

THE POINT

THE CLUB
AT
STAGE AE

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends of
Point Park University | FALL 2012

10 YEARS

of Sport, Arts
and Entertainment
Management

PIONEERS

Go to the NAIA
World Series



POINT PARK UNIVERSITY



Dear alumni and friends,

It's back-to-school season, and Point Park's campus is filled with the energy that our students bring with them as they return to our Downtown neighborhood.

If you've been here recently, you know that Point Park's expanding campus is creating a growing academic, social and cultural hub for both our city neighbors and the University community. As you walk through the Academic Village you'll see that, in addition to our beautiful Village Park and new restaurant, Osteria 100, construction of the Wood Street Corridor project is finally complete, with new trees, sidewalks, signage and more. In the coming months, we'll be sharing more news about new campus development projects, including new facilities in West Penn Hall and elsewhere.

From photography and art exhibitions in Lawrence Hall, to performances Downtown and at the Pittsburgh Playhouse, to cinema and photographic art installations on Wood Street, creativity plays a vital role in defining the Point Park experience. The spirit of the individual is alive and thriving here. Our faculty and students are immersed into the fabric of Pittsburgh. We're proud to provide a professionally rich atmosphere in which students benefit from academic opportunities through internships, faculty projects, and connections with alumni who are making valuable contributions in their respective fields.

As we like to say, at Point Park students are already engaged in the real world – a more active, more professional education. Our academic and social environment offers students many opportunities to explore their academic and career ambitions with the ultimate aim of preparing them for engagement in life after college.

Point Park families will get a close-up look at all that the University has to offer during Family Weekend, Oct. 12 – 14. This is a great time for our students and their parents to spend together exploring the University and Downtown Pittsburgh.

And if you'd like to help spread the word about exciting new developments and academic opportunities at Point Park, please tell a family member or friend about our upcoming Open House events for prospective students and families: Oct. 20, Nov. 3 and Feb. 2. Visit www.pointpark.edu/openhouse for more information.

It is always our pleasure to extend a warm welcome to the neighborhood.
Warm regards,

Dr. Paul Hennigan
President



On the cover: Assistant professor and concert promoter Ed Traversari (grey shirt, foreground) provides on-the-job education for Sport, Arts and Entertainment Management students at Stage AE on the North Shore. Photo by Ian Bradshaw.

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TALK TO US!

The Point wants to hear from you. Send your comments and suggestions to:

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This policy affirms Point Park University's commitment to nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and the pursuit of diversity. Point Park University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, ancestry, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information, marital status, caregiver status or familial status in the administration of any of its educational programs, activities or with respect to employment or admission to the University's educational programs and activities. This policy is in accord with local, state and federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and the Pittsburgh Human Relations Act. Inquiries regarding these regulations, policies or complaints of discrimination should be referred to the human resources officer, telephone number 412-392-3952. Inquiries regarding Title IX and the Title IX regulations should also be referred to the senior vice president, academic and student affairs, as the Title IX coordinator, or deputy coordinators, the human resources officer or the dean of students.



Paintings by Artist and Alumna Lynn Fero in Upcoming Exhibition on Campus

Fero's paintings will be the focus of a new show in the Lawrence Hall Gallery, opening Oct. 19 through spring, 2013. "Her paintings reflect an extraordinary sense of color," says Point Park Trustee Jack Tomayko, an avid art collector who organized the exhibition. "She is a very special alumna of Point Park."

Raised in Pittsburgh, Fero is the daughter of an artist. She earned her degree in theatre arts and went on to spend 25 years as an executive with Viacom, Paramount Pictures and CBS. Tomayko met Fero in 2007 when she returned to Point Park as commencement speaker. He commissioned her to create several new works, including a painting in which she created a series of trees symbolic of a student's journey into the world. Fero received Box Heart Gallery's Art

Inter/National Best of Show Award in 2003 and was named Box Heart's Artist of the Year in 2004.

Fero has said her educational experience was exceptional and she is thrilled to see how Point Park continues to prepare students for achieving their dreams. "Life is about the art. It's that feeling you get when you create something and someone else looks at what you've expressed – there are no words to describe it," according to the artist. "That is very satisfying and that's when you find real purpose."

The Lawrence Hall Gallery is on the corner of the Blvd. of the Allies and Wood St. across from the Village Park. The exhibition opens on Oct. 19 and is free and open to the public.

Lynn Fero (COPA 1981, HON '07) has always had a creative streak. A longtime executive in the entertainment industry, including her current position as senior vice president of business affairs administration and product rights management at CBS Television Distribution, she is also a nationally exhibited fine artist known in particular for her striking and colorful landscapes.

dental corps. After spending a year at Camp Casey in Korea, and a year at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Colorado, I began a private practice in Westport, Conn. Today, I have an active practice in Norwalk, Conn.

I owe a debt of gratitude to Arthur Blum [who went on to serve as president of Point Park College from 1967 to 1973] for creating the associate degree in science program that prepared me so well for dental school. Credit should be given where credit is due, and I would like to recognize this Pioneer's foresight that helped pave the way for the growth that the University enjoys today. I am very proud of my Point Park experience, and it holds a special place in my heart.

Dr. David N. Pomerico (A&S 1964)
Norwalk, Conn.

Professional Advancement

Lorelei Stein, Ph.D., professor of criminal justice and intelligence studies, has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of Family Services of Western Pennsylvania.

Tatyana Dumova, Ph.D., associate professor in the School of Communication, served as a respondent at the Virtual Conference of the International Communication Association, part of the annual convention in Phoenix, Ariz. last May. Her role included providing commentary on research papers and engaging in asynchronous discussions with virtual presenters and attendees. She also published a conference report reviewing the state of virtual conference technology. Dumova joined two graduate students for presentation of their research papers at the annual Eastern Communication Association Convention last April in Cambridge, Mass. Heather Hanson, M.A./M.B.A. student, and Ivan Moore, a graduate student in journalism and mass communication, became interested in research after taking Dumova's course in applied mass communication research methods. "Both wrote full-length papers and received positive feedback for sound research methods, good papers and excellent presentations," according to Dumova.

Virginia Chambers, compliance and field experience coordinator in the Department of Education, represented Point Park at the spring retreat of the School District University Collaborative at the University of Pittsburgh.

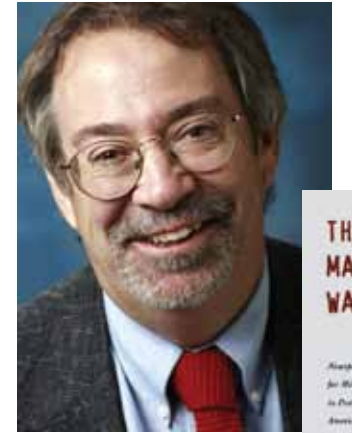
Stanley Denton, Ph.D., assistant professor of education, led a group of Point Park students in a mentoring and tutoring project with West Mifflin High School.

Christopher Rolinson, associate professor of photojournalism and photography, captures the stories and images of area veterans in his role on the multimedia team for Veteran Voices of Pittsburgh, a nonprofit education organization preserving the experiences of local veterans from all wars. The nonprofit partnered with Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum to film and archive veterans' stories using a variety of media platforms including video, photographs and blogs.

Robert Skertich, Ph.D., assistant professor and program director of public administration and the undergraduate organizational leadership programs, co-authored "A Bad Time for Disaster: Economic Stress and Disaster Resilience" which was published in the scholarly journal, *Administration & Society*.

Darlene Marnich, Ph.D., chair and professor in the Department of Education, and Richard Gutkind, Ph.D., professor and director of graduate education programs, developed a partnership with the Imagine Charter School in Verona, Pa. to provide professional development for classroom teachers. Marnich also represented Point Park at the spring 2012 conference of the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators (PACTE) at Penn State University last April.

Steve Hallock, director of the School of Communication, published an essay in the fall 2012 issue of *Gateway Journalism Review*. In the piece, he details editorial evidence that elite newspapers have helped to construct a war agenda that has supported, rather than questioned, U.S. military action in the post-World War II era. The issue is at the heart of Hallock's latest book, *The Press March to War*. "My research of major newspaper editorial pages from the Truman administration



Steve Hallock

through President Barack Obama's drone warfare in Libya found that rather than serving in its traditional role of government watchdog, the press vigorously endorsed a thread of presidential foreign policy doctrines and ensuing military endeavors abroad," according to Hallock. Peter Lang Publishing released *The Press March to War* this spring as part of its "Mediating American History" series. The book was also featured at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication's annual conference Aug. 9-12 in Chicago.

Bill Moushey, professor of journalism, embarked on a national media tour for his newest book, *Game Over*. Moushey is co-author with former Pittsburgh Post-Gazette writer Robert Dvorchak of the book about former Penn State University assistant coach Jerry Sandusky. Harper Collins Publishers released the title on April 17, which is the first hardcover to be published on the topic. Moushey is a Pulitzer Prize-nominated investigative journalist who specializes in documenting abuses of the criminal justice system. He worked with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for 23 years and won the National Press Club's Freedom of Information Award in 1997 for his exposé of an out-of-control witness protection program.

▶ FEEDBACK

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the article on Point Park's "new" pre-medical and dental curriculum that appeared in the Spring 2012 issue of *The Point*.

In 1962, under the direction of Arthur Blum, I entered Point Park Junior College as a pre-dental student. Under his direction, a program was structured that enabled me to fulfill the requirements to apply to the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. My Class of 1968 was the first class to receive the newly created D.M.D. (Doctor of Dental Medicine) at Pitt. At age 19, I was the youngest student accepted in the dental school's history. They felt I was prepared to accept the challenge of a professional program. After graduating from dental school in 1968, I entered the U.S. Army as the youngest captain in the

Matthew Opdyke, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology, **Laura Frost**, Ph.D., associate professor of biology, and biology students **Brian Dolney** and **Joshua Roy**, published their manuscript "A Study of Epiphytic Lichen Communities in Urban and Rural Environments in Southwestern Pennsylvania" in the Journal of Pennsylvania Academy of Science. Opdyke also published "The Power of Cladistics" in Green Teacher, Education for the Planet Earth, last spring.

Helena Knorr, Ph.D., associate professor in the School of Business, spoke about education as an empowerment tool for women worldwide in a lecture at the Student Center on March 29. Part of the celebration of Women's History Month, her lecture explored challenges and opportunities regarding social, political,

economic, environmental, legal, and ethical contexts, from a critical perspective, as well as emerging faces of leadership.

Maggie Kuhn is the new women's soccer head coach at Point Park. She previously served as assistant coach at NCAA Division III Bethany College. Kuhn is the third head coach of the Pioneers' women's soccer program since it gained varsity status in 2005. She replaced Mark Platts, who took another job within NAIA women's soccer after coaching Point Park the last two years.

Three faculty members from Point Park University's School of Communication presented at the Broadcast Education Association Annual Conference in Las Vegas last April: **Thom Baggerman**, presented "Video Production Assess-

ment: Complexity & Simplicity;" **Heather Starr Fiedler**, Ph.D. presented "Keep it Pinteresting;" and **Tim Hudson**, Ph.D. presented "Media Production Acumen for International Journalism Students." At the conference, Baggerman was inducted as vice-chair of the research division and Fiedler as student competition co-chair for interactive media and emerging technologies division.

