of our most memorable students," English said. "Every task he did was completed to the best of his ability. The results were usually terrific. Dan was wise beyond his years. He had the ability to look at a situation and assess what needed done and would plan to achieve his goals."

Ravizza followed that approach when it came to his career. He wished to combine craftsmanship with history,

so he obtained a master's degree in conservation studies from West Dean College of Arts and Conservation in Chichester, England.

"The program is unique. They teach silversmithing. They teach blacksmithing. You actually learn how to make stuff, as well as repairing and conservation," Ravizza said. "It really helps to fix and conserve something if you understand how it was made. That was the appeal. Plus, with my interest in >>

Among Ravizza's tasks: reshaping the chin strap on Charles Lindbergh's helmet.



Ravizza treats magnesium corrosion on the experimental turbocharger from a Blohm and Voss BV 155B, a German high-altitude aircraft designed for World War II. (The war ended before the prototype plane was completed for test flight.)

history, it was silly not to go to England, where everything is so much older.”

A part-time job at Plowden and Smith – a prestigious London firm specializing in art restoration services – and an internship at the Henry Ford Museum complemented his education. After graduate school, Ravizza worked for the Central Park Conservatory, preserving sculptures and monuments in New York City’s 843-acre green haven. Contacts made at that job led to his hiring at the Smithsonian in October 2017.

“When I studied in England, it was focused on materials, so I was more of a metal conservator,” Ravizza said. “Here, it’s more generalized. We’re responsible for metals, leather, rubber and wood. Just about anything you can imagine.”

Like a Maybach six-cylinder engine from a 1910 German Zeppelin. Ravizza spent much of his first year at the Smithsonian preparing the engine for preservation. It was stored at the museum for nearly 40 years after being half-buried in the backyard of a Baltimore home.

“There was a lot of corrosion under a lot of dried oil and a lot of preservative

coating that the museum applied many years ago,” Ravizza said. “That was a lot of work. It was one of the hardest projects because the engine had spent so many years outside and in storage.”

The type of metal influences Ravizza’s choice of organic solvents to clean and combat corrosion. If the material is difficult to decipher, he employs an XRF Spectrometer. The ray gun-like device scans and identifies metals in artifacts.

He didn’t need the Spectrometer for his first assignment: unopened, distended cans of Soviet space food from the 1970s.

“There was a can of cheese that was leaking. There were cans of tuna and other things. It was a disgusting mess. We had to come up with a way to preserve the cans,” he said.

The solution? Ravizza manufactured a bacteriological can opener to cut out the bottom of the cans and trash the contents. He removed the cans’ labels, cleaned the metal cans and reattached the labels. The artifacts were ready to be preserved.

“That was pretty interesting,” he said.

Like many of his completed projects, the cans of space food aren’t on display, and Ravizza is fine with that.

“Many museums have less than 10% of their collection displayed for the public,” he said. “A large part of the Smithsonian’s mission is to preserve our history for the future. It’s possible in the future that someone will want to research a given object, or it might be put on display.”

His workplace doesn’t mimic the Penn College labs filled with computer-numerical-control machines and other manufacturing hardware, but Ravizza consistently draws on his history at the school.

“I am grateful for the solid practical skills and knowledge I learned there,” he said. “I feel the knowledge and skills have been vital in my career to date, whether in industry or a museum setting.”

And Ravizza expects to remain in his unique “museum setting” for years to come.

“Sometimes, I have to pinch myself a little,” he said. “These are one-of-a-kind things we get to work on.”

Even rarer than his No. 14 tap. ■



Restoring smiles and lives

One student’s struggles give birth to compassionate care in face of opioid crisis

by Jennifer A. Cline, writer/magazine editor

Lisa M. Zimmer knows what it’s like to overcome an addiction to opioids. And the recent Pennsylvania College of Technology graduate wants to provide compassionate care to those who are also recovering.

She took the first steps in providing that care through the senior project that concluded her study toward a bachelor’s degree in dental hygiene: health policy and administration.

“There are two things in this world that I really know about: one is teeth, and two is addiction,” Zimmer said.

It turns out, that combination of expertise can serve many. Her senior project has led to a burgeoning nonprofit called smiles4recovery.

“There is a glaring need for a bridge to connect those with opioid use disorder to easily accessible dental care,” Zimmer explained, citing a study published in the *Journal of Behavioral Health Sciences & Research* that states dental problems are amid the most frequently reported health problems among active opioid users.

Her objective is to educate patients, dentists and the public about the special oral health concerns of people recovering from opioid addiction.

She began with patients. As part of her senior project, she secured an internship with CompleteCare NJ, a network of community health care centers in southern New Jersey (where Zimmer lives).

At the college’s May 2019 commencement ceremony, Lisa M. Zimmer celebrates the end of her 12-year journey to a bachelor’s degree in dental hygiene. The journey included overcoming opioid addiction and developing a senior project, now a nonprofit organization, to provide oral health care to those in recovery.

Zimmer, a registered dental hygienist since 2006, visited with 50 patients who are in a medication-assisted treatment program, educating them about the effects of opioids – including medications used to help in recovery – on their dental health and encouraging them to see a dentist before pain begins.

Opioids can both cause tooth decay and mask the pain associated with it, Zimmer explained. Often, when individuals begin to recover, their mouths begin to hurt.

“There is a glaring need for a bridge to connect those with opioid use disorder to easily accessible dental care.”

Studies show that dental pain can be a cause of relapse.

“If you do not have an established dentist, which many recovering addicts do not, you are in a real pickle,” Zimmer said. “If you wake up on a Tuesday morning and have an abscess, you might go to your neighborhood dentist. If a doctor doesn’t know your history and prescribes you a painkiller, that’s very hard to turn down when you’re in real pain. >>



“You have people who are looking for jobs again for the first time, people who, everything else is going well, but every time they smile they are reminded that they’re a junkie,” she added. “We have enough shame and embarrassment as it is.”

