

DEVELOPMENTS

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

Student Affairs in
Higher Education

Fall 2013
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WELCOME CLASS OF 2015!



The SAHE program welcomed the 28 first-year students of the Class of 2015 at Kick-Off and orientation. These students come from varying undergraduate backgrounds and represent the following states: Florida, New Jersey, Massachusetts, California, Maryland, Illinois, Connecticut, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. The students bring their diverse backgrounds to their graduate assistantship sites which include IUPUI, Carnegie Mellon, Pitt-Greensburg, PSU Altoona, Pitt-Johnstown, Lock Haven-Clearfield, and Seton Hill. This year, assistantship positions include residential life, annual giving, student activities, international education, orientation, the honors program, career services, student conduct, and graduate admissions. The students are also gaining professional knowledge and skills through readings, presentations, papers, and discussions. Additionally, many are involved in a variety of campus organizations and programs. The Class of 2015 is well on its way to developing in the field of student affairs and is looking forward to the experiences and enjoyment the SAHE program and surrounding area provide. We wish the best of luck to the Class of 2015!



Editor: Henry W. Lewis III ('14)
h.w.lewis@iup.edu, 724-357-2107

Advisor: Dr. Mimi Benjamin
mimi.benjamin@iup.edu, 724-357-4656

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

SAHE Faculty:

John Wesley Lowery, Chair
jlowery@iup.edu, 724-357-4535

Holley A. Belch
habelch@iup.edu, 724-357-6288

Mimi Benjamin
mimi.benjamin@iup.edu, 724-357-4656

John A. Mueller
jmueller@iup.edu, 724-357-4541

Find Us At:

<http://www.iup.edu/sahe>



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Nominations and Contributions

Congratulations Class of 2013!

Where Are They Now?

Zachary Beaver	Director of Student Engagement and Leadership at American International University (MA)
Mariette Bien-Aime	Assistant Director of Residence Life at Elms College (MA)
Kristin Brewer	Residence Hall Director at Bowling Green State University (OH)
Justin Brown	Resident Director at West Chester University of Pennsylvania (PA)
Gabbi Calabro	Resident Director at Qatar Foundation (QA)
Cory Campbell	Director of Student Engagement at Seton Hill University (PA)
Sam Comfort	Resident Director at Husson University (ME)
Amanda Cowan	Area Coordinator at West Liberty University (WV)
Tessa DiPerri	Disability Resource Coordinator at Salisbury University (MD)
Sarah Martin (Emerick)	Residence Director at Marshall University (WV)
Diane Eshelman	House Advisor & Assistant Director of Residential Life/First Year Programs at Vassar College (NY)
Sarah Fiore	Assistant Director of Student Activities, Involvement, & Leadership at Washington & Jefferson College (PA)
Brittany Halinka	Area Coordinator at Wheeling Jesuit University (WV)
Cassandra Harrington	Residence Hall Director at University of Delaware (DE)
Andy Kent	Study Abroad Advisor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (PA)
Michael Mastalski	Graduate Administrative Assistant, The Graduate College at Bowling Green State University (OH)
Michelle Roch (Grossman)	Assistant Director, Events and Communications at George Washington University (DC)
Trista Shideler	Asst. Dir. and Coord. of Engagement, Office of Alcohol Policy and Education at Stanford University (CA)
Allison Shumar	Asst. Dir. for Student Life, Std. Leadership and New Std. Success at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (PA)
Bethany Tognocchi	Hall Director at University of Tennessee at Knoxville (TN)
Melissa Vrable	Assistant Director of Admissions for Multicultural Recruitment at Alvernia University (PA)
Michelle Wadleigh	Coordinator of Summer Programs and Guest Housing at Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
Nathanial Ziegler	Student Services & Data Manager, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering at Northeastern University (MA)

Graduates who have not reported employment status are not listed.



Chair's Corner

Greetings from Stouffer Hall!

I hope that your fall semester is off to a wonderful start and that you are finding both challenge and support in the work that you are doing. As I write this message to you, fall is in full swing in western Pennsylvania and the colors are extraordinary. However, the view from my office has changed drastically as the trees on the side of Stouffer Hall were cut down to allow for the installation of a new sidewalk.

