Assorted Wilkes Materials (2 of 2)

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

January 6, 1976

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
Forty-one Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

We hope that your holiday season was enjoyable, and we extend our warm best wishes for good health and happiness throughout the coming year.

As we shape our plans for 1976, President Capin and I plan to visit several foundations in New York on January 15 and 16. We are hoping to have the opportunity to visit with you at a mutually convenient time.

We have asked Tom Moran, our Executive Director of Public Relations and Development, to telephone you later this week to discuss the possibility of our visiting with you.

Warm best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Tom

Thomas F. Kelly

TFK.pc

RISING BOND
25% RAG CONTENT
USA

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

October 21, 1975

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
Forty-one Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

It was a real joy to have you with us for the Convocation and Dedication of the Stark Learning Center and the William B. Schaeffer Lecture Hall. I know I speak for our trustees when I say we were delighted to have you at the dinner Friday evening and at the ceremony Saturday.

It is unfortunate that we were not blessed with good weather; however, Libby told me you were pleased with the courtyard named in memory of Dr. Marts. In addition, I was happy to learn that you saw the paintings you donated to the College, and that you visited the second floor of the Library which is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Marts.

I am enclosing a picture of you and Tom Kelly that was taken that Saturday.

We have met on two occasions, and I have personally enjoyed both of those meetings. I will, with your permission, contact you from time to time and, if possible, arrange to visit you. In the meantime, I hope you will enjoy good health, and be assured that the work of Dr. Marts has been recognized and will always be remembered by those of us who are dedicated to the perpetuation of Wilkes College.

Sincerely yours,

Bob

Robert S. Capin
Acting President

RSC:mc

Enclosure

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

January 8, 1976

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
41 Park Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mrs. Marts:

Thank you for your kind note of acknowledgment of our visit on January 15 and 16.

Tom Kelly, Libby, and I expect to arrive in New York Wednesday evening, the 14th. Libby will telephone you to make definite arrangements for meeting with you on the 15th.

We look forward to having you as our dinner guest on the 15th at the Princeton Club.

I am happy that we are able to make these arrangements and look forward to being with you.

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert S. Capin
Acting President

RSC:mc

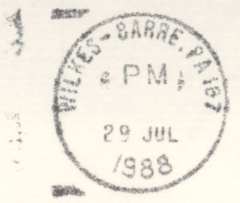
JJS

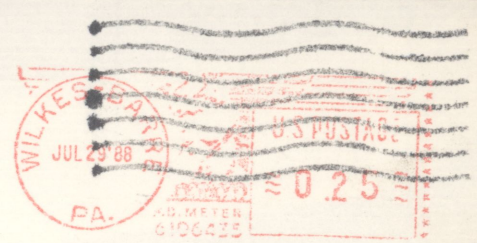
LAW OFFICES

ROSENN, JENKINS & GREENWALD

15 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18711





Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
41 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Mrs Arnaud C. Marts

Forty-one Park Avenue
New York City 10016

Dear Dr. Breiseth,

With all my heart thank you!
I am still regretting my not having been able to attend the Commencement ceremony. So much thought and so much concerned skill lie behind your magnificent citation. It gives a grand insight into my Arno's character.

I feel deep gratitude toyou for this wonderful action, and to the Board for their wonderful gesture in renewing expression of their appreciation of the positive influence, devotion, genuine interest, service, and love, my dear husband gave to Wilkes College.

The video tape is giving me real pleasare. I was inspired. It is an emotionsal experience for me. It brings back many many memories, (I love it - the tape is beautiful,) even though it leaves me with a feeling of emptiness.

And I thank Mr. Joseph Savitz, from the bottom of my heart for all the nice things he said. In fact, to all, to everyone, please accept my greatest thanks. Especially to you, Dr. Breiseth, my sincere gratitude for all you have done.

My best wishes as always; and again my heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth,
President,
Wilkes College
Wilkes Barre, Pa. 18766

July 15, 1988

7/29/88 To: Mrs Anne Marts

Dear Anne: I thought you might enjoy the enclosed resolution on your old friend. Best regards, Joe Savitz

WILKES

RESOLUTION

As an eminent lawyer and community leader, Joseph J. Savitz has served Wilkes College in many capacities for the past thirty years. He initially entered its official family in 1958 when the College Alumni Association elected him to be its first president. He thereupon became the first representative of that organization to additionally serve as a member of the College Board of Trustees. As trustee during three historic decades of its development and growth, he gave unstintingly of his extensive experience, sound judgment, and personal resources while maintaining a high standard of commitment and consistent participation. His dedicated and dependable service led to his reelection to the Board for the next thirty years. During his tenure, he climbed the ladder of Board offices, first serving as assistant secretary, and then in rapid succession, as treasurer, vice chairman, and finally as Chairman of the Board. As Chairman for the maximum allowable three terms from 1975 to 1978, Joe was an exemplary leader who led the Board of Trustees steadily and sagaciously, and who enthusiastically communicated College goals to the greater community.

Next to his professional occupation, Joe Savitz has made Wilkes College the primary objective of his undivided allegiance. Following his participation in the European theatre during World War II, Joe recognized both the value of a college education and the importance of having a fine liberal arts college in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Thus he proudly marched in Wilkes's first graduating class. Building on the experience of his student days, he was and continues to be sensitive to the aspirations of the student body and mindful of the expectations and goals of the faculty.

Although Joe Savitz has attained the Board's highest office, he continues to respond to many demanding tasks, including leadership in annual fund-raising and capital campaigns, planning and steering committees, and other assignments. Always constant and faithful to his alma mater, he personifies in thought and action Cicero's ancient but eternal characterization: "Nothing more noble, nothing more venerable than fidelity." A gentle and able person of great probity and modesty, the community has frequently called upon him to serve in its civic, cultural, and religious affairs. Some of these include the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Wilkes-Barre, professional and veterans' organizations, and Temple Israel where he has served as President.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the trustees of Wilkes College on this thirteenth day of May, 1988 acknowledge Joseph J. Savitz's faithful, long and significant service to the College and express their pleasure and deep appreciation for his many and varied contributions and their hope that he will continue his interest and be blessed with good health and happiness for many years to come.

Christopher N. Breiseth
President

Frank M. Henry
Chair, Board of Trustees

ADOPTED May 13, 1988

WILKES COLLEGE • WILKES-BARRE • PENNSYLVANIA 18766 • 717/824-4651

LAW OFFICES

ROSENN, JENKINS & GREENWALD

15 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET

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JOSEPH J. SAVITZ
PERRY J. SHERTZ
EUGENE ROTH
HARRY R. HISCOX
DANIEL G. FLANNERY
MARSHALL S. JACOBSON
MURRAY UFBERG
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HENRY GREENWALD
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OF COUNSEL

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ROBERT D. SCHAUB
RICHARD M. FERGUSON
FRED A. PIERANTONI, III
ROBERT M. DANENBERG
DAVID J. HARRIS
ROBERT N. GAWLAS, JR.
RUTH C. HUGHES
GERARD M. MUSTO, JR.

July 29, 1988

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
41 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

In my recent discussion with Dr. Christopher N. Breiseth, President of Wilkes College, concerning his visit with you, he told me of the great pleasure you expressed upon receiving the beautiful Wilkes College Hood when the honorary doctorate degree was given, posthumously, to your dear revered husband. I was proud to accept it on your behalf.

I just received a copy of your July 15 letter to Dr. Breiseth in which you so beautifully expressed your deep gratitude for this presentation made at the Wilkes College commencement in May. I also noted your warm thanks to me "for all the nice things" I said concerning your late husband.

Anne, I want you to know that my thoughts and feelings came from my heart and deep sense of gratitude and respect I always held for Dr. Marts for what he had created ... a strong, outstanding educational institution known as Wilkes College situated on the banks of the lovely Susquehanna River. What a beautiful tribute to a great man! I am looking forward to my viewing the video tape as I am sure it will give me similar pleasurable moments in recalling some memorable happenings of yester-year.

I still remember the beautiful day in the late 1970s when you, Bob Capin and I established the Dr. Marts Courtyard in honor of your husband. It gives me a special thrill every time I cross that walkway when I sense an air of inspiration which enhances that sun-lit area reflecting Dr. Marts' plaque embedded in rock 'neath a pin oak tree. That, too, was a fitting tribute to a man worthy of this honor.

Janice joins with me in offering our very warmest regards and everlasting thanks to you and your late husband for helping to enhance the Wilkes College Campus.

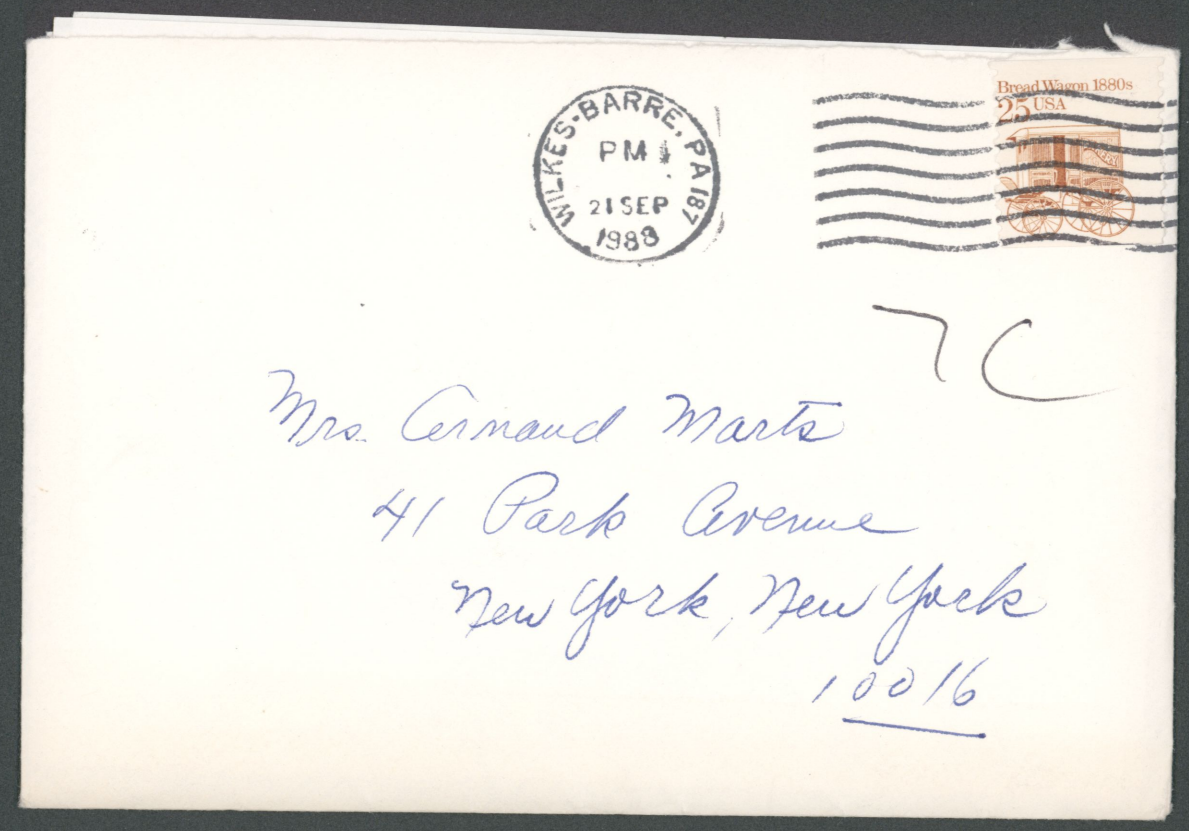
With our affection and warmest regards, we are

Sincerely yours,

Joe Savitz

JOSEPH J. SAVITZ

JJS:hmb


WILKES-BARRE, PA 187
PM
21 SEP
1988
Bread Wagon 1880s
25 USA
Mrs. Conrad Marks
41 Park Avenue
New York, New York
10016

Mrs. Stanley Smyth Davies
R. D. 4, Box 624
Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612

September 20, 1988

Dear Anne,

Just a note to say you were sorely missed on Friday night. By unanimous action of the Board, on Friday afternoon, the new Sports and Conference complex was designated the Conrad Marts Center. At the dinner, when the announcement was made, all 170 people rose to

their feet and applauded. You would have been pleased!

One of the nicest moments of the weekend for me was an encounter with an old friend. He told me he had gone from Wilkes to Bucknell while Dr. Marts was there. He wanted me to know that Dr. Marts was much loved by the students. I knew that, but it is nice to have

Mrs. Stanley Smyth Davies
R. D. 4, Box 624
Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612

Mrs prejudices confirmed.

I do wish you could have been there – but I understand! Anna Cortiglia will tell you more if she hasn't already done so.

Keep well.

with love,

Pattie

Pattie Davies

April 8

Dear Anne,

Thank you for your dear Easter card. Yes, Stan is doing well after his hip replacement - after three weeks he is walking without a cane and without a limp! And I am remembering, with pleasure, our delicious coffee

Amaretto together.

