

# Developments

A semi-annual publication of the  
Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education  
for SPS/SAHE alumni and friends

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## 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient



We are excited to announce Jennifer DuBrava Hinton as the recipient of the Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award for 2017!

Jennifer is a 2000 graduate of SAHE and is currently the Assistant Director of Rochester Institute of Technology's Center for Media, Arts, Games, Interaction and Creativity (MAGIC), as well as Chief Communications Officer for MAGIC Spell Studios. Prior to these roles at RIT, she served as Assistant Director of Student Experience, Director of Alumni Relations, Senior Academic Advisor, Interim Assistant Director and Program Coordinator for New Student Orientation, and Residence Director. In 1999, Jennifer was the first to receive SAHE's Nancy Newkerk Scholarship, in honor of her professional promise for a career in higher education.

Numerous letters of support from professional colleagues and students were submitted in support of her nomination. A current student commented, "I have seen many individuals in higher education who 'check out' after work is over, and it amazes me that Jennifer not only supports our University's community, but that she's actually passionate about us inside and outside of the classroom walls." A colleague wrote, "Her ability to manage multiple priorities, care deeply for others, and develop and support opportunities for students and staff are qualities I have seen in very few professionals with the field of higher education."

The award selection committee (comprised of SAHE faculty, students, and alumni) in their review of the nomination materials for Jennifer, unanimously affirmed that she meets and exceeds the award criteria, particularly in the areas of promoting student success, collaborating with colleagues, embracing lifelong learning, and contributing to the profession.

The award will be presented to Jennifer at the annual SAHE Kick-Off in August 2017. The Distinguished Alumni Award began in 2006 and was created to acknowledge an alumnus of the SAHE department whose experiences and accomplishments as a student affairs professional significantly reflect the standards and values of the SPS program/SAHE department. In 2008, in recognition of Ron Lunardini's 37 years of service to IUP (18 as an SAHE faculty member), the award title was changed to honor him.

### SAHE Faculty:

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# Chair's Update

John Wesley Lowery



Greetings from SAHE!

I hope that each of you is having a great semester and enjoying the arrival of spring. We had a particularly mild winter, but the arrival of spring in western Pennsylvania is still welcome. With spring comes blooming flowers and the greening of the Oak Grove after the dull colors of winter.

This has been a busy spring semester. We had a very strong group of applicants to the program, many of whom were sent to us by our alumni. Last month, almost 50 prospective students visited campus for Visitation. We are now in the process of making assistantship offers and a number of students have already committed to attending SAHE next year.

We are continuing to refine the portfolio requirement for second year students. We have updated the portfolio to incorporate the updated *ACPA/NASPA Professional Competency Areas for Student Affairs Educators* (2015) and the new *ACPA/NASPA Professional Competencies Rubrics* (2016). This year much of

the work of the portfolio process has been integrated into SAHE 740: Contemporary Issues in Higher Education, but students still work with their advisors on several elements.

With the spring semester also comes the conference season and I had the opportunity to talk with a number of SAHE alumni at the ASCA conference in Florida and NASPA in San Antonio, Texas. SAHE was very well represented at NASPA. A number of our current second year students attended the conference and participated in TPE and shared their great experiences. This year, we held our annual reception at ACPA and I was glad to hear that so many SAHE alumni stopped by. We were well represented at ACPA in Columbus by Mimi Benjamin, John Mueller, and a number of current students. I was even there briefly myself to present the ACPA Legislative Update.

You can read more about this year's SAHE graduates by visiting: <http://bit.ly/aboutourgrads>. I encourage you to review their resumes and share this information with others who are looking for great new professionals to hire.

There are several ways in which you can support the SAHE program. First, please continue to encourage your best and brightest students to pursue a career in student affairs that begins at IUP. You can also support the SAHE program through your financial contributions to the SAHE Development Fund which helps to support events such as our alumni reception at ACPA and our student awards. A donation form appears below.

I sincerely hope that this newsletter finds you well! Please continue to share your news and updates with us. We deeply appreciate your continued hard work, support, and loyalty to SAHE.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John".

John Wesley Lowery, Ph.D.