Kiesha Lalama (COPA 1995), an alumna and associate professor of dance, is project director and choreographer for the PBS documentary series *Broadway or Bust*, which captures the behind-the-scenes coaching and grueling rehearsal schedule leading up to the National High School Musical Theater Awards (popularly known as "The Jimmy Awards"). This national competition culminates in an intense

weeklong New York experience that includes rehearsals, coaching and auditions - capped by an awards event on a Broadway stage in front of a live audience and a panel of high-profile judges. *Broadway or Bust* includes three hour-long episodes and airs on consecutive Sunday nights, September 9 - 23, at 8 - 9 p.m. ET on PBS (check local listings). See a teaser for the series at: <http://video.pbs.org/video/2264732648>.

Remembering Marvin

The Point Park community was saddened by news of the unexpected death of legendary composer and conductor **Marvin Hamlisch** on Aug. 6. Hamlisch was Distinguished Master Artist in Residence during the 2011-2012 academic year. He shared his expertise with students and faculty in three campus workshops: The Art of the Audition, The Works and Imagination of Marvin Hamlisch, and a third event that focused on his film career. Hamlisch also met with students and alumni at Point Park University's Night at the POPS! with Marvin Hamlisch on Jan. 27. Hamlisch was principal pops conductor for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. As a composer he won three Oscars, four Grammys, four Emmys, a Tony and three Golden Globe awards. "His career was without equal," said **Ronald Allan-Lindblom**, associate vice president and artistic director. "Our students were fortunate to learn from his experiences first hand. We have lost an American treasure."

New Trustee

Kathleen White has been appointed to the Board of Trustees at Point Park. A top math and physics student who was among the first women to earn an engineering degree at Purdue University, White is a Downtown Pittsburgh resident



Pioneer Community Day 2012

Students, faculty and staff pitched in on April 14 during the annual event organized by United Student Government. Designed to get the Point Park community involved in service projects, more than 200 participants contributed 1,100 hours of service.

and longtime patron of arts and culture and Point Park University. She and her husband George R. White, a nuclear physicist and urban visionary who died last January, established the **George Rowland White** Endowed Professor of Accounting and Finance at the School of Business with a \$1 million bequest from their estate plan. Married for 54 years, the Whites moved to Downtown Pittsburgh several decades ago when George White was recruited to lead what is now the University of Pittsburgh Applied Research Facility. As a couple, they were dedicated to the economic and cultural vitality of the city, including support for organizations such as the Pittsburgh Opera and Opera Theatre as well as the University. George White became a Point Park Trustee in 1995, taught at the School of Business, led the establishment of the University's state-of-the-art library and University Center, and supported the Conservatory of Performing Arts. The George Rowland White Performance Studio in the Dance

Complex and the GRW Theater in the University Center bear the White name. As Kathleen White told the Pittsburgh Tribune Review, "a lot of his contributions were to expand Point Park as a means of revitalizing Downtown Pittsburgh." Her husband was always quick to credit his success to his wife: "The secret," he said in a 2011 interview with The Point, "is to marry a bright woman."

Jazz Dance World Congress

Jazz Dance World Congress, an international consortium of dancers and teachers which furthers the legacy of jazz dance and education, united teachers, dancers and choreographers from all over the world on the Point Park campus Aug. 1-5, with additional classes and performances at the August Wilson Center for African American Culture and the Byham Theater. In conjunction with the Congress, Giordano Dance Chicago and Point Park presented the Jazz Dance World

"Giving back to the University is one small way to show my appreciation."

—Keith Paylo, Dean of Student Affairs, Dean of Students

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY President's Circle

CONSIDER JOINING THE PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE TODAY:

- Members support the University's annual fund with a leadership gift of \$1,000* or more during the fiscal year (Sept. 1-Aug. 31).
- By becoming a member, you demonstrate your commitment to Point Park University.
- Annual gifts provide educational opportunities to a diverse student body by making financial aid and support to academic and student programming possible.
- Members receive special recognition and event invitations throughout the fiscal year the gift was made.

Become a member now at www.pointpark.edu/annualfund or contact us at annualfund@pointpark.edu or 412-392-3999.

*Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law.



Photography by Jim Judkis

Festival Aug. 1-4 at the Byham Theater. A variety of companies from around the world, including Point Park's Conservatory Dance Company, performed on the Byham stage. Six Point Park students from the CDC performed *Torque* by faculty member **Kiesha Lalama**, who described the piece as "a dance centered around complex issues. Set in the fall of 2011, the state of this country was and continues to be unstable at best. With political, social, and economic issues surrounding most conversations, [it] invites dancers to engage the audience as they execute their frustrations, ideas and thoughts."

Film Is Finalist in Student Academy Awards

It was a first for Point Park's Cinema and Digital Arts department. Recent graduates **Mark Christian** and **Madeline Puzzo's** senior thesis film, *Requited*, was selected as a finalist for the 2012 Student Academy Awards by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. "*Requited* is a technically sophisticated film," said **Jeremy Braverman**, associate professor and directing concentration coordinator. "What you see on screen is something you will pay to see in a movie theater." Christian, the film's cinematographer and writer, from McLean, Va., graduated in May 2012 with a concentration in cinematography. Puzzo, director and production designer from Tucson, Ariz., graduated with a concentration in directing. Christian and Puzzo credit Point Park for providing them the necessary tools to make a quality film. "The best thing about the program is that you are constantly making movies beginning in your first year," said Christian. "You are studying under industry professionals who are honest and critical," Puzzo added. "It's the closest thing to working in the real world without being in it."

Concrete Achievement

The Civil Engineering Technology Club placed second in the Concrete Horseshoe Competition hosted by the Ohio Valley Student Conference of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The team placed ahead of the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University. The team is preparing for the Concrete Canoe Competition to be held in the fall.

On-site M.B.A. at invivodata

invivodata, a global company providing electronic solutions to biopharmaceutical companies, is the latest business in the region to take advantage of Point Park's unique on-site M.B.A. program which delivers a fully accredited, accelerated M.B.A. degree to employees at their offices. According to **Archish Maharaja**, Ed.D., C.P.A., assistant professor of business management and director of the M.B.A. program, "Companies like invivodata appreciate the flexibility and convenience the on-site program offers their employees." In addition, Point Park is able to utilize a company's existing technology infrastructure to deliver the program on-site or remotely for those traveling for work. On-site instructors are the same as those teaching at Point Park's physical campus in Downtown Pittsburgh. The on-site M.B.A. program was launched in 2009.

A BOLD Initiative

The new Building Our Leaders Daily (BOLD) Career Exploring Accounting and Finance Initiative, for middle school students at the Manchester Academic Charter School, was announced at a June 11 event on campus.

Herman Reid, Ph.D., director of academic economic development for Point Park and leader of the BOLD Initiative, hosted the event for parents and middle school students. Through BOLD, mentors will provide guidance through site visits, job shadowing, mock career interviews, field trips, and money management and career planning advice. The featured speaker was Point Park alumnus and new professor **Edward Scott**, C.P.A., M.B.A., a former Pittsburgh Chapter president of the National Association of Black Accountants.



Shaquela Myrick

One Young House at Point Park

Point Park teamed up with the Pittsburgh office of Euro RSCG Worldwide PR to support the firm's One Young House summer internship experience in Pittsburgh, part of preparation for the arrival of the 2012 One Young World (OYW) Summit, coming to Pittsburgh in October, which will convene 1,500 young leaders from 195 countries to discuss and take action on pressing societal issues. Euro PR provided four paid internships and Point Park provided the interns with a student apartment

on its Downtown campus. The interns documented their experiences through social media, including the OYW Pittsburgh Partnership Facebook page and the @OYWPittsburgh Twitter feed. Intern **Shaquela Myrick**, a senior public relations and advertising major at Point Park, said she appreciated the opportunity to "work with different clients and support account teams in a number of ways, such as compiling media lists, monitoring client media coverage and analyzing media research. We also spent a significant amount of time working on preparations for the OYW summit ... I gained experience in traditional and social media relations, grassroots events and community presentations." According to Dean of Students **Keith Paylo**, "the internship program reflects Point Park's dedication to providing students with real-life work experience in a fun, educational urban environment"

Police Officer Safety Training

The Department of Criminal Justice and Intelligence Studies and the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police hosted the 2012 Officer Safety Training Conference, which was attended by more than 80 police officers representing 40 police departments. Participants included two Point Park graduates who received serious permanent injuries in the line of duty: Clairton police officer **James Kuzak Jr.** (A&S '04) and Pittsburgh homicide detective **Brian Johnson** (A&S '05, BUS '06). Johnson suffered debilitating injuries, including a shattered hip, when the detective's car was hit at the end of a 15 mile police chase from Pittsburgh's east end to Murrysville, Pa. in June 2010. Kuzak was shot and paralyzed when he responded to a 2011 home invasion in Clairton. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund selected Kuzak as its Officer of the Month for July 2012.

Ethical Leadership Speaker Series

The School of Business will present "How Heinz Meets the Challenge of Ethical Leadership" on Sept. 13 at 6 p.m. in the Lawrence Hall Ballroom. The event, which begins with a reception at 5:30, will include presentations by two speakers from the H.J. Heinz Company: Vice President **James E. Traut** will discuss "Reputation, Risk Management, Ethics, Compliance and Sustainable Practices," and Director **Brian Shuttleworth** will discuss "Operational Risk Management - Health, Safety, Environmental and Other Processes." The Ethical Leadership speaker series is sponsored by Heinz, **James M. Haley**, Ph.D., professor and Heinz Endowed Chair of Management at Point Park, and the Graduate Student Association. For more information, call 412-392-8047.



Italian Adventure

The International Media Class spent 12 days in Italy examining a combination of the country's media outlets and culture as they toured Rome, Florence, Naples and Sorrento.

STANDING OVATION

On May 5, Point Park graduated 817 undergraduate students during the University's 52nd annual commencement ceremony held at Consol Energy Center in Downtown Pittsburgh. President Paul Hennigan opened the event with encouraging words for the Class of 2012 saying, "Today is a great day. A time of pride and celebration."

Those words were especially true for **Eric Miazga** (BUS '12), who earned his bachelor's degree in information technology and management that day after completing a two-year accelerated program.

Miazga has cerebral palsy, which affects his balance and speech, and he uses a wheelchair for mobility. However, he was determined to stand and walk across the stage at the Consol Center to accept his diploma. He says simply, "I wanted to do that myself." It was a moving moment that brought the commencement audience of fellow graduates, parents and friends to their feet for a sustained round of applause.

"The standing ovation was wonderful. I didn't expect it. My wife Suzanne cried," recalled Miazga, a Brookline resident who has worked as an IT programmer for the City of Pittsburgh for the past two decades.

He worked full-time while completing his degree. "It has already helped me immensely on the job," he says. Miazga has high praise for his classmates and professors, particularly School of Business Professor **Fred Kitner**. "I appreciated the convenience of Point Park's Downtown location and the Saturday classes. It was perfect for me. My classmates and professors were wonderfully supportive."

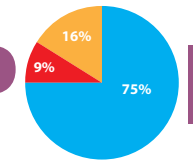
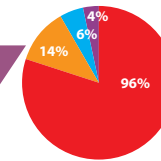
Graduation day "was a wonderful experience to share with all of my good friends at Point Park," said Miazga. "I was overwhelmed." ❖



Eric Miazga (BUS '12) accepts his diploma at Point Park's May 5 commencement at the Consol Energy Center. All photos by Jim Judkis.



