Dr. Edward G. Boehm, Jr., graduated in 1964, yet over the 55 years that followed, his heart never left Frostburg. “Ned” was a gentle soul, beloved educator and friend to all who spent a lifetime embodying the Bobcat ideal.

Ned was a natural leader as a student and throughout his distinguished career in higher education. And he applied those leadership skills in his support of his alma mater. Ned led the alumni in his class – and every Bobcat – to give back to the institution that shaped them and uplift the students following in their footsteps. He helped create the Class of 1964 Presidential Merit Scholarship and guided the FSU Foundation as a former member of the Board of Directors.

He also remained connected personally, reconnecting at the yearly alumni crab feast.

As a member of Frostburg’s Old Main Society, designated for those who include the FSU Foundation in their estate plans, even the final act of Ned’s life will help his beloved Bobcats.

In recognition of his lifelong impact on Frostburg students, Ned received FSU’s Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award and an Excellence in Leadership Medallion from FSU’s Sloop Institute for Excellence in Leadership.

Ned never forgot the people, places or experiences that made him such a success. Be like Ned.
Dear Bobcat Alums, Parents and Friends,

The one thing that keeps many students from the dream of a college education is simply being able to afford it. As an alum or friend of Frostburg State University, you should take pride in FSU’s commitment to keeping a college education affordable, especially for Maryland residents. This year’s undergraduate resident tuition increase of 1.5 percent is the lowest in the University System of Maryland. Yet many of our students and their families still find the increasing cost of higher education difficult to manage.

I can recall paying off my student loan of $5,000 as I began my college teaching career in the late ’70s. Scholarships helped keep that loan manageable for me. Gallup’s research finds that in today’s world, the “tipping point” for student loans is five times my loan, $25,000. Students with loans under $25,000 think their education was worth it. Those with loans over $25,000 are often not so sure or have negative opinions about the value of their degree. The most recent data for FSU shows that 59 percent of our students take out loans, and the average debt upon graduation is $21,499, below that tipping point.

I offer my thanks to the many of you who have contributed financially through our FSU Foundation to provide scholarship assistance to students in need. One example is the FSU Foundation’s “Unfinished Business” scholarship. These scholarships have been very successful by providing micro-awards to successful juniors and seniors who have unforeseen complications arise and need that small financial help to complete their education.

I ask that you consider designating a contribution to the FSU Foundation to support our scholarship efforts. One of the best ways to ensure the long-term benefit of your contribution is through a named scholarship endowment.

The income earned from named scholarships provides an annual award to deserving students based on criteria you develop in collaboration with the Foundation. Annual contributions may also be directed to a pool of dollars we distribute in the form of need-based and merit-based scholarships to incoming or continuing students who are academically successful.

These students are our society’s future and the future Frostburg State legacy. Please consider furthering the FSU success story through today’s students and tomorrow’s alums. Your commitment to Frostburg State’s students can help make a difference. Go Bobcats!

Cordially,

Ronald Nowacyzk, Ph.D.
President
The FSU Foundation is honored and sincerely appreciative that Mr. Jeffries entrusted part of his legacy to us...

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Finding Friends at the Ends of the World

FSU Receives One of Largest Gifts in School History

BY ROBERT SPAHR ’13

T
to private people, privacy can be in short supply in small towns like Frostburg, where everyone seems to know one another. Anonymity is more easily found a little farther from home.

James A. Jeffries, who passed away on June 6 at the age of 91, somehow managed to maintain that privacy while dividing his time between traveling the world and returning each year to his Frostburg hometown.

With his final earthly act, he surprised everyone.

Jeffries’ friends say he was a brilliant man, an encyclopedic knowledge of world history and current events. Among other noteworthy moments, Kirk remembered Jeffries’ stories of drinking in a Havana bar just before the Cuban Revolution with armed soldiers moving through the streets.

In those two destinations, worlds away from his hometown, Jeffries apparently counted a handful of very close friends. From Davos, he would spend time each year with friends who had lived just over the Alps in Germany. In San Miguel, Jeffries spent five decades returning to the same hotel, which he saw pass down through three generations of one family, all of whom he considered good friends.

The FSU Foundation as the benefactor of the FSU Foundation had otherwise no contact with Jeffries.

With friends in Heidelberg, Germany (at center)

“Sir, you probably shouldn’t go. It’s not safe right now,” Kirk said. “Apparently, there was a lot of kidnapping going on then. But that was literally the only place in the world he never went. When you own clothes for safari and the Arctic, then you’ve probably traveled a lot.”

After Jeffries passed away, Kirk reached out to those people overseas to see if they knew any more about their mysterious common friend. Jeffries’ friends at the ends of the world, apparently knew no more than Frye or Kirk did. But they, in turn, had heard countless stories about Jeffries’ closest friends – two lovely people from Western Maryland he reunited with every time he returned home.

None of his friends, it seems, were ever very far from Jeffries’ heart. With his generous final gift to FSU, it appears that he likewise cared deeply about the many college students just a few blocks from his home of 90 plus years.

With friends in Heidelberg, Germany (at center)
“Embrace the Uncertainty,”
Astronaut Arnold Tells Grads

NASA Astronaut Ricky Arnold ’85 returned to the FSU campus in May, 34 years and 3,314 Earth orbits after his first graduation. While he shared his amazing journey in education and space exploration with middle-school students, brand-new teachers and FSU’s newest alumni, he left with an Honorary Doctor of Science degree.

“NASA has told me that I have been around this planet 3,314 times,” Arnold told the graduates. “I am pleased to confirm that the Earth is round!”

With his light-hearted comment, Arnold was making a serious point about space and the planet. “As you sit forth from this place, remember that opinion isn’t fact, and data does not have an agenda. … The same process, the scientific method, that enabled us to learn how to launch rockets, cure diseases and post selfies on Instagram is the exact same process that tells us how we are changing our world in ways that are frankly hard to fathom,” he said.

Yet, despite his serious concerns about how humans are stewarding the planet, Arnold said he is still an optimist.

“The reason I am an optimist is because of places like this and the principles it has instilled in each of us, this university that chooses to celebrate and honor service to the community,” he said.

5-Year BS in Exercise and Sport Science/MS in Athletic Training First in Maryland

This fall, FSU will begin offering a combined Bachelor of Science in Exercise and Sport Science/Master of Science in Athletic Training, a program that can be completed in just five years.

Beginning in 2002, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) mandates that all athletic training education programs make a transition to a master’s degree to allow its graduates to take the Board of Certification Exam. FSU has been approved to offer the only program of its kind in the state of Maryland, allowing students to meet the CAATE requirement in five years of study. Frostburg is discontinuing its bachelor’s degree in athletic training.

FSU has also created a two-year master’s program for students who already have a related undergraduate degree to transition to the new standards. The combined degree, however, will save new students time and money.

“The combined program in Exercise and Sport Science/MSAT is a dual-degree program where a student starts out as an exercise and sport science major and completes a degree in about three years. Upon graduating, they transition into the athletic training master’s program, which takes an additional two years,” said Dr. Jacqueline Durst ’86, assistant professor of kinesiology. “They are finished in five years, saving both time and money compared to the traditional path.”

Frostburg’s New Physician Assistant Program Welcomes Students

In May, the ribbon was cut at the Agnesi Stone Schreiber Health Science Center, which will house FSU’s new Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant Studies, offered through the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown. Later that month, the program welcomed its first students, the culmination of a six-year process to establish the program.

“Support and enthusiasm for this program came from our campus and community,” said Dr. Beth Smolko, the program’s director. “All of this support has led to today, and the promise of what can happen when so much hard work and good intentions come together.”

“This is a program that’s going to reach out into the community and make a difference in the region’s health care,” said President Nowaczyk. “It was a combination of community, local government, state government and federal government to make this happen.”

The program is thanks to the partnership of Mentor Health System, which has provided the facility for the program; the Appalachian Regional Commission; and local philanthropists who provided funding to assist with the renovation and equipment purchase and create scholarships for local students.

Local donors have contributed more than $1.4 million through the “Building a Legacy and the Promise of What Can Happen When So Much Hard Work and Good Intentions Come Together” campaign to fund renovations, equipment and scholarships.

“The support of our community partners has truly set this program in motion for success because it is built on a foundation of partnership and a mission to develop PAs who want to serve rural and medically underserved communities,” said Smolko, who is president-elect of the American Academy of Physician Assistants.
Bowling Honored With University Medalion, Lifetime Leadership Award

Dr. Thomas Bowling, vice president for Student Affairs, who retired this summer after 43 years at FSU, was honored with the first-ever Lifetime Leadership Medalion for his wisdom, humility, patience, strength and empathy, and for building a culture of care and helping students find their voices and accomplish their goals.

