



College of Health and Human Services

Volume 2 Number 1

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The College of Health and Human Services at IUP has over 3,000 students enrolled in nine departments, centers, and institutes.

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Hello

The Public Health major has a new office (223 Zink), a new Director (Kristi Storti, KHSS faculty), and a new Assistant Director (Scott Decker, ELR faculty). Welcome to HHS!

&

Sally McCombie, Dean's Associate for Academic Affairs and faculty in Family and Consumer Sciences, retired in August; we wish her well!

Goodbye

Alida Merlo, 2020-2021 Distinguished University Professor



Alida Merlo, professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice has been selected as the 2020–21 IUP Distinguished University Professor.

Merlo joined the IUP community in 1995 as a faculty member and was promoted to the rank of professor in 1999. She served as coordinator of the graduate program in Criminology at IUP's Monroeville Center (now [Pittsburgh East](#)) from 1995 to 2002 and from 2007 to 2012. Alida Merlo, "It is an honor to be selected the Distinguished University Professor for 2020–21," Merlo said. "I am fortunate to have such wonderful colleagues and to teach students who inspire me. IUP fosters and supports research, teaching, and service."



During her tenure as Distinguished University Professor, she will do research to assess current educational programs offered for delinquent youth and to explore implications of the 2019 legislation that authorized trauma-informed education in Pennsylvania public schools.

"I look forward to pursuing research on youth in out-of-home placements and to sharing it with my students and colleagues," she said. "I anticipate that this research will identify characteristics of successful programs or strategies that can be emulated. They can help inform policy and provide a blueprint for other juvenile justice systems to follow. It could be the beginning of a new era in education," Merlo said.

Merlo's writing—which includes seven co-authored or co-edited books, 22 book chapters, 31 journal articles, 14 invited lectures, and more than 117 conference presentations—examines and assesses the transformation of the juvenile justice system and criminal justice policy in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, with an emphasis on the role of media, ideology, and politics. These works have elevated the level of discourse and influenced the field.

"In my work nationally, I have made juvenile policy a priority," Merlo said. "I have worked to guide generations of scholars and practitioners. I argue for a more compassionate, trauma-informed approach in dealing with youth who are often victims of maltreatment prior to their involvement in delinquency."

In 44 years as a faculty member (24 of them at IUP), Merlo has taught more than 4,800 students at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

"I continue to enjoy teaching diverse populations of undergraduate and graduate students," Merlo said. "I have worked to increase students' knowledge and enthusiasm for the field by developing courses dealing with youth and the justice system, teaching on the undergraduate and graduate level, training correctional staff, lecturing, publishing, and working with agencies and organizations for children and youth. I want my students to develop a passion for the discipline and the field of criminal justice, and I strive to improve students' critical thinking and oral communication skills and their interpersonal awareness. I endeavor to provide various opportunities for students to excel, and I try to make the classroom experience inclusive and respectful," she said.

Merlo received the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Fellow Award recognizing her contributions to justice education and scholarship. She was elected to serve as president of the Academy for 1999 to 2000, only the third woman to be elected to the position, and was honored by the organization with the Founder's Award for outstanding service.

Culinary & Baking Students Safely Navigate Kitchens

The Culinary and Baking students at the Academy may look a bit different this year, but learning hasn't changed even in a pandemic.

The Culinary and Baking students are back in the kitchen. The fall semester looks a little different for everyone, but that hasn't stopped our students in the least!

Classes are smaller and face coverings are worn, but the education hasn't changed. In fact, Culinary and Baking students have already completed two blocks of fall semester classes.

During the first block, Chef Richard Harber taught vegetable and fruit **carvings** to first year students in Introduction to Garde Manger. Students learned how to carve an apple into a bird and to prepare cold dishes such as salads, appetizers, and hors d' oeuvres, as well as breakfast cooking. (See photos.)

