



Commencement May, 2020



## History Department Alumni Newsletter

2020

### Department News

Greetings from the History Department. Another academic year has now come and gone. It has been a very busy and unusual year.

At the beginning of the fall semester we implemented our new History B.A. curriculum. While we have been pleased with our curriculum, we felt it was time to make some changes to reflect the changing needs of our majors. The primary focus in the new B.A. curriculum is on better positioning our majors for successful careers in public service (government, law, non-profits, etc.), private sector, and public history (museums, archives, national parks, etc.). We were also pleased to learn last fall that one of our history graduates (Gina Russo Tam) had been chosen as one of IUP's 2020 Young Alumni Achievement Award winners.



Dr. Ricketts, Acting Chair

### Department News (Continued)

The spring semester was a very different and difficult time for the department as faculty members in March made the sudden transition from face-to-face classes to online instruction. We were very pleased with how successfully the history faculty made this transition. In addition, Dr. Lippert was able to move History Day from its traditional format into a virtual event that was wildly successful. Not to be outdone, at the end of the semester, Dr. Baker created a fabulous graduation video that over seventy-five people watched together during a Zoom get-together to celebrate our graduates. We certainly think it is the best graduation video we have seen this spring.

As always, we are very pleased that our existing scholarships (the Eric Slebodnik Memorial Scholarship, the John F. Kadlubowski Memorial Scholarship, the Frank and Jean Yosie Scholarship, the Charles Cashdollar Scholarship, and the Irwin Marcus Go and Do Fund) provide invaluable financial assistance to our deserving majors – particularly during these very trying times. We are always looking for assistance in growing these funds and appreciate your support.

Finally, we hope that you will keep us updated on how things are going for you. We certainly appreciate any insight you can provide our current students about the professional world that awaits them after graduation, and any suggestions for us on how we can better prepare them. Feel free to send me an email or give me a telephone call. We look forward to hearing from you.

Scott Moore & Elizabeth Ricketts

### Gina Tam named Distinguished Young Alumni

Gina (Russo) Tam was named one of IUP's Distinguished Young Alumni for the 2019-2020 academic year. Gina graduated from IUP in 2008 with a double major in History and Asian Studies. She completed her Ph.D. in History at Stanford University in 2016. She teaches at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. Her work has appeared in academic journals and in general publications like *The Nation*, *Foreign Affairs*, and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. Her first monograph, *Dialect and Nationalism in China, 1860-1960*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2020.

Gina returned to IUP in both the Fall of 2019 and the Spring of 2020 to accept her award and meet with students. There is an interview with Gina in the 2019 issue of this newsletter.



## Alumni Interview

Both Kirsten Firmi and Roy Lynn graduated with degrees in B.S.Ed/History. Kirsten graduated in 2014, and Roy in 2019. They are both teaching in Maryland. In 2019, Roy received the Student Teacher of the Year Award presented by the Pennsylvania Council for Social Studies at its annual meeting in October. In March 2020, Kirsten was one of five teachers (out of 1700) nominated for the Teacher of the Year award in Washington County.



### What do you do?

**Kirsten:** I teach 8<sup>th</sup> grade U.S. History at Northern Middle School in Washington County, Maryland. Northern MS is an international baccalaureate (IB) World school, which runs the IB Middle Years Program. I have been the Individuals and Societies Department chairperson since 2017. I am also currently part of the Washington County Curriculum Writing and Development Team. I have worked for the Maryland State Department of Education since the summer of 2018 as a master teacher. In that capacity, I travel around the state to share inquiry-based learning strategies for implementation in a secondary social studies classroom. Through that experience, I was able to collaborate with extremely talented educators across the state.

**Roy:** I just completed my first year teaching 7<sup>th</sup> grade World Studies and 8<sup>th</sup> grade U.S. History at Takoma Park Middle School in Montgomery County, Maryland. I also coach cross country in the school. I love the school at which I work: the administrators are supportive, and the school has an active and supportive professional learning community. The student body in my school is fairly diverse, and very different from the school at which I completed my student teaching. Being in the D.C. area, I had the opportunity to accompany 8<sup>th</sup> graders on a field trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

### Looking back, what did you find most valuable about your time at IUP?

**Kirsten:** I found the classes I took to be very valuable. In some ways, I have adopted some of the approaches of some of my professors. I remember Dr. Mannard's use of anecdotes in teaching his period of U.S. history. Dr. Botelho, who taught my topics class, made us learn how to write clearly. The support from the Department also made me feel like I was part of a family.