MAKING YOUR POINT



We asked, you answered! Last spring we conducted a survey of readers in an effort to ensure that The Point includes the content that most interests you.

A survey invitation was emailed to 7,400 alumni and friends, and 336 readers responded. (Results were reported in aggregate, individual participants were not identified). 100 entered our raffle to win a \$100 VISA gift card. Congrats to winner Dale Marchand (BUS 1969)!

What We Learned

Here are just a few highlights of our survey results:

96% of respondents are alumni; 14% are donors; 6% are faculty/staff (current or retired); 4% are parents.

"It does a good job of putting the Point Park brand out there."

"It's a little light on news about athletics."

"I wish more alums would participate in the Class Notes."

86% reported that they read every issue, or most issues, of The Point. 70% said they read all or most of each issue. 69% said they typically keep each issue for one month or longer.

75% said they prefer to read The Point in print, 9% prefer the online version (www.pointpark.edu/thepoint), and 16% read both.

What Interests You

About 70% reported being "interested" or "somewhat interested" in stories about academic or intellectual life.

Likewise, about 70% are "interested" or "somewhat interested" in coverage of campus life topics such as athletics, student activities, visiting speakers, etc.

"Slick graphics, good photography, positive image of the university, easy to read."

"I wish there were more pages."

Notably, more than 70% are "very interested" or "interested" in coverage of cultural events and performances. The highest level of interest? Campus facilities and growth. More than 70% were "very interested" or "interested" in reading about Point Park's tremendous growth in downtown Pittsburgh.

80% either "agreed" or "strongly agreed" with this statement: "The Point strengthens my personal connection to the institution."

Keep in Touch

We hope you'll continue to share your opinions and ideas. Write to us anytime at: thepoint@pointpark.edu.

"I always enjoy the Class Notes. It's nice to see what an old classmate may be doing. I also enjoy the photos and think the layout is great."

"Not crazy about the donor sections but I understand you need to acknowledge the gifts."

"Coverage of alumni and updates on growth of the institution and its relationship to the city. The layout and presentation are excellent."

And don't forget to keep your classmates up-to-date with your personal and professional news. Did you get married, get a promotion, earn another degree? We want to hear all about it. Share your news at www.pointpark.edu/classnote. ❖



on a mission

Point Park photojournalists sail the seas of southeast Asia to document medical and veterinary care mission work



Camelia Montoy working. All photography this page by Kristopher Radder.

Camelia Montoy and Kristopher Radder will long remember the summer of 2012. The two Point Park photojournalists spent several months serving with public affairs teams that documented medical and veterinary care mission work in southeast Asia through Pacific Partnership.

Montoy, a senior photojournalism major, served with World Vets, one of many non-governmental organizations (NGO) that partnered with the U.S. military for the veterinary care mission. A typical day involved photographing the work of a team of vets as they embarked at various island ports to conduct vaccinations, treatments, examinations and consultations, said Montoy. For example, "In the Philippines we treated dogs, cats, pigs, carabao (Filipino water buffalo), homing pigeons, chickens and monkeys... I photographed life-changing and life-saving surgeries, and every day I learned something new about animal and human health and medicine." She enjoyed the environment of ongoing education. "You never know what's going to happen on site or on the ship, and you have to be prepared to grab your gear and go at any moment to get a story."

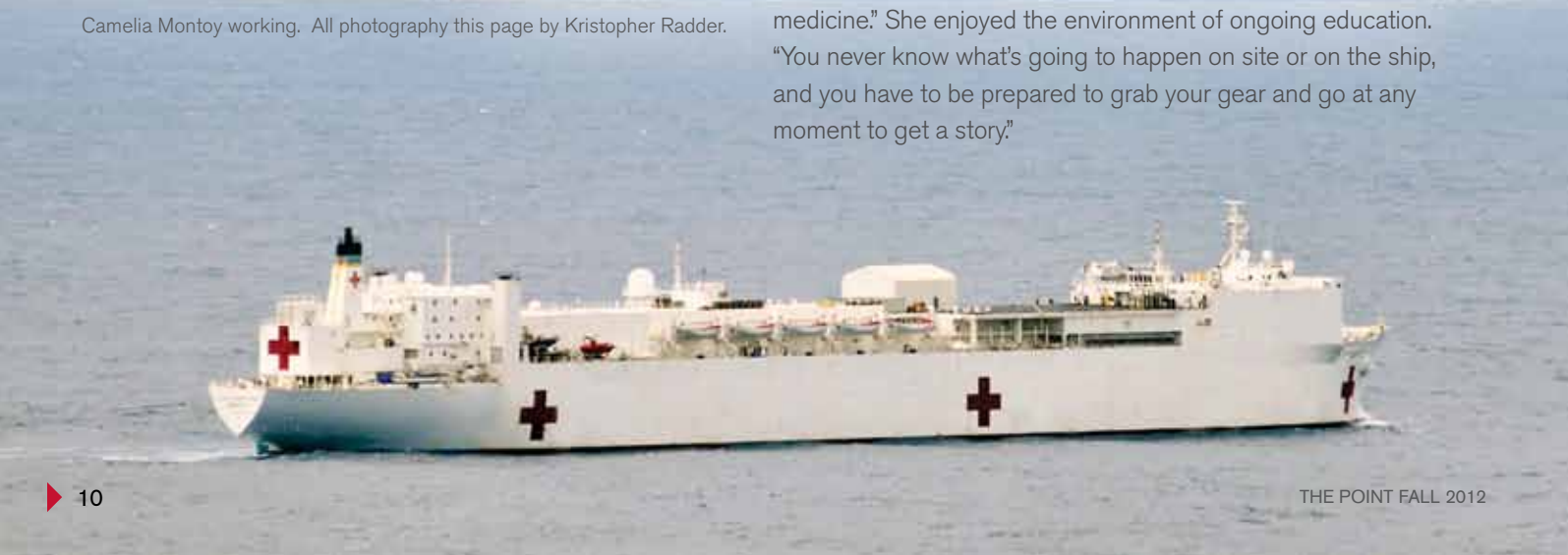


Kristopher Radder working. All photography this page by Camelia Montoy.

Kristopher Radder, a graduate student and media specialist at Point Park, served his third mission as a Project HOPE volunteer, having previously traveled to Guyana and Suriname in 2010 and Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu in 2011. Radder was a public affairs officer with the Pacific Partnership 2012 team. He photographed and blogged about the work of the HOPE medical volunteers throughout a four-month mission to the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia and Vietnam.

"It was an amazing experience," said Radder, who photographed teams performing cleft palate surgeries for children and other life-changing and life-saving medical procedures. He said it was very rewarding to experience the warmth and respect extended to the medical teams by people in the local communities.

To read more about Radder's experience and see more photographs from the mission, visit Project HOPE In the Field blog at www.projecthope.org/news-blogs/In-the-Field-blog



ITALIAN IN THE VILLAGE

Osteria 100 provides delicious new opportunity for Downtown diners and student employees

With its shaded outdoor tables situated next to a bubbling fountain, Osteria 100 shares many qualities with its original inspiration – the small cafés that line the plazas in the villages of Italy.

Located at Wood Street and the Boulevard of the Allies, the new restaurant is the latest addition to Point Park's Academic Village, part of the new Village Park that officially opened last September.

Osteria (pronounced O-sta-REE-a) refers to a casual Italian eating establishment, similar to a tavern but less formal than a ristorante or trattoria, that offers seasonally prepared dishes featuring local ingredients. Signature dishes at the new café include house made fresh pastas such as gnocchi and riccolina, as well as handmade pizzas, sandwiches and salads.

Surrounded by a canopy of trees, colorful flowers, a colonnade and a distinctive glass stair tower and fountain, the restaurant borders the south edge of the Park. Design considerations for the

restaurant and Park included making both "transparent" to each other. The large windows along the Park open in mild weather to provide view and ventilation to the restaurant. At night, the lights of the café act as a draw for activity.

At Your Service

Manager Jayson Marshall has high praise for the wait staff, the majority of whom are Point Park students – many from the Conservatory of Performing Arts. "Our student servers have great personalities, and that's something that can't be taught," he said. "As a manager, I certainly appreciate our personable servers and it's real asset for our customers."

"I love working here," says junior acting major Alexis Cash, who likes both the convenience and the food at Osteria 100. "I live in the residence hall right next door, so this is a great employment opportunity here on campus."

Cash says she appreciates having interesting dining options, beyond fast food, in the immediate neighborhood. "The atmosphere is a bit more upscale, yet the food is affordable. I think it's very appealing to students and others in the local community."

Senior photojournalism major Kristina Alvarez, who works the lunch shift about three days a week, agrees. "I have tried just about everything on the menu and I think the food is great," says Alvarez, who points out that resident students will be able to use their Flex dining card to buy meals at the restaurant. "It's a good alternative for campus dining."

Alvarez says the job has also afforded many opportunities to meet new people, from fellow student servers to visitors from neighborhood offices.

State of Downtown

Osteria 100 is also available to host meetings and special events. The first took place on April 26 when the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) hosted a reception to celebrate the release of its inaugural State of Downtown Pittsburgh 2012 report. The PDP created the report as a resource for investors, developers

and other community leaders to showcase the potential of investing in Downtown Pittsburgh.

According to Tom Trimm, co-owner of the Cioppino/Osteria brands, "the PDP has been instrumental in the development of our new Downtown location. We're proud to co-host this event and provide the PDP, Point Park University and all of the guests the first taste of Osteria 100." The restaurant is the third in the city for Trimm and Chuck Hammel, owners of Cioppino Restaurant and Cigar Bar and Osteria 2350, both located in the Strip District.

University President Paul Hennigan told participants, "it takes a community of dreamers and doers to build an Academic Village – this is also true when it comes to building a vibrant Downtown neighborhood. With organizations like the PDP and other Downtown stakeholders leading the way, we can only move forward as a neighborhood and truly become one of the most viable urban centers in America." ♦

For more information about Osteria 100, visit www.osteria100pittsburgh.com.

Lunch on the plaza at Osteria 100.
Photo by Chris Rolinson.



Inside Osteria 100 at the State of Downtown reception on April 26. Photo by John Aldorfer.



A view of the Wood Street Entrance. Photo by Kristina Alvarez, photojournalism student and Osteria 100 employee.



Sheila McKenna at the Pittsburgh Playhouse. Photo by Martha Rial.

By Colleen Derda

CRAFTING A WINNING SEASON

Conservatory faculty, artists collaborate to select productions that serve audience interests and student training

Developing a new season at the Pittsburgh Playhouse is a complex process. Each year, even before the end of the previous season, the Conservatory of Performing Arts begins discussions about possible productions.

An artistic committee recommends selections for the two student companies, the Conservatory Theatre Company and Playhouse Jr. The group of 6-8 theatre faculty members reads dozens of plays over several months, often several at a time, and discusses them in meetings and via email.

The key consideration is student training, says Sheila McKenna, chair

of the theatre department and head of the committee.

"We consider what's important in our students' training and what they are learning about genres, styles, movement, voice and speech in their coursework throughout all four years here," says McKenna.

First- and second-year students consider American Realism in depth, so the Conservatory Theatre Company regularly programs realistic plays. This year's selection is *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller.

Third-year students study styles and period works, and therefore the schedule regularly includes a Shakespeare,

Restoration or other period piece. This season, the company will produce *The School for Scandal*, a comic Restoration masterpiece, directed by guest artist Alan Stanford.