## Support SAHE

The **SAHE Development Fund** supports the needs of the SAHE program that are not covered by funds from the University (e.g., student support for professional development activities, research support to students, Outstanding Scholar Award and Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award)

Visit [www.iup.edu/giveagift](http://www.iup.edu/giveagift) and enter # 4647 in the "Other" field to contribute to the **SAHE Development Fund**

The Foundation for IUP is a 501(c)(3) organization; gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible as per IRS regulations. The official registration and financial information of the Foundation for Indiana University of Pennsylvania may be obtained for the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. For calls which originate outside of Pennsylvania, the telephone number is 717-783-1720. Registration does not imply endorsement.

# Faculty Updates

## John Mueller

I'm always amazed at how quickly the spring semester flies by. Just as it gets underway, spring break hits. Then it's conference time, and before you know it we're talking about end of the year awards and commencement. This is the first spring in seven years that I am not planning a summer trip abroad. I'll miss being with colleagues from across the country and around the world. I hope to be dusting off my passport next summer (if not sooner!). Still, three SAHE students *will* be traveling to Florence, Italy with the Kent State study tour.



This spring, I remain busy with a few writing projects and shepherding the program's five-year review to its completion. This summer my goal is to bring those writing projects to conclusion and to start a new exciting project on a new monograph for ACPA; more later, but it involves three letters familiar to our alum (P, T, and another P).

In July, I will cross the Texas state line for the first time in my life when I go to Houston for ACPA's annual leadership meeting. Somewhere in the summer months I'll also make time for home improvement projects, bike rides on the Hoodlebug Trail, and vacation time with my family. Best wishes to all as spring turns to summer and summer flies by to the start of a new school year!

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## Mimi Benjamin

Having just returned from both NASPA and ACPA, I'm feeling like spring has arrived as conferences always seem to be the mark of spring for me. It was great to see those of you who were able to attend our ACPA reception and see folks re-connecting in ways that only seem to happen at convention time. We had a number of our current students at both events this year, and I had the pleasure of having dinner with them one of the nights we were in San Antonio and Columbus and hearing about their enthusiasm for the conference experience.



I try not to reference being "busy" because I know that everyone is and that state of being is not unique to me. I will say, however, that this job continues to be one that allows me to spend time on tasks that I truly enjoy. This semester I'm teaching the Assessment course, and I have added a component of real-life assessment as each class is working on a project for an office at IUP. I'm also teaching a new elective course that I created on Student Success in Higher Education, where we're studying the literature on Thriving and High Impact Practices. Students have done Pecha Kucha presentations and facilitated class discussions on such topics as at-risk students, learning communities, undergraduate research opportunities and first-year seminars and experiences. I've really enjoyed our conversations and all that I have learned with and from the students.

NASPA and ACPA provided opportunities to present my research in the areas of administrator-to-faculty transitions as well as supporting students with concerning behaviors in learning communities. These presentations will be the basis of upcoming writing projects, and hopefully I'll see them in print before too long. One article about the administrator-to-faculty study is due to be published in the *College Student Affairs Journal* any day now!

As summer draws near, I'm anticipating planting my garden, visiting family and friends, and participating as a faculty co-leader of a research seminar on living-learning communities at Elon University in North Carolina. I'll also be working with my colleagues to wrap up our living-learning communities book that should be out next spring. As always, I never worry that I won't have enough to do! I'm sure you feel the same way. However you're spending your time this summer, I hope it's enjoyable and that you have some relaxation time coming your way as we wrap up another academic year.

# Faculty Updates Continued

## Holley Belch

Hi All! As I write my contribution to the newsletter, it is a Sunday morning in late March and a sunny day has emerged. The crocus in my yard sprouted up a few weeks ago yet were deterred by a winter storm a week later. I hope that the storms are gone and spring can take off in full bloom.

Predictably, on a college campus, seniors and others mark the passing of each day as a measure of time to graduation. Our second year students do the same. Their thoughts focus on applying for jobs, hoping to get interviews, concern over how to be successful in an interview, and leaving the familiarity they have come to know of graduate school. The faculty spends time encouraging, cajoling, acknowledging that finding a job for some is not a sprint to a finish line, but the beginning of a journey we refer to as a career.

Although I did not attend any conferences this spring, many alumni have sent warm greetings throughout the year sharing announcements, pictures of family, updates on how they are doing, or a simple (and appreciated) hello. One of the truly rewarding aspects of what I do is the connection to students/alumni that endures over time.