I also remember that I said I would send you the hard hat picture from the ground-breaking ceremony for the new Sports and Conference Center at Wilkes. Someone at the college even gave me a gloosy. It was fun. Did you know Stella Miner?

Keep well. Fondly, Pattie



March, 1988

GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY
NEW SPORTS AND CONFERENCE CENTER
WILKES- COLLEGE

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

July 29, 1974

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
41 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

It was a pleasure to visit with you this past Thursday for an enjoyable luncheon at the Princeton Club.

As you know, Tom Kelly and I hold the memory of Dr. Marts in high esteem and, consequently, it was an honor and a pleasure to visit with you. It is our hope that we can build a closer relationship as we both endeavor to honor Dr. Marts.

I hope that it will be possible for you to visit the College in September or October as we discussed, and I will look forward to hearing further from you as your plans develop.

Again, many thanks for your courtesy and kindness.

Sincerely yours,

mike

Francis J. Michelini
President

FJM.pc

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

August 28, 1975

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
Forty-one Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

I enjoyed talking with you today, and we are looking forward to our visit on Tuesday, September 9. I was happy to learn that you have been feeling well and hope that you will remain in good health.

Mr. Robert S. Capin, our Acting President, was delighted to learn that our visit had been arranged. We both look forward to seeing you at 7 p.m. in the lounge of the Princeton Club on Tuesday, September 9.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Tom Kelly

Thomas F. Kelly

TFK.pc

cc: Mr. Capin

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

October 3, 1973

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
41 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

Thank you for your letter of September 27 to Tom Kelly, our Director of Development.

We are deeply appreciative of your thoughtful gift in memory of Dr. Farley. At the request of the family, we are placing such gifts in the "Eugene and Eleanor Farley Scholarship Fund."

I was so sorry to hear that you have not been feeling well, and I trust that you will make a speedy recovery. If you feel well enough during October, as you mentioned, we would be happy to have you visit with us. Please keep in touch with me as your plans develop further.

Again, many thanks for your thoughtful gift in memory of Dr. Farley, who has done so much for Wilkes College and the Wilkes-Barre area.

Sincerely,

Francis J. Michelini

Francis J. Michelini
President

FJM. pc

Ack'd 10/11/73
Not strong enough to attend Mem. Serv. for Gene on Oct. 14.

DR. EUGENE FARLEY, LED WILKES COLLEGE

1973

Special to The New York Times

WILKES BARRE, Pa., Sept. 17—Dr. Eugene Shedden Farley, president of Wilkes College from its establishment in 1947 to 1970 and a past president of the American Association of Junior Colleges, died today at his home in nearby Beaumont, apparently of a heart attack. He was 74 years old.

Dr. Farley, who had been director of research for the Newark public schools, came here in 1936 as administrator of Bucknell University Junior College. After World War II he was able to obtain sufficient backing for the college through its involvement in the industrial development of the area to win an independent charter in 1947.

A graduate of Pennsylvania State College, Dr. Farley received M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pennsylvania.

He won national attention for his role in the growing field of junior colleges and received honorary degrees from Alliance College, Lafayette College and Bucknell Universiy as well as Wilkes, which also made him chancellor and honorary president after his retirement. Funeral Pdg. Fri

Office of Development
WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18703

July 31, 1974

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
Forty-one Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

I considered it an honor and a pleasure to visit with you this past week. As you know, I recognize that the efforts of men like Dr. Marts made it possible for me to attain an education at Wilkes College.

I hope you know how much the College has meant to many students from this area over the years, and we recognize Dr. Marts' efforts in the early days to struggle to establish the College. The Arnaud C. Marts Memorial Scholarship reminds us of his efforts and, as you know, it is listed in the College catalog which names and describes honorary scholarships.

I have reviewed the records of the Development Office with respect to the listing of individuals who regularly receive College publications. I found that your name and address has been on our list and, consequently, I am checking further with our computer center which becomes involved in the actual mailings of such publications to insure that an error, perhaps relating to address, is not preventing you from receiving our publications.

I have further talked with Arthur Hoover and Thomas Moran, both alumni of the College, who will be responsible for the Development Office when I depart for Cornell. I am certain that these two men will communicate with you on a regular basis to keep you informed of further developments at the College.

I extend my best wishes to you, and I look forward to visiting with you again at some time in the future.

Sincerely,

Tom Kelly

Thomas F. Kelly
Director of Development

TFK.pc

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

October 15, 1976

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
41 Park Avenue
New York City, N. Y. 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

We are all so happy you will be able to be with us for the inauguration as well as the dedication of the courtyard.

I am sure it will be a very interesting weekend and I am looking forward to being with you again.

Sincerely yours,

John J. Chwalek.

John J. Chwalek
Inauguration Coordinator

JJC:hk

Marts & Lundy, Inc.
521 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10017
Code 212-687-1340

MELVIN D. BREWER

November 14, 1974

Dear Anne:

I thought you would like to see the latest information received from Wilkes College about the Marts Scholarship recipient. The photo doesn't reproduce too well on our Thermofax machine, but this will at least give you an idea of the kind of girl who is benefitting from the fund.

This material will be put into the loose-leaf book we maintain in the reception office.

Best regards.

Mel

Arnaud C. Marts Scholarship

1974-75

Nancy E. Rodda

Home Address: 316 Pioneer Avenue
Dallas, Pennsylvania

Parentage:

Father: Paul (architect)
Mother: Eleanore (housewife)

Education:

Secondary: 1971 graduate of Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, Pennsylvania; active in Yearbook, newspaper, activities, Math Club, Student-Faculty Curriculum Committee.

Collegiate: will graduate with honors in June, 1975 from Wilkes College with a combined major of Philosophy-German. Active in Chemical Society, Debate Squad, and is currenlty president of the Philosophy Club.

Statement:

The Wyoming Valley has been home to me since my birth in 1953. My early education was in the public schools of Dallas, Pennsylvania, until the ninth grade, when I transferred to Wyoming Seminary in Kingston, Pennsylvania. I had partial scholarship during my junior and senior years at Wyoming Seminary, for which I worked as the laboratory assistant in the science department. While a student at Wyoming Seminary, I was news editor of the school newspaper (The Opinator), worked on the art-layout staff of the yearbook (The Wyoming) for three years, was president of the German Club, and was a member of theFaculty Curriculum Committee and the Mathematics Club for three years each. In my Junior year, I was awarded the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Mathematics and Science prize and the Franklin and Marshall College Alumni Book prize for academic achievement. My academic milestones while a Senior at Wyoming Seminary included being selected a finalist, 1970-71 National Merit Scholarship competition and being elected to Cum Laude, an honor society (Wyoming Chapter). I was also awarded the following academic prizes: Bausch and Lomb Honory Science Award, Theodore S. Abbot Language Cup, Almeda Ruth Cushman Spencer Bible Prize, and Lindsley Morgan Washburn Mathematics Prize. Of my high school class of 125, I graduated in first place academically.

During my Sophomore year at Wyoming Seminary, I became interested in chemistry, so I took the freshman-level course at Wilkes College the following summer (1969). During the summers of 1970-71, I served as a research

assistant in the Department of Biology at Wilkes College, where I was engaged in an ongoing limnological research project of the department, a chemical analysis of Lake Nuangola. My interest in Chemistry, and a desire eventually to pursue some form of biological or chemical research, led me to matriculate at Wilkes College as a chemistry major in September of 1971. Although my major interests have changed somewhat since then (I am now completing a double major in Philosophy and German), I have continued to work on the Lake Nuangola project while maintaining a serious interest in the fields of botany and ecology. The Chairman of the Department of Biology, Dr. Charles Reif, and I co-authored a research paper on this project, which was read at the meeting of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science in April of 1974 and is scheduled for publication in the Proceedings of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science.

As a younger person, I was an active Girl Scout, earning the God and Community Award, the First Class Award, forty-five merit badges, and three service aide bars before completing eleven years in the program at the end of high school. During 1969, I was a volunteer with the YMCA tutoring program. I have been very active in the First Prebysterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, such as singing in the choirs regularly since 1962, and, more recently, serving as a Deacon, senior high church school teacher, member of the Music Committee, and member of the Christian Education Committee. The Presbytery of Lackawanna, of which my home church is a part, elected me to be the Youth Advisory Delegate to the 185th General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA (1973), at which I served on the World Peace Committee. I am currently serving a one-year term on Lackawanna Presbytery's Church and Society Committee. I am enrolled as a candidate for ordination to the Christian ministry by the Lackawanna Presbytery and hope to enter theological seminary upon completion of my Bachelor of Arts degree at Wilkes College in June of 1975.

In addition to my academic pursuits, I am a student of music. Since 1970, I have sung in the chorus of the Wyoming Valley Oratorio Society, a volunteer community choral association which presents two concerts of sacred music each year. I am studying piano and have recently begun the study of pipe organ at Wilkes College. I hope somehow to combine theology and music into a useful vocation, because I feel that the two areas are complimentary as well as being personally satisfying.

During my undergraduate years at Wilkes College, I have been active in the Wilkes College Chemical Society (in which I was a member of the executive council and a student affiliate of the American Chemical Society), the Debate Club, and the Philosophy Club, (of which I have been elected President for the 1974-75 academic year). My fellow students gave me the privilege of preaching the sermon for the Interfaith Service of Worship during Incoming Freshman Weekend in the Spring of 1974. As President of the Philosophy Club, I will be active in the Freshman Orientation Program this fall.

I feel unable to express sufficiently my gratitude for the Arnaud Cartwright

Marts Scholarship which I have been given. The firm of Marts & Lundy has always shown tremendous faith in college students by making funds available to them for their educations; I am indeed honored to be among the recipients of the tangible evidence of that faith. I hope that some of the experiences which I have had here at Wilkes College and which I will during the coming year with the help of the Arnaud C. Marts Scholarship will someday enable me to show to other persons the kind of concerned, involved life that I have come to value in my years at Wilkes College. Thank you very much for investing in my future.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Nancy E. Rodda



WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

November 10, 1974

Mr. Melvin D. Brewer, President
Marts & Lundy, Inc.
521 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Brewer:

I am happy to forward to you the enclosed photograph and biographical data on the 1974-75 recipient of the Arnaud C. Marts Scholarship.

Once you have had a chance to read through the information, I'm sure you will agree that Nancy has already distinguished herself among our student body, and is indeed, worthy of this honor. Its interesting to note that Nancy's future plans include studying at the Princeton Theological Seminary.

You may recall that George Conway, who held the Scholarship in 1969-70, also attended Princeton Theological Seminary. George is now Chaplain and football coach at the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Connecticut.

Next Spring, we will again hold a luncheon, giving scholarship donors the opportunity to visit with those students helped by their generosity. I shall be sure to contact you once the plans are formulated.

We are all aware and appreciative, Mr. Brewer, of your continued interest in our students. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Richard G. Raspen
Director of Financial Aid

RGR:cp

Dr. Francis J. Michelini,
President, Wilkes College
Wilkes Barre, Pa. 18703

January 2, 1975

Dear Dr. Mike:

Good wishes to you in this new year of 1975!

I regret I haven't written to you earlier. The reason is because my fingers were not capable to manipulate a pen - diagnosis still being worked on by my doctor. Anyway, holiday ornaments and trimmings have been put away and today I had this typewriter brought out. I simply must get around to my personal correspondence which has been neglected for so long. Please accept my apologies for not writing to you sooner.

I have before me a list of notes jotted down during the past weeks for so many things to express my warmest thanks. I just hope I can remember what was in my mind at the time of making the note. Anyway here goes, for I cannot face another weekend feeling so guilty in not writing to you.

And the last will be first to start with maybe because it is before me, and I'm thrilled with all its beauty. The poinsettia plant is absolutely beautiful. There are five big gorgeous blossoms; three large red silk ribbon bows; and its stems stand up in such a grand lofty style to be admired as it should, and has been here, for it is truly lovely. Many many thanks for this stunning gift, and I would like to extend to you and to your family, my thanks and my very best wishes.

I'm sure I never thanked you for the obituary notice you sent for Ruth. I truly was quite distressed that I did not have the opporptunity of seeing Ruth again. Just selfish of me I know. I do thank you very much. The enclosed check for $200. is a gift to the Marts Scholarship Fund in memory of Ruth Sordoni. I really believe the Marts Fund needs it, more than the Sordoni Funds, to continue the interest and love my beloved husband held for young people. There are many earnest students of today that find it more difficult to fulfill their desire to enter college. I shall go right on remembering Ruth - lovely and charming - as I always found her in the beautiful surroundings of her homes - in W.B., the farm, and in Florida. I had nice warm notes from Mary and Andrew.

- more ...

I'm not quite sure I understand the donor membership eligibility in the Arnaud C. Marts Society. My notation says: "$1000 or more per yr.in the John Wilkes Club; $100 in the Gene Farley Club; no amounts stated for the three Societies." I wonder if my Arnaud committed himself to an amount for the 15-year membership. I'm puzzled, but I will enclose a check for $500. to cover (?) - I don't know exactly what it should cover ... anyway to the Arnaud C. Marts Society. Perhaps you will tell me more about this when next we meet.

