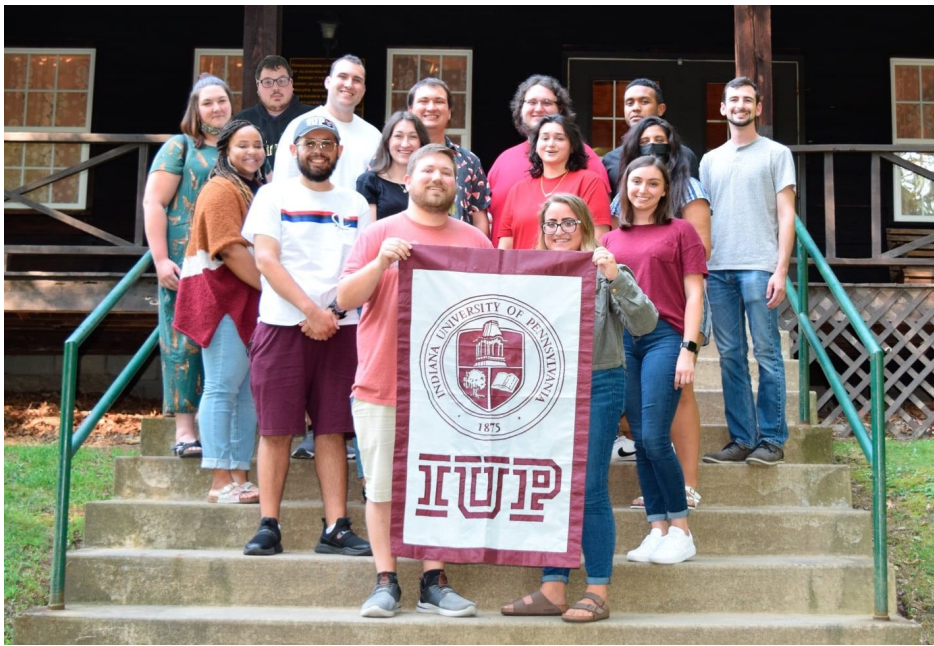




Developments

Fall 2021
Volume 36
Issue 1

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



Class of 2023

The SAHE department and second year students welcomed the Class of 2023 into the program on August 25th, 2021 during the annual Kick-Off program held in Stouffer Hall, followed by dinner and activities at the IUP College Lodge. Kick-Off included presentations by the faculty and social events planned by Associates for Student Development (ASD). ASD also organized an amazing potluck, which included a cookie table, pasta, salad, and more. Dr. John Lowery welcomed students to the SAHE program, saying, "This experience and culture is what you [students] make of it." Dr. John Mueller incorporated theory into his presentation by describing the four stages that graduate students tend to go through before they feel comfortable in the student affairs field. Dr. Mimi Benjamin spoke to students about dealing with expected and unexpected transitions, using a traveling abroad metaphor. Dr. John Lowery got all students on the same page regarding our curriculum.

Following the faculty presentations, second year students joined the first-years for dinner, conversation, and a few games that allowed the group to compete and meet with each other. After dinner, students were given pins through our pinning ceremony.

Now adjusting to graduate school, the class of 2023 is hard at work in the classroom and at their graduate assistantship positions that include Student Life, Office of Housing, Residential Living & Dining, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Academic Advising, Disability Services and the SAHE department.

SAHE Faculty:

John A. Mueller, Chair
jmueller@iup.edu

Mimi Benjamin
mimi.benjamin@iup.edu

John Wesley Lowery
jlowery@iup.edu

Please let us know what you think about Developments. Your feedback and suggestions are welcome and greatly appreciated.

Editor: Jesse Brown
SAHE-Developments@iup.edu

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[@IUPSAHE](https://www.instagram.com/IUPSAHE)

Chair's Corner

Dr. John Mueller

What a difference a year makes! Last fall, the 2nd floor of Stouffer (and room 227) sat largely empty and quiet. This year, at least on Tuesday to Thursday, there's chatter and laughter from SAHE students as they head to class, take breaks, and gather in the department's library to eat lunch and work on projects. It's so nice to return to some degree of normalcy! It all started with our return to in-person classes and welcoming our newest cohort of students at our annual Kick-Off event (back in the College Lodge). This year, we have 20 second-year students and 15 students in their first year. As you might guess, these numbers are lower than normal for us. However, based on conversations we've had with colleagues around the country, most student affairs graduate programs are facing a decrease in numbers. This is due, in no small degree, to the ripple effects of the pandemic and the fact that for over a year, undergraduate students had not been on campus in leadership roles that typically introduce them to the field and in conversations with professionals that start with "Have you ever thought about...?"