Bowling started at FSU in 1976 as assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs, later becoming vice president. He has been vice president since 2006.

Bowling helped launch the Learning Communities program and advocated to require Introduction to Higher Education for first-year students. Bowling led several key initiatives, including online alcohol education, civic engagement programs, international educational opportunities and StrengthQuest.

“We have been the driving force for many initiatives at this institution, including experiential education, learning communities and things that involve the students here getting involved outside the classroom, which you will find very valuable throughout your career,” Nowacyzk told the assembled graduates.

Rankin Presented With President’s Distinguished Faculty Award

Dr. Jennifer Rankin ’96/M’01, an associate professor of Educational Professions, was presented the President’s Distinguished Faculty Award in May. The award recognizes a faculty member who has provided exceptional service to the University and has helped to advance its mission, goals and priorities.

Rankin is recognized for her extensive outreach efforts: that connect area students to FSU and engage them in active learning.

Rankin organized the first LEGO League Qualifier event at FSU, enabling 20 teams of school-age children and their families to discover the University while demonstrating their robotic skills.

She is collaborating to bring students from seven elementary schools to campus for STEM field trips this summer and to obtain and design a STEM bus that will visit schools and parks, connecting underprivileged children with technology and hands-on activities.

Rankin was also a key to the successful NASA Day in April 2018, in which area middle school students participated in a live downlink with astronaut Ricky Arnold ’85 from the International Space Station. Then this May, she helped arrange for 1,600 middle school students to hear him in person. (See story, page 4.)

Karalewitz Receives President’s Distinguished Staff Award

Bridgette Karalewitz, administrative assistant for Student Support Services, was presented with the President’s Distinguished Staff Award during the May commencement.

This award recognizes a staff member who has provided exceptional service to the University and has helped to advance its mission, goals and priorities.

“Bridgette’s love of public service is woven through all aspects of her life,” said President Nowacyzk.

Karalewitz recognized the growing issue of food insecurity among college students long before it gained national attention.

Partnering with the Student Lions Club, Karalewitz formed a committee of students, faculty and administrators to establish PAWS Pantry, a campus food pantry serving all students.

Involving in every aspect of PAWS Pantry, Karalewitz conducted research on the issue of food inaccessibility on campus and developed the policies and procedures to put the pantry in place. Karalewitz led a workforce to secure a location, gain funding for a part-time AmeriCorps member and collect food items and monetary donations to stock the pantry.

FSU Marketing Club has What it Takes to Compete in Today’s Business World

Competing against universities like Yale and Syracuse, FSU’s Marketing Club proved that they have the ideas and the skills to compete in today’s business world.

The group won First Runner-Up and Crowd Favorite at the One Day Immersion Conference in New York last fall. The conference included a multimedia competition in which students pitched their ideas to a jury of media executives and online viewers.

The team pitched an idea that would serve students like them, a mobile app that would help them find and swap textbooks safely.

“Our idea for the book swap app was about creating a safe hub where you can go in and search by your location to see who might have books that you need. Then you can use an app and just go pick it up at a designated safe place,” said Haley Coleman, Marketing Club president.

“The Marketing Club is open to all students regardless of major. Coleman and McClanahan said to the success.

“We get people from all different majors, so you get all different ideas for things,” said Coleman. Added McClanahan, “I was really proud of the group, everyone putting their minds together, and everybody had a cool little piece of the puzzle.”

Faculty Achievement Award Winners

The recipients of the 2019 Faculty Achievement Awards were honored at the annual Honors Convocation.

This year’s recipients are Andy Duncan, English and Foreign Languages, for academic accomplishment; Dr. Heather Hurst, Educational Professions, for teaching, and Dr. Michael Monahan M’91, Management, for university and community service.

Duncan is a Nebula Award-winning writer whose seventh collection of stories, An Agent of Oblivia, was published in November 2018. This book-length story is also nominated for another Nebula Award. Critics say Duncan’s writing provides exceptional contributions to the discipline, bringing an unmistakable voice, style and perspective to creative writing. He is a three-time leader at the prestigious Carson writing workshop.

Hurst has taught students from undergraduate to doctoral level, creating or redesigning eight courses, four at the doctoral level. In her online teaching, she has focused on maintaining social presence by creating multiple ways for students to interact. Her students praise her teaching, her knowledge of the subject matter and her willingness to mentor them. Hurst is program coordinator for the Educational Leadership Ed.D. program.

Monahan is the long-time chair of the Department of Management and chaired the College of Business dean search committee. Monahan has served as the faculty advisor to the Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) since 2005, taking students each year to compete at SAM’s International Conference.

In the community, Monahan is secretary of the Foundation for Fortsu and co-authored a report on the $15 minimum wage for the Maryland legislature.

“I focus on campus is unifying students and spreading empathy across campus,” Puffinburger said.

Newman Civic Fellow

Senior Jenna Puffinburger has been chosen by Campus Compact as a 2019 Newman Civic Fellow, which acknowledges motivation and potential in leadership. She is the third FSU Civic Fellow in three years.

Puffinburger is an Honors Program business administration major. She is the president of the Student Government Association and a student representative of the Excellence in Academic Advising Steering Committee.

As SGA vice president, Puffinburger led the project that raised more than $5,700 to bring the Bobcat statue to campus. This project brought together students, faculty, staff and alumni, and she hopes that the statue will become a lasting feature on campus.

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Puffinburger Named Newman Civic Fellow

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Go Bobcats!

Dear Fellow Bobcats:

I hope you have enjoyed the summer. The Alumni Association Board and Office of Alumni Relations have been busy since my last communication, holding three board meetings, numerous committee meetings and several alumni and student events. I wanted to share some quick facts with our alumni.

Did you know:

• Number of states where alumni reside: 50 (along with Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico)
• Number of countries where alumni reside: 44
• Number of FSU alumni: 42,855
• Percentage of alumni who are active donors (not counting in-kind donations): 4.7%
• Percentage of alumni participating in an event: 2.01%
• Number of FSU alumni: 44
• Number of states where alumni reside: 50

As you can see, we have some work to do to get more alumni active with their alma mater. Here are just a few ways that we as alumni can help support FSU.

• Be a mentor.
• Share your experience with current and prospective students.
• Make a gift.

Did you know:

• Number of FSU alumni: 42,855
• Number of countries where alumni reside: 44
• Number of states where alumni reside: 50

As a non-traditional graduate student, Boggs did not have a typical on-campus experience. Rather, he says he relates more to current online students who take advantage of the opportunities that Frostburg State offers to reach their goals.

“Who I am is a question that we all ask. Playwright and Frostburg State alumnus Keenan Scott III ’09 chose to take on just that quintessential question from the perspective of today’s black man in his play, Thoughts of a Colored Man, a project born while he was a student at FSU.

A modern-day mix of poetry, music and dance, Thoughts of a Colored Man is about black men from various backgrounds pushing the boundaries of racial and cultural identity to become the best versions of themselves.

“I wanted something poetic and emotional. Eventually, my play became a personification of all these emotions,” said Scott.

Scott’s play is set to debut at Baltimore’s Center Stage this October, but his labor of love has taken years of networking, workshopping and self-production to get there.

“The project started while I was majoring in theatre at FSU. It started as a personal project that I then decided to propose for my senior theatre project,” Scott explained about the origins of his play. “Unlike now, back then, there were very few black contemporary works.”

The play debuted at Frostburg in 2009 as Thoughts of a Colored Man on a Day When the Sun Set Too Early. The work opened with great success, selling out all three nights in roughly two hours. The play was presented at FSU again in 2011 through the sponsorship of the Black Student Alliance.

Once Scott left the Frostburg community, he began networking, attending workshops and festivals to expose his work to audiences and potential producers.

“FSU was integral to this whole process. I was an acting major, not writing or directing,” explains Scott. “The facility gave me the tools, space and support I needed to step outside of acting. Through that opportunity, I could also direct and produce my original work. I wouldn’t be where I am today if they hadn’t given me the support they did during my time at Frostburg.”

For information and tickets for Thoughts of a Colored Man, visit www.centerstage.org.

Scott attributes his current success in part to his Frostburg State roots.

“FSU ’was integral to this whole process. I was an acting major, not writing or directing,” explains Scott. “The faculty gave me the tools, space and support I needed to step outside of acting. Through that opportunity, I could also direct and produce my original work. I wouldn’t be where I am today if they hadn’t given me the support they did during my time at Frostburg.”

From left, President Nowaczyk, Larry Boggs M’80 and College of Business Dean Sudhir Singh

Larry Boggs M’80, a nationally recognized financial advisor, was named the College of Business 2019 Alumnus of the Year. At the same reception, he received the Service to Alma Mater Award from the Alumni Association.