Thanks for the Gene Farley Club plaque. It is an handsome piece of work.

And thanks too for the photograph of the Dr. Marts display in the Farley Library. I'll reserve comment until next visit there.

Thus ends my notes. If I have overlooked anything please forgive me - and let me know. I am so glad 1974 is gone. I am certainly looking forward to s brighter and healthier 1975.

Again, Dr. Mike, my sincerest, warmest thanks for your kindness and thoughtfulness in writing, and gift remembrances, during the past few months.

God bless thy year, and with every good wish to you always.

Sincerely,

encl.

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

Fall Semester, 1974

Dear Friend:

As we move into the new academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for your support and encouragement throughout the past year.

As I compare the start of this academic year to the preceding years, I find that we have accomplished almost complete physical restoration of College facilities from the devastation of Agnes. There is no question in my mind that this would not have been possible had it not been for the support and encouragement we received from you and others like you. At the same time, my review of the progress that has been made also causes me to recognize the many problems of financing the completion of this work that still confront the College. The cost of necessary borrowing at current interest rates is one of the major problems remaining.

Also, as you are undoubtedly aware, tuition charges do not completely cover the cost of education, and inflation is rapidly increasing this differential. Federal and state assistance is of inestimable value to our students and to us but falls short of covering the financing that is needed. State legislation of Institutional Assistance Grants, linked to the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency, represents the culmination of a unique effort supported by all segments of higher education in the Commonwealth, public and private.

Recent federal legislation that had been proposed gave us some hope that we might also receive special assistance from the federal government for operating expenses. This hope was erased, however, when that portion of the legislation failed to clear the subcommittee and, as a result, Wilkes and other private institutions are still faced with the continuing problem of finding financial assistance to cover the continually increasing costs of making the best faculty and facilities available for the kind of education which we feel is so vital to our Wilkes College mission of quality education. I will be referring to this at a later date in my communications with you, and it will represent one of the major themes of our campaign this year.

The second purpose of my letter to you at this time is to call your attention to the fact that we will once again be publishing an Annual Report of Giving. Within a few weeks you will receive a copy of this report which lists all alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations which have provided support for the College during the fiscal year July 1, 1973 through June 30, 1974.

WILKES COLLEGE BEACON

March 10, 1988

Groundbreaking ceremony held



Shown above at the groundbreaking cermony are: Peter Bohlin, architect; John Homza, Sordoni Construction Services, Inc.; Philip L. Wingert, physical education chairman; David C. Hall, chairman, physical facilities committee;Mayor Lee Namey; Christopher Breiseth, Wilkes College president, John Rosania, president of SG; Patricia Davies, past chairman of the board of trustees; Eugene Roth, Chairman of the Wilkes Tomorrow Committee; and Stella Miner Moat, member of the family contributing grounds for the gym.

by Kim Klimek

Last Friday, Christopher Breiseth, Wilkes College President, officially announced the groundbreaking of the new $5.5 million Sports and Conference Center to about 100 attendants. The drizzly cold weather added to the effect of desolation felt by many atheletes and sports fans as Sordoni Construction Services Inc. brought a bulldozer to be used in the demolition of the old gym.

But, even though some were dwelling on past memories, others were hopefully thinking of future building plans and dreams for the future. The purpose of the ceremony was to "...take a moment to acknowledge all those individuals who came to Wilkes before us, making this institution strong and this day a reality. The Sports and Conference Center symbolizes a commitment to Wilkes students both present and future as it enhances our academic and extra-curricular lives on campus," as John Rosania, SG president, said in his speech.

Frank Herry, chairman of the board of trustees, said three-story, 75,000 square-foot Conference Center was the "first of many movements in the Wilkes Tomorrow Campaign."

Breiseth said that the new Conference center would be a great improvement over the old facility and Lee Namey, Mayor of Wilkes-Barre noted that new building would be a great asset to the community as well as to Wilkes.

Stella Miner Moat, of the Miner family who gave the gound on which the gym was located was introduced by Breiseth and showed great entusiasm for the new project.

After the speeches, the ceremony was moved outside for the actual groundbreaking. Henry climbed aboard the bulldozer and posed for the numerous photographers and all participants in the event wore hard-hats and carried silver shovels to the lawn adjacent to the gym. Breiseth said that even though it was a rainy day, the ground was so frozen he couldn't dig into it well, but nevertheless, the ceremony went on and "spirits were high."

Breiseth said Wilkes is still looking for a $1.5 million contributer to name the new center after. A total of about $3 million is still needed to complete the renovation.

At the present time, we are preparing appropriate expressions of gratitude to those donors who have attained or have continued to remain eligible for membership in the John Wilkes Club ($1,000 or more per year), the Gene Farley Club ($100 or more per year), the Arnaud C. Marts Society (15 years of continuous giving), the Admiral Harold R. Stark Society (10 years of continuous giving), and the Gilbert S. McClintock Society (5 years of continuous giving). A listing of the members of these clubs and societies, which form the Wilkes College Associates program, will be included in the Annual Report of Giving, and those individuals may expect to receive our expression of gratitude in a very short time.

Warmest personal regards and, again, my deepest thanks for your continued support of Wilkes College.

Sincerely yours,

Francis J. Michelini

Francis J. Michelini
President

FJM.pc

WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE
PENNSYLVANIA 18703

Gene Farley Club Plaque

December 6, 1974

Mrs. Arnaud C. Marts
Forty-one Park Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Mrs. Marts:

During this past week, our Public Relations Office had a photographer taking some new photographs of some of the places on campus which we like to show to the public as spots of special interest and importance to the College.

One of the photos taken was of the area of display that stands as a tribute to Dr. Marts and is a constant reminder to all the students, faculty and guests on campus of the vital role that your late husband played in the founding of this institution. I am enclosing several copies for you.

It is my hope that I will be able to visit New York again this Spring, and I would like very much to call upon you at that time to bring you up to date on developments at Wilkes. I will correspond with you further prior to a visit. The major problem in trying to get away over the next several months will depend greatly upon the progress of plans for the annual campaign in which we hope to raise $250,000 necessary to complete the final phase of the new Learning Center.

With every good wish that you have a warm, happy and healthy Holiday Season.

Sincerely yours,

mike

Francis J. Michelini
President

FJM.pc

Enclosures



WILKES UNIVERSITY

Second Annual Undergraduate Symposium

Celebrating Student Excellence Achieved Through Mentoring

Sponsored by the
Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force

ABSTRACTS & PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2008
10 AM – 4 PM
HENRY STUDENT CENTER
&
DARTE HALL

Closing Reception
3:00 PM
DARTE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

WILKES UNIVERSITY
WILKES-BARRE, PA

The Undergraduate Symposium

The Second Annual Wilkes University Undergraduate Symposium is sponsored and hosted by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force in order to recognize and honor the wealth of undergraduate research and creative projects in which faculty-to-student mentoring has played a significant role. The Symposium is an opportunity for selected students to share the results of their scholarly and creative accomplishments with the Wilkes community. Presentations offered at this Undergraduate Symposium include both formal paper and poster presentations and live performances.

Events will take place in various locations on campus including the Henry Student First Floor Lounge (former University Bookstore) and Ballroom, Gies Recital Hall in Darte Hall, and the Upper Lobby of the Darte Center for the Performing Arts. The Symposium will conclude with a celebratory reception to honor today's presenters and their mentors. The reception will be held in the Upper Lobby of the Darte Center for the Performing Arts

2007-08 Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force

PAUL ADAMS, Vice President for Student Affairs, Co-chair
C. REYNOLD VERRET, Provost, Co-Chair
ANN ZANZIG, Special Consultant to the Task Force

ANNE HEINEMAN BATORY, Professor of Marketing
JEFFREY BAUMAN, Student Representative
SANDRA CARROLL, Director, Alumni Relations
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BRIAN WHITMAN, Associate Professor of Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences

2008 Program Committee:
ELLEN FLINT, Chair

FACULTY REVIEW COMMITTEE
MARYBETH MULLEN
BRIAN WHITMAN

ABSTRACTS

(unless indicated, presenters and performers are listed in alphabetical order)

Poster Session

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

~~ BIOLOGY ~~

IMPACT OF SMALL MAMMALS ON THE DISPERSAL AND PREDATION OF AMERICAN CHESTNUT

CHARLES GRAVENER, ANDREW JULIAN, SHEALYN MARINO, ALLISON OTTIS, & ASHLEY WHITE
DR. MICHAEL STEELE, FACULTY MENTOR

The American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) dominated eastern hardwood forests until ca 1940 when the chestnut fungus (*Cryphonectria parasitica*) virtually eliminated the species. Although chestnuts were known to be critical food for numerous wildlife species, there has been no attempt, to date, to understand how birds and mammals may have dispersed these nuts. Recent studies on oak (*Quercus*) dispersal indicate how acorn characteristics (e.g., tannin, fat, germination schedules) influence oak dispersal by small mammals and further suggest that WO species are dispersal limited in the presence of RO species. Because chestnut shares characteristics common to acorns of both oaks (e.g., high palatability, delayed germination), it is interesting to know how chestnuts and oaks likely influenced the other's dispersal. To test this, we selectively provisioned small mammals at several study areas over two years with > 29,000 tagged nuts of northern red oak (NRO), white oak (WO), Am. chestnut (ACP) and Am. chestnut hybrids (ACH). We then determined removal rates, consumption and caching frequencies, and dispersal distances. Dispersal of all seed types was influenced differently depending on the other seed types present. However, preliminary results suggest that chestnuts are dispersal limited in the presence of NRO but may enhance dispersal of WO.

Funding for this project was provided by the National Science Foundation, the Fenner Research Fund, & the Wilkes University Faculty Development Fund.

CACHE RECOVERY, PILFERING AND SPATIAL MEMORY IN A SCATTER-HOARDING RODENT: DO TREE SQUIRRELS HAVE A RETRIEVER'S ADVANTAGE

MELISSA BUGDAL (PRIMARY PRESENTER), JUSTIN BALINT, JARROD BUZALEWSKI, DANIEL MATZ, & PAUL WITT
DR. MICHAEL STEELE, FACULTY MENTOR

Scatter-hoarding mammals are thought to rely on spatial memory to relocate food caches, yet, we know little about how long these animals recall specific cache locations and whether individual hoarders have an advantage at recovering their own caches. Recent studies suggest that high rates of pilfering are common and that individual hoarders may not have a retriever's advantage. This hypothesis was tested in a high-density population of Eastern gray squirrels (*Sciurus carolinesis*) by presenting individual animals with tagged acorns, mapping cache sites, and following the fate of seed caches. Passive integrated transponders allowed us to monitor individual seeds without disturbing cache sites. Cached acorns only remained in the cache site for 12-119 hours (0.5-5 days). However, when we live-trapped and removed some animals from the site immediately after they stored seeds (thus simulating predation), their seed caches remained intact for significantly longer periods (16-27 days). Cache duration corresponded roughly to the time at which squirrels were returned to the study area. The results suggest that these rodents may have a retriever's advantage and that they may remember specific cache sites longer than previously thought.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

DETERMINING SECONDARY DISPERSAL OF RED OAK (*QUERCUS RUBRA*) BY SMALL MAMMALS USING RADIO TELEMETRY

PETER DOMBROSKI & GEORGINA ROBINSON
DR. MICHAEL STEELE, FACULTY MENTOR

Scatter-hoarding mammals and birds store seeds for later use and in the process, often impact plant establishment and regeneration. Although it is hypothesized these granivores may recover and move individual seeds several times in the process of managing food stores, little is known about this process of secondary, animal-mediated dispersal. Here, we report on a field experiment designed to test for secondary dispersal of acorns of red oak (*Quercus rubra*) by small mammals (primarily mice, chipmunks and gray squirrels). We selectively provisioned small mammals with 32 radio-tagged acorns at six independent locations in a mature oak-hickory forest in NE Pennsylvania. We then followed the movement patterns and final fates of these seeds from mid-November 2007 to February 2008. Small mammals moved 25 acorns on 53 occasions allowing

us to document 7 instances of secondary movement, 5 instances of tertiary movement, and a single instance of quaternary movement. Distances that seeds were dispersed were not directly related to the number of times they were moved. Although sample sizes in this preliminary study were small, they clearly allowed us to document the occurrence of secondary dispersal in this system.

Funding for this project was provided by the National Science Foundation & the Fenner Research Fund.