**Kirsten Firmi BSED '14**

**Roy Lynn BSED '19**

**Secondary school teachers**

**Roy:** I found the hands-on experience through student teaching to be very valuable. I also feel that the content courses prepared me well for teaching the material: for example, I don't find myself having to spend an inordinate amount of time reading up on content in teaching U.S. History. Also, the support from professors in the Department was very valuable. Many were willing to provide help in areas beyond their academic specialization.

### What advice would you give to a student thinking of following the same path as you did?

**Kirsten:** Be prepared to "fail forward." In other words, don't get bogged down if you make mistakes. Use that experience to improve. Also apply this to your own students – allow them to learn from their mistakes. Step out of your comfort zone when it comes to teaching.

**Roy:** Try to broaden your experiences as much as possible: be involved in different clubs and organizations. For example, I was an RA for two years – now looking back, I think that experience made me more assertive. This has served me well in my current position, where I can advocate for myself. Try to gain as much hands-on experience as possible – volunteer to work with school age children/youth, go out into schools, etc.

## Alumni Interview

Chris Marshall graduated from IUP in 2002 and earned his Ph.D. in History from the University of Minnesota in 2014. He currently teaches at the University of Wisconsin-Stout.



Chris Marshall B.A. '02

Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Wisconsin Stout

### What is your current job (title) and responsibilities?

I'm currently a Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Wisconsin Stout. Though not a tenure track line I have the same responsibilities as a professor; teach courses, develop courses, advise students, etc. I teach both survey and upper level History courses, as well as core courses for our Applied Social Sciences majors.

### -What do you find most rewarding and challenging about your job?

Teaching for me is both the reward and greatest challenge. Seeing students make vital connections between past and present, develop critical thinking skills, become proficient writers; all of these make my work a pleasure. Making them happen at the same time requires constant effort, introduction of new approaches, self-assessment; which collectively can be exhausting.

### -How did you get from IUP to your current job?

Due to the amazing support I received from IUP History Faculty I was accepted into the PhD Program at the University of Minnesota. While I was finishing my dissertation (*A Revolutionary Crucible: French Radicals, Foreign Expatriates, and Political Exiles in the Paris Commune*) I began teaching a few classes at UW Stout. Soon I was teaching there full-time and, when I completed my program, they promoted me to my current position.

### -How have the things you learned at IUP helped you in this career?

I apply my experience at IUP every day in both my teaching and research. The History Program at IUP taught me the fundamentals that still provide the cornerstone of my professional life.

### - What was most valuable about your academic experience at IUP?

The mentorship provided by faculty without question! Without their guidance and support I would never have taken this career path.

### - What advice would you give undergraduate students? What do you think they should accomplish before completing their B.A.?

My advice is to take full advantage of the amazing faculty you have at IUP. The benefit of their knowledge is beyond measure. While I don't think a specific plan is necessary before graduation, you should have an idea of what the next step is so you can begin to plan accordingly (take GREs or LSATs, work on internships, etc).

## Alumni Interview

Courtney Warren graduated in 2018, with a double major in History and Interior Design and has gone on to a career in interior design.

### What is your current job?

I am an Interior Designer for Custer Design Group – part of Custer Homes Inc. I walk clients through each phase of their project, whether it's a house renovation, custom home, or commercial space. My day-to-day work includes designing space layouts and architecture, communicating that design through architectural drafting and rendering, researching products and materials, and working with clients to make design, product, and material selections.

### What do you find most rewarding and challenging about your job?

The rewards and challenges seem to work in tandem. What I love most is that I get to see every single aspect of the design and building process, and as a result I am learning more than I ever would have expected about building systems and construction. I find it very important to continue educating myself in my fields even with my formal education at a pause, so I've really appreciated having the subtle challenge to consistently ask questions and study the field outside of work.