A member of the master’s in management class of 1980, Boggs has more than 45 years of experience in the financial services industry. He is the managing director and investment officer with Wells Fargo Advisors.

But as Boggs reminded students at the reception, “Make sure you give back to your college.” And Boggs does just that. Away from the office, Boggs serves in a variety of roles serving close to home and across the state of Maryland.

He is the chair of the Investment Committee for the Endowment Fund and the Operating Fund for the University System of Maryland Foundation Board and a member of the Western Maryland Health Systems Foundation Board. He was honored in 2018 with the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Community Service award. Boggs is also the treasurer of The League, which supports special needs children, and he is greatly involved in the arts community in support of a grandparent who has autism.

As a non-traditional graduate student, Boggs did not have a typical on-campus experience. Rather, he says he relates more to current online students who take advantage of the opportunities that Frostburg State offers to reach their goals.

“When I came to Cumberland, I just opened an office, was married and had a new baby. I took one to two courses a semester,” Boggs said. “Frostburg State was a vehicle to accomplishing my goal, to getting my master’s degree, men with everything that was going on in my life.”

Recently, he was named one of the Best-In-State Advisors by Forbes Magazine in 2018 and Financial Times’ Top 400 Advisors in the U.S. in 2016 and 2017. Boggs was named Ramon’s Top 100 Bankers in the U.S. in 2006 and 2006 and has been one of Barron’s Best-In-State Advisors every year from 2007 to the present.

Sincerely,

Alumni Board.
Orioles Outing
Bobcats of all ages gathered at Oriole Park at Camden Yards for a pregame spread of ballpark food and suite seats to watch the O’s in action.

Faculty & Staff Alumni Mixer
In May, the Alumni Association hosted a mixer for alumni who are also FSU faculty or staff members, celebrating their pride in their work for their alma mater.

Wisp Family Snow Tubing
The Wisp Resort at Deep Creek Lake was the center of snow-tubing fun for some Bobcats (and future Bobcats) in March. After hitting the slopes, they warmed up in the lodge with a pizza party. Pictured in the back row, from left, are Dabney Sheetz, Shane Sheetz ‘01, Hillary Renner ‘10, Lucy Dickel ‘06, Nathan Sheetz, Connor Sheetz, Addison Durst, Deborah Devlin ‘12/M’16, Bill Devlin, Brock Durst and Dr. Jackie Durst ‘06. In the front row, from left, are Cash VanSickle, Jason VanSickle ‘98 and Karla Schoenly ‘99/M’01.

CLC Alumni Mixer
Before the annual Spring Festival of Children’s Literature, the Children’s Literature Center’s signature event, kicked off in April, the Alumni Association hosted a mixer for all Bobcats attending the weekend. It’s always great to mingle with our professional education alumni!

Annapolis Alumni and Legislative Reception
In February, alumni and campus representatives mingled with members of the Maryland General Assembly to celebrate the accomplishments of FSU. Pictured, from left, are Mary Clapsaddle ‘83, Chad Clapsaddle and Del. Tony Bridges ‘00.

COB Network@Nite
The College of Business hosted a group of alumni for the College of Business Network@Nite event in April, where they participated in a panel discussion and networked with students, offering advice and covering a range of topics, including career and personal accomplishments.

Sloop Institute for Excellence in Leadership
Annually the Sloop Institute of Excellence allows the opportunity for alumni to come back to campus and share their professional experiences and lessons with students.

Keynote speaker Wayne Scott ’89 was tremendous with his advice to students on the importance of emotional intelligence.

This year’s speakers included, from left, Dr. Ryan Krentz ’04/M’07, Col. Barry Holder ’94, Mary Bruce Hall ‘93/M’01, and Phil Hubbard ‘92/M’01.
The third annual Alumni Awards Banquet honored those with a passion and commitment to FSU.

**HONORARY ALUMNI**

These designations recognize special friends to the University who have made consistent and noteworthy contributions to the advancement of FSU through their time, talents and treasures.

**Wray Blair**, associate vice president for Enrollment Management, was honored for his enthusiastic support of FSU and his promotion of initiatives that support students and alumni. Many alumni attribute their initial engagement, encouragement and commitment to FSU to an early interaction with him.

**Lynn Fike**, a 22-year FSU Foundation Board of Directors member, was honored for her extensive contributions to the advancement of FSU through her philanthropic commitment to their alma mater.

**Jim Richardson ’66**, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who served in Vietnam, earned a law degree upon his return and served as a judge-advocate of Marines and a military judge. Following a 41-year career in federal service, the much-decorated Richardson was awarded the Secretary of Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Medal. He is an advocate for veterans, including FSU’s student veterans. He helped establish a scholarship in honor of his class.

**Dr. Larry Smith ’89/M’96** was a first-generation college student who now inspires numerous high school students to pursue and complete college. Among his honors are a Teacher of the Year designation, a Maryland State Board of Education commendation and a gubernatorial citation for leadership and teaching excellence.

**Blair Bedford ’11**, a program planning associate with National Geographic Channels, is a member of the Alumni Association’s Board and former co-chair of the Student Outreach Committee. She is a devoted community volunteer and established a fund to support experiential learning for Mass Communication students.

**John Denneyme ’95**, a Peace Corps volunteer, is a three-time Emmy Award-winner for his work filming high-profile sporting events, including the 2016 Rio Olympics and the 2017 Super Bowl. Denneyme makes time to speak with Mass Communication students at Homecoming and over Skype.

**Coty Warn Forno ’06**, co-owner of Mountain City Center for the Arts, a business that has grown to more than 300 students, helping young minds explore their creativity. She was named one of Maryland Daily Record’s Leading Women and awarded the Freddie G. Fellowship.

Bobcats Lend Helping Hands Across Maryland

On May 4, Bobcats lent their hands to a series of charitable projects as part of the second annual Bobcat Helping Hands at three sites in Maryland. (A fourth project, with Katie Kaes in Baltimore, was cancelled because of inclement weather.)

**Coty Warn Forno ’06 and Blair Bedford ’11, John Denneyme ’95**

**Brooke Kirchner, FSU alumni relations and events specialist, was honored for her efforts to increase the Alumni Association’s social media presence, organize the Student Alumni Ambassadors and engage alumni first and foremost. She works tirelessly to build the alumni community**.

**Service to Alma Mater**

This award is presented to those who show exceptional contributions to assisting, advancing and promoting FSU, consistent involvement, demonstrated success in encouraging others to take an active role, selfless commitment of time and talent augmented by a willingness to enhance FSU’s financial welfare, and attainment of achievements, awards, honors and distinctions.

**Ryan Graves ’05**, Watkins Mill High School assistant principal, advocates for FSU in his role as an educator and administrator. A member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity and the Alumni Association Board, Graves encourages alumni to stay engaged. He advocates for FSU on social media and in fundraising to expand the student experience.

**Shannon Gribble ’98**, director of FSU Alumni and Donor Relations, is a tireless force for her alma mater. She uses her student experience to mold her approach to alumni relations, and is always seeking ways to better serve the alumni community. As the monthly Facebook chats to update the alumni network, bringing Foxburg alumni together is clearly her passion.

**Paul Reutershan**, a senior sales executive with Popdemon Products, created Fifty Shades of Frostburg, a private Facebook group that has attracted thousands of alumni. Reutershan created a space that fosters engagement, encouraging alumni to stay connected to each other and to FSU, and generating financial support for FSU and local Frostburg organizations.

**Young Alumni Achievement Award**

This award recognizes emerging leaders under age 40 who have used their FSU experience to make significant impacts in their professions, communities, service organizations and professional associations.

**Paul Reutershan, Shannon Gribble ’98 and Ryan Graves ’05.**

**Coty Warn Forno ’06 and Blair Bedford ’11, John Denneyme ’95**

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By offering their time and talent, hundreds of alumni joined their classmate Kick Masters ’14 and “had fun while giving back to FSU.”

In Annapolis, alumni and some future Bobcats helped raise money with Shorty’s family restaurant for its annual 5K to support the Capital Region community. Attendees included Alexander Rumsby ’14, Jesse Wimmer ’13 and Jeremy Wilkes ’14.

In Cambridge, Bobcats volunteered at a rest stop during a charity race, where they even met up with some Bobcats participating in the race. Pictured, from left, are Ellen Engle ’17/M’18, Kirk Engle ’90, William Wygal ’16, Amy Engle ’10, Chloe Cantor, Jacob Stephens ’17 and Robert Carpenter ’82.

In Annapolis, alumni and some future Bobcats helped organize and benefit the Mary K. Parker SPCA Annual Shelter.
Carrying on the Legacy of a Globetrotting Trailblazer

BY ROBERT SPAHR ’13

S tudy abroad offers students an eye-opening, immersive exposure to another culture. Yet for many, it is an opportunity priced beyond reach. At Frostburg, study abroad just got a little more affordable, thanks to the memory of a beloved student affairs administrator who grew up yearning to see the world.