“Lisa went above and beyond course requirements to fulfill her dream of working with her peers, individuals with opioid use disorder, who truly need educational support on oral health and help to find them a dental home,” said Mary Jo Saxe, associate professor of dental hygiene.

Zimmer approached her patients with compassion, explaining that she, too, has experienced addiction.

Zimmer was first prescribed an opioid painkiller when she was 17 and had her wisdom teeth removed.

“I knew right away that I liked it,” she said.

Within a year, she had her tonsils removed and was prescribed the same medication. Opioids make some people feel sick and drowsy. For others, like Zimmer, they cause a different reaction.

“It provided me confidence,” she said. “It reduced my social anxiety. It gave me energy and helped me focus.”

Three years later, a doctor prescribed a daily opioid for jaw pain related to temporomandibular joint dysfunction. A year later, in 2003, the

doctor performed extensive surgery, which required a higher initial dose and considerable recovery time.

“An important fact to remember is that the possibility of opioid dependence increases with each additional day of medication, starting with just the third day, and increasing dramatically after the fifth day,” Zimmer wrote in her senior project report. “I was already more than dependent. I was obsessed.”

But she remained functional.

Zimmer enrolled in an associate degree dental hygiene program at another college in 2004. During her final year, between the Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 semesters, when she had planned to attend a review session for the board examination, she instead put herself in rehab.

“I did my 28 days and was out just in time for the spring semester to begin,” she said.

But two weeks before her board exams, she relapsed.

“Opiates gave me the ability to have energy, stay awake and study for boards,” she said.

She did well, received her registered dental hygienist license and began practice.

“Up to that point, I received all my pills through doctors,” she said. They prescribed them to her for various

ailments and chronic pain. (She has since been diagnosed with lupus.) Zimmer blames only herself for her opioid use disorder, but notes that, at that time, doctors were generous with prescriptions.

As she began working and making money, and her tolerance increased, she began buying additional painkillers on the street.

Zimmer knew from the time she enrolled in an associate-degree dental hygiene program that she wanted to earn a bachelor’s degree. It would open doors to becoming an educator, which she had learned she had a knack for. She enrolled in Penn College’s online bachelor’s degree in Fall 2007 while working as a dental hygienist.

As her opioid use continued, her life became unmanageable. In 2009, she was fired.

“It was the best thing that ever happened to me,” she said.

She ran out of money. She felt “dope sick” – a symptom of withdrawal – more and more often. She was suicidal.

It drove her to enter detox and a two-month recovery program. Zimmer has been free from opioid abuse since January 2010.

It took nearly 12 years to earn her walk across the stage at the college’s May 2019 commencement ceremonies, but at no point did she give up.



Zimmer shares information about the dental care needs of those with opioid use disorder at Project H.O.P.E. in Camden, N.J. The mission of Project H.O.P.E. is to provide health services to homeless persons and others in need.

“If you look at my transcript, you can see times when I didn’t take classes,” she says. “One of the things I like to say is that there are so many times that I stopped, but equally as many times that I started.”

Shawn A. Kiser, director of dental hygiene and Zimmer’s academic adviser, is impressed by her “grit and perseverance.”

In the midst of her senior project, another hurdle emerged. On March 3, 2019, she had a grand mal seizure and was told she could not drive for six months. With the help of her husband, Darren, her internship coordinator and rideshare services, she continued meeting with CompleteCare NJ clients.

“Her determination to complete this capstone was inspiring,” Saxe said.

Recovery for Zimmer has brought her through pain and depression to a position of hope and empowerment that she is using to educate and inspire others. Including her Penn College faculty.

“As a professor, you hope students learn something in your class,” Saxe said. “In this case, I feel I learned more from my student – perseverance, compassion, inclusiveness. Although her life has had obstacles, she didn’t quit, but found new pathways to move forward.”

Zimmer is vice president of the Southern Component of the New Jersey Dental Hygienists’ Association and recently obtained a dental hygiene public health practitioner license, a relatively new credential in Pennsylvania that allows dental hygienists to help underserved populations. And she is a mom.

In August, she began classes toward a master’s degree in dental hygiene with a concentration in education/public health.

“My short-term goal is to start educating dentists and dentists’ offices about opioid use disorder: what to look for but also how to treat patients with compassion,” Zimmer said. “If we don’t do that, we’re not going to help.”

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, more than 70,200 individuals died from drug overdoses in 2017. Among them, more than 47,000 involved opioids.

“When I read Facebook posts with people saying, ‘Let them overdose,’ I cry,” Zimmer said. “Because the potential of that person is me. I really want to get the word out there about being compassionate. I want to educate people about real-life addiction.”

A loving witness

Lisa M. Zimmer is a “daddy’s girl.” “We were like two peas in a pod,” she said.

When her father developed COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), Zimmer spent a lot of time taking care of him.

“A lot of my classwork I was doing in the hospital with him,” she said.

He reviewed anatomy and physiology flash cards with her and let her know how proud he was.

He died in 2011, just as Zimmer began dating her husband, Darren. They never got to meet. But when she married, she wanted her father to be part of the ceremony. So she made pins for all her guests that showed a photo of her with her father on the front. As her brothers “gave her away,” her guests flipped their pins to show the other side – a photo of Zimmer with her husband.

“As I looked at everybody, I could see my dad in everyone,” she says.

When commencement came, she decided a physical token of her father needed to be with her again.

“My father was all about education,” she said. “He thought it was super important and was so proud of me going to school. So I took him out and put him right there on my gown so he could see me graduate.”



PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE COURTESY OF LISAM. ZIMMER

College introduces coursework to mitigate crisis

13 in Pennsylvania die each day from a DRUG OVERDOSE nationally 100+

Responding to the chemical dependency crisis, Pennsylvania College of Technology is offering an online chemical dependency credential to enhance the skills of professionals working in fields such as health care, human services, law enforcement and education, as well as the private sector, where employers are finding an increasing need to identify workers who might be struggling with chemical dependency.

“Every day in Pennsylvania, 13 people die from a drug overdose,” said state Sen. Gene Yaw, who also serves as chairman

of the Penn College Board of Directors. “Across the nation, over 100 people are dying every day from a drug overdose. This is clearly the greatest public health crisis we face today. No one law or program will solve the problem; but, like weaving a rope, each strand represents one measure to fight the epidemic. Alone, they might not be fully effective, but together they can strengthen the rope and our collective efforts.

“With health care programs being a major part of Penn College’s curriculum, I am happy to see the college use its resources to address this national problem.”

Klump Academic Center (formerly Williamsport High School)

The Susquehanna Trailways scoreboard was erected in 2018 and features customizable panels for school names and statistical information, and is topped with a truss featuring the Wildcat logo.

The ball saver system is a 25-foot high netting behind the goals that prevents soccer and lacrosse balls from leaving the playing field.

Installed in 2018, the Pepsi press box provides a climate-controlled space for members of the media and event staff. The north end of the bleachers will be extended in 2020 with an additional 500 seats.

Location: West end of campus

Penn College's men's and women's soccer teams opened their Fall 2019 seasons in an upgraded facility – now dubbed UPMC Field. The center of the improvements is an eye-catching synthetic turf field.

"Everything is flat and level," says men's soccer defender Gabriel McKeon. "There is no skipping with the ball, which not only produces better opportunities, but more beautiful soccer."

About 250 students participate in the college's growing NCAA Division III athletics program. In addition to intercollegiate athletics, the field is used by intramural sports, club sports and Student Engagement at Penn College.

The new turf will also become the home for the college's lacrosse team, set to begin playing in NCAA Division III in Spring 2021 (see Page 6).

Three sideline shelters were added in 2018 to provide teams the opportunity to be protected from poor weather conditions during practice and contests.

UPMC Field was outfitted with nearly 1,000 feet of windscreens in 2017 that showcase Penn College's athletics brand.

Construction for the 123-by-85-yard turf field base, drainage and associated improvements on the west end of campus was completed in August of 2019. UPMC continued its strong partnership with Penn College with a commitment that provided the naming of UPMC Field. Until 1981, the Cromar Building, also known as Unit 29, stood at the site.

Constructed of brick, stone and metal, the M&T Bank Gate is at the southwest corner of the complex, which is adjacent to the Penn College Field House.

UPMC Field

1989 PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

1965 WILLIAMSPORT AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1941 WILLIAMSPORT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

1960s

Paul A. Nee, '62, tool design technician, retired as manager of quality and environmental systems from Dorma Architectural Hardware in Reamstown in 2012, after 33 years of service. He authored "ISO 9000 in Construction," published by Wiley, and is a contributing author to "ISO 9000 Handbook." He has also contributed to numerous architectural publications, including The Construction Specifier, and Doors and Hardware Magazine. He holds an associate degree in business management from Elizabethtown College and resides in Myerstown.

Alan L. Paulhamus, '63, mechanical drafting, is a locomotive designer for General Electric. He resides in Erie.

Gary Smith, '63, electronics technology, is the founder of the Pennsylvania Gemological Laboratory, the only forensic lab of its kind in the U.S. He provides forensic analysis of antique and period jewelry, provides expert witness and consultation for litigation, and specializes in the repair and restoration of antique jewelry. Smith, recently inducted as a member of the New Jersey Association of Forensic Scientists, resides in Montoursville.

Franklin L. Courter, '67, civil technology, retired as a construction quality representative from Penn State in 1999. He owned and operated a sporting good and hunting equipment store in Blanchard until 2009, and moved to Northampton in 2013.

Roger Pauling, '67, business computer science technology, retired from Hoffman-LaRoche, where he was a computer engineer. He resides in Manalapan, N.J.

Roxanna L. (Murray) Beaver, '69, clerk-typist, retired from Lee's Summit (Mo.) School District, where she was a focus facilitator in special education. She resides in Lake Winnebago, Mo.

1970s

Edward L. Thompson, '71, aviation maintenance technician, retired from Norfolk Southern Railroad, where he was a machinist. He resides in Belsano.

John Aderhold, '72, education-social work, is an associate pastor and food bank director for the Hepburn-Lycoming Ministerium and is chaplain to the River Walk Senior Center. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Lycoming College and is ordained and licensed by the Church of Christ. He resides in Williamsport.

John R. Worley, '72, machinist general, retired as a machinist from Amphenol Intercon Systems. He resides in Annville and is building a 1931 Ford Coupe street rod.

Kurt C. Homan, '74, architectural technology, is the assistant director of the Penn State Facilities Engineering Institute. He resides in State College.

Debbie (Bower) Dawes, '75, ornamental horticulture technology: floriculture, recently retired after 20 years as an elementary school teacher in Washington and Idaho, most recently teaching third grade in the Pontach (Idaho) School District. She and her husband have owned Wildlife Habitat Nursery, which grows native wetland plants, for 27 years. They reside in Princeton, Idaho.

Jay A. Miller, '79, building construction technology, is the president of Jay Miller Contractors Inc. He was named to Remodeling Magazine's 2013 "Big50" list. He resides in Easton.

1980s

Suzanne I. (Fravel) Dubinin, '82, practical nursing, is a health and physical education teacher for Clarksville-Montgomery County School System. She continued her education at Austin Peay State University. She resides in Woodlawn, Tenn.