Making Sense of Antisense: A Study of Antisense Transcripts in Light Regulated Gene Expressions in Nipponbare Rice

Neil Kocher, Naseem Mian, Jai Shah
Dr. William Terzaghi, Faculty Mentor

Natural antisense transcripts (NATs) are RNA molecules that are complementary to "sense" RNAs and are known to play regulatory roles in the cell. This research examined 21 genes with antisense partners which are involved in light regulated pathways in Nipponbare rice (*Oryza sativa japonica*). Of the 21 genes with identified antisense partners, 17 were found by RT-PCR to be expressed inside Nipponbare shoot and root cells. Low molecular weight RNA blots of the ribulose-3-P epimerase/ axi protein gene pair revealed a root-specific small RNA (≈40 nucleotides). Similarly, low molecular weight RNA blots of the TGA/ phosphatase gene pair showed small RNAs derived from exon 13 of TGA that were not present in phosphatase. RT-PCR of the rbcS gene on chromosome 12 suggested the presence of multiple small antisense fragments rather than one large, continuous one. The results of this research will be used to determine whether NATs play regulatory functions in Nipponbare light responses.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force and the National Science Foundation (with the Deng Research Group, Yale University)

Inhibition of Metamorphosis of Capitella Metatrochophore Larvae by a Mitogen-Activated Protein Kinast Inhibitor

Anthony Scerbo
Dr. William Biggers, Faculty Mentor

The settlement and metamorphosis of metatrochophore larvae of the marine polychaete annelid *Capitella* sp. I is known to be induced by marine sediments, as well as juvenile hormone-active substances such as the juvenile hormone methyl farnesoate (MF). In further investigating the signal transduction process regulating settlement and metamorphosis, we have found that exogenous application of an inhibitor of mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAP-kinase),

PD 98059, is able to inhibit metamorphosis induced by MF or a natural chemical cue, but does not inhibit prior settlement. These results indicate that settlement and metamorphosis are two separate events for these larvae, and that activation of the MAP kinase pathway may possibly be involved in the signal transduction events mediating their metamorphosis.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

~~ Chemistry ~~

Trace Component Extraction and Removal of Trimethylamine from Gaseous Exhaust

Adam Butler & Kenneth Green
Dr. Terese Wignot, Faculty Mentor

Trimethylamine is a volatile organic compound which is present in the exhaust of fish food factories. Trimethylamine in high concentrations can be severely dangerous, but in the case of the fish food factory the reason for removal is that it is unpleasantly odiferous to the surrounding town. A strategy to remove trimethylamine gas from the exhaust was approached as a two-part method. The two part method is required due to the subject of interest (trimethylamine) being in the gas phase. The first part was to collect the subject of interest as a gas, to dissolve it in water, and then acidify it. Thus it becomes an aqueous phase. The second stage was complete removal of trimethylamine from the aqueous phase. This was found via the cation exchange column Dowex®, and confirmed qualitatively with Gas Chromatography- Mass Spectrometry. The cation exchange column works on the principle of opposite charges attracting, the trimethylamine is attracted to the opposite charge of the resin column and through this is removed from the water.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

The Menshutkin Reaction

Brynn Beaver & Gerald Shovlin
Dr. Henry Castejon, Faculty Mentor

The Menshutkin reaction is a reaction between an amine and an alkyl transfer reagent that follows the S_N2 mechanism. It is one of several alkylation reactions, which are important in gene expression, enzyme regulation, and synthetic processes. The equilibrium and kinetic aspects of the reaction were studied to determine the effects that the solvent, nucleophile, and halide leaving group have on the reaction pathway. Pyridine and ammonia were used as

nucleophiles, and various methyl halides were used as methyl transfer reagents. The reactions were performed at a variety of temperatures in acetonitrile, di-n-butyl ether, and cyclohexane. For each reaction, the activation energy (E_a) was determined by the kinetic studies, and the enthalpy of reaction (ΔH) was determined by the equilibrium studies. The combined results allow for the examination of the complete reaction pathway.

Funding for this project was provided by the Petroleum Research Fund.

TRANSITIONAL MODELING INVESTIGATION OF 1,3-DIPOLAR CYCLOADDITIONS OF MÜNCHONES AND NITROINDOLES

MICHAEL SIMKO
DR. HERNANDO TRUJILLO, FACULTY MENTOR

In 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions, the negative charge of one molecule is expected to match up with the positive charge of another, and vice versa. However, in 1,3-dipolar cycloadditions of munchnones (1) with nitroindoles (2), the major product obtained does not match this pattern; the major product can be predicted in the reaction mechanism by pairing the positive charge of one molecule to the positive charge, and the negative with the negative. The transition state was investigated using modeling calculations with Gaussian 98 to determine the molecular transitional model of the reaction of a nitroindole and a munchnone. It was noted that the two starting materials could approach in various configurations, leading to different products. A simpler system using nitrostyrene and a munchnone was investigated, and the calculations were run with different configurations of the starting materials, and determining the molecular model for each transition state. It was also noted that the reactants did not approach from parallel planes, but instead were tilted towards one another. The reaction pathway to create the major product was found to have a shorter distance between the smaller groups of the starting material when the transition state model is created, as well as the lowest energy. The results obtained from these calculations were in agreement with other published calculations, as well as agreeing with experimental results.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

REGIOSELECTIVITY OF AN UNSYMMETRICAL MÜNCHONE WITH β-NITROSTYRENE

JUSTIN SPOTT
DR. HERNANDO TRUJILLO, FACULTY MENTOR

To further understanding of the preference of one diphenyl pyrrole(23pyr) over its regioisomer(35pyr), N-Benzoyl-N-benzylalanine was synthesized from propionic acid and treated with DCC and ß-nitrostyrene(BNS). DCC serves as a dehydrating agent, converting N-benzoyl-N-benzylalanine into the reactive molecule of interest, Münchnone(Münch). The reaction has been carried out in solvents over a range of boiling points and polarities, to observe their effect on the product ratio.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Chemistry Department Mentoring Grant Program.

THE SYNTHESIS OF (±)-TETRAPONERINE-8 AND HOW ITS VARIOUS ANALOGUES MAY BE USED AS A POTENTIAL TREATMENT FOR PARKINSON'S DISEASE

ELISE SEREMBUS
DR. AMY BRADLEY, FACULTY MENTOR

A series of analogues are to be developed which may potentially be used to treat Parkinson's disease. A stereoselective synthesis for one of the tetraponerines, (±)-tetraponerine-8, has been chosen for the synthesis of its various analogues. Two of the reagents, 2-methyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydropyridine and 4-bromobutyraldehyde, were synthesized and characterized. There was a good percent yield of 95 % obtained for the crude aldehyde. The intermediate of the methyl imine had a decent yield of 61 % however it is not pure, due to excessive solvent present. Due to the impure quality of the intermediate the following step in the reaction scheme afforded an impure imine with a very low percent yield.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

SYNTHESIS OF FLOUROCARBON SUBSTITUTED OCTAETHYLPOPHYRIN

KATE WILLIS
DR. GREGORY PETERS, FACULTY MENTOR

The fluorocarbon substituted octaethylporphyrin was investigated using a series of synthetic reactions which were chosen as the means of preparation. These preparations include the synthesis of ethyl isocyanoacetate, octaethylporphyrin, and the fluorocarbon substitution by means of an alkyl lithium reagent. Currently the synthesis of ethyl isocyanoacetate has been accomplished. The

product was isolated and analyzed using gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry, infrared spectroscopy, proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance.The yield was found to be 78%. This product will then be utilized in the synthesis of octaethylporphyrin, which will be used in a series of trials under which fluorocarbon substitution in the meso-position will be attempted. If successful the fluorination of octaethylporphyrin will allow for the study of how the binding sites of the metal centers will be effected by the addition of electron withdrawing groups.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Chemistry Department Mentoring Grant Program.

GS-MS Quantitation Analysis of an Eight Component

Faith Wydra
Dr. Donald Mencer, Faculty Mentor

Gas chromatography mass spectrometry is a popular analytical method. The most common application of GC-MS is identification of unknown organic compounds whether for industrial quality control or identification of reaction products. Quantitation can also be achieved by using GC-MS. GC-MS was chosen because it has few limitations. It is good for analyzing compounds that have vapor pressures beyond 10-10 torr and the quantitative accuracy is controlled by the analytical method of calibration. In this experiment an eight component mixture containing citronellal, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronapthalene, 1-bromo-heptane, tert-amyl alcohol, n-pentane, n-octane, methyl cyclohexane, and 1,2 dichloroethane was analyzed via the method of standard additions. For this particular analysis a key issue was achieving complete baseline resolution for two pairs of compounds. By developing a method of regulating oven temperature it was possible to determine percentage of each of the compounds. Other challenges associated with good quantitation using GC-MS will be illustrated in this work.

~~ Biochemistry ~~

Synthesis and Antimicrobial Evaluation of Nanocomposite Biofunctional Materials

Amanda Derr
Drs. Donald Mencer, Kenneth Pidcock, & Ali Razavi, Faculty Mentors

Electroless plating is a common technique carried out in the absence of a voltage (unlike electrolytic plating), using a solution comprised of chemicals designed to produce metallic coatings. In this study, silver and silver alloys were plated onto particles of two types of clay (Laponite® RD and Halloysite) and polyester that are about 1000 times smaller than the diameter of human hair

(nanoparticles). The deposition baths employed variations of chemical mixtures that were primarily hypophosphite formulations to produce nano-composite (very small multi-component) products. The resulting nano-composite materials were tested for the ability to limit bacterial growth (an antimicrobial effect) using standard bacterial culture growth methods. The greatest antimicrobial effects were seen in the bath solutions containing between 20 to 30 mM AgNO3 per reaction mixture. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and energy dispersive spectrometry (EDS) data confirm that particles subjected to the bath conditions with 30 mM AgNO3 coated a larger surface area than other baths examined that contained less silver, and showed improvement in the uniformity of coating patterns than particles coated using the 20 mM AgNO3 solutions. The effective nanoparticles may be utilized for future use in various products related to moisture absorbency.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

~~ Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences~~

Spatial Responses of Meiofauna to Water Table Fluctuation in a Lentic Ecosystem

Matthew Shope
Drs. Mike Case & Brian Whitman, Faculty Mentors

Meiofauna (Benthic (living on the bottom of a body of water) animals that can fit a mesh size of 1 mm and be retained on a mesh size of 42 micrometers) are essential to lentic (pertaining to or living in motionless water (ponds and lakes)) ecosystems in providing a food source for many fish species and the breakdown of detritus; however, studies involving them are comparatively infrequent when compared to similar studies involving lotic (pertaining to or living in flowing water (streams and rivers) and marine (of or pertaining to the sea; existing in or produced by the sea) ecosystems. Regionally, such studies are almost nonexistent. The following premises define the feasibility of this project: meiofauna play a critical role in energy transfer in the benthic community and meiofauna may be used for the assessment of water pollution. Current practices utilize macroinvertebrates which are naturally simpler to monitor. Meiofauna present an assessment method on a more intimate and smaller scale. This project is modeled after a spatial response study in a lotic ecosystem. The study presented an efficient method of testing whether the physiochemical parameters influence the distribution of meiofauna through time as the ground water and surface water levels varied (a significant point to measure, applicable in both lentic and lotic ecosystems since this variation affects other parameters). The study concluded that the water level remained the strongest predictor of meiofaunal richness and density throughout the study

despite changes in other parameters. The intention of this project is to assess the migration of meiofaunal organisms in relation to the seasonal variation of the water table in a regional lentic ecosystem. This experiment will commence during the spring 2008 semester and adhere to the requirements of the course but will carry forward to the summer session and conclude during the fall semester. The hypotheses for this project are interdependent: first, is there a relationship between the presence of meiofauna and the water table? second, if such a relationship exists does the presence of the organisms change due to the fluctuation of chemical attributes? The intent of this study is to provide the foundation for a continuing study and is intended to be dynamic in scope. Subsequent studies of other regional lentic ecosystems could eventually be incorporated into developing a series of indices to aid in assessing water quality.

Effectiveness of Home Composting Bioplastics

James Crossmon
Dr. Brian Whitman, Faculty Mentor

Biopolymer production and usage has increased steadily in the last 10 years partly because evidence suggests biopolymers, which are polymers derived from plant sources, are biodegradable and/or compostable. Traditional petroleum plastics, in comparison, are environmentally persistent. In 1999, worldwide petro-plastic production consumed about 270 million tons of fossil fuels, and in 2003 only 9% of U.S. petro-plastics were recycled. Clearly, substituting biopolymers (also called bioplastics) for petro-plastics offers an enormous opportunity to reduce pollution if biopolymers can indeed be shown as less harmful to the environment while possessing mechanical properties similar to petro-plastics. Manufacturers of biopolymers market their products as compostable in commercial composting facilities. Some manufacturers also claim home compostability. The purpose of this study is to introduce two types of biopolymer packaging materials (Polylactic acid, and Mater-Bi) into an aerobic, home composting gauge their home compostability.

