



Academic Affairs is a community of educators that supports the university's mission by enrolling, teaching, retaining, graduating, and inspiring diverse, lifelong learners prepared to contribute to the common good.

**Issue No. 11**

**October 31, 2023**

*This monthly newsletter features stories about events and programs within the Division of Academic Affairs. It is intended to inform, engage, and recognize members of our esteemed Community of Educators, all the faculty and staff who are committed to student success.*

***Please share your stories with us by clicking the yellow box below.***

***If you have an event coming up, please upload it to the university's [Campus Calendar](#). Click "SUBMIT AN EVENT" button. For more information about how to submit an event, see the story below in "Resource Corner."***

***To share information about an upcoming event, click [here](#) for submission to the [Ram Report](#).***

**Submit Provost's Post Stories  
Here**

## Table of Contents

- **Dear Colleagues**
- **Student Ready**
  - CBPM Hosts Majors, Minors, and More Student Success Fair
- **Student Success**
  - WCU Presents Kiss Me, Kate
- **Access**
  - WCU a Four-Time HEED Recipient
- **Community Engagement**
  - WCU Honored for Community Impact
  - "My Ukraine" Exhibit Opens at E.O. Bull Center
- **Diversity & Inclusion**
  - Dowdy Multicultural Center Hosts Ruby Jones Conference
  - Lincoln University President Speaks at FDI Lecture
- **Scholarship & Professional Development**
  - WCU Museum of Archeology & Anthropology Exhibit Opens
  - **Faculty Spotlight:** Dr. Susan Fiorentino, J.D.
- **Student Spotlight:** Jojo Gurian

- **Upcoming Events**
  - Banner Town Hall
  - Be Bold, Be Brave! Critical Conversations About All Things Barbie
- **Resource Corner**
  - How To Post An Event On WCU Calendar
  - FAST Schedule & Offerings
  - WCU's Bike Lending Library is Here!
  - Navigate Training Sessions
  - LinkedIn Learning



Dear Colleagues,

I hope this message finds you well. As we navigate the challenges of our roles within the academic community, I wanted to address a matter of utmost importance that affects us all: the mental health crisis on college campuses, including our very own West Chester University.

In recent years, we have witnessed a growing concern for the mental well-being of our students, faculty, and staff members. The ongoing pressures of academic life, combined with personal and societal stresses, have taken a toll on our community's mental health. It is vital that we address this issue as a united campus and prioritize the well-being of our students and ourselves.

Across the nation, college campuses are witnessing a surge in mental health challenges. The factors contributing to this crisis are diverse, including the ongoing pandemic, social and political turbulence, and the academic demands placed on our students and ourselves. Recognizing the gravity of this situation, it is our responsibility to create a supportive and nurturing environment that promotes mental health and wellness.

I urge each one of you to consider the significance of self-care and the role you play in the well-being of our community. The well-being of our students is intertwined with the well-being of our faculty and staff. We must collectively prioritize self-care and the care of others.

- **Seek Help When Needed:** If you or someone you know is struggling with mental health issues, please do not hesitate to reach out for support. West Chester University provides a



range of resources, including counseling services, to assist our community in times of need. For faculty, the State Employees Assistance Program (**SEAP**) is available for all faculty and staff of West Chester University who would wish to reach out seeking support. SEAP is available 24/7, is free of charge to all employees and members of their households regardless of whether they engage in our healthcare benefits plan and is always confidential; no one at West Chester University will be notified if you contact SEAP. Also, 988, the National Crisis Line, is always available. Additionally, WCU's **Community Mental Health Services** (CMHS) offers support services at very low cost for anxiety, depression, couples/family counseling, gender and sexual identity issues, grief/loss, and many more. CMHS is staffed by WCU students enrolled in the Clinical Psychology doctoral program. These students are under the supervision of WCU Clinical Psychology faculty members.

