

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

# PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

JUNE 1, 2024 THROUGH MAY 31, 2025



## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

The professional achievements listed are those reported by faculty and staff. They encompass achievements during June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025. There may have been notable achievements that were unreported and thus unlisted.

Published by Marketing and Communications.

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## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

Frostburg State University is incredibly honored to highlight the dedication and professional achievements of faculty and staff. Contributing original scholarly research, creative works and performances, and exceptional scholarship within the field of teaching and learning, they open a world of opportunities to FSU students. As part of this commitment and pledge of support, they engage in extensive service to their fields of study in addition to the local, regional, national and international communities at large. As a result, these professional activities enhance and promote instructional engagement in meaningful ways that inspire social and cultural enrichment, civic responsibilities and global sustainability efforts.

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## MESSAGES FROM THE DEANS

### COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SCIENCES

Faculty in the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences serve as exceptional examples of teacher-scholars at Frostburg State University and in the region. Evidence of this is seen in the following descriptions of their labors in, and out of, the classroom.

Jennifer Browne from the Department of Communication and Literature was one of two FSU recipients of the 2025 Academic Achievement award for Academic Accomplishment. She also had published, *American Crow*, by Beltway Editions. Others in her department were equally impressive including Dr. Andy Duncan and the development of his award-winning novella, *Wakulla Springs*. He contributed a chapter to *More Than Love: The Enduring Fascination with Edgar Allan Poe*, an edited compilation by his colleague, Dr. Amy Branam Armiento. This scholarly material by Branam Armiento is a finalist for the 2024 Indies award for best edited collection. Further, a chapter authored by Dr. Kevin Knott was accepted for inclusion in editors Joan Passey and Robert Lloyd's collection, *Shirley Jackson's Dark Tales: Reconsidering the Short Fiction*, and Gerry LaFemina's poetry collection, *Fantastic, Imaginary Creatures*, was accepted by Madville Publishing. *Literature and Science, 1922-2022: Modernist and Postmodernist Perspectives*, features a chapter by Dr. Naomi Gades.

In the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences, Dr. Ben Norris co-authored the book chapter, *Assessing and Researching: Assumptive Practice in Data Collection and Analysis*. It was accepted for inclusion in the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) 2026 publication tentatively titled, *Discovering Socially Just Academic Advising: Empowerment, Advocacy, and Courage in Higher Education*. Colleague Dr. Holly Currie presented "Promoting Wellbeing and Learning in the Classroom" at the summer 2024 Biennial Conference on Chemical Education at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Matthew Crawford, along with two faculty members from Biology, Dr. Karen Keller and Dr. Bill Seddon, submitted, and had accepted, *Pre-Health Advising at a Smaller Institution: A Renewed Call for a National Discussion*, for the March 2025 edition of The Advisor.

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

Others in the Department of Biology were similarly successful. Dr. Thomas Lambert had a peer-reviewed article accepted in *Caribbean Naturalist*, a research journal focused on natural history research. Likewise, Dr. Thomas Serfass had scholarly work published, after review, in *Canadian Wildlife Biology & Management*. Dr. Kate Sheehan had material featured in the *Journal of Environmental Exposure Assessment*. Dr. Rebekah Taylor was successful at having her scholarship published in the peer-reviewed, *PLOS ONE*, and a project produced by Clara Thiel and others was submitted and accepted in *Northeastern Naturalist*.

In the Department of Digital Media and Visual Arts, April Pauza was invited to, and participated in, the Biennial National Group Art Exhibition at the Howard County Arts Council where she earned a Third-Place award. She also exhibited at Montgomery College Takoma Park in Silver Spring, Maryland, with DC artist, Sean Riley. Her colleague, Jamison Odone, had a graphic novel and a collection of poems published by Black Panel Press and Bottlecap Press, respectively. Dr. Travis English had his works displayed as the exhibiting artist at the Gilchrist Museum Spring Show at the Gilchrist Museum of Art and History, Cumberland.

Faculty in the college are also committed to collaborations with their students. These opportunities provide young people with practical research experiences that are tremendously valuable to their future professions or graduate school aspirations.

Examples of these include two research projects Dr. Holly Currie supervised with four undergraduate Chemistry students on gene loss in cells and enzymes. Department colleague, Dr. Katie Gares, mentored seven students on Chemistry projects analyzing ingredients in apple sauce, baby food, cosmetics and energy drinks. In Physics, Dr. Jason Speights and two students had their research published in *The Astrophysical Journal*. In Biology, Dr. Kumudini Munasinghe's research was featured in *International Journal of Microbiology and Biotechnology*, and her four co-authors were FSU undergraduates. Two graduate students working with Dr. Kate Sheehan were each listed as co-authors with her in two peer-reviewed research articles covering parasites and microplastics. Dr. John Lombardi in Digital Media and Visual Arts mentored three undergraduates in developing a survey, distributing it, collecting data and analyzing the results. The subject of the project was the new "3 State Community Media Center" and the survey results are helping to shape the services offered at, and equipment purchased for, the facility.

This is a very brief listing of the many activities in which faculty members in the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences were invested this past year. It demonstrates not only their intellectual strengths and foci but also their interest in guiding and nurturing future scientists, artisans, researchers and academics.

Those in our region should be proud that such accomplished teachers and adept content experts can be found at this university and in Western Maryland. I certainly am!