In the Vegetables and Farinaceous Products Class, Chef Thomas Barnes taught first-year students how to make **fresh pasta** and raviolis. After a lot of sampling, no one left hungry! Students also learned to prepare other farinaceous products such as dumplings and rice.

Chef Erin Reed taught Intermediate Baking to the returning culinary students (those that had their instruction interrupted by COVID in the spring). In Intermediate Baking, students learn about dessert plate presentation. Chef Reed created a live video for the students to access after class as a reference for their own creations.

As well, the Baking & Pastry students have been busy learning all about **making bread** -- Lots and lots of bread!

Even though courses look a little different, the students at the Academy are thriving. The hospitality industry has always been able to adjust and adapt to change, and our students are no different. We can't wait to see (and taste!) what they create next!



KHSS Starts a 2+2 Program with CCAC

The BSED Teacher certification program in Health and Physical Education recently entered into an articulation agreement with the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) for transfer students.

This agreement will allow students enrolled in CCAC's associate degree program in health and physical education to transfer into IUP and complete Pennsylvania teacher certification requirements to earn their BSED degree. Students will be able to transfer 60 credits from CCAC, completing their 60 credits at IUP. This true 2+2 program will help with recruiting students from Allegheny County by saving them time and money while earning their degree and teacher certification.

Editorial Co-Authored by Nursing Faculty Teresa Shellenbarger

Nursing faculty, Teresa Shellenbarger, PhD, RN, CNE, CNEcl, ANEF, served as guest editor for a special edition of *Nursing Education Perspectives*. The issue of the National League for Nursing official publication featured articles that reflect upon the work of the Institute of Medicine landmark report *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*.

As part of the special issue, Shellenbarger co-authored an editorial with Drs. Susan Hassmiller and Audrey Beauvais that discussed, "Where is nursing, and what work remains?" Additionally, Shellenbarger, along with co-author and IUP alumna Julie Decker, received the *Nursing Education Perspectives* Honorable Mention for Outstanding Research Article, "Understanding the Experiences of Nursing Student Veterans," published in 2019.

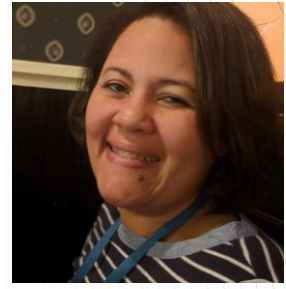
Dr. Luz Marin Receives Hispanic Safety Professional of the Year Award

Congratulations to Professor Luz Marin for recognition by the American Society of Safety Professionals Communities as the 2019–20 Hispanic Safety Professional of the Year. Each year the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) recognizes and honors individual members in their common interest groups (CIG) that have made outstanding contributions. Congratulations to Dr. Marin for her work in the Hispanic Safety Professionals Common Interest Group!



HDFS/FCSE Faculty Presents to a National Audience at NACADA

Dr. Palmer, associate professor in Human Development and Family Science/Family and Consumer Sciences Education, made recommendations for practice and presented the findings of her advisor and parent involvement study, which included students from IUP, Pitt, and Penn State, at the NACADA annual conference.

