Shepherd



Faculty and Staff Professional Activities

Fall 2011

Profiles, Faculty and Staff Professional Activities is published each semester by the Office of University Communications. Send information about your professional activities to Valerie Owens at vowens@shepherd.edu.

School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

DR. JASON BEST, professor of astronomy and astrophysics, presented the Martha Wehrle Opening Lecture of the 2011 National Youth Science Camp in June. The NYSC encourages recent high school graduates to mature in their field of study while engaging with a unique community of like-minded students. The nationally recognized program, which has been in existence since 1963, selects two representatives from each state as well as delegates from numerous other countries for a month-long program which includes activities at the Green Bank Observatory and in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Best presented two keynote addresses in the spring. He gave the keynote address at the 2011 Shepherd University Phi Kappa Phi Induction Ceremony in April, as well as the keynote address at the 2011 Health Sciences and Technology Academy Eastern Panhandle Banquet in May. Dr. Best also presented a lecture in July to the newly established West Virginia Youth Science Camp, which hosted sophomore science students from each county across the state.

In April, Dr. Best presented his research and that of student David Katz on galactic clustering at the 86th West Virginia Academy of Science Annual Meeting on the campus of West Virginia University Institute of Technology in Montgomery.

Dr. John C. Landolt, research professor emeritus of biology, co-authored a paper titled "Dictyostelids from aerial 'canopy soil' microhabitats" which was published in the journal Fungal Ecology (June 2011). Dr. Landolt also was the co-author of a paper, "An expanded phylogeny of social amoebas (Dictyostelia) shows increasing diversity and new morphological patterns," which was published in BMC (Biomed) Evolutionary Biology 2011, 11:84. Another paper describing 10 new species of cellular slime molds is currently in review.

Dr. Landolt co-authored two oral presentations. The first was "Myxomycetes, dictyostelid cellular slime molds, and algae associated with soils of different forest types in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park," which was read at the 14th All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory meeting in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and the second, "Preliminary report of dictyostelid cellular slime molds from southern Belize," which was read at the VII Congress of the Latin American Mycological Association July 18-21 in San Jose, Costa Rica.

During the year, a poster presentation titled "Dictyostelid cellular slime molds of Kenya," co-authored by Landolt, was presented at the annual meeting of the West Virginia Academy of Science at WVU Tech in Montgomery and also at the annual meeting of the Mycological Society of America in Fairbanks, Alaska. The same poster has been presented recently at the Seventh International Congress on the Systematics and Ecology of Myxomycetes meeting in Recife, Brazil.

During the summer, Dr. Landolt taught two mini-courses for the Potomac Valley Audubon Society Master Naturalist Program: one on the Mammals of West Virginia and the other of the Biology of Slime Molds.

Dr. Landolt currently collaborates with two research grants to study the slime molds of Australia and Southeast Asia. One grant is from the National Geographic Society.

DR. CLARISSA MATHEWS, associate professor of environmental studies, recently published the paper "Interactions between Extrafloral Nectaries, Ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), and Other Natural Enemies Affect Biological Control of *Grapholita molesta* (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) on Peach (Rosales: Rosaceae)" in *Environmental Entomology* and co-authored the article "Extrafloral Nectar in an Apple Ecosystem to Enhance Biological Control" in the *Journal of Economic Entomology*.

Dr. Mathews serves on the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Working Group investigating methods of controlling the invasive stink bug in the northeastern United States and provided an invited talk, "Update on Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Incidence and Injury at an Organic Farm in West Virginia," at the group's annual meeting in Biglerville, Pennsylvania. Dr. Mathews served on a review panel for the national Environmental Protection Agency's People, Prosperity, and the Planet (P3) grant program in Washington, D.C.

DR. QING WANG, assistant professor of mathematics, with DR. ZHIJUN WANG, presented "Impulsive Stabilization of Lorenz Systems and Applications" at the SIAM Conference on Control and Its Application in Baltimore on July 26. He also presented "Stability Criteria for Systems with Delayed Impulses via Lyapunov Method" at the Sixth International Conference on Dynamic Systems and Applications in Atlanta on May 26.