Frostburg’s Dr. Alice R. Manicur Study Abroad Scholarship is open to any study abroad student, favoring those whose finances might otherwise prevent them from studying abroad. The award was created by friends, colleagues and former students of the school’s very first dean of students, recognizing her passion for world travel and cultural exploration. “Alice changed my life, and I want the same thing for the kids,” said Gladys Faherty ’55, a longtime friend who went on 15 trips with Manicur starting in the mid-1990s. “When you travel, you learn that the world goes on with or without us, and you learn to appreciate things that are different.”

Manicur’s frequent travels took her to Antarctica, the North Pole and destinations in between, fulfilling a childhood dream. Born into an impoverished coal-mining family in West Virginia’s southernmost county, Manicur developed a thirst for exploration from the days of National Geographic. “She had met a family that was traveling, and they asked her to travel with them. That was her first opportunity,” Faherty said. “I believe she said they went to Japan. She met the right people who gave her that opportunity, and then as soon as she could, she used her own money to continue exploring!”

For Victoria Gearhart ’12/M’15, director of FSU’s Center for International Education, a heartbreaker part of her job is when finances keep students from studying abroad. “I love my job, but it’s so hard to have a student sitting across from me saying, ‘Victoria, I don’t think I’m going to be able to make it work. I’m going to have to withdraw my application.’ And I have a whole file cabinet of students who had to withdraw due to financial reasons,” Gearhart said. “Awards like the Manicur Scholarship literally open up the world for students – what an incredible gift!”

“She might be mad at us for calling the scholarship the Alice Manicur Study Abroad Scholarship,” Faherty said about her friend who did not like the spotlight. “But I think she’d be very happy with the fact that it’s going to help kids go.”

Once Manicur got a taste of travel, exploring the world became her passion. She often ventured off the beaten path. Faherty wasn’t always comfortable with where Manicur’s travel plans would lead, but she had faith in her friend and tagged along, resulting in some remarkable experiences.

Their first trip together, in 1997, took them to Johannesburg, South Africa, just three years after the fall of apartheid. Over the next two decades, their travels took them to Vietnam and Cambodia, Norway, Panama, Costa Rica, Aruba, Tunisia, China and Eastern Europe just after Sept. 11, 2001. No matter where they went, Manicur never shied from striking up a conversation. “Alice was a very curious person, talking with everyone that she met, and she was a joy to travel with because of that,” Faherty said.

That intellectual curiosity, her global experiences and her humble origins imbued her with the empathy and perspective needed to serve the students of Frostburg for 47 years. Especially for the first-generation college students from similarly humble beginnings, Faherty said, Manicur showed young people how to find success in the world. Now those close to her have found a way to open up the world for future generations of students.

To make a gift in support of the Alice R. Manicur Study Abroad Scholarship, visit www.fsufoundation.edu/Manicur or call 301.687.4006.
Pictures might be worth a thousand words, but photographers choose those images to tell specific stories. Many of the most iconic pictures of Appalachian life were taken long ago by photographers chronicling American poverty. Their work forged America’s lasting image of Appalachia’s coal towns: exploited miners breaking their backs to eke out a living, disheveled children left to play in the dirt.

“We have photographs of Appalachia that are usually designed to exploit a narrative of poverty. They are looking for indigent people in scenes and not so much what a regular person would have in their house,” said Flood.

Flood and his students are re-examining that version of everyday Appalachian life through the Kempton Historical Archaeology Project (KHAP), which began in Flood’s Surveying and Field Techniques class.

“I thought we’d excavate and see what kinds of goods they actually had in their houses, and let their material culture tell the story of their domestic life to give voice to a group of people who were definitely overlooked by history,” said Flood.

Kempton was built as a coal company town in 1913 at the southwestern-most corner of Garrett County, Maryland, bordering West Virginia. It grew to nearly 900 people in the 1930s, the mine operator calling Kempton its “model company town.” When the mine closed unexpectedly in 1950, Kempton’s residents moved on. Today, just a handful of households remain.

The remnants of the miners’ homes in Kempton are mostly now overgrown, leaving a site ideal for archaeological exploration. Flood and his students are re-examining that version of everyday Appalachian life through the Kempton Historical Archaeology Project (KHAP), which began in Flood’s Surveying and Field Techniques class.

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The U.S. Farm Security Administration took photos of Kempton from 1939, in many cases seeking out scenes of poverty, at left, along with everyday scenes like the post office photo above. Photo credit: Library of Congress.

The U.S. Farm Security Administration took photos of Kempton from 1939, in many cases seeking out scenes of poverty, at left, along with everyday scenes like the post office photo above. Photo credit: Library of Congress.
Listening to the Past

Imagined things would be starker than they were,” Flood said. “One of the first things we found on the surface was a gas-powered washing machine mount – a luxury item. We didn’t find a washboard that somebody would be slaving over. A lot of the material we recovered in the house is sort of painting in that (more prosperous) direction.”

Some discoveries were toys, like a child’s horse and rider, chess pieces or a Japanese-made spinning top. Others pointed to pride in appearance, like a shoe polish tin, the Shank from a high-heeled shoe, a lapel pin, shards of pottery and finely made buttons.

Digging into the past resonated with Flood’s students.

“The experience of unearthing artifacts of someone’s life was indescribable,” Brown said. “The first thing I discovered was a rusty nail. While that seems so little now, it was exhilarating to have found something. It made me realize I had the ability to tell the story of the residents with these discoveries.”

This spring, Brown returned to Kempton to interview current residents, assembling their recollections and passed-down memories about the roles of women in daily life during the mine’s heyday. She will eventually combine those interviews with the uncovered artifacts through the items they’d left behind.

“Working on this project helped me discover that this is what I want to do with my life,” said Brown. “This opportunity means that I now have tangible experience in archaeology, which will help me get into my future career.”

Flood highlighted the importance for Appalachian people to reclaim their own stories, rather than believing those historical depictions of their culture that largely came from outsiders visiting Appalachia.

“Maybe we need to be careful of believing the story when the source hasn’t taken into consideration what people’s lives actually look like…. There was a lot more to the story,” said Flood. “To think of yourself as less-than or impoverished is something Appalachia has had to grapple with for a long time. This seems like a good way to rewrite that narrative through what was left behind.”

For Shealee Brown, a senior geography major there was something special about connecting with the people who’d lived there through the items they’d left behind.

“Archaeology is not a science of ‘I want to find this,’ and then you discover it. You just have to present what you find. What we’re finding is painting a different story than has been painted for these people,” said Flood. “That’s pretty neat.”

Flood’s students found the experience pretty neat, too.

“I had never been exposed to archaeology before Dr. Flood’s class,” Walden said. “I had a great time volunteering on the Kempton project and definitely gained some knowledge in archaeology that could be used on my resume.”

For Brown, the experience convinced her to explore a career in archaeology.

“Working on this project helped me discover that this is what I want to do with my life,” said Brown. “This opportunity means that I now have tangible experience in archaeology, which will help me get into my future career.”

Flood hopes to establish a museum in Kempton to house the artifacts found on site and tell the story of the townpeople. He also hopes to raise awareness of an ongoing environmental hazard in Kempton – the problem that first brought Kempton to Flood’s attention – acid mine drainage (see related story).

The project’s volunteers hope to work, in addition to telling a more complete story of Appalachian coal town life, will also educate people about the aquatic health of the Potomac River and move them to act and advocate to mitigate acid mine drainage in the North Branch.

To learn more about both projects, visit www.Kemptonarchaeology.com.
The Long Dark Shadow of Coal: Acid Mine Drainage in Kempton

“... For us, you have this plume of trace metals that by themselves might not make you so upset, but if you spend a lifetime drinking a little bit of arsenic every day, that could end up being a pretty big deal.”

— Dr. Jonathan Flood

BY ROBERT SPAHR ’13

L ike many American coal towns, Kempton boomed and busted decades before the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 began regulating active and abandoned coal mines to protect the environment.

One ridge north of the Kempton excavation, the town’s long-abandoned reason for existing still shapes the ecological health of Laurel Run, a tributary of the North Branch of the Potomac River. Every year, an equipment borehole and an air shaft from the mine discharge to Laurel Run, a tributary of the North Branch of the Potomac.

The borehole constantly flows at a pretty regular rate because of the diameter of the orifice,” said Dr. Jonathan Flood. “The larger orifice is the airshaft. It’s one of the first things you see and what Maryland’s Department of the Environment is actively treating. That flow fluctuates seasonally. Right now its discharge is really high because we’ve had a rainy year. Every time we’ve gone out, the pH is between 3.1 and 3.3.” The pH of pure water is seven.

