

# Profiles

## Faculty and Staff Professional Activities

Spring 2009

*Profiles, Faculty and Staff Professional Activities* is published each semester by the Office of External Affairs. Send information about your professional activities to Valerie Owens, Ikenberry Hall 108, or via e-mail to [vowens@shepherd.edu](mailto:vowens@shepherd.edu).

### School of Arts and Humanities

**DR. DENIS JORGE BERENSCHOT**, assistant professor of Spanish, will lead Shepherd's fifth annual Spanish Immersion Program to San José, Costa Rica, July 5-26. Dr. Berenschot will present a paper titled "El mito griego en el teatro cubano contemporáneo" in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, at the VIII Conferencia Internacional de Literatura Hispánica in March.

**PAM EDWARDS**, adjunct faculty member in the Department of History and the Department of English, published two articles in 2008: "Entrepreneurial Networks and the Textile Industry: Technology, Innovation, and Labor in the American Southeast, 1890-1925," eds. Susanna Delfino and Michele Gillespie, *Technology, Innovation and Southern Industrialization from the Antebellum Era to the Computer Age*, Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2008, and "West Virginia Women Volunteers in World War II," *West Virginia History*, Spring 2008. She also had several short biographies published in the *African American National Biography*, eds. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, including entries for inventors "Katherine G. Johnson," "Marjorie Stewart Joyner," "Patricia Bath," "Sarah Boone," and "Sarah E. Goode."

**SONYA EVANISKO**, professor of art and coordinator of the painting and drawing program, curated an Emerging Artists Exhibition of alumni artists and current art students at the Arts Centre in Martinsburg. The group exhibit highlighted the work of nine artists ready to pursue careers as studio artists, photographers, art educators, and future gallery workers/owners. Each artist exhibited a consistent, contemporary series of work using media as diverse as painting, drawing, installation, video, photography, and mixed media. The monthlong exhibition opened with a reception of more than 200 attendees.

In February, Evanisko organized a field trip and traveled with 45 students and faculty to the American Craft Council's exhibit in Baltimore, Maryland, for students to explore professional practices and career options in the fine arts. The exhibit/conference brought together 700 professional artists from across the country.

Evanisko exhibited her work at the Scarborough Library as part of a Faculty Art Exhibit during the month of February and is preparing to host a solo sabbatical exhibition later this year. This past fall, she served as a consultant for the West Virginia Watercolor Society's upcoming exhibition where she was selected to be the juror. She will jury the work in March for a statewide traveling exhibition.

Evanisko gave a community presentation on her work and a lecture titled, "Observations on Creativity, Art, and Growth" at the Harmony Healing Arts Studio in Shepherds-town. The lecture was based on the books *A Whole New Mind*, *Why Right-Brainers will Rule the Future* by Daniel Pink and *The Rise of the Creative Class* by Richard Florida.

**DR. HEIDI M. HANRAHAN**, assistant professor of English, will chair a session titled "Brave New World: Teaching Students Who Make Waves" at the 2009 Conference on College Composition and Communication, San Francisco, in March. The panel will investigate what happens when teachers encounter new populations of learners who challenge their ideals, preconceived notions, and institutional expectations about what it means to teach writing. Dr. Hanrahan also will be presenting a paper at that session titled "I've Got To Pay the Rent': Teaching the Working Class Student."

**BECKIE LAUGHLIN**, adjunct art faculty member, participated in the Art Faculty Exhibit held at the Scarborough Library during the month of February.

**DR. JIM LEWIN**, professor of English, presented a paper about the relationship of Midwestern writers to the American West titled "Nelson Algren's Hard Times in Texas" to a panel at the annual Modern Language Association convention.

**THOMAS PANEBIANCO**, adjunct professor of English, was appointed to the Obama-Biden Transition Project and from November 2008 to January 2009 served as a member of an agency review team in the transportation group. Panebianco was general counsel of the Federal Maritime Commission during the second term of the Clinton presidency.

**JODI PATTERSON**, assistant professor of art, served as host and co-organizer of the West Virginia Art Education Association's 2008 state conference which was held at Shepherd's Center for Contemporary Art. The 24 art education sessions were attended by 150 tri-state teachers and many of her art education students who also volunteered to help with the event. Pat-

terson also continued to serve as the Shepherd Creative Educators advisor and supported the group's organizational efforts to exhibit members' art at the Scarborough Library and install an interactive "Cardboard Classroom" within the Frank Center Gallery.

For the second year in a row, Patterson organized and attended an overnight trip to New York City for 35 art students and faculty. While in New York, participants were free to roam the museums and galleries to experience contemporary art firsthand. She also organized a trip to the Andy Warhol Museum, the Mattress Factory, and the Carnegie International art venues in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, attended by 25 students and faculty.

Patterson contributed art works to the annual fall and spring faculty shows held at Shepherd University.