- **Promote a Supportive Environment:** Let us foster a campus culture that encourages open communication, empathy, and understanding. Encourage students to seek help, share their concerns, and be willing to listen without judgment. Our **Counseling Center** is staffed with caring and compassionate professionals who are available to speak with students who would like to talk more; the Center may be reached at (610) 436-2301. The **Red Folder** is a tool designed to help you recognize and respond to students who may be experiencing distress or facing a crisis. The Red Folder contains information on a variety of topics, including mental health, sexual misconduct, and more. It also provides guidance on how to identify warning signs and how to support students in crisis. Counseling & Psychological Services offers WCU Cares training for faculty and staff to help identify signs of suicidality and how to respond. Contact **Rachel Daltry** for more information and to schedule customized training for you and your teams.
- **Set an Example:** As educators and mentors, we serve as role models for our students. Demonstrating self-care and seeking support, when necessary, sets a powerful example. By taking care of our own mental health, we inspire others to do the same. For me, I can share that meeting occasionally with a therapist has helped me manage stress and achieve a healthier work-life balance.
- **Raise Awareness:** Engage in conversations about mental health. Together, we can break down the stigma surrounding this critical issue and promote a culture of acceptance and support. I am proud to report that WCU is partnering with the **JED Foundation** (JED), a nonprofit that protects emotional health and prevents suicide for our nation's teens and young adults, giving them the skills and support they need to thrive. JED provides colleges and universities with expert support, evidence-based best practices, and data-driven guidance to protect student mental health and prevent suicide. In the coming months, we will work collaboratively to implement initiatives aimed at addressing the mental health crisis on our campus. Your insights, feedback, and dedication to this cause are invaluable.
- **Wellness Programs:** West Chester University is committed to developing and expanding wellness programs for our community. We will work diligently to ensure that these programs are accessible, inclusive, and effective.

In conclusion, I want to emphasize that we are a community of caring, compassionate individuals. Let us draw strength from our unity and our commitment to the well-being of our students and colleagues. Together, we can make a significant difference and ensure that West Chester University remains a place where everyone can thrive.

Thank you for your dedication to our institution and your unwavering support of our students and one another.

Best regards,

## BEING STUDENT READY



### CBPM Hosts Majors, Minors, and More Student Success Fair

On Wednesday, October 25, 2023, the College of Business and Public Management hosted its second Majors, Minors, and More Student Success Fair. This event is designed to connect students with information about academic options in the college, including majors, minors, certificate programs, and accelerated degree options. Students also have an opportunity to meet with representatives from several offices across campus. This time, there were representatives from Counseling and Psychological Services, the Career Center, the Writing Center, the LARC, the Honors College, the Multicultural Center, and the Office of Educational Accessibility. Nearly 500 students participated over a period of two hours. This is one of many initiatives in the College of Business and Public Management to ensure that students are aware of different academic paths, as well as the many campus resources and opportunities to support their success at WCU.

## STUDENT SUCCESS

WCU's Department of Theatre & Dance Presents Kiss Me Kate





(Story courtesy of WCU Communication & Marketing)

West Chester University's Department of Theatre & Dance presented the Cole Porter classic, *KISS ME, KATE* from October 19 - 22, 2023 with guest director Megan Bellwoar, music and lyrics by Cole Porter, libretto by Sam and Bella Spewack, and choreography by Associate Professor Liz Staruch.

*KISS ME, KATE* is a Tony Award-winning musical comedy from Broadway's Golden Age. Premiering in 1948, *KISS ME, KATE*'s explosive Cole Porter score showcases some of his most beloved, witty, and catchy songs including, "Another Op'nin', Another Show," "Brush Up Your Shakespeare," and "Too Darn Hot." A bickering, divorced couple finds themselves working together as the leads

in a production of *The Taming of the Shrew*. Hilariousness ensues as their backstage squabbles mirror what is happening onstage. Amidst the play within a play hijinks there is a larger story that examines love, marriage, gender politics, and the joyful world of theatre people.

Director Megan Bellwoar says, "Working with West Chester University students on this production has been pure joy. *KISS ME, KATE* is a big, brassy, classical musical with a 25-person cast, gorgeous dancing, and glorious songs. Cole Porter's genius score is so infectious, and our audiences will certainly recognize many of these glorious songs. I find that my brain chooses a new one to play on loop for my drive home after rehearsal each night."