Thomas C. Miele, '82, computer information systems, retired from Penn National Insurance, where he was manager of information security and compliance. He resides in Conway, S.C.

Lawrence J. Carlin, '83, plumbing and heating, is a senior specialist for Energy Transfer. He services fuel analyzers at more than 80 facilities, coast to coast. He resides in Downingtown.

Lisa K. Weiser, '83, business management, is an operations associate for Generations Asset Management. She resides in Lewisburg.

Thomas Wolfe, '83, diesel mechanics, is a supervisor of vocational education for the Lancaster County Career and Technology Center. He holds a bachelor's in workforce education and a master's degree in educational leadership. He resides in Elizabethtown.

Susan (Erney) Jones, '84, dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist for Brookpark Dental Arts. She resides in Allenwood.

Glenn G. Riddell, '84, machine tool technology, is a global molding equipment manager for Corning Inc. He resides in Celina, Texas.

Mark D. West, '84, industrial drafting, is an application engineer for E-Tech Industrial Corp., providing solutions for the special applications of automotive and aerospace customers. He resides in Troy.

Richard R. Eutin, '88, toolmaking technology, is a senior engineer for Northrop Grumman. He resides in Somerset.

Patricia (Martin) Capone, '89, occupational therapy assistant, retired from occupational therapy assistant education (which included work as assistant professor and clinical director at Penn College) and continues to work as a consultant. She has been recognized by the American Occupational Therapy Association on its Roster of Honor and with its Retired Educators Award. She has been a member of the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education's Roster of Evaluators and served as a team chair mentor. She is also a public member of the Accreditation Council for Optometric Education. She resides in Weaverville, N.C.

Eric Hesidenz, '89, automated manufacturing and toolmaking technology, is a machinist for Wabtec/GE Transportation. He resides in East Butler.

Holly Kotzur, '89, dental hygiene, is retired and resides in Little River, S.C.

1990s

Peter Aguilar, '91, auto body technology, is the manager of Lehigh Valley Collision, a division of Rothrock Motors. He resides in Slatington.

Angela (Day) Brown, '91, business management, is an inside sales and service representative for QE Manufacturing. She resides in Mifflinburg.

Amy (Hensal) Sharer, '91, word processing, is the director of stewardship and donor relations for Penn State Outreach and Online Education. She resides in Spring Mills.

David Claycomb, '92, electrical occupations, is an instructor in the electrical technology program at Admiral Peary Area Vocational Technical School in Ebensburg. He holds a bachelor's degree in education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He resides in Roaring Spring.

Andrew Clouser, '93, diesel technician, is a technician for Rohrer Bus Service. He resides in Millmont.

Chad D. Hawksworth, '93, plumbing and heating ventilation & air conditioning technology, is a plumber for Hershey Entertainment, performing plumbing upkeep for Hersheypark, Hersheypark Stadium and Hersheypark Arena. He resides in Cleona.

Stephen A. Steele, '93, electronics engineering technology: fiber optic/communication, is an electrical engineer for Billco Manufacturing, where he is responsible for product design and solutions. He resides in Beaver Falls.

David Klinger, '94, welding technology, is a test technician for ACF Industries. He resides in Bloomsburg.

Jodie (Gausman) McVan, '94, graphic design, is an executive principal for Icon PLC. She resides in Yardley.

Michael J. Brown, '96, manufacturing engineering technology, is a manufacturing engineer for Keystone Friction Hinge. He resides in West Milton.

Matthew D. Horn, '96, landscape/nursery technology, is vice president of Landart Solutions, a landscape and grounds company that he owns with his wife. He resides in Fayetteville, N.C.

Lesli (Breneman) Willoughby, '96, food and hospitality management and culinary arts technology, is the manager of gift shop operations for WellSpan Health in York and Ephrata. She resides in York.

David J. Barr, '97, aviation technology, is a quality management inspector for Airbus. He resides in Gainesville, Va.

William P. Coughlin III, '97, paramedic, is a firefighter for the City of New York Fire Department and a paramedic in Dutchess and Putnam counties. He resides in New Windsor, N.Y.

Robert A. Armstrong, '98, culinary arts technology, is retired and resides in Hughesville.

William Ciccarelli, '98, automotive technology: Toyota, is a BMW technician for Sharpe BMW. He resides in Byron Center, Mich.

Timothy P. Rakosky, '98, building construction technology, is the president and CEO of T-Rock Construction, a commercial concrete contractor. He resides in Coal Center.

Chad Sartori, '98, general studies, is a kindergarten teacher for Montoursville Area School District. He resides in DuBoistown.

Jon C. Shipley, '98, toolmaking technology, is a machining supervisor for Clearfield Metal Technologies, where he oversees 12 employees and seven CNC machines. He resides in Hyde.

Ryan A. Schramm, '99, culinary arts technology, is the general manager for Pacific Group Resorts/Powderhorn Mountain Resort. He resides in Grand Junction, Colo.

2000s

Amber Brownson, '00, paramedic technology, is a paramedic for DH&L Ambulance League. She resides in Lock Haven.

Adam T. Diltz, '00, culinary arts technology, is chef/owner of Elwood, a 26-seat restaurant in Philadelphia that opened on May 1, 2019. Diltz's media mentions include being named one of 15 "Who's Next Chefs" by Billy Penn in 2017. Elwood's opening has been featured by the Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia magazine, PennLive and Eater Philadelphia, which named him 2019 Chef of the Year. He resides in Philadelphia.

Eli Hughes, '01, electronics engineering technology, is the owner and chief technology officer of TZero, a sensor technology and data company. He holds a Master of Science in acoustics. He resides in State College.

Keith L. Jeffcoat, '01, plastics and polymer engineering technology, is senior director of technical operations for Merz Medical Device Innovation Center. He is a recipient of the Merz CEO Award for Managing Through Challenges. In 2018, he received a Doctor of Engineering in engineering management from George Washington University. He resides in Cave Creek, Ariz.