Dr. Ralph Wojtowicz, assistant professor of mathematics, is the principal investigator of a government-sponsored project aimed at discovering new algorithms for future quantum computers. This is a joint project with Dr. Noson Yanofsky of Brooklyn College.

Dr. Wojtowicz is a consultant on a project sponsored by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research and directed by Dr. Selmer Bringsjord of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The team is researching new artificial intelligence techniques. A goal of the effort is to develop a system capable of automatically proving Gödel's First Incompleteness Theorem.

School of Education and Professional Studies

BARB KEMERER, associate professor of nursing education, co-presented "Self-Assessment of Nurses Attitudes, Beliefs, and Biases" at the Maryland Nurses Association Conference titled Connecting with Patients: Compassion to Excellence on April 20.

Kemerer co-presented "Moving From 0-17% Simulation-based Clinical Learning Activities: Lessons Learned," with Dr. Laura Clayton, at a national METI simulation conference on July 6 in Lewisburg.

She attended the workshop Quality and Safety in Nursing Education sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in Seattle, Washington, September 14-16.

DR. CLARISE HAIRSTON OTTLEY, associate professor of nursing education, is the project director for the Department of Nursing Education's Partnership for Academic and Social Student Success (PASSS) Program, funded by a Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant that was awarded and funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The Department of Nursing Education was one of 11 chosen departments/schools of nursing across the United States to receive grant funding. The grant award was for \$1.1 million dollars.

Dr. Ottley has been involved all year as one of five nursing professionals chosen as mentees/protégés in the National League for Nursing /Johnson and Johnson Mentoring and Leadership Program. As a part of the mentoring/leadership program, Dr. Ottley developed a mentoring program for nursing faculty, which was based on research that indicates that mentoring is vital in the development and transition of new faculty. Mentoring assists new faculty members to better navigate the academic environment and more easily transition to new roles and new responsibilities. The result of such mentoring is a rich and rewarding career experience for the new faculty member. Additionally, Dr. Ottley and the other four protégés, with the mentoring and assistance from their paired mentors and project director, presented the mentoring/leadership group project titled "Mentoring: Template for Excellence," at the National League for Nursing's 2011 Education Summit in Orlando, Florida, September 21-24.

School of Business and Social Sciences

DR. GERI CRAWLEY-WOODS, professor of social work, and DR. DOUGLAS C. HORNER, professor of social work and chair of the Department of Social Work, served as co-principal investigators for a \$168,007 grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) for the 2011-12 fiscal year. With this award, the social work program has secured more than \$2 million in outside funding support since the contract with the West Virginia DHHR began in 1993. The grant is funded through Title IV-E of the Social Security Act through the West Virginia DHHR and has three primary functions. This funding supports social work students with tuition assistance during their undergraduate education. In addition, the grant provides funds for on-going training to

staff and supervisors of DHHR throughout the 15-county region of eastern West Virginia and other areas of the state. The training is provided in a number of areas focusing on ethics in child welfare, substance abuse, mental health (child and adult), culturally sensitive practice, issues of separation experienced by children in foster care, engaging absent fathers, and kinship care.

An additional training area is under the direction of AMY HAMPTON, PRIDE (Parent Resource for Information Development and Education) coordinator and regional child welfare trainer. This initiative provides a series of workshops for potential foster parents at several sites in the eastern region of the state. This training is part of a statewide effort to increase the number of potential foster and adoptive parents to meet the needs of the 3,000 children in West Virginia who are in foster care. In the last fiscal year, Hampton and her staff prepared more than 100 persons for beginning foster care service.

DR. CAROLINE E.W. GLACKIN, assistant professor of business administration, had a paper titled "A Preliminary Causal Analysis of Small Business Access to Credit During Economic Expansion and Contraction," co-authored with Kimble Byrd and Linda Ross of Rowan University, accepted for the Academy of Entrepreneurial Finance in Los Angeles and will be included in the proceedings. She is serving on the oversight committee for the West Virginia Statewide Business Plan Competition. Last year, Shepherd had two semi-finalists and one finalist in this competition, the school's strongest showing in the five-year competition's history.