### How have the things you learned at IUP helped you in this career?

My courses with IUP's history department helped develop my way of thinking as it relates to learning and approaching questions. I can still remember the "ah-ha!" moment I had in my very first undergraduate history course as I finally comprehended the perspective with which I and my peers were being asked to approach the subjects we studied. A good portion of my time is spent considering solutions and researching products, building codes, and case studies, and my work and client relationships really benefit from the ability to communicate my thoughts eloquently and with fact-based reasoning.

Most importantly, my studies in history kindled an interest in understanding the "how" and "why" of a thing, and then gave me the skills to find those answers and build that knowledge.



**Courtney Warren B.A. History '18**

**Interior Designer for Custer Design Group**

### What advice would you give undergraduate students? What do you think they should accomplish before completing their B.A.?

1. Truly explore your interests. Find your areas of passion and pursue them as your career. Join a team or organization and stretches your comfort zone and gets you involved in something new.
2. If you're at all able to – study abroad. Learning about your field in the context of another place and culture can be so, so valuable.
3. Build relationships, both with your peers and your professors. It opens up doors and helps you develop and learn beyond the classroom.

Students exist in a world rich with resources and people interested in investing time into their personal growth and education, so take advantage of those opportunities while they're so accessible.

### Besides work, is there anything else you do that is connected to History?

Not at the moment, but I'm interested in getting involved with a local historical society. Someday I hope to move my career towards historic preservation and adaptive reuse. We also get the occasional project that involves historic restoration, or the imitation of a particular era in our design – I always relish the opportunity to dive into my books on historic architecture and design.

## Alumni Interview

David Harkleroad graduated with a BA in History in 2010 and subsequently earned his MA in History from Duquesne University in 2014. He has gone on to pursue a career in public history. Interview by Samantha Stossel



**David Harkleroad, B.A. History, 2010**

**Interpretation Coordinator, Fort Mackinac State Historic Park, Michigan.**

### Could you describe your job responsibilities?

I oversee all the historical interpretive programming on Mackinac Island, which covers historic Fort Mackinac, the historic downtown (which encompasses three specific buildings: the Biddle House, the McGulpin House, and the Beaumont American Fur Trade Company Store), and also The Richard and Jane Manoogian Art Museum.

### What do you find the most rewarding aspect about your job?

The most rewarding aspect is working with young people, and helping them get a foot into the history career field - where I'm very passionate and fulfilled in working - and sharing also my passion with working in the public history field with them to mentor and help them become professionals in that field.

And also, working with the public: educating the public, preserving historic sites that are important to the public interest. It's a three-point fulfillment: working with young people to bring them into the field, to educate the public about their history, and also to preserve and protect that history, which is a core mission of our parks.

### Looking back, what did you find most valuable about your time at IUP?

The relationships I've formed with my professors here at the department. I can't say enough about the overall good experience I had, especially with the History Department here, who really helped mentor me and shaped me from someone who didn't know anything really and to become a professional historian. It was a process. My time at IUP prepared me, I would say, for graduate school - graduate school definitely took it to the next level. When I got to graduate school though, I had the foundational building blocks of research methodology and citation, and understanding how to make interpretations in arguments, which was then brought up to the next level. And I really feel that I got that from the kind of outstanding teaching that I got here from the faculty at IUP, as well as the real genuine investment the professors have to their students' success. They care about the students here, I felt, in a very real way.

### What advice would you give undergraduate students interested in public history? What do you think they should accomplish before completing their BA?

The importance of doing internships. Do not - I say again - do not wait until you graduate to start looking for internships or jobs. It's too late. You're not going to stand out to employers with only an undergraduate degree in history and no experience working in internships. That's just the reality of the field. The history field is a small field. There are opportunities that are there, but you have to make yourself competitive.

Be willing to move. If you want a career in this field, you have to go where the opportunities are.

