

CLARION

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

SPRING 2020



TIPPIN
Reimagined



ONLINE PROGRAMS RANKED AMONG *best* IN THE NATION

U.S. News & World Report released the 2020 Best Online Programs rankings, and five Clarion University programs ranked among the nation's best, earning the honor of being called U.S. News Best Online Programs:

- Bachelor's online programs ranked 39th in the United States, the highest ranking among the 14 universities in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education;
- MSN/DNP ranked 31st in the United States (up from 35th last year);
- Master of Education ranked 78th in the United States (up from 154th last year);
- Master of Business Administration ranked 109th in the United States (up from 119th last year);
- Business (non MBA) ranked 87th in the United States (up from 89th last year);

"These rankings reflect the great work from our faculty and staff to continuously improve our teaching and our services to students," said Dr. Pam Gent, provost. "The online classes are taught by Clarion faculty who are experts in their fields, many of whom are the same faculty who teach our face-to-face classes."

Clarion University faculty teaching online programs have received explicit training on how to teach online and have monthly opportunities to update their online teaching skill sets. University staff provide support services – including online tutoring, library services, a Writing Center, disabilities accommodations, and advising – for online students.

"Our rankings have steadily increased, specifically in the online bachelor's programs and the Master of Nursing programs the last three years," said Lynne Lander Fleisher, director of Clarion Online. "We are a proud public institution and want to extend our academically sound programs to those wherever they may reside."

To see more rankings of Clarion University programs, visit www.clarion.edu/rankings.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



When the World Health Organization declared coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic March 11, Clarion University students had just returned from spring break. Pennsylvania's first cases of COVID-19 had been confirmed a week earlier, and, although the counties where our campuses are located had no cases, the virus was multiplying in the eastern side of the commonwealth.

On campus, we established a Coronavirus Response Team and began to make plans to keep our campus communities safe. Our first step was to move classes to remote delivery until further notice; students could choose to stay on campus or return home until classes resumed. By March 16, it was apparent that we needed to take stronger action. The university announced that classes would be delivered remotely through the end of the spring 2020 semester, and students were sent home.

Our university transformed to virtual tools and remote delivery of services within days. Most offices set restricted hours. We arranged for employees, with few exceptions, to work from home. Students, faculty and staff are learning new ways to perform familiar tasks. Worldwide, our lives have changed. At Clarion, we proved how creative and resilient we are!

What hasn't changed? At Clarion University, we remain a tight-knit community. Our students remain our number one priority, and we continue to teach them. They continue to learn. We support them using remote tools to provide health care, tutoring, financial aid, registration and so much more.

I'm proud to be a member of the Golden Eagle family. I'm proud of how, without exception, our students, faculty and staff continue to work together to make the best of a crisis situation.

I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy.

Keep safe, keep connected, and always keep your wings up!

Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson
 President, Clarion University



Mahan (center) with Clarion career liaison Josh Domitrovich (left) and Tony Vega.

MAHAN IS *business* STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Taylor Mahan, a senior accounting major, is the 2020 Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Employers JoAnne Day Student of the Year in the Business category. The awards recognize students who have completed an internship or co-op.

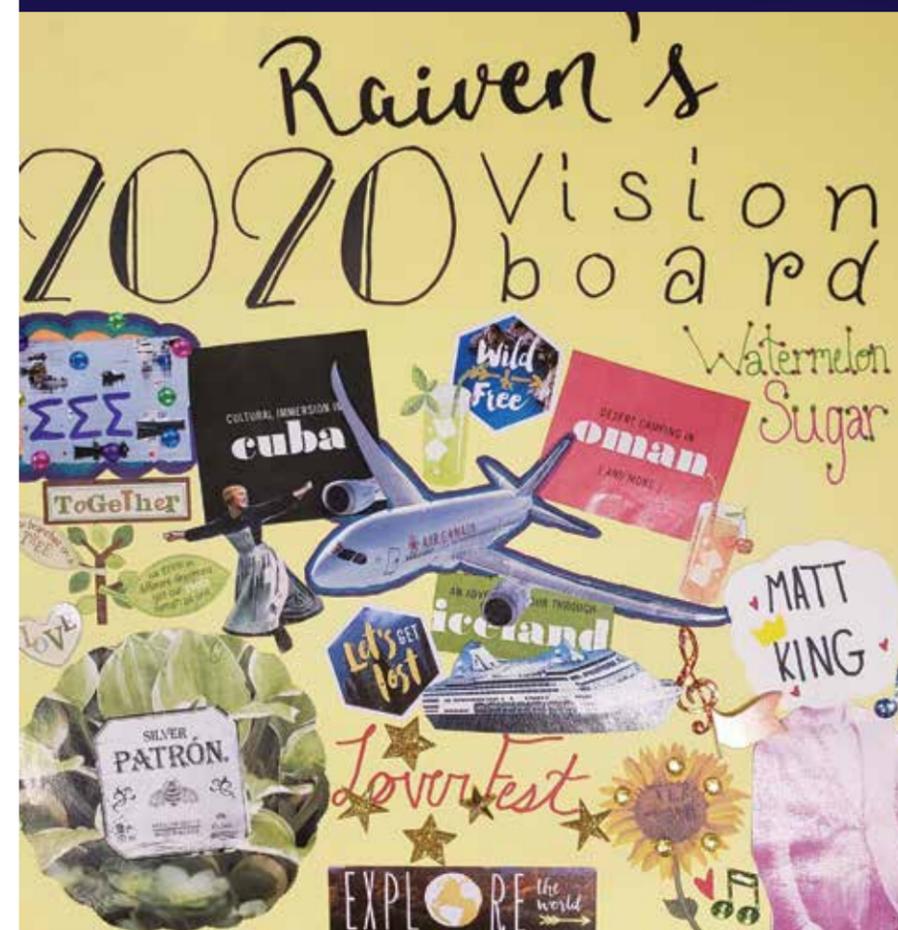
Mahan, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, completed a finance internship with PITT OHIO where she led a group of interns and completed an individual credit card analysis project that led to future policy changes within PITT OHIO.

“Taylor rose to the challenge and handled this work efficiently and effectively, finishing many items accurately while only having been shown them once, and asking thoughtful questions when necessary,” said Don Riddle, assistant controller at PITT OHIO. In eight years of the department using interns, Mahan was the first to work independently on a monthly closing cycle.

In recommending her for the award, Dr. Tony Vega, Clarion professor of atmospheric science, described Mahan as a “consummate self-starter who sets realistic goals and accomplishes them.”

On campus, Mahan is president of the Accounting Society and the National Society of Leadership and Success, and is chair of the Clarion Student’s Association Board of Directors. In 2018, she was part of a team that won second place and \$1,000 in the university’s BizPitch competition.

After graduating in May, Mahan plans to complete another internship as a tax analyst for Schneider Downs. Afterward, she will return to Clarion University to complete the MBA program.



THE POWER OF VISUALIZATION

Lindsay Morris, chair of UAB’s Weekend Events Committee, said the committee works to provide programming that caters to a wide variety of student interests. Recently, she guided her peers in creating vision boards.

“The purpose of a vision board is to lay out what you want your future to hold,” Morris said. “This can include anything from goals and ambitions to words of importance and encouragement.”

Morris, an early childhood education major from Claysville, provided magazines, stickers, markers, glitter, gems and other materials for students to use in creating their vision boards. The boards are meant to be placed where the creator will see them daily, serving as reminders of their goals for the future.

“Visualization is a powerful tool to use,” Morris said about the effects of the boards. “It brings the mind back to these topics often and helps to bring them to fruition. This can lead to turning your greatest dreams into reality.”

CLARION UNIVERSITY – VENANGO LEARNING COMMONS IS A BOON TO STUDENTS, REGION

Students at Clarion University – Venango returned from winter break in January to the opening of the Charles L. Suhr Library & Learning Commons. The \$900,000 conversion adds study rooms, group study areas and study pods, which provide comfortable space for focused learning and privacy.

Career Services, academic support services and the Writing Center are now with the library, under one roof. Trends in higher education show collaborations between libraries and academic services benefit students.

“The learning commons concept is being realized in university and public libraries across the nation,” said Hope Lineman ’10, ’16G, dean for career and workforce education. “These areas provide ready access to both technological and personnel resources that are designed to support student success and learning. The commons enables faculty and students to embrace active learning, and it is now home to our highly accredited peer tutor program.”

Clarion University – Venango has a long history of creating mutually beneficial academic and community partnerships, and the learning commons is a continuation of this commitment. The multi-functional space allows access to the traditional library services and support, plug-in station and computers for both students and the community. Students can further their education, knowledge development and collaborative problem-solving skills, while inviting the larger community of faculty, staff, training partners and public patrons to share the benefits.

The library space continues to house the Barbara Morgan Harvey Center for the Study of Oil Heritage. The collection includes books that document the history of the region, newspaper clippings from the early 1900s, minutes from the meetings of oil companies from the late 1800s, maps and photographs.

The conversion of Suhr Library into a learning commons directly supports enrollment at Clarion University – Venango and facilitates the development of additional programs that address regional workforce needs. The project also supports the community by bringing additional educational partners, students and potential future workforce members into the city and region.

The project was funded by a variety of revenue sources including Key93, Appalachian Regional Commission Power Grant, local grants, donors and university funds.

The staff and operations of the Academic Resource Center and Career Services are now located within the Suhr Library building.



LINEMAN WILL LEAD VENANGO AS DEAN

Hope Lineman has been named dean for career and workforce education at Clarion University – Venango. In that role, she will develop educational opportunities to meet the career and workforce needs of the region through partnerships within the university and with external agencies, businesses, schools and organizations.

“Under Hope’s leadership, we believe that Venango can be an incubator for new programs and new ideas that will help the region and its people to grow and thrive,” said Dr. Pam Gent, provost. “Hope will not only lead the campus, she will continue to grow our relationships with leaders of business, industry, human services and governmental agencies in the region.”

Lineman began her Clarion University career in 2001 as coordinator of continuing education at Venango campus and has served as assistant director of marketing and communications and interim campus director. She holds associate, bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Clarion.

REVAMPED CRITERIA QUALIFIES STUDENTS FOR DEGREES

When Dr. Suzanne Boyden became director of the liberal studies program in fall 2018, she wanted to make the degree work better for all students.