"It's important to note," Bellwoar adds, "that *KISS ME, KATE* premiered on Broadway in 1948, when sexual and physical harassment between men and women in the workplace were excused as "business as usual." The cast and artistic team have worked to address the power dynamics in the script in a way that reflects our 21st century sensibilities. Among other changes, we adopt the 2019 Broadway revival approach of changing the lyric of the song "I Am Ashamed That Women Are So Simple" to "I Am Ashamed That People Are So Simple."

"Overall, working on this production has been a wonderful reminder that one of our jobs as theatre artists is to bring joy. We create theatre to foster connection and reflection, and to experience joy as a community. *KISS ME, KATE* has theatrical fun and joy in spades."

*KISS ME, KATE* showcased a cast of 25 (including our very own Dean Jen Bacon who made a cameo appearance as "Padua Priest"): Daniel Isajiw (Fred/Petruccio), Isabella Yackanicz (Lilli/Katherine), Emily Wiest (Hattie), Raven Burckhalter (Lois/Bianca), Daniel Michel (Harry/Baptista), Nick DeMatteo (Bill/Lucentio), Jack McGinnis (Gremio/Ensemble), Griffin Anderson (Hortensio/Ensemble), David Gold (Howell/Ensemble), James Baker (Gangster 1), Ronnie Hernandez (Gangster 2), Mar'keece Barnett (Paul/Specialty Dancer/Ensemble), Elijah McBride (Pops/Quartet/Ensemble), Anthony Jennings (Ralph), Brenna Pelizzoni (Stagehand 3/Haberdasher/Quartet/Ensemble), JT Hawkes (Stagehand 2/Phillip/Innkeeper/Quartet/Ensemble), Courtney Parker (Dance Captain/Gregory/Ensemble), Connor Sternberg (Stagehand 1/Cab

Driver/Nathaniel/Quartet/Ensemble), Grace Halsey (Wardrobe Person/Bianca Quartet/Ensemble), Julia Running (Padua Waitress, Bianca Quartet/Ensemble), Alivia Bentley, Sophia Cox, Emma Curtius, Ashley Baker (Ensemble Dancers/Singers), and Padua Priest (Dean Jen Bacon).

The Department of Theatre and Dance at West Chester University, an accredited institution of the National Association of Schools of Theatre, prepares students for the professional and the academic worlds of Theatre and Dance, while raising student awareness of civility, diversity, creativity, problem solving and social responsibility. The department offers a BA Theatre degree program with elective concentrations in Musical Theatre, Performance, and Design and Production, in addition to a dance minor and theatre minor.

## ACCESS

### WCU Named a Four-Time HEED Recipient

*(Story courtesy of WCU Communications & Marketing)*

For the fourth year, West Chester University has received the 2023 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. The HEED Award is the only national honor to recognize institutions of higher education for their outstanding commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.



West Chester joins Millersville University as one of only seven Pennsylvania colleges selected for this honor this year.

“The HEED Award demonstrates engagement in a wide array of best practices, in addition to innovation and a collective commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. This award is all about what we do, not just what we say.” said Tracey Robinson, WCU Vice President for the Division for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. “We are so proud to receive this national recognition for the fourth time. Diversity is broadly defined and this award recognizes how the University goes the extra mile.”

WCU was selected for these initiatives:

- WCU’s Student Parent Task Force developed programming and plans in consultation with the statewide Pennsylvania Parent Pathways program to improve both recruitment and retention of pregnant and parenting students. Efforts focused on the identification of resources and systems to support parenting students, development of a listserv of 448 parenting students, and an educational series of six community-building events. The online resource repository is available 24/7 and accessible through D2L.
- The Center for STEM Inclusion (CSI) in the College of Science and Mathematics was established in 2021. CSI actively works to increase access to STEM careers for a diverse body of students, with programming conducted by a large and enthusiastic faculty committee. CSI has four pillars: Outreach, Access, Persistence, and Career Readiness. Each pillar represents a range of activities to support diverse STEM students and strengthen the STEM pipeline. The Outreach pillar encompasses K-12 engagement and includes two major one-day hands-on events: Super Science Saturday and the Science

Saturday Expo.