Wilkes University Stark Learning Center Green Roof Pilot Study

Michael Agricola and Joshua Gardner
Drs. Marleen Troy & Brian Whitman, Faculty Mentors

Green roofs are vegetated systems that replace the use of conventional roof top coverings, such as membrane roofs. They are designed to provide additional advantages to the owner besides rain, sun, and wind protection. They increase energy performance of the buildings by reducing temperature fluctuations, extend roof life, decrease roof maintenance, make available

government incentives, and increase economic benefits. These benefits are not just for the building itself or its owners, the public can gain from green roofs as well through improved air quality; stormwater retention and management; aesthetics of the surrounding area; an increase in biodiversity; and lowering the common urban heat island effect experienced in major cities. The objective of this study is to create a working green roof design for the top of the Stark Learning Center and conduct a pilot study for Wilkes University. This study will include installing a small GreenGrid system green roof to measure temperature variations, examine stormwater retention, provide a structural analysis of the roof load for Stark Learning Center, and develop an economic analysis of the system. The plants that will be used are two mixes of various Sedum species that thrive in the eastern part of the Unites States. The two plant mixes used within the green roof will be compared to two controls—a black membrane and white membrane roof.

Ventilation Quality Using Carbon Dioxide as an Indicator

Jarrod Antolik and Adam Zwolinski
Drs. Brian Redmond & Brian Whitman, Faculty Mentors

Carbon dioxide can be used as an indicator of the efficiency and quality of ventilation systems in buildings. By measuring carbon dioxide concentrations in rooms throughout a building, a clearer image can be provided as to how good or bad a building's ventilation system is functioning. The background carbon dioxide for ambient air is approximately 380 parts per million (ppm). If a building's ventilation system is functioning properly, the indoor concentration should be close to 380 ppm throughout the building. This study will examine a few classrooms in Stark Learning Center at Wilkes University to develop an idea of how well the ventilation systems are working, and how well ventilation matches room occupancy. Carbon dioxide concentrations will be measured when there is no occupancy and also when there is occupancy throughout a normal semester at Wilkes University. A comparison of the carbon dioxide concentrations with the baseline concentration can be used to assess the efficiency of ventilation. A model will also be derived in order to assess the indoor carbon dioxide concentration over time.

Modeling Partially Submerged Solids in Sewer Pipe

Bryce Edwards and Emil Helfer
Drs. Thomas Walski & Brian Whitman, Faculty Mentors

Gravity-fed self-cleaning sewers are designed based on a minimum slope, which is calculated to allow gravity to provide enough energy for water to transport solids and particulate matter through the system. The problem with this approach is that sometimes the solids and particles will settle out due to low

flow and will cohere to each other and adhere to the pipe wall. In order for the system to be truly self-cleaning, the force of the water acting upon the solids needs to be greater than the resistive force holding the solid to the pipe. Sewers are designed with the particles being fully submerged but this is not always the case. Sewers in the upper reaches of the collection system often operate under low flow conditions leaving solid particles only partially submerged. The aim of this project is to successfully model, through experimentation, the effects of water on partially submerged solids in a sewer pipe. The objectives are to construct an experimental apparatus and conduct experiments that should resolve the actual forces applied to the solids by shallow flowing water and supply a minimum slope for sewer designs with partially submerged solids.

Designing a Cold Climate Composting Toilet

Ryan Haas and Audra Safter-Myers
Drs. Prahlad Murthy & Brian Whitman, Faculty Mentors

In the developed world, disposing of human excrement is managed by a sophisticated system of plumbing and wastewater treatment. This method of management is complicated, costly, and water intense. Undeveloped countries often lack the resources to use such methods for dealing with human wastes. Pit latrines are common in these countries where waste is not always seen as a source of disease but as a commodity for their crops. More recently public health officials have considered ways to deal with human excrement sanitarily that allow rural people in developing nations access to much needed inexpensive, but traditional, fertilizer. One suggestion is the composting of human wastes in order to destroy pathogens while keeping its value as a fertilizer. One obstacle in their use is the low rate of decomposition in cold climates. This study attempts to investigate the feasibility of using composting toilets in cold climates similar to conditions experienced during winter in Northeast Pennsylvania. The study involves testing the ability to compost animal waste with an added bulk carbon source. Design factors include: simple construction with low cost, minimum maintenance, and combustion-free energy input producing compost that is safe for use in agriculture.

Tracking Volcanic Unrest Using High Precision GPS, Yellowstone Caldera, Yellowstone National Park

Kate Ambrose, Emil Helfer, Drexel Siok, and Jennifer Turney
Dr. Sid Halsor & Mr. Bill Toothill, Faculty Mentors

The annual Yellowstone National Park survey is conducted by Wilkes University faculty and staff with the assistance of Eastern Illinois University's (EIU) field camp students. The Wilkes staff serves as both mentors to the EIU students and participants in the survey. The purpose of the campaign is to

monitor short-term trends of ground deformation and crustal movement in the Yellowstone caldera, a volcanic feature formed by the collapse of land following a volcanic eruption, and to demonstrate the application of Global Positioning monitor short-term trends of ground deformation and crustal movement in the System (GPS) to undergraduate students. Throughout the survey, three of the eight points in our network are monitored simultaneously. The outcome of the survey is collect data that will be used to measure subsidence and uplift of the crust within the caldera and compare this pattern to previous years in order to look for trends. The data from this year's survey is still being processed.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force

Feasibility Study of the Wilkes-Barre Inflatable Dam Project

Kieran Inglis and Jason Prushinski
Drs. Brian Redmond & Brian Whitman, Faculty Mentors

This project will examine the feasibility of an inflatable dam on the Susquehanna River in the Wyoming Valley area. The issue at hand is that there may be detrimental environmental impacts imparted by the installation of the inflatable dam. The inflatable dam project focuses on recreation, but it may also benefit in flood protection. In order to analyze this inflatable dam project, data must be gathered regarding specific issues related to the dam. The Sunbury inflatable dam should prove to be very useful in comparisons. It is obvious that this development is going to impact the environment in numerous ways and the qualitative study of the dam at Sunbury should lead to accurate observations that can be related to the proposed dam at Wilkes-Barre.

~~ Engineering & Physics ~~

Data Acquisition System for a Tribometer

Abdulrahman Abumurad and Nathan Daniels
Dr. Jamal Ghorieshi, Faculty Mentor
Abdulrahman Abumurad, Graduate Student Mentor

In dry (unlubricated) sliding of two solid bodies in contact heat is generated. The friction-generated heat dissipates though solid bodies. In polymer-metal contact, however, the friction generated heat is confined to a thin layer at contact surface due to the low thermal diffusivity of the polymers, which results in temperature rise. The polymers are much more sensitive to temperature rise then metals or ceramics. The temperature increase greatly affects the tribological properties of the polymer such as friction, and wear. Hence there is a need to identify pressure and sliding speed conditions under which a given polymer will operate satisfactorily for a designed lifetime in tribological applications.

This design and development of a tribometer and accompanied data acquisition system is presented in this poster. The design is based on a thrust washer configuration in which the polymer/composite specimen is rotated against a stationary metal anvil. The hardware part represented by the electric circuit is built to acquire the analog data, amplified then converted to the digital data. The software is being developed to read, analyzed, and plot the information friction coefficient and temperature change as function of time. Typical resulting temperature changes at metal-polymer interface are illustrated.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

~~ Communication Studies & Pharmacy Practice ~~

Will Two B6 Tablets Make a B12?: An Oral History Project of Wyoming Valley Pharmacists

Adrienne Camp and Marissa Phillips
Drs. James Culhane & Andrea Breemer Frantz, Faculty Mentors

In the summer and fall terms of 2007, Adrienne Camp and Marissa Phillips became archival researchers for an existing oral history project managed by Drs. Jim Culhane and Andrea Breemer Frantz. The oral history project reflects several years of work gathering, transcribing, and coding oral histories among local pharmacists. Marissa and Adrienne worked with local newspapers, at the Osterhout Library and with the Luzerne County Historical Society to gather historical photos, news clippings, advertisements and artifacts from participating pharmacists to round out the visual component of the project. The result will be a multimedia presentation that takes the form of a slideshow using images and artifacts gathered throughout the process and incorporating audio of excerpts of the oral histories. The presentation will also incorporate slides that offer an introduction as well as the project's methodology.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

~~ Pharmacy Practice ~~

The Drug Information Challenge: A Unique Learning Opportunity

Claudia Cassett, Alisha Cain, Eryn Briggs, Bethany Head, & Michael Gionfriddo
Ms. Barbara Nanstiel, Staff Mentor
Dr. KarenBeth Bohan, Faculty Mentor

The Drug Information Challenge (DIC) was an extra-curricular competition and mentoring activity in which pharmacy students at different levels of

professional study collaborated to apply their knowledge and skills to the process of answering a four-part drug information question. Teams consisted of one student from each of the first three professional years (P1, P2, and P3). P3s explained and taught clinical concepts; P2s, who were studying pharmacokinetics, contributed their knowledge; and P1s not only learned from the P2s and P3s but also provided new insight into answering the questions. Students participated in the Drug Information Challenge for a variety of reasons, among them to gain more experience answering drug information questions and to meet other pharmacy students. All participants agree that the DIC has united them across class levels and has helped them to learn and develop the skills that will help them to be successful pharmacists.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

University of Utah School on Alcoholism & Other Drug Dependencies

Brandon Conforti, Christine Corser, Monica Gehret, Oanh Nguyen
Dr. Daniel Longyhore, Faculty Mentor

The purpose was to create a readily identifiable group of pharmacy students to serve as advocates for fellow pharmacy students who are dealing either directly or indirectly with chemical dependencies. Four Wilkes University pharmacy students are selected each year to attend the University of Utah School on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies, an intense five-day program in which students are exposed to many personal and emotional issues, as well as learning about the physiological changes that occur in a chemically dependent person.

Utah School attendees then become student advocates in the School of Pharmacy as part of the Wilkes Pharmacy Student Recovery Program and act for others with dependency issues or serve as mentors to students interested in the topic. The advocates are available to all pharmacy students dealing directly or indirectly with dependency issues. The advocates (in conjunction with a faculty mentor) will offer referrals to campus counseling and other authorities for rehabilitation programs and a continued recovery process.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force, and by Secundum Artum: Reaching Pharmacists with Help

~~ Pharmaceutical Sciences ~~

New Approach to Functionalized Thiosugars as Prototypes of Antimicrobial Agents

Arthur Jankowski
Dr. Zbigniew Witczak, Faculty Mentor

The rapid growth in the synthetic carbohydrate chemistry research requires specifically modified chiral building blocks with improved functional properties. As the new concept of incorporating the sulfur linkage into a S-di, S-tri- and S-oligosaccharide analogs progresses, the validity of the synthetic approaches and their stereoselectivity play a critical role in their synthesis.

Our stereoselective approach was first developed by the utilization of the Michael addition of reactive thiols (SugSH) to various carbohydrate enones. These approaches constitute a new entity in the variety of new 1,4-, 1,3-, 1-2, and 1-5-thio-linked S-disaccharides previously not easily available.

S-Thiodisaccharides, such as thionigerose and thioisomaltose, have been shown to exhibit strong anti-HIV activity in CEM and MT-2 cells. In this context, our synthetic/biological targets is a new 1-5-S-thiodisacharide analog, which have been stereoselectively synthesized from 4-ulose (**1**) (conveniently produced from common sugar: L-arabinose) by nucleophilic attack of highly reactive thiosugar (2) at position C-5. Further functionalization of the C-4 keto function by oximation and stereoselective reduction ($NaBH_3CN$) produces new thioamino analogs. Preliminary biological antimicrobial activity tests on selected cell culture lines will be presented and discussed.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

~~ Psychology ~~

The Relationship of Differentiation of Self to Field Independence and the Stroop Task

Courtney Mullen and Dr. Robert Bohlander
Dr. Robert Bohlander, Faculty Mentor

Interrelationships among the psychological constructs differentiation of self, field dependence/ independence, and the Stroop Color Naming task were investigated in 38 undergraduates. The two instruments purporting to measure differentiation of self did not correlate with one another. Scores on one of the measures, and on two subscales of the second measure, were significantly related to decreased interference on the Stroop task. Scores on one of the same subscales were related to greater field independence.

The Effect of Unpleasant imagery and Aerobic Dance on Pain Tolerance

Courtney Mullen
Dr. Jennifer Thomas, Faculty Mentor

The present study examined the effect of psychological (i.e., unpleasant imagery) and physiological stressors (i.e., aerobic dance) on life-long dancers. Because life-long dancers have been shown to have a higher pain tolerance than non-dancers, it was hypothesized that both stressors would increase pain tolerance, with the physiological stressor increasing tolerance to a greater degree than the psychological stressor. This within-subjects study exposed participants to the cold pressor task before and after each stressor. Data indicated that in accordance with the hypothesis, dance increased pain tolerance. Contrary to the hypothesis, the psychological stressor decreased pain tolerance. This finding is particularly important in treating chronic pain patients.