“The liberal arts degree required 24 credits of upper-level courses in the College of Arts and Sciences, which meant a student coming from business, education or health sciences could not count a lot of their coursework,” Boyden said.

Revamped and renamed integrative studies, the program now allows classes from all of the academic colleges to count toward the upper level coursework requirement.

“Once we made those changes, I realized that there were likely a large number of students who thought they needed more classes to graduate, but, with the new degree, could be done,” Boyden said.

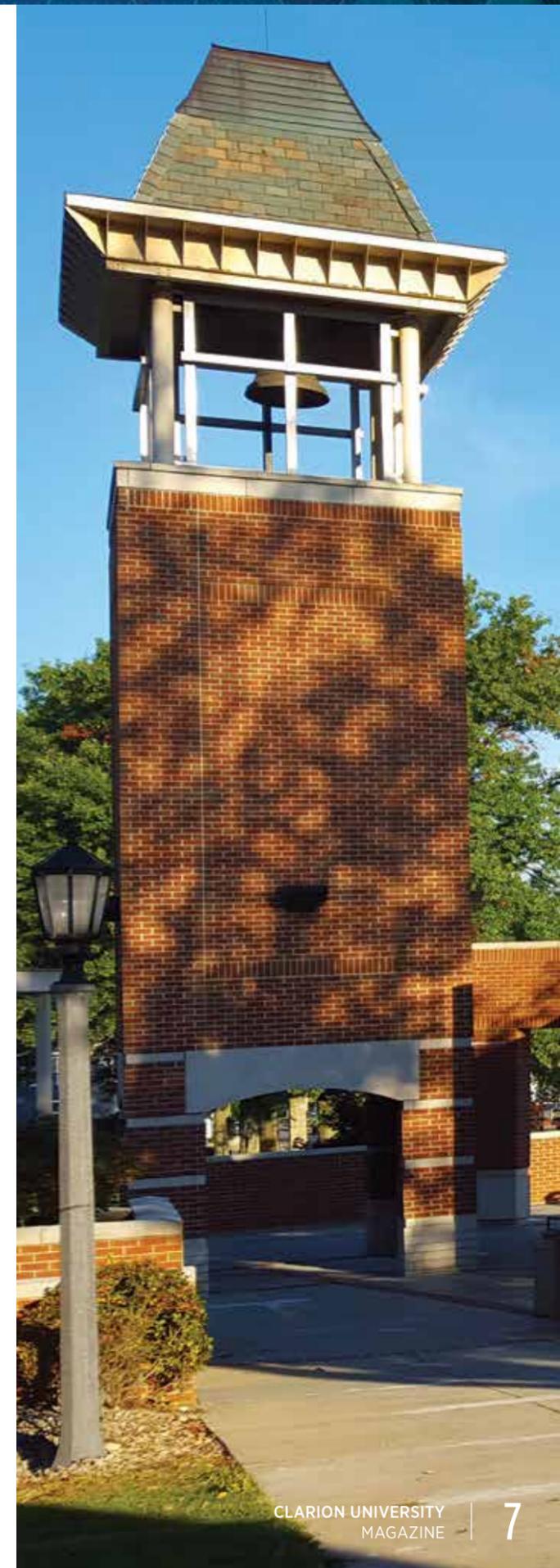
Students who change majors several times or transfer between a few schools can accumulate many credits without completing the 50 to 60 credits of required majors coursework. Boyden and Missy Kube, secretary to the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, reviewed the records of students who had left Clarion University in the last 10 years, having earned 114 credits or more. So far, Clarion University has awarded more than 80 degrees to former students as a result of this outreach campaign.

“When we find a student that we can clear for graduation, we send an email or call them. Some of them have been gone eight or nine years, and they are so surprised when they hear that they have earned a diploma,” Boyden said. “Many students we’ve spoken to had hit a ceiling in their current jobs and could not be promoted further without a college degree,”

Students have varied reasons why they never finished their degree. Often, life just got in the way of school, and they left thinking that they would return to finish, but never managed to make it happen.

Dr. Ellen Foster has since taken over as director of integrative studies. She and Kube continue to identify former students who are eligible for the degree. Kube said in fall 2020, she reached out to 350 more students. Because emails and phone numbers change, finding students can be hard.

Those who think they might benefit from a new review of their Clarion coursework and transfer credits from other institutions are encouraged reach out to Kube at mkube@clarion.edu, 814-393-2225 or Foster at efoster@clarion.edu, 814-393-2158.





VETERANS' SERVICES GOOD AS GOLD

Clarion University has been named a Military Friendly School for the 11th consecutive year, this year earning Gold distinction.

The Military Friendly Schools list sets the standard for higher education institutions to provide the best opportunities for veterans and their spouses. This prestigious list provides a comprehensive guide for veterans and their families, using data sources from federal agencies and proprietary survey information from participating organizations.

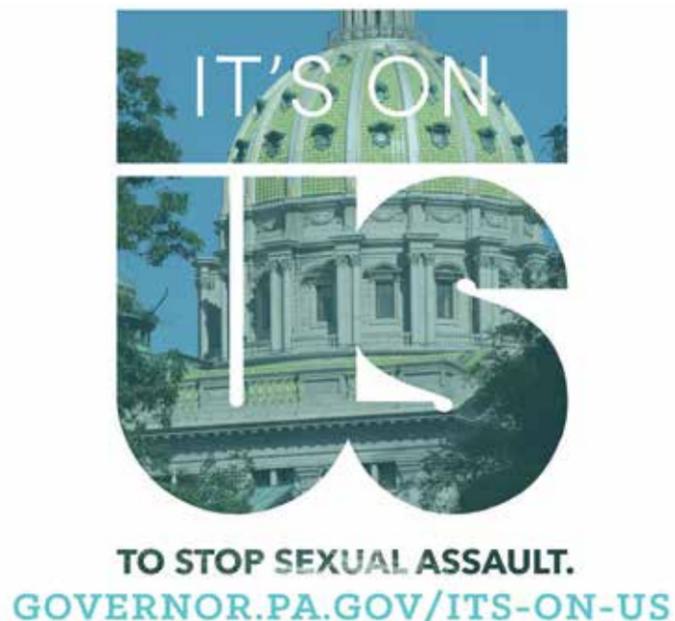
The Gold distinction indicates the Military Friendly School scored within 10 percent of the 10th ranked school in their category. The distinction indicates Clarion University is setting an example with programs and initiatives.

CU USES GRANT TO LAUNCH LIVESAFE APP

Clarion University is one of 36 Pennsylvania colleges and universities that will benefit from nearly \$1 million in grants through the Wolf Administration and the "It's On Us PA" campaign to combat campus sexual assault. Governor Tom Wolf announced the grants in January.

Clarion's allocation will be used to launch a new mobile platform, LiveSafe, according to Meredith Karg, student support assistant. The app will be available by the start of the fall 2020 semester.

"LiveSafe will allow, among other things, the ability for anonymous reporting, a peer-to-peer virtual walk-along service, and access to emergency responders anywhere in the world," Karg said.



ARTS AND SCIENCES DEAN *publishes* SCHOLARLY TEXT

Dr. Laura Delbrugge, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, has published "A Scholarly Edition of the Gamaliel (Valencia: Juan Jofre, 1525)." It is a modernized edition of a late medieval devotional that formed part of the narrative tradition of "La Vengeance de Nostre-Seigneur," which gained popularity in the 12th century.

The 1525 compendium "Gamaliel" consists of seven loosely related texts, including the "Passion of Christ", the "Destruction of Jerusalem", the biographies of Lazarus, Mary and Martha, and the Slaughter of the Innocents. The "Gamaliel" was reproduced in over a dozen Spanish and Catalan printed editions in the first half of the 16th century, until it was banned by the Spanish Inquisition beginning in 1558, likely due to its anonymous authorship and apocryphal content.



Dr. Jeanne Slattery,

SLATTERY *publishes* VIDEO; PARTNERS WITH ALUMNA PARK ON BOOK

Dr. Jeanne Slattery, professor of psychology at Clarion, and **Dr. Crystal Park '85**, assistant professor of clinical psychology at University of Connecticut, have published "Empathetic Counseling: Building Skills to Empower Change" (2nd ed.).

EMPATHY IS FUNDAMENTAL TO THERAPEUTIC CHANGE.

In "Empathetic Counseling: Building Skills to Empower Change" (2nd ed.), Slattery and Park offer student therapists the clinical skills to communicate empathy and facilitate client change. They focus on the strong observational, listening and critical thinking skills necessary to intervene well, but also build the skills needed to understand and work with their clients' worldviews, meaning making, culture and change processes.

In addition, Slattery published a demonstration psychotherapy video, "Trauma and Meaning," through the American Psychological Association Psychotherapy Series.

In the video, Slattery illustrates how to rebuild a sense of meaning in the course of a live therapy session with a woman with a history of loss and violence. She demonstrates how to rebuild the sense of meaning that people experiencing traumatic events often lose. She considers how to assess and identify damaged beliefs, values and goals, and also how to access the client strengths and social supports that rebuild a client's sense of meaning.