**Dr. Keith Terry, Interim Dean**

**College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences**

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, ENGINEERING, AND COMPUTING & ANALYTICS

#### *Celebrating Excellence: CBECA's Year of Achievement*

Greetings from the College of Business, Engineering, Computing & Analytics (CBECA)! As we mark our second anniversary of academic reorganization as a collegiate entity that began in 2023, we're proud to share a sampling of the remarkable accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students.

#### Faculty Excellence

Our distinguished faculty continue to set the standard for academic achievement:

#### Awards and Recognitions

- **Busra Keles-Cadenazzi** (Assistant Professor, Management) received the 2025 Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching
- **Yiming Zhuang** (Assistant Professor, Management) received the 2025 Faculty Achievement Award for Academic Achievement
- **Kenneth Levitt** (Associate Professor, Management) received the 2025 Faculty Achievement Award for **University and Community Service**
- **Joanna Shore** (Associate Professor, Management) was honored with the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff Joint Civilian Service Commendation Medal in May 2025.

#### Research and Publications

- **Tariq Masood** and **Jamil Abdo** (Engineering) have published their book, Protection of Electrical Power Distribution Systems: Smart-grid, Microgrid, AI and Cybersecurity, brought out by Wiley-IEEE Press in 2025, and presented their work at multiple conferences.
- **Rebecca Chory** and **Evan Offstein** (Management) had their article "Cultivating Courage, Cowardice, or Complacency? An Identity-Based Perspective on Faculty Resistance to Managerialism" for publication in an upcoming edition of the premier pedagogical outlet, Academy of Management Learning & Education.
- **Jeffrey McClellan** (Management) published his sabbatical-supported research manuscript in a book titled, "Momentary Leadership: How Leaders and Followers Realize the Potential of Leadership Moments" in 2025, brought out by Archway Publishing, and has presented his work in multiple conferences.
- **Yiming Zhuang** (Management) published six articles in top tier journals in the areas of business analytics, supply chain management, and one co-authored with **Lilly Ye** (Marketing) in a journal in logistics, economics, and globalization.

#### Student Achievements

The following students of the College presented their creative endeavors at the Annual Deans Colloquium held on campus on April 30, 2025:

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- **Ike Higson** (Engineering) presented his research titled "Field Hockey Stick Reinforcement and Composite Layer Repair"
- **Madison Hooper** (CSIT) presented her research titled "The Human Factor in Multi-Factor Authentication: How Lack of Awareness and Carelessness Weaken Cybersecurity"
- **Jack Stover** (Engineering) presented his work titled "Automatic Cleaner and Eraser (ACE)"
- **Lucian Rectanus** (CSIT) presented his work on "SPARK Labs (Students Pursuing Applications of Research and Knowledge)"
- **Nathan Worgan** (Engineering) and **Samara Funk** (Engineering) presented their 5-member student team's work titled "Pitch Return"

## Global Partnerships and International Education

Our commitment to international education continues to flourish:

### China Partnership Success

- Delivered 17 courses to 120 students per cohort at Hunan University of Technology and Business (HUTB) in Changsha, China
- Celebrated 76 graduates from our sixth HUTB cohort in June 2025, with excellent industry placement rates
- Graduates pursue advanced degrees at top institutions in China, the UK, and the US, with the commencement speaker pursuing a Master's degree at Duke University
- The Chinese Ministry of Education approved the partnership between FSU and the Hubei University of Economics in Wuhan, China, which would enable program students to earn a Bachelor's degrees in Economics and Business Administration with a concentration in Business Analytics

### German Collaboration

- Successfully maintained our partnership with Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg (DHBW), Bad-Mergentheim with several faculty delivering instruction onsite

## Industry Engagement

### Bobcat Innovation Launchpad

- **Michael Flinn**, Chair of the Computer Science & Information Technologies, along with his colleagues, Steven Kenndy (CSIT), and Curtis Clemens (RECR), helped organize the 2nd Annual Regional Bobcat Innovation Launch Pad in brought together 80+ students from 20+ majors to develop solutions for rural community challenges under the theme "Revive & Thrive: Reimagining Rural Resilience." The competition provided students with real-world problem-solving experience, expert mentorship, and networking opportunities to advance their entrepreneurial ideas.

## **Professional Achievements 2024-2025**

### **Community Partnership**

- Collaborated with Allegany Chamber of Commerce for the 2024 Local Business Showcase, strengthening ties between the College and regional business community

### **Program Innovation**

#### **Curriculum Enhancements**

- Computer Science & Information Technologies Department successfully developed a Bachelor's degree program offering at the University of Maryland a Hagerstown location to be launched in Fall 2025
- Mathematics Department introduced the Actuarial Science emphasis to improve student placement and success
- Expanded dual enrollment collaborations with regional community colleges

### **Accreditation Progress**

- Academic programs in Electrical Engineering both on the main campus and the Arundel Mills location and Materials Engineering are in active preparation for a site visit by ABET in October 2026
- Business programs advance toward AACSB International accreditation with site visit scheduled for spring 2027

### **Looking Forward**

As we celebrate these achievements, we extend our gratitude to FSU leadership, our dedicated Advisory Board, and our valued alumni who continue to support our mission. Together, we remain committed to our enduring motto:

### **Onward and Upward!**

The College of Business, Engineering, Computing & Analytics continues to build on its foundation of excellence, preparing students for success in an evolving global marketplace while contributing meaningful research and service to our communities.