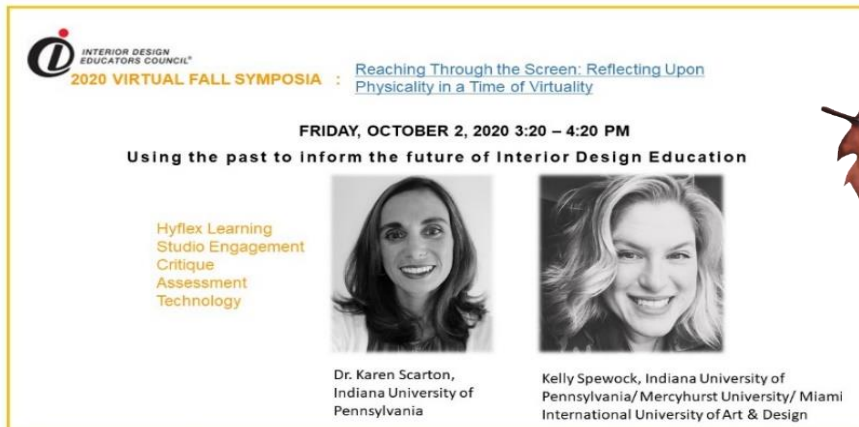



Dr. Palmer studies marginalized groups and cultural influences on parenting. She is the project director for CCAMPIS at IUP, a program that supports student-parent enrollment, retention, persistence, and graduation. She teaches courses on family issues, adolescent risk and resiliency, parent education, poverty, consumer economics and family finance, as well as administration of human service programs. *NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising* helps establish standards on academic advising in higher education and advocates for effective academic advising. The NACADA conference typically has 3,500 to 4,000 attendees each year. The 2020 conference, originally scheduled for San Juan, PR, will be held virtually due to COVID-19 concerns. In addition to the national conference, NACADA hosts an international conference.

Interior Design Faculty Present at the IDEC 2020 Virtual Fall Symposia

Dr. Karen Scarton and Mrs. Kelly Spewock, faculty in the Department of Human Development, Fashion, and Interior Design, presented their paper, “Reaching Through the Screen: Reflecting Upon Physicality in a Time of Virtuality” at the Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) fall symposia in October.

Dr. Scarton and Mrs. Spewock reported to other interior design educators regarding teaching studio classes in a Hyflex learning model. They touched upon the challenges they faced, the successes they encountered, and the tips they found that other interior design faculty can take to their classrooms.




 INTERIOR DESIGN EDUCATORS COUNCIL®
2020 VIRTUAL FALL SYMPOSIA : [Reaching Through the Screen: Reflecting Upon Physicality in a Time of Virtuality](#)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2020 3:20 – 4:20 PM

Using the past to inform the future of Interior Design Education

Hyflex Learning
Studio Engagement
Critique
Assessment
Technology


Dr. Karen Scarton,
Indiana University of
Pennsylvania


Kelly Spewock, Indiana University of
Pennsylvania/Mercyhurst University/ Miami
International University of Art & Design

Culinary Arts Chefs Publish in Special COVID-19 Issue

The Center for Advancement of Foodservice Education recently published a COVID-19 special edition of their *Journal for Culinary Education Best Practices*, highlighting the challenges culinary educators are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Two Culinary Arts faculty, Chef Thomas Barnes and Chef Melinda McIsaac, were selected for publication in this [Special Edition, Volume 3, Issue 1](#).

[Chef Thomas Barnes](#) published "[Creating Engagement for Students During COVID-19](#)." Barnes discussed how chefs adapted to the challenges of remote instruction. When universities were closed, chefs were tasked with finding ways to engage students in a normally very hands-on discipline. In addition, Barnes addressed how the pandemic will shape and evolve delivery of instruction post-COVID-19.

[Chef Melinda McIsaac](#) was the author of "[Mental Health Concerns of Culinary and Pastry Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)." With approval from the IRB, McIsaac conducted research that showed 54.3% of IUP culinary students stated their mental health was worse since COVID-19, while 25.7% reported an increase in difficulty sleeping which led to difficulty completing assignments on time, added stress and anxiety, and more worry about their future careers in the culinary/pastry industry. McIsaac offered suggestions for ways to recognize, acknowledge, and assist students who may be struggling with mental health issues now more than ever before.



Congratulations,
Chefs!



FDNT Faculty & Alumni Work “Together” During COVID-19

They may not work alongside each other, but Food and Nutrition Department Alumni, Karen Rouser, RDN, LDN, (BS, 2000) and Food and Nutrition Department Associate Professor Dr. Nicole Clark, RDN, LDN, CDE, (MS, 1994) worked together to help COVID-19 patients.