Kristi (Ritchey) Genova, '02, culinary arts technology, is co-owner of La Famiglia LLC. She resides in Chester, Va.

Melissa M. Hombosky, '02, graphic design, owns 3twenty9 Design, where she is a graphic designer for print and digital media. She resides in Bellefonte.

Ryan Tator, '02, computer information systems: networking and technical support, is a self-employed consultant/subject matter expert on 911 systems. He provides systems and technical support to a 911 center in Susquehanna County, where he worked before a move to Texas. He resides in Houston.

James Kurtz, '03, technology management; '91, HVAC technology, retired from Dairy Farmers of America, for which he was a safety and environmental manager. He is assistant district commissioner for Boy Scouts of America in the Seven Bridges District. He resides in Watsonstown.

Chris Randall, '03, HVAC design technology, is employed by Automated Logic. He resides in North Chesterfield, Va.

Susanna (Thomas) Storeng, '03, physician assistant, is a PA for High Plains Community Health Center. In May 2019, she received a doctorate in medical science, graduating summa cum laude from University of Lynchburg. She is a health care advocate at the state and national levels. She resides in Wiley, Colo.

Jeremey Estep, '04, toolmaking technology, is a CNC programmer for E-Tech Industrial Corp. He resides in Granville Summit.

Josh Glotfelty, '04, electrical occupations, is a facility supervisor for the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission. He resides in Berlin.

Julie (Rutt) Hedgepeth, '04, paramedic technology, is a registered nurse for WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital. She resides in Columbia.

Robbie Risley, '04, plastics and polymer engineering technology, is a process engineer for Mitsubishi Chemical Advanced Materials. He was among the NEPA Business Journal's 2015 Top 20 under 40 and has received two awards from Leadership Lackawanna. He resides in Olyphant. >>

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CLASS NOTES

Natalie (Kraus) Campbell, '05, office technology: medical emphasis, is a medical assistant for Red Rock Job Corps. She resides in Dushore.

Wendy L. (Frew) Nicodemus, '05, graphic design, is an operations/trainee coordinator and graphic designer for Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. She resides in Ringtown.

Shane Ostrander, '05, civil engineering technology and surveying technology, is a GIS technician for the Fort Pierce Utility Authority. He resides in Fort Pierce, Fla.

Theodore S. Sayres, '05, architectural technology, is a senior building information modeling technician for NVR Inc. He resides in Fairfield.

Jared H. Stouffer, '05, heating, ventilation & air conditioning technology, is a managing member and co-owner of Stouffer Mechanical Contractor. He resides in Chambersburg.

Amy Barraclough, '06, nursing, is an RN case manager for Aetna. She resides in McVeytown.

Mallory (Shaw) Diltz, '06, occupational therapy assistant, is a senior value analysis coordinator for Geisinger. She resides in Danville.

Jamie (Kurtz) Ficks, '06, nursing, is a certified registered nurse practitioner for UPMC Susquehanna Williamsport Regional Medical Center, where she is a hospitalist for internal medicine. She resides in New Columbia.

Eric Kahler, '06, civil engineering technology, surveying technology, is a construction inspection quality assurance/quality control field manager for McTish, Kunkel & Associates. He resides in Jersey Shore.

Andrew W. Lackman, '06, residential construction technology and management, is a chief estimator for Kokolakis Contracting. He resides in Clearwater, Fla.

Troy J. Mobley, '06, office information technology: web design emphasis, is a business process consultant for World Financial Group. He resides in Owings Mills, Md.

Stacy L. (Cochran) Reed, '06, nursing, is a certified registered nurse practitioner in interventional cardiology for UPMC. She holds a Master of Science in nursing from Walden University and resides in Carlisle.

Erik Graham, '07, computer aided product design, is a contract design engineer for Container Testing Solutions. He resides in Youngsville.

Sabrena OKeefe, '07, business administration: human resource management, is the director of student involvement for Lynn University. She resides in Pompano Beach, Fla.

Kevin Hickman, '08, physician assistant, is a neurosurgery PA for Geisinger Medical Center. He resides in Shavertown.

Justin R. Holland, '08, civil engineering technology, is the Philadelphia District manager for Rinkus Consulting Group, a forensic engineering and consulting firm. He resides in Royersford.

Kyrie Andrus, '09, health arts: practical nursing, is a licensed practical nurse for UPMC Pinnacle. She resides in York Springs.

Barton M. Hetrick Jr., '09, aviation maintenance technology, is a program manager/manufacturing manager for Qortek, where he oversees the production of smart-material devices and high-density power electronics. He resides in Williamsport.

Rose Larsen-Mumbauer, '09, technology management, is a pricing and reporting analyst for Lycoming Engines and a May 2020 candidate for an Executive Master of Business Administration from University of Notre Dame. She resides in Montoursville.

Marc H. MacCorkle, '09, construction carpentry, is a preload supervisor for UPS. He resides in Pottstown.

Josh McGroarty, '09, residential construction technology and management, '04, building construction technology, is president of MAC Builders & Design Inc. He began the company 22 years ago, while a student in the college's building construction technology major. He has managed the restoration of the Marie Antoinette Overlook in Bradford County and the state capitol plaza waterproofing project. He resides in New Albany.

David Sigel, '09, business administration: small business and entrepreneurship, is an aircraft dispatcher for UPS, sending jets worldwide. He resides in Louisville, Ky.

Floyd Springman, '09, applied technical studies: construction, is an automation specialist for Andritz Automation. He earned an associate degree in automation from Mitchell Technical Institute. He resides in Montoursville.