**Dr. Sudhir Singh**

**Dean of the College of Business, Engineering, Computing & Analytics**

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

### BOOKS

#### Books Published

- **Richard A. Russo**, Geography
  - "Bibliothèques et archives dans les communautés de langue officielle en situation minoritaire: Enjeux et devenir", pp.79-113. "Les collections des bibliothèques publiques en contexte de bilinguisme officiel: une étude comparative de quelques pratiques européennes" (Linda Savoie, trad.). *University of Ottawa Press*, (2025)

#### Books Edited

- **Dr. Amy Branam Armiento**, Department of English and Foreign Languages
  - "More than Love: The Enduring Fascination with Edgar Allan Poe," ed. Amy Branam Armiento, *Mercer University Press*, (October 2024)

### SHORTER PUBLICATIONS

#### Articles or Excerpts

- **Justina Bennett**, Department of Physician Assistant Medicine
  - "Preparing Physician Assistant/Associate Students for Patient Education," *Physician Assistant Clinics*. (August 2024)
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - "It Is Always Time To Talk About These Things," *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 35.1, (September 2024). Since reprinted on the journal's website, outside the paywall: <https://www.fantastic-arts.org/jfa/it-is-always-time-to-talk-about-these-things/>
  - "Role-Playing at Poe," *More Than Love: The Enduring Fascination with Edgar Allan Poe*, edited by Amy Branam Armiento. Mercer UP (September 2024).
  - "New County Health Officer Lacking Credentials," *Cumberland Times-News*, (July 2024)
  - "An Interview with Andy Duncan" (2,200-word Q&A with interviewer Montanna Harling), *F(r)iction*, (June 2025): <https://frictionlit.org/an-interview-with-andy-duncan/>
  - "Andy Duncan's Weird Western Maryland," ongoing at <https://www.frostburg.edu/personal-arduncan/>
- **Dr. Jodi Eirich**, Educational Professions
  - "Building bridges: University outreach through the Children's Literature Center," *International Literacy Association*, O'Neal, S & Eirich, J. (2025)
- **Westley Hartley**, Department of Physician Assistant Medicine

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- “Whip-it Beyond Desserts: Causing Subacute Combined Degeneration - Case Report and Literature Review,” *Journal of Community Hospital Internal Medicine Perspectives: Vol. 15: Iss. 1, Article 24*, Brahmashettar, Vijayalakshmi; Ahadov, Elton; Rzayeva, Tamilla; Hartley, Westley T.; and Mughanlinskaya, Nargiz. (January 2025)
- **Dr. Scott P. Johnson**, Political Science
  - “A Champion for the Disadvantaged: Justice David H. Souter and the Equal Protection Clause,” *Southern Journal of Policy and Justice*. Vol. XIX. (forthcoming Summer 2025)
  - “Justice David Hackett Souter and the Right to Privacy,” *Mitchell Hamline Law Review*. Vol. 50, Issue 2. (2024)
- **Dr. Karen L. Keller**, Biology
  - “The Advisor,” Pre-Health Advising at a Smaller Institution: A Renewed Call for a National Discussion, (2025)
- **Dr. Michael Monahan**, Management
  - “An Investigation into Academic Clustering among Division II Student Athletes,” *Journal of Business, Industry, and Economics*, Volume 29, (Spring-Fall 2024)
- **Dr. Sarah O’Neal**, Educational Professions
  - “Bridging Worlds: University outreach through the power of children’s literature,” *Literacy Today*, (April/May/June 2025 Edition)

## PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

- **Dr. Amy Branam Armiento**, Department of English and Foreign Languages
  - “Remixing First-Year Writing: Artificial Intelligence, Student Voices, and Writing Program Administration” with John Raucci and Naomi Gades, *Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)*, Baltimore, MD, (April 2025)
  - “From the Library’s Recesses to Exhibition Spaces” with Milton Dawson and William O’Boyle, *College English Association (CEA)*, Philadelphia, PA, (March 2025)
- **Kerry Birney**, Department of Physician Assistant Medicine
  - “Well, How Did I Get Here?: Professional Identity Formation and how we can use it to “Burnout Proof” ourselves as PAs,” *Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants Annual Conference*, Cambridge, MD, (September 2024)
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - At the 46th International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, held in Orlando, Florida (March 2024):
    - Read from an upcoming story, “Criswell Predicts!”
    - Spoke as panelist and moderator for “Cemeteries, Haunted Houses, and Hidden Lore,” with Owl Goingback and Sarah Pinsker.
    - Read the role of Montresor in Jeanne Beckwith’s new one-act play, M. Dupin Investigates a Disappearance.