Dr. Crystal Park

LATE-NIGHT BREAKFAST





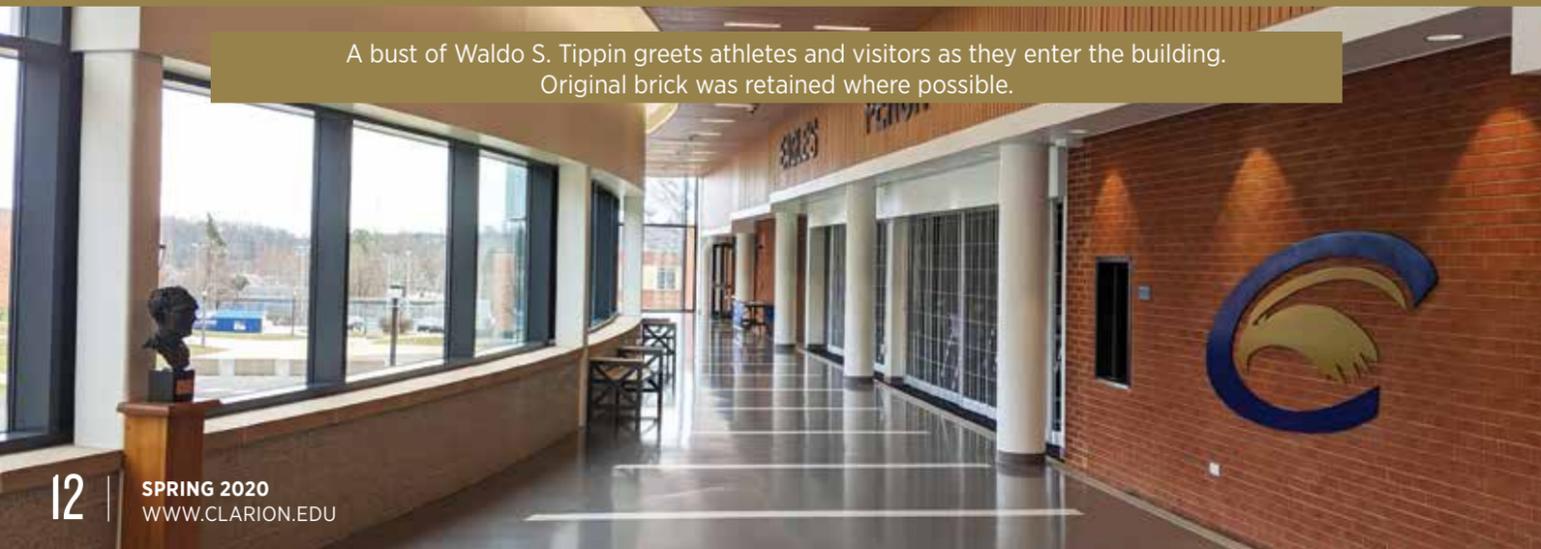
An open design with glass dividers allows passersby to catch the action in the main gymnasium.

TIPPIN

LEANER, MEANER, GREENER.

In spring 2018, the Pennsylvania Department of General Services began a \$42.7 million renovation of Tippin Gymnasium, which reached substantial completion in the fall of 2019.

After a year-and-a-half of practicing and competing in alternate locations, teams returned to Tippin; Golden Eagles volleyball hosted the first competition Nov. 15, 2019, with a victory over Mercyhurst.



A bust of Waldo S. Tippin greets athletes and visitors as they enter the building. Original brick was retained where possible.



Original spectator seating now overlooks a new pool and diving well with a view of Greenville Avenue.



The renovation was more than a facelift for the historic home of Golden Eagle athletics – it was a complete modernization and reimagining of the space, providing new amenities and features for Clarion student-athletes. The renovations include new basketball courts and seating, two new concession areas, new natatorium with a combination swimming/diving pool, expanded wrestling space, locker rooms, and office space for the coaches. Additions attached to either side of the Tippin building include a new auxiliary gym, new weight room/fitness area, and additional locker rooms and coaches’ offices.

The result is a state-of-the-art intercollegiate athletics facility and a recruitment tool to attract future students and student-athletes to the university.

RENOVATE VS. REPLACE

Determining whether to tear down the old Tippin Gym and start from scratch or to retain and renovate the existing building was a complex decision. Dedicated in fall 1968, the building was outdated but not dilapidated.

The decision to renovate vs. build new was based on two factors, according to Tim Fogarty, associate vice president for administration.

“At the time, the university did not have a footprint that would allow for the addition of a new athletic facility – the building footprint is relatively large and space was not available to accommodate that,” he said. “Secondly, the

cost of new construction plus demolition would have been prohibitive in terms of funding available.”

SUSTAINABILITY

In 1960s-era buildings, environmental sustainability was of little or no concern in construction plans.

According to the US Green Building Council, sustainability and “green,” often used interchangeably, are about more than just reducing environmental impacts. Sustainability means creating places that are environmentally responsible, healthful, just, equitable and profitable. Greening the built environment means looking holistically at natural, human and economic systems, and finding solutions that support quality of life for all.

Since the early 2000s, the facilities master plans for both Clarion and Venango campuses have included a commitment to creating environmentally sustainable buildings that are designed to meet baseline criteria for certification under the US Green Building Council’s Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design program. LEED certification is also a priority for projects under the commonwealth/DGS.

Clarion’s recent projects – Eagle Commons dining facility, Grunenwald Center for Science and Technology, Hilltop Suites and Suites on Main student housing complexes, Becht Hall and Tippin – have been built to meet LEED Silver certification levels.



The newly constructed main entrance attaches to an original exterior.



The Golden Eagles Athletics main office features comfortable seating and tables crafted from the original gymnasium floor.

Christopher Chiusano, construction administration manager for DLA+, the project's design firm, said building to LEED standards involves nearly every component of construction.

"Good engineering these days requires you to design in a way that will be energy efficient," he said.

Tippin features light fixtures that use long-lasting LED bulbs, which reduces energy consumption and more efficiently lights a space. Throughout the building, the lighting control system has occupancy sensors so that energy isn't wasted in an unoccupied space. Low-flow urinals and toilets reduce the amount of water the building uses.

Landscaping is a crucial component of sustainability. Chiusano said outside walkways are made of pervious pavers, which helps to mitigate stormwater issues. The south side of the building has a rainwater island. Wildflowers, instead of grass, were planted on the north side of the building, which reduces the need to water the lawn. Bike racks, another LEED component, have also been installed.

The project is on track to achieve the LEED Silver level of sustainability under the US Green Building Council's LEED 2009 for New Construction and Major Renovations.

LEGACY OF SUCCESS

211

athletes with a 3.2 GPA or better in 2018-2019 – a new school record!

More than

6,000 hours

of community service since 2013

51

NCAA champs since 1990

44

COSIDA Academic All-Americans, including seven Academic All-American of the Year awards



A lounge area allows students to keep an eye on activities while resting or studying.



HOW MANY EARTHS?

The newly formed Presidential Commission on Sustainability wants to implement change. To do that, it's starting with education about what sustainability is, which sustainability practices Clarion University currently employs, and what the university can do to be more sustainable in the future.



**CLARION
UNIVERSITY**

Presidential Commission on Sustainability



“Sustainability requires meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs,” said Dr. Suzie Boyden, biology professor and commission chair. “Something is sustainable if it can continue to exist in perpetuity: If the natural resources, human resources and cultural resources required to support an activity or a community are not depleted faster than they are naturally renewed.”

The ultimate goal, she said, is to maintain and enhance the quality of human enterprise and existence in balance with the natural resource capital of the planet.

HOW MANY EARTHS?

To help the university community understand sustainability, the PCOS introduced itself last fall with a quiz that calculates one’s carbon footprint – or how many Earths would be required to sustain the human race if everyone lived like the person taking the quiz. The results were eye opening.

Through the Ecological Footprint Calculator, Dr. Joseph Croskey, assistant professor in Advising Services, learned that 5.5 Earths were needed to sustain his lifestyle. That news propelled him to pledge to eat vegetarian more often, use a bicycle to get to work in the summer, convert to solar power for his home, and purchase a more efficient vehicle.

The convenience of plastic packaging is a well-known environmental culprit. Cathi Wenner, a staff member in Academic Affairs, decided to break up with bottled water after she learned that it contributed to her quiz result of 4.1 Earths. She said once her family finishes the bottled water they have, they will begin carrying reusable water bottles.

Juanice and Dr. Tony Vega each took the pledge. Juanice, interim assistant dean of the MBA program, who needed 3.4 Earths, pledged to eat meatless once per week and purchase more local produce. Her husband, professor of biology and geosciences, pledged to reduce his 3.6 Earths to one.

“We recycle and conserve water, gas, electricity, etc., where possible,” Tony Vega said. He hopes within a few years to replace his family’s gas furnace with a geothermal heat pump. “Heating/cooling, hot water, and refrigeration are the largest energy hogs in a household, and the heat pump reduces all but refrigeration to a fraction of normal usage,” Vega explained. He equated the heat pump’s energy consumption to that required to light a 100-watt bulb.

Josh Domitrovich, coordinator for career mentoring and internships, learned that 3.4 Earths would be needed if everyone lived like him.

“I thought I was doing well by walking to work,” Domitrovich said. “But I need to do more to reduce my carbon footprint, especially with buying local produce.”

Dr. Nripendra Singh, professor of management and marketing and PCOS member, vowed “to reduce my carbon footprint by doing composting, reusing and recycling my waste.” The quiz showed that his lifestyle requires only 1.6 Earths, but he wants to do better.

Teaching people to care is one of the goals of Clarion University employee Erin Lewis, assistant director of career services, who only needed 1.2 Earths.

“As someone who is super environmentally conscious, already using reusable food bags, cloth diapering and so much more, my best personal goal is to help educate more people on this lifestyle and to shop the local farmer’s market,” she said.

Close to 200 people took the quiz and signed pledges to reduce their carbon footprint.

GOALS

“The goal is to really impact the local community,” Boyden said.

The university, through the commission, is leaning into that goal by taking a hard look at what it currently does sustainably and what it can do in the future. Everything can be more sustainable, from fleet vehicles and office supplies to investments the university makes, Boyden said. We can even explore green athletics and natural pest management techniques.

“Sustainability is good for businesses, and, of course, our university is in the education business,” said President Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson, who is excited to see the recommendations the commission makes. “It is good for us in so many ways.”

“Becoming a leader in sustainable development and education is arguably the greatest action we can take to impact our students, communities and society as a whole,” Boyden said.

Over the next year, the commission plans to evaluate the university’s environmental sustainability in four key areas: academics, engagement, operations, and planning and administration.

“There are a lot of people on the campus who want to be doing things — from the president to the student body,” Boyden said.

This generation of students has inherited environmental problems. They are entering a world in which climate change very directly will affect them and their livelihoods, noted Boyden and commission co-chair Dr. Jessica Thomas, assistant professor of biology and geosciences. They believe that, as educators, their job is to empower students and bring scientific literacy to the conversation.

“We need to prepare them for that,” Boyden said.

“It’s a humanitarian issue,” Thomas added.

Students have a keen interest in sustainability, which they

expressed during a forum co-hosted by the commission and Student Senate. Particularly of concern to students is the reduction of paper and plastic waste on campus. Ways to address their concerns include initiatives in dining services, the installation of water bottle filling stations, and movement toward online textbooks and other paperless approaches to teaching.

