



**DOROTHY KOZLOWSKI, PH.D.**  
**INTERIM DEAN AND PROFESSOR**  
**OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

**GERALD P. KOOCHER, PH.D., ABPP**  
**DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF**  
**PSYCHOLOGY**



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## WELCOME

I hope you had an enjoyable summer! We are back this fall with a new group of students, faculty, and staff, alongside our current students, friends, and colleagues.

I am humbled and honored to have been chosen as Interim Dean. I'm ready to take on a new responsibility, and I am committed to do my best to lead our college and be its strongest advocate.

One important goal for this academic year is Strategic Planning. As you are aware, DePaul's Board of Trustees has approved the University's Strategic Plan, Grounded in Mission: Engaging Students, Transforming Communities: The Plan for DePaul 2024. Each College is asked to examine the Plan and determine how it will contribute to and implement it. To do so, our College will conduct strategic planning of its own starting at the level of each unit, followed by a college wide strategic planning process. More details will be provided as we move through the year.

In this issue, please enjoy the wonderful highlights and accomplishments completed by the College this spring and summer. Have a wonderful autumn quarter!

All the Best,

Dorothy



## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

### CSH Dean Gerald P. Koocher Steps Down



After serving as Dean of the College of Science and Health since 2013, **Gerald P. Koocher, Ph.D., ABPP** stepped down this fall to become the first provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs at Quincy College in Quincy, Massachusetts.

On becoming Dean, Dr. Koocher worked closely with DePaul's chancellor and former president, **Rev. Dennis Holtschneider, C.M.**, to develop the CSH business plan, which led to the significant growth in the college; to oversee the build out of new lab space in McGowan South, and to develop the college's Pathways Program with Rosalind Franklin University Medical School. During his tenure, the School of Nursing grew from two

admission cycles per year to four. In addition, a nursing program was established at Rosalind Franklin. He also taught in the Psychology Department and started a donor-funded, summer Dean's Undergraduate Fellowship Program.

"As the first permanent dean for CSH, Dean Koocher helped build the foundation that will serve the college into the future," Provost **Marten denBoer** says. "I thank him for his leadership and wish him well as he returns home." Remarking on his departure, Dr. Koocher said, "I will very much miss the friends I have made at DePaul, and I value the important mission of the university and the spirit of Vincentian ideals."

To celebrate Dean Koocher's numerous contributions during his tenure as Dean, the college hosted a farewell reception in McGowan South on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Guests donned versions of Gerry's signature bow tie and took turns thanking him for his leadership, mentorship, and – most importantly – his sense of humor. The reception concluded with the presentation of a plaque to Dr. Koocher from the Assistant Deans and Associate Deans.



## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

### Dorothy Kozlowski Appointed Interim Dean of CSH

DePaul University Provost **Marten denBoer** named **Dorothy Kozlowski, Ph.D.** as Interim Dean of the College of Science and Health, effective September 1<sup>st</sup>. Prior to her appointment, Dr. Kozlowski, an expert in traumatic brain injury who joined DePaul's faculty in 2000, served as a Vincent de Paul Professor of Biological Sciences and co-director of the Neuroscience program. Aside from teaching Neuroscience courses in the Biological Sciences department and Neuroscience program as well as in the Liberal Arts program, she played a role in the creation of CSH as the founding chair of the Department of Health Sciences. In addition, as founding co-director of DePaul's Neuroscience program, she created opportunities for students to examine this integrative discipline with professors from a variety of departments and colleges who have expertise in neuroscience.



"Dorothy has been a central figure at DePaul in health sciences education. In 18 years here, she consistently demonstrated dedication to her college and the university's mission, to student success and to advancing scientific research for the good of public health," denBoer says. "She will be an effective advocate for the continuing success of CSH and for her colleagues, who provided strong support for her appointment as Interim Dean."