**STEPHANIE ELAINE ROBBINS**, assistant professor of art (photography/computer imagery), has created a new multimedia installation as part of the Public/Private group exhibition at the Arlington Arts Center, on display until April 4. This exhibition brings together art about the artist's immediate surroundings or domestic sphere and art that exists out in the world, requiring the public's participation.

At the end of the fall semester, Robbins organized a group art exhibit, in conjunction with her senior-level course Extended Image. The 17 students involved created work that explored ways in which the presentation of photography can be expanded to include video, sound, installation, and performance. The work was highly individual but collectively broke free of the frame. The Extended Image exhibit took place at the historic Martinsburg Roundhouse Center. A review of the exhibition appeared on the front page of the *Martinsburg Journal* the next day.

This summer, Robbins will be leading a small group of students on a nine-day excursion to Venice, Italy, to view the 53rd International Venice Biennale, which is one of the largest exhibitions of contemporary art.

**DR. SYLVIA BAILEY SHURBUTT**, professor of English, presented a paper on the fiction of Robert Morgan titled "Peripheral Vision in the Fiction of Robert Morgan" at the 2008 Appalachian Studies Association Conference at Marshall University. In fall 2008 she spoke about southern and Appalachian literature in a talk titled "Southern Literature Is Alive and Well and Living in New York City" at the American Culture Association in the South Conference in Louisville.

Dr. Shurbutt and **MONICA LINGENFELTER**, executive vice president of the Shepherd University Foundation, submitted a grant to the West Virginia Humanities Council to bring a series of programs about Appalachian literature to the Eastern Panhandle. Other faculty and staff working on the grant were **RACHAEL MEADS**, **DR. HEIDI HANRAHAN**, **ETHAN FISCHER**, and **JOHN SHERIDAN**. The programs will center around the work of award-winning Appalachian novelist, poet, and playwright Silas House. Lingenfelter, Fischer, and Shurbutt will receive a grant from the West Virginia Center for the Book to fund the West Virginia Fiction Competition and a new book, *The Anthology of Appalachian Writers*, that will be published at the end of February. The anthology will feature the poetry and prose of Appalachian writers from the hills of South Carolina to the mountains of Pennsylvania, as well as visual art from the region.

**RHONDA J. SMITH**, professor of art and chair, Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, participated in *A Visual Perspective from Three Women*, a three-woman exhibit, January 3- February 1 at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Center in Frederick, Maryland. The

exhibit included 21 works, most of which were created by Smith during the past summer. She participated in *Artists at Work*, an exhibit curated by Professor Zdeno Mayercak of the Montgomery College Art Department, with nine other artists, November 19-December 12, 2008, at the Sarah Silberman Art Gallery.

Smith served as a consultant adjudicator for the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts auditions in the visual arts on February 7. The prospective students for this prestigious school present a portfolio, written statement, and must interview with a panel as part of the selective admission process. In March, Smith will guide seven students through the British Isles as part of a study abroad opportunity.

**DR. JOHN E. STEALEY III**, Distinguished Professor of History, published a book review as follows: Laura Groghan Kamoie, *Irons in the Fire: The Business History of the Tayloe Family and Virginia's Gentry, 1700-1860* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2007), in *The Journal of American History*, 95 (December 2008): 817-18. Also, he served as an anonymous reviewer and appraiser of a book manuscript for the editor of the West Virginia University Press.

Dr. Stealey attended the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association, October 9-12, 2008, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In the public service area, Dr. Stealey collected and selected the historical photographs from various archives and assembled the 2009 wall calendar of the Jefferson Security Bank. The work incorporated historical scenes of Berkeley and Jefferson counties, West Virginia, and the Sharpsburg, Washington County, Maryland, area.

## School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

**DR. JOHN C. LANDOLT**, professor emeritus of biology, co-authored two poster papers at the 2008 annual meeting of the West Virginia Academy of Science at Fairmont State University. In August 2008, Dr. Landolt co-authored three different poster presentations for the Sixth International Congress on the Systematics and Ecology of Myxomycetes (ICSEM6) hosted by the Nikita Botanical Garden in Ukraine.

Dr. Landolt's co-authored paper on Australian slime molds was published in the late summer in Volume 21 of *Australian Systematic Botany*. In addition, his co-authored paper on the slime molds of Ascension Island was recently published in Volume 60 of the international journal, *Sydowia*, and he is co-author of research papers that have been accepted for publication by *Castanea* and *South-eastern Naturalist*, with two more papers of collaborative research in final preparation, one on grassland slime mold ecology and the other describing two new species of slime mold from Alaska.

Dr. Landolt was asked to critically review research papers submitted to the editorial boards of the journals *Journal of Cave and Karst Studies*, *Mycologia*, and *Mycological Progress*.

Dr. Landolt continues as a member of the steering committee for the Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol and refereed a number of student submissions to the 2009 edition of this event, held each year in Charleston.