Here at IUP, the semester is off to a wonderful start and 28 new students joined us this fall. We began the academic year with one of the largest SAHE enrollments in almost a decade. I fully recognize that we have you to thank for that success. Again this year, the majority of incoming SAHE students described how SAHE program alumni were an important factor in their decision to apply to the program.

This is also a year of transition. As you know, Dr. Linda Hall retired a year ago after 30 years of service to IUP and 15 years on the SAHE faculty. We are deeply indebted to Dr. Hall for her service to SAHE and IUP, especially during the past 4 years when she served as SAHE Department Chair which I appreciate even more having served in that capacity for the past year. We are very excited that Dr. Mimi Benjamin has joined the SAHE faculty from Cornell. She is a wonderful addition to our team and has been warmly welcomed by students, her new colleagues, and SAHE alumni. We are very grateful to Holly Hippensteel ('96) who taught in the SAHE Program last year on a temporary basis while we searched for a new faculty member.

We have already begun actively recruiting the next cohort of SAHE students and hope that you will continue to refer your best and brightest students to us. Students who are interested in the program should be encouraged to visit the SAHE website for more information. They can also email us with any questions they may have at sahe-admissions@iup.edu. At your request, we can send you posters to display in your office and materials to share with prospective students.

On a more personal note, I am having a great semester! After feeling like I spent last fall just trying to keep my head above water as I learned my new role as department chair and prepared my applications for promotion to the rank of full professor and tenure, I truly feel this year that I can focus my full attention on my classes and serving as chair. I was able to unwind a little this summer and celebrate my tenure and promotion, but also traveled several times to speak at conferences or complete consulting work. One student affairs highlight was another visit to the National Student Affairs Archives at Bowling Green State University with Dr. John Mueller. We are working on a project with several other colleagues as part of ACPA's celebration of its 90th anniversary and spent a day digging through the ACPA materials collected there.

I look forward to crossing paths with many of you this spring at ASCA, ACPA, and NASPA. We will again host an IUP SAHE reception at ACPA in Indianapolis.

Warmly,



John Wesley Lowery, Ph.D.



Faculty Updates

Dr. Holley A. Belch

Well, the fall this year seems to mirror last October at this time. It's sunny and in the 70's – a glorious time of year. It does appear though that the “real” fall will emerge later this week. In some ways I'm looking forward to the sights, sounds, and crisp air – pumpkins, hay bales, and the last spurts of humming from lawn mowers as we prepare for the winter season.

As the yearly cycle of beginning another academic year settles in with new students in classrooms, I am pleased to share that I am excited to work with the incoming cohort of students. They are a good bunch and are destined to be good practitioners.

Last spring brought the typical spring events -- attending ACPA in Las Vegas, the SAHE Banquet, and commencement in Pratt Auditorium. Perhaps the most exciting news is the hiring of a new faculty member, Dr. Mimi Benjamin. She's already had an impact and is a great addition to SAHE.

During the spring, I also spent time finalizing a book chapter, which is part of a compendium of books ACUHO-I published during the summer. My scholarship focused on students with psychiatric disabilities continues.

The summer was a bit different this year. After spending a good deal of time in Vermont during June, I was able to visit with friends in Indiana (the state), Massachusetts, and Washington, DC and went to Boston for some time with my nieces. While in Indiana (the town), I focused on biking, training for a charity half marathon walk, and general projects around the house...oh, and an occasional nap on a rainy day. It was a wonderful time for reflection, rejuvenation, and simply just being.

As we engage in another year of working with students, remember the wise words of Snoopy that great flying ace and philosopher – “Learn from yesterday. Live for today. Look to tomorrow. Rest this afternoon.” Best wishes for a peaceful year that brings you professional satisfaction and personal rewards.



Dr. Mimi Benjamin

Fall is my favorite time of year – I love the start of the new school year, the energy on a college campus, sales on school supplies, apple and pumpkin flavored everything, and “sweatshirt” weather. For the first time in six years, I'm experiencing all of that on a new campus, and I'm really pleased to be here at IUP and part of the SAHE program.