“... The incredibly low pH dissolves the precipitate remnants of acid mine drainage, leaving behind sludgy deposits that stain the streambeds and banks, leaving traces of more hazardous metals that by themselves might not make you so upset, but if you spend a lifetime drinking a little bit of arsenic every day, that could end up being a pretty big deal.”

“... The mine complex itself is really under West Virginia, but the drain is visible. There is really under West Virginia, but the drain is visible. Though the polluted waters won’t hurt people instantly, they aren’t healthy. For us, you have this plume of trace metals that by themselves might not make you so upset,” said Flood. “But if you spend a lifetime drinking a little bit of arsenic every day, that could end up being a pretty big deal!”

Complicating matters, although Kempton’s acid mine drainage coat this wetland. “For an interstate problem, you can see Maryland is getting the short end of the stick.” Flood said. “The mine complex itself is really under West Virginia, but the drain is visible. Though the polluted waters won’t hurt people instantly, they aren’t healthy. For us, you have this plume of trace metals that by themselves might not make you so upset,” said Flood. “But if you spend a lifetime drinking a little bit of arsenic every day, that could end up being a pretty big deal!”

For an interstate problem, you can see Maryland is getting the short end of the stick.” Flood said. “The mine complex itself is really under West Virginia, but the drain is visible. Though the polluted waters won’t hurt people instantly, they aren’t healthy. For us, you have this plume of trace metals that by themselves might not make you so upset,” said Flood. “But if you spend a lifetime drinking a little bit of arsenic every day, that could end up being a pretty big deal!”

In addition to the project’s educational benefits, Flood hopes the increased visibility of the problem will inspire a call to action among citizens, business and government to address the environmental damage in Laurel Run and the North Branch of the Potomac.

“There’s certainly a distance decay. If it’s nice to be able to say that people down at the lower reaches of the Potomac notice the impact of the Laurel Run discharge directly, but no.” said Flood. “But they are getting an indirect effect. The healthier the streams are up here, the better the water coming from upstream, the better their water is going to be there.”
Students Have a Hand in Designing and Building Theatrical Puppets

BY SHERRY WHITE

When we think puppets, different images come to mind. From Sesame Street to Broadway’s The Lion King and Avenue Q, puppets still make an impression in today’s high-tech world.

Theatre 407 is a special topics class designed to teach various production techniques. This spring, the technique was puppetry.

“Although I’m a theatre major here at FSU, acting is not my expertise. I prefer to work behind the scenes on the technical side and stay out of the spotlight,” said Grace Easterday, a student in the special topics class. “Puppetry allows for a nice middle ground for the two sides to meet. The puppet takes the audience’s attention away from the individual playing the character and becomes its own entity.”

The class appealed to students from various majors and incorporated an interdisciplinary approach. Students not only designed and built their puppets but were also responsible for writing scripts.

“The students were divided into two groups. English majors helped with scripts, theatre majors helped with performances, so collaboration was a large part of the class,” said Gordon Dugas, ‘01, production manager and technical director for the Department of Theatre and Dance and co-teacher of the class.

In addition to the interdisciplinary nature of the coursework, faculty and staff from several departments played roles in this production. An idea for years in the Theatre Department, all the parts came together to make the class possible.

“There were so many people working to bring this together. The Theatre Department considered this class for years,” said Dr. Gerald Snelson ’65, professor of English. “I’ve had a lifelong interest in puppets, but I couldn’t have done this without Gordon, Nicole (Mattis), Mairey (Yost-Rushton) and Darrell (Rushhton).”

While many may think of puppets as a rather old-fashioned form of theatre, Hollywood is full of unlikely characters, often causing audiences to wonder if they are costumed actors or computer animations when, in fact, they are puppets.

“Look at Disney and such with animatronics, in parks and on the screen – they’re puppets essentially,” said Dugas. “In the movies, where they use digital characters, they have to build a puppet first, so they can model it, even if you never see it on screen.”

The final performance was a private show on the last day of class.

“I’m really proud of what we did here,” said Snelson. “We had good kids and with good kids you can do great things!”

BY ROBERT SPARR ’13

Demystifying Paint Color With the Tap of an App

BY XUNYU PAN

Paint Code Identification Using Mobile Color Detector, based on an app that Tripp developed in Pan’s Multimedia and Internet Communications course.

Pan, an associate professor of computer science and information technology at FSU, presented that research in San Francisco at the Society for Imaging Science and Technology’s 2019 International Symposium on Electronic Imaging Science and Technology. The paper described the development of an application that identifies automobiles’ paint codes through the mobile device’s camera.

Representatives from one of the biggest names in tech quickly realized the app’s potential to help with an even more complex challenge: autonomous driving.

“Color is a very important factor for vehicle detection with autonomous driving,” said Pan. “This could be one feature feeding their neural network for machine learning to help detect vehicles. That actually has a lot of potential!”

Tripp first envisioned a mobile app that would look at painted surfaces and return product information about the paint. Given their limited time and nearly limitless number of color codes, users can visually confirm the source of light. With Pan’s guidance, Tripp developed a method to detect color codes even under varying lighting conditions.

The users enter a vehicle’s year, make and model, which lists the available color codes. They then take a picture of their vehicle and tap the screen to tell the app which color to match. The app samples the image, converts it to hexadecimal color strings and averages the color data from the selected region, producing an estimated color. It ranks that estimate against the possible paint codes, listing them in order of closest match. Users can visually confirm the match’s accuracy.

The project was a serious learning experience for Tripp, who encouraged other students to seek out opportunities to put their classroom lessons to work in practical ways.

“Their research and design experience has already helped him land a software engineering position with a major retailer. ““This is certainly a project I highlighted on my resume,” Tripp said. “Companies that I talked to were very interested in it because it tackles a problem that requires some innovative thinking and research, and it actually has a meaningful impact.”

Pan said that feedback on the paper will help future students refine and improve the project, providing more learning experiences as Tripp’s successors further automate the app, expand its paint code database into the cloud and add paint codes from other industries.

“This entire process helps students learn how we do research, where we start, how we improve, turn in research and present it to the outside world,” said Pan. “This, I think, is a very good experiential learning process for students, and Johnathan is an excellent example!”

Pan and Tripp’s project was supported in part by an FSU Foundation Opportunity Grant, which supports innovative and unique student, faculty and staff projects.

Johnathan Tripp ’18/M’19 and Dr. Xunyu Pan test out the app (shown at right).
Nunley will build the program from the ground up. “We are extremely excited to be part of the sport of Acrobatics & Tumbling,” said Director of Athletics, Troy Dell. “Katie is no stranger to this movement, having been a member of the inaugural team at Alderson Dell. In June, the NCAA Committee on Women’s Athletics announced that they are recommending that acrobatics & tumbling be added to the NCAA Emerging Sport for Women Program.”

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Madison, Idaho, Indiana (Pa.) and New Mexico Highlands. Smith coached for eight seasons at Villanova (including the FCS National most dominant era of FSU football history until last year. years as a Bobcat defensive back during the storied years of 1990 to 1993 – the Smith’s coaching career began in Frostburg as a student assistant following four staff after 20 years as a college football coach.

Brush With Greatness: Meeting Jesse Owens

BY LIZ DOUGLAS MEDCALF M’17

I t’s not often you get to meet a legend. But for Charlie Butler ’81 and other members of the track team, it happened the day they met Jesse Owens, the African American hero of the 1936 Berlin Olympics whose mousty – plus four gold medals and three world records – named Adolph Hitler’s plan to use the games to showcase what he deemed the Aryan “master race.” On Feb. 20, 1979, some 43 years after that triumph, Owens came to Frostburg State as part of a Black History Month presentation. Butler said Owens spoke about his Olympic experience, but he also had some motivational words to share.

Owens came to Frostburg State as part of a Black History Month presentation. Butler said Owens spoke about his Olympic experience, but he also had some motivational words to share.

Following his presentation, Owens stayed to speak to individuals and sign autographs. Butler brought along a relay baton, one of his coach, Bob Lewis, had given him to carry everywhere, a technique Lewis used to make runners comfortable with handling batons.

“I told him I was on the track team and asked him to sign my baton. Which he did, with “Jesse Owens,” and the ’36 Olympics under it. Which was just fabulous, because I was a track person,” Butler said. “So having him put ’36 Olympics on it made it even that much more special.”

The next day, Owens visited with members of the track team for more than an hour, where he chatted and offered advice to help them achieve athletic success. “I love Coach Bob Lewis, but that doesn’t compare,” Butler said with a laugh. “Jesse Owens telling you things like that, it was like: Oh, yes, OK, I’ll follow that!”

One piece of advice that stuck with Butler was the importance of being relaxed while running, being in control and aware of form, lessons he had heard from other coaches, but hearing it from Owens drove the point home even more.