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- Hosted a reading session with Lara Elena Donnelly, Owl Goingback, Walter Jon Williams and Caroline M. Yoachim.
- Presented a new talk, "Weird Western Maryland: Curses, Ghosts, and Monsters":
  - To the Cumberland chapter of the Maryland Writers Association (November 20, 2024)
  - To a public audience at the Washington Street Library in Cumberland (October 29, 2024)
  - To a public audience at the Accident Library (October 16, 2024)
- Signed copies of *More Than Love* with editor Amy Armiento and fellow contributor Emily Michael at The Book Centre in Cumberland, October 26.
- Read from "It Is Always Time To Think About These Things" with novelist and memoirist Nicola Griffith, 2025 Grand Master of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association, as the opening panel of the third annual Virtual International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts (October 23, 2024)
- Read from "Role-Playing at Poe" as part of a "More Than Love" panel with editor Amy Armiento and contributors Emily Michael and Jamison Odone at the Frostburg Library on Main Street (October 22, 2024)
- Signed copies of "More Than Love" alongside editor Amy Branam Armiento at the Cumberland Theatre (October 19, 2024)
- Presented a talk, "Fringe Benefits," on how pseudoscience can be useful in science fiction, to the online Tucson, Arizona, *Hard SF Zoom group* (October 5, 2024): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aG\\_PuHtLVbl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aG_PuHtLVbl)
- At Capclave in Rockville, Maryland (September 2024):
  - Read from an upcoming story, "Criswell Predicts!"
  - Panelist, "An Offline Discussion of Online Events."
  - Panelist, "The Privatization of Space."
  - Panelist, "What's Happening with Print Magazines."
  - Panelist, "Sportsball: What Makes a Good Sports Story."
  - Panelist, "Who You Gonna Call: Not Plotting Yourself into a Corner."
  - Panelist, "Awards and What They Really Get You."
- Signed books at the Washington Street Library as part of Cumberland's Heritage Days festival (September 2024)
- Presented "Western Maryland Weirdness" at the Annual Symposium of the Council of the Alleghenies at the Cumberland Country Club (August 2024)
- **Dr. Karen L. Keller**, Biology
  - "The Struggle to Maintain Standards in Human A&P Courses at 4-Year Institutions when Accepting Transfer Courses," *Human Anatomy and Physiology Society (HAPS) 39th Annual Conference*, Pittsburgh, PA (May 2025)
- **Dr. Michael Monahan**, Management
  - "An Examination of the Decision-Making Factors of Prospective Division II Student Athletes in Selecting Their Institution." *Society of Business, Industry and Economics*, Destin Florida, (April 2025)
- **Tariq Masood**, Department of Physics and Engineering

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- “New Technique to develop Intelligent High reliable & Efficient Unmanned Power Generation Modular,” ***Renewable Energies and Power Quality Journal*** (REPQJ), European Association for the Development of Renewable Energy, Environment and Power Quality (EA4EPQ) (June 2024)
- “New Technique to enhance Hybrid Renewable Energy Resources Operational Flexibility and Reliability,” ***Renewable Energies and Power Quality Journal*** (REPQJ), European Association for the Development of Renewable Energy, Environment and Power Quality (EA4EPQ) (June 2024)
- “Review: Uninterrupted Liquid Hydrogen (E-Methanol) Production framework to deliver Clean & Green Energy,” ***Renewable Energies and Power Quality Journal*** (REPQJ), European Association for the Development of Renewable Energy, Environment and Power Quality (EA4EPQ) (June 2024)
- “Techno-Economics Analysis to Reshape Global Clean and Green Energy,” ***Renewable Energies and Power Quality Journal*** (REPQJ), European Association for the Development of Renewable Energy, Environment and Power Quality (EA4EPQ) (June 2024)
- **Dr. Benjamin N. Norris**, Chemistry and Physics
  - “Process Delivery Outcomes and Process Benchmarking [Concurrent Session],” *NACADA Assessment Institute*. Kansas City, MO, United States. Norris, B. N., & Chandler, D. (January 2025).
  - “Assessment – Creating a Culture of Success [Plenary Session],” *NACADA Assessment Institute*. Kansas City, MO, United States. Zarges, K. M., Norris, B. N., & Ross, K. (January 2025)
  - “Socially Just Assessment [Concurrent Session],” *NACADA Assessment Institute*. Kansas City, MO, United States. Carmel-Etienne, M., & Norris, B. N. (January 2025)
  - “Writing for the NACADA Journal: Engaging Practitioners in the Scholarship of Advising [Panel Presentation],” *NACADA Annual Conference*. Pittsburgh, PA, United States. Rubin, L. M., Mottarella, K., Soria, K. & Norris, B. N. (October 2024)
- **Dr. Sarah O’Neal & Dr. Janet Mattern**
  - “Mirrors & Windows: Reflecting the Diversity of Children, Families, & Communities through Children’s Literature and Storytelling,” *11th Annual Maryland Early Childhood Conference*, Hagerstown, MD (September 2024)
- **Dr. Elesha L. Ruminski**, Communication and Literature
  - “At Home with Chautauqua: How a Local Victorian Festival Is Inspiring Western Maryland to Learn and Engage Together,” Dr. Elesha Ruminski, *Appalachian Festival*, Frostburg, MD (Sept. 2024)
  - Invited to present on “Ethical Communication” for the *Women in Industry (WIN) Sustainable Ethical Practices Toolkit* series for Point Park University, Pittsburgh, PA (April 2025)
- **Jeffery Simcoe**, Frostburg Outdoor Recreation Economy Institute
  - “Youth Mountain Biking Through National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA),” Panel Organizer & Moderator, (September 2024)