My transition from upstate New York and Cornell University to Indiana and IUP has been a reasonably smooth one, although we did move on the hottest day of the summer. Bad timing, but great results as I've been enjoying learning the lay of the land in town and on campus, meeting new colleagues and students, getting settled into my office, and getting up and running with my courses. IUP has been a great place so far!

Additionally, I'm in the process of editing a New Directions for Student Services sourcebook on Learning Communities and working with authors from different parts of the country as we put together what we hope will be a useful resource for student affairs professionals. I'm also pleased that one of our SAHE students, Sarah Conte ('14), will be writing an annotated bibliography for this publication.

From day one, I have felt very welcomed here at IUP and in the SAHE program, and I thank everyone for the well-wishes that I have received. As an administrator, I had the good fortune of working with some SAHE alums, and I look forward to meeting some of you at the professional conferences in the spring. I hope you're enjoying the fall as much as I am!



Dr. John A. Mueller

你好 That's "Ni hao" in Mandarin or "Hello" in English. Last year at this time, I was just beginning to make plans for my trip to China. This past June, I spent three weeks traveling around this magnificent country from Beijing to Inner Mongolia to Shanghai to Xian to Hong Kong. All of this was part of a study tour that examined the delivery of higher education in China, including admissions, curriculum, and student services. The tour included institutional visits to Tsinghua University, Peking University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, and Xian Jiaotong University. In addition to the campuses, we visited a number of economic, cultural, and historic landmarks, including the Forbidden City, National Olympic Stadium, the Great Wall, the Shanghai Futures Exchange, and the Terracotta Warriors. It was indeed a trip of a lifetime! Back in this time zone and on this continent, life goes on. The rest of the summer was devoted to finishing up some writing projects that are moving to the final phases of publication in 2014 including a follow-up to our (i.e., Pope and Reynolds) book on multicultural competence, currently titled *Creating Multicultural Change on Campus*. I also submitted a chapter with SAHE alum, Craig Pickett ('10), to a book on multicultural interventions on campus. A current and exciting project is one I am working on with John Lowery and several other ACPA colleagues—designing a timeline of the scholarship produced by ACPA in celebration of the association's 90th anniversary. That interactive on-line timeline should roll out sometime before the convention in Indianapolis. As fall moves toward winter, holiday music is already in the air as I continue singing with the Renaissance City Choirs in preparation for our concert on December 14. Life is full and active. I hope it is in your world, too!



What's in a Name?

With the addition of a new faculty member, the SAHE program had an opportunity to reexamine a variety of aspects of the SAHE culture. Before the start of the semester, the faculty talked about how we would prefer to be addressed by students; a question we had not considered in a number of years. After a thoughtful discussion, the faculty agreed that we would each make our own decisions about how we would prefer to be addressed by students and communicate that decision in class. As each individual faculty member made her or his decision, several reasons influenced those decisions and, as you can imagine, the reasons were as diverse as the faculty are. During the first week of class this fall, each faculty member spoke with students about how she/he would like to be addressed. Some indicated a preference for first names while others offered students options, including the use of first names. By mid-semester, many students have grown accustomed to how they address the faculty while, understandably, some students are less comfortable with using first names at this time. We share this update with you, our alumni, to extend this same invitation to you.



Emeritus Faculty Updates

Dr. Linda Hall

Greetings!

I hope you're enjoying this fall. I really enjoy reading FB and seeing photos of your activities and I imagine that soon I'll be seeing the Halloween costumes of your children and you! I've now been retired just over a year and the time has gone by quickly. I guess that means I've been staying busy and having some fun which is the case. But also, for those of you who haven't heard this, I was diagnosed with breast cancer last January and so much of the past nine months has been consumed with doctors, surgeries, and treatment. After surgeries, I just finished six months of chemotherapy and in another week will begin daily radiation treatment which will last until Christmas. Those of you who have experienced this know that it is a challenging experience and in my case, my faith is more meaningful and I've learned a lot about myself---letting others help me, being more mindful, and appreciating the struggle that others have as well with cancer. I don't know what I would have done without the kindness and support from family and friends which has been so wonderful and inspiring. I have also appreciated notes from many of you who heard about this in one way or another. Wanted to let you know that I am doing real well, hoping to gradually gain my strength back, and so thankful that this ordeal is nearly over. It's kept me in Indiana and I'm looking forward to travelling again!