The summer nears with all of its possibilities and surprises. I have plans to travel, continue exploring the bike trails of western PA and beyond, and let most days take me on a new adventure. I also intend to embrace several of the more than two dozen lessons Winnie the Pooh has been teaching for nearly a century – one of the most important is to remember, “Sometimes, its ok to do nothing.”

My hope for you is to personally and professionally celebrate your accomplishments, learn from the bumpy parts of the road, enjoy those around you, and keep in mind that “It’s more fun to talk with someone who doesn’t use long, difficult words but rather short, easy words like, ‘what about lunch?’” (Pooh).



## Student Updates

**Jhane Cummings** ('18) presented “Super Vision: And Other Student Affairs Magical Powers” at the NODA Region VIII Conference. The interactive presentation emphasized how good supervision and a united staff provide cohesion to an orientation transition and retention program, and discussed the importance of managing the work/life balance.

**Meghan Delsite** ('18) presented “Finding Your True Colors” at the Golden Key International Honor Society Regional Summit in Washington, D.C. to help students develop their own personal leadership style.

**Michele Magliulo** ('17) presented a session at the pre-convention to educate new ACPA members on what ACPA is, the history, how to be an active member, and the opportunities they have in the association. The panel consisted of NextGen Alum, Convention Team members, and Coordinators and Ambassadors in the Coalition of Graduate Students and New Professionals. Magliulo facilitated the discussion on how to incorporate being an active ACPA member and graduate student, as well as the opportunities there are to get more involved.

**Brandon Sousa** ('17) has presented four workshops focused on career exploration, understanding learning styles, time management, and preparing for the transition to college at various high schools in the Johnstown, PA area.



The 2016 graduates are seeking full-time professional employment.

To view their resumes click [here!](#)

# NASPA & ACPA 2017

IUP SAHE was well represented at both of the national annual conventions this year. Alumni and faculty presented on various topics, and current students spent time job searching during The Placement Exchange at NASPA, networking at ACPA's Alumni and Friends Reception, attending educational sessions, and volunteering to assist with the graduate fair and convention operations.

At the ACPA convention in Columbus Ohio, John Mueller presented two programs "Measuring Privileged Identity Exploration" and "Perspectives on Supporting and Including Secular, Atheist, and Agnostic Students". Mimi Benjamin presented her research on "Supporting Students with Concerning Behaviors in Learning Communities". John Lowery presented a highlighted program titled, "ACPA Legislative Update 2017".

In San Antonio, Texas at the NASPA convention, Mimi Benjamin presented two sessions: "Attending to Concerning Behaviors in Learning Communities" and "It's a Complete Career Change: Shifting from Full-Time Administrator to Full-Time Faculty Member".

John Lowery presented "Talking Openly About Concealed Carry on Campus" and moderated a featured panel discussion on the "Student Personnel Point of View: 80 Years Later Where are We Now?". John also served on a panel discussion of new book, *Careers in Student Affairs: A Holistic Guide to Professional Development in Higher Education* for which he co-wrote a chapter with Mimi Benjamin.

The IUP Alumni & Friends Reception was held at ACPA where current students, friends of IUP, and alumni all gathered for an evening of connecting. Thank you to all who attended!



Kathy Alvarado ('17) and Gail DeShields ('17) represent SAHE at NASPA 2017

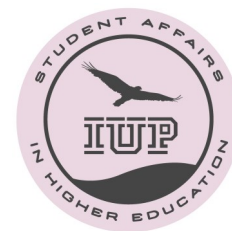


Dr. Mimi Benjamin (front right) and second-year SAHE students join for dinner at ACPA 2017. From Left: Amy Sawdey ('17), Shannen Stiffler ('17), Michele Magliulo ('17), Ashley Reese ('17), Jessica Oren ('17), Ashley Baksis ('17), Elissa Donovan ('17), and Brandon Sousa ('17).



IUP SAHE Alumni connect at ACPA:  
From Left: Lauren Watson ('15), Dave Tiscione ('10), Jamie Guilford ('08), Emily Forte ('08), Jon Geyer ('08), Dr. John Mueller, Amanda Ries ('06), Morgan Rizzarda ('09)

# The Impact of a SAHE Alum - MACUHO Conference Experience



By: Kathy Alvarado ('17)

Getting involved in a student affairs organization can be intimidating and overwhelming. However, sometimes all it takes is the help of a great mentor to show you the way.