Dr. Max Guirguis, associate professor of political science, presented a paper titled "Establishment Clause Revisionism and the Elusive Neutrality Principle" at the annual meeting of the Ohio Association of Economists and Political Scientists in October.

Dr. Linda Kinney, associate professor of economics, traveled to Argentina in March to conduct research. The trip was partially funded by a mini-grant from Shepherd University. The research contributed to a case study she wrote for her course on the economics of developing countries titled, "Inequality, Populism, and Development: The Cases of Argentina and Chile."

Dr. Ann Marie Legreid, dean of the School of Business and Social Sciences and professor of geography, contributed a chapter to Norwegian American Women. Migration, Communities, and Identities, published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2011. Her chapter is titled, "Home, Health, and Christian Respectability: Norwegian Immigrant Women in Family and Community Health."

Dr. Legreid presented her work at a roundtable titled Gendering Norwegian American History at the Norway America Seminar in June at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

In October, Dr. Legreid attended the American-Scandinavian Foundation's Centennial Ball in New York City. She is a past recipient of the Crown Princess Martha Award and Fulbright Fund, which supported her study and research in Norway in 1981-82. The research resulted in her doctoral thesis, "Emigration from Norway to the American Midwest." She has been a member and contributor of the Foundation since 1982. The American-Scandinavian Foundation, formed in New York City in 1911, serves as the leading cultural and educational link between the United States and Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. It was established by Danish-American industrialist Niels Poulson. The ASF has provided financial support for students and scholars, presented and sponsored a wide variety of public programs, published exten-

sively, and facilitated the training and professional development of young people.

Present for this year's Centennial Ball were King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden; King Harald V and Queen Sonja of Norway; Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, president of Iceland; Tarja Halonen, president of Finland; and Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary of Denmark.

Dr. Anne Murtagh, assistant professor of psychology, along with Shepherd students (now graduates) Natalie Liston and Sara Miller, presented results of two research projects at the Eastern Psychological Association conference in Boston in March. With Natalie Liston, Dr. Murtagh presented "Music Performance Anxiety and CBT," which reported the results of a multiple-baseline study of the effects of cognitive-behavioral techniques on music performance anxiety. With Sara Miller, Dr. Murtagh presented "Yoga and Anxiety," which examined the results of a study of the effects of yoga practice on anxiety.

Dr. Joseph W. Robbins, assistant professor of political science, and a co-author have had a paper accepted for publication in the journal *Party Politics*. The paper finds that party system stability has a positive effect on voter turnout—a hitherto neglected topic in the voter turnout research.

Dr. Robbins presented two papers and served as a discussant at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago. Both papers are collaborative projects with the first analyzing the impact of terrorist attacks on voter turnout cross-nationally, while the second finds that unstable party systems exhibit a greater propensity to initiate militarized conflict. In September, Dr. Robbins attended the American Political Science Association's national conference in Seattle, where he presented a paper focusing on conflict initiation and political institutions.

In addition, Dr. Robbins, along with Dr. Gordon Demertt, led a group of students, faculty, and community members to Russia, Estonia, and Finland. This year, the two professors will lead and coordinate a trip to China over the 2012 spring break.

Dr. Stephanie Slocum-Schaffer, associate professor of political science and chair, Department of Political Science, will present "Fear and Loathing' in the Lab: Using Practical Strategies to Overcome Student Anxieties and Disinterest in Research Methods" at the annual meeting of the Georgia Political Science Association, November 10-12.

Dr. RICHARD A. STEVENS, Jr., assistant professor and program coordinator of the College Student Development and Administration program, was named a 2012 Diamond Honoree by ACPA—College Student Educators International for his "sustained contributions to ACPA, higher education, and the student affairs profession at the local, state, regional, national, or international levels." He will be recognized at the association's annual convention in March 2012.

Dr. Jacob L. Stump, assistant professor of political science, has two peer reviewed articles appearing this fall. The first is "Toward a Completely Constructivist Critical Terrorism Studies" published in the journal *International Relations*. The second is "On the Future of Critical Terrorism Studies: A Response to Richard Jackson's Minimal Foundational Redefinition of Terrorism" which will appear in Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression.