The Effect of Letter Transposition on Interference in the Stroop Task

Johanna Schecter
Dr. Deborah Tindell, Faculty Mentor

The Stroop effect demonstrates that when asked to name the color in which a stimulus is presented, reaction time will be slower if the ink spells out the name of a color word than if it is represented as a color bar (Stroop, 1935). A possible explanation states that when one sees the color word, he/she automatically reads the word, interfering with the ability to name the color (Cohen, Dunbar, & McClelland, 1990). In addition to the traditional color words (CW) used in the Stroop task, the present study used transposed color words (TCW), for example, "BORWN," and emotion words (EW) to measure interference. The study found that the TCW caused significantly more interference on the Stroop task than the EW. However, they caused less interference than the CW. It can be concluded that reading the TCW is relatively automatic and unavoidable. The study's faculty mentor was Dr. Deborah Tindell.

PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHER/STUDENT SEXUAL CONTACTS: THE EFFECTS OF TEACHER ATTRACTIVENESS, GENDER, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION

VICTORIA TOMASSETTI AND ROBERT BOHLANDER
DR. ROBERT BOHLANDER, FACULTY MENTOR

Perceptions of the criminal seriousness and inappropriateness of teacher/student sexual contact were measured in 187 undergraduates as a function of the teacher's attractiveness, gender, and sexual orientation, as well as the respondent's gender. Participants were randomly assigned to read one of eight fictional "newspaper accounts" of teacher sexual contact with a 16-year-old student to determine if the attractiveness of a male or female teacher would influence participants' perceptions of the teacher-student relationship. The perceived responsibility of the teacher and of the student for that relationship, and suggested prison terms for any criminal activity on the part of the teacher were also measured. Statistical analyses revealed that female respondents rated the contacts as more criminally serious and warranting longer prison terms than did male respondents, and both males and females saw homosexual relationships as more serious, inappropriate, and warranting longer prison terms than heterosexual relationships.

Panel Discussion

12:00 NOON
BALLROOM
HENRY STUDENT CENTER

ENGLISH & THE WILKES UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER

COMMUNAL LEARNING THROUGH LANGUAGE: WRITING MENTORS AND ESL STUDENTS

PATRICK AUSTIN, MELISSA BUGDAL, ELIZABETH CLARK,
SARAH DOMAN, AND KACY MUIR
DR. CHAD STANLEY, FACULTY MENTOR

Students continue to the collegiate level of learning, not only to receive a quality education, but also to broaden their social and cultural horizons. Unfortunately, when some students enter the English 101 classroom, they are often unprepared for college-style writing. These students are often surprised and perplexed by caliber of expectation which they discover within the college English classroom. Whether their problems arise from a lack of experience in their high school classrooms, foreignness within the classroom (as seen in foreign exchange and English as a Second Language [E.S.L.] students), or from the shock of entering the new and sometimes intimidating college realm, the

students' issues must be resolved first and foremost within the 101 classroom setting itself. Within the classroom, the students may ease into advanced ways of conducting literary and writing activities through the help of the Writing Mentor. The job of the Writing Mentor is to act as a bridge between the professor and student. The Mentor should not act as an authority figure, but rather as a guide. The Writing Mentor often works together with an individual student, who may be facing problems in the English classroom, to devise a plan of action based on the student's needs. Whether through guidance of group discussion, initiation of peer revision activities, and/or holding individualized conferences, the Writing Mentor plays an integral role in establishing the success of all students in the English 101 classroom and beyond, in higher-level English classrooms.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

Papers

12:15 – 1:00 PM
BALLROOM
HENRY STUDENT CENTER

~~ BUSINESS & FINANCE ~~

WEATHER DERIVATIVES: ARE THEY A SUCCESSFUL RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACH FOR BASEBALL FRANCHISERS?

MATTHEW BICKERT AND LESLIE BORTZ
DR. NANDITA DAS, FACULTY MENTOR

The weather derivative is a financial instrument used to alleviate risk associated with negative weather conditions such as temperature. The weather derivative is a new security and potential uses are constantly being discovered. This research has shown another potential market, Major League Baseball franchises. The research shows a relationship, with some teams, that a colder or warmer temperature on the day can affect the attendance on that day's game. These observations provide evidence that a franchise could purchase a weather derivative contract in order to offset some losses that occur due to unfavorable weather. The loss of game attendees will not only affect the franchises' revenue from ticket sales, but any revenues from concessions from within the stadium.

~~ Political Science ~~

Are Economic Sanctions Effective? A Study of the Sanctions Episodes in Iraq and South Africa

Sheldon Paprota
Dr. Andrew Miller, Faculty Mentor

Economic sanctions are a commonly used tool in International Relations. As such, the question must be asked – do they work? In an attempt to answer this question, I decided to use a case-study approach. I chose to study an instance where sanctions were an unquestioned success in South Africa, and one where they were seen to be less than successful, as in Iraq. I concluded that economic sanctions episodes can be complicated and subjective with many variables contributing to their success or failure. However, factors that tend to lead to a successful sanctions episode are a more open or democratic government in the nation upon which the sanctions are imposed, international cooperation in imposing the sanctions, and having goals established for the sanctions that are realistic and possible to be met.

~~ Biology ~~

Effects of Thrombospondin 1 on Endothelial Cell Mediated Immune Regulation

Castillo Angel, Catherine Simone, Palak Sutaria, & Tyler Steele
Dr. Linda Gutierrez, Faculty Mentor

Transforming growth factor beta 1 (TGFß1) is one of the main regulators of the immune response. TGFß1 is activated by thrombospondin 1 (TSP-1) which also induces cell death on leukocytes and endothelial cells (EC).

EC secrete a variety of growth factors and cytokines, which initiate and modulate inflammation. The effects of TSP-1 on EC secretion of mediators of the immune response were analyzed in this study. Aortas were dissected from wild type (WT) mice used as controls and TSP-1 deficient mice (TSP-$1^{-/-}$). Aortas were cultured and treated with TGFß1. Protein detection of multiple cytokines was performed in the collected media using enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assay (ELISA).

Interleukin-6 (IL-6) was diminished in WT aortas after treatment with TGFß1. However, inhibition was not detected in TSP-$1^{-/-}$ aortas, suggesting that TGFß1 activation by TSP-1 may be a requisite for the diminished IL-6 secretion. IL-6 exerts important functions during the inflammatory process and has significant therapeutic potential.

Funding for this project was provided by the National Institutes of Health.

Performances

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM
Gies Recital Hall
Lower Level, Darte Hall

~~ Visual & Performing Arts ~~

Irene Ryan Audition Packages for the Kennedy Center-American College Theatre Festival

Theatre Arts Majors
Ms. Naomi Baker, Faculty Mentor

For each production at Wilkes University, the American College Theatre Festival sends at least one representative to adjudicate the production and provide external reviews for the personnel involved in the production. As part of the adjudication process, two students from the production are nominated to compete for the Irene Ryan Scholarships. Following are the competition audition packages provided by the 2007 Wilkes University Irene Ryan Scholarship Nominees.

Package I

Peter Kennedy and Deirdre Lynch

We worked many hours with our mentor, Naomi Baker, to select and prepare our pieces that are to be presented for the conference auditions. With the help of our mentor Naomi Baker, I chose scenes from "Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music" by Lee Blessing, William Shakespeare's "As You Like It", and a monologue from John Robin Baitz's "The End of the Day." We have worked with Professor Baker to connect with our characters and with each other as well as working on making the overall audition ready for competition. This has been a very valuable experience for me and I hope this had help prepared me more for the world of theatre that I will join after graduation in the spring

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

PACKAGE II

CASEY LYNCH AND KATRINA ZBEGNER

We worked with Naomi Baker to choose and prepare the material to be presented for the Irene Ryan auditions. I chose scenes from "Picnic" by William Hinge, "Desdemona" by Paula Vogel, and Eve Ensler's "Necessary Targets." We rehearsed with our mentor to mold the material into a six minute package. It was a valuable experience for us to work one-on-one with our acting teacher. We have learned to expect much more from ourselves, and to never settle with being too comfortable.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

PACKAGE III

ADRIEN RUGGERIO AND JENNIFER SMERALDO

We began to prepare for the Irene Ryan Scholarship competition first by meeting with Naomi Baker, our acting teacher and mentor, to discuss and pick out the material for the audition. Eventually, we chose to use pieces from "Love for Love" by William Congreve, "The Seagull" by Anton Chekhov, and William Mastrosimone's "Bang Bang You're Dead." We then met with our mentor to work on the full package of our performance, working not only the pieces themselves, but the introductions and transitions from scene to scene as well.

Funding for this project was provided by the Wilkes University Mentoring Task Force.

SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT: AN EVENING OF KANDER & WEBB (EXCERPTS)

STACIE GOGO AND DEIRDRE LYNCH
WITH
TIMOTHY KING, DANIEL PASCOE, AND JENNIFER SMERALDO
ASSISTED BY
RON STABINSKY, PIANO
MS. TERESA FALLON, FACULTY MENTOR

In the theatre arts program, majors are required to complete a senior capstone in order to fulfill the requirement for graduating. This is a joint project of Musical Theatre majors, Stacie Gogo and Deirdre Lynch.

The project, which is a musical revue of Kander and Ebb songs, requires us to work closely with our faculty mentor in order to presented the best completed product we can produce.

COLLABORATIVE PERFORMANCE: *SCARAMOUCHE FOR TWO PIANOS*, BY DARIUS MILHAUD

AMY SEKOL, PIANO I AND ELLEN FLINT, PIANO II
DR. ELLEN FLINT, FACULTY MENTOR

In the Fall of 2007, I was able to collaborate with my mentor, Dr. Ellen Flint, on the preparation of a challenging work for four hands at two pianos. *Scaramouche* by Darius Milhaud is a piano duo comprising three movements: Vif, Modéré, and Brazileira. Piano duos require the performers to work many hours together in rehearsal and demand that performers develop the ability to think alike and trust one another completely. This unique experience provided me the opportunity to work as an equal partner in a collaborative team and helped me to develop greater confidence in my interpretive abilities and in my ability to participate in the "give and take" practiced by chamber musicians. By employing modeling as a significant mentoring activity and engaging me in challenging dialogues about the musical structures of the piece, Dr. Flint helped me to gain an understanding and appreciation of the collaborative chamber experience.

Dr. Flint and I will perform *Scaramouche* in its entirety in order to demonstrate the results of our collaborative efforts. We will then explain briefly the mentoring processes involved in the preparation of this piece.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Michael Agricola is currently a senior at Wilkes University with a major in Environmental Engineering and a minor in Geology. Michael graduated high school from Pleasant Valley in 2004 and was born in Torino, Italy. Aside from being on the Dean's List, Michael also is the vice president of both the Environmental Club and Air and Waste Management Association Student Chapter at Wilkes. Michael plans on entering graduate school in the next two years to further his education in Environmental Engineering.

George Agurkis was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The eldest of two children he grew up in Laflin, Pennsylvania with his mother Kathleen, father George, and brother Ryan. George attended Scranton Preparatory High School in Scranton, Pennsylvania from 2000 to 2004. Following graduation he entered Wilkes University as a Biology major. He has been conducting research with Dr. William Biggers for the past two semesters on the *Effects of Methyl Farnesoate on the Asexual Fissioning of Dugesia tigrina*. On completion of his studies at Wilkes University George hopes to pursue a career in dental medicine.

Katie Ambrose is currently a sophomore at Wilkes University with a major in Elementary Education, and a minor in Business Administration and English. Katie is from Harvey's Lake, Pennsylvania and a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School. She currently serves as a first-year Resident Assistant and has also been active in the Environmental Club and Programming Board at Wilkes University.

Jarrod Antolik is currently a senior a Wilkes University and is majoring in Earth and Environmental Science. He currently holds a grocery clerk position at Gerrity's Supermarket in Luzerne, PA. and commutes from West Nanticoke, PA. He is areas of interest are Meteorology and Geology.

Tracy Bailey is a junior at Wilkes University going for a Bachelor of Business Administration with a minor in Accounting. She grew up in Hackensack, NJ, where Tracy, her parents, three siblings reside. She works in the Oradell Animal Hospital in Paramus, NJ when she is home from school. Tracy enjoys watching TV, hanging out with friends, and browsing the internet in her spare time, when she is not in class, doing homework, or working.

Brynn Beaver was born in Salem, OH and attended Crestview Local High School in Columbiana, OH, where she graduated valedictorian of her class. She went on to major in pre-pharmacy at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, PA. After deciding against a career in pharmacy, Brynn changed her major to biochemistry. While completing her undergraduate studies, Brynn has received such awards as the Freshman Chemistry Award and the Undergraduate Award

in Analytical Chemistry. In May, Brynn will graduate from Wilkes and move on to graduate school, where she will pursue a Master of Public Health degree in epidemiology.

Matthew Bickert, a senior Mathematics and Accounting double major at Wilkes University, is originally from Nazareth, Pennsylvania. Matthew originally began studying in the education department in 2002, working towards a degree in Secondary Education with a Mathematics focus. Later, Matthew's goals were refocused towards concentrating solely on Mathematics until he concurrently began pursing a degree in Accounting. Matthew will graduate in the May 2009 with a BA in Mathematics, a BS in Accounting, and a minor in Statistics.