- During the 2022-2023 academic year, WCU hosted workshops and programming on Antisemitism and Islamophobia, as well as funded an Innovation in Diversity and Inclusion Grant: WCU Interfaith, Meaning-Making, and Spirituality Project.

WCU will be featured along with the 108 other recipients in the November/December 2023 issue of INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine.

“The HEED Award process consists of a comprehensive and rigorous application that includes questions relating to the recruitment and retention of students and employees (and best practices for both), leadership support for diversity, campus culture and climate, supplier diversity, and many other aspects of campus diversity and inclusion,” said Lenore Pearlstein, publisher of INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine. “We look for institutions where diversity and inclusion are woven into the work being done every day across their campus.”

[Learn About HEED Award](#)

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



(L-R) Janet Bradley, WCU social work director of field education; Sharon DeJoy, associate professor, public health; Lee Ann Sullivan, MCHC board member and community volunteer; Milena Lanz, MCHC executive director; Chiwoneso Tinago, associate professor, public health; and Michael Burns, associate professor and chair of English.

### Maternal Child and Health Consortium Honors WCU for Community Impact

*(Story courtesy of WCU Communications and Marketing)*

The Maternal and Child Health Consortium of Chester County (MCHC) recognized community partners including West Chester University at its recent Celebrating Healthy Families Dinner and Silent Auction.

WCU was awarded the Community Impact Award for long-term internship and research partnerships with MCHC. Students from the departments of public health, social work, and English have completed internships and projects that support the mission and services of MCHC. MCHC’s mission is to advocate for and empower prenatal and parenting families to achieve healthy beginnings and a bright future through a caring culture of service.

In addition, several WCU faculty members partner with MCHC on research projects. MCHC is currently collaborating with Chiwoneso Tinago, associate professor of public health, in a research project to approach an effective, culturally appropriate, and participant-centered intervention for adolescent and young mothers to understand the unique challenges they face around caregiving and their own well-being. This study aims to understand parenting practices such as responsive caregiving and feeding, child discipline, paternal engagement, mental health, and social support of adolescent and



young mothers.

“The longstanding partnership between West Chester University and MCHC has been marked by continuous collaboration on numerous projects,” said MCHC Board Member Lee Ann Sullivan. “Collaborative research includes support of our Perinatal, Periods of Risk project on data analysis, assessing how interventions align with other community or national efforts to address infant mortality, and adjusting better alignment if needed. In addition, research has supported data analysis on Healthy Start data on pregnancy complications related to prenatal and postpartum depression as well as the relationship to low birthweight and preterm births.”

Sullivan added that WCU faculty and students also collaborate on publications, events, and charitable initiatives. “It is a testament to their commitment that, nearly every semester, we have an average of five dedicated graduate and undergraduate interns from West Chester University who contribute significantly to our mission.”

WCU also received a citation from Senators Carolyn T. Comitta and John I. Kane at the event.



## WCU's Department of Art + Design Presents "My Ukraine" Exhibit

WCU's Department of Art + Design hosted the opening of "My Ukraine," a collection of artwork curated by former WCU associate professor Igor Roussanoff. The exhibit is dedicated to the work of Ukrainian artists who lived and worked in Kyiv during the 1970s and 1980s right before the collapse of the former Soviet Union. This same artwork was exhibited at the opening of the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, D.C., in 1992.

Proceeds from the exhibit benefit **You Are The Angel**, a New York-based non-profit that provides shelter, food, basic medical supplies, drinking water, fuel, and psychosocial support to victims of the war in Ukraine.

Roussanoff says, “This is probably the most personal project I have ever worked on. I was born and lived in Ukraine before my emigration to the U.S. in the late eighties. I feel that I cannot stand aside during this difficult time for my homeland. This project is a labor of love and a raising of awareness that, even though Ukraine is in the midst of war, it continues to have a rich and vibrant energy that cannot be contained. I am dedicating my work to those who influenced my formation as an independent creative individual with unorthodox political views that were not accepted in the society of the time in which I lived.”