Timothy Weiss, '09, electrical occupations, is an electrical controls specialist for Sharp Packaging Solutions, where he manages a team of 10. He resides in Plymouth Meeting.

2010s

Christopher J. Schaffer, '10, manufacturing engineering technology, is a wire EDM machinist for JIT Tool & Die. He resides in Curwensville.

Sam Shaffer, '10, architectural technology, is a real estate agent for Re/Max Edge. He resides in Hughesville.

Casey E. Wilhelm, '10, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is a welding engineer for Parsons. He resides in Aiken, S.C.

Joseph Ferraro, '11, manufacturing engineering technology, is a CNC programmer for Keystone Powdered Metal Co. He resides in Brockway.

Adriana L. Glotz, '11, health information technology, is a certified medical assistant clinical associate for MedStar Health. She continued her education to receive an associate degree in medical assisting from Central Penn College. She resides in Forest Hill, Md.

Heath Johnson, '11, aviation maintenance technology, is a senior field service technical representative for Lycoming Engines. He resides in Shamokin Dam.

Noel N. (Hoffman) Lauman, '11, dental hygiene: health policy and administration, is a registered dental hygienist. She resides in Reading.

Lee D. Michels, '11, construction management, is a service manager for Perlectric. He resides in Arlington, Va.

Megan Waldman, '11, dental hygiene: health policy and administration, is a dental hygienist for Rolling Ridge Dental Care. She resides in Boalsburg.

Adam Yoder, '11, building automation technology, is a general manager for R. & J. Ertel. He resides in Williamsport.

Evan Entz, '12, residential construction technology and management, is a property adjuster for Erie Insurance. He resides in Jersey Shore.

Michael J. Johnson, '12, building science and sustainable design: building construction technology, is a territory safety lead for Lithko Contracting. He resides in Charlotte, N.C.

Jeremy M. Klinger, '12, information technology: network specialist, is a member of the cleaning crew for the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders baseball team. He was named March 2017 Employee of the Month for Schiel's Family Markets. He resides in Forty Fort.

Justin Nupp, '12, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is a senior weld engineer and certified welding inspector for Magna, an automotive supplier. He resides in Clinton, Tenn.

Penny K. Shade, '12, culinary arts and systems, '00, culinary arts technology, is a chef/supervisor for Penn State Schuylkill. She resides in Schuylkill Haven.

Christopher Silverstrim, '12, electrical technology, is an electrician for UPMC Sunbury.

Polikseni Hysi, '13, dental hygiene: health policy and administration, is a clinical instructor for the dental hygiene program at Bergen Community College. She holds a Master of Health Sciences with a concentration in higher education and is working toward a Doctor of Health Sciences degree. She resides in Clifton, N.J.

Jennifer L. Karchner, '13, health information technology, is a medical assistant for UPMC Susquehanna Health Ear, Nose & Throat at Bloomsburg. She is pursuing a degree in nursing from Penn College. She resides in Benton.

Morgan A. Olbrich, '13, welding and fabrication engineering technology and automotive technology, is welder-fabricator for Hampton Machine Shop, where he fabricates structural components for the warships being built in the nearby shipyard. He resides in Hampton, Va.

Eric J. Palanko, '13, legal assistant: paralegal studies, is a medical and litigation paralegal for Weitz & Luxenberg, PC. He resides in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Jonathan M. Probst, '13, residential construction technology and management, is a purchasing manager for Dan Ryan Builders. He resides in Cranberry Township.

Andrea M. (Prough) Sanchez, '13, health information technology, is an outpatient diagnostic coder for Carilion Clinic. She resides in Roanoke, Va. >>



FURTHER BY HAND

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- Emergency management & homeland security, bachelor's degree

Zachary M. Ferro, '14, technology management and automotive technology, is the owner/operator of Ferro's LLC Auto Service and Repair. He resides in Bloomsburg.

Rebecca Gardner, '14, general studies, is a DTS (freight processing) lead for Big Lots. She resides in Williamsport.

Colton J. Saulter, '14, heavy construction equipment technology: operator emphasis, is an environmental compliance inspector for pipeline construction projects with Tulsa Inspection Resources. He resides in Coudersport.

Erika L. (Bozyk) Trimm, '14, nursing, is a psychiatric RN for Parkridge Valley Adult & Senior Hospital. She is an August 2019 graduate of Southern Adventist University with a Master of Science in Nursing with an emphasis in psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner. She resides in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Matthew A. Bamonte, '15, information technology sciences: gaming and simulation, is a learning experience designer for Amazon Robotics. He is responsible for creating engaging online and classroom learning experiences, job aids and reference guides that enable personnel at Amazon fulfillment centers to work cohesively and safely with robotic technology. He holds a master's in instructional technology from Bloomsburg University and resides in Manchester, N.H.

Kevin Duncan, '15, on-site power generation, is a New Jersey state trooper. He resides in Galloway, N.J.

George A. Gadbois, '15, business administration: banking and finance, is a paraplanner and investment analyst for Legacy Financial Group. He resides in Rockville, Md.

Brianna R. Helmick, '15, culinary arts and systems, is a director of dietary and nutrition for the Healthcare Services Group. She resides in Hershey.

Darren Layre, '15, culinary arts and systems, is executive sous chef for Alta Via. He resides in Pittsburgh.

Austin Leatherman, '15, heating, ventilation & air conditioning technology, is an HVAC mechanic for Lycoming Engines. He resides in Williamsport.

Lorenzo Marefka, '15, business administration: management, is an admissions counselor for Penn College. He resides in Williamsport.

Kacey S. (Ammerman) Norton, '15, nursing, is a cardiothoracic operating room nurse for Penn State Hershey Medical Center. She resides in Elizabethtown with her husband, **Jonathan, '14**, building automation technology.

Kyle Williams, '15, residential construction technology and management, is an estimator for Gilbane Building Co. He resides in Royal Palm, Fla.