The first of two musicals, *The Producers*, will open the fall season and bring Tomé Cousin back to Pittsburgh to direct and choreograph and offer workshops for students on campus.

Students will also gain the insight of acclaimed director Jade King Carroll when she directs *Seven Guitars* by August Wilson and serves as a guest artist for the Conservatory Theatre Company.

Playhouse Jr. will concentrate its productions in the spring, offering three shows for children and young adults.

The University's professional company, The REP, will produce four works, starting with Tracy Letts's *August: Osage County*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Tony Award for Best Play. Point Park's John Shepard will direct the production.

McKenna will direct the company's world premiere, *Antarktikos* by Andrea Stolowitz, opening in late March.

Each year Ronald Allan-Lindblom, vice president of the Conservatory and artistic director of the Pittsburgh Playhouse, makes the final decision on all of the season's shows after taking into account the Artistic Committee's recommendations and the advice of Earl Hughes, producing director, Kim Martin, production manager, Anthony Dennis, box office manager, and Chris Hays, marketing manager.

Including the student dance company's concerts, the Conservatory will host 18 main stage productions during the season and welcome up to 30,000 patrons. "We have one of the most ambitious production schedules of any university in the country," says Lindblom. "It provides our students with so many opportunities, and it allows the classroom to become the place to discuss what is discovered on the stage."

McKenna, who is now beginning her second year heading the theatre department, says this year's slate of shows offers much to the Conservatory's acting, musical theatre, stage management and technical theatre/design students in their training.

"We are particularly excited about this season," says McKenna. "The selections are diverse and well-written and present exciting challenges in language, movement, style and design." ❖



ON STAGE THIS FALL

Conservatory Theatre Company

The Producers

Book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meham
Music and lyrics by Mel Brooks
Directed and choreographed by Tomé Cousin
Oct. 19 – 28, 2012
Rockwell Theater

Seven Guitars

By August Wilson
Directed by Jade King Carroll
Nov. 9 – 18 and Nov. 29, Dec. 2, 2012
Studio Theater

The Crucible

By Arthur Miller
Directed by Shirley Tannenbaum
Dec. 7 – 16, 2012
Rauh Theater

The REP

August: Osage County

By Tracy Letts
Directed by John Shepard
Sept. 7 – 23, 2012
Rauh Theater

Rope

By Patrick Hamilton
Directed by Elmore James
Sept. 28 – Oct. 14, 2012
Studio Theater

Conservatory Dance Company

Student Choreography Project

Oct. 5 – 7, 2012
GRW Performance Studio – Dance Complex (Downtown)

Contemporary Choreographers

Nov. 16 – 18 and Nov. 30, Dec. 2, 2012
GRW Performance Studio – Dance Complex (Downtown)

The Jazz Nutcracker

Dec. 7 – 9 and 14-16, 2012
Rockwell Theater

Special Offer for Alumni

Point Park alumni receive a 50 percent discount off regular ticket prices. Visit or call the box office, 412-392-8000. For more information on the season, visit www.pittsburghplayhouse.com.



Point Extra

See a video on the Acting program at www.pointpark.edu/thePOINT



Dance PERSPECTIVE

Garfield Lemonius brings insights and technique into the studio in his work with young dancers

Photo by Chris Rolinson.

Assistant Professor Garfield Lemonius joined the Conservatory of Performing Arts as a guest artist in 2009 and became a full-time faculty member in fall 2011. He holds an M.F.A. in dance from Southern Methodist University, and a B.F.A. in dance and bachelor's degree in education from York University in Toronto. Lemonius' professional background includes performing as a principal dancer with the Dallas Black Dance Theatre and guest artist at companies across the world. He has been a master teacher at many prestigious schools and summer dance programs, including the Debbie Allen Dance Institute Summer Intensive. Prior to coming to Point Park, Lemonius was on faculty at the nationally acclaimed Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas.

You have an extensive dance background. How do you incorporate your professional experience into the classes you teach?

GL: I am a firm believer in augmenting what one learns in the classroom with outside experiences. In my classes, I encourage students to attend performances and see as much dance as they can. I also encourage writing a critique of the performance, thereby fostering the notion of 'looking at and talking about dance.' They need to have a point of view – not only with what they say through movement, but also how to articulate their thoughts; they need to be critical thinkers! That was important to me when I was dancing. I went to see dance

and engaged in conversations about what I saw. I also incorporate information, anecdotes, and survival tips I've learned from the profession – gained from the touring, the crazy schedules, as well as choreographers, dancers and artistic directors I've worked with. That will help the student gain a better understanding of the professional world, the movements they will be exposed to, how to be artists and 'make movement mean.' As well as how to condition their bodies for daily technique classes and rehearsals to ensure they can dance longer, and stronger, way into their careers. Bringing segments of repertory movement materials from choreography that I've performed into the studio also challenges the student's skill level and exposes them to new movement ideas from masterworks as well as cutting-edge contemporary choreographers.

What has been your biggest professional achievement?

GL: Students usually see an amazing dance work and lust after it, or want to work with a specific choreographer at some point during their dance careers. For me, it was Asadata Dafora's 1932 classic *Awassa Astrige/Ostrich*. It's brilliant, timeless, intricate and incredibly

challenging! It's a solo dance, depicting a warrior clad in ostrich feathers, imitating the graceful yet powerful movements of the magnificent ostrich, king of the birds. It defines artistry; a whole body experience that one experiences only through dance. I was one of the few male dancers in the U.S. given the opportunity to perform this timeless work on many theatre stages. It was a dream come true. After dancing that work, I can say that I truly lived.

What is your teaching philosophy?

GL: Students first! And the three R's: Rigor, Relationships and Relevance. Each class is rigorous, challenging the

student's notion of how far they go and how much they can achieve. It is important that I also understand each student's background, their learning styles and who they are as a person, so that I create a safe atmosphere conducive to their learning, where they are comfortable enough to take risks, make mistakes, learn from them and grow. And of course, the coursework does not exist in a vacuum. It has to be relevant to the "real world". In essence the classroom, their university experience, becomes a matrix of the dance world, ensuring that the student can easily transfer their learning into real life situations.

What advice do you have for prospective students considering a career in dance?

GL: They will get to see the world, meet incredible people and become cultural aficionados. However, as the saying goes, 'to keep a lamp burning, we have to keep putting oil in it!' It will be a wonderful experience: they will love every minute of it, and also hate it sometimes. But to persevere, they have to see each opportunity as a learning experience, and continue to grow. And don't forget to have fun. Early in my dance training someone once told me to 'practice instant forgiveness!' That has never left me since. Forgive the screw-ups, and move on! But learn from those teachable moments, because it's how we learn to play with a poor hand in a game of cards, that defines us; we won't always have or get the good cards!

In your opinion, what makes Point Park's dance program unique?

GL: Point Park's dance program is unique because the students receive intense conservatory training within a university setting. The dance spaces are enormous compared to most, the faculty are brilliant teachers in their own form and stylist dance areas, and the caliber of the training in ballet, modern and jazz is comparable to the top pre-professional conservatory dance training programs in the country and abroad. Pittsburgh's close proximity to the major dance hubs of Chicago, New York City and Toronto doesn't hurt either. ❖



Point Extra

For more conversation with Garfield Lemonius and to see and hear him discuss the world of dance, visit www.pointpark.edu/the.point.

SAEM CELEBRATES

SAEM student Nicole Bozeman.
Photo by Kris Radder.

Sports agent and Associate Professor Steve Tanzilli,
director of the SAEM program. Photo by Martha Rial.

This page, above: Associate Professor Paige Beal (third from left) with SAEM students. Below: Assistant Professor
and concert promoter Ed Traversari (center) with students at Stage AE. Both photos by Ian Bradshaw.



The Sport, Arts and Entertainment Management program immerses

by Cristina Rouvalis

Nicole Bozeman has no doubt her son Ezekiel Marshall is bound for the NBA. The 7-foot star center at the University of Akron, who holds the school record for blocked shots, has attracted the attention of pro scouts.

But Bozeman doesn't want to leave her son's promising basketball career to a manager or agent. Believing a mother knows best, she wants to become a knowledgeable intermediary between her son and an agent.

That's why the 46-year-old mother is one of 250 undergraduates enrolled in Point Park University's Sport, Arts & Entertainment Management (SAEM) program, and is scheduled to graduate in December in time to become her son's manager for the 2013 NBA draft.

"I love the program," Bozeman said. "It gave me a whole new perspective on the business of athletics. I am learning about the life of an athlete, the physical challenges, the mental challenges, the pressure to produce – time and time again. I am learning how to promote and brand my client."

Now in its 10th year, with both an undergraduate and graduate track, the growing SAEM program trains students to become sports agents, theater managers and concert promoters by providing business courses, internships and mentorships with people working in the field.

During the first few days of class, Stephen Tanzilli, director of the program, always asks students why they enrolled in the program. "I love baseball and want to work for the Pirates," some say. Others might say they love music.

"Wrong answer," Tanzilli tells them.

business students in real-world education, hands-on experience

"You don't want to be fans. You want to make money. You want to be in sports, arts and entertainment to build a brand and generate revenue.

"The ones who succeed understand it is a business. There is not a big difference between selling tickets to a theater or selling tickets to a Pirate game," Tanzilli said though students are being prepared for careers in the diverse worlds of sports, the arts and entertainment, the program teaches every student a set of core business principles that can help them make money and smart decisions in any field.

"If you don't get your dream job with the Steelers or Sony Records, you will still have your business courses," said Tanzilli, a sports agent. Other professors in the program have their specialties such as the live music world, grant writing for nonprofits, arts management organizations and social media marketing.

For example, Ed Traversari, an assistant professor and concert promoter, teaches his students what it is like to be a band manager, an agent, a member of the technical crew, a tour accountant, etc. and brings in guest speakers in those

professions. "I love teaching in this program. I always tell students I wish there was a program like this when I graduated from high school!" He and Paige Beal, an associate professor who teaches new media marketing, hold classes in a conference room at Stage AE, a North Side concert venue. "We can stop the kids in on the way in and talk for 20 minutes on what is going on before a big show," Traversari said.



See videos on SAEM programs at
www.pointpark.edu/the.point.



SAEM graduate Melissa Brozeski is coordinator of community relations for the Pittsburgh Pirates.



Assistant Professor Ed Traversari works with SAEM students at Stage AE. Photo by Ian Bradshaw.

The professors use their contacts in the real world to place undergraduates and some 20 students in the graduate program in internships and opportunities to shadow professionals. Said Tanzilli, "It's a roll-up-your-sleeves kind of program."

"All of us are so connected," said Beal. "We can call people and say, 'Hey, what do you have going on? Can one of our students come intern or shadow?'"

Sometimes the program helps students sharpen their skills in existing jobs. Nicholas Gigante graduated with a master's degree in the program in 2007 and it helped him with his job in the development office at the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. Gigante, who had received an English

and history degree as an undergraduate, liked the flexibility of the program.

"I really liked learning from people who actually lived it and worked it," he said. "They gave me an idea of how a real budget and a show come together."

The business savvy Gigante learned at Point Park is still paying dividends. It recently helped him get promoted from director of development to vice president of development at the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.

Other alumni have landed in prestigious jobs. For example, Melissa Brozeski is coordinator of community relations for the Pittsburgh Pirates and Erin Cappiccie is an executive producer's

assistant on the hit CBS television show *The Good Wife*.