My mom is here from Chicago visiting for 10 days and we're having a good time together – she loves the Pennsylvania fall and our colorful leaves so we've taken a number of road trips, enjoying the company of one another.

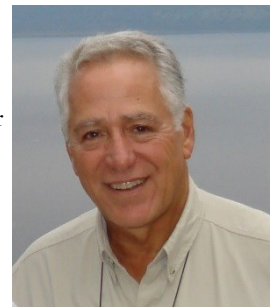
I hope that you are having a great fall. I'd love to hear from you at lmhall@iup.edu.

Best wishes to all of you,

Linda

Dr. Ronald Lunardini

With our summer move to Fredericksburg, VA and the sale of our Indiana home, my 2008 retirement from IUP and SAHE now feels quite official and complete. The relocation truly closed a wonderfully long (41 years) chapter of our lives and we're now starting fresh to establish relationships and activities in an unfamiliar place. Despite a warm welcome in our new neighborhood, both Peggy and I still often refer to Indiana as home. In preparing for retirement, people typically caution about how the loss of a work identity might feel, but I've found the move from a small town where roots were deep to also be a pretty significant change.



That said, we very much like our new home and community, and have participated in numerous events that allow for quick assimilation there. Of course, being about an hour from our granddaughter (turns 1 in Nov.) and being closer to our place in Kitty Hawk, NC are major benefits and the primary reasons for the move to Fredericksburg. In other family news, we have a new grandson in Boston where our son Dave is doing a spinal surgery fellowship this year. I'll finally be traveling to Boston for something other than an ACPA or NASPA convention.

I continue to enjoy golf, pickleball, the beach and most of the activities that go with maintaining a home. I'm hoping to get back to fishing and some biking as well. Service as an officer of our Homeowner's Association at the beach continues to provide an outlet for my administrative side, but I'm doing my best to say No to the requests for similar service in our neighborhood since we're trying to be available for quick trips to help with the grandchildren. During the coming year though, Peggy and I do hope to do some of the traveling that has been on our wish lists.

Occasional emails from SAHE grads always put a smile on my face. It's also still fun to receive the SAHE-IUP messages and to reminisce about the names associated with them. Lunar@iup.edu still works, so don't hesitate to get in touch. Best wishes for another great school year!

RL

SAHE Remembers David DeCoster

David DeCoster died after an extended illness in Lady Lake, Florida, on October 28, 2013.

DeCoster served as vice president for Student Affairs at IUP from 1985–1994 and then as professor in the Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education until his retirement in 1999.

DeCoster was a respected and committed educator and administrator who established a renowned national reputation resulting from his scholarly contributions, his work in professional associations, and numerous consultantships. Prior to his tenure at IUP, DeCoster held administrative positions at the University of Georgia, University of Florida, Indiana University at Bloomington, and the University of Nebraska.

Affectionately known as “Dave” or “DAD” (from his initials), he was a wonderful mentor and an inspiration to young and seasoned professionals within higher education, especially within the field of student affairs.



THANKS DAD

By: Daniel Cangilla (Class of 2000)

He is the person who taught us the ethics that we strive to live by. He is the person who taught us about higher education's history, with his first-hand experience. He is Dr. David DeCoster.

The IUP SAHE department is undergoing many transitions this summer. One transition is the retirement of Dr. DeCoster.

Although he will be missed greatly, it is important to look at what we have gained from him. His contributions to higher ed. have been amazing and the effect that he has had on SAHE students here at IUP has been wonderful.

As you may know, Dr. DeCoster signs his emails to the SAHE students very simply, with his initials (DAD). That's the way most of the 1st year SAHE students looked at him. He taught us how to become student affairs practitioners. He helped to shape us into mature adults with the skills to be successful. He instilled in us an awareness of the important roles we will be taking over in our professional career.