The text from Karen came to Dr. Clark in June, “Can you work for me on any of these days?” Usually Dr. Clark would immediately respond, “Yes.” But this came in the middle of a pandemic. “I hesitated for a moment to consider the consequences. However, I have worked for Select Specialty Hospital --Johnstown as a per diem Clinical Dietitian for the past 12 years; why would this be different? I knew the Clinical Dietitian at Select, Karen Rouser, had been working tirelessly for the past four months, so after some thought, I texted back, Yes.” Dr. Clark woke up at 6am, put on her scrubs, and headed to Select. “I was a little nervous to walk in, but the precautions that Select Specialty has taken during the pandemic are spectacular. Everyone had PPE, and the housekeeping and staff took the utmost precautions.”

Select Specialty Hospital – Johnstown, a 39-bed facility located in the heart of Johnstown (PA), is a specialty inpatient long-term acute care hospital providing

comprehensive, specialized care to promote recovery from the most critical and complex medical and surgical conditions. Select Specialty Hospital - Johnstown has services such as a ventilator weaning teams which consist of board-certified pulmonologists, pulmonary program managers, attending physicians, respiratory therapists, nursing and rehabilitation professionals, pharmacists, and a dietitian. “I always leave a note for Karen, thanking her for allowing me to apply my clinical skills keeping me up to date so I can take that practical knowledge into the classroom and teach the IUP undergraduates and graduate students. I feel that to prepare future clinicians at IUP, it is important to have current practical work experience. Prior to IUP, I worked ten years as a Clinical Dietitian and Certified Diabetes Educator. I like to think these experiences have prepared me to work with our students. With COVID-19, this is particularly important because it is new and brings new challenges for the dietitian. The opportunity to work at Select keeps me current in the field.”

Registered dietitians play a crucial role in the medical management of COVID-19 patients because they present as a severe respiratory disease.

“When you can’t breathe, you can’t eat. When you can’t eat, you can’t heal,” stated Dr. Clark. In addition, critical illness and infections increases calorie, protein, vitamin, and mineral needs. Sometimes patients are placed on a ventilator to help them breathe, increasing their nutrient needs and often requiring tube feeding with specialized formulas through a tube in the abdomen or nose. The dietitian must calculate and monitor the tube feeding, making changes as necessary. Weakness is an issue after the patients are taken off the ventilator. Dr. Clark stated, “With the specialized services the patients receive at Select Specialty, I saw patients who were recovering from COVID-19 start to eat by mouth within days of removing the ventilator. Karen, like many dietitians, put herself at risk everyday working on the frontlines. I am glad I could provide her a little time away. Karen represents the quality of students that IUP’s Food and Nutrition Program can produce.”



Karen Rouser, RDN, LDN, Clinical Dietitian, Select Specialty Hospital-Johnstown

PASSHE Hospitality Management Programs Form Alliance

Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) Hospitality Management Programs from Cheney University, East Stroudsburg University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and Slippery Rock University formed an Alliance to assist members in planning, developing, implementing, and sustaining robust and high-quality programs that produce competitive, marketable graduates. Stephen Shiring, Chairperson, Department of Hospitality Management, organized the first interest

meeting, inviting representatives from PASSHE Hospitality Management Programs to establish this network of educators.

The organizational meeting, held in June, included Shiring, Ivan Turnipseed (Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism Management; Cheyney University), Stanley Li-Ming Chiang (Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism Management; East Stroudsburg University), and James Dombrosky (Resort Recreation and Hospitality Management; SRU). The group explored an interest and opportunities in forming an Alliance to strengthen PASSHE Hospitality Management programs, colleges, and universities and students' education.

IUP's Department of Hospitality Management, in collaboration with Dr. Dombrosky, designed a management/leadership food and beverage service lab using IUP faculty expertise (Shiring and Jeffrey Santicola) and program resources (Allenwood Lab) for SRU students, to be offered in the summer 2021 as SRU does not have a commercial food production lab course in their curriculum.