Nicole Bozeman, the mother of basketball star Ezekiel Marshall, said the program has steeped her in the lingo of sports representation so she will be able to discern what is best for her son. "I will be the buffer between him and agents. I will know the verbiage. If something is off, I can ring the warning bell."

Bozeman also says the program will help her guard against the pitfalls that befall so many pro athletes who make unwise investments after they retire from athletics. "I don't want my son to fall in the category of athletes who are bankrupt. I want to make sure what he does will sustain him for years to come." ❖

Ticket Masters

Without the box office, there are no theater patrons, no fans – and ultimately no sports and entertainment," says Anthony Dennis, director of sales and box office management for the Pittsburgh Playhouse.

To teach Point Park SAEM students the fine art of ticketing systems, Dennis teamed up with Jason Varnish, box office manager for the Consol Energy Center to present a unique Point Park course in "Ticketing 101" last spring.

The course is a rarity in business education. When Dennis and Varnish were developing the class, they could find only one other university that

offered something similar. Yet ticketing skills are critical to success in the sport, arts and entertainment field, says Dennis.

Open Box Office

Created in response to student demand, the course introduced participants to major electronic ticketing systems and covered such areas as secondary ticketing, ticketing technology, discounting tickets, seating schematics, counterfeiting, revenue strategies and box office staffing. Students learned in class and in the field – by assisting at such events as the NCAA Tournament game(s) held at the Consol Center in Pittsburgh earlier this year.

Students came away from the course with a better understanding of various ticketing functions, ticket logistics, facility operations, developing an effective customer service program and the role of ticket pricing as a critical part of the success of the event. They explored potential challenges that might arise during an event as well as appropriate solutions, says Dennis.

The better to ensure smooth and successful ticket sales, and avoid the dreaded "double-seating," that can make or break a big event.

Point Park has a dedicated classroom for SAEM students at Stage AE on Pittsburgh's North Side.

Chelsea Cain is a 2011 graduate of the SAEM program. Photo by Ian Bradshaw.

Students listen to a musician at Stage AE.

SAEM students collaborated with the Pittsburgh Zoo to host the "Zoo U" event last year.



Alumnus Ed Scott is the new George Rowland White Endowed Assistant Professor of Accounting and Finance

by Cheryl Valyo

When Edward Scott (BUS 1989) was a business student at Point Park in the late 1980s, he had the good fortune to connect with alumnus Robert Goetz (BUS 1974) at an accounting careers seminar on campus.

A principal with the international accounting firm Touche Ross (later Deloitte & Touche and now Deloitte), Goetz took an interest in Scott's budding career – which eventually led to a senior year job offer at the “Big Four” accounting company.

“So, as a direct result of a Point Park alumnus returning to campus in an effort to give back, my career received an invaluable boost,” says Scott, who hopes to continue that tradition in his role as a new University faculty member: the George Rowland White Endowed Assistant Professor of Accounting and Finance.

Longtime University benefactors, (the late) George R. White and his wife Kathleen established the professorship with a \$1 million bequest through their estate plan. The new professor will help lead an Urban Accounting Initiative to encourage education and careers in accounting and finance, particularly among young minority students.

Raised in the Hill District and Garfield neighborhoods of Pittsburgh, Scott began his studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania but decided to transfer to Point Park. “The University is known for providing a smooth transition for transfer students and non-traditional students, and I certainly benefited from that,” says Scott, who recalls that two of his friends were inspired to transfer into Point Park based on his positive experience.

He returns to Point Park from Kansas City, Mo., where he recently served as vice president of international purchasing for the Kansas City Southern Railway (KCSR).

Business education is a longtime interest of Scott, who taught accounting courses at Community College of Allegheny County while working in his first professional position as an audit manager at Deloitte.

A former president of the Pittsburgh chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants, Scott later became accounting manager and economic development officer at the Urban Redevelopment Authority, then finance director at the Housing Authority, for the City of Pittsburgh.

He left Pittsburgh in 1998 to become capital investment accounting director for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, one of the two largest railroads in the United States. Scott went on to assume executive positions at KCSR, where he had the opportunity to expand his accounting expertise into the area of procurement. He earned an executive M.B.A. at Texas Christian University in 2003.

The Point Park professorship was an ideal opportunity to “get back to Pittsburgh and back into the classroom,” says Scott, whose wife Patricia recently completed a master's degree in nursing education. The move has enabled their son, Ed Jr., to enroll as a freshman at Pittsburgh's Central Catholic High School, Scott's alma mater. In other family ties to Point Park, Scott's father, Charles Scott, Ph.D., is a longtime faculty member in the Department of Natural Sciences and Engineering Technology and his mother, Mary Scott, is a Point Park alumna.

In his first year, Scott plans to focus on getting to know School of Business programs, expanding alumni connections and sharing his own expertise in both accounting and supply chain operations. He says he looks forward to working with educator and civic leader Herman Reid Jr., Ph.D. on a new University collaboration with Manchester Academic Charter School in which middle school students will explore the fields of accounting and finance.

“What George and Kathleen White provided, through their very generous endowment, is a catalyst for opportunity,” says Scott. “It's a privilege for me – and I feel a great deal of responsibility – to honor Dr. White by working toward realizing his vision for this professorship and ultimately, the School of Business.” ❖

“What George and Kathleen White provided, through their very generous endowment, is a catalyst for opportunity. It's a privilege for me – and I feel a great deal of responsibility – to honor Dr. White by working toward realizing his vision for this professorship and ultimately, the School of Business.”

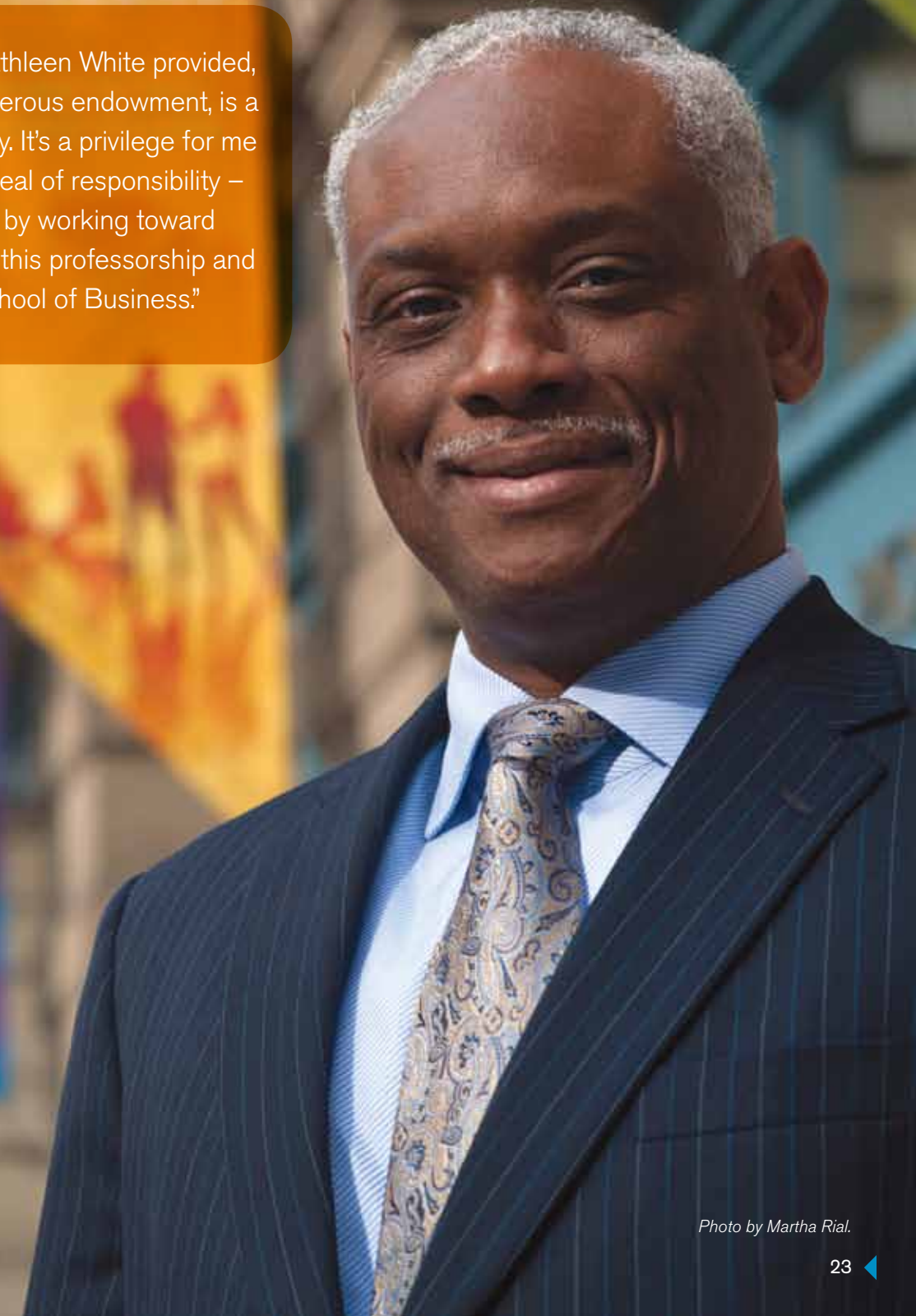


Photo by Martha Rial.



Cultivating Young Writers

Point Park has a growing community of students putting experiences into words using creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry and other genres

by Colleen Derda

Creative writing faculty members (from left to right) William Purcell, Karen Dwyer and Sarah Perrier.

The best aspiring writers are inquisitive by nature, says Sarah Perrier, Ph.D., assistant professor of creative writing. "Talented and committed writers show curiosity and interest in tracking down details."

And they see possibilities around every corner, adds Assistant Professor Karen Dwyer. "They are busy being in the world and pursuing their interests. Then they write about their experiences."

Point Park has a growing community of students putting experiences into words using creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry and other creative genres. They're arriving from throughout the University

to take advantage of Point Park's craft-oriented writing workshops and intensive literary seminars.

Perrier, an award-winning poet, came in 2008 to create the workshop classes and help expand a creative writing concentration into a Bachelor of Arts in English/Creative Writing. Dwyer, an award-winning fiction writer, joined her a year later. The two put the degree program in place by fall 2010, then watched it grow from five to 24 full- and part-time students in only a year.

The students' interest reflects the dynamic growth in creative writing degree programs across the country, says Perrier.

The Association of Writers & Writing Programs reports more than 150 member schools with B.A. or B.F.A. creative writing programs in 2010, up from only three in 1975. Point Park University is now a part of the professional association and its growing tally.

Perrier, Dwyer and psychology professor and longtime writing instructor William Purcell offer a full slate of introductory and advanced writing workshops designed to allow students to refine individual works and receive informed feedback from faculty and fellow students.

This past year, Dwyer and Perrier began offering creative-writing focused sections

of World Literature I, a course in the core curriculum that introduces students from any major to reading and responding to literary texts. One of the goals was to have students try out writing creatively in response to works by established authors.

"These students used writing to learn about literature instead of the reverse," says Perrier.

The students wrote short plays, poems and short stories after reading works by author Jonathan Franzen, playwright Paula Vogel, poet Sandra Beasley, poet and dramatist Edmond Rostand, writer David Foster Wallace, and others. One assignment involved writing about listening to music after students read selections by author Nick Hornby and Rolling Stone Magazine writer Rob Sheffield. The assignment appealed to the students because it combined writing and music, says Perrier, and it helped them to realize the challenges of writing about artistic pursuits.