Dr. DeCoster, you will be greatly missed. Thank you for everything you have done for us. Thanks for the stories, especially the ones that made us laugh. Thank you for making us learn Chickering, Ellis, Rogers, Freud, and all of the other historical figures related to our field. Thank you, more than anything, for your friendship. We wish you the best of luck in Florida (I guess you really don't need luck when it comes to golf down there) because you now have time to spend to watch the grass grow, spend more time with your wife, and work on a great tan. We hope you will always remember the effect you have had on so many people. I am sure my classmates from SAHE 2000 will agree with me when I say that I hope your last year was a memorable one (it was for us)! Thanks, DAD, for everything!

Reprinted from *Developments*. Vol. 12, No. 1, Spring 1999

Other Department News

[Belch and Lowery Named Diamond Honorees](#)

[Mueller and Graduate Student Publish Book Review on Diverse Millennial Students](#)

[Mueller Speaks on Spirituality at Academic Advising Conference](#)

[Belch Publishes Chapter on Accessibility in Campus Housing](#)

[Lowery Promoted to Full Professor](#)

[Mueller Discusses "Recent Findings from Higher Education Research" at Secular Student Alliance Conference](#)

[Lowery Major Speaker at NASPA Regional III Summer Symposium](#)

[Lowery Plenary Speaker at Student Personnel Administrators Conference](#)

[Mueller Speaks at Peking University](#)

[Lowery Speaks at Mississippi Legal Issues Conference](#)

[Mueller Recognized at Scholarship Reception](#)



John Mueller and John Lowery's visit to the National Student Affairs Archive at Bowling Green State University in August 2013



Find Us on the Web

SAHE is on Twitter and Facebook. Become our fan on Facebook and follow us on Twitter for current news, updates, and events within the department!



Student Updates

Tom Baker ('05) presented the annual Get Involved! SAHE Student Leadership Award and \$250 scholarship to **Lauren Gigler ('14)** on May 10 at the SAHE Banquet. This award recognizes a first-year student leader who demonstrates passion and interest in bettering the SAHE community. SAHE greatly appreciates Tom and Erin Baker's support and generosity in establishing this award.

Sarah Fiore ('13) was chosen to give the address at the SAHE commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 18. SAHE students and faculty annually select the department commencement speaker on the basis of oratory excellence and ability to represent their classmates.

Jenna Konyak ('14) and **Katie Shoemaker ('14)** were the winners of the PCPA Graduate Student Case Study Competition in October at the annual conference of PCPA.

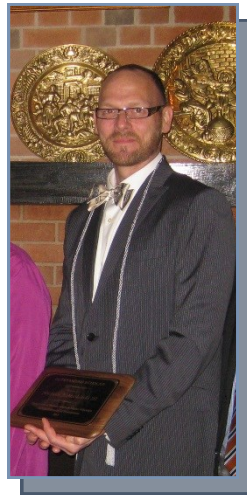
Michael Mastalski ('13) received the Outstanding Scholar Award for academic achievement and ability to enhance the learning environment for his colleagues.

Sean McGowan ('14) received the PCPA Outstanding Graduate Student Award in October at the annual conference of PCPA.

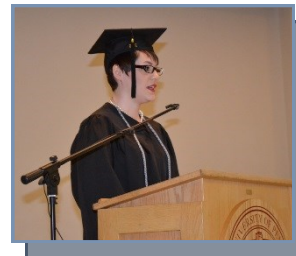
Allison Shumar ('13) received the S. Trevor Hadley Outstanding Student Award for her academic accomplishments and significant service to the campus and the community.



Lauren Gigler ('14) and Tom Baker ('05)



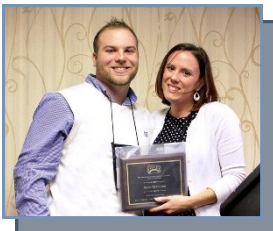
Michael Mastalski ('13)



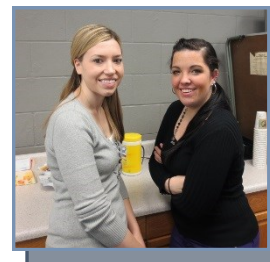
Sarah Fiore ('13)



Allison Shumar ('13)



Sean McGowan ('14) and Amanda Ries ('06)



Katie Shoemaker ('14) and Jenna Konyak ('14)

Conference Presentations

Lauren Donahue ('14) presented "Passion and Vision, Two Ingredients for Successful Leadership" at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's leadership conference.