As a department, we are working hard to get out there and to meet prospective students. By the time you're reading this newsletter, SAHE faculty, GA's (Jesse and Kayla), and students will have participated in 9 different information sessions and graduate fairs this fall. We're so grateful to those of you who mentor students into the profession and who continue to send us your best students.

As you know, we are now in the midst of our 50th year as a graduate program! Although the pandemic forced us to move our in-person celebration to fall of 2022, the department, our alumni, and the 50th anniversary committee are working to engage with our alumni base. Special thanks to James Barricelli ('04) and ASD for our regular alumni panels featuring a variety of roles and functions in the field. Thank you also to Brandon Sousa ('17) for his ongoing work with Mimi in advancing our Alumni Connect program with our 2nd year students. Sharon Heider Snow ('96) and Jesse Brown ('22) have been coordinating our monthly Instagram TakeOvers (several people had to explain what that was to me!), again featuring our alumni in their workplaces as they reflect on their program's impact on their career.

Finally, I've made the decision that next semester will be my last at IUP and I'll be retiring in June 2022. It really does seem like only years ago that I was fresh out of my masters program in 1986 and signing a contract for a residence hall coordinator position at Illinois State University. Before I knew it, it was 1999 and I had worked at Temple University, Stony Brook University, and Teachers College before landing on the second floor of Stouffer Hall. In my 23 years at IUP, I have gotten to work with and learn from so many incredible staff and faculty colleagues. I'm equally grateful for the 626 SAHE students I've met on this journey. Even while I'm teaching them about generativity in theory, they've taught me even more about it in practice. I feel so fortunate to have been a part of the IUP SAHE story as it celebrates 50 years of preparing tomorrow's student affairs leaders. Conversations have begun and will continue into next semester (with our college's dean and university's provost) about moving the program into the next year and beyond. We'll keep you posted on any developments as we know them.

As we move toward the close of the semester and the year, I thank you all for everything you do to honor our profession and support our program!

John A. Mueller, Ed.D.
Professor and Department Chair
Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education



Dr. John Wesley Lowery

Here at IUP, like many of your campuses I imagine, we are attempting to return to something close to normal. I was excited to return to Stouffer 227 to teach our students this fall and learn alongside them in SAHE 621: History of Higher Education and SAHE 713: Legal Issues in Student Affairs. While teaching in a mask is unpleasant, I consider it a small inconvenience to be able to be in the same room with our students and do my part to help keep our community safe.

Beyond SAHE at IUP, I remain actively involved in APSCUF's Meet-and-Discuss Team which meets monthly with Management to discuss issues facing IUP and its faculty as we continue to deal with the repercussions of faculty retrenchment last year and IUP's ongoing budget and enrollment challenges. I am also working with IUP NextGen, a large campus wide effort to redesign IUP to meet the demands of the years to come.

I am continuing to serve as NASPA's Historian and am hopeful that I will be able to visit the National Student Affairs Archives again before long. I will be attending the NASPA Conference in Baltimore next March. We will be hosting a reception at NASPA along with Dr. Tom Segar and the Division of Student Affairs. I hope to see a number of our alumni there. As a result of COVID, I saw a half dozen concerts that I had tickets for cancelled or postponed. As concerts have returned, I find myself eager to see live music again. In recent months I have seen the Smithereens, Frank Turner, and Drive-by Truckers. We also took Margaret to the Life Is Beautiful Festival for her 18th birthday; most of the artists were more to her tastes than mine, but I did get to see Green Day, Brittany Howard, and St. Vincent. I am very excited to see Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit later this year which has been rescheduled twice.

Margaret is a senior in high school as well as taking a statistics class at IUP. She recently wrapped up her senior soccer season and served as co-captain of the varsity team. We are in the midst of the college application process. She wants to study biology or public health with an eye towards medical school. We visited a number of institutions over the summer including James Madison University, the University of North Carolina, University of South Carolina, the University of Virginia, and West Virginia University. It has certainly been interesting to look at universities from this vantage point.

Ute continues her work with the IUP Research Institute. She is in the final months of her four year term on the IASD Area School Board. No one could have imagined four years ago, the challenges that the school district would face.



Dr. Mimi Benjamin



We've reached Week 10 of the semester as I write, and once again I'm a little surprised at how quickly the fall has gone by. It's been a whirlwind semester as we shifted back to in-person classes and spending the days on campus. Now on breaks in between classes, instead of throwing in a load of laundry or walking around my house and weeding the flower beds, I've had the chance to visit with colleagues, get a latte at Commonplace, or take a walk around campus. It was fun to see the surprise of some of our second-year students when they saw the SAHE Library (which was closed during their entire first year) and other aspects of the second floor of Stouffer for the very first time since many of them chose to be on-line for all of their classes last year. While we're still masked in the buildings, it's starting to feel a little more familiar at work at IUP.