Students and professors agree Point Park's creative population provides a natural base for a strong writing culture.

A number of students combine an English/creative writing major or minor with a course of study from other school. One such student, Scott Romani, graduated in May with a dance degree from the Conservatory of Performing Arts and a creative writing degree from the School of Arts and Sciences. He is now studying in the University of Pittsburgh's M.F.A. program in creative writing.

"Point Park prepared me well for applying to graduate school," says the 23-year-old. Part of that preparation is a senior

seminar called Craft and Critique, where students complete a series of works and a 20-40 page critical analysis situating their creative work within the genre.

"I had really great mentors in the creative writing program," says Romani, who continues to work in short fiction and poetry. "I started writing at the end of my sophomore year, so I was a late starter.

The fact that a year and a half later I was accepted into graduate school speaks for itself about the quality of Point Park's creative writing program."

The Point Park Writers' Series brings renowned authors to campus for public readings and student workshops. Read about events planned for 2012-2013 at pointpark.edu.

On Writing Well

Point Park offers all students help in becoming more proficient writers so they can succeed in their academic work and prepare for the workforce.

"If you can't write, you are narrowing your opportunities in every career," says Robert Alexander, Ph.D., professor of English.

One of the latest ways Point Park offers help with writing composition is through Studio Writing classes for freshmen and sophomores enrolled in English Composition and World Literature classes. The new one-credit courses, which are offered pass-fail, use small groups, conferences and lab time to provide individual instruction for work assigned in the writing-intensive core courses.

"Statistics and research show that that students who need help with their writing progress faster and do better with core courses when they take the extra class," says Alexander.

The Writing Center at the Program for Academic Success (PAS) also offers



assistance with English assignments and writing projects in courses across the curriculum. Students can make 30- or 60-minute appointments or drop in to 703 Lawrence Hall. The Writing Center even offers online tutoring.

Alexander, who has taught at Point Park for 40 years, says students have a wide range of options for finding writing assistance. ❖



Point Extra

Sarah Perrier was a featured poet on the PBS NewsHour blog Art Beat during the 2012 Association of Writers & Writing Programs' conference. Watch Perrier read one of her works, and hear Bob Alexander discuss studio writing classes, at www.pointpark.edu/ThePoint.

South Africa Calling

Alumnus Glenn Veatch leads engineering, operations and land management for American Tower Corporation in South Africa

by Cheryl Valyo

It's a very long distance from his hometown of Pittsburgh, but alumnus Glenn Veatch (A&S 1990) is using the skills he developed in the electrical engineering technology program at Point Park in his work as chief operating officer (COO) and chief technology officer (CTO) for American Tower Corporation (ATC) in South Africa.

the ranks to become director of operations and director of services and support. He later moved to the international side of the business and helped lead ATC's initial business setup in South Africa in November of 2010.

As COO/CTO, Veatch manages more than 60 employees and oversees

extended family still lives. The University is a family affair for the Veatches: Glenn's mother Sue recently retired after three decades of service on Point Park's housekeeping staff.

"Ironically, I never visited Point Park prior to my orientation," recalls Veatch. With a natural aptitude for math, he was awarded a Golden Key faculty scholarship and flourished in his studies in engineering technology.

Veatch recalls a much smaller campus and many enduring friendships, including members of his fraternity, Sigma Tau Gamma. "Point State Park was always a great place to relax after finals or a day full of classes," he says. "I'm still a die-hard Pittsburgh Steelers and Penguins fan. I miss Pittsburgh and try to return home to visit my family at least once a year."

He also enjoys living in South Africa. "It's very similar to living in the United States, because the infrastructure is very advanced for the African continent. South Africa is a very beautiful country. You can go to the beach, go hiking in the mountains, or see a ballet or musical," says Veatch, who is married to Anita and has a young stepson, Ethan.

"Seeing wildlife outside of cages has probably been my favorite experience in living here. Lions, leopards, cheetahs, buffalo, impala, kudu, giraffes, hippos, elephants, wildebeests and hyenas – I've been blessed to see and photograph all of them."

"Seeing wildlife outside of cages has probably been my favorite experience in living here. Lions, leopards, cheetahs, buffalo, impala, kudu, giraffes, hippos, elephants, wildebeests and hyenas – I've been blessed to see and photograph all of them."



Glenn Veatch with son Ethan and wife Anita. Photos courtesy of Glenn Veatch.

After a couple of temporary assignments following his 1990 graduation, Veatch joined McCaw Communications, which eventually merged with AT&T Wireless.

In 1998, he left AT&T to join the newly established American Tower Corporation, "which owned about 200 broadcast towers at the time," recalls Veatch. Just over a decade later, ATC now owns more than 40,000 communication towers around the globe.

Veatch started with ATC as a construction project manager and moved up through

operations, collocation, land management, implementation and engineering for ATC, now the industry leader in South Africa. "We are in business to lease space and offer value-added services to our customers," says Veatch. "My team has many responsibilities that range from safety, to repair and maintenance of our tower facilities, to quickly getting our customers through our processes, installed on our towers, and generating revenue for our business."

Veatch has fond memories of Point Park and Pittsburgh, where most of his

ALUMNI PROFILE ▶



ALUMNI CONNECTION ▶



As I write this, the campus is coming alive as the fall semester begins. We welcome several new faces on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and a new director of alumni relations to support their work.

Susan Orr (M.A., COM 1993) is the newly elected president of the Alumni Association. She is director of development for Sojourner House in Pittsburgh. Susan has made recruitment of new Board members one of her top priorities.

The Board of Directors recently welcomed four new members:

Christine Demore (M.B.A., BUS '12) is global pricing operations manager at BNY Mellon and was a leader in the Graduate Student Association. She initiated a mentoring program that matches professionals with graduate students.

Carrie Potter-Murray (B.A., COM '09) is a special educator in the Propel Charter Schools. She has a master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh and was a founding member of the Green and Gold Society at Point Park.

Carrie L. Butler (B.A., COM 1995) is a former senior director of public relations for The Art Institute of Pittsburgh. She is principal of her own business, Carrie On Communication.

David Jenkins (M.S., A&S '08) served in the U.S. Coast Guard, where he attained the rank of petty officer. He is now national card access controller with Allied Barton Security.

The Development and Alumni Relations Office welcomed **Kristen Baginski**, the new director of alumni relations. A former faculty member and librarian for the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, she also served as deputy chief of staff for Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl.

We will be scheduling Point Park 2020 Conversations throughout the year. Also, look for more information about such new initiatives as: an Alumni Veterans Network, a Young Alumni Network, an African American Alumni Initiative, and a Point Park Women's Forum.

Your comments are always welcome. Email me at rhaskins@pointpark.edu or call 412-392-8097.

Best regards,

Rick Haskins (COM 1971)
Vice President, Development and Alumni Relations



"While researching the best estate planning options, I discovered I could transfer unused IRA/401K balances directly to Point Park University and take full advantage of continuing my tax-deferred status on these funds for a very good cause. ...

... Point Park provided me with a solid foundation to begin my working career, and for that opportunity I am most grateful and appreciative. I could not have achieved the level of success I have enjoyed without an excellent starting point."

George Marin (BUS 1973)
Founder, Data Tech Services
Member, Point Park University Founders Society

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY Founders Society

ABOUT THE FOUNDERS SOCIETY

Established in conjunction with Point Park University's 50th anniversary, the Founders Society is an exclusive membership group comprised of the first 100 alumni, trustees, faculty members and friends who make a lasting commitment to Point Park in their wills, trusts or estate plans.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Barb Cinpinski at 412-392-4215 or bcinpinski@pointpark.edu, or visit www.pointpark.edu/FoundersSociety

CLASS NOTES ▶

▶ 1970s

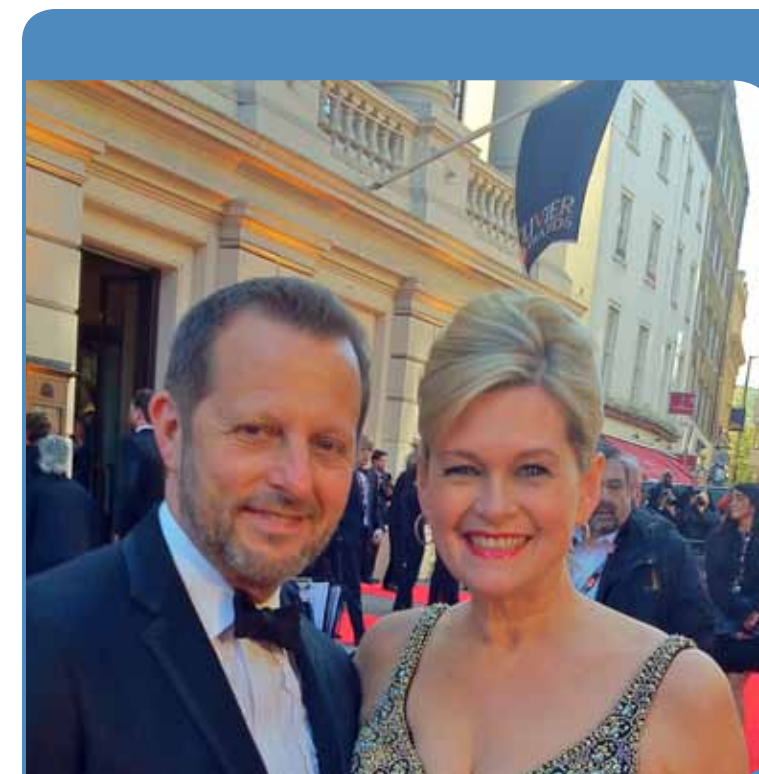
Martin Sanders (A&S 1973) has served in the U.S. Marines Corps and has worked on engineering projects in such countries as Iraq, Australia, Poland, Italy, England and Malaysia. A registered professional engineer, he is a member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IEA), American Management Association (AMA), Rail Technical Society of Australasia (RTSA), and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE). Sanders has received many awards, including the DART LRT Outstanding Achievement Award, which honors outstanding service in the management of design and construction for the electrification for the LRT system. He earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering technology at Point Park.

Joseph Emanuele (A&S 1973) received the Frank A. Santamaria Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame, Pittsburgh Chapter on

March 11, 2012. Emanuele was raised in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh in the shadow of Forbes Field. During his years as a history major at Point Park, he was a star second baseman for the Pioneers. For the past four decades he has taught math at Pittsburgh's Central Catholic High School, his alma mater. As head baseball coach at Central, he led the team to the 1979 state championship finals, with a group of players that included Dan Marino (NFL Hall of Fame quarterback), Michael Berger (former catcher with the Pittsburgh Pirates and Texas Rangers), Tony LaCava (former first baseman for the Pirates) and Larry Lamonde (former catcher for the Pirates). For nearly two decades, Emanuele also worked as a scout for the Kansas City Royals. He was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame for his dedication to coaching and young players and he is a founding member of the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame.

In Memoriam

Jeffrey Rozran (A&S 1972), a longtime English teacher at Syosset High School and the president of the Syosset Teacher's Association (STA) in Syosset, N.Y., died on April 7, 2012 after a long battle with lung cancer. He was 65. According to his obituary on Syosset Patch, Rozran came from "an educating family. He became a third generation educator who spent almost every day of his 37-year-long career at 70 Southwoods Road. In the classroom, he brought classics to life. Out of the classroom, he fought for the rights of teachers in Syosset and across New York State as President of the Syosset Teachers' Union and Director of New York State United Teachers (NYSUT)." Rozran, who earned his bachelor's degree in English at Point Park, was beloved by colleagues and students alike. Read more at: www.syosset.going.com/articles/obituary-jeffrey-rozran-65-shs-teacher-union-president.