Lexie Elliott ('14) presented "True Colors Leadership Styles: Knowing Your Strengths and Weaknesses" at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's leadership conference this November.

Kelly Harvey ('14) presented "You Can Say Know" at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's leadership conference this November.

Conference Presentations Continued

Jenna Konyak ('14) and **Brian Root ('06)** presented "If These Walls Could Talk: A Look at the OACS Living Community at Pitt-Greensburg" in October at the annual conference of PCPA.

Jenna Konyak ('14) and **Katie Shoemaker ('14)** presented "Getting the Most Out of Your Graduate Experience" in October at the annual conference of PCPA.

Jenna Konyak ('14) presented "Goal Setting: Challenging Yourself while Challenging Others" at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's leadership conference this November.

Sean McGowan ('14) presented "Don't Make Work Life, Make Life Work" at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's leadership conference this November.

Bri Newstrom ('14) presented "Leading Beyond Campus: Getting Involved in the Community" at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's leadership conference this November.

Alex Peterson ('14) presented "What's in a Brand: Professionally & Personally" and "Reversing the Leadership Triangle" at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's leadership conference this November.

Jesse Phillips ('14) chaired a seminar on November 15th at the NAFSA: Association of International Educators region VIII conference in Pittsburgh. The seminar, "Bridging the Divide," focused on two universities' (IUP and Allegheny College) strategies for preparing students, faculty, and staff to communicate effectively with international students.

SAHE Travels Abroad: A Student Reflection

Exploring Higher Education in the United Kingdom

Submitted by Danie Brush ('14)



This past year, we (Danie, Dayna, Kelly and Meghan) traveled to the United Kingdom as part of a Study Tour sponsored by Bowling Green State University. The tour gave us the opportunity to visit many places in England and Scotland, including institutions of higher education and cultural sites. This was an interesting tour for our small group because some of us have never traveled out-

side of the country, while others have seen many different countries.

The tour informed our student affairs practices in many ways. We were able to network with students from various institutions, such as the University of Michigan, University of South Carolina, Iowa State University and North-eastern University. This gave us the opportunity to learn what other students were learning and compare programs. Further, we gained a better understanding of the many differences between American higher education and higher education in the United Kingdom.



We enjoyed our conversations with student affairs professionals abroad. They explained their residential life system, which differs from ours in the sense that there is little community and development within the residence halls. Some institutions only provided accommodations to graduate students and international students. In addition, the SA practitioners explained their role in the students' lives. Like the American system, these professionals strive to help their students grow both emotionally, mentally and spiritually. Even though their office structures are vastly different, these professionals still focus on the same things that we do.

If anything, the four of us learned how similar higher education is across the pond. We focus on the same things and have the same goal in mind: preparing our students for life after college.

Associates for Student Development (ASD) Update

Submitted by Sarah Conte ('14), VP for Public Relations



In May of 2013, the SAHE Department held its annual Banquet at The Coventry Inn in Indiana, PA. The theme was “SAHE Oscars,” and each cohort entertained with a planned presentation after the delicious meal. ASD would like to thank all students, staff, and friends who attended the event, especially the Banquet Committee and its chairman Thom Julian, and ASD’s committee liaison Katie Shoemaker. All of their hard work paid off by providing an enjoyable and memorable evening for all!

This past summer, ASD continued to provide opportunities for involvement and service through multiple gatherings. We made two trips to the theater to see “Admissions” and “Monsters University.” In June, a group of students visited the Humane Society to spend some time helping the animals, and others saw the Pittsburgh Pirates play on a lovely Saturday in the city. In July, we ventured out to the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium for a break from summer courses. ASD would like to thank everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to join us for these outings.



The fall semester of 2013 began with ASD’s Kick Off immediately after the SAHE Orientation during the first week of classes. The College Lodge was decked out with decorations displaying the event’s theme, back-stage pass, and the pot-luck dinner was a huge success. ASD provided goodie bags and facilitated ice breakers & games to welcome the first-year students. Also at this event, Dr. Mimi Benjamin was welcomed to our community by the presentation of a SAHE pin from ASD’s president, Lauren Gigler. We would like to sincerely thank all members of the Kick Off committee, especially co-chairs Kelsey Craig and Kelly Harvey, for all their hard work and enthusiasm.