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- “Adaptive Recreation: Making the Outdoors More Accessible,” Panel Organizer & Moderator, *Maryland Outdoor Recreation Summit*, Flintstone (MD), (September 2024)
- “Growing Our Region’s Outdoor Recreation Economy,” Roundtable Discussion Organizer & Presenter, Including remarks from Comptroller Brooke Lierman & Secretary Josh Kurtz (MD DNR), *Mountain Maryland PACE*, Annapolis (MD), (January 2025)
- “Growing the Regional Outdoor Recreation Economy,” Presenter, *Focus Frostburg*, Frostburg (MD), (April 2025)
- **Dr. Greg J. Wood**, History
- “‘Beyond All Tolerance’: Autoworker Opposition to the CIO during the 1937 Chrysler Sit-Down Strike,” *North American Labor History Conference*, Wayne State University, (October 2024)

## WORKSHOPS & DISCUSSIONS LED

- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - Taught a one-hour online Community Class, “Writing the Local Weird,” for the *Clarion West Writers’ Workshop*, Seattle, Washington, May.
  - Host of an online Alumni Flash Writing Session for the *Clarion West Writers’ Workshop*, Seattle, Washington, November.
- **Westley Hartley**, Department of Physician Assistant Medicine
  - Southern European Task Force African (SETAF-AF) *2024 Concept Development Event*. September 2024, Vicenza, Italy.
  - Led African medical engagement discussion for country of Benin, moderated the entire event, and participated in breakout sessions for partner nation development.
- **Dr. Benjamin N. Norris**, Chemistry and Physics
  - “Integrating Academic Advising into Faculty Career Advancement,” Webinar. *NACADA*. Gizerian, S. W., Norris, B. N., & Hintz, A. (May 2025)
  - “Assessment of Faculty Advising,” Webinar. *NACADA*. Norris, B. N., Higginson, P., & Palmer, K. (March 2025)
  - “*Student Learning Outcomes*,” Workgroup Session. *NACADA Assessment Institute*. Kansas City, MO, United States. Norris, B. N. (January 2025)
  - “Telling the story of advising through data visualization,” Pre-Conference Workshop. *NACADA Annual Conference*. Pittsburgh, PA, United States. Norris, B.N. & Kraft-Terry, S. (October 2024)
- **Dr. Elesa L. Ruminski**, Communication and Literature
  - Worked with students and campus and community partners to plan and facilitate discussions as part of the STCO 350 Intercultural Communication class, most held within FSU’s Multicultural Center (multiple dates during Fall 2024). These included the following:
    - Discussion with ORIE learning community students
    - Education discussion

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- Importance of voting discussion
- Post-election discussion
- LGBTQ+ discussion
- Invited to present on "Effective Communication" to ADAPT program series at Frostburg State University (April 2025)
- Moderated a Choose Civility focus group session with Renee Mason for Focus Frostburg, Frostburg State University (April 2025)
- Co-facilitated a screening and discussion session of "Free for All: The Public Library" at the Frostburg Library (April 2025)
- Coordinated leaders-in-residence series with LEAD 101 class to feature Candice Crenshaw from Maryland Commission on Civil Rights; Dr. Judy Stone from Forbes; John Adams from KCI Technologies, and Lilia Rose from Maryland Delegate Vogel's office (Spring 2025)
- **Jeffery Simcoe**, Frostburg Outdoor Recreation Economy Institute
  - "Mountain Bike Trail Planning and Development Workshop," Presented by IMBA and FOREI – Co-Presenter, *Maryland Outdoor Recreation Summit*, Flintstone (MD), (September 2024)
- **Donnell H. VanSkiver**, Office of the President
  - *James Madison University*, Harrisonburg, VA (June 2024)
  - "International Association of Administrative Professionals Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference," Harrisonburg, VA (June 2024)
  - "FSU ADAPT 2024 Cohort", Frostburg, MD (July 2024)
  - "FSU Mixed Group," Frostburg State University (October 2024)
  - "FSU Alpha Sigma Tau," Frostburg State University (April 2025)
  - "Handling Workplace Disengagement and Compassion Fatigue," *ADAPT Community Conference Series*, Frostburg, MD (August 2024)
  - "Communicating in a Multigenerational Workforce," *ADAPT Program*, Frostburg, MD (May 2025)
- **Dr. Greg J. Wood**, History
  - Chair/comment, "States, Politics, and Labor," *Social Science History Association (SSHA) Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, (November 2024)
  - Chair/comment, "Organizing the Professions," *SSHA Conference*, Toronto, Ontario, (November 2024)
  - Panelist, "Reuther Library Fishman Travel Grant Awards Discussion," *North American Labor History Conference*, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, (October 2024)

## PERFORMANCES

- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - Played Jimmy, one of the lead roles in the Cumberland Theatre production of *This Side of the Dirt* for one weekend in March. This was only the second production anywhere of the comedy by Texas vodka entrepreneur Tito Beveridge, who attended the performance.