Faith (Welch) Worthington, '15, nursing, is a nurse educator for UPMC Susquehanna, responsible for education related to trauma. She resides in Williamsport.

Nicholas Edmiston, '16, heavy construction equipment technology: operator, is a heavy equipment operator/foreman for Triple E Group. He resides in Oakton, Va.

Brandon N. Hornberger, '16, surveying technology, is a surveyor for Trumbull Corp., working on the Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation Project. He resides in South Williamsport.

Jessica (Wiegand) Layre, '16, business administration: marketing, is a student support specialist in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine's Office of Student Affairs and Diversity Programs. She resides in Pittsburgh.

Cheyenne M. Lutz, '16, health arts: practical nursing, is an LPN in Geisinger's allergy department. She resides in Beach Creek.

LaQuinn N. Thompson, '16, applied human services, is the community outreach director for St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church in York, where he leads the youth center, after school program and summer camp, among other outreach ministries. He recently founded B.E.A.S.T. Initiative P.U.S.H., an esports/gaming program for youth and adults. He resides in York and is certified in congregational faith formation.

James N. Ahern, '17, information assurance and cyber security, is a senior cybersecurity consultant for the Wisconsin Department of Justice. He resides in Madison, Wis.

Britni Fennell, '17, manufacturing engineering technology, is a quality engineer for BAE Systems.

John Good IV, '17, engineering design technology, is a project engineer for Ausley Construction. He resides in Williamsport.

Melyce Kenyon, '17, culinary arts technology, is the chef/owner of MK Cafe & Catering in Canton.

Andrew Mattocks, '17, nursing; '11, applied health studies: emergency medical services, is an RN for the Federal Bureau of Prisons. He resides in Williamsport.

Stephanie (Passanante) Smith, '17, nursing, is a registered nurse for the Lehigh Valley Health Network. She resides in Harleysville.

Brittany Terpstra, '17, web and interactive media, is the associate director of web services for Wilkes University. She resides in Jim Thorpe.

Caleb E. Cartmell, '18, automotive technology management, is a service adviser for Steve Moyer Subaru. He resides in Shoemakersville.

Rachel E. Farber, '18, nursing, is a staff nurse for UPMC Altoona. She resides in Altoona.

James Hendrie, '18, software development & information management, is a software engineer, UI/UX designer and founder of James Hendrie Consulting. He resides in New York City.

Amanda N. Suda, '18, landscape/horticulture technology: plant production emphasis, is a farm apprentice for the on-campus organic farm at Wilson College. She resides in Harrisburg.

Samantha (Gstalter) Tatham, '18, physical therapist assistant; '12, baking and pastry arts, is a physical therapist assistant for AdvantageCare, providing therapeutic interventions at an assisted living facility. She resides in Lock Haven.

Lacey Watson, '18, business administration: sport and event management, is the director of in-home services for Dedicated Nursing Associates. She resides in Cogan Station.

Austin Wolfe, '18, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is a sales engineer for Lincoln Electric. He resides in Altoona.

Matthew Yohn, '18, electronics and computer engineering technology: robotics and automation, is a service technician for Kronos Inc., maintaining and troubleshooting electronics and software on packaging and palletizing machinery. He resides in Dillsburg.

Erika Cowan, '19, surgical technology, is a surgical technologist for Bradford Regional Medical Center. She resides in Warren.

Marianne DePasqua, '19, business administration: management, is a client development specialist for Workforce Development at Penn College. She resides in South Williamsport.

Breanna M. Fieger, '19, information assurance and cyber security, is a systems engineer for Solers. She resides in Arlington, Va.

Jordan L. Greenland, '19, plastics and polymer engineering technology, is a research/teaching assistant at Lehigh University, where he is pursuing a doctorate in polymer science. He resides in Aaronsburg.

Gretchen A. Heintzelman, '19, nursing, is an RN supervisor for Nottingham Village. She resides in Lewisburg.

Garrett M. Herriman, '19, civil engineering technology, is a construction inspector for McTish, Kunkel and Associates. He resides in Williamsport.

Rebecca J. Leese, '19, nursing, is a labor and delivery RN for Tailored Healthcare, a travel nurse staffing company. She resides in Williamsport.

Rachael Malek, '19, applied human services, is a caseworker for Snyder County Children and Youth Services. She resides in Williamsport.

Alexis J. Medero, '19, civil engineering technology, is a site consultant for Civil & Environmental Consultants Inc. He resides in Levittown.

Michael Poust, '19, software development & information management, and information assurance and cyber security, is a software engineer I for Avail Technologies. He resides in Williamsport.

Kimberly Reynolds, '19, nursing, is a graduate nurse/RN for UPMC Susquehanna. She resides in Williamsport.

Cole C. Slavitt, '19, heavy construction equipment technology: Caterpillar equipment, is a heavy equipment technician for Foley Caterpillar. He resides in Livingston, N.J.

Jeff Steen, '19, applied management, manages the medium- and high-voltage electrical department for Merck Pharmaceutical. He resides in Coatesville.

Madyson N. Stiehler, '19, dental hygiene: health policy and administration; '18, dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist for Community Dental Solutions. She resides in Hollidaysburg.

Andrew Zwigard, '19, residential construction technology and management: building construction technology, is a construction manager for Keystone Custom Homes. He resides in Waynesboro.

Marriages & Births

Julie (Rutt) Hedgepeth, '04, paramedic technology, welcomed a son, Simon, in December 2018. They reside in Columbia.

Eric Kahler, '06, civil engineering technology, surveying technology, and wife, Kayla, welcomed their second child, daughter Lowen, in fall 2018. They reside in Jersey Shore.