September began with a pizza party between classes to celebrate what will hopefully be a great semester. This event counted towards the Cohort Connect Scavenger Hunt, a new initiative spearheaded by ASD to encourage interaction between first- and second-year students. This friendly competition ended on September 30th, and it seemed like fun was had by all! Dr. Mimi Benjamin led the first brownbag lunch of the semester in September, and we also welcomed Dr. Sean McGreevey from Chatham University to speak to SAHE students in October. Members have attended an IUP Football game, Kennywood Fright Nights, and a Hoss’s Fundraiser that garnered over \$125.00 for our organization. We are also looking forward to SAHE Thanksgiving in November and the annual Holiday Party in early December.



The end of this semester marks another transition period for ASD: new officers. Members of the class of 2015 have stepped up to apply for positions, and we are confident in their leadership abilities for the coming year. We would like to express gratitude to members of the outgoing executive board: Lauren Gigler (President), Marissa De Lucia (VP of Administration), Laura Jo Rieske (VP of Professional Development), Katie Shoemaker (VP of Programming), and Sarah Conte (VP of Public Relations). We would also like to thank our faculty advisor, Dr. John Mueller, for his consistent support and encouragement throughout the past year.

Call for Nominations

Last spring, the SAHE department announced the recipient of the 2013 Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award: Virginia Koch ('86). We are now accepting nominations for this year's award. The Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to an alumnus of the SAHE department who has been in the student affairs professional for at least five years and whose practice reflects the standards and values of the SAHE department as exemplified by Dr. Lunardini. Details on the nomination criteria and process are available on the SAHE [website](#). Nominations are due by February 3, 2014 and the announcement of the recipient will be made prior to and celebrated at the ACPA convention in Indianapolis. Please start thinking about your SAHE colleagues and mentors who are deserving of this recognition and consider nominating them.



Virginia Koch ('86)

Alumni Updates



Continue to visit our Facebook page and you may see a current SAHE student showing their appreciation of you!

Professional Updates

Kate Adams ('11) began a new position in July 2013 as a complex coordinator in Residence Life & Housing at the University of Delaware.

Amanda L. Anderson ('07) is now an area director at Radford University in Radford, Virginia.

Karl Bluemel ('10) is now residential learning communities specialist at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Jilliane Bolt-Michewicz ('09) is now the peer education coordinator at Susquehanna University.

Mallory Bower ('09) is now the associate director of Career Services at the State University of New York at Oswego

David Chambers ('02) is now the coordinator of Student Emergency Services and liaison to University of Texas Police Department at University of Texas at Austin.

Eddy Cruz ('06) is now the director of Career Development at the University of Miami's Toppel Career Center in Coral Gables, Florida.

Alicia Davin ('06) has taken on the responsibility of Team Leader for Student Development in the Arts and Sciences Advising Center at the University of Pittsburgh.

Michael Dodge ('06) recently accepted the position of assistant director of Residence Education for the Commonwealth Honors College Residential Community and the Residential Learning Communities Office at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Dave Falletta ('06) is now director of Residence Life at Alderson Broaddus University in Philippi, West Virginia.

Will Foran ('03) is now vice president of University Relations at the North-American Interfraternity Conference.

Warren Hilton ('99) received an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Management in June 2013 from Drexel University. In addition, he was promoted to associate dean for Student and External Affairs at the Drexel University School of Public Health in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mary Lou Kennedy ('86) is currently the interim campus president at Community College of Allegheny County, North Campus & West Hills Center.

Dr. Virginia Koch ('86) accepted a position as director of Residence Life at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama.

Jason Lee ('10) is now a doctoral student in the Higher Education program at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia.

Michelle Marchand ('08) is now the associate director of Education and Leadership at Alpha Xi Delta Fraternity in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Courtney O'Connell ('08) is now the director of Business Design at Equalman Studios (Courtney will be working directly for author and speaker Erik Qualman).