The exhibit will be on display from October 25 – December 9, 2023, in the John H. Baker Gallery, E.O. Bull Center for the Arts, 2 E. Rosedale Avenue, West Chester. The exhibit is FREE and open to the public. Exhibit hours are Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. An opening event takes place on Friday, October 27, from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

[Learn about the Exhibit and Dept. of Art + Design](#)

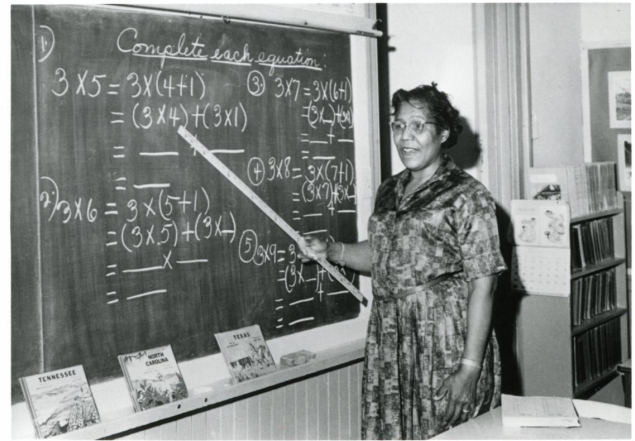


# DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

## Dowdy Multicultural Center Hosts Ruby Jones Conference

On October 28, WCU's **Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center** hosted the Ruby Jones Conference on Race, Social Justice, and Civic Leadership. Named for the late professor Ruby Jones '40, a West Chester State Teachers College alumna and the first Black faculty member hired at the institution,

the conference was designed to create an educational environment where students, faculty, and staff can engage in learning that will raise awareness and promote action-oriented dialogue about racial, cultural, and social issues that impact how they experience life on campus, in communities, and in society.



Ruby Jones was a K-12 educator prior to joining the WCU faculty and was actively involved with the NAACP, the YWCA, and the American Association of University Women. She has been described as an educator, humanitarian, and civic leader. The former Demonstration School, opened on campus in 1899 as an elementary school where West Chester students practiced teaching under the direction of master teachers including Jones, was named in her honor in 1977.

The conference featured a keynote speaker, Amber M. Sessoms, who is the founder and chief visionary officer (CVO) of Natural Inclination LLC, where she supports leaders in cultivating liberatory spaces for individuals to be their full, authentic selves. She centers the voices of historically devalued communities by inviting all learners to write a new story centered on belonging, truth, and healing.

A nationally certified school psychologist and a doctorate-level adult educator, Sessoms has more than 20 years of experience in the educational and mental health sectors. She is also the first person of color to be named School Psychologist of the Year by the Association of School Psychologists of Pennsylvania and is now the first person of color to lead this organization as its president.

*The Ruby Jones Conference was co-hosted with WCU's Office of Student Leadership and Involvement, the Center for Women and Gender Equity, and the Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.*

## Lincoln University President Speaks At Fourth Annual Dr. Clifford E. DeBaptiste Frederick Douglass Institute Lecture

*(Story courtesy of WCU Communications and Marketing)*

West Chester University welcomed Dr. Brenda A. Allen, president of Lincoln University, as the esteemed speaker for the **Fourth Annual Dr. Clifford E. DeBaptiste Frederick**



## Douglass Institute Lecture .

Hosted by the Frederick Douglass Institute, the lecture is made possible through the generous gift of Dr. Clifford DeBaptiste, the first African-American mayor of West Chester Borough and a recognized champion of education. His daughter, Lillian L. DeBaptiste '74, is the current mayor of West Chester Borough.

Dr. Brenda A. Allen was named the 14th president of her alma mater, Lincoln University, on May 11, 2017, and began her tenure on July 1, 2017.

She was previously provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at Winston Salem State University (WSSU) from July 2009 through June 2017 as well as a tenured professor of psychological sciences. She was responsible to the chancellor for the overall coordination and effective implementation of academic programs and exercised leadership in promoting quality instruction, research, and service. She had responsibility for developing and administering the academic policies and regulations of the University, and in collaboration with other senior officers, she had lead responsibility for the development of the University's annual budget and long-term financial plans. She provided oversight and leadership for WSSU's College of Arts, Sciences, Business and Education, the School of Health Sciences and University College. She also oversaw Information Resources (IT and the Library); Institutional Planning, Assessment and Research; the Division of Lifelong Learning; Honors College; Enrollment Management; the Center of Excellence in Teaching and Learning; the Center for Community Safety; the Center for Health Disparities; and the Center for Design Innovations.