I don't know about you, but I found the summer to be a bit of a whirlwind, too. With many restrictions lifted, I was overwhelmed by all the opportunities to get out and about – like many others, I stayed close to home throughout the worst of the pandemic. Summer included a short visit to family in New York, multiple visits with family in Pennsylvania, lots of cookouts with our neighbors, and a trip to Elon University in North Carolina, where I'm part of an international research seminar. My team, which includes colleagues from England and Singapore, is studying peer mentor experiences on college campuses, and our project is off to a great start. And of course, I spent a good deal of time in my office, getting organized after "moving back" from my home office space.

This summer I was also informed that I was promoted to Full Professor, a milestone in my academic career to be sure! This and other successes I've experienced would not have been possible without the support of my colleagues and our students, and I am grateful to all. As the fall turns to winter, I'm starting to shift my thinking to my upcoming sabbatical in the spring. I'll be a "visiting scholar" at Elon University in the Division of Student Affairs, learning about the current daily work of student affairs professionals. Since I have been away from my own student affairs administrative positions for a little over eight years, it seemed like a good time to see how and if things have changed. I'm pretty sure they have! I'll be living on campus, eating in the dining hall, working on a few projects, and attending campus activities. It will almost be like being a student again! I plan to attend both ACPA and NASPA this year, and if you're there as well, I hope our paths will cross. Best wishes as you wrap up this academic term!



Celebrating the Class of 2021

Where are they now?

Alex Morris is an area coordinator for Muskingham University

Annika Philippe-Auguste is a Residence Hall Coordinator for East Carolina University

Benji Game is a Student Success Specialist at Lock Haven University

Catherine Callan is a Resident Director at Manhattanville College

Chandler Stafford is a Transfer Admissions Counselor at the Illinois Institute of Technology

Danielle Smith is an Area Coordinator at Hendrix College

Ethan Munns is a Community Director at Plymouth State University

Gina Mulh is a Residence Hall Director at Ball State University

Jessica Stormoen is a Residence Education Coordinator at Michigan Tech

Julie Senyk is a Student Accommodation Coordinator at Delaware State University

Kevin Hartenstein is a Coordinator for Tutoring Services at Youngstown State University

Lilly Woltman is an Assistant Director of Chapter Growth at Triangle Fraternity

Luke Whiteman is a Residential Learning Coordinator at Valparaiso University

Mary Rose Galiardi is a Career Coordinator at Robert Morris University

Michelle Puerta is a LatinX Admissions Recruiter at Stockton University

Molly Verostick is a Student Success Consultant at Washington and Jefferson College

Rachel Pettiford is a Mentor at Big Brothers Big Sisters

Sage Messenger is a Residential Learning Coordinator at Valparaiso University

Taylor Jones is a Residence Director at Johns Hopkins University

Thomas Lyttle is an Admissions Counselor at Seton Hill College

Tori Campbell is an Area Coordinator at York College of Pennsylvania

Trinity Werstler is a Student Success Specialist at Lock Haven University

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Student Affairs in Higher Education

A look at our students

100% of graduates in the class of 2021 had jobs by November after graduation



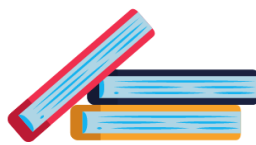
Greek life is a common experience amongst our students

2/3 of students in the past 2 years have come into our program having been members of a Greek organization

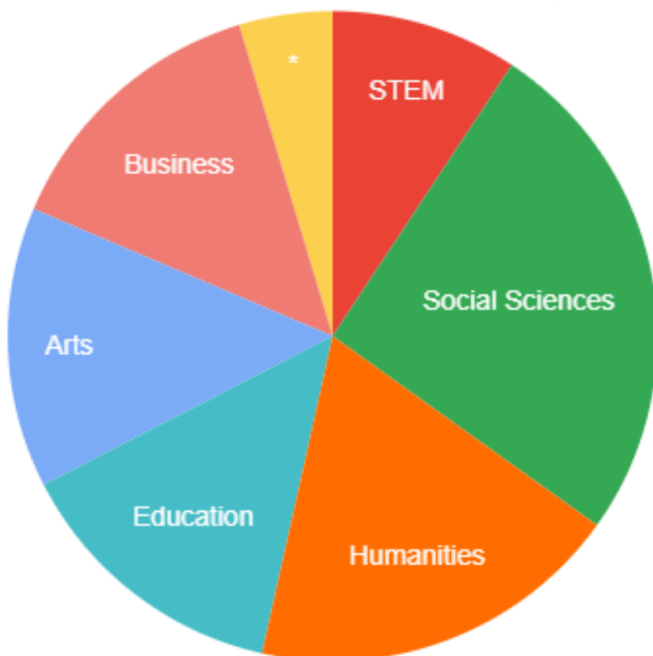


When Students Started SAHE:

Immediately after graduation: 70%
 1-2 years after graduation: 20%
 3+ years after graduation: 10%



Students come from a variety of majors
 • refers to Communications majors



1/2 of SAHE students come from public schools

55 undergraduate jobs were filled by SAHE students

33 executive board roles were held by SAHE students

IUP SAHE has more than 1100 alumni all over the world

52% of the classes of 2022 and 2023 students were recruited by alumni

Nealy 100% of our students have had an assistantship in the past 5 years

Assistantships can pay for tuituion, housing, and more



@IUPSAHE



Alumni Updates — Professional

Kaitlyn Rajner ('18) is the Marketing Coordinator at SEI Design Group in Rochester New York.

Marissa Haynes ('14) is the Program Coordinator for Hempfield Township Parks and Recreation.

Jackie Hackett ('16) is the Vice President for Campus Operations at the North American Interfraternity Conference.

Amanda Zacur ('12) is the Interim Coordinator for Transfer and Non-Traditional Student Recruitment at Cleveland State University.

Eden Garosi ('98) is the Program Manager for Undergraduate Admissions Counseling and Recruitment for the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences at the University of Maryland; also received Narratie 4 Facilitator Certification.

Carrie Egnosak ('05) is an academic advisor at Penn State World Campus and presented "You Can't Pour From an Empty Cup: Contemplative Practice in Academic Advising" and co-presented "Using Technology to Improve and Enhance Advisor Training and Development: A Case Study" at the 2021 Penn State DUS Conference on Innovative Academic Advising.

Harold Fields ('08) completed his Ed. D at the Warner School of Education at the University of Rochester. His dissertation was titled "How Should the Center for Residence Life at the Rochester Institute of Technology Best Develop the Multicultural Competence of its Professional Staff?: A Decision-Analysis Dissertation."

Ben Shultz ('18) is the Director of Assessment at the University of Illinois Chicago's College of Pharmacy.

Albert Maya ('13) is the Assistant Director of Student Employment at the University of Albany.

Angela Bazin ('99) was appointed to the Director of Housing at Eastern Connecticut State University in July of 2021. She has worked in housing at Eastern since July of 1999 and previously served as acting director from 2009-2012 after serving as the associate director for operations since 2004, and then again from 2012-June 2021.

Jesse Phillips ('14) was selected as Treasurer for the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Council for International Education (PACIE).

Joe Benyish ('12) was promoted to Director of Orientation, Transitions, and Family Outreach at Salisbury University in Maryland.

Sauna Goodell ('17) is the Disability Services and Accessibility Coordinator at Montana Technological University.

Sarah Avery ('20) co-presented a preconference workshop titled "We're Trending: Social Media Use in Higher Education" at CRLA National Conference 2021."

Julie Cogley-Pifko ('16) is the Associate Director of Graduate Admissions at Manchester University.

Jana Valentine ('03) is the Assistant Dean of Residential Life and Community Standards at Bryant University.

Jenna Konyak ('14) was promoted to the Director of Student Engagement Operations at Hobart and William Smith Colleges and earned her Doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership Studies from Northeastern University.

David Tiscione ('10) was promoted to Director of Title IX, Compliance, and Assessment at the Loyola University of Maryland.

Kayla Grosjean ('17) became the interim Human Resources Specialist for Information Services at the University of Oregon and also gained experience in the General Counsel and Corona Corps/Public Health Support.

Sauna Seering ('07) is the Assistant Registrar and Veteran Certifying Official at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College.

Henry Lewis II ('14) is the Senior Residency Program Coordinator at the Department of Internal Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University Health.

Gina Mulh ('21) is a Residence Hall Director at Ball State University.

Steph Przepiora ('16) was promoted to Director for Campus Involvement at Mercyhurst University.

Sierra Williams ('20) is a Resident Director at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Adam Santavy ('18) is the Assistant Director of Academic Development at Hiram College.

Laura McCarthy ('06) published a paper on her community college's response to COVID-19.

Sam Comfort ('13) is the Director of Graduate Studies at Edinboro University.

Kristin Shimko ('20) is an ACPA Fall 2021 Ambassador.