At the annual International Studies Association Northeast meeting, Dr. Stump organized and chaired two security-related panels—Critical and Constructivist Security Studies: Theoretical Elaborations and the panel Critical and Constructivist Security Studies: Empirical Investigations. He served as chair and discussant on the panel titled (Re)presenting International Politics II and participated in the roundtable discussion Performing Pedagogies in IR: Exploring Embodied Learning Practices. At the Northeast Political Science Association's annual meeting, Dr. Stump presented a paper titled "Exploring Politics and Government with Fiction and Film: Some Methods, Possibilities, and Issues."

School of Arts and Humanities

CHRISTIAN BENEFIEL, assistant professor of sculpture, had a one-man exhibition at 1708 Gallery in Richmond, Virginia, in October.

Sonya Evanisko, professor of art and coordinator of the B.F.A. painting program, traveled to the Emerge Art Fair in Washington, D.C., with 30 art students to view contemporary art in September. The Emerge Art Fair brought together national and international galleries to highlight D.C.'s growing commitment to creating better access to contemporary art and supporting emerging artists. Students also attended panel discussions.

In October, Evanisko traveled to New York City for two days with 50 art students to view and research work in galleries and museums. She is currently collaborating with the American Conservation Film Festival by organizing a juried student exhibition to be held during the November 3-6 festival. The work by current design, photography, studio art, and art education students will be created using the theme of conservation and the concept that imagery has the power to inform and inspire. The juried work will be on view in the Scarborough Library from November 1-28.

In August, Evanisko was a participating artist who created a chalk artwork on the streets and sidewalks of Shepherdstown as part of Craftworks Chalk Art Festival. The festival highlighted street art and vendors with proceeds benefiting local organizations.

DR. DAVID GONZOL, associate professor of music, director of music education, and graduate coordinator for the M.M.M.E. program, attended the four-day biennial Mountain Lake Colloquium for Teachers of General Music Methods, in Pembroke, Virginia, May 15-18. Dr. Gonzol was again invited to teach at DePaul University, June 20-July 1, in the summer Kodály certification program. There he taught musicianship for Kodály I and Kodály II and taught both levels in combined chorus, which presented a concert on the final day. At Shepherd University, he coordinated and taught with two other instructors in the Kodály program, held July 5-15, again teaching musicianship and chorus.

On May 6, Dr. Gonzol sang *Chattanooga Choo Choo* with the Shepherd University Jazz Band, Dr. Kurtis Adams, director, at the Tuxedo Junction gala at the Bavarian Inn.

Dr. Heidi M. Hanrahan, assistant professor of English, will present two papers on Appalachian writers at the South Atlantic Modern Languages Association convention in Atlanta in November. The first is titled "Know the truth an keeps it alive": Frank X. Walker's York Poems" and the second is "This was a place for the lost': Appalachian Noir in Ron Rash's *Raising the Dead* and *One Foot in Eden*."

Additionally, as the faculty advisor to Shepherd's chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society, Dr. Hanrahan helped organize the third annual Shepherd University Literary Festival and Conference held on October 8. Thirty-six students from 12 different colleges and universities presented their creative and critical work.

BECKIE LAUGHLIN, adjunct instructor in the Department of Contempory Art and Theater, facilitated a series of five process painting workshops this fall for 12 women residents at Gale Houses, Inc., a nonprofit halfway house for people recovering from the diseases of drug and alcohol addition located in Frederick, Maryland. A United Way mini-grant provided funding for these workshops.

Dr. Carrie Messenger, assistant professor of English, will present two papers at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association conference in Atlanta in November. The first is on Aleksandar Hemon's novel *The Lazarus Project* in the context of international migration. The second is on the Bollywood classic *Pyaasa* and its use of poetry and image within a film that was a popular hit, in spite of, or perhaps because of, its use of high culture to explore pop culture. Dr. Messenger's essay "Hyppää Järveen" (Finnish for "Jump in the Lake") about ethnic identity and assimilation in the Midwest appears in the fall 2011 issue of the award-winning literary magazine *Ecotone*.