Butler now works for Montgomery County recreation in therapeutic recreation and inclusion services, helping create accommodations for persons of all ages with a wide range of disabilities, as well as organizing specific programs and camps.

After keeping the baton around his house for the past 40 years, Butler wanted to donate it to the University. The day he delivered it to Ort Library’s Special Collections, he also met with students from a kinesiology class and a recreation class, hoping to offer some useful advice just as Owens did.

“Know what you really want to do, or at least explore that while you’re here,” Butler told them. “Once you make your mind up, really try to put yourself into thinking about your career, about the kind of things that will help you to move along. Take advantage of meeting people in your field. This is the time to start reaching out and getting that experience.”

Bobcat Named Offensive Coordinator of Bryant University Bulldogs

Bryant University has named Darnace G. Smith ‘95 offensive coordinator and wide receivers coach for Bulldogs Football. Smith joins the school’s NCAA Division I Football Championship Series coaching staff after 20 years as a college football coach.

Smith’s coaching career began in Frostburg as a student assistant following four years as a Bobcat defensive back during the storied years of 1990 to 1993 – the most dominant era of FSU football history until last year.

Smith moved to Bryant from ULM-Atlanta, where he spent four years as running backs coach and then offensive recruiting coordinator. Prior to ULM, Smith coached for eight seasons at Villanova (including the FCS National Championship-winning 2009 team) after coaching stops at Hofstra University, James Madison, Idaho, Indiana (Pa.) and New Mexico Highlands.

Copenhagen Towers Sign All-American Sewell

The Copenhagen Towers, the Danish defending champions in American-style football, have signed a Bobcat, All-American defensive end William Sewell.

Sewell played four seasons at Frostburg, where he was a 2015 NCAA Division II All-American twice and led the team in tackles, sacks for loss and sacks for three straight years. Over his four-year career with the Bobcats, Sewell recorded 235 tackles, 56.5 tackles for loss and 24 sacks.

Sewell’s defensive coordinator, Victor Anderson, spent a season coaching at Frostburg in 2014. “I remember Will being extremely dedicated and coachable, and so I’ve been trying to get him to the Towers ever since,” Anderson said. “I remember him best for his amazing personality and hard work.”

The Towers will rely on Sewell’s versatility. He has played tight end and has a pedigree to go along with it. His cousin is Washington Redskins tight end Vernon Davis, and they spent summers together working out.

Tennis Center Court Dedicated in Memory of Coach Athey

Family and friends of the late tennis coach Lonnie Athey dedicated the Center Court of FSU’s newly refurbished tennis facility in his memory. From left are his mother, Dixie Athey, sister Lee Ann Yanchenski, ’87, friend and former student-athlete Chip Carr, ’93, widow Paula Athey, ’86/M’97, son-in-law Brandon Harr and daughters Katie Athey Harr and Natalie Athey.

Friends, family and former players of the late FSU tennis coach Lonnie D. Athey gathered on April 6 between matches to dedicate the Center Court of the newly refurbished tennis facility in his honor.

Athey, who passed away in 2006, coached the FSU men’s team from 1989 to 2001 and the women’s team from 1997 to 2001. The men’s team had a 122-55 record during Athey’s tenure, including an undefeated season in 2001. He was named Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference Coach of the Year in 2000 and 2001.

“The really special coaches are the ones that do a lot more than coach, and that was Lonnie,” said Chip Carr ’93, a member of Athey’s team whom generously made the dedication possible. “Outside of our families, three coaches that we have in college are our first glimpse into what it means to be a leader. … The best of them really lead in life.”

Carr, Athey’s widow, Paula Athey, ’86/M’97, and other members of the Athey family cut the ribbon and smeared the sign marking the courts.

“He was more dedicated as a coach, but it extended beyond the coaching hours. He was always available,” Carr said of his mentor. “He was always keeping up with us and making sure we were taking care of ourselves.”

Athey’s wife and daughters emphasized how much he cared for his players, caring for their development as an individual as well as an athlete. The relationships that he built continued for many years, they said.

“He made every player a part of our family,” Paula Athey said. “He wasn’t just a good coach. He was a great husband, great father, great son, brother and friend.”

Carr said that patience was the key quality he learned from Athey, who worked to make sure his players would slow down so they could take in what was going on in a match. “It applies to life as well. You have to take time to understand what’s going on around you,” Carr said.

“Having him in our lives made us all better. … The world’s a better place because of Lonnie Athey,” Carr said.

Athletic Team Reunions

1. Football Golf Outing & Reunion
The 12th Annual Football Golf Outing and Reunion took place at Rocky Gap Casino & Resort in June. This year’s event featured record attendance of alumni and friends of the football program.

2. Swimming & Diving Alumni Meet
Coach Bryan Christiansen hosted swimming and diving alumni for a competitive meet and reception in April.

3. Field Hockey Alumni Game
In April, 11 former Bobcat Bobcats came back to campus to take part in the annual alumni game and reception.
RSVP Deadline: September 25

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3**

9:00 a.m. – Noon, Campuswide
Career Expo – “Challenge”
For more information, contact Dr. Robbie Cordle or Donna Svoit, Career and Professional Development Center, at 301.687.4403.

9:00 a.m. – Noon, Registration – Rocky Gap Casino & Golf Resort
Shooting Sport

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – 6th Floor, LUC
Women’s Basketball Alumni Game

6:00 p.m., Auxiliary Gym, Cordts PE Center
Volleyball Match
Bobcats vs. West Liberty Hilltoppers

9:00 p.m. – Noon, MLC, 1st Floor, Gira Center
Alumni Welcome Center
Renewments, games and activities for kids! Update your contact information, leave a note for fellow alumni and register to win prizes.
We will also be in the tailgating lot with giveaways, taking pictures and more!

10:00 a.m. – Noon, ARMAH, LUC
Jim Anderson Memorial Baseball Brunch
Cost: $20/adult, $10/children 12 and under.
Co-sponsored by the Frostburg Baseball Alumni Association
RSVP Deadline: September 25

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5**

9:00 a.m., Men’s Soccer Locker Room, 1st Floor, Cordts PE Center
Locker Room Dedication
In memory of Coach Ken Babcock (1946-1965) and in recognition of Russ ’68 and Penny Younkers.

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Lobby, LUC
Alumni Welcome Center
Refreshments, games and activities for kids! Update your contact information, leave a note for fellow alumni and register to win prizes.
We will also be in the tailgating lot with giveaways, taking pictures and more!

10:00 a.m. – Noon, ARMAH, LUC
Jim Anderson Baseball Brunch
Cost: $20/adult, $12/children 12 and under.
Co-sponsored by the Frostburg Baseball Alumni Association
RSVP Deadline: September 25

6:00 p.m., Auxiliary Gym, Cordts PE Center
Volleyball Match
Bobcats vs. West Liberty Hilltoppers

7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Roper Gallery, Fine Arts Building Photography by Geoff Delaney
Delaney is a visual artist whose work includes photography and video installations.

10:00 a.m., MLC, 1st Floor, Gira Center
Sky Tour and “From Earth to the Universe”
This show features a tour of the night sky followed by the 35-minute full-dome movie.

10:30 a.m., Stadium Lot
Tailgating
Cost: $50/space
Parking on a first-come, first-served basis.
For a complete list of rules and regulations, visit www.frostburg.edu/homecoming.

7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Roper Gallery, Fine Arts Building
Photography by Geoff Delaney
Delaney is a visual artist whose work includes photography and video installations.

2:00 p.m., Auxiliary Gym, Cordts PE Center
Volleyball Match
Bobcats vs. Wheeling Jesuit University Cardinals

2:00 p.m., MLC, 1st Floor, Gira Center
Sky Tour and “Solar Superstorms”
This show features a tour of the night sky followed by the 35-minute full-dome movie.

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., ARMAH, LUC
All-Alumni Reunion
Are you part of an alumni group that wants a place to gather during Homecoming? If so, this is the event for you! Groups such as SGA, the Accounting Association, and others have already reserved their tables – contact us at alumni@frostburg.edu to reserve a space today! We will also have areas for class years ending in 4 and 9 – make plans to join us!
Cost: $15/person. DJ, food and CASH BAR provided. Advance ticket purchase is encouraged.

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., ARMAH, LUC
Sky Tour and “From Earth to the Universe”
This show features a tour of the night sky followed by the 35-minute full-dome movie.

6:00 p.m., Auxiliary Gym, Cordts PE Center
Volleyball Match
Bobcats vs. Lake Superior State University Lumberjacks

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4**

9:00 a.m., Men’s Soccer Locker Room, 1st Floor, Cordts PE Center
Locker Room Dedication
In memory of Coach Ken Babcock (1946-1965) and in recognition of Russ ’68 and Penny Younkers.