Megan Delsite Coleman ('18) started her job as the Assistant Director of Student Engagement at the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Angelina Jenkins ('19) is the Assistant Director of the Paul Robeson Cultural Center at Penn State University/University Park.

Mara Iverson ('11) founded Mara Iverson Equity Education and Consulting, LLC, where she does social justice and equity consulting.

Lauren Zahour ('17) is the Assistant Director of Student Conduct at West Chester University.

Steven Marks ('16) is an Area Coordinator at Rowan University.

Wayne Nichols ('20) is the Assistant Director of Greek Life and Social Fellowship at Adelphi University.

Michelle (Wadleigh) DiPasquale ('13) is the Violence Prevention Coordinator at the University of Wyoming.

Kimberly Farrer ('18) became the Assistant Director of Student Leadership and Involvement at West Chester University.

Alumni Updates

Professional

Anthony Nguyen ('19) is the Learning Services Coordinator at Humber College.

Danielle Parker ('19) is a Community Director at the University of Maryland at Baltimore County.

Sophie W. Penney ('80) became the Director of Foundation Relations at Penn State University.

Sarah Bernhardt ('20) is a Student Engagement Specialist in the Center for Student Involvement at Northeastern University.

Lisa Johnson ('05) works in volunteer management at the non-profit Compeer of Greater Buffalo.

Melissa (Gaskill) Hunter ('16) is an Early Career Recruiter with WillowTree.

Madi Crist ('17) is an Academic Coordinator for First-Year Experiences at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

Nina LaCombe ('19) will soon become the Campus Visit Coordinator and Rochester Recruiter in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at SUNY Brockport.

Dr. Alissa Campbell Shaw ('96) was promoted to Senior Manager of Global Corporate Social Responsibility and Community Engagement at International Paper.

Katie Motycki ('04) was elected to a three year term on the NODA Board of Directors in January, 2020. She also co-authored "Bridging Systems, Building Coalition, and Centering Students: A Collaborative, Multi-Campus Approach to Orientation in the Time of COVID-19" which was published in the Special COVID-19 Edition of *JCOTR* in 2021.

Awards

Carrie Egnosak ('05) was awarded the 2021 Janet Neff Sample Center for Manners and Civility Behrend's Award, which recognizes a Penn State Behrend staff member who enriches the campus by living out the Center's civility values.

Harold Fields ('08) received the Tyll Vam Geel Award from the Warner School of Education at the University of Rochester. The award is presented to doctoral students in educational leadership who demonstrate a commitment to thoughtful and ethical leadership and decision making, and a rigorous application of scholarship to practice.

Sarah Avery ('20) was awarded the Westminster College Alumni and Friends Recognition Award for commitment and volunteering efforts toward the Professional Networking Symposium.

Victoria Dean ('18) was awarded the Andrew A. Bushko Advisor of the Year Award from Widener University.

Danielle Parker ('19) was awarded for Outstanding Work in Housing Assignments for her work with students with disabilities and Outstanding Work in Student Conduct.

Sophie Penney ('80) received the 2018 Outstanding Fundraising Professional Award, the 2019 Association of Fundraising Professionals Award, the IUP Alumni Scholar Award, and was a Penn State Liberal Arts Sparks Centennial Medalist.

Lisa Johnson ('05) was given the Gretchen E. Stringer Award for Excellence in Volunteer Management for her work with the Volunteer Administrators of Western New York professional group.

Nina LaCombe ('19) was given the SUNYCAP Larry Appel New Professional Award. The award recognizes outstanding performance and achievement among new SUNY professionals.

Steven Marks ('16) received special recognition in residential programming at William Paterson University.

Personal

Meghan Delsite Coleman ('18) and her husband just had their first baby, a daughter named Anna Delsite-Coleman.

Anthony Nguyen ('19) married his partner Dylon Fleming on September 20th, 2021.

Danielle Parker ('19) moved from Dayton Beach, FL to Baltimore Maryland for her new job.

Sarah Bernhardt ('20) moved to Boston, MA for her new job.

Nina LaCombe ('19) got engaged in February 13th, 2021 and is getting married next summer.

Wayne Nichols ('20) moved to Queens, NYC for his new job in Garden City, NY.

Kevin Hartenstein ('21) got married in July.

Sarah Conte Nigrelli ('14) and her husband, Zach, welcomed their first child, Leonardo on March 30th, 2021.

Shaunda Goodell ('17) moved from Maryland to Montana for her new job at Montana Technological University.

Lauren (Gigler) Tudor ('14) and her husband are expecting their second child in November of 2021.

Shauna Seering ('07) celebrated her 15th anniversary in September and adopted a dog over COVID.

Sierra Williams ('20) moved to Santa Barbara for her new job at the University of California in Santa Barbara.