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- Played various small roles, including Principal Partridge, Dr. Campbell and the Tollkeeper, in the Cumberland Theatre production of *It's a Wonderful Life*, adapted by Kimberli Rowley and Seth Thompson from Frank Capra's movie, for three weekends in December.
- **Darrell S. Rushton**, Theatre and Dance
  - Fight Director, *"This Side of the Dirt," Cumberland Theatre*
  - Director, *"PUFFS," Frostburg State University Theatre*

## GRANTS

- **Lisa Clark**, AmeriCorps Student Engagement
  - "AmeriCorps grant 2024-2025," AmeriCorps through *The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism*- purpose is to administer a statewide AmeriCorps program partnering with over 25 agencies across the state placing 59 AmeriCorps members in service
  - "MLK Day of Service Grant 2025," *Transform Mid Atlantic*- purpose was to conduct a day of service event in Frederick County
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - Travel grant from the university's Faculty Development Subcommittee to attend the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, (March 2025).
  - Ongoing "FSU Foundation Opportunity Grant" from the Leonard Mindful Leadership Fund toward coursework at the Rhine Education Center in Durham, North Carolina.
- **Dr. Karen L. Keller**, Biology
  - "FSU Foundation Grant," for the FSU Undergraduate Research Symposium, \$3,500.00
- **Darrell S. Rushton**, Theatre and Dance
  - "FSU Opportunity Grant," Bringing two students to the Mid Atlantic Melee and the Allegany Alley Fight stage combat workshops
  - "FSU Opportunity Grant," bringing in Ian Rose for a Stage Combat Workshop and Demonstration
- **Jeffery Simcoe**, Frostburg Outdoor Recreation Economy Institute
  - "Rural Maryland Council," Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF), *FOREI Outdoor Entrepreneurs Initiative*, \$119,625
- **Dr. Stacy Wassell**, Division of Advancement and Regional Engagement
  - "Intellectual Property Disclosure, Validation, Technology Transfer and Commercialization Program Project," *TEDCO's Maryland Innovation Initiative*, \$187,000, To move innovations developed at the university into the marketplace to benefit society, drive economic development, and generate revenue through partnerships, licensing, or startup creation
  - "Summit Station at Innovation Park," *Rural Maryland Council*, \$75,000; Sustaining operations that encompass an incubator, accelerator, and remote workspace, while also providing workforce development through trainings and workshops to the broader community

### AWARDS, HONORS & OTHER DISTINCTIONS

- **Dr. Amy Branam Armiento**, Department of English and Foreign Languages
  - “J. Lasley Dameron Award for an Edited Collection for Poe and Women: Recognition and Revision,” coedited with Travis Montgomery, (Lehigh UP, 2023)
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - “Pushcart Prize” nomination from *Mercer University Press* for the essay “Role-Playing at Poe” in *More Than Love: The Enduring Fascination with Edgar Allan Poe*, edited by Amy Branam Armiento
  - Nominated by anonymous faculty members to run for Chair of Faculty (declined), (March 2025)
  - Artie Travis, Vice President for Student Affairs, visited and participated in my ENGL 334 (Creative Writing: Fiction), then complimented the students to Dean Mike Mathias, (November 2024)
  - Attended the invitation-only Sycamore Hill Writers Conference at the Wildacres Retreat near Little Switzerland, North Carolina, (June 2025)
- **Westley Hartley**, Department of Physician Assistant Medicine
  - “Army Commendation Medal,” Given for service as the *Civil Affairs – Africa Functional Specialty Cell Public Health Officer in support of Southern European Task Force*, (June 26, 2024 - November 30, 2024)
- **Dr. Benjamin N. Norris**, Chemistry and Physics
  - Completed the “NACADA Emerging Leader Program” (October 2024)
- **Donnell H. Vanskiver**, Office of the President
  - “International Association of Administrative Professionals,” *2024 Achievement Award Winner* (July 2024)
- **Dr. Greg J. Wood**, History
  - Received the “Illinois State Historical Society’s Harry E. Pratt Award” for the most outstanding article to appear in the *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* in the editions of 2024 (April 2025)

### OFFICES & SERVICE

#### Offices Held in Academic and Professional Organizations

- **Amanda Bena**, Access Services & Resource Sharing
  - Chair, *Access Services Conference Awards Committee*
- **Dr. Amy Branam Armiento**, Department of English and Foreign Languages
  - Treasurer and Immediate Past President, *Poe Studies Association*.
  - Editorial Board Member, *Poe Studies: History, Theory, Interpretation*
  - Treasurer, *Poe Baltimore*
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - Coordinated our contribution to the campuswide *Sponsor-A-Family Food Drive*, (November 2024)

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- Had an error corrected on our Academic Programs public page after it was spotted by Amy Branam Armiento, November
- Member, *Curriculum Committee*
- Member, *Creative Writing Committee*
- Member, *Professional Writing Committee*
- Participated in gen-ed assessment for the *Assessment Committee*
- Five mentees as of May 31, 2025
- **Wesley Hartley**, Department of Physician Assistant Medicine
  - Director of Didactic Education, *Department of Physician Assistant Medicine - Frostburg State University*
  - Major, *US Army Reserve*. 7250th Medical Support Unit. Alexandria, VA.
- **Jeffery Simcoe**, Frostburg Outdoor Recreation Economy Institute
  - Board of Directors, *Great Allegheny Passage Conservancy*
  - Advisory Committee, *Garrett Trails*
  - Technical Advisory Committee, *Maryland Transportation Trails Strategic Plan (MDOT)*
  - Planning Committee, *2025 Maryland Outdoor Recreation Summit*
- **Dr. Stacy Wassell**, Division of Advancement and Regional Engagement
  - Board Member, *Maryland Business Innovation Association (MBIA)*
  - Executive Committee Member, *USM Launch Fund*
- **Dr. Greg J. Wood**, History
  - Labor Network Representative, *Social Science History Association (SSHA)*