Dr. Timothy K. Nixon, assistant professor of English, had an essay titled "Gertrude Stein's Performance of Patriotism" accepted for publication in the fall issue of *Studies in American Humor*. The essay grew out of a conference presentation Dr. Nixon gave in France in the summer of 2010. It will appear in a special edition of the journal, which will focus on women writers.

Dr. Robert G. Parkinson, associate professor of history, received a 2011-12 West Virginia Humanities Council fellowship to support his book project, "The Common Cause: Race, Nation, and the Consequences of Unity in the American Revolution."

MELISSA LAINE SCOTTON, assistant professor of art (graphic design), has two of her snowboard designs featured in the new book *Inside the World of Board Graphics*; *Surf*, *Skate*, *Snow*. The book takes an in-depth look at the global nature and cultural influence of art and design in the surf/skate/snow industry. The book is available for purchase in stores and online at major retailers.

In August, Scotton launched her very own line of cupcakethemed greeting cards, appropriately named Sweetest Love. To celebrate their debut, a designer meet-and-greet was held at The Muse, in Frederick, Maryland. Guests from all over stopped in for a sneak peek of the new line as Scotton demonstrated her watercolor technique. In September, Scotton brought Sweetest Love to the Brandywine Festival of the Arts in Wilmington, Delaware. The festival featured more than 250 juried artists exhibiting one-of-akind items and was attended by more than 15,000 visitors. Sweetest Love can be viewed at www.sweetest-love.com.

DR. SYLVIA BAILEY SHURBUTT, professor of English, presented a paper at the Wordsworth Conference in Grasmere, UK, on August 5, titled "Wollstonecraft, Wordsworth, and the 'Silken Wings of Fancy': Seeds for Fertile Soil." The paper dealt with the influence of Mary Wollstonecraft on the Romantics, specifically on Wordsworth and his revisioning British poetry in the Lyrical Ballads Preface in the early years of the 19th century. This international conference brought Wordsworth scholars from across the globe to the Lake District to talk about Wordsworth, as well as a range of Romantic literary topics.

Dr. Shurbutt, Monica Lingenfelter, Dr. Carrie Messenger, Rachael Meads, Dave Hoffman, and others on the Appalachian Heritage Writer-in-Residence Committee successfully

wrote and received a West Virginia Humanities Council Grant to bring Ron Rash to Shepherd this fall and to work with the Eastern Panhandle community and university campus for another Appalachian Heritage week. Rash will also work with Shurbutt, Hoffman, and Natalie Sypolt on volume 4 of the *Anthology of Appalachian Writers*.

RHONDA SMITH, professor of art, chair of the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, and coordinator of the B.F.A. nontoxic printmaking program, and Sonya Evanisko, professor of art and coordinator of the B.F.A. painting program, are participating in the Artomatic art show in Frederick, Maryland, through November 6. Presented in partnership with the Frederick Arts Council and Frederick County Public Schools, Artomatic transformed the former FCPS Central Office, 115 W. Church Street, into a temporary art space featuring more than 500 artists during six weeks. The 27,000 square foot facility features a variety of art forms, including the visual arts, theater, music, film, and poetry.

Dr. John E. Stealey III, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, has learned that the Kent State University Press has set the final publication date of "West Virginia's Civil War-Era Constitution: Loyal Revolution, Confederate Counter-Revolution, and the Convention of 1872" for November 2012. The projected publication length is 1,000 pages with numerous tables and approximately 50 illustrations and maps.

Since spring, he has undertaken more public speaking engagements than usual. At the Virginia Forum held on the Washington and Lee University/Virginia Military Institute campuses, Lexington, on March 25-26, Dr. Stealey chaired and moderated a session titled "Urban Life in Virginia."

On April 6, he served as program commentator and historian for the premiere of the dramatic play, "A New Home for Liberty: Human Rights, Slavery, and the Creation of West Virginia," which more than 300 people attended at the Erickson Alumni Center, West Virginia University, Morgantown.

Dr. Stealey spoke at West Virginia's Independence Hall in Wheeling, in the first sesquicentennial program titled "Virginia Secedes! The Beginnings of West Virginia Statehood." About 80 people heard his presentation on April 16 titled "West Virginia's Constitutional Critique of Virginia."