GOING GREEN

Recycling is high on the list of short-term campus sustainability goals. G. Chad Thomas, assistant director of

facilities management, is leading the charge to tackle this issue. Other short-term goals include reducing the use of single-use plastic water bottles by providing students with reusable water bottles, and pursuing, in cooperation with several student organizations, the installation of a rain garden to trap and filter campus runoff.

The PCOS is in the planning stages of a self-study through the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System. STARS will help the university set and meet sustainability goals, while fostering collaboration and information-sharing, and it will enable Clarion to benchmark with peers.

Boyden believes the university can integrate sustainability into its curricular and co-curricular activities, and the university’s scenic location makes that possible.

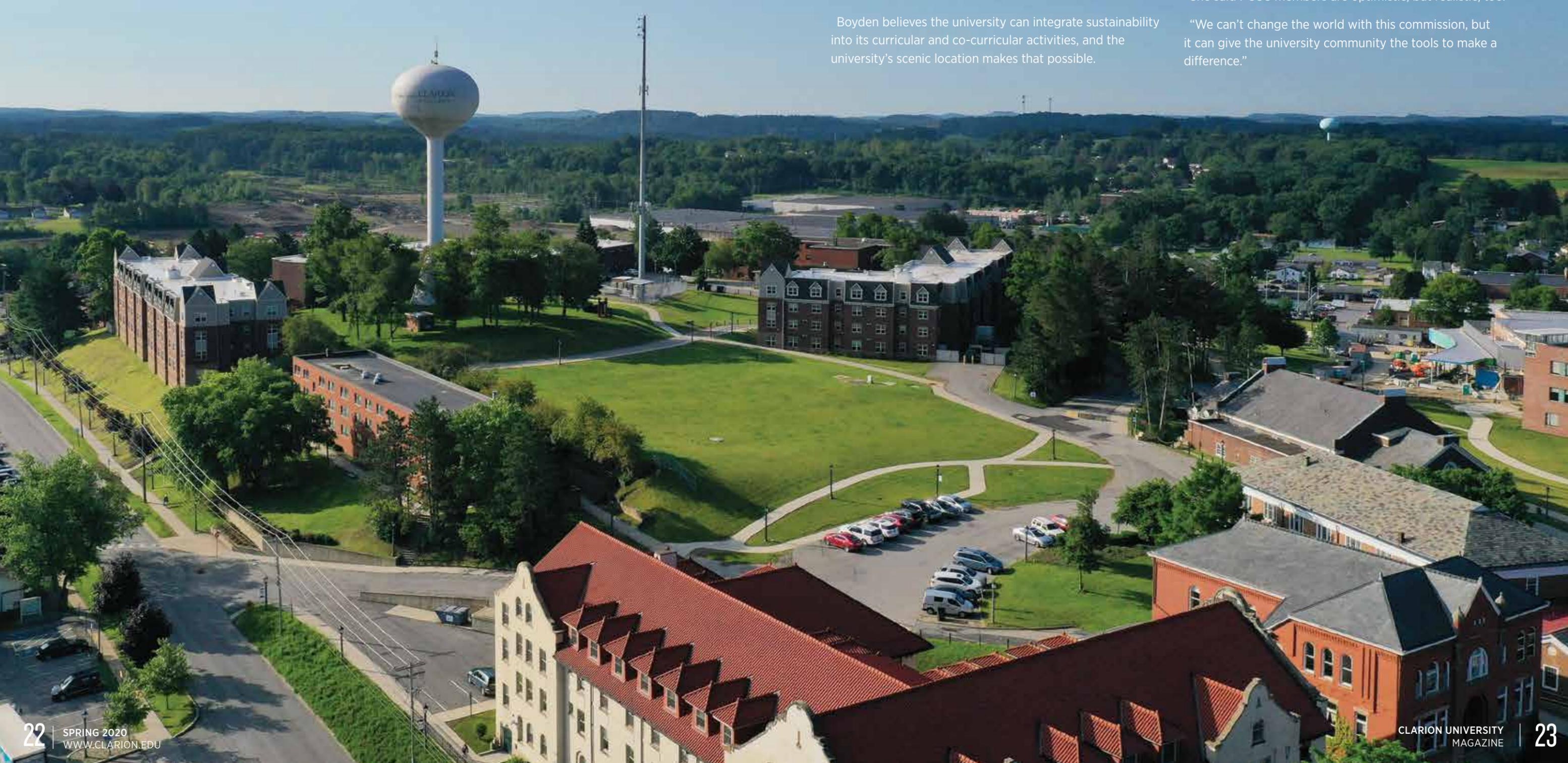
“We think Clarion University should be THE school that people in northwestern Pennsylvania think of when they think of the outdoors and the environment,” Boyden said.

The bottom line may be teaching people to care.

“Our students have roots in this landscape,” Boyden said. “They have grown up hunting, fishing, camping and hiking these hills and valleys. I believe they represent a population who, regardless of their academic or career interests, care about the natural world and our relationship with it.”

She said PCOS members are optimistic, but realistic, too.

“We can’t change the world with this commission, but it can give the university community the tools to make a difference.”



DUMPSTER DIVING

Singh (left) with community volunteers Tanuj Singh and Sophia Barboza, and education professor Amy Love.



Singh (left) with green-minded friends Sophia Barboza, CU marketing major Ashley Poling, Tanuj Singh, and CU education majors Paige Spang and Kaylee Deeter.

When Dr. Nripendra Singh arrived as a new Clarion faculty member in February 2019, he was ready to dive right in. That means different things to different people, but part of what it meant to him was dumpster diving.

The Urban Dictionary defines dumpster diving as searching through dumpsters, usually outside of businesses, looking for good things that others have thrown away.

That's not really what Singh had in mind; yet in a way, it was. He wasn't looking for typical dumpster diving treasure such as a slightly irregular clothing or household goods; his treasure was items that could be composted to nourish the earth or recycled to keep it from harming it.

When Singh was a professor in India, he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for an environmental leadership program. His Fulbright work was done through Penn State and, in part, involved working with a recycling program.

"Sustainability is my passion," Singh said. "As new faculty at Clarion and with my Fulbright experience, I was happy to see recycling bins on campus."

He was disheartened, however, to learn that the bins are underutilized and that the local K-12 school did not have a recycling program. He applied for a Clarion University Community Fellows Grant to create "Green Pals: Recycling & Waste Management Awareness Program for Clarion Area Youth." The grant provided \$900 for him to initiate the program.

Singh began working with Clarion Area High School teacher Brian Love '95 and principal John Kimmel '02, and Clarion Area Elementary principal Roger Walter '02, along with like-minded people from the school, community and Clarion University. Together, they planned Dumpster Dive at the Elementary School.

Singh worked with Clarion Borough zoning officer Scott Sharrar to get hazmat suits, gloves and bins, and the school provided tables, sanitizer and scales.

With the assistance of Clarion University special education majors and community members, Singh spent the afternoon of Feb. 21, 2019, segregating the classroom and cafeteria trash, removing and weighing compostable and recyclable materials to gather baseline data.

"During this time, students learned how the segregation of waste takes place and were involved in brief talks to help them learn the importance of segregation of waste," Singh said.

While the kids made faces, covered their noses and joked about the smell, Singh said the activity clearly impacted them.

"Kids were surprised to see that they actually waste so much food, especially whole fruits and unused milk cartons," Singh said. "They promised that they will not waste food. If they do not like a particular food item, they will put it in a separate basket for other students to use."

Many of the students shared that their parents recycle and compost at home, and they also acknowledged awareness that not practicing these activities is harmful to the environment.

They wanted to know what Singh would do with the "true trash," and asked if there was a way that it, too, could be used.

"True Trash," Singh said, is the trash that cannot be segregated and needs to be dumped in landfills: polystyrene (foam) cups, straws, wrapping paper laminated with foil-coatings, plastic spoons and forks, polythene bags. Soiled cardboards such as juice boxes, milk cartons and frozen food boxes are not acceptable by many recycling companies. Items that are recyclable – glass bottles and plastic containers, for example – cannot be recycled if they have labels or food material stuck on them. They must be properly cleaned first.

"The goal of the project was to determine the quantity of recyclables going to landfills to assess the negative impact on the environment, which we can do by estimating greenhouse gas emission," Singh said. "We will be able to estimate savings to the school district by doing a cost-benefit analysis."

Step two in Singh's project is an awareness campaign, which will involve a presentation, hands-on activities, and a contest for the students to recycle waste from the cafeteria.

"We will visit the school, segregate the trash and weigh the recyclables and compostable material from time to time for monitoring and assessment," Singh said.

"My ultimate goal is to make (the Dumpster Dive project) a sustainable program and start a composting facility in the future," Singh said.

Again this school year, Singh partnered with Walter at Clarion Area Elementary and received the community fellow grant of \$750 for promoting recycling among Clarion area youth.

Waste Category	Waste in a 180 day School Year in lbs.	Percentage
Metal	2880	1.85
Plastics	11,520	7.41
Paper	8,640	5.56
Food	106,560	68.52
Trash	17,280	11.11
Milk Cartons (corrugated containers)	8,640	5.56
TOTAL	155,520	100.00
THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO...		
Removing Annual Emissions from 16 Passenger Vehicles		
Conserving 8,386 Gallons of Gasoline		
Conserving 3,105 Cylinders of Propane Used for Home Bbqs		



EARTH'S FEVER

From Greta Thunberg to pictures of displaced polar bears, it's hard to miss the message of climate change and its growing concerns.

According to the National Geographic Society, climate change is a long-term shift in global or regional climate patterns. Often climate change refers specifically to the rise in global temperatures from the mid-20th century to present.

"As a climatologist, I know that climate change continually occurs," said Dr. Tony Vega, Clarion University professor of geoscience (atmospheric science). "This results from a huge array of interrelated positive and negative feedbacks that occur within the earth-atmosphere system. This causes very slow, adaptable change."

Vega isn't so much concerned with climate change in and of itself. He's more concerned with the rapidity of recent climate change, its cause, and the ongoing impact on the natural environment. Rapid climate change causes ecosystem collapse, according to Vega, which is the cause of every major extinction event in the Earth's history.

"Rapid changes to the system stem from only a few factors, which we call forcings," he said.