In the summer of 2008, Dr. Landolt conducted two mini-courses, one on slime mold biology and the other on mammals of West Virginia, for the Potomac Valley Audubon Society's Master Naturalist Program.

**DR. WEIDONG LIAO**, assistant professor of computer and information sciences, is the first author of a research paper titled "Teaching Computer Architecture/Organization in Colleges: A Programming/Simulation Approach," published in the January 2009 issue of *Jour-*

nal of Computing Sciences in Colleges (Volume 24, Number 3). He is the second author for the paper "Stability Analysis of Impulsive BAM Neural Networks with Delays," published in *Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Differential Equations and Dynamical Systems* (pp. 127-132).

Dr. Liao was a reviewer for HIMSS AsiaPac 2009, held in February by HIMSS: Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (<http://www.himssasiapac.org/general/reviewers.aspx>), and a reviewer for ITiCSE 2009: Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education, organized by ACM SIGCSE and SIGCUE.

**DR. QING WANG**, assistant professor of mathematics, is the first author for the two research articles: "Impulsive Stabilization of Cellular Neural Networks with Time Delay via Lyapunov Functionals," published in the *Journal of Nonlinear Sciences and its Applications*, 2008, vol. 1, no. 2, 72-86 ([http://www.tjnsa.com/article/jnsa\\_11.pdf](http://www.tjnsa.com/article/jnsa_11.pdf)) and "Stability Analysis of Impulsive BAM Neural Networks with Delays," published in the *Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Differential Equations and Dynamical Systems, DCDIS A Supplement*, 2009, 127-132.

## School of Business and Social Sciences

**KAREN GREEN**, associate professor of social work, co-authored "Groups in Correctional Settings" with Robert Green, published in October 2008 by Routledge in the *Encyclopedia of Social Work with Groups*, edited by Alex Gitterman and Robert Salmon.

She was awarded a \$7,500 grant from the Council on Social Work Education to develop and implement strategies to increase student comfort with and interest in older adults as part of the council's Baccalaureate Experiential Learning Program. This two-year project will involve increased field education opportunities in leading groups with older adults and organizing a panel of retired social workers to share their experiences with students.

In October 2008, Green provided training in group dynamics and leadership for volunteers at Friends in Action of the Eastern Panhandle. She attended several professional development workshops on topics including diagnosing and treating Internet and other technology addictions, social work supervision and ethics, ombudsperson training, and the West Virginia Great Teachers Seminar.

**DR. STEPHANIE SLOCUM-SCHAFFER**, associate professor of political science, presented "Power Points: the Role of Institutional Structure in Mediating the Influence of Women's Representation on Policy Outcomes," at the Southern Political Science Association's Annual Meeting, January 7-9.

She also will be presenting "The Learning Community Advantage? The Impact of Participation in a Learning Community on Faculty Performance" at the Twentieth International Conference on College Teaching and Learning in April.

A paper by **DR. YUYING XIE**, assistant professor of economics, titled "Technology Spillover and Product Quality: the Case of Production Cost Asymmetry" has been accepted for presentation and included in the proceedings of the Third American Institute of Higher Education Conference, Nashville, Tennessee, April 29.

Dr. Xie attended the CATO Institute's 26th Annual Monetary Conference, Washington, D.C., November 19, 2008. He also attended (with other faculty) the 2009 Eastern Panhandle Economic Outlook Conference, Martinsburg, October 29, 2008.

## Administration

**THOMAS SEGAR**, assistant vice president for student affairs/director of residence life, co-authored two refereed journal articles: "A Double-Edged Sword: College Student Perceptions of Required High School Service-Learning," published in the fall 2008 issue of the *Michigan Journal of Community Service Learning* and "College Student Capacity for Socially Responsible Leadership: Understanding Norms and Influences of Race, Gender, and Sexual Orientation," published in the *National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Journal*. Segar co-presented a session titled, "What's the Purpose?: Meaning Students Make of Required High School Service-learning," at the 35th Annual Maryland Student Affairs Conference.

## Athletics

**KARL WOLF**, athletic director; **JOAN POPE**, senior woman administrator and assistant athletic director; and **DR. ANDRO BARNETT**, faculty athletic representative, attended the annual NCAA Convention at the Gaylord National Convention Center at the new National Harbor outside Washington, D.C., January 13-17. Each of the athletic staff members attended educational sessions relative to their responsibilities at Shepherd in administering the NCAA Division II athletic program. Wolf also attended the winter meeting of the WVIAC Conference Athletic Directors to consider programs and proposals from within the conference and vote on those proposals.

Wolf attended the meeting of the board of directors of the Division II Athletic Directors Association (DII ADA) to which he has been named as the board member from the WVIAC Conference. The DII ADA is the first organization of its kind to provide educational and networking opportunities; enhancement of acceptable operating standards and ethics; and establishment of the overall prestige and understanding of the profession of Division II athletics directors. The DII ADA is administered by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), which is in its 44th year. There are 11 professional associations that fall under its umbrella.