On West Virginia Day, June 29, Dr. Stealey delivered the keynote address that opened the exhibit of statehood artifacts and manuscripts at the Charles C. Wise Library, West Virginia University, Morgantown. The audience of about 100 people learned about the fundamental causes of western Virginia's separation from Virginia.

The 64th Eastern District Meeting, West Virginia State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, met on August 13 at the Bavarian Inn where Dr. Stealey presented a brief history of Shepherdstown. Approximately 85 women attended the luncheon.

Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, celebrated Constitution Day on September 16 at its Main Library where Dr. Stealey spoke about western Virginia's adherence to the Constitution of the United States. About 65 heard the lecture titled "West Virginia's Constitutional Loyalty during the Civil War."

Teaching, Learning, and Instructional Resources

Dr. John E. Adams, university professor, was recently awarded the title of master career counselor (MCC) by the National Career Development Association. All MCCs hold graduate degrees in

counseling and related fields and possess additional credentials such as national certified counselor, national certified career counselor, and state LPC license. These professionals' work and educational experiences are carefully screened to insure that their level of expertise meets six or more of the NCDA counseling competencies.

Administration

JOSHUA R. BELICE, area director of residence life, has published 28 internal articles and produced three volumes of the Residence Life newsletter Ramble On since starting at Shepherd in July 2010. He has published in MACUHO twice in the past year and attended the annual Counseling and Career Development Conference (Cannexus) in Ontario, Canada, in January. This past summer he presented "Going Green in Res Life: Beyond the Basics" at the annual ACUHO-I conference in New Orleans and his ecocritical research titled "Anthropomorphic Representations of Nature in Walt Disney's Silly Symphonies" at the ASLE conference in Indiana University-Bloomington. Named as the Sustainability Taskforce chair for the Division of Student Affairs in August, Belice is pursuing his second master's degree in the College Student Development and Administration program and continues to work for Walt Disney World Resorts as the college program campus representative for Shepherd University.

Dr. Thomas C. Segar, vice president for student affairs, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation titled, "Exploring the Relationship between Socio-cultural Issues Discussions and Social Change Behaviors" in the completion of his doctor of philosophy degree in college student personnel administration from the Department of Counseling and Personnel Services at the University of Maryland. Dr. Segar also was the closing keynote speaker for the West Virginia Student Leadership Conference.

KARL WOLF, assistant to the vice president for academic affairs for compliance and athletic initiatives, participated in four professional development programs in the spring. Wolf is a member of the NCAA's Student Records Committee (SRC) that is the final appeal body for institutions requesting initial certification for freshman athletes who have been denied initial eligibility by the NCAA's Eligibility Center. He attended the three-day meeting in Indianapolis in late March to discuss and approve changes to the initial eligibility requirements of Division I and II student-athletes. The SRC is charged with tightening initial eligibility rules so that students entering college are better prepared academically to be able to play sports and graduate from college and at the same time grant initial eligibility to student-athletes who have reasonable appeal presentations.

He was a presenter at the annual April meeting of the Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admissions Counseling in Hunt Valley, Maryland, where he presented a program on the NCAA's Eligibility Center. He provided high school guidance counselors with an overview of the NCAA's initial eligibility requirements and provided tips to assist counselors in working with high school student-athletes.

In June, Wolf attended the NCAA's four-day Regional Compliance Seminar in Tampa, Florida, for updates on the athletic compliance rules, forms, and processes and for changes to interpretations of compliance regulations. He also attended the annual meeting of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletes and its affiliate the National Association for Athletic Compliance (NAAC) in Orlando, Florida. The NAAC is writing the national guidelines for athletic compliance administrators to use in their work with institutions and their student-athletes.

During this meeting the NCAA membership affairs staff met with the NAAC members to discuss the new NCAA Ease the Burden initiative that will be reflected in legislation to be voted upon by the NCAA member institutions in January 2012 and 2013. NAAC members were given the opportunity to initiate some of that legislation and to discuss concerns about parts of the legislation.