The forcings are:

- Bolide (large comet or asteroid strike);
- Large-scale volcanism (mega volcano or flood basalt episode);
- Major solar output changes;
- In-phase orbital variations (Milankovitch cycles);
- Atmospheric composition change.

Over recent times (the past 1,000 years or so), the first four forcings have not been an issue, leaving atmospheric composition as the main cause of recent changes in the Earth's temperature.

"Earth temperatures have increased approximately 10C over the past 100 years, with the bulk coming since 1980. People may think this to be insignificant; however, the difference between a full-scale ice age and an interglacial warm period is only 3° to 5°C. Said another way, a 10° C increase in temperatures over 100 years is about 10 times faster than 'natural' change. We'd expect that amount of change across 1,000 years, not 100. This, the rapidity of change, is the concern," Vega said.

The main culprit of this atmospheric composition change is humans burning fossil fuels: "When fossil fuels are burned, they release carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, which in turn trap heat in our atmosphere, making them the primary contributors to global warming and climate change," according to National Geographic.

"This began in the late 1700s with the Industrial Revolution; however, only in the last half century has fossil fuel use exploded," Vega said.

The figures are staggering.

"Humans currently release about 34 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year," Vega said.

The figures show no signs of slowing down.

"Two years ago the amount was 32 billion metric tons," Vega said.

"To put all of this in proper context, every 2.5 hours, humanity releases about the same amount of CO2 into the atmosphere as was released during the entire Mount St. Helens volcanic eruption. It would take 3,504 Mount St. Helens-sized eruptions to equal what humans place into the atmosphere annually. The resulting energy equivalent of this is about equal to exploding a Hiroshima sized nuclear device into our atmosphere every 2 seconds."

The question is, can climate change be reversed?

"Many climatologists have determined that we have already crossed a critical threshold relative to reversal of recent human impacts," Vega said. "I can say with certainty that if all fossil fuel consumption immediately ceased – which won't happen any time soon – it would still take many centuries to recover a natural state of the atmosphere and Earth's energy balance. Reversal, even with drastic changes to the human environment relative to energy use, will not occur within our lifetimes."

According to NASA, even if people stopped emitting greenhouse gases today, global warming would continue to happen for at least several more decades, if not centuries.

There is a time lag between what we do and when we feel it, according to NASA.

Part of the solution is to move to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro, tidal and nuclear. We need to pressure energy companies to do the same.

"I don't know why people get caught up in where our energy comes from. Why does it make a difference to them how their electricity is generated? It shouldn't," Vega said.

Vega believes that hydrogen technology should be the ultimate goal for transportation energy, because the only pollution from splitting water molecules is water vapor.

"While there is a strong push to using electric vehicles, the batteries and the raw materials used in their creation cause other environmental issues. Hydrogen fuel is ultimately clean and environmentally friendly," Vega said.



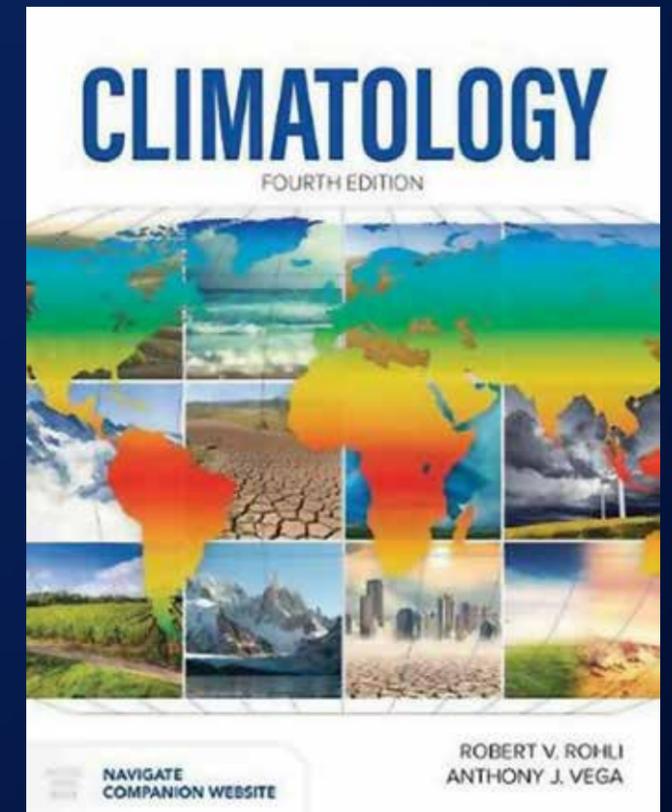
The Natural Resources Defense Council is hopeful that with the right state and federal incentives, the United States could slash fossil fuel use by 80 percent by 2050. However, groups like the NRDC have a hard battle.

"The major oil, gas and coal companies continually release climate change denial propaganda," Vega said.

Vega said major energy companies hired the same marketing firms that attacked anti-smoking science.

"Basically, these companies are trying to exploit the environment for monetary gain, and they try to convince people that the science is somehow biased," Vega said. "They don't need to prove their assertions; they simply need to plant seeds of doubt in the minds of the public."

That doubt has changed how people view science and its role in implementing change.





ONLINE TEXTBOOKS BENEFIT STUDENTS AND PLANET

Last spring, Clarion University Faculty Senate passed a resolution to focus attention on the high cost of course materials and encouraged faculty to adopt open educational resources, which are no-cost or low-cost materials. A task force has been working this fall to further the use of OERs.

“The impetus was a realization by a number of faculty that, while (textbook) costs are continuing to rise, there are a number of low- or no-cost alternatives of increasing quality,” said Jim Lyle, assistant professor of communication and co-chair of the Open Educational Resources Taskforce. “National data shows that students pay an average of \$700 per semester for textbooks, and that number often exceeds \$1,000.”

A sample of Clarion University student textbook costs from a year ago showed an average of \$450 per semester. Lyle said business and the sciences, particularly health sciences, have notoriously high textbook costs.

Clarion University is guided by its True North Initiative, which outlines goals and provides direction in reaching them.

“One area of emphasis in TNI is student affordability, and this initiative is aligned with reducing costs,” said Dr. Pam Gent, provost. “Another area of TNI is student success. Some students are not able to afford textbooks, so they struggle in class and are not as successful as they could be. Adopting OERs will even the playing field for those students.”

Earlier this semester, six courses adopted OERs, benefiting 291 students and saving them a combined \$23,096. Lyle said other faculty members also have adopted free or low-cost resources.

“As an example, in communication courses, we eliminated the use of a public speaking textbook ... that was at least \$130 for a (loose leaf version) new copy,” Lyle said. “There are roughly 170 students in public speaking this semester. That’s \$22,000 in costs right there. Even if you reduce the costs through textbook rental or buying used versions, it’s still a minimum cost of \$50 a student.”

Dr. Nancy Ann Falvo, assistant professor of nursing, said the RN-BSN nursing program has adopted a textbook-free program, using the university’s free, content management

system, LibGuides for all classes. It’s an estimated cost savings of \$700 per student for the program’s nine core courses.

Falvo said she worked extensively with OER Taskforce co-chair Tonya Otto, virtual learning and outreach librarian for the university, and Dr. Terry Latour, dean of libraries, to identify resources. In addition to free access to the materials, Falvo said there’s even greater value.

“When I was using textbooks, I might use one for up to six years, depending on when they put out a new edition,” she said. “Now, students are getting the most up-to-date resources. In nursing, that’s so important.”

Falvo invested time in determining the collection of resources that would best serve students. She might use two chapters from one resource, five chapters from another, plus articles, podcasts and videos, all located in one spot.

In addition to the university’s LibGuides, faculty members can generate their own materials and find ways to make them accessible.

“The faculty of the Clarion University Libraries assist teaching faculty with the identification of information resources that support their instructional goals,” Latour said.

Creating OERs does require additional work on the part of faculty and administration, but it’s work that is needed. Lyle said students everywhere are impacted by the high cost of textbooks, but public universities like Clarion have students with a wider range of economic backgrounds.

“The reality is that we have students who are forced to decide between things like books and food,” Lyle said.

Gent said Clarion University is committed to helping students succeed, and this is just one of the many things they do to help students transform their lives.



Josh Thruston



Women's Swimmers

TASTE OF VICTORY

The Clarion men's and women's swimming teams re-staked their claims as some of the top programs in the conference in February, with both teams finishing in the top five at the 2020 PSAC Swimming Championships in York.

The men's team improved on their finish from a year ago, taking fifth place overall, thanks to a mix of newcomers and veterans. Senior Josh Thruston wrapped his stellar four-year career with a third-place finish in the 100 Breaststroke, racing through the crowded field and touching the wall with a time of 57.09 for 16 team points. He followed up with a fourth place finish in the 100 Free.

One the other end of the spectrum was freshman Connor Cary, who didn't let the big stage of the conference championships affect his performance. Cary got the weekend

started with a second place finish in the 200 IM, giving the Golden Eagles the kick start they needed, and the next day he made Golden Eagle history by breaking a 25-year-old school record. He set the school record in the 100 Fly during Thursday's prelims, and that evening took home a sixth place finish with a final time of 49.51.

Sophomore Ty Rabenstein improved on his performance from his previous trip to the PSAC Championships, recording top-10 finishes in almost every distance swimming event. He started with a fourth place finish in the 1000 Free and followed up with a seventh place finish in the 500 Free. On the final day of competition, Rabenstein scored a fifth place finish in the 1650 Free.

On the women's side, 12 swimmers recorded top-15 finishes as the Blue and Gold finished the weekend in fourth place. Mary Clare Smith got the ball rolling for Clarion, taking home an eighth-place finish in the 1000 Free for the first of two top-eight finishes, and just a few events later Amanda Dial took eighth in the 200 IM. Seniors Abbey Newman and Morgan Manglaviti dominated in the 50 Free with fifth- and seventh-place finishes, respectively. The pair also helped the Golden Eagles navigate their way to a fourth-place finish in the 200 Free Relay. Manglaviti also took fourth in the 200 Free and eighth in the 100 Free to close out her career.

Autumn Fortney recorded one of the best finishes of the week, taking third in the 100 Fly, while Newman and Stephanie Setar finished fifth and sixth, respectively, in the same race to rack up the points. Setar placed fifth in the 100 Backstroke with a time of 57.87, while Ava Arnold finished eighth with a final mark. Fortney also made her presence felt in the 200 Fly, placing fifth.