Ethan Munns ('21) moved back to New Hampshire for his new job and for his love of the state.

Ron and Peggy Lunardini Fund Announced at COEC Scholarship Reception



The Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education and the College of Education and Communications formally announced the Ron and Peggy Lunardini Fund on October 18, 2021 at the college's annual Scholarship Reception.

The Ron and Peggy Lunardini Fund was created by the Lunardinis to support the SAHE Department's Ron Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award. This award, which began in 2006, was created to acknowledge an alumna/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 Dr. Ron Lunardini's 37 years of service at IUP (18 as a faculty member), the award title was changed to honor him.

Since 2008, both Ron and Peggy had considered how they might add to the award to enhance its effect. Acknowledging the program's spirit of service and of people giving of themselves, the Lunardinis made a generous donation to endow a fund that would generate a monetary award to be used philanthropically, at the choice of the awardee.

In recognition of the SAHE program's 50th anniversary, the first monetary award in the amount of \$500 was presented to the 2021 recipient of the Ron Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award, Kristin Eicholtz ('05). In keeping with the purpose of the fund—allowing the recipient to experience the pleasure of financially supporting an educational component of their choosing—Eicholtz announced that she will be donating the award money to the IUP Counseling Center in recognition of October as National Depression and Mental Health Screening Month.

The SAHE Department is genuinely grateful to the Lunardinis for creating this new fund and for their continued support for SAHE students and alumni! Thanks also to Kristin Eicholtz for honoring the fund's intent with her generous contribution back to IUP.

Call for Nominations!

guished Alumni Award. The SAHE department is now accepting nominations for the **Ron Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award**. This award is presented to an alumni of the SAHE department who has been a student affairs professional for at least five years and whose practice reflects the standards and values of the SAHE department. Details on the nomination criteria and process are available on the SAHE website below.

Nominations are due by January 31st, 2022 and the announcement of the recipient will be made prior to the NASPA and ACPA conventions. Please consider nominating one of your SAHE colleagues and/or mentors who is deserving of this recognition. If you're considering nominating someone and/or have any questions, feel free to contact John Mueller at jmueller@iup.edu. Please visit our website for more information:

<https://www.iup.edu/sahe/about/distinguished-alumni-award/>

SAHE Alumna Receives 2021 College of Education and Communication's Alumni Scholar Award



Pictured from left to right: COEC Dean Sue Reig and Dr. Annemarie Vaccaro

The [Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education](#) is pleased to announce that Annemarie Vaccaro is the 2021 recipient of the College of Education and Communications Alumni Scholar award. Vaccaro is a 1996 graduate of the SAHE program who went on to earn her doctorate from the University of Denver in Higher Education in 2005. Since 2008, she has taught in the University of Rhode Island's college student personnel program.

The Alumni Scholar Award acknowledges significant, impactful, and sustained academic scholarship. Vaccaro was recognized for having published over 40 journal articles, three books, and 26 book chapters. In addition, she has 115 invited and refereed presentations to her name. Vaccaro's scholarship focuses on equity, inclusion, and social justice in higher education, particularly on the lived experiences of minoritized college students, faculty, and staff.

During her visit to campus, Vaccaro spoke with SAHE students about student affairs scholarship and practice and with student affairs staff on intersectionality.

Vaccaro was presented her award at the [College of Education and Communications'](#) annual Scholarship Reception on Thursday, October 14, 2021.

Newkerk Awardees for 2021 Announced

The Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education is pleased to announce two recipients of the Nancy Newkerk Scholarship for 2021: Abigail (Abby) Gontis and Reaiah Rutherford.

Since 1999, the Nancy Newkerk Scholarship has been awarded to deserving second-year SAHE graduate students who demonstrate outstanding contributions to college students, student affairs activities, the SAHE department, and/or the broader higher education community. Newkerk scholarship recipients are selected on the qualities that reflect Nancy Newkerk's own professional career in student affairs: a collaborative colleague, a student-centered practitioner, and a role model for citizenship and civic responsibility.

Nancy Newkerk served as dean of women at IUP (then Indiana State Teachers College) from 1957 to 1967 and as associate dean of Admissions at IUP from 1978 until her retirement in 1994. She was awarded the IUP President's Medal of Distinction in 2009. She passed away in 2017.



Pictured from left to right: Abby Gontis, Reaiah Rutherford

Abby Gontis is a graduate assistant in the IUP Office of Undergraduate Admissions. She completed a summer practicum in new student orientation at the University of Toledo and is currently a practicum student in the IUP Student Cooperative Association. Abby serves as vice president of social programming for the Associates for Student Development and is known, by her mentors, as someone who centers students and puts her heart into her work.