Craig Pickett ('10) accepted a new position as the coordinator for Student Life and Diversity at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

Morgan Rizzardi ('09) is serving as president-elect for the Pennsylvania College Personnel Association (PCPA) during the 2013-2014 year.

Cynthia Rose ('10) is now the associate director of the Center for Student Involvement at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Todd Shaffer ('03) is now director for Student Conduct at Pitt-Johnstown.

Chris Weiss ('12) is now a consultant at Cloud Sherpas currently based out of London, England.

Matthew D. Zidek ('09) was promoted to the assistant director of Admissions for Transfer and Continuing Education at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

Accomplishments/Accolades

Sean Bridgen ('99) was awarded the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Scholarship in support of his doctoral work in Administration and Leadership Studies at IUP.

Accomplishments/Accolades Continued

Nicki Croly ('09) was recognized with the STARS Team Award from the Division of Student Affairs at California State University San Marcos. This award is presented in recognition of collaborative efforts between individuals that reflect the values of innovation, inclusiveness and diversity. It was given for her work in bringing fraternities/sororities together with the LGBTQA community through programs and other partnerships. Additionally, Nicki received the Staff Member of the Year Award from the ASI LGBTQA Pride Center and the Outstanding Staff Award at the Fraternity & Sorority Life Awards.

Harold Fields ('08) co-authored an [article](#), "A Collaborative Support Model for Students on the Autism Spectrum in College and University Housing," in the *Journal of College and University Student Housing*.

Courtney (Stone) O'Connell ('08) spoke at TEDx UpperEastSide on August 4th 2013 about innovation in education. TEDx events are held all over the world with the tag line, 'Ideas Worth Spreading'. Courtney shared her ideas on changing education to make it a more engaging experience for all students. She spoke about infusing innovation into the preparation and training programs for educators. In addition, she discussed broadening the recruitment practices in education and creating a more conducive environment for game-changing ideas. Courtney hopes that this approach will empower innovation from within the education system, a strategy that is much more student and educator friendly than being disrupted from the outside. Since her talk went live on YouTube/TED.com, she has been in talks with a few organizations with regards to prototyping some of her ideas. If you are interested in learning more, or want to get involved with some of the next steps, email Courtney at courtney@ideablendedu.org. View her talk on the the TED website [here](#).

Michael Paestella ('97) completed the Executive Certification in Leadership & Management from the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business.

Carrie Payne ('00) earned a Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) in Information Systems and Communications from Robert Morris University in May 2013. She is also a co-author (with Penn State Behrend Chancellor, Don Birx, and Director of the School of Engineering, Ralph Ford) of the "University as an Open Laboratory," which is scheduled to be published in the *Journal of Research Administration* in the winter.

Christine Zuzack ('78) was elected President of the National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP). This organization supports the needs of state grant agencies and collaborates with the United States Department of Education on student financial aid issues. Chris currently serves as Vice President, State Grant and Special Programs for the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA).

Personal Updates

Michael Dodge ('06) and his partner, Devin, purchased their first home in Holyoke, Massachusetts with their two dogs, Gary and Mona.

Emily Forte ('08) recently became a certified Yoga instructor after completing a 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training program at Verge Yoga in Wayne, Pennsylvania. She is sharing her love of yoga by teaching for residential students and intramural teams at Villanova University, and in the surrounding community.

Jennifer (Browning) Jacoby ('04) and her husband, Phil, welcomed their second child, Miles Christopher, on May 19th. Griffin is the happy big brother!

Kristine (Meier) Murray ('05) and husband Andrew Murray (not the tennis player!) had a baby girl, Sofia Genevieve on May 26, 2013. They currently reside in Bristol, England.

Sarah Martin (formerly Emerick) ('13) got married on June 8, 2013 to Colby Martin.

Erin (Perna) Mullen ('11) and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Ava McKenzie, into their lives on April 1, 2013.

Betsy Sarneso ('94) and **BJ Sarneso ('94)** welcomed their baby girl, Libby, on August 2, 2013.

Nominations

Alumni Nominations

Please email names and addresses of students you would like us to send a SAHE information packet to our Admissions GA at sahе-admissions@iup.edu.

Contributions

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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