Kathy Alvarado ('17) and Tory (Rowlands) Elisca ('12)

My involvement in MACUHO (Mid-Atlantic Association of College and University Housing Officers) began with the support of SAHE Alum, Tory (Rowlands) Elisca. Tory was my supervisor during my senior year at Rutgers University – Newark. She entered the department with a sense of grace and a level of skill and knowledge that I instantly admired. During our one-on-one meetings, we talked about everything from personal situations to sharing recipes for my favorite snack “Chubby Hubbies,” but more importantly my decision to pursue student affairs instead of social work. Tory knew I was on the fence but never stopped showing support. One day I received an email from Tory, it said, “take a look, this might interest you.” As I looked through the body of the email, it was a message from the MACUHO Recruitment and Retention Committee promoting the Lisa A. Pierce Volunteer Incentive Program for Students (VIPS). The program provides an opportunity for undergraduate student staff members to learn more about the field of student affairs by attending the annual conference. I was extremely nervous to apply because I had never experi-

enced something so grand; however, Tory took on the responsibility and guided me every step of the way. As a result, I was selected to be a VIP and attend the 2014 conference.

Fast-forward to two years later, during November 2016, I attended the MACUHO conference in Hershey, PA; this time as a 2nd year graduate student. I was thrilled because I had the opportunity to reconnect with many of the professionals I met in November 2014. Additionally, I was able to sit on a panel with my fellow 2014 VIPS and share our graduate school experiences. We talked about the application process, the ups and downs of graduate school, and the everlasting impact of MACUHO on our lives as graduate students and soon-to-be professionals. It was a very empowering moment for me because I had the chance to influence undergraduate students similarly to how Tory influenced me.

The field of student affairs is one that offers eternal rewards; the people that you meet can impact your life forever. I believe that Tory is one of those people for me. She has helped shaped who I am as a professional, beyond a reach that I could imagine. Through her influential mentorship, I have become a part of something greater than myself. I am now a part of the Recruitment and Retention Committee as well as the Leadership Task Force. My commitment to MACUHO has only begun, and I know that it will be everlasting. Being a part of MACHUO has become my family away from home.



IUP student and Kathy Alvarado ('17)  
chosen to be 2016 VIPS

# The Forum on Education Abroad

By: Kayla Grosjean ('17)

Attending *The Forum of Education Abroad* annual conference in Seattle, WA between March 29-31, 2017, provided an opportunity for new and seasoned professionals to come together and share ideas of best practices. The focus of this conference is to discuss the standards of good practices established by the Forum, and practical methods to implement them within your role. This non-profit organization provides an opportunity for individual professionals to become certified in the standards or the institution can achieve Quality Improvement Program certification (QUIP).



At this conference, I was able to reconnect with undergraduate friends and network with other professionals from all over the world. There were more than 1,300 attendees at this conference representing professionals on a college campus, third party providers, international universities, faculty members, graduate and undergraduate students, and other professionals that support students throughout their study abroad experience.

The SAHE program has developed my ability to understand and implement student development theories into practice, which was highlighted throughout my discussions with other professionals at the confer-

From Left: Becky Johnson, Rollins College  
Kayla Grosjean ('18), and Kara Parsons, Valencia College



ence. The professionals implement student development theories when facilitating pre-departure orientations, re-entry programs, and best practices when advising students. Some sessions I attended were "Practical Risk Management Abroad", "Mental Health Strategies for Study Abroad", "Complying with Title IX Abroad", "Examining the Parent Roles to Enhance Student Development on the Study Abroad Continuum", and many more.

This conference gave me further insight on the individual certification process, which will help me be able to initiate standards of best practice in my current position and beyond. I was able to expand my network of passionate professionals within the field, while actively pursuing a career in Education Abroad. The next annual conference will take place in Boston, MA between March 21 and 23, 2018.

# Global Perspectives

By: Shauna Goodell ('17)

In May 2016, I participated in a study tour to the United Kingdom hosted by the Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA) program at Bowling Green State University (BGSU). My small group consisted of graduate students (the majority from BGSU) and one doctoral student from Indiana University. The program was coordinated by Dr. Ellen Broido and her graduate assistant, Aryn Lipnicki.