London Connection

Rob Ashford and Beverly Edwards, both Point Park Dance graduates (Class of 1983) celebrated together at the 2012 Laurence Olivier Awards at The Royal Opera House on April 15 in London, England. A veteran Broadway performer and director, Ashford directed the Donmar Warehouse production of Eugene O'Neill's *Anna Christie*, which starred Jude Law and won the Olivier Award for Best Revival this year. A longtime Broadway manager, Edwards is U.S. associate general manager at Julian Stoneman Associates, which produced and managed the Olivier Awards as well as many award-winning West End plays and musical productions.

David F. Steere (A&S 1974) died on September 4, 2011 in Aurora, Colo. After a long battle with cancer. He earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering technology at Point Park in 1974.

► 1980s

Wendy Masterson (COPA 1984) is a nationally recognized master teacher, choreographer, and arts administrator. A licensed Somatic Movement Educator from the School for Body-Mind Centering® and GYROTONIC® trainer, she is the education director for Kinesthetic Learning Center-BMC CA/NC and serves on the faculty at Interlochen Arts Academy. In 2012 she presented at the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science on the connectivity of sight and spinal mobility. Masterson recently published two articles featuring her explorations with Body-Mind Centering, a somatic approach towards learning, creativity, and movement practices. One article spotlights the application of BMC with the Academy's pre-professional dancers in *Conscious Dancer* magazine. The other article, "Connecting Journeys: A Self Study in Cellular Consciousness," appeared in *Currents* (international BMCA publication) along with original artwork. In January 2012, Masterson was elected to the board of directors of Body-Mind Centering Association.

► 1990s

Susan Orr (A&S 1993) has been appointed director of development at Sojourner House, a residential rehabilitation facility for addicted mothers and their children, in East Liberty. She had previously volunteered at Sojourner House for the past decade. Orr is the former director of corporate relations and marketing at Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force.

John Jackowski (COPA 1998) married Dianne Certo on April 21, 2012.

Dan Vitchoff (A&S 1997) is a Pittsburgh-based hypnotherapist who has worked with members of the U.S. Olympic shooting team, as well as golfers and other professional athletes, to boost performance and focus. A member of the National Guild of Hypnotists, he serves clients nationally and internationally in such areas as corporate and personnel issues, athletic performance improvement, weight loss and smoking cessation. In an article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Vitchoff described travelling to London with his "Mind Gym" to help the Olympic shooters achieve "a perfectly calm state of being throughout their stay...so they'll have no distractions standing in the way of their pursuit of gold... at the Royal Artillery Barracks." He also discussed the influence of Point Park Psychology Professor Robert Fessler. "He changed my life," Vitchoff said. Read the entire Post Gazette article here: <http://tinyurl.com/danvitchoff>.

► 2000s



Meg Yunn (BUS '07) is the founder of the nonprofit organization Beverly's Birthdays and director of volunteer programs at Washington and Jefferson College. She was one of 10 people in the U.S. to receive

a \$2,500 grant from Scholastic Media's "Be Big in Your Community Contest." Yunn proposed Beverly's Birthdays, a nonprofit organization that would provide birthday celebrations for local low-income and homeless children. Her proposal, which was chosen among more than 1,000 entries, was based on four criteria: feasibility, creativity, sustainability and impact. "While volunteering at an after-school program, I was helping an 11 year-old-girl named Beverly with a reading assignment. When the words "accustomed to" came up in the story, I gave the example of people being accustomed to cakes and gifts at birthday parties," said Yunn. "It was then that she told me she had never had a birthday party. I went home that night and knew I needed to do something for children like Beverly." Yunn is the daughter of Patricia Joyce Schreck, who earned her degree in biological sciences at Point Park in 1980.

Katie Hanlon Phillips (BUS '00) is the group sales manager for the National Aviary in Pittsburgh. She received her bachelor's degree in arts management in 2000 and then served as group sales coordinator for the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh and Senator John Heinz History Center. She is a former guest services coordinator for Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.



Daniel R. Paoly (BUS '05) is a project manager in the geographic information system (GIS) division in RETTEW's

Heart ♥ Point Park

I saw the Heart of Point Park article in the spring 2012 issue of *The Point* and I wanted to share my story. My name is **Crystal Herbert** and I graduated in 2007. My husband **Ben Mathus** graduated in 2005. We were both in the Conservatory of Performing Arts. Ben went to Pittsburgh Filmmakers for video production and I studied in the digital arts program for video production. We actually met the first week of school, at Monte Carlo Night in 2003 (where I won a CD player prize), where we were introduced through other people. After two months we started dating and have been together for eight years. We [recently married], on July 14, 2012,

with many Point Park alumni invited to attend. Ben is currently working as a camera utility, second AC, and DIT on shows such as *Gossip Girl*, Showtime's *The Big C* and *Nurse Jackie*, and more. I have directed employee training videos, Internet commercials, animation and graphic design for such clients as The Rolling Stones, PNC, and Allen Klein (the manager of the Beatles in the 1960s). I am currently working in marketing, including photography and graphic design projects for Pittsburgh Magazine. In addition to getting married, we are both working on our own feature movie, which is being shot in 3D.

Pittsburgh office. He is responsible for managing GIS-related portions of projects that involve planning and identifying locations for well pads, water impoundments and temporary waterlines for RETTEW's natural gas clients. Paoly has ten years of experience providing GIS expertise for a wide variety of projects including infrastructure, hazardous waste, municipal mapping, transportation, trail improvement and socio-economic analysis. A certified geographic information systems professional (GISP), Paoly has a bachelor's degree in geography from the University of Akron and an M.B.A. with a concentration in international business from Point Park.



Vasilii Savtchouk (A&S '11) is an electrical engineer with Westinghouse Electric

Company. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering technology and returns to Point Park in fall 2012 to pursue a master's degree in engineering management.

Benjamin Cole (A&S '09) was promoted from traffic assistant to traffic director at KQV-AM 1410 in Pittsburgh. While studying broadcast journalism at Point Park, Ben served as production director and assistant general manager at WPPJ.

Kelly Ann Havice (COPA '07) completed a master's degree in English from Millersville University of Pennsylvania. She earned her bachelor's degree in film and video production at Point Park.

David Borandi (COPA '05) writes, "my newfound success has left me thinking about how I got to where I am today, and how lucky I am. Point Park was part of that. While I got my start in education at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, and got an excellent education there, my thoughts about where I am today lead me more to Point Park than anything. I have the opportunity to produce and direct many commercials and even a few TV shows. Recently I finished a script

(with Tamora Gamble) that I plan to produce with my new production company. I have had the opportunity to get some major stars (in my genre) to sign on to my film, such as Angela Bettis, Doug Bradley (better known as "Pinhead" from *Hellraiser*, Robert Englund ("Freddy from *Nightmare on Elm Street*) and Kane Hodder ("Jason" from the original *Friday the 13th* films). Horror films are my passion and despite my limited budget, the casting makes my film something very anticipated in the genre. This opportunity can be traced back to a small film I worked on with a few friends at Point Park many years ago. I had several great teachers who gave me time outside of class and worked with me on a script back then that evolved into something that won me several awards for my script and gave me

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CLASS NOTES

the chance I have now after years of hard work on it and support from my wonderful crew and cast to get [the film] made. Point Park faculty helped me evolve my writing style and Richard Rauh's film classes provided the in-depth look at film I never had previously. This gave me the direction I needed to develop my own projects.

Shooting commercials paid my bills for a while, but I am very happy to say that I can now live off of my creative abilities. Thank you Point Park, from the bottom of my heart, for letting me polish my skills and develop my voice as an artist. I have had a great journey so far in life and I am glad one of my stops was at Point Park University."

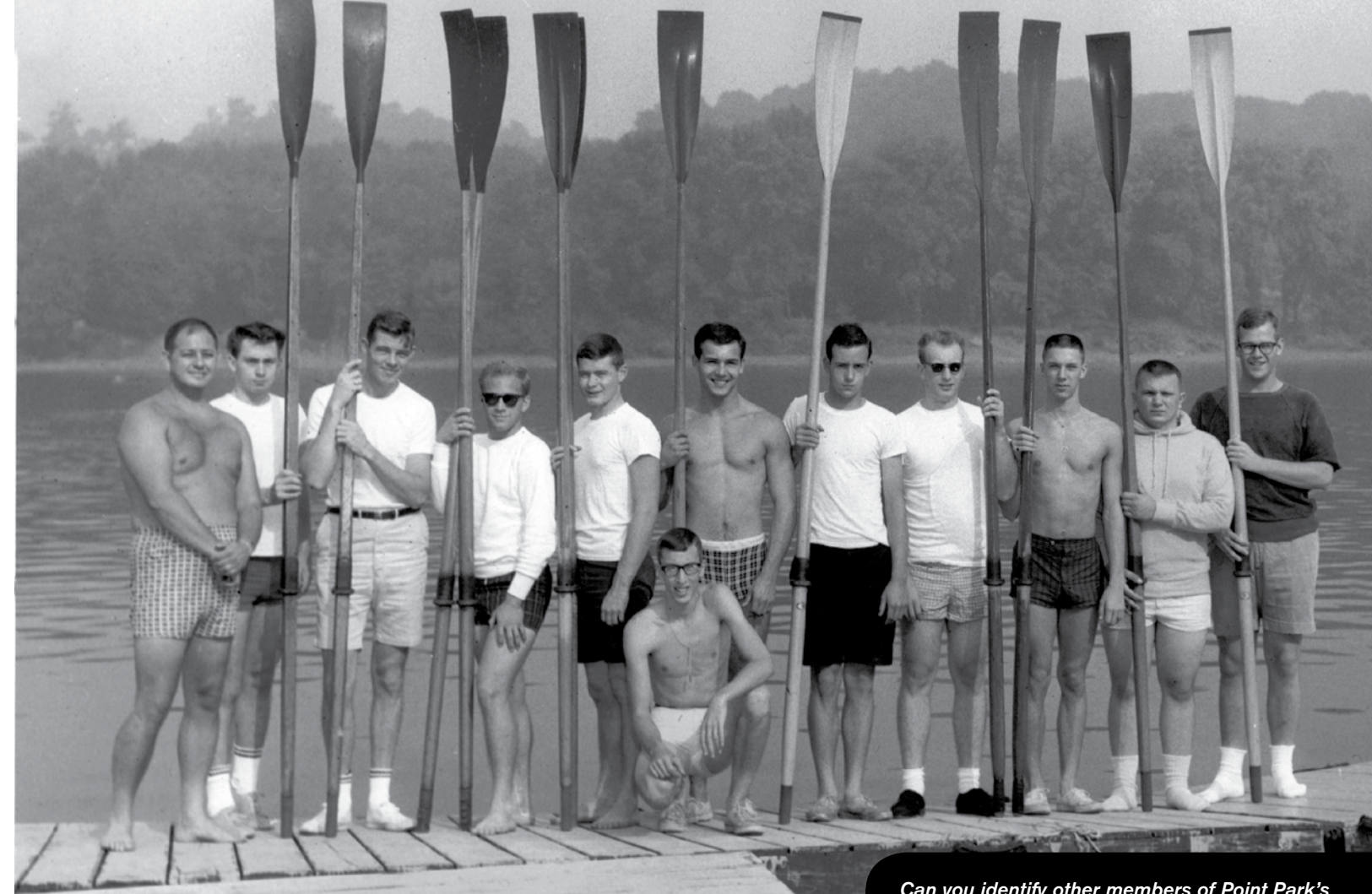
Brandee Sanders (COPA '01) recently travelled to South Africa and the island of Mauritius as a part of the creative production team with Project Explorer's multi-award winning educational film series. She earned her bachelor's degree in theatre arts at Point Park.