I would encourage young historians to think about "Why am I in this field?" It's not just a hobby. Because nobody really cares about historians. What they care about is the history. For better or worse, that's the way it is and that's what students should expect. It's, I think, a very fulfilling and rewarding job. It is very relevant because one of the great benefits I take away is that you are making something that happened in the past become real and relevant to people who are otherwise asking the question "Who cares? Why is this important?" And I think it's incredibly important because the message I try to push forward to people, to visitors, is that history is the most important subject. Every field - medicine, science, whatever it is - all of these fields are coming forward with new technology based on what previous generations have done. And that's the study of history.

And what we're doing is trying to show how the past has shaped the world that we live in today and why that's important to people.

## Scholarship and award winners for AY 2019-2020

### **The Kadlubowski Memorial Scholarship**

The Kadlubowski Memorial Scholarship is awarded each year to a student who plans to pursue a career in teaching. The scholarship is given in honor of Dr. Jack Kadlubowski, who taught the history of Russia and eastern Europe here at IUP for 36 years, from 1967 until his death in 1999.

**Lillian Rouse**

### **The Eric Slebodnik Memorial Scholarship**

The Eric Slebodnik Memorial Scholarship is awarded each year to a student who demonstrates a commitment to civic engagement at the local, national, or global level. The scholarship is given in honor of Sergeant Eric Slebodnik, a history major who was called to active duty during his junior year and was killed in action in Ramadi, Iraq on September 29, 2005.

**Matthew Mastorovich**

**Alice Schuster Award** for Outstanding Achievement in the B.A. Program in History.

**Kira Glass**  
**Samantha Stossel**  
**Amber Trkula**

**Judith McDonough Award** for Outstanding Achievement in the Social Studies Education Program.

**Caitlin Kalgren**  
**Taylor Wilson**

### **Charles Cashdollar Scholarship**

The \$1000 Charles Cashdollar scholarship, named for retired History faculty, Professor Charles Cashdollar.

**Stephanie Liebel**

### **Yosie Scholarship:**

Because of the generosity of IUP Distinguished Alumni, Dr. Terry Yosie, the Department is able to offer three scholarships this year in the name of Dr. Yosie's parents, Frank and Jean Yosie.

One \$2000 scholarship goes to an incoming major (B.A. or B.S.Ed) in the History Department, one \$2000 scholarship and one \$1000 scholarship go to continuing students in one of the programs in the History Department.

Recipients of the Frank and Jean Yosie Scholarships for continuing students:

**Jacob Wilt**  
**Brendan Reid**

### **Topics paper award**

Each year an award is given to the student whose topics paper is selected as the best paper in the topics courses for the academic year. The winning paper is selected on the basis of the strengths of the paper's thesis and research, as well as the quality of writing, arguments and documentation.

### **Samantha Stossel**

"Rosie the Musician: The Experiences of Women Musicians during World War II"

### **Honors graduate**

The following student completed the requirements for departmental honors program, including a senior thesis.

**Joseph Cacese**, Dec 2019,

Thesis: "The Essence of the City: Images of Women and Chinese *manhua* in Shanghai, 1928-1937"

All of our scholarships and awards are supported by donations from alumni and friends of the History Department. To make a donation please contact the department or contact the Office of Annual Giving at 724-357-5555 or email [iup-giving@iup.edu](mailto:iup-giving@iup.edu).

## News from our alumni

### Peter Abramo '87

Is Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship at College of Wooster.

### Margaret (Judge) Amoroso '75

Following 33 years as a general practice lawyer, in 2015 I was elected as a judge on the court of common pleas of Delaware County, PA. I currently serve as a trial judge in the criminal division.

### Janet (Reed) Barney '73

I am enjoying retirement! I retired from teaching elementary school with Deming Public Schools in 2012 and from teaching History, as adjunct, at Western New Mexico University the following year.

### Michele Bendekov '89



Is Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Bass Berry & Sims As the firm's first Director of Diversity and Inclusion, I helped establish the diversity program by developing and implementing strategic initiatives, policies and best practices.

### John Benson '88

I am a shareholder in the Center City Philadelphia law firm of Sirlin Lesser & Benson PC, specializing in commercial real estate transactions.