Our tour began in Edinburgh, the capital city of Scotland. While in Scotland we visited the University of Edinburgh and the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow. We then headed south to England. In England, we visited the York St. John University, the University of Oxford, the University of Reading, and the University of East London. In addition to visiting those institutions, we met with representatives from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls' program in Dalkeith, Scotland, and St. Cloud State University's program in Alnwick, England. We also met with leaders from the National Union of Students (NSU) and other organizations that can be likened to NASPA and ACPA. At each institution, we had the privilege of listening to and engaging in presentations with professional staff, who were more than eager to share their insights and knowledge with us. Dr. Broido arranged for us to hear from professionals in a wide variety of functional areas, including disability support, mental health services, international education, athletics, and residence life.

In our free time, we immersed ourselves in the local culture. Cultural excursions included a day trip to Stone-

henge and Bath, and many of us participated in guided tours around the different cities to hear the locals' perspectives on the history and culture.

This study tour allowed me to increase my global perspective on higher education. We focused primarily on experiencing a culture different from our own and gaining an understanding of the higher education system outside of the United States. The most significant difference that I discovered was that the field of student affairs does not exist in England and Scotland as it does in the United States. It is referred to as "student services", and there are no student affairs related graduate programs. Knowledge of student development theory among professionals is relatively scarce.

However, there are some notable similarities. Professional staff in England and Scotland share the same values we do. We both want to enrich the student experience, facilitate student growth and development, improve programs and practice, collaborate and share ideas, and increase access to students of all backgrounds, the latter of which they refer to as "widening participation".

Participating in this study tour was an inspiring, eye-opening experience. I encourage all future SAHE students to consider participating in a study tour. I am thankful for the partnership between IUP SAHE and BGSU, for without them, I would have never been able to explore differing student affairs views and practices abroad.



Radcliffe at the University of Oxford



# Reflections from a Soon-to-be Grad

*Why the journey has been worth it with long-lasting connections made along the way*

By: Jessica (JT) Tallant ('17)

When you start graduate school, one of your first thoughts is **never**, "this is going to fly by!" As I sit here writing this I am exactly 36 days away from graduation. Well to my surprise, time *does* fly. This opinion piece is to serve as one of my many reflections on my experiences and connections made in the program and provide insight into the many wonderful aspects of IUP SAHE. This program and the people I have met along the way have certainly left a life-long impact on not only my professional, but my personal life as well.



Left: Melissa Gaskill ('16) and right: Jessica (JT) Tallant ('17)

I will never forget the day I came to visit Indiana, Pennsylvania to see one of my friends from college, Melissa Gaskill ('16). Melissa and I had caught up on a couple of different occasions post-graduation, but now something was different. The classes and the experiences she was having within her assistantship were truly intriguing me to find out more about this program called "SAHE". It was after not only that weekend, but also the positive

interactions and correspondence I had with current students that I decided this was where I wanted to be.

So why am I so "IUP SAHE proud" you might ask? First, on the night of Kick-Off, our program's orientation and beginning of the year celebration, I realized I connected to so many cohort-mates who also made the decision to come to SAHE because of an alumni or current student. This not only said something about the program, the legacy and impact it was leaving on graduates, but the esteemed line of faculty the program has had and currently possesses.

Another noteworthy aspect to our program is the numerous experiences that are constantly at your fingertips. I have had the pleasure of holding a graduate assistantship in the Office of Advising and Testing where I have coordinated Parent and Family Orientation as well as advised students with disabilities. I have also had the wonderful opportunity to be a part of our executive board as the Vice President for Professional Development for Associates for Student Development. Through many opportunities provided, I have had the ability to connect with many SAHE alum and faculty members' past and present colleagues! Speaking of the faculty, they are frequently recommending opportunities; one that I will be participating in this upcoming month is facilitating a focus group for IUP's Institutional Planning and Assessment team.

As I leave this program and embark on my first full-time position at Oregon State University, I am happy and very confident to say that I am ready to take on what lies ahead. For the first year students, best of luck with your final year and remember to take advantage of the time you have left in SAHE!





# Alumni Updates

## Accomplishments/Accolades Updates

**Dr. Kevin Bailey** ('90) co-wrote a chapter on networking in the new NASPA publication *Careers in Student Affairs: A Holistic Guide to Professional Development in Higher Education*.