In a fitting tribute to the great abolitionist, orator, and statesman, the **DeBaptiste Douglass Lecture** is held annually in Philips Autograph Library next to the University's Academic Quad and alongside the majestic statue of Frederick Douglass. This statue stands in DeBaptiste Plaza in commemoration of the abolitionist's last public lecture on WCU's campus.

Highlighting Dr. DeBaptiste's life of service and dedication to the West Chester University community, WCU President Dr. Christopher Fiorentino observed, "Our students and those who live in the community are fortunate to be aligned with an individual who is deeply committed to advancing humanity and initiating rich conversations about the legacy of a man whose life merits much reflection. All of us can become well-rounded citizen scholars by studying Douglass' example, examining issues of social justice, and improving the present by learning from the past. We are equally proud that West Chester University's Frederick Douglass Institute will be taking the lead in coordinating these particularly relevant lectures for many years to come."

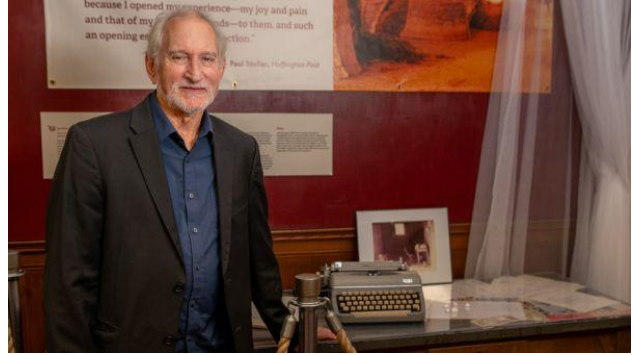
[Learn about WCU's Frederick Douglass Institute](#)

## SCHOLARSHIP & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**WCU Museum Exhibit  
Opens: Surrounded by  
the Spirits**

*(Courtesy of WCU Communications and*

The current exhibition in WCU's Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology in the Old Library is magical — literally. Rare potions, amulets, musical instruments, sacred objects, and other artifacts on display in “Surrounded by the Spirits: Paul Stoller and the Songhay Journey Toward Wellbeing” represent West African healing practices including spirit possession, witchcraft and divination, religious devotion, and traditional medicine. The exhibit invites visitors to experience the culture of West Africa and gain profound insights into holistic healing practices that place humans in harmony with the social, natural, and spiritual worlds.



WCU Professor of Anthropology Paul Stoller lived with and studied the Songhay people of Niger and found a mentor in possession priest Adamu Jenitongo, whose mud spirit hut is recreated as a central element of the exhibition. On the ceiling inside are illuminated constellations from the summer sky in Niger, evoking the cosmos and inviting visitors to contemplate their own wellbeing.

Stoller spoke about his experiences and research in a free presentation on October 19, when he also signed copies of his most recent book, *Wisdom from the Edge*, which underscores the importance of recognizing and applying indigenous wisdom to social problems that threaten the future.

Stoller's artifacts, books, and writings are central to the exhibition, which also houses artifacts from anthropologists from other institutions. Also on display are items from Zeinab Baba, assistant professor in WCU's master of public health program, and Bradley Flamm, director of WCU's Office of Sustainability, and his wife, Esther Wyss-Flamm, who was working in Niger at the same time as Stoller.

Stoller, who joined the University's faculty in 1980 and has conducted anthropological research for 40 years, plans to retire in 2024. In 2013, the Swedish Society for Anthropology and Geography selected him to receive the Anders Retzius Medal in Gold — anthropology's highest honor and the field's equivalent of the Nobel Prize — for his scientific contributions to anthropology. He is the author of 16 books, and recipient of multiple awards and grants including a Guggenheim Fellowship.