### Jennifer Betsworth '08



In 2019, I gave birth to my son Alden. My colleagues at the New York State Historic Preservation Office were great in helping cover my work while I was out and get me oriented once I returned. In the summer of 2020, I'll be additionally working part-time as the Interpretive Coordinator for Camp Santanoni in the Adirondacks. I've enjoyed working and volunteering at the site for several years now and have already introduced Alden to it!

### Eric Bonner '02

I own my own landscaping firm and I have been busy working to save up enough capital to purchase land for a white pineapple farm.

### Brad Bumstead '73

I am a 1973 Liberal Arts graduate with a history major. Not wanting to teach and a love of writing prompted me to half-hustle -- and with luck -- land a newspaper job in 1974 at a small paper in Central Pa.

It was still the glory days of newspapers, the kind you hold in your hand, I knew it was my calling.

I've been a reporter for almost 45 years in Pennsylvania, Florida and Washington D.C. I spent about 20 years with Gannett Co. Inc., including three years with its then Pulitzer Prize winning news service, and 22 with the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review in the years it invested heavily in quality editors and reporters including a first-rate I-team. Most of my time for Gannett and the Trib has been spent at the Pennsylvania State Capitol. I've written two books, *Keystone Corruption* and *Keystone Corruption Continues*. People always joke "how many sequels will you write?" I also co-authored a book, "Murder Is The Charge" with a prominent Camp Hill defense lawyer. William C. Costopoulos. I have no more room on my walls for state newspaper awards.

The point is that my work as a history major at IUP, I believe, better prepared me for a journalism career than a journalism degree. Daily news events are just one small slice of history. Non-fiction books? Just bigger slices. My theory has been upheld by my longtime work with interns of the Pennsylvania Legislative Correspondents Association. We have had many great J school grads. They do extremely well and get jobs while journalism jobs are disappearing. But I always believed the depth of perspective provided by history and analyzing historical events was better training and gave one a broader world view. I find that is one shortcoming of students, even those from some of the finest journalism programs in the country.



**Douglas Cubbison '80**

Curator, National Museum of Military Vehicles, Dubois, Wyoming, President, Wyoming State Historical Society, Board of Advisors, American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming, Board of Directors, Braddock Road Preservation Association, Jumonville, Pennsylvania

**James Downey '95**

I'm still gainfully employed as a sportswriter at the Uniontown Herald-Standard and, when available, teaching history courses at local community colleges/universities.

**Emily Duley (Torrero) '04**

I am in my 13th year of teaching World History, US History, and Government at Battlefield High School in Prince William County, Virginia. I obtained my Masters in Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Saint Vincent College in 2007.

**Gary Fulton '90**

Is a Registered Nurse at Mount Nittany Medical Center in State College

**Kathleen Garner '18**

Is an English Instructor at Seton Hill University. -I'm in my third semester of graduate school here at IUP. I will graduate December 2020 with my Masters in English TESOL. I am preparing to apply to a few PhD programs in Linguistics for Fall 2021. I also just recently bought a house in Pittsburgh, PA and I will start remodeling it in March 2020.

**Scott Gear '69**

Is retired from the U.S. Department of Labor. -I'm currently writing a novel set in Pittsburgh in the 1980s when the steel industry went into a steep decline. the story follows several characters who live with the effects of the economy.

**James Glymph '98**

I have been working in Forsyth County Schools as a Social Studies Teacher since 2001. I have coached football and soccer, have two grown kids (Trey, 16) (Christy, 12) and have been married since 2000. I have enjoyed keeping up with all the changes that IUP has gone through since I graduated. I am ashamed to say that I have not been back to campus since I graduated as Georgia is really far from Indiana County.

IUP, and specifically the History department taught me how to prepare, learn with an open mind, and how to present knowledge and information in a classroom setting. Dr. Wayne Smith was my favorite, I have attempted to copy his dry wit as much as possible. IUP was great to me, I enjoyed the academics as well as athletics (I played football from 1995-98) and it felt like home while I was there. I will return at some point, probably when my kids are gone and I am retired. It was and continues to be a special place and I have found memories of my time there. The faculty and football coaches helped mold me into the man I am today and I am forever thankful for the IUP Experience.