**Councilman Tom Baker** ('05) will serve as the Commencement Speaker at Spring Graduation at Penn State Altoona on May 6, 2017 and was recently named by The Incline as a "Who's Next in Politics" 2017 honoree.

**Mallory Bower** ('09) co-authored a chapter in the latest volume of *New Directions for Student Leadership: "A Mindset for Career Curiosity: Emerging Leaders Working in the Digital Space."*

**Craig Dillaman** ('03) had a book published titled, *It's OK to be Confused*. It was released back in January 2016.

**Carrie Egnosak** ('05) was awarded the NACADA Region 2 Ambassador Scholarship and is serving as the co-chair for Volunteers & Evaluations at the 2017 NACADA Region 2 Conference.

**Jessica Fitzpatrick** ('16) was awarded the Chuck Morrell New Professional IPDS Scholarship from the Association of College Unions International (ACUI).

**Jamie Guilford** ('08) was elected as a Directorate Member of ACPA's Commission for Career Services.

**Matthew Landy** ('08) presented three sessions at ASCA: "Changing the Stigma: Collaboration and Approach", "Renewing the Relationship Between Residence Life and Student Conduct", and "So You Want to Work in Student Conduct."

**Rob Levrant** ('99) was awarded a \$45,000 grant from Dignity Health to expand access for seniors for chronic disease self-management and other lifelong learning opportunities.

**Michael Paestella** ('97) was elected to serve as President of the SUNY Potsdam Alumni Board of Trustees.

**Annemarie Vaccaro** ('96) was the recipient the 2017 NASPA George D. Kuh Award for Outstanding Contribution to Literature and/or Research Award.

**Dr. Becky Verzinski** ('94) was awarded a \$60,000 Maryland Higher Education Commission grant to assist near-completer students in finishing their degrees. This is the third MHEC grant she has received. Since 2013, 19 students have graduated under the program.

## Personal Updates

**Megan Albidrez** ('02) welcomed a son, Cruz Michael on November 3, 2016.

**Lauren Blum** ('12) married Kevin Doyle in June of 2016.

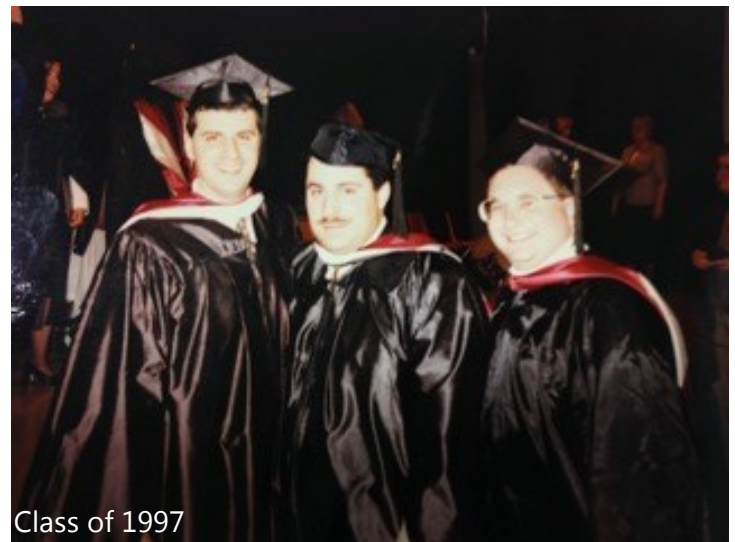
**Brittany Benton Lee** ('03) married Matthew Lee in 2015 and welcomed their son, Benton Garrett in December 2016.

**Marissa De Lucia** ('14) married Matthew Haynes in January 2017.

**Robyn (Schultz) Stuart** ('09) and husband, Dave, are expecting their first baby (a boy!) in June.

**Kelly (Cordero) Thompson** ('11) and her husband welcomed their son, Jack into the world on January 13, 2017.

**Louise Whyte-Aravich** ('16) married Evan Aravich on December 23rd, 2016 in his hometown of Brockway, PA.



From left: Ron Delfine, Michael Paestella, Sean Agnew

*Congratulations to all our alumni  
on your accomplishments!*

IUP SAHE is proud to have you as an inspiration to students and a positive reflection of the department!