10:00 a.m., Men’s Soccer Locker Room, 1st Floor, Cordts PE Center
Locker Room Dedication
In memory of Coach Ken Babcock (1946-1965) and in recognition of Russ ’68 and Penny Younkers.

10:00 a.m., Auxiliary Gym, Cordts PE Center
Volleyball Match
Bobcats vs. Urbana University Blue Knights
Join us to cheer on the Bobcats!
Cost: $5/person

2:00 p.m., MLC, 1st Floor, Gira Center
Sky Tour and “Solar Superstorms”
This show features a tour of the night sky followed by the 35-minute full-dome movie.

6:00 p.m., Auxiliary Gym, Cordts PE Center
Volleyball Match
Bobcats vs. Lake Superior State University Lumberjacks

6:00 p.m., Auxiliary Gym, Cordts PE Center
Volleyball Match
Bobcats vs. Lake Superior State University Lumberjacks

9:00 a.m., Registration – Rocky Gap Casino & Golf Resort
Shooting Sport

5:00 p.m., Cocktail Hour, Upstairs Lobby, LUC
Walking Campus Tour
Grab your classmates and explore campus – some new things to see!

Noon, Bobcat Statue, Compton Plaza
Dedication of Bobcat Statue
Join the Student Government Association as they officially dedicate the Bobcat statue. Welcome this newest member to the FSU campus, and acknowledge individuals who made this project possible.
Share your weekend memories with the Office of Alumni Relations by tagging your photos with our official Homecoming hashtag:
#HomeSweetBurg

For more information:
alumni@frostburg.edu | 301.687.4068 | www.frostburg.edu/homecoming

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6**

9:30 a.m., Room 397, Gira Center
Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting
All alumni are welcome and encouraged to attend.
RSVP deadline: September 25

10:00 a.m., Auxiliary Gym, Cordts PE Center
Volleyball Match
Bobcats vs. Wheeling Jesuit University Cardinals

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m., 2nd Floor, LUC
Bobcat Bash
Cost: $15/person. DJ, food and CASH BAR provided. Open to individuals 21 years and older. Must have ID for admittance and security check. Advance ticket purchase is encouraged.

To RSVP for any event
(Deadline: September 25)

Contact the Office of Alumni Relations and register by one of the following options:
Online: www.frostburg.edu/homecoming
Phone: 301.687.3016
Email: alumni@frostburg.edu

Find additional information on social media at Frostburg State University Alumni Association.

ALUMNI RELATIONS
301.687.4068
www.frostburg.edu/homecoming
Ed P. Mullany was recognized by Allegany Magazine as one of the 20 Most Fascinating People in 2019. He is the manager of the Western Window Castle Benten Center in Cumberland.

J. Ron Hensnings is completing his 50th year in education as chair, MSL, Educational Leadership Programs, Professional/Graduates at Pennsly College in Punxsy. He retired from K-12 education in 2012, after serving 37 years as principal director of curriculum, assistant superintendent, and superintendent. He is a past president of the Alumni Association and Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award recipient.

Terri W. Steiner has watched students at Stephen Decatur High School in Berlin, Md., accomplish great things, including having a film released in theaters, starring as a show-runner on Criminal Minds, managing $45 in Baltimore, and one, Annie Danz, who is an assistant professor of communications at FSU.

Craig J. Poff has been engaged in private practice law since 1979 and recently became certified by the South Carolina Supreme Court as a family court mediator. He is located in Bradenton, S. C.

Rita L. Anse has retired from the G&O Canal National Historical Park after 34 years. She was an interpretive park ranger and was manager of the C&O Canal National Historical Park after 34 years.

Judge Mark S. Chandley has been elevated to the administrative judge position in the Circuit Court of Garrett County, Md. He will oversee the administration of the court’s budget and procurement functions, as well as trial calendars.

Martha L. Danner has been appointed the director of the Division of Police and Probation within the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

James C. House, Jr., is a recipient of the John E. and Susanne D. Roueche Excellence Award from FSU. He is an associate professor and chair of Allegany College of Maryland’s Computer Technology Department.

Sara L. Youngkin Wilhelm M’18 has been appointed the director of the Office of Sponsored Programs at FSU.

Dr. Heidi J. Frazier-Fletcher was awarded the 2019 Luria-Hallaway History of Teaching Excellence Award at Wayneburg University in Wayneburg, Pa., where she is an associate professor of chemistry.

Michael K. Thompson has been appointed to the faculty of the C&O Canal National Historical Park as the city administrator for Frostburg. She was formerly the city’s community development director.

Elizabeth E. Barry Stahlman M’13 has been appointed the city administrator for Frostburg.

Jerilyn A. Jackson Durst is the director of the Allegany College of Maryland’s Computer Technology Program.

Rita L. Knox has retired from the C&O Canal National Historical Park.

Craig J. Poff has joined Southeast Missouri State University as a human resources technician.

Kevin E. Baker has joined Southeast Missouri State University as a human resources technician.

Nicole Holmes has joined the staff at the Western Window Castle Benten Center in Cumberland.

Kiersten P. Butler M’17 and Montana C. Bradley ’16 were married on Aug. 18, 2018.

Shannon M. Graham M’06 married Jonathan Stavely on March 10, 2018. Several Bobcats traveled to Loudoun County, Va., to witness the union, including former HallSTARS and sisters of the Gamma Psi chapter of Alpha Xi Delta.

Dr. Beth R. Givens has joined the faculty of the C&O Canal National Historical Park as the city administrator for Frostburg.

Jennifer A. Jackson Durst was named one of the 20 Most Fascinating People for 2019 by Allegany Magazine. She is the director of Leadership Programs at FSU.

Maj. Daniel P. Mizak has been promoted to firefighter with the Baltimore City Fire Department.

Kevin C. Grimm has been promoted to firefighter with the Baltimore City Fire Department.

Eli C. Baker has joined Southeast Missouri State University as the director of the Office of Sponsored Programs.

Kevin C. Grimm has been promoted to firefighter with the Baltimore City Fire Department.

Sandra L. Beachy Coluzzi M’14 has been appointed the director of the Office of Sponsored Programs at FSU.

Jeremy S. Roman has joined the staff of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and earned a Master of Science in Education from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kan., in June of 2019.

Mag. Daniel P. Nizak graduated from the West Point Military Academy. He is an associate professor and chair of Allegany College of Maryland’s Computer Technology Department.

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FAMILIES

1902

Richard A. Brindle, Jr., and his wife, Dee, welcomed their first grandchild, Nathalie-Louise Brindle, on April 7, 2019.

1903

JoyAnn H. Griss welcomed her daughter, Jamie Nyus, on Feb. 8, 2019.

1904

Amanda Skilling Rigpur and her husband, Steve, welcomed their daughter, Claes Michelle, on Dec. 21, 2018.

2000

Sara Beth James Bittering O’17 and her husband, Zachary, welcomed their son, Jonas James, on May 1, 2019. He joins big sister, Lavada.

2001

Deirdra Quinton Houston and her husband, David, welcomed their sons, Donnak and Kadam, on Dec. 31, 2018.

2003

Jareid M. Chambon and his wife, Laura, welcomed their son, Carson John, on April 19, 2019.

2004

Jennifer M. Cook Hall and her husband, Robert, welcomed twin girls, Brielle and Breiny, on March 20, 2019. They join big sister, Amelie.

2005

Kristin Prochnak Carles and her husband, Greg, welcomed their daughter, Margaret, on April 6, 2019.

2006

Amanda M. Baldwin Kerrenzitter and her husband, Matthew ‘08, welcomed their third baby, Rolaiz, Richard ‘18, on May 6, 2019. He joins big brothers, Andrew and Nolan.

2007

Elizabeth Carrington and Chauncey D. Mason ‘12 welcomed their son, Chauncey, on Dec. 28, 2016.

2008


2011

Mollie Downey Simonetti and her husband, Zachary, welcomed their son, Had Downey Simonetti, on Jan. 12, 2019.

2012

Kevin Akindana welcomed his daughter, Aria, on Dec. 21, 2018.

2014

Ben Bolyard and his wife, Kate, welcomed their first child, Elle Anne, on January 2019.

2015

Kelly A. Reid welcomed her son, Illiot, on March 9, 2019.

2016

Leslie Nazziol Reynolds and her husband, Jean, welcomed their son, Lorne Kalu, on Nov. 9, 2018.

2017

Kaitlin R. Shinham welcomed her son, Robert Alyn, on Nov. 27, 2017.

2018

Jareid M. Chambon and his wife, Lauren, welcomed their son, Carson John, on April 19, 2019.

Celebrating Top Teachers

As has been the case for more than a century, many of the region’s best teachers learned their craft at Frostburg. Here are some alumni who have recently been honored for making a positive impact in the region’s classrooms.