**Eric Greisinger '01**

I am a full Professor of History fulfilling commensurate with that title within the Department of General Education at Salem University. I am also the professor of World Art and the Social Studies content specialist for Social Studies teaching majors. Beyond these duties I Chair the Committee on Teaching and Learning (Faculty Senate) and serve as faculty representative to the Provost and the Academic leadership team at Salem University. Lastly, I am the advisor to the Golden Key International Honour Society.

I keep a vibrant public lecture calendar and I am currently completing my latest manuscript concerning World War II history.

**Brian Jewell '98**

I have been at Brent International School of Manila for the last several years, starting a second career in teaching while enjoying the Philippines. This August my wife Meredith (M '98) and I will start new positions at Corvuss American Academy in India (halfway between Mumbai and Pune) as teachers. Corvuss will educate student athletes in grades 6-12 who are seeking to attend college in the USA and play in NCAA sports or other global universities.

**Alexandria Kaelin (Trout) '16**

Since my graduation from IUP in 2016 I have had a lot going on, both professionally and personally. I have been employed full time as Curator of the Cambria County Historical Society. It feels good to know I am actively using all the skills I gained from my time in the History Department. Personally, I got married August of 2017 to Todd Kaelin. Most recently we welcomed our first baby, Finley P. Kaelin, born this past December!

**Robert Kaylor '86**

I have served a Lead Pastor at Tri-Lakes UMC in Monument, CO for the past ten years. Prior to that I served churches in Park City, UT, Colorado Springs, CO, and Carlisle, PA. I received my Master of Divinity ('95) and Doctor of Ministry ('12) from Asbury Theological Seminary, have written two books, and am the Senior Writer for the preaching resource Homiletics. I continue to engage in historical research as a pastor and lecturer, leading several trips to Israel, and I continue my lifelong interest in Civil War history. In June of 2020 I will attend the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College. I am grateful for the research and writing skills as a history major at IUP. I use them every day!

**Bradley Lantz '13**

Teaches in the Bedford Area School District in Bedford PA.

**Mykael Lawrence '13**

I am currently a social studies teacher at Kissimmee Middle School in Kissimmee, Florida! I continued my education via Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia after IUP, moved to Florida, and never looked back!

**Laurence Lentz '78**

Enrolled in the Royal Horticultural Society Level 2 certification class. Volunteer at Burghley House Gardens, the largest Elizabethan palace in the UK

**Amy Loch '04**

I was appointed the new Director of the Wyandotte County Museum in Kansas last June.

**Maureen Mamula (Leary) '75**

Retired as Technical Expert from Social Security Administration. President, League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh

**Edward Martin '73**

I am a retired elementary school guidance counselor. I self-published a children's book based on a true story of a student of mine that was a selective mute and how we helped him overcome his disability. I am currently searching for a publisher to accept the numerous other children's books I have written along with a complete elementary school guidance curriculum.

**Janet McElfresh (Barber) '81**

I retired in 2016 after teaching for 29 years in North Carolina. I moved to Texas to be near my son and 3 year old grandson. My husband and I enjoy traveling and have visited all 50 states and several European countries.

**Gerald Nedrich '78**

Retired. Enjoying life, especially the Grandchildren.

**Samuel Richards '04**

I'm happy to report my latest article is now in print. It is a peer-reviewed study in *West Virginia History* calling for reconsideration of anti-Appalachian bias in Virginia history using Philip Doddridge as a case study.

Richards, Samuel J. "Reclaiming Congressman Philip Doddridge from Tidewater Cultural Imperialism." *West Virginia History: A Journal of Regional Studies* 13, no. 2 (2019): 1-26.

This article complements my earlier study of his elder brother, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Doddridge, that appeared in *Pennsylvania History* last year.

**Tracy Ritenour '15**

I've been working at Montgomery College since graduating from IUP and while attending the University of Maryland, where I completed a degree in Library Science. I am the program assistant to the Lifelong Learning Institute where we produce courses for seniors and retirees. I also volunteer at the Montgomery County Historical Society where I have been processing local history collections for online access by patrons.