To update any of your information, fill out this [form](#).

# Updated Employment

**Michael Botts** ('15) is now the Assistant Dean of Students at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, PA.

**Mark Brinkman** ('96) is now the Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life at Portland State University, OR.

**James Carroll** ('96) is now the Director of Student Conduct, Rights, & Responsibilities at California State University, East Bay in Hayward, CA.

**Kate Colyer** ('11) is the Interim Assistant Director of Service-Learning and Volunteer Programs at West Chester University, PA.

**Dominick DiLoreto** ('16) is now an Area Coordinator at Elizabethtown College, PA.

**Tiff Dyer** ('13) is the Prevention Coordinator for Student Advocacy, Sexual Civility and Empowerment, and Sexual Violence at The Ohio State University, OH.

**Rob Levrant** ('99) is now the Director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, NV.

**Kyle MacDonald** ('11) was promoted to Director of Specialized Masters & Ph.D. Admissions at the Boston University Questrom School of Business, MA.

**Erin Mullen** ('11) is the Assistant Director of Experiential Education for the Career Center at the University of South Carolina, SC.

**Sara (Barnett) Lawer** ('06) is now the Associate Director of Alumni Relations at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, PA.

**Katie Owsianiecki** ('10) is now the Associate Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life in the Student Development and Campus Activities Office at Pace University, NY.

**Daniel Pretz** ('10) is now the Associate Director of Housing, Residence Life, and Summer Conferences at the Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University, MD.

**Jennifer Pruzinsky** ('08) is now the Program Coordinator of Metro Credit Educational Outreach at Youngstown State University, OH.

**Jennifer (Carns) Rauch** ('99) now works in Admissions for Argosy University Online, PA.

**Nancy Rottler** ('00) is now the Director of Opportunity SVC/Act 101/Student Support Services (SSS-TRIO) - Assistant Professor of Health Science at Saint Vincent College, PA.

**Gene Sutton** ('98) is working for Behavioral Advancements of DuBois as a Therapeutic Staff Support assistant until promoted to the Masters' level of a Mobile Therapist sometime this summer. He is also starting his own Career Consulting business in DuBois, PA.

**Casey Weaver** ('07) is now the Assistant Director of Residence Education at Georgia Southern University, GA.

**Kerrie Wolf-Piechota** ('04) is now the Development Assistant for the Development & Communications Office at YWCA NorthEastern, NY.

**Katie (Peoples) Zamulinsky** ('06) is now the Assistant Vice President of Student Life at Drexel University, PA.

Want to contribute an article for *Developments*?  
Email [sahe-developments@iup.edu](mailto:sahe-developments@iup.edu) to let us know!

# SAHE Alumni Connect

By: Kristin Brewer, RC Stabile, Virginia Koch, and Bonnie Prunty

In June 2016, the James C. Grimm National Housing Training Institute (NHTI) brought four IUP SAHE alum together in sunny Tampa, Florida. NHTI is an intensive professional development opportunity offered by the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I) and is intended for housing and residence life professionals with 3-7 years of experience (ACUHO-I, 2017). Participants are assigned to one of two host sites (Michigan State University or University of South Florida) for a weeklong experience that includes working closely with a diverse group of colleagues and hearing from leading professionals in our field on how to develop within ACUHO-I's competency areas to prepare for the next professional position. Mentorship, camaraderie, and endless learning opportunities abounded both during and after NHTI.

RC Stabile ('12) and Kristin Brewer ('13) were both participants in the experience. Stabile, a current Area Coordinator at Vanderbilt University in Nashville Tennessee, had applied after a positive experience at SEAHO's Regional Entry Level Institute a year prior. Stabile wanted to attend in order to grow his knowledge around specific topical areas such as Housing Assignments and Facilities services. Stabile was surprised to see how much learning occurred not just from faculty, but from his peer cohort members as well. Brewer, currently an Area Coordinator at Baldwin Wallace University, was encouraged by a close mentor, a colleague, and her supervisor to apply. For Brewer, NHTI was exactly what she was looking for to challenge herself beyond her current skill set, help inform her current position, and continue to develop a professional support network.