Connor Cary



Sophomore Ty Rabenstein



Mary Clare Smith

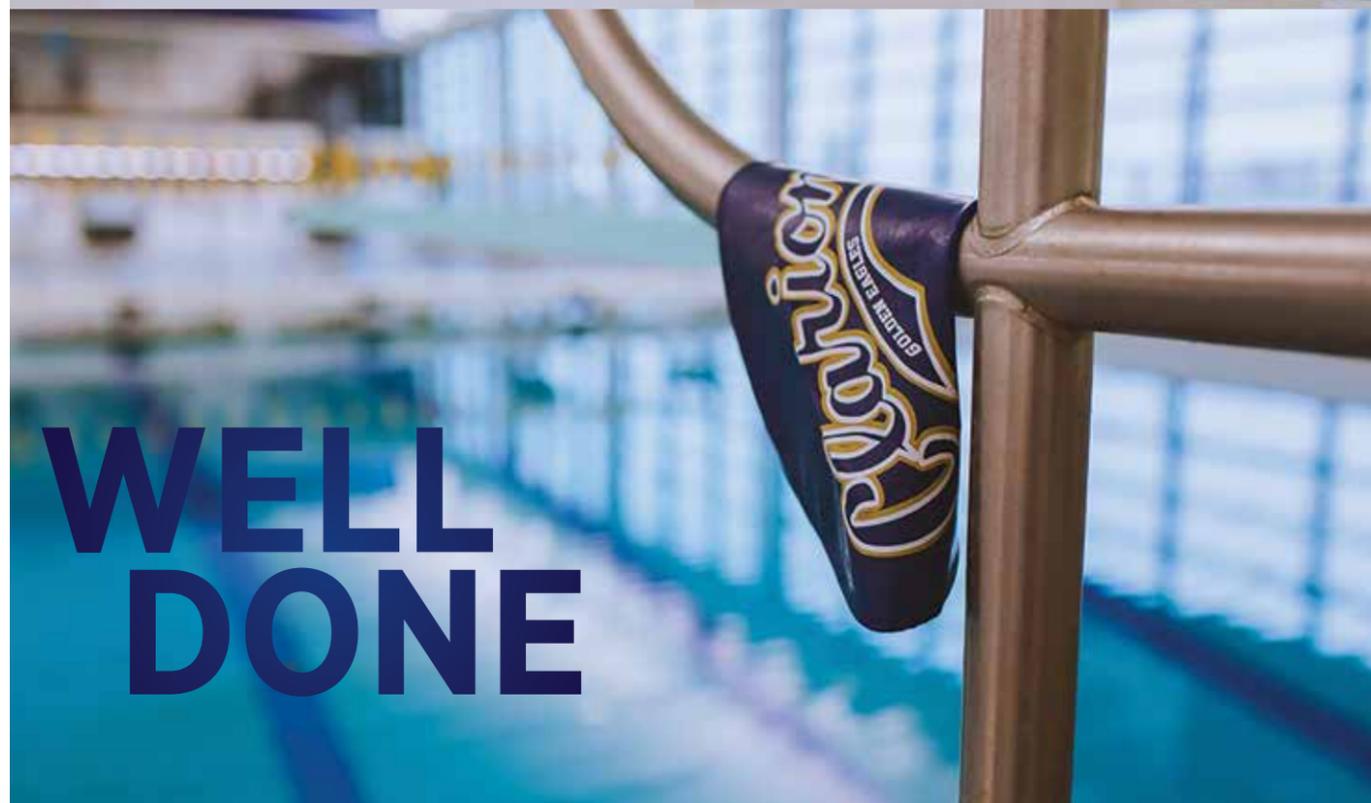


Amanda Dial



Emma Kehn

Anna Vogt



WELL DONE

Golden Eagle student-athletes standing on the podium at the NCAA Division II Swimming & Diving championships has long been a rite of spring.

This year was no different, as senior Emma Kehn and freshman Anna Vogt headed to the national meet at the SPIRE Institute in Geneva, Ohio, in March. Kehn added one more medal to her already crowded mantle, earning her seventh career All-American honor with a fourth-place finish in the 3m Dive, while Vogt earned valuable experience that will guide her well for the rest of her career.

The time that experience pays off the most is the Tuesday before the start of the national meet, during the pre-qualification dive session. The field of 50-plus divers is pared down to 22 over the course of two stressful sessions. Divers who place high enough in the first session – this year, the 3m Dive – qualify for the 1m Dive as well. If they slip up, though...

“Oh, it’s tough on you mentally,” said Coach Dave Hrovat. “You don’t get a lot of opportunities, and if you mess up that first dive, it’s right there in the back of your head. That makes the second one even tougher. This year, we had a ton of returning All-Americans and a returning national champion that didn’t get through. It can be a battle.”

Hrovat knows all about mentoring athletes through the hurdles at the national championships. As Clarion’s diving coach for 30 years, he has 294 All-Americans and 48 national champions to his credit. According to Vogt, he’s able to do that with a fairly simple message: “Control the things you can control, and don’t worry about the things you can’t.”

While preparation for the national meet takes place all year long, things really pick up in the last week before the event. The Golden Eagles based their workouts on the format of the prequalification meet, with the divers working on the 3m Dive first and the 1m Dive second. Hrovat imparted that rather than try to overextend themselves, his athletes should focus on repetition and consistency.

“Coach did a great job of preparing us through the week,” Vogt said. “He told us that the most important thing was a consistent vertical dive. If we did clean, consistent lists and didn’t crash and burn, we had a good chance at getting through Tuesday.”

When the big day arrived, Kehn and Vogt both performed, taking sixth and ninth place, respectively, in the 3m Dive prequalification. As expected, senior Kehn provided leader-

ship and guidance to her freshman teammate, while Vogt brought something equally important: levity.

“They worked hand in hand, and it was one of the coolest things I’ve seen in my years of coaching,” Hrovat said. “Emma had leadership and guidance for Anna, but Anna was really good at getting Emma to just chill out.”

“Emma would keep me informed on how the meet was running and what to be ready for,” Vogt said. “At the same time, as a freshman, I was just focused on enjoying the experience and keeping it simple.”

Kehn displayed that same sense of preparedness the next day, when she authored a standout performance in the 3m Dive to reach the All-American podium for the seventh time in her career. She was set to make an attempt for her eighth All-American honor on Friday night when the news that affected events around the globe made its way home.

“We were eating dinner with Wendy (Snodgrass) between the prelims and the finals of the men’s event on Thursday when I got a message from another diving coach,” Hrovat said. “I told Wendy, ‘This doesn’t look good,’ and right after that, she got a call from the site coordinator.”

Due to the outbreak of coronavirus, the NCAA announced that they had canceled all remaining winter and spring championships. That meant little more than halfway through the national swimming and diving competition, the meet was just ... over.

“It was wild, just wild,” Hrovat said.

“Coach came over to us, tearing up, and just said, ‘We’re going home,’” Vogt said. “We just kind of sat there. No one really knew what to say.”

After plenty of tears and more than a few hugs, the divers made their way back to Clarion. While the outcome was disappointing, Vogt said Hrovat and Kehn’s lessons played a role in how she reacted.

“Hrovat prepares us for life in general, not just diving,” Vogt said. “I was with Emma after we got the word, and I just felt terrible for her. But that night we were talking to our other teammates, telling them what happened, and she was saying, ‘Not every day is promised to you. You can’t have regrets.’ Like coach says, we can only control the things we control, including our reaction.”

BIG MAC attack

The Mid-American Conference altered the landscape of college wrestling in March 2019 when it announced the former members of the Eastern Wrestling League – including Clarion – would join as affiliate members in the 2019-20 season. One year later, the move paid dividends for the Golden Eagles as well as the conference as Clarion qualified three wrestlers for the NCAA Championships. Overall the MAC qualified 50 wrestlers for the 2020 championships, up from 31 qualifiers a year ago.

The Golden Eagles enjoyed a strong showing at their first ever MAC Championships meet, held March 7-8 on the campus of Northern Illinois University. Greg Bulsak earned the distinction of becoming Clarion’s first-ever MAC champion after blitzing the field at 197 pounds, winning three straight matches during Saturday’s opening rounds before accepting a medical forfeit from Rider’s Ethan Laird. He started his weekend with a 9-1 major decision over Bloomsburg’s Kyle Murphy and then cruised past Buffalo’s Sam Schuyler to reach the semifinals against Northern Illinois’ Gage Braun. Braun was one of the few wrestlers to defeat Bulsak during the regular season, but Bulsak got his revenge in the rematch, shutting down Braun to the tune of an 8-2 decision.

He was not the only Golden Eagle to stand out on the conference stage. Brock Zacherl took second place at 149 pounds after a pair of impressive wins put him in the conference finals. He started the tournament with a bye and quickly parlayed it into a decision over Old Dominion’s Kenan Carter, taking him down late to advance to a semifinal bout against George Mason’s Colston DiBlasi. The fans were treated to a tight bout as the two went into overtime tied at 4-4, but Zacherl tripped up DiBlasi shortly into the final frame for a sudden victory decision. That sent him to a finals matchup against the nation’s fourth-ranked contender, Missouri’s Brock Muller, just narrowly falling to him in the championship match.

The performance at the conference championships was part of an exceptional first season in the MAC for Clarion, which posted a 10-6 overall record and a 7-4 mark in conference competition. Along the way, the Golden Eagles authored a number of milestones, both on the individual and team levels. Clarion recorded its third straight winning season, the longest streak the team has enjoyed since nine straight years in the 1970s and 1980s. Brock Zacherl became the 21st member of the 100-win club at Clarion and steadily climbed the ranks, moving into 14th place on the all-time list.

Bulsak and Zacherl were not the only Golden Eagles to qualify for the national tournament. Sophomore Ty Bagoly became the third Clarion wrestler in as many years to earn an at-large bid to the championships, doing so in his first season at 285 pounds. Bagoly went 16-6 over the course of the regular season and cracked the national rankings for the first time in his career.