## Offices Held in Community Organizations

- **Lisa Clark**, AmeriCorps Student Engagement
  - *Frederick County Human Relations Commission*
  - *Frederick County Commission on Disabilities*
  - *Special Olympics Maryland Banner School Team*
- **Richard A. Russo**, Geography
  - Member, *Planning Commission*, City of Frostburg
- **Jennifer Walsh**, Division of Advancement and Regional Engagement
  - Fellow in the Appalachian Regional Commission's inaugural 2019-2020 Appalachian Leadership Institute Class
  - Serve on Comptroller Brooke Lierman's Business Advisory Council
  - Member of the Board of Trustees for the Rural Maryland Foundation. In 2023,
  - Member of the Just Transition Working Group of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change.
  - Member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond's Rural Investment Collaborative Project Development Steering Group & Work Group

## Service Performed (Academic and Professional Organizations)

- **Amanda Bena**, Access Services & Resource Sharing
  - Peer-reviewer, *Journal of Access Services*

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- Member, *USMAI Access Services Committee*
- Member, *Access Services in Libraries Steering Committee*
- Member, *Maryland Interlibrary Loan Group*
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - One of 70-plus signers of a *Society of Professional Journalists* public-service advertisement supporting press freedom that was published in the first issue of "The Retrograde", new independent student newspaper at the University of Texas Dallas, (January 2025)
  - Member, *Investigative Reporters and Editors*
  - Member, *Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association*
- **Dr. Michael Monahan**, Management
  - Chair of Finance Committee, *Divine Mercy Parish*
  - Chair of Finance Committee, *Bishop Walsh School*
- **Dr. Benjamin N. Norris**, Chemistry and Physics
  - *NACADA Assessment Institute Advisory Board*
  - *NACADA Faculty Advising Community Steering Committee*
- **Dr. Elesha L. Ruminski**, Communication and Literature
  - Editorial board member for journal *Qualitative Research Reports in Communication*
- **Donnell H. VanSkiver**, Office of the President
  - Awards Judge, *Admin Awards*, Chicago & Midwest Region
- **Dr. Stacy Wassell**, Division of Advancement and Regional Engagement
  - USM Launch Grant Reviewer

## Service Performed (Community)

- **Amanda Bena**, Access Services & Resource Sharing
  - Prose Editor, *Backbone Mountain Review*
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - Spoke at the Free Speech on Campus community discussion sponsored by the *Strategic Communication program*, (April 2025)
  - Participated in the nationwide Frederick Douglass Day transcription event sponsored by the *Library of Congress*, (February 2025)
  - Election Judge, Allegany County (Maryland) Board of Elections, ongoing. Served as first check-in judge at the Frostburg Community Center on Water Street for the November general election
  - Co-sponsored, with Sydney Duncan, the Palace Theatre's showing of "Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner: The Final Cut*" (1982, 2007), (November 2024)
  - One of 300,000 volunteer research subjects in the "American Cancer Society's Cancer Prevention Study-3" (CPS-3), ongoing
- **Amy Hutcherson**, Department of Advancement and Regional Engagement
  - Member, *Allegany High School Endowment Fund*
  - Troop Leader, *Girl Scout Council Nation's Capital Troop 14104 and 40058*
- **Dr. Elesha L. Ruminski**, Communication and Literature

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- Invited again to facilitate the “Like a Woman: Champion” Allegany County Chamber of Commerce event at the Cumberland Country Club, Cumberland, MD (April 2025)
- Assisted with planning and participated in a virtual Equal Rights Amendment discussion event with members of the Allegany County Women’s Action Coalition featuring a speaker from Maryland National Organization for Women (March 2024)
- **Donnell H. VanSkiver**, Office of the President
  - Steering Committee Member, “Ladies Night Out,” *Allegany County Chamber*
- **Jennifer Walsh**, Division of Advancement and Regional Engagement
  - Serve on Frostburg City’s Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
- **Dr. Greg J. Wood**, History
  - “Judge of Junior Individual Documentaries,” Maryland History Day, *UMBC*, (April 2025)

## Service Performed (University)

- **Amanda Bena**, Access Services & Resource Sharing
  - Treasurer & Secretary, *Faculty Development & Sabbatical/Professional Research Leave Subcommittee*
  - Member, *Critical Gender & Sexuality Studies Steering Committee*
  - Member, *Library Review Committee*
  - Member, *Frostburg Network for Intersectional Feminism*
  - Member, *FSU Ort Library ILS Migration Team*
- **Shoshana Brassfield**, Philosophy
  - Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate
  - Core FSU Team Member, USM Center for Teaching and Learning Matrix Self-Study Project
  - Curriculum Design Lead, General Education Program Review Committee
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - Attended the Leadership and Engagement Awards at the invitation of this year’s Derek Sheely Award recipient, English major Gracie Nelson, whose candidacy I initiated, recommended and mentored, May.
  - Attended the Athletics Burg Awards, May.
  - Attended the March Open House.
  - Attended a Drake Group webinar, “Critical Issues in College Athletics: Reported Increases in College Athlete Suicide and Other Mental Health Risks,” then shared with faculty my notes and a link to the recording, which was shared in turn with top campus and USM administrators by the Vice President for Student Affairs, January.
  - Six students from my ENGL 336 (Journalistic Writing) had their research published in December on the website of Project Censored, a California-based nonprofit that invites students to find current issues largely overlooked by the corporate news cycle, which brings the total number of published reports from my classes through the years to 66.