**Lisa Rodriguez (Zimmerman) '84**

After serving 8 years as a Naval Officer, I returned to college to obtain my elementary teaching credential. I have taught for the past 25 years in CA, VA, PA, MO, and Dubai, UAE. I taught preschool through sixth grade students and have taught ESL, Gifted, third and fifth grades, served as a Reading Specialist/Coach and a Math Interventionist. For the past 6 years, I have been teaching Science to sixth graders in Kirkwood, MO.

**Barry Rudel '81**

Is living in Pittsburgh

**Robert Schmitt '72**

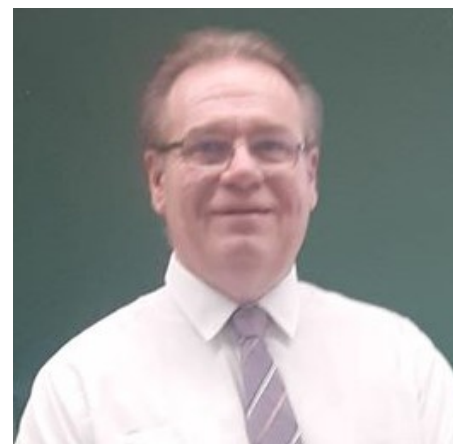
Happily retired from Virginia Department of Treasury (10 years) after a 30 year career in banking. Past president of Commonwealth Association of Financial Professionals (2010-2012). Served 5 years in US Army as Captain in the Armed Forces Courier Service.

**Tyler Secosky '16**

I've finally landed a full-time career with a company I'm proud to be a part of, AAA Insurance.

**Edward Shepard '96**

I am currently serving my ninth year at Bethany College. I was granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in 2016. I have taught undergraduate and graduate courses within the Education Department. However, I hope to teach two History courses next academic year.

**William Shepard '84**

A widower, I got engaged in 2019 and Traci and I will be married in Lancaster, PA, in September 2020. In May I was promoted to University Archivist and Head of Special Collections at The Catholic University of America in D.C. I also had several articles, book reviews, and blog posts published in 2019.

**Chelsea Sipes '16**

I've written two novels and am currently working as a Corporate Communications Coordinator for IKM, an architecture firm in Pittsburgh.

**Jennifer Soliday '07**

For the last 3 years, I have been a librarian with the Salt Lake County Library system in Utah.

**Sonya Stewart '96**

Currently I am working on a mountain of family research as also curating the African American History shelf at the Indiana Historical and Genealogical Society.

**Dennis Trout '75**

Is Professor of Classical Studies at the University of Missouri. - This year (2019-20) I am a Fellow at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina. I am working on a book on the epigraphic poetry of late ancient Rome.

**Jed Weisberger '73**

Is a Staff Writer for the New Jersey Jewish News. -Still a journalist after all these years. Susan and I have been married 44 years. Stepped away from baseball this year because I want to work with the New Jersey Jewish Community at this point.

**Robert Wray**

A few years ago I joined a militia group. Don't hyperventilate just yet The IBWCP is a group of rennactors portraying part of a militia that was formed in 1775 at Hannastown after news of Concord reached us Please feel free to visit our web site [IBWCP.com](http://IBWCP.com)

## Buy A Shirt!

Get yourself an IUP History T-shirt!  
You too can be "Studying the Past,  
Shaping the Future" in one of these  
elegant shirts

Shirts can be ordered from Denise  
Gryczuk, our Department Secretary.

Denise Gryczuk  
<dgryczuk@iup.edu>

Send us a picture of you at a historic  
site and we will post it to Facebook.



Dr. Whited at Ahu Tongariki, Rapa Nui (Easter Island).

IUP  
History

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Want to be interviewed for our Alumni Interview feature?  
Want to come talk to our students about your career at our  
Spring conference? Let us know. We welcome any  
information about what you are up to. Information or  
queries can be sent to.

Denise Gryczuk <dgryczuk@iup.edu>

or

Alan Baumler <baumler@iup.edu>