Brock Zacherl



Greg Bulsak



Ty Bagoly

record number OF ATHLETES EARN RECOGNITION FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

record number

Clarion student-athletes set a new standard for academic excellence in 2019, as the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics announced Jan. 31 that 211 student-athletes – comprising 57 percent of all Golden Eagles – earned Clarion scholar-athlete status. The record-breaking numbers were announced at the annual Bob Carlson Scholar-Athlete Luncheon.

To become a Clarion scholar-athlete, student-athletes must have achieved one of the following: earn a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher; attain a 3.2 GPA or higher in two consecutive semesters, in the previous year’s spring semester and this year’s fall semester; or, as a freshman or first-year transfer student, achieve a 3.2 GPA in the fall

semester. The previous record for total student-athletes was 183, set in 2017, while the previous record for percentage of student-athletes was 51 percent, matched in each of the last two years. The 2020 numbers blow by both of those benchmarks, with Golden Eagles nearer to 60 percent in the last year.

Winners of the 2020 Carlson Cup were the Golden Eagle softball team, who posted the best team GPA improvement in the department. The softball team recorded a team GPA of 3.54 in the fall, with 23 athletes earning scholar-athlete status.

The Carlson Cup-winning women’s softball team



The Annual Bob Carlson Scholar-Athlete Luncheon)

A look back...



ALUMNI NOTES *spring* 2020

1978

Becky Harkema Abromitis retired as a medical librarian and received the honor of Librarian Emeritus from the University of Pittsburgh, where she worked for 35 years. She and her husband Vince reside in North Huntingdon, Pa.

1979



Kurt Zimmerman received a Quarterly Champions of Culture Award from Realty Operations Group, New York, where he is a database administrator. Kurt was praised for going above and beyond and for thinking like an owner, regularly taking on critical tasks himself rather than outsourcing them. His company said "his focus and effort directly impact monies spent on external consultants."

1980

Captain Michael Schierberl is an Airbus 321 pilot for American Airlines, Charlotte, N.C. He resides in Gastonia, N.C.

1985

David Sneath is the owner of ACS Sound and Lighting in Columbia, S.C. ACS provides audiovisual equipment for concerts and events throughout the southeast. He resides in Little Mountain, S.C.

1993

Marisa Diaz y Diaz is a Spanish teacher for Valley Stream (NY) Central High School. She is also an advisor to the Seal of Biliteracy. Marisa resides in Whitestone, N.Y.

2000

Ray Ewing '16G is a principal/corporate ecological services practice lead for Civil and Environmental Consultants, Pittsburgh. He resides in Pittsburgh with his wife Katie and children: Lynzie, Lillie, Eden and Jade.

Leslie Suhr Gervasio is a director of public affairs and managing editor for Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, Harrisburg. She resides in New Oxford with her husband Joseph.

2001

Dennis Slagle is an assistant professor of clinical pediatrics/neonatologist for Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Nashville, Tenn. He resides in Jackson, Tenn., with his wife Stacey and children: Noah, Joshua and Eliana.

2002



Thomas Tobin's latest book, "Going Alt-Ac: A Guide to Alternative Academic Careers," was released Jan. 30 with Stylus Press. Thomas is director for distance teaching and learning on the Learning Design, Development and Innovation team at University of Wisconsin-Madison. In addition to his Clarion degree in library science, he is a graduate of Canisius College (BA English 1994), Indiana State University (MA English 1996) and Duquesne University (PhD English 2000).

2004

Jennifer Klunk is a program coordinator for the University of Texas at Dallas. She resides in Dallas.

WE WANT TO *know about* YOU!

Beginning in August, Clarion University Magazine's fall issue will be delivered electronically.

Make sure you don't miss it by updating your email address at www.clarion.edu/alumni-update.

If you prefer to receive all future issues electronically, please indicate that in the comments section.

2005

Marybeth Crawshaw is a closing coordinator for Inspire Closing Services, Moon Township. She resides in Pittsburgh with her husband, Robert Trayers.

Cody Cope is a manager of talent acquisition and training/development for ASI, Pittsburgh. He resides in Pittsburgh with his wife Stefanie and daughter Kinsley.

2006

Xiaorong Shao is an information literacy librarian at Appalachian State University, Boone, N.C. She recently published her memoir, "The Broken Cart." Xiaorong resides in Boone.

Kate Ferri and **Fred '05 Dawson** reside in Murrys ville, where Kate operates Ferri Dawson Insurance Group.

2007

Amanda Cassels Wagner is a principal for Manassas City Public Schools, Manassas, Va. Amanda recently graduated with a Ph.D. in Education with a concentration in education leadership from George Mason University. She resides in Manassas, with her husband Daniel and child Everett.

2010

Mary Sibley is a reference and user services librarian for Swedenborg Library of Bryn Athyn (Pa.) College. She resides in Willow Grove with her children: Jacob, Anthony and Marquis.

2011

Brittany Holt Bailey is a home health aide for Community Resources for Independence, Brockway. She resides in Brockway with her husband Andrew and daughter Emma.

Alexandra Eberle Schneider '12G is library director for Brooke County Public Library, Wellsburg, W.Va. She resides in Coraopolis with her husband Josh.

2014

Ann Deibert is a teacher/coach for Regional School District 17, Higganum, Conn. She resides in Middletown, Conn.



MARRIAGES



Marybeth Crawshaw '05 and Robert Trayer,
Oct. 19, 2019

Leslie Suhr '00 and Joseph Gervasio
May 4, 2019

Autumn Kunkle '11 and **Brian Gallaher '11**
July 20, 2019



Michael '16 and **Ashley Cassano '16, '17G Cesare** met during the first semester of their freshman year at Clarion and have been together ever since. They married Oct. 19, 2019, in Pittsburgh, surrounded by their family and closest friends, including their Phi Sigma Sigma sisters and Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers.

IN MEMORIAM

1950s

Howard G. Lehman '51
Jan. 23, 2020

Barbara Ann Faust Schierberl '51
Jan. 30, 2020

Marjory Seese Eichelberger '55
Nov. 23, 2019

Benjamin A. Kundick '58
Jan. 13, 2020

Richard D. Thompson '59
Nov. 6, 2019

Raymond E. Whitmer '59
Oct. 31, 2019

1960s

John Emil Bertani '61
Nov. 10, 2019

James O. Ashbaugh '62
Jan. 23, 2020

Beverly Rae Kelly '62
Dec. 12, 2019

Ronald D. McMaster '62
Oct. 29, 2019

Carl L. Josephs '63
Jan. 22, 2020

Larry Charles Staley '63
Jan. 29, 2020

John P. Zorich '63
Feb. 13, 2020

Ronald Eugene Copenhaver '64
Oct. 30, 2019

Edward Terry Ashbaugh '65
Nov. 13, 2019

Linda J. Tuite Rosenthal '66
Jan. 28, 2020

John J. Buzzinotti '67
Nov. 21, 2019

Donald L. Rhoades '68
Jan. 17, 2020

M. Joan Walter Kent '69
Feb. 27, 2020

1970s

Marvis S. Hoover '70
Feb. 27, 2020

Richard T. Eddy '71
Dec. 26, 2019

Guy Edward Anderson '72
Dec. 9, 2019

Winnifred L. Williams Barrett '72
Jan. 25, 2020

Richard W. Moss '72
Jan. 25, 2020

Mary W. Lacombe '74
Nov. 30, 2019

Samuel Krautz '75
Feb. 8, 2020

Joyce L. Jordan '76
Feb. 25, 2020

Gerald G. Gigliotti '78
Jan. 3, 2020

Aleta Rice Hansen '78
Jan. 8, 2020

Paul E. Brungo '79
Feb. 2, 2020

1980s

Dennis E. Miller '80
Feb. 17, 2020

Taryn L. Carter Wyche '81
Jan. 6, 2020

Wendy A. Bennett Ulrich '81
Jan. 18, 2020

Mary Belle Craig Buck '83
Nov. 22, 2019

Randall C. Stom '85
Nov. 12, 2019

Christine Patrice Meyer Kohlhepp '88
Feb. 6, 2020

1990s

Jan Altrogge Knorr '94
Nov. 26, 2019

Jason Wayne Best '99
Dec. 26, 2019

2010s

Shaun Logan Crowley '11
Jan. 9, 2020

Rachel Bentley '16
Oct. 29, 2019

Friends

Jane Buechle Paine (retired staff)
Oct. 30, 2019

Robert A. Keenan (retired faculty)
Nov. 26, 2019

James Puckett
Dec. 3, 2019

Patricia Ann Misner Kelley
Dec. 12, 2019

Raymond W. Gilman (retired staff)
Dec. 19, 2019

Sarah R. Seigworth (retired staff)
Jan. 10, 2020

Elizabeth Anastasia Rupert '59 (retired administrator)
Jan. 31, 2020

Edward Donald Kaufman
Feb. 6, 2020

Margaret Sullivan Eck
Feb. 27, 2020

Ernest Aharrah '49

Ernest C. Aharrah, 92, died November 29, 2019. He matriculated at Clarion Teachers College in September 1944, but his education was interrupted by a two-year stint in the U.S. Marine Corps. Ernie graduated from Clarion in 1949 with a B.S. in education. He holds an M.Ed. in biology from the Penn State University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh.

He taught in Kossuth and Yeagertown before returning to Clarion. While a demonstration teacher at Clarion State Teachers College, he taught in Clarion Area School District.

Aharrah retired as professor of biology and science education at Clarion University. He was the university's first director of Alumni Affairs and wrote the initial draft of by-laws for Clarion University Foundation, Inc. He was named a Distinguished Faculty member, and in 1985, the Alumni Association recognized him as a Distinguished Alumnus. He served on the governing boards of the foundation and the alumni association.

Memorial donations may be made to the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., Peggy and Sherri Aharrah's scholarship.



CLARION UNIVERSITY BABY EAGLES

OUR GIFT TO BABY EAGLES OF CLARION ALUMNI IS A DASHING NEW BIB!

To receive a bib, visit www.clarion.edu/babybib and complete the online form. Once you receive your bib, take a picture of your Eaglet putting the bib to use, and email a high-resolution photo to us for inclusion in Clarion University Magazine.

For more information, call the Office of Alumni Engagement at 814-393-2572.