Michael Di Giovine, professor of anthropology and director of WCU's Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology, teaches museum studies students how to research, develop, and curate exhibitions. Student co-curators for this exhibition are William Babitts, Isabella Campese, Allison Magerr, Mary Moyer, Emily Nammavong, Katherine Noll, Sadie Patterson, Maclaren Remy, Mayur Suresh, Harrison Warren, Matt Wileyto, Kevin Wilson, and Sydney Wise. Graduate curator is Virginia Vintson. Curatorial interns are Kaitlyn Murray (Ursinus), Karthik Murugan and Caleb Beck (Downingtown East HS).

Di Giovine also collaborates with staff and faculty from other departments including, for this exhibition, Thomas Haughey, associate professor of theatre and exhibits designer; Karen Watkins, associate professor of art + design and exhibition design consultant; Tom Pantazes and Hannah Glatt, Office of Digital Learning and Innovation, who designed the museum's virtual exhibition; and Stephanie Thompson, publications assistant in graphics and printing, who provided graphic design.

In addition, David Blackburn, director of the Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum, is assistant curator.



[Learn About  
Exhibition](#)

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



### **Professor Susan Fiorentino, J.D. Receives Gladys Black “Woman of Distinction” Award from The Fund for Women and Girls.**

*(Story courtesy of WCU Communications & Marketing)*

During its 7<sup>th</sup> annual Champions of Change Breakfast on October 25 at The Farmhouse at People’s Light, The Fund for Women and Girls honored West Chester University Professor of Management Susan Fiorentino, J.D., with the Gladys Black “Woman of Distinction” Award.

With expertise in the area of employment and labor law, Professor Fiorentino has conducted extensive research on legal issues pertaining to women in the workplace, including pay equity and sexual harassment. The award celebrates and recognizes her work as a lawyer, professor, researcher, speaker, and more.

“We are so excited to have someone as accomplished at supporting women in the workplace as Susan as our awardee,” said Kim Andrews, executive director of The Fund. “The Fund celebrates not just the extraordinary achievements of individuals, corporations, and nonprofits advancing women in the workplace, but the unstoppable spirit that drives them to break barriers and champion change.”

Professor Fiorentino received the highly respected award, which has been named in memory of Gladys Black, a long-time advocate of The Fund and a renowned supporter of women and girls in Chester County.

Professor Fiorentino helped launch West Chester University’s M.S. in Human Resource Management Program, which has experienced tremendous growth since its inception in 2016. She teaches courses related to human resource management, such as employment and labor law, employee relations, as well as issues of employee health in the workplace. Prior to her transition to academia, she was a full-time attorney with a practice in employment and labor law, where she represented both employers and employees in personnel matters. Professor Fiorentino maintains a limited law practice, providing employment and labor law counseling to clients. She is also actively engaged in the human resource community and serves as faculty advisor to WCU’s student HR Association.

“I am deeply honored to be recognized by such an esteemed organization as The Fund for Women and Girls and to be included among such an extraordinary group of Champions of Change awardees,” said Professor Fiorentino. “It takes all of us to advance, empower and support women leaders, so all workplaces can thrive.”

Professor Fiorentino is also a staunch advocate and supporter of student success in her active role as the First Lady of West Chester University.

In addition to Professor Fiorentino, The Fund for Women and Girls also recognized Countryside Consulting, Inc. as a Champions of Change Corporate Awardee, as well as Chester County OIC as a WSFS Nonprofit Workforce Development Awardee.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



One of our current Bachelor of Science in Public Health students, Jojo Gurian, received a scholarship from Estamos Unidos de Pennsylvania as part of a celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. Estamos Unidos de Pennsylvania is a Hispanic/Latinx organization that provides cultural awareness for Central PA and gives back to the Hispanic/Latinx community.

Ms. Gurian was honored with this scholarship at their annual gala and got to meet healthcare professionals from the area, including members of Governor Josh Shapiro's administration.

This year JoJo will serve as a Narcan Student Program Assistant with the WCU Office of Wellness Promotion.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Banner/RamPortal Town Hall Series

Join us for our monthly town hall to hear the latest on the RamPortal Implementation!

These hour-long sessions will provide the following:

- > Updates on the RamPortal Implementation
- > FAQ discussion
- > Training

Plenty of time for your questions!