KarenBeth H. Bohan, Pharm.D., BCPS, Assistant Professor Pharmacy Practice, joined the faculty of Wilkes University, Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing in 2003. Since her graduation from the University of Maryland with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree, she has had numerous practice experiences including the Director of Pharmacy Services at Shamokin Area Community Hospital. Dr. Bohan is board-certified as a pharmacotherapy specialist and her primary teaching responsibilities include the pharmacotherapy of infectious diseases and drug information. Her clinical practice site is Wilkes-Barre General Hospital where she has an Internal Medicine Clerkship.

Robert Bohlander, Ph.D., is a former Rush Rhees Fellow at the University of Rochester, where he completed graduate programs in both the Department of Psychology and the Center for Visual Science, and completed coursework in the University of Rochester Medical Center's Center for Brain Research. He holds the rank of Professor of Psychology at Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA, where he teaches courses in personality, psychopathology, clinical psychology, and critical thinking. In addition to his faculty responsibilities, Dr. Bohlander maintains a small private practice as a licensed clinical psychologist. He has published numerous articles in a variety of psychology journals, with a research emphasis on psychological well-being.

Leslie Bortz, a non-traditional student at Wilkes University, graduated from Wyoming Valley West High School in Plymouth, Pennsylvania, in 1999. Immediately after high school, Leslie attended classes at Luzerne County Community College in pursuit of a career in painting and illustration. Upon receiving an Associate's degree in the Applied Science of Painting and Illustration, she accepted a full time position as an accounting clerk at PG Energy in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. From her position at PG Energy, she took an interest in accounting and decided to pursue a BS in Accounting at Wilkes. She will graduate in the fall of 2008.

Eryn Briggs is a third year PharmD candidate in the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing. She is a member of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, American Pharmacists' Association, Pharmacy Senate, Alpha Chi National Honor Society, The National Society of Leadership and Success and is an intern at CVS Pharmacy. In addition, she volunteers at the local homeless clinic and is currently working on a research project involving medication use and compliance in the underinsured. She is the daughter of Norman and Claudia Briggs of Sayre, Pennsylvania.

Melissa Bugdal is a junior English major with minors in Biology and Women's Studies. She is heavily involved in the English and Biology departments. Melissa is a co-managing editor for *The Inkwell*, the English department's newsletter, as well as a member of the English honor society Sigma Tau Delta. She also works in the Writing Center as a Writing Mentor working specifically with several sections of English 101. In the Biology department, Melissa has been working for several semesters in Dr. Steele's laboratory, and has also helped run experiments over the summer. Melissa's professional goals include science writing and editing.

Alisha Cain, a third-year PharmD candidate, is also finishing her English major this semester. She is the historian for the pharmacy honor society, Rho Chi, as well as the secretary for the English honor society, Sigma Tau Delta. She is the senior Resident Assistant on staff for the university. Alisha has been an E--Mentor for freshman and a pharmacy mentor for the past two years. Her main passion is equestrian sports, and as such, she is the founder and current president of the Wilkes University Equestrian Club. Alisha rides her horse, Trinity, five times a week while at school.

Claudia Cassett is a third-year Pharm.D. candidate in the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing. She is a member of the American Pharmacists Association, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and Lambda Kappa Sigma professional pharmacy fraternity. Claudia received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from the Pennsylvania State University prior to attending Wilkes University. She is the daughter of Thomas and Norah Cassett.

Angel Castillo is a freshman at the University of Carabobo (Venezuela) where he is majoring in Biology. Angel worked full time in research with Dr. Gutierrez last fall. He interacted with faculty members and students of the Biology& Health Sciences and Chemistry departments. Angel also assisted to lectures, conferences and participated in many Wilkes extra-curricular activities.

Elizabeth Clark is very excited to be participating in the 2008 Undergraduate Symposium. She is a junior at Wilkes University and is studying English and Secondary Education. Elizabeth has been working in the Writing Center for two years and is a Writing Mentor for Marcie Reibe's section of English 101. She is

also a senior copy editor for *The Inkwell*, the English Department newsletter, an and a member of the English Honor Society, *Sigma Tau Delta*. Elizabeth plans to eventually attend graduate school to further her education and hopes to teach at the collegiate level in the future.

Brandon Conforti is in his fifth year of the Doctor of Pharmacy program at Wilkes University. He is from the Wilkes-Barre area and his family resides in Forty Fort, PA. His pharmacy-related activities include being a brother of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, a volunteer at RHC McKinney Clinic, and intern at CVS Pharmacy. Moreover, his outside activities involve officiating high school sporting events as a PIAA basketball and football referee.

Christine Corser is a second-year PharmD candidate in the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing. She is an active member of the American Pharmacists Association and Lambda Kappa Sigma professional pharmaceutical fraternity. She is also president of the Wilkes University Circle K club. She is currently employed by Rite Aid, Georgetown University Hospital, and she plans to complete a ten-week internship at Shoppers Pharmacy in Alexandria, VA in the summer of 2008. After graduation, Christine plans on moving to the Washington, DC area to work in a retail pharmacy.

James Crossmon is a senior at Wilkes University majoring in Environmental Engineering. Following high school he earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Penn State. Since then, he has worked in jobs in engineering and Research & Development while attending Wilkes University part-time for Environmental Engineering. In Spring 2008 James transitioned to full-time status at Wilkes with the intent to graduate in December 2008.

Nathan Daniels is a junior mechanical engineering student at Wilkes University. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2005 with a degree in Psychology and Spanish, and lived in Argentina after high school. He enjoys the design and construction aspects of engineering, which makes the tribometer project a perfect fit for him. In his spare time, Nathan enjoys woodworking and building remote-controlled vehicles.

Matt Deckman is a third year business administration student at Wilkes University. He currently works as a server at Logan's Roadhouse in Wilkes-Barre. He is involved in the environmental club and he is interested in sports, especially football and wrestling. He stays active by skiing and playing intramural football. After graduation from Wilkes he plans to pursue a master's degree in Business Administration.

Amanda M. Derr is a senior biochemistry student at Wilkes University. She is anticipating a B.A. degree in Biochemistry in December 2008. Upon graduation, she tentatively plans to attend graduate school for public health and tropical disease medicine, and to participate in the Peace Corps.

Peter Dombroski transferred to Wilkes University in the Fall of 2006 from Luzerne County Community College, where he majored in PreOptometry. Peter is currently a senior Biology major at Wilkes and conducting research for his senior capstone project, "Determining secondary dispersal of red oak (*Quercus rubra*) . . . ," under the mentorship of Dr. Michael Steele. After graduating from Wilkes, Peter plans to attend the Pennsylvania College of Optometry and focus his studies in the area of pediatric optometry.

Kevin Drakes is a junior majoring in Entrepreneurship & Business Administration with a minor in Accounting. He is originally from Somerset, New Jersey. He enjoys working out, playing football and basketball. He plans to finish undergraduate school and then get MBA degree.

Nicholas Ebert is currently a junior at Wilkes University. Nicholas's major is Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and Marketing. In regards to extracurricular activities, Nick is a member of the personal finance club, Money Matters. Following his graduation and receiving his bachelor's degree, Nick plans on going to graduate school to study production and operations management.

Bryce Edwards is a senior at Wilkes University. He expects to graduate sometime in the near future with a B.S. in Environmental Engineering. Upon graduation, Bryce will move home and get a job. He would like to pursue a career in construction and eventually operate his own company.

Sarah Elliott is a junior at Wilkes University, majoring in Business Administration at the Sidhu School of Business and Leadership. Her extracurricular activities include Softball and SACC. She recently had the opportunity to have an internship with the Wilkes-Barre/ Scranton Pioneers and decided to focus on marketing in hopes to get into a field of sports marketing.

Ellen Flint, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of Music and Coordinator of the Undergraduate Experience at Wilkes University. She holds the Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Virginia Commonwealth University and graduate degrees in Music Theory from the Shepherd School of Music of Rice University and the University of Maryland at College Park. Dr. Flint is an active solo and collaborative pianist and a published scholar.

Josh Gardner was born and raised in Hughesville, PA and is currently a senior at Wilkes University majoring in Environmental Engineering. Josh currently works part-time in the Wilkes University Environmental Quality Center and for Reilly Engineering of Pittston, PA. Josh is also the President of the Wilkes University Air & Waste Management Association Student Chapter. Josh's areas of interest in Environmental Engineering include Water Resources Engineering, Hydraulics, and Microbial Transport.

Monica Gehret is in her fifth year in the Wilkes University Doctor of Pharmacy program. She is originally from Williamsport, PA, and is currently serving as the president of the Wilkes chapter of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), and the ritualist of the Delta Omicron chapter of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity. She is also a member of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). Monica has also been a member of both the Wilkes University Women's Soccer team, and the Wilkes University Women's Lacrosse team during her time at Wilkes, and she works as an intern at Rite-Aid Pharmacy in her spare time.

Michael Gionfriddo is a first-year Pharm.D. candidate in the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing. He is a member of the American Pharmacists Association and the professional fraternity Sigma Alpha Pi. Michael has also completed the Emerging Leader program sponsored by the Wilkes University Leadership Institute. He is currently employed as an intern in the pharmacy at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He is the son of Paul and Sheila Gionfriddo.

Stacie Gogo is a senior Musical Theatre Major and Dance Minor. This past summer she received the honor of being a company member at the Weathervane Repertory Theatre, a summer stock theatre in New Hampshire. There she portrayed such roles as Tinkerbell in *Peter Pan* and The Woman in Black in *The Woman in Black*. Stacie also performed in the children's theatre troupe, The Patchwork Players, which traveled the state of New Hampshire performing such shows as *The Adventures of Hans Christian Andersen*, which Stacie was the choreographer. Because of her work there, Stacie has received her Equity Membership Candidate Card and looks to further her professional career.

Charles W. Gravener was born in Princeton, New Jersey. He currently lives in Yardley, Pennsylvania and attends Wilkes University as a fourth year biology major. His interests include art, writing, photography, and marine biology. He is an avid volunteer at the SPCA animal shelter. Upon graduating, he aspires to pursue a career in graphic design.

Kenneth Green was born in Göppingen, Baden-Württemberg, South Germany, and moved with his family to the United States at the age of four. Kenneth has always enjoyed chemistry and is currently a senior Biochemistry major at Wilkes University. At Wilkes, he serves as the Chemistry Club President and is a student affiliate member of the American Chemical Society. His research focuses on the elimination of trimethylamine from the exhaust gas of a fish food factory.

Ryan Haas is a senior Environmental Engineering and Spanish major at Wilkes University. Ryan is a 2004 graduate of Southern Lehigh High School, where he played both Football and Lacrosse and was captain for both his senior year. Ryan is currently involved in the Wilkes Air and Waste Management

Association Student Chapter and is also a member of the Wilkes Lacrosse Club.

Bethany Head is a second-year PharmD candidate in the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing. She is currently a member of the American Pharmacists Association. She is an intern at Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, New York. She was a four year member of the Wilkes Women's Soccer team and was a three time 2nd team All-Freedom Conference selection. She is also a four-time member of the MASCAC Academic Honor Roll. Along with attending school she is currently an Assistant JV and Varsity Softball Coach at Crestwood High School.

Emil Helfer is a senior environmental engineering student at Wilkes University with an anticipated date of graduation in May 2008. Since coming to Wilkes University in 2004, Emil has served two consecutive terms as president of Wilkes University's Environmental Club. In the summer of 2007, Emil was invited to join a group of Wilkes University faculty and students for a GPS data logging session in Yellowstone National Park. Upon graduation, Emil looks forward to moving to Texas and pursuing a career in the field of environmental engineering.

Kieran Inglis is a senior Earth and Environmental Science major at Wilkes University. He is a 2004 graduate of Immaculate High school, located in Danbury Connecticut. Kieran grew up in New York but has been residing in Wilkes-Barre year round for two years now. He plans on following his interests in meteorology after he is finished here at Wilkes.

Arthur Jankowski is a sophomore in the Pre-Pharmacy program at Wilkes University. A resident of Mountain Top, PA, Arthur attended Crestwood High School, where he was involved with the National Honor Society, the Spanish Club, and several varsity sports; he graduated from Crestwood with honors. At Wilkes, Arthur is a member of the Varsity Soccer team and currently holds the title of Captain of the team; he has also served as a member of the Student Athletic Advisory Council. Arthur has been conducting research on thiosugars with Dr. Zbigniew Witczak since the Fall of 2007.

Peter Kennedy is a junior going for a degree in Entrepreneurship with a minor in Theater. His past roles have included the dentist in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and a Wickersham Brother in *Seussical the Musical*. His interests include martial arts, reading, music, being outdoors and playing strategy games. His plans for his life after college include traveling worldwide to learn martial arts, opening a chain of martial arts studios and devoting his life to the progression of martial arts.

Timothy King is a sophomore Musical Theatre Major. He was last seen as "The Hispanic" in *The Roar of the Greasepaint the Smell of the Crowd*. This year he has also been the fabulous Vittorio Vidal in *Sweet Charity* and Noah in *The Grapes of Wrath*.