Dr. Virginia Koch ('86) served as an NHTI faculty member, specializing in the Assessment competency. Dr. Koch currently serves as the Director of Residence Life at Auburn University. The final IUP SAHE alum, Bonnie Prunty ('87) served as the chair of the coordinating committee responsible for the entire NHTI experience. Prunty is the Director of Residential Life and Judicial Affairs at Ithaca College, and has had great professional development opportunities serving in a number of leadership roles for ACUHO-I.

Overall, NHTI was an incredible experience made even richer by the IUP SAHE connection. The four of us may have even been the largest contingency from one graduate program that was present that year! We were proud to represent IUP SAHE and are grateful for Koch and Prunty for role modeling the importance of being involved and giving back to our amazing profession. Bonnie Prunty shared that she "has made her entire career at one institution and she attributes her involvement with ACUHO-I, and programs like NHTI, with her ability to develop a strong professional network and stay current in our field."

While applications for NHTI 2017 have already closed, we encourage you to think about applying for the Class of 2018! In addition, any of us would love to share more about our NHTI experience or answer any questions you may have. Below is our contact information:



From Left:

Virginia Koch: [vak0001@auburn.edu](mailto:vak0001@auburn.edu)

Bonnie Prunty: [bprunty@ithaca.edu](mailto:bprunty@ithaca.edu)

RC Stabile: [rstable1@gmail.com](mailto:rstable1@gmail.com)

Kristin Brewer: [krbrewer@bw.edu](mailto:krbrewer@bw.edu)

We hope you consider applying for this incredible professional development experience – who knows, you could connect with an IUP SAHE alum, too!

# Associates for Student Development



## President

Rachel Frank

## Vice President of Administration

Christina Qawasmy

## Vice President of Programming

Victoria Dean

## Vice President of Public Relations

Paige Davies

## Vice Presidents of Professional Development

Jeremy Risinger and John Spigelmeyer

**Faculty Advisor:** Dr. Mimi Benjamin

The 2017-2018 ASD Executive Board has been hard at work planning professional development opportunities, social events, and opportunities to mingle with the future 1<sup>st</sup> year cohort!

Here are some of the events:

- 100 Days Celebration for 2nd Year SAHE Students
- SAHE Visitation Social Event for Prospective Students
- Social Event: Bowling at Mohawk Lanes
- Service Event: "Take Back the Night" at IUP



ASD hosts the second-year students' celebration of 100 days until graduation!



From Left: Emily Porter ('18), Evan Jones ('18), and Christina Qawasmy ('18)

Above, ASD participates in IUP's "Take Back The Night," a program dedicated to ending sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and all other forms of sexual violence.



Connect with Associates for Student Development

@saheASD

# We're Throwing it Back...

*Celebrating three decades of graduates; '97, '07 and the next graduating class, '17*



Class of 1997: From Top Left: Cindy Nelson, Meredith Kaye, Susan Hein, Rebecca Bruning, Robyn Barto, Liz Sechlen, Dawn Tatters-Ford, Kim Gray Bottom: Luis Vazquez, Joe Rodriguez, and (unknown)



Class of 1997: Laura Aikey and Michael Paestella



Class of 1997: Dr. Thomas, Dr. Lunardini, Michael Paestella, Dr. DeCoster



Class of 2007—Erik Stein, Brad Webb, Al Thiel, Saqib Chowdhry



Class of 2007

# Celebrating the Graduating Class of 2017



And wishing them luck  
in all their endeavors!

# Share Information About SAHE

## Do you know someone who would be interested in IUP SAHE?!

Request information material to be sent to you, or provide us with the names and addresses of students you would like us to send a SAHE information packet to by E-mailing [sahе-admissions@iup.edu](mailto:sahе-admissions@iup.edu).

# Stay in Touch with SAHE

The IUP SAHE Alumni community is ever growing and we want to make sure you stay in touch with all who wear the honorable SAHE pin!

Update your contact information and current employment by filling out this [survey!](#)



[https://www.facebook.com/  
IUPSAHE/](https://www.facebook.com/IUPSAHE/)



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@IUPSAHE

# Support SAHE

Consider giving back to the program, which has given so much to you. Alumni donations are an important key to the department's continued success. Funding supports SAHE programs that are not covered by funds from the University (e.g., student support for professional development activities, research support to students, Outstanding Scholar Award, Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award). See the page 2 for more details!