Look out for more info from [SIS@wcupa.edu](mailto:SIS@wcupa.edu)



### When?

Sept 13  
Oct 11  
Nov 8

### Where?

11a - MIT 202  
Also via Zoom

### Banner/RamPortal Town Hall Series Resumes

There is one remaining opportunity to participate in the Banner Town Hall Series:

**November 8**

Join us in person (Mitchell Hall 202) or via Zoom ([Zoom link](#)). Pre-registration for any of the 2023 Town Halls is now open. Secure your spot by using this [registration link](#). Please note that you must be logged into Office365 to use the registration link.

### Agenda:

- Information will be shared orienting first-time attendees to the project.
- Important milestones and updates on the project status will be shared.
- Special Sneak-Peeks of some page views within RamPortal!

[Click to](#)

# BE BOLD, BE BRAVE!

## Critical Conversations About All Things Barbie

Join us for a FREE showing of The Barbie Movie, followed by thoughtful conversations about the film and related topics like racial justice, gender justice, body size, mental health, and more!

DINNER  
PROVIDED

FRIDAY, NOV. 10TH

4-8 PM

IN SYKES THEATER

REGISTER  
HERE



The Women's & Gender  
Studies Collection



WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
College of Arts and Humanities

## RESOURCE CORNER



### How to Submit Your Event to Online Campus Calendar

The WCU Calendar is populated by events submitted in 25Live, WCU's room reservation and calendaring program. Faculty/Staff may submit events to the calendar by selecting "WCU Featured Events Calendar" in the "Resources" section of the 25Live Event Form.

WCU Event  
Calendar

How to submit your event to WCU  
Calendar

## FAST Schedule & Offerings

Check out what IS&T has on tap for the semester! The Faculty and Staff Training (FAST) unit supports WCU faculty and staff in





becoming proficient in various applications, in addition to providing best practices in trending platforms (e.g., OneDrive, D2L, RamCloud). Courses are designed to accommodate all levels of learning and allow users to build on acquired skills. Click below for the full schedule or take **self-paced options**.

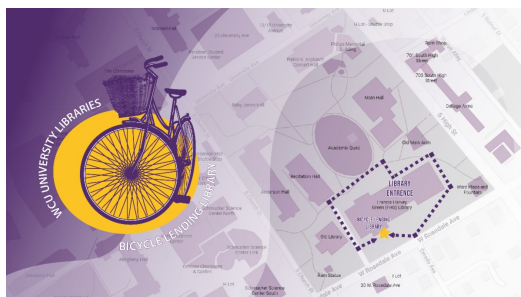
[Click for Schedule](#)

## ODLI On Air Podcast

ODLI on Air is a podcast on digital learning & innovation at WCU that expands teaching and learning perspectives by connecting theory and practice through conversations with expert WCU faculty. Check out episodes on a variety of topics including sustainable study abroad, using H5P interactions, inclusive learning, and e-portfolios.



[Listen to ODLI On Air](#)



## WCU's Bike Lending Library

Can't find a parking space? Need to get to class faster? With the opening of the Bicycle Lending Library (BLL), you're in luck!

The BLL offers 28 Trek bicycles available in sizes XXS-XL. WCU students and employees can

borrow a bicycle for two-week increments or full semesters. Riders should submit an **online request** for a bicycle and wait to be contacted by the library staff. From here, the lending process will begin. After scheduling a pick-up time, riders will present their WCU ID and receive their bicycle, as well as a helmet and a combination lock.

[More Info on BLL](#)

Visit our **webpage**. You'll find an overview, information about **Progress Reports**, and our **training site**.

[Navigate Homepage](#)

You can also check out the **FAST training site** and search "navigate" to find all of the Navigate-specific offerings. Here's a **quick guide** to the offerings.

## FREE LinkedIn Learning Content Available to WCU Faculty, Staff and Students

LinkedIn Learning with Lynda.com content is an industry leader in online training, with a digital library of over 180,000 videos, covering a wide range of technical, business, software, and creative topics. West Chester University faculty, staff and currently enrolled students have unlimited access.

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