Jennifer Cord ‘98, a fourth-grade teacher at Whitman Elementary School, was named St. Mary’s County’s Teacher of the Year. She was caught completely by surprise when school officials interrupted her and her class during a computer lab to present the award.

Amy Cowgill ‘05/M’12, a math teacher at Franklin High School in Waynesboro, Va., was chosen as Allegany County’s Teacher of the Year. She cashed her students’ “top brightest accomplishment”

Sarah Llewellyn ‘04/M’12, a third-grade teacher at Westport Elementary School, was selected as Montgomery County’s Teacher of the Year. She knows for preparing students to enrich their classroom and the real world.

Amy Rowan ‘02, a language arts and special education teacher at Northern Middle School, has been named 2019-20 Garrett County Teacher of the Year. Injured five years ago, Rowan has served as a substitute teacher for special education, service learning coordinator, and one-to-one teacher, as well as a pollinator garden she helped start for the school.

Kevin Earle, a math teacher at Boonsboro High School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany County’s 2019-20 Elementary School, was selected as Allegany 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IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Edward G. “ Ned” Boehm, Jr. ’64, who died June 21, 2019, capped off a distinguished career in higher education as the longest-serving president of Keystone College, an institution he is credited with saving from closure. As a student, he was a two-term president for three years, a soccer and track student-athlete and a brother in Tau Kappa Epsilon. He was deeply involved in every community where he lived, and he stayed connected to his alma mater, which honored him with the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award. (See back cover for more.) He is survived by his wife, Regina, and sons, Evan and Andrew.

Dr. James Cotton, who died April 2, 2019, was a professor emeritus of geography and the first dean of the School of Natural and Social Sciences. He became acting vice president for Academic Affairs. Cotton, who worked at FSU for 31 years, was also mayor of Frostburg, a 25-year member of the Allegany County Planning and Zoning Commission, a member of the Cumberland-Allegany County Industrial Foundation and a universal voice of the U.S. Marine Corps. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and son, David ’91. He established the James Cotton Faculty Development Fund (https://frostburg.edu/alumni) to support faculty in the Department of Geography.

The Hon. John Hufnagel, Jr., who died June 5, 1999, was a retired Maryland state senator and owner of the Hufnagel Homes. He represented Western Maryland’s District 1 for 16 years, serving on numerous committees, including the Senate Finance Committee. He also served on the boards of several organizations, and was a Pastmaster of the All-Guad Shriners Temple. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during the Korean War. He was preceded in death by his sons, Douglas Hufnagel ’96. He is survived by his wife, Ken and children,产业集聚HuffnanaloyH ufnagel’ 92.

Dr. Al Rose, who died April 14, 2016, was a professor emeritus of English, teaching from 1968 to 1988 and honored with the Faculty Achievement Award for University and Community Service. “He was a mentor to a whole generation of faculty members, particularly in the English, history and psychology departments,” said Dr. Tom Mappes. After FSU, he became a Roman Catholic deacon, serving in parishes and a hospice, and advocated for those with learning and developmental disabilities. “He always was looking out for those people … who were not being treated fairly, not being respected,” said Dr. Mappes. “He was a U.S. Navy veteran. He is survived by his wife, Nellie, and children, John, John Jr. and Nancy Hufnagel O’Reilly ’82.

Dr. Lee Ross, who died June 2, 2019, was professor emeritus of psychology, teaching at FSU for 31 years and developing courses in Death and Dying, Social Psychology, Professional, Ethical and Legal Issues, and Crisis Intervention, as well as one of the first learning communities. He was named Outstanding Mentor in 2000. He also solicited the first endowed community as a member of the Maryland Critical Incident Stress Management Teams and in disaster areas following hurricanes. In 2018, he was named to the Region IV EMS Hall of Fame. He lived in Frederick for 29 years. He is survived by his wife, Suzanne, and children, Ken and Ellen.

BOOKS BY ALUMNI

Pleased to Meet Me: Genes, Germs and the Curious Forces That Make Us Who We Are

Dr. Bill Sullivan ’92

An award-winning professor of pharmacology and microbiology at the Indiana University School of Medicine, Sullivan has a unique understanding of what affects the human body. In his new book, Sullivan describes in witty, everyday language how we are all affected by T cells, germs and our environments. Sullivan, who studies genetics and infectious disease, describes how genetics, microbiology, and psychology work together to influence personality and actions, sharing intriguing insights into just what makes each of us who we are. Published by National Geographic Books.

Join the Conversation!

Go Bobcats

OUTLOOK 21
A Celebration of the Life of President Emerita Catherine R. Gira in Honor of her 87th Birthday

March 14, 2019
Sloop Institute for Maritime Studies, Hagerstown, MD

To RSVP for any event above or for more information call 301.687.4068 or email alumni@frostburg.edu.
President Emerita Catherine Gira was a master of words, so it is only appropriate that she have “The Last Word.”

Her scholarly effort focused on literature – words in their most graceful form – especially the works of William Shakespeare. Her speeches, articles, letters – even emails – were often enhanced with literary references.

Her words helped lead a campus through a period of growth and change in the years following the transition to a university, as well as through lean times when state appropriations were cut 10 times in a row. Her strengths sustained and inspired the campus community, and her influence on what she called “this idyllic mountain place” continues.

Her mark is on the campus physically – in the Compton Science Center, which she shepherded to completion – and Edgewood Commons. Her name is on the Catherine R. Gira Center for Communications and Information Technology, the groundwork for which was laid during her administration.

FSU’s reputation bears her imprint as well. The College of Business and the College of Education achieved accreditation during her years of leadership. The Middle States Commission on Higher Education, when it reaffirmed FSU’s accreditation in her final year on campus, noted that, over the previous decade, FSU had evolved from a comprehensive college to a regional university.

Her influence also impacted the lives of thousands of students and graduates. Not only those who were here and moved on during her tenure from 1991 to 2006, but also those who followed, who benefited from the improvements in infrastructure and curriculum.

That influence continues through the Catherine R. Gira Campus to Community Fund, which she established through the FSU Foundation to fund student experiences that embrace leadership, alumni connections, community service, internships and study abroad.

She will be long remembered in her “idyllic mountain place.”
Ces.frostburg.edu 6

FSU is a smoke-free campus.

Voice Relay Operator at 1.800.735.2258.

Persons with disabilities may request accommodation through the ADA Compliance Office:

Persons with disabilities may request accommodation through the ADA Compliance Office: 301.687.4102 (VRO 1.800.735.2258). Frostburg State University is a smoke-free campus.

Accessible to persons with disabilities. To request accommodation committed to making all of its programs, services and activities sex, national origin, status as a veteran, age or disability. FSU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity institution.

Frostburg State University is a constituent institution of the University System of Maryland.

Editorial offices are located in 228 Hitchins, Frostburg, MD 21532-2303; phone 301.687.3171.

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Joni Smith

Dave Romero

James Mitchell

Nicole Leighty '18

Brooke Kirchner

Shannon Gribble '98

Fielder Dennis

Noah Becker M’06

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Robert Spahr '13

James Mitchell

Nicole Leighty '18

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Shannon Gribble '98

Fielder Dennis

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President

is published for alumni, parents, friends, students, faculty and staff of Frostburg State University.

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Ces is supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council (msac.org) and by the City of Frostburg. The engagement of Crys Matthews is funded through the Mid Atlantic Tours program of Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts. The engagements of Ghost-Note and Veronica Swift are made possible through the Jazz Touring Network program of the American Federation of Arts.

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Please recycle me or pass me on to a friend!

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Dr. Edward "Ned" Boehm, Jr. 1942-2019

Dr. Edward G. Boehm, Jr., graduated in 1964, yet over the 55 years that followed, his heart never left Frostburg. "Ned" was a gentle soul, beloved educator and friend to all who spent a lifetime embodying the Bobcat ideal.

Ned was a natural leader as a student and throughout his distinguished career in higher education. And he applied those leadership skills in his support of his alma mater.

Ned led the alumni in his class — and every Bobcat — to give back to the institution that shaped them and uplift the students following in their footsteps. He helped create the Class of 1964 Presidential Merit Scholarship and guided the FSU Foundation as a former member of the Board of Directors.

He also remained connected personally, reconnecting at the yearly alumni crab feast.

As a member of Frostburg’s Old Main Society, designated for those who include the FSU Foundation in their estate plans, even the final act of Ned’s life will help his beloved Bobcats.

In recognition of his lifelong impact on Frostburg students, Ned received FSU’s Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award and an Excellence in Leadership Medalion from FSU’s Sloop Institute for Excellence in Leadership.

Ned never forgot the people, places or experiences that made him such a success. Be like Ned.