Neil Kocher is a sophomore biology major from Mountain Top, PA. He is the son of Neil and Denise Kocher and a graduate of Crestwood High School. Neil has been performing research for Dr. William Terzaghi of the Wilkes Biology Department since 2006, and is currently studying antisense gene regulation in Nipponbare rice. Neil is also a freshman biology teaching assistant and community service coordinator for the Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society. He plans to continue to research at Wilkes this summer.

Deirdre Lynch is a senior Musical Theatre Major. She was most recently seen as the title character in Wilkes's production of *Sweet Charity*. Her other favorite roles have been Ensemble in *Closer Than Ever*, Romaine Patterson, Zackie Salmon, and many other characters in *The Laramie Project*, and Petra in *A Little Night Music*. She will next be seen in her and fellow musical theatre major, Stacie Gogo's Senior Capstone, a musical revue of Kander and Ebb songs, April 4th. After that she will be seen playing both Duke Frederick and Duke Senior in Wilkes University's "As You Like It."

Sheena Merwine is from Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania and graduated from Pius X High School in Roseto. She is currently a senior biology major at Wilkes University, where she has been researching the effects of juvenile hormones on *Dugesia* asexual reproduction with Dr. Biggers for three semesters. Upon graduation in May, she plans to relocate to Kansas City, Missouri. She is currently deciding between attending the University of Missouri graduate school to pursue the doctorate in global climate change and sustainability or accept a position as a conservation limnologist with the Civilian Army Corps of Engineers.

Naseem Mian is a junior biochemistry major from Johnson City, NY. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Akhtar Mian and a graduate of Johnson City Senior High School. Naseem spent the summer of 2007 studying antisense gene regulation in Nipponbare rice at Yale University alongside Dr. William Terzaghi of the Wilkes Biology Department and Dr. Xing-Wang Deng of the Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology Department at Yale. She plans to continue this research at Wilkes this summer.

Sean Moyer is a third year business administration student at Wilkes University. His extracurricular activities include SIFE, the Environmental Club, ski club, intramural football and basketball. Some of Sean's hobbies include snowboarding, surfing, and working out. After he graduates Wilkes University

with a bachelor's degree he intends on going back to school out west for his masters. Eventually Sean would like to become an entrepreneur and invest in real estate.

Kacy Muir is an English major at Wilkes University with concentrations in Literature and Writing and minors in Journalism and Women's Studies. Kacy actively takes part on campus as the Resident Assistant for Schiowitz Hall, Executive Editor of *The Manuscript*, Copy Editor of *The Inkwell* and Writing Mentor for English 201: Writing about Literature and Culture, which is advised by Dr. Thomas Hamill. She also serves as an intern at *The Weekender* and at Etruscan Press.

Courtney Mullen is a senior psychology major, with minors in biology, dance, and neuroscience. Courtney currently serves as the psychology club secretary, senior class treasurer, programming board concert chair and as a Freshmen Mentoring/Orientation Leader and Psychology Student Orientation Program (PsySOP) mentor. She is a member of the Psi Chi honors society and Who's Who Among American University Students and coordinates two programs for grade school children. After graduation, Courtney plans to attend graduate school in a doctoral program in physical therapy.

Barbara Nanstiel, M.S., A.H.I.P, is the Pharmacy Librarian of the Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing at Wilkes University. Prior to establishing the pharmacy library for the school, she was a hospital librarian. She received a M.S. in Education from Wilkes College and her M.S. in Library Sciences from Drexel University. Ms. Nanstiel is a member at the senior level of the Academy of Health Information Professionals.

Oanh Nguyen is a first-generation Vietnamese immigrant and serves as a translator for new Vietnamese immigrants trying to establish themselves in the local community, which has led Oanh to a first-hand awareness of addiction problems. The Utah experience helped Oanh to realize the complexity of the factors that leading to addiction, which range from poor choices to genetic predisposition, and that solutions to problems of addiction must include acceptance and focus on the problems that gave rise to the addiction.

Sheldon Paprota is a junior Political Science major, with a minor in Economics. He has achieved a 3.95 GPA and has been on the Dean's List for five semesters. He is a writing mentor for the Political Science department, and a member of the Pre-Law Society. He plans to attend Law School after graduating from Wilkes.

Isha Patel goes to the Sidhu School of Business and Leadership in Wilkes University for Business of Administration. She volunteers at the Hindu Temple teaching kids about Hindu Religion. She is interested in a career in Finance or Management.

Marissa Phillips is on her way to achieving a degree in English. She holds numerous jobs, and has numerous educational aspirations, but has yet to determine which ones she would like to define herself by.

Jason Prushinski is a Junior Earth and Environmental Science major with a minor in Education and Special Education. He is a graduate of Crestwood High School where he played football, baseball and basketball and graduated with honors. Jason now participates in football at the collegiate level, here at Wilkes and has been a three-year starter. Hailing from Slocum, Pennsylvania, he commutes and is currently employed by the Wyoming Valley Country Club.

Kyle Regner is a senior at Wilkes University. His major is Business Administration with a Concentration in Marketing. He was a member of the football team for Wilkes for the past four years. After he graduates he intends to gain some experience in his major field and then further his education by getting MBA degree.

Sara Resseguie is a junior business student at Wilkes University pursuing a concentration in finance. She had chosen her major because of her enjoyment of the business world and the different aspects it holds. Sara grew up in a small town of Hallstead, Pennsylvania, with both her parents and three brothers. She has a passion for art work and art history as well as taking pleasure in a good game of volleyball every so often. Gaining pleasure from reading a good book and relaxing is her most desired thing to do.

Georgina Robinson is a senior at Wilkes University, majoring in Biology, with a minor in neuroscience. Georgina is a member of Tri-Beta, the biological honor society and is currently working with Dr. Michael Steele and fellow biology major, Peter Dombroski, on the senior capstone research project, "Determining secondary dispersal of red oaks (*Quercus rubra*) . . . ." After graduation from Wilkes, Georgina plans to pursue graduate work in Physician Assistant studies.

Audra Safter-Myers is a non-traditional student in the senior class with an Environmental Engineering major and Physics minor. Her previous degree is an Associate's in Applied Science from Northampton Area Community College. At Wilkes, she participates in the WEBS (Women Empowered by Science) and Adventures in Science programs. Active in whitewater sports (kayaking and rafting; guide on Lehigh River) for sixteen years, she attributes her interest in water quality and its preservation to this enthusiasm.

Johanna Schechter is a junior psychology major at Wilkes. Currently, she is a member of psychology club and Psi Chi (the national honor society in psychology). Johanna has been very interested in clinical psychology since high school, and she hopes to extend her education of the mental health field in the future. She wishes to attend graduate school in mental health counseling upon

graduating from the university.

Anthony Scerbo is the son of Gail and Dave Scerbo of Brodheadsville, PA. Anthony is a graduate of Pleasant Valley High School. At Wilkes, Anthony is studying Biology with hopes of attending Wilkes-Barre General Hospital's Nuclear Medicine Program after graduation. The research that Anthony conducted began in the summer of 2007 researching the effects of a mitogen-activated protein kinase inhibitor on the polychaete annelid *Capitella* with Dr. William Biggers.

Amy Sekol is a senior music education major with a concentration in applied piano studies at Wilkes University. Amy also plays the flute and is a member of the Wilkes University Civic Band. In recognition of her academic accomplishments and service, Amy was inducted into Sigma Alpha Pi and Kappa Delta and served as treasurer of Kappa Delta in 2007. Amy plans to pursue a career in public school elementary music education and to attend graduate school in the near future.

Jai Shah is a sophomore biology major from Vestal, NY. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Naresh Shah and a graduate of Vestal Senior High School. Jai spent the summer of 2007 studying antisense gene regulation in Nipponbare rice at Yale University alongside Dr. William Terzaghi of the Wilkes Biology Department and Dr. Xing-Wang Deng of the Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology Department at Yale. He plans to continue this research at Wilkes this summer.

Matthew Shope lives in Mountain Top, PA and graduated from Crestwood High School. He is a senior in the Earth & Environmental Science Program at Wilkes University. He is involved with the university's student chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association, a student member of the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals, and a member of the International Association of Meiobenthologists. His research areas of interest include limnology and meiobenthology. He is a veteran of the United States Army. He is currently employed by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as a Park Ranger.

Michael Simko is a senior chemistry major with a math minor. I work on campus doing work-study as a tutor for University College, specializing in general chemistry and several levels of math, as well as a TA for the freshman chemistry labs under the Chemistry department. Upon graduation, I plan on working as an educator, as well as continuing my education by working on attaining a Master's degree.

Catherine Simone, a junior at Wilkes University has been working with Dr. Gutierrez doing research since her freshman year. She attended the Fifth Annual Advances in the Inflammatory Bowel Diseases Conference in 2006 and presented a poster. Catherine is a member of Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society, Alpha-Chi Honor Society, Circle-K community service Club, and the Christian Fellowship Club. While being a member of the varsity women's soccer team, Catherine maintained a 4.0 overall G.P.A, and was named to the 1st team all-conference her freshman year, 2nd team all-conference her sophomore year, and both her sophomore and junior years she was named to the ESPN TheMagazine District II Academic All-America Second Team. Catherine is a Biology major, and has minors in Spanish and Mathematics. She is a pre-med Scholar, and has been accepted to SUNY-Upstate Medical School in Syracuse, New York.

Drexel Siok is currently a junior at Wilkes University with a major in Earth and Environmental Sciences and a minor in Geology. Drexel was born and raised in Milford, Delaware and is a graduate of Milford Senior High School. At Wilkes University, Drexel is a member of the Environmental Club. When he graduates, Drexel plans to pursue his combined interest in GPS applications and geology.

Jennifer Smeraldo is a junior Musical Theatre major at Wilkes University. Before coming to college she was involved in the theatre programs through the Wilkes Community Conservatory. At Wilkes, she has played such roles as Cinderella in *Cinderella,* Granma in *The Grapes of Wrath*, and been part of the cast for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Pied Piper, Sweet Charity,* and *Talking With*. Jennifer has also contributed to numerous capstone projects and served as the stage manager for *Batboy*.

Justin Spott is a junior Wilkes University student pursuing studies in the fields of Chemistry and Philosophy. Outside of academics, Justin is an independent photographer, an avid traveler, and a developing polyglot. A graduate from Scranton Preparatory school, Justin believes strongly in bridging the gap between the sciences and humanities, and seeks to cross the curriculum by drawing parallels between the two whenever possible. *Ad Altiora Natus,* Justin hopes to pursue his education to the doctoral level.

Tyler Steele is a Chemistry major at the University of Richmond, Virginia. He worked with Dr. Gutierrez, as a research assistant during last summer.

Palak Sutaria is a biology major at Wilkes University. She is constantly active in extracurricular activities and volunteer services along with schoolwork. Palak is the vice president of Indian Cultural Club, Diversity Ambassador, part of Big Brother Big Sister organization, and also an active member of various clubs such as Circle K, yearbook and biology club. She volunteers at various hospitals, health clinics and women shelter. She also worked with Dr. Gutierrez

during last summer and she is working as a lab assistant in the biology department.

Victoria Tomassetti is a senior Psychology major at Wilkes University. An active student on campus, she is the President of the Psychology Club, Vice-President of Psi Chi, Supplemental Instruction Leader, and Psychology Student Peer Mentor. Victoria recently presented her research at the annual Eastern Psychological Association conference held in March 2008 in Boston, Massachusetts. Victoria will continue her studies in a Counseling Psychology Ph.D. program in Fall 2008.

Jennifer Turney is currently a sophomore at Wilkes University with a major in Criminology and minors in Mathematics and Statistics. Jen was born and raised in Paradise, PA. Jen is involved in the Criminology Club, National Society of Leadership and Success, Programming Board, and the Environmental Club. Jen plans on entering graduate school after Wilkes University to pursue a career in Crime Prevention and Research.

Ashley White is a fourth-year biology student currently attending Wilkes University. She was a teaching assistant for population and evolution biology, is a leader of Tri-beta, an avid volunteer at the SPCA, and a member of the biology club. She has post-graduate plans of becoming a successful physician's assistant in the very near future. Other areas of academia that interest her include neuroscience, psychology, and animal medicine. Her hobbies include reading, nature photography, and traveling.

Kate Willis is a senior Chemistry major at Wilkes University. She has spent several semesters, including a summer term, working with faculty mentor, Dr. Gregory Peters, investigating the fluorocarbon substitution of octaethylporphyrin. Kate enjoys working in a laboratory setting, and the summering mentoring program allowed her to focus on developing her skills while conducting research.

Adam Zwolinski is a senior at Wilkes University. He is majoring in Earth and Environmental Sciences and will be graduating in May 2009. Adam is a graduate of Greater Nanticoke Area Sr. High School. Adam's areas of interest in Earth and Environmental Sciences are Geology and Air Quality. He is currently employed by El Humidor Inc. in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

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