Reaiah Rutherford is a graduate residence director with the IUP Office of Housing, Residential Living, and Dining. Reaiah completed a summer practicum in new student orientation at IUP and is currently a practicum student in the IUP Office of Student Success and Community Standards. Reaiah has been active with the IUP Crimson Scholars Circle, a new initiative designed to reduce the retention and persistence gap for Black and Brown students. One of her supervisors described Reaiah as a strong advocate for her students, working to empower them and, by extension, advance the larger IUP community.

Dr. Mimi Benjamin Awarded College of Education and Communications Faculty Researcher Award



The Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education is pleased to announce that Mimi Benjamin is the recipient of the College of Education and Communications' Faculty Research award, which recognizes "outstanding achievement and success in scholastic endeavors." She joined the SAHE faculty in 2013.

Benjamin is a highly prolific scholar who is generating high-quality scholarship which makes important contributions to the field of student affairs in higher education. She has published her research with leading journals and publishers, and has presented at the major conferences in the student affairs field and beyond. Since joining the SAHE faculty, she has written or edited three books, published seven journal articles, written five book chapters, and presented more 20 times at conferences.

Benjamin has established herself as one of the leading scholars on residential learning communities in higher education. Much of her scholarship has been in this area. She edited *Learning Communities from Start to Finish* which was published in 2015. She and her co-authors published their book, *Living Learning Communities that Work: A Research-Based Model for Design, Delivery, and Assessment*, with Stylus, a leading publisher in our field. She has also published several journal articles and a book chapter on learning communities.

As a result of her expertise, Benjamin was invited to co-lead Elon University's Center for Engaged Learning Research Seminar on Residential Learning Communities for a three-year term. Another indication of higher education's recognition of Benjamin's scholarship in this area includes multiple national presentations at conferences focused on learning communities, and invitations to participate in webinars and podcasts on this area of her scholarship. She and two of her co-authors of *Living Learning Communities that Work* are also under contract with Stylus to write a follow-up book.

Another area of focus for Benjamin in her scholarship is faculty experiences with making the transition from administration to graduate faculty member. She identified a gap in the literature and assembled a team to explore these experiences. She and her co-authors published two refereed journal articles based upon this research. They also presented two conference programs at the 2018 NASPA Conference which built upon their research, to help administrators considering this transition. She has also co-authored a book chapter on the topic which was published in *Careers in Student Affairs: A Holistic Guide to Professional Development in Higher Education*.

Over the course of her career, Benjamin has engaged in a variety of projects which examine student learning outcomes associated with various activities. Benjamin was engaged in a project with a colleague examining the outcomes associated with working in the library at IUP, which resulted in a journal article that was subsequently recognized for its contribution to the literature. She has also undertaken previous research projects regarding student learning outcomes associated with serving on student conduct boards and as resident advisors, both of which resulted in referred journal publications.

Benjamin was presented her award at the College of Education and Communications' annual Scholarship Reception on Thursday, October 14, 2021.

A Boston Experience: Doing a Practicum at the Berkley School of Music by Ali Walker ('22)

For my Summer 2021 Practicum experience, I had the opportunity to work as one of the Summer Operations Assistants for the Berklee College of Music and Boston Conservatory during their Aspire: Five-Week Music Performance Intensive. I discovered this internship through the ACUHO-I Housing Internship Program.

This practicum experience was certainly a unique one. One of the biggest reasons for this was that the bulk of the students in the summer intensive were between the ages 14-17. In my role, I assisted with facilities operations in four urban-situated residence halls that housed over 600 student program participants. I was a part of an on-call rotation and escorted participants to and from the hospital in accordance with COVID-19 policies. I also held low-level conduct meetings and educational conversations with these participants. For example, if a student arrived late to our nightly curfew check, I would meet with them the next day to discuss the importance of making curfew and meeting expectations. I even talked over the phone with participants' emergency contacts when necessary.

I had the chance to not only meet student participants from all over the world but also connect with fellow student affairs professionals and graduate students. I learned about their graduate programs and their career aspirations in the field. This was the first time I had the opportunity to meet and network with graduate students outside of IUP's SAHE program.

One of the best parts of this experience was the location. The campus is conveniently located right in the city and is nearby parks, restaurants, shops, and attractions. We were walking distance from Fenway Park and a quick subway ride (better known as a "T" ride) from the Boston Tea Party Museum. Even though I was working 30-hour weeks, I still had time to explore the city and make the most of my time there. Boston is absolutely beautiful, and I highly recommend visiting if you have not before. It is a calmer version of New York City, while still providing endless means for entertainment. I fell in love with this city's rich history, stunning landscapes, and vibrant culture.