Erin E. (Moslak) Crain, '08, nursing, and her husband, **Kyle D., '07**, information technology: network technology, welcomed a son, Liam, in August 2019. They reside in Tyrone.

Barton M. Hetrick Jr., '09, aviation maintenance technology, married Jennifer Cullin in October 2018. They reside in Williamsport.

Marc H. MacCorkle, '09, construction carpentry, and wife, Laura, welcomed their second son, Grayson. They reside in Pottstown.

Jeffrey Eshenour, '11, information technology: web & applications development, and his wife, Brie, welcomed their second daughter, Raelyn, in March 2019. They reside in Waco, Texas.

Ashia M. (Banghart) Hastings, '11, accounting, welcomed daughter Elizabeth Opal in November 2017. They reside in Hughesville.

Evan Entz, '12, residential construction technology and management, and his wife welcomed daughter Bella Lindsay Michelle Entz on Dec. 22, 2017. They reside in Jersey Shore.

Christopher Silverstrim, '12, electrical technology, married Barbara Kurtz in May 2019.

Colton J. Saulter, '14, heavy construction equipment technology: operator emphasis, welcomed a son to the family in June 2019. They reside in Coudersport.

Jonathan F. DeRoner, '15, computer aided product design, married wife, Jaky, on Sept. 29, 2018. They reside in Addison, N.Y.

Angela (Card) Kendall, '15, graphic design, and husband, **Reuben, '13**, automotive technology, welcomed daughter Elowen in January 2019. They reside in State College.

Brandon N. Hornberger, '16, surveying technology, married Morgan Bower in June 2017. They reside in South Williamsport.

Stephanie Passanante, '17, nursing, married **Sheldon Smith, '15**, heavy construction equipment technology: operator, in October 2018. They reside in Harleysville.






In Memory

John K. Hammond, retired professor of automotive technology, age 80, on Sept. 4, 2019

State Sen. J. Doyle Corman, former Penn College Board of Directors member, age 87, on Dec. 8, 2019

Birch B. Phillips Jr., former Penn College Board of Directors member, age 86, on Jan. 31

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ATHLETICS

Morgan B. Heritage, '21
dental hygiene, softball
New Castle, Delaware

"I could not be more thankful for the contributions donors provide for our academic and athletics success. They directly affect the opportunities we experience day in and day out. From dental hygiene essentials in the clinic to softball equipment and team apparel, I feel fully supported, as do my classmates and teammates!"



GLOBAL EXPERIENCES

Jillian C. Hiestand, '20
nursing
Marietta

"Without Penn College, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to travel abroad in Nueva Santa Rosa, Guatemala, and create memories that I will cherish forever. This experience opened my eyes to a deeper passion for nursing."



SCHOLARSHIPS

Danielle R. Wesneski, '21
applied management, baking and pastry arts
Williamsport

"The scholarships I receive mean a great deal to me; without them, my education at Penn College wouldn't be possible. My goal is to continue on to my master's and return to Penn College to teach. My inspiration comes from those who believe in me enough to help pay for my education. I strive to do my best every day!"



ACADEMICS

Malcolm K. and Miles K. Lampkin, '21
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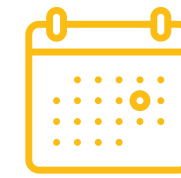
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SAVE THE DATE

March 17-18 Career Fair
For Penn College students and alumni / www.pct.edu/careerfair

March 17-April 17 Gallery: Victory for a Dime
The fighting comic books of the Second World War
Lecture and reception: March 19 / gallery.pct.edu

March 28 Open House

April 3 Visiting Chef Dinner with Fabrizio Facchini
Benefits student scholarships / www.pct.edu/lejeunechef

April 3 Alumni Networking Event
Rusty Rail Brewing Co., Mifflinburg, 6:30 p.m.

April 24 Williamsport Technical Institute Reunion

April 28-May 8 Gallery: Graphic Design 2020
Student portfolio exhibition / Reception: May 1, 4-6 p.m.

May 14-21 Gallery: Architecture & Sustainable Design
Student capstone project exhibition / Reception: May 14, 4-6 p.m.

May 15-16 Commencement

June 4-July 23 Gallery: Textiles in Translation
Presented by Studio Art Quilt Associates of Pennsylvania /
Reception: June 6, 2-5 p.m.

June / July Pre-College Programs
Explore "degrees that work" and earn scholarships /
www.pct.edu/precollege

June 22 Golf Classic
Supports student scholarships

Aug. 8 Commencement

Aug. 15-16 Welcome Weekend
Alumni, call 1-877-PCT-ALUM to help welcome students to campus!

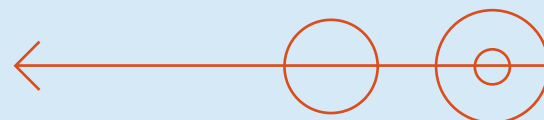
Aug. 17 Fall classes begin

For information, call 800-367-9222

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Pennsylvania College of Technology became an affiliate of Penn State in 1989 after establishing a national reputation for education supporting workforce development, first as a technical institute and later as a community college. Today Penn College is a special mission affiliate of Penn State and a national leader in applied technology education. Penn College offers more than 100 bachelor, associate and certificate majors to some 5,000 students in careers ranging from manufacturing, design, transportation and construction to hospitality, health, business and natural resources. Business/industry connections, small classes, industry-standard equipment and faculty with work experience contribute to strong graduate placement rates. The full college experience awaits those desiring on-campus housing, Greek Life, student organizations and NCAA Division III athletics.

An affiliate of The Pennsylvania State University

Penn College operates on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Change Service Requested

The Wildcat Athletics logo, recreated in metal by members of the Penn College American Welding Society student chapter, watches over a plaza between the expanded Lycoming Engines Metal Trades Center and College Avenue Labs (the former HON Co. furniture factory).