ELLIE
Ellie Ann Darr, daughter of Andrew and
Brittany Ann '13 Darr, born June 11, 2019



AUSTIN
Austin Richard Fiscus, son of Ben '13 and
Lindsay Thill '13 Fiscus, born July 15, 2019



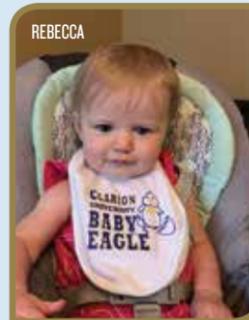
GABRIELA
Gabriela Hannigan, daughter of
Adelina Malito '06 and Christopher Hannigan,
born July 15, 2019



MEADOW
Meadow Campbell Byers, daughter of Jon
and Breanna Campbell '09 Byers,
born July 30, 2019



VALENTINO
Valentino Nicholas Perla, son of
Morgan and Nick '10 Perla,
born April 12, 2018



REBECCA
Rebecca Danielle Lovett, daughter of
Daniel '99 and Susan Ramolt '01 Lovett,
born Oct. 30, 2018



CORA
Cora Renee Freeman, daughter of
Geoffrey and Allison Stoltz '09 Freeman,
born Dec. 11, 2018



LIAM
Liam Donald Watson, son of Doug and
Megan Tuite '08 Watson,
born Jan. 18, 2019



WESLEY
Wesley Mark Capela, son of David and
Michelle Hellyer '13 Capela,
born Aug. 9, 2019



PAYTON
Payton Joy Trumbo, daughter of Mark and
Kristy Clarke '07 Trumbo,
born Aug. 14, 2019



GRIFFIN
Griffin Thomas Turnbull, son of Tommy
and Melissa Gearing '10 Turnbull,
born Sept. 17, 2019



QUINN
Quinn Ann Fremer, daughter of Andy '10
and Kaitlin Miller '12 Fremer,
born Sept. 27, 2019



ZOEY
Zoey Rose Sable, daughter of Dr. Michael
'02 and Amanda Speth '04 Sable,
born Feb. 4, 2019



LILLIAN
Lillian Caroline Windsor, daughter of
Aaron and Stacey Humienny '08 Windsor,
born March 3, 2019



GRANT
Grant Atticus Wolbert, son of Nate '13 and
Allison Winger '14 Wolbert,
born March 23, 2019



LEO
Leo Nathan Vamossy, son of Nathan and
Christiana Indrihovic '13 Vamossy,
born March 26, 2019



JONAH
Jonah Emmett Krisher, son of Zachary '13
and Lindsay Agnello '13 Krisher,
born Nov. 8, 2019



JOHN
John Raymond Hackel, son of John '12
and Brittany Mesing '11 Hackel,
born Nov. 10, 2019



ARIAH
Ariah Rose Griffin, daughter of Ashley and
Nathan '10 Griffin,
born Nov. 24, 2019



KENNEDY
Kennedy Marie Berezansky, daughter
of Nathan and Britney Olsavsky '09
Berezansky, born Nov. 26, 2019



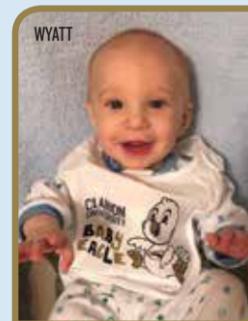
ETHAN
Ethan William Forgione, son of Joseph '07
and Rebecca Goodpastor '05 Forgione,
born April 1, 2019



OLIVIA
Olivia Mae Baumcratz, daughter of Ed '04,
'07G and Chrissy Wolbert '01 Baumcratz,
born April 2, 2019



HARPER
Harper Brielle Young, daughter of Brady
'12 and Samantha Tenfelde '12 Young,
born May 30, 2019



WYATT
Wyatt Joseph Hagan, son of Jeffrey and
Shayleene Hagan, born June 2, 2019



ELI
Eli Zak Paul Jones, son of Brandon and
Elizabeth Indrihovic '09 Jones,
born Nov. 30, 2019



ANDREW
Andrew Glancy, son of Daniel and
Melissa Beam '11 Glancy,
born Dec. 10, 2019



QUINN JACK
Jack Gerard and Quinn Carter Kirby, twin son and daughter of
Charlie and Ashley Carter '06 Kirby, born July 31, 2019



STUDENTS SHOW *resiliency* IN TRANSITION TO DISTANCE LEARNING

When social distancing became a necessity, Clarion University students quickly became distance learners.

To make the transition as seamless as possible for students, Clarion University faculty – 60 percent of whom were already trained in online instruction – staff, and the information technology department worked together.

“Faculty and staff have spent the last week helping students to adjust. They’ve done so many things, I can’t list them all,” said Dr. Pam Gent, provost. “They’ve had online and Zoom discussions with students to address concerns or fears about this new learning environment. They shared tips with students on how to learn in a new environment.”

Faculty also became students as they learned techniques of online instruction, often utilizing the university’s D2L online platform, as well as other tools for teaching such as Zoom for live lectures, videos and email.

“Faculty are using a variety of platforms, because the

digital divide exists in rural parts of Pennsylvania,” Gent explained. “Some of our students do not have reliable internet or cell service.”

Lending support to faculty and students is commonplace for Clarion University Libraries.

“The Clarion University Libraries have a long history and a depth of experience supporting online classes. Our librarians provide research consultation services via Skype, Zoom, chat, text, email, and toll-free phone services throughout the day, evenings and weekends,” said Dr. Terry Latour, dean of libraries. “Our library faculty provide information literacy and discipline-specific instruction via Zoom software, and tutorials developed for specific classes and needs. LibGuides, online research resource guides, have been developed for many classes, disciplines and subjects.”

The library staff also have scanned many information resources not originally in electronic form and provided it to faculty to give to their students through D2L. Additionally,

the libraries loaned laptops and iPads to students for the remainder of the semester.

Students and faculty can still depend on the library for research no matter where they are.

“Our information resources include more than 370,000 e-book titles, 55,000 scholarly journals, and 68,000 streaming video titles,” Latour said. “What we don’t have in our collections, we collaborate with other academic libraries to provide access to most any information resource.”

Latour said students and faculty have adjusted to distance education, as expected.

“Clarion students are resilient and adaptable, as are Clarion University faculty and staff. We work individually with students to identify and satisfy their needs,” Latour said. “The faculty and staff of the libraries stepped forward without hesitation to do all they could to support students during these stressful times.”

The Center for Access and Student Achievement has stepped in to make certain students don’t fall through the cracks during the transition to remote learning. In fact, students have access to the same services they have come to rely upon, but retooled for remote learning.

For example, CASA has created tips for students, including how to learn online, time management in unstructured settings, study tips for online learning, etc., Gent said.

“In order to assist students with the transition to the virtual world of learning, we have created a D2L Site: CASA Online Support,” said Ron Radaker, director of CASA. “This site was implemented to help students stay connected and have a point of contact for them in this transition. We wanted to mimic what the physical brick and mortar Center for Access, Success, and Achievement provides for the students.”

So far, a few students have requested tutoring in mathematics, but Radaker said the main reason students have reached out is to voice their concerns over the transition.

“The biggest concern is lack of good internet service providers in some areas where our students reside,” Radaker said. “The other concern that I am sensing from the conversations is the fact that our students are home with their families, which may contain younger siblings or children, and trying to manage all of that on top of studying.”

Radaker said CASA staff members are using Zoom and video chat for tutoring, and we’re leading the State System in another key area.

“At this point, I think we are the only school that created a D2L site to mimic our center,” Radaker said. “Things will evolve each day, and we will keep adding new supports as we see the need. The key is to engage with our students to support them where they are at right now.”

Another resource, the Center for First-Year Experience, is making certain freshmen are getting the assistance they need during this transition.

“The success coaches have reached out to all the first-year students and offered them the same services via zoom, email and phone,” said Dr. Richard Lane, director for Center for First-Year Experience. “They have talked to many students about transitioning and tried to calm fears, as well as worked with students to prepare for registration.”

Lane said the Center for First-Year Experience also is here to answer parents’ questions. Parents can check the center’s web page and look forward to its regular newsletter.

Gent said it’s not surprising the way everyone has pulled together.

“I’ve never been prouder of our faculty and staff,” Gent said. “Faculty and staff modeled for our students how unexpected events require teamwork, flexibility, resilience, tolerance of ambiguity, creative thinking, and problem solving – and that’s a lesson our students can take with them no matter where life takes them.”





#WINGSUP

TREE ZUZZIO

TREE ZUZZIO, STUDENT LEADER

As a student leader, Tree Zuzzio believes that he is responsible for representing his classmates in all situations, including the most trying of times. One of those trying times happened this spring when the coronavirus pandemic shifted classes to remote delivery, and students were sent home.

Zuzzio, however, the student member of the university's Council of Trustees, remained on campus as part of the Coronavirus Response Team.

"During this pandemic, we all have the responsibility to come together as a community and assist one another in any way that we can, while sticking to social distancing protocol, of course," Zuzzio said. "It is my firm belief that in the educational setting, the best way to ensure that student concerns are met head-on is to have direct student representation in decision making committees across campus."

Through his position as a trustee, he has been an outspoken advocate for his fellow students, concentrating specifically on the cost of housing. Fellow trustee **J.D. Dunbar '77, '79G** has been his leadership mentor.

"She has continuously encouraged me to use my voice as a student trustee and has provided me with opportunities to make an impact beyond Clarion, at the state level," Zuzzio said. "Her inspirational leadership style has transformed how I lead today and how I will continue lead in the future."

In addition to his position as a trustee, Zuzzio represents the student body in other ways.

"I serve on the Clarion Student's Association as the administrative chair and as an advisor to Student Senate," he said. "I was tapped to serve as both the student and trustee member of the True North Task Force, serving on the Recruitment and Retention working group along with the Campus Climate and Diversity working group."

He has also enjoyed participating in a various university theatre productions.

Zuzzio, originally from Harrisburg, will graduate in May with dual degrees in business management and political science. This fall, he will begin classes at University of Pennsylvania, where he will pursue a master's degree in social policy, with the goal of working in policy development on the state level.

"My long-term goal is to one day run for elected office," Zuzzio said.



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 Director of Planned Giving
 Clarion University Foundation, Inc.
 Seifert-Mooney Center for Advancement
 840 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214-1232
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