Point Park alumni Jessica Zamiska (left) and Charlene Bidula. Photo by Jim Judkis.

Alumni **Charlene Bidula** (COM '03, BUS '09) and **Jessica Zamiska** (BUS '09), who chose to concentrate their M.B.A. degrees in sport, arts and entertainment management, are definitely a testament to the power of networking. They landed their positions at the Westmoreland Museum of American Art in Greensburg, Pa. through the connections they made with fellow students in Point Park's M.B.A. program. Bidula found out about the communications specialist position that was open at the museum through a classmate. A few months later, she referred Zamiska to the museum's manager of visitor services position. Bidula says she enjoys "promoting a small

museum that does big things. I love social media, writing, technology and photography and all of those are part of my job. It's exciting seeing my work reaching an audience farther away than I expected and receiving great feedback from visitors who are excited about the quality of the collection, exhibitions and events that the museum offers." According to Zamiska, "I oversee the visitor services staff to help make the visitors' experience more enjoyable. I keep the staff informed on events, exhibitions and programming and I use visitor feedback to help create a better museum experience. Updated gallery guides, maps and cell phone tours have made the museum more accessible to visitors."



THAT SINKING FEELING

Mystery of the fate of Point Park's first, and only, racing scull endures to this day

By Stephen Paulovitch (A&S 1970)

Back in 1961-62, Point Park Junior College was just beginning. I was there, a member of the first journalism and communication class.

Point Park was ready to try to perk up interest and show some school spirit. At the same time, it was mandatory [for students] to wear a suit and tie for the men, and business dresses and skirt combo for the ladies. That stifled any real "rah rah" collegiate spirit.

Word came, however, that our school would be receiving a unique donation from the members of The Duquesne Club and the [local] Harvard, Yale and Princeton Club.

A scull. A what?

A scull, which arrived at Point Park on June 27, 1962 - just a bit over 50 years ago. We

were to be taught the sport of rowing - crew - by Point Park's [athletic director and administrator] Marvin "Doc" Buncher. He's standing at far left in the photo. The only other rower I recall, is our coxswain Charles Wesoky (A&S 1963), pictured squatted down in the center of the team. The rest? I don't recall their names, only their faces. I'm on the right, second to last, in hooded sweatshirt and woolen socks.

The day after our photo shoot, we arrived for practice. And we learned that, "poof!" the scull was gone - oars and all.

It was over 60 feet long. And there was no trailer long enough [to hold it] back then. First thought, it sunk. There was a problem however: it was moored in [shallow water].

Can you identify other members of Point Park's early crew team in this photo? Would you like to share photos or memories of crew or other sports during Point Park's early decades? Write and let us know at thepoint@pointpark.edu.

So a river search was conducted. It started from her mooring, followed the current of the Allegheny, made a starboard (right) turn onto the Ohio and on to the Emsworth lock. Nothing was found.

It's a tale that's similar to the story of the B-25 bomber jet that crash-landed in the Monongahela River [near Homestead] on January 31, 1956. To this day, the B-25 bomber and the Point Park Junior College scull have never been found.

So our crew was disbanded, and never talked about after that. Matter closed! Since neither the plane or the scull have ever been found, I can't give the customary and traditional "-30-" at the end of this story. ❖

BACK TO THE FUTURE

The Point Park University baseball team made it back to the promised land in 2012 when it reached the NAIA World Series for the 11th time in school history and the first time since 1998. Point Park finished in fifth place in the 10-team bracket, and its final record of 53-11 set a school record for wins in a season.

“Getting back to the World Series meant a lot to our program,” said head coach Loren Torres, who completed his third year at the school. “We had a great group

by Kevin Taylor

of guys who battled all year. They were mentally tough and relentless in their effort to stand tall at the final out.” Once a regular at the NAIA World Series with 10 appearances in the 25 years from 1974-98, the Pioneers had experienced a bit of a drought – at least by Point Park standards – in reaching the World Series.

But Point Park made it back to the World Series by winning the Marion, Ind., bracket of the NAIA Opening Round with a perfect, 3-0 record. The Pioneers got to the 46-team NAIA national tournament with an at-large bid due to their national ranking.

The Pioneers were No. 6 in the Final NAIA Top 25 Poll of the year. The 53 wins were tied for third in the country and bested the previous school record set by the 1986 team that was 51-8.

Point Park now ranks tied for fourth all-time with 11 World Series appearances. The highest finishes for Point Park at the World Series came in 1974 (fourth), 1979 (third) and 1986 (third).

The Pioneers, the No. 7 seed in the 10-team bracket, opened with a 7-3 win over No. 10 seed College of Idaho. Although they followed with a 9-3 loss to No. 2 seed

Pioneer Baseball Returns to the NAIA World Series for 11th time

Lee (Tenn.), the Pioneers rebounded with a 12-8 win over No. 8 seed South Carolina Beaufort in an elimination game.

Point Park was just six outs from reaching the final four teams, but a late rally by eventual national runner-up and No. 9 seed Rogers State (Okla.) eliminated the Pioneers, 8-6.

“Our pitching was the biggest difference maker,” said Torres. “I always said that we were going to go as far as our pitching staff took us, and they kept us in every game and gave us a chance to win each day.”

Point Park had a strong pitching staff led by all-conference pitchers Derek Peluso (10-1), Sean Clark (8-0) and Mike Tullio (15 saves). Rob Novia had the highest batting average on the team at .340 followed close behind by Tom Pasinski (.339) and Lee Bodnar (.335). Bodnar had a team-high 50 RBIs, and Tom Birko hit .322 with 45 RBIs.

“We are glad to bring Point Park’s baseball tradition back and to say that the 2012 season was one of the best in the rich history of the program,” said Torres. “I am proud to be a Pioneer and looking forward to taking on the challenges yet to come in order to continue to improve.” ♦



Head Coach Loren Torres is interviewed by WPXI-TV. Torres has been at Point Park for three years and has a record of 104-50 at the University.



Tom Pasinski scores.



Point Park won the Marion, Ind., bracket of the NAIA Opening Round on May 12, 2012 to qualify for the NAIA World Series (team photo is from that night).

All photography by Kevin Taylor.



by Kevin Taylor

HOMETOWN PROUD

Baseball team recognized at PNC Park on June 24

The Point Park baseball team was recognized at PNC Park – home of the Pittsburgh Pirates – for its NAIA World Series fifth-place finish on June 24, 2012. The Pioneers, who were 53-11 on the year, went 2-2 at the 10-team World Series bracket May 25-June 1 in Lewiston, Idaho.

Point Park's historic season included a school-record 53 wins and the program's 11th appearance in the NAIA World Series. The Pioneers have one of the richest traditions of success in all of NAIA baseball, and they rank tied for fourth all-time in World Series berths.

The Pioneers received some well-deserved recognition at PNC Park when they were honored at 1:05 p.m., just before the 1:35 p.m. start time of the Pirates-Tigers game on June 24. The Pioneers were introduced by in-game media host Joe Klimchak, and Pirates president Frank Coonelly was also on hand to welcome the team.

The recognition included the Pioneers being shown on the Jumbotron, and head coach Loren Torres throwing out a first pitch to the Pirate Parrot. Former Point Park player and NAIA All American Don Kelly (BUS '06), a member of the

Detroit Tigers at the time, joined the on-field ceremony. Kelly did not play on June 24 and was kept out for the entire series with a knee injury. He was a 2001 eighth-round draft pick of the Tigers and played three full seasons with the Tigers before leaving the club in August.

Ten Point Park players and all four coaches were on hand for the ceremony. The Pioneers' 25-man roster includes several out-of-state players who were unable to be there including eight from Florida, three from Illinois and one from Canada.

Pioneer players at Pirates-Tigers game at PNC Park. Alumnus Don Kelly (BUS '06), in Tigers uniform, joined his college team for the photo by Kevin Taylor.

Point Park's Downtown campus can be seen beyond the right-field stands of PNC Park. Point Park is located just a 10-minute walk from the ball park across the Clemente Bridge.

Point Park fans were out in full force as nearly 250 alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends were at the game. Point Park sold discounted tickets for the game in the Infield Box, and there was a pre-game tailgate brunch held at the Village Park (corner of Blvd. of the Allies and Wood Street) on campus.

The Tigers won the game, 3-2, although the Pirates took two of three in the weekend series. Justin Verlander got the complete-game win for the Tigers



▶ JOINING THE KIAAC

Point Park's 11 varsity sports teams will have a new conference affiliation starting in the 2012-13 year. The Pioneers have joined the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, an NAIA conference consisting of teams in Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, Missouri and Pennsylvania. Point Park made the switch because the NAIA American Midwest Conference was disbanded on July 1, 2012.

▶ MEN'S GOLF

The men's golf team won the American Midwest Conference Tournament by two shots over Daemen in April 2012. The Pioneers erased a five-shot deficit on the back nine to win the AMC title for the first time. The men's golf program is in just its third year of operation following a 37-year hiatus at the school. The Pioneers were third in the AMC in 2011 and 10th of 10 teams in 2010. Alejandro Bernardini (Sr.) and Collin Holmes (Fr.) were named to the All-AMC Team. For the year, the Pioneers had four players average in the 70s – Austin Elder (75.1), Holmes (77.5), Bernardini (78.0) and Billy Wivell (79.0). Gabe Bubon was named AMC Coach of the Year.

and gave up only two runs on five hits. Quintin Berry had a two-run homer in the first inning off Pirates starter Kevin Correia, and Garrett Jones tied things up, 2-2, on a two-run blast in the seventh.

To find out more about the recognition at PNC Park, view the video clip of head coach Loren Torres throwing out the first pitch and the photo gallery on the Point Park Athletics Facebook page.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

▶ WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

The softball team reached the AMC Tournament Finals for the second year in a row in 2012, but it finished as conference runner-up with a final record of 25-24. The Pioneers finished in second place in the AMC regular-season standings at 11-3. Sophomore Ashley Morran (2B) was named NAIA All-American Honorable Mention at .402 with 10 homers. Joining Morran on the All-AMC First Team were Nichelle Navarro (RF), Kelsey Robertson (RHP) and Sara Guffey (C).

▶ WOMEN'S GOLF

The women's golf team continued to make strides in 2011-12, which was their third year as a sports program. The Pioneers won their first tournament ever with a victory at Grove City Oct. 15, 2011. The Pioneers placed second in three other tournaments and competed in nine events for the year. A young team had five freshmen and two sophomores on its eight-player roster. Playing in the conference tournament were freshmen Caroline Collins, Emily Slifka, Lauren Martauz, Chloe Callison and sophomore Taylor Cormas.

Kevin Taylor is director of athletic communications at Point Park. ❖



Point Extra

For more news about Pioneer athletics, including video on the baseball team's run to the NAIA World Series, visit www.pointpark.edu/athletics.

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*2011 Survey



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