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- Initiated (in 2023) and lobbied mightily for the Freedom of Speech and Expression Statement of Values that ultimately was added to the Faculty Handbook by Faculty Senate in November.
- Shared with faculty and staff the FY25 Frostburg State salary database compiled from Ort Library materials by students in ENGL 336 (Journalistic Writing), which for the first time included all union employee salaries, September.
- Donated two large bags of to-go plastic utensils and napkins in their original wrappers, all accumulated during lockdown, to PAWS Pantry, August.
- Voting Faculty Assembly member, August.
- Maintained the Canvas shell titled Media Jobs and Opportunities for Students, which I created in January 2022. Total of 26 announcements posted in AY25 to more than 150 self-enrolled students across multiple departments.
- *Library Advisory Group*, elected member.
- Bobcat Athletic Ambassador to women's swimming.
- Coordinator, *Journalism minor*.
- Coordinator, *Public Relations minor*.
- Visiting speaker for Darrell Rushton's "THEA 206" (Modern American Playwrights), (January 2025)
- **Dr. Michael Monahan**, Management
  - Chair, *Management Department*
  - *College Curriculum Committee*
  - *College Executive Committee*
  - *College Strategic Planning Committee*
  - *Faculty Athletic Representative*
  - *Member of University Chairs Council*
- **Dr. Benjamin N. Norris**, Chemistry and Physics
  - *Graduate Council, Chair*
  - *Faculty Handbook Subcommittee, Chair*
  - *Faculty Senate, ex officio Senator*
  - *Faculty Senate Steering Committee, member*
  - Middle States Self Study, steering committee member, liaison for Standard III, writing team member
  - Academic Advising Council, Member
  - *Undergraduate Research Symposium Working Group, member*
  - *Faculty Concerns Committee, ex officio member*
  - *Academic Standards Committee, member*
- **Dr. Elesha L. Ruminski**, Communication and Literature
  - Developed and presented "Civility and Community" module for the ORIE instructor session (August 2024). Led classroom sessions on "Civility and Community" (Larissa Allen Bobcat Academy section, Amy Shimko's section)
  - Co-coordinated meetings and activities of the department's new advisory council and a Homecoming tailgate social (October 2024)
  - Served on the Dean's Recruitment Funding review committee (Fall 2024)

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- Continued serving on an ad-hoc committee about faculty safety for Faculty Senate
- Served as a liaison member of the Women's Studies Steering Committee
- Coordinated and negotiated printing of building directory signage for Gira CCIT with building faculty and staff as well as Facilities and Marketing Communication
- Helped set up a welcome-back step-and-repeat banner experience and communication campaign for students from the department and across campus. (Spring 2025 and Fall 2024)
- Continued to foster curricular/co-curricular partnerships around leadership development with the Student Affairs colleagues
- Supported the #BobcatsAgainstBias and Day of Civility campaigns (Spring 2025)
- Served as a steering committee member for the Allegany County Choose Civility chapter
- Formed new working partnerships with the Allegany Arts Council, Cumberland Historical Society, and Preservation Maryland
- Helped promote participation in the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce's first local Civics Bee
- Continued as a member-owner of the Western Maryland Food Co-op and served on the Allegany County working group of the Western Maryland Food Council
- **Donnell H. VanSkiver**, Office of the President
  - Program Coordinator, *ADAPT Program*
  - Program Coordinator, *ADAPT Community Conference Series*
  - *Parking Appeals Hearing Committee*
  - *Middle States Communications/Logistics Working Group*, Member
  - DEOP Coordinator, Hitchins 2nd Floor

## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

- **Dr. Amy Branam Armiento**, Department of English and Foreign Languages
  - The POEcast, episode 8 with Travis Montgomery, hosted by Caleb Doan, Apple Podcasts, (February 2025)
  - Interviewee for Erin Blakemore's "Murder or Madness: What Really Killed Edgar Allan Poe," National Geographic, (October 2024)
  - Guest Speaker, "Poe before the Show," "Nevermore—The Imaginary Life and Mysterious Death of Edgar Allan Poe," Cumberland Theatre, (October 2024)
- **Andy Duncan**, Department of Communication and Literature
  - On the website for WCBC-FM in Cumberland, October:
    - "FSU Faculty Concerned Over Enrollment Drop": <https://www.wbcbradio.com/archives/archiv/fsu-faculty-concerned-over-enrollment-drop>

## Professional Achievements 2024-2025

- “Faculty Points to Financial Aid ‘Debacle’ as Part of Issues with President”: <https://www.wbcradio.com/archives/archiv/faculty-points-to-financial-aid-debacle-as-part-of-issues-with-president>
- “FSU Faculty Say Issues Have Been Ongoing”: <https://www.wbcradio.com/archives/archiv/fsu-faculty-say-issues-have-been-ongoing>
- “Enrollment loss key to FSU cuts,” Cumberland Times-News, August.
- **Dr. Benjamin N. Norris**, Chemistry and Physics
  - Member, editorial board of the *NACADA Journal*
  - Member, *NACADA Assessment Institute Faculty*
  - *NACADA Excellence in Academic Advising Fellow* for California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt
  - Member, *FSU Foundation Board of Directors*