I had an incredible time this summer and because of this, I plan to keep Boston on my radar during my job search. I encourage any student interested in exploring what it would be like to live in a city and work for a city campus to investigate options through the ACUHO-I Summer Internship Program and similar programs.



Ali Walker is a current second year student who graduated from IUP with a degree in Theater Arts in 2017. After, she took a variety of freelance and apprenticeship positions in Philadelphia and as far as Vero Beach in Florida. She is interested in disability services, academic advising, student activities, and student leadership.

Associates for Student Development

By President Jenn Abraham

The 2021 Associates for Student Development (ASD) Executive Board has been embracing various opportunities to bring together the current SAHE Class of 2021 and 2022 through in-person and virtual events. Over the summer, the class of 2021 and 2022 participated in the summer connect program, where first-year students had the opportunity to connect with a second-year student before walking on the campus in the fall. We held various virtual social events that allowed everyone to mingle from different states and spark excitement for the upcoming academic year. Over the summer, the executive board also revised the ASD Constitution to include new membership requirements and add new responsibilities to various executive board positions.

At the beginning of the fall semester, we started a new academic year with an in-person SAHE Kick-Off and welcomed 15 new first-year students plus our returning second-year students for an evening of mingling and celebration. Throughout the fall semester, we have continued successful programs such as the Cohort Connect Program and the Alumni Connect Program to foster mentorships and networking opportunities for our members. We also continued our alumni panel events with SAHE alum James Barricelli ('04) as our moderator. Some of the functional areas that were highlighted in this fall's panels include admissions, new student affairs professionals, and career development. In addition to our professional development events, we also had fun social events such as paint night, Halloween movie night, and game night. Looking at the remaining weeks of the semester, the ASD Board is introducing new events and delivering fan favorite traditions back in person. We are thrilled to be having SAHE Thanksgiving in person and donating canned food items to the local food pantry. We are also excited to be having our holiday party at the end of the semester, where we will be playing lots of games, exchanging gifts, and celebrating the end of the semester. The ASD Board is also introducing a new service event called plarning, which takes plastic grocery bags and turns them into sustainable mats for the homeless. Finally, ASD is hosting our first SAHE Prom, where the cohort can dress in their most formal attire and dance the night away at the College Lodge.

As our terms come to a close, we appreciate the support of our SAHE students, faculty, alumni, and advisor, Dr. Segar, throughout the fall semester. If you are interested in staying connected with ASD, follow us on social media: @iupsahe.asd on Instagram and IUP Associates for Student Development- ASD on Facebook! It has been a pleasure to serve the SAHE community, and we are looking forward to seeing what the next ASD Board brings to the organization!



ASD Executive Board

Position	Current	New
President	Jennifer Abraham	Marc Vukotich
Vice President Administration & Finance	Evelyn Mendlowitz	Justin Lew
Vice President Professional Development	Clare Brossman	CeCe Martz
Vice President Programming	Abby Gontis	Matthew Grayo
Vice President Communications	Karis Cornelius	Abreeya Darda

Connect with 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: sahe-admissions@iup.edu.

Follow us on Social Media:

Facebook: IUP SAHE Connections

Twitter: @iupsahe

Instagram: @iupsahe

Keep up with our news! Check our [website](#).

Don't be a stranger!

**Join us for our 50th Anniversary on
November 4th, 5th, and 6th in 2022!**

Thanks for your Contribution



The **Nancy Newkerk Scholarship** – Awarded to a second-year master’s student whose contributions during the first year of their program demonstrated the greatest promise for the profession of student affairs. **(Acct #0374)**

The **Hadley Outstanding Student** – established to recognize outstanding 2nd year students on the basis of academic performance and professional involvement in the SAHE program. **(Acct #0140)**

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, Outstanding SAHE Alumni award). **(Acct # 4647)**

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Practicum Fair is Back!

Here are some pictures captured from our first time hosting practicum fair since 2019. It was a pleasure meeting old and new supervisors from IUP, Seton Hill, Duquesne, UPG and UPJ, and more. Many SAHE alumni also joined us as supervisors of their own offices and practicum positions!



A Note from the editor:

Hey all! Another issue of *Developments* down, and what a journey it has been. A new class has joined us! I did my first practicum fair (SAHE's first in two years!). As well, my class began having our first in-person classes, and now we get to see each other consistently. Things are changing, and new experiences are presenting themselves.

I would like to thank Jenn Abraham and Ali Walker for their article contributions, and of course, Dr. Mimi Benjamin for her help in creating this semester's issue. It's always a pleasure. - Jesse