The Alliance is planning an October 2021 Inaugural Conference "Planning our Future Together" to be hosted by Hershey Entertainment & Resorts (HE&R), Hershey Lodge and Conference Center (Hershey).



Sport Sciences Student Presents Virtually at 2020 International Conference

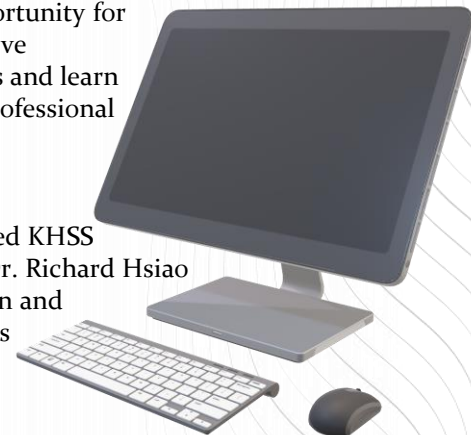
Jo-Hsuan Lee, a graduate student in the Department of Kinesiology, Health, and Sport Science, presented her research on the relationship between sport leadership and emotional intelligence at the International Conference on Hospitality, Tourism, and Sports Management (HTSM) in August.

The International Conference on HTSM was hosted by Global Academic-Industrial Cooperation Society, featuring interdisciplinary studies to gain advanced knowledge around the world. The conference, attracting over 200 international scholars, was originally scheduled to be held in Kyoto, Japan; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was rescheduled to an online conference out of concern for participants' health.

Jo-Hsuan offered an oral presentation titled, "The Relationship between Sport Leadership and

Emotional Intelligence: A Literature Review." This study showed the utilization of emotional intelligence on leader characteristics improved the sport leadership effectiveness in facilitating problem-solving ability as well as in building a supportive relationship with strong group cohesion. This experience was an invaluable opportunity for Jo-Hsuan to improve presentation skills and learn and learn about professional trends.

Other IUP participants at the conference included KHSS faculty member Dr. Richard Hsiao and Administration and Leadership Studies doctoral student Chao-Yu Chen.



Meet a few of our HHS Student Stars

Congratulations to Ms. Samantha Case, a PH.D. candidate in the Safety Sciences Department, who was selected as a recipient of the Julius P. Filcik Doctoral Fellowship, dedicated in memory of Julius P. Filcik, '53 in support of new doctoral students who “demonstrate strong academic preparation, potential for excellence in teaching and research, and the energy and intellect to contribute to the community of doctoral scholars at IUP.”

Nursing Ph.D. student Donald Grimes, recipient of a 2020 IUP Graduate Student Outstanding Research Award, donated his monetary prize to the IUP Emergency Response Fund to help students affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members of the American Culinary Federations' Groundhog Chapter at the Academy of Culinary Arts joined forces with *Bakers Against Racism* in June to support efforts to fight racism.

Congratulations to Karen Hande and Kelly Watson-Huffner, students in the DNP to PhD program, for their selection of the prestigious and highly competitive National League for Nursing Foundation for Nursing Education scholarships. They were among twelve students selected for this award. This generous funding will help support their doctoral studies at IUP and continue to prepare them for academic nursing education careers.

October Faculty Highlights

Dr. Adam Katchmarchi (Kinesiology, Health, and Sport Science) was featured in a *New York Times* article on drowning prevention. He also hosted a successful virtual conference that has served as a case study for others.

Safety Sciences faculty Dr. Christopher Janicak and Dr. Majed Zreiqat's article, "Perception Surveys: Development and Analysis to Study Safety Issues," which was published in *Professional Safety Journal*, received Second Place Article of the Year.

Dr. Stephanie Taylor-Davis (Food and Nutrition) helped lead IUP's 2020 Summer Academy, a professional development program for faculty and staff to gain new perspectives and skills in using technology in teaching, organizing, and planning events, and providing support to students.

Dr. Hayden Gerhart (Kinesiology, Health, and Sport Science) was named Director for the National Strength and Conditioning Association.