"Since the creation of the College of Science and Health, I have enjoyed watching us grow in enrollment, diversity in programming and overall quality. I am humbled to be given the opportunity to serve as the Interim Dean," Kozlowski says. "As the daughter of Polish immigrants and the first in my family to attend college, DePaul's Vincentian mission is one that resonates with me on an incredibly personal level. As the Interim Dean, I want to ensure that DePaul's mission continues to be realized in our college in the years ahead. I look forward to leading the college and working with my colleagues as we begin to implement the university's new strategic plan."

As a researcher, Kozlowski has studied how the brain tries to repair itself following traumatic brain injury through neuroplasticity, the brain's ability to reorganize itself by forming new neural connections throughout life. She, her students and collaborators also study how to enhance brain repair through therapeutic approaches such as physical rehabilitation, stem cell transplantation or pharmacological agents. Her research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Defense.

"My colleagues can expect me to work to help the college find common goals and areas of interest between departments, programs and institutes that highlight our strengths and keep us competitive in the challenging landscape of higher education," she says. "I will work hard to advocate for our college so that we can provide our students the highest quality education and experience in science and health."

The Office of Academic Affairs will launch a nationwide search for a new dean of the College of Science and Health in the summer of 2019 with the goal of welcoming permanent leadership by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## DePaul University Celebrates Class of 2018 at Commencement Ceremony

The College of Science and Health participated in DePaul University's 119<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremony along with the College of Education on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Wintrust Arena. Faculty members and over 900 students, along with many family and friends, celebrated the completion of their respective degrees ranging from doctoral students, master's students, and bachelor's students. **Rachel Pride**, a neuroscience major, gave an inspiring student address that left many in attendance ready to carry on the Vincentian mission.



## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

### CSH Demonstrates Vincentian Personalism in Student Commencement Ceremonies



A special second commencement ceremony was held the day after the ceremony at Wintrust Arena when, exemplary of DePaul's mission of Vincentian service, Director of the School of Nursing **Matthew Sorenson, Ph.D., APN, ANP-C** and CSH Dean **Gerry P. Koocher, Ph.D., ABPP** robed up and held a substitute graduation celebration for **Raina Leon** at her synagogue. Raina is an MSN graduate (with distinction) who was unable to attend the commencement because it was held on Saturday, the Orthodox Jewish Shabbat. They were joined by several students who formed a study group with Raina during the MSN program.



CSH's commitment to Vincentian service was also reinforced early in the spring quarter after the tragic death of **Savannah Buik**, an undergraduate CSH student who had recently completed her coursework for a degree in mathematical sciences. Savannah passed away on March 28 at the age of 22 in a rock climbing accident. Together with Savannah's parents, family members, friends, and the DePaul University community, Savannah's life was celebrated on campus at a special ceremony at Cortelyou Commons on April 10. Guests were invited to share stories and memories of the thrill-seeking math major and were also invited to give donations to two nonprofits that Savannah supported: Project Heal, which aids people with eating disorders, and the

American Alpine Club, which works to conserve climbing areas. In addition, Savannah's parents were presented with a posthumous diploma in recognition of Savannah's academic achievement.

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## College of Science and Health Spring Quarter College Meeting

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, CSH held its Spring Quarter College Meeting.

After opening remarks and college updates by Dean **Gerry P. Koocher, Ph.D., ABPP**, attendees had the opportunity to complete the annual Management Standards Training that is required of all DePaul managers responsible for departmental budgets. The training highlights particular standards and practices identified in the Management Standards Handbook that describes how to be a responsible manager. These courses are revised annually to provide updates on key policy changes at the university.

Director of Compliance and Risk Management, **Emily**

**Opalski**, led the training session titled "Preventing Harassment and Abuse at DePaul." This session focused on creating and maintaining a safe environment, free from harassment or abuse of any kind. Participants reviewed university policies, received tools, discussed possible actions that can be taken in order to prevent harassment and abuse in the workplace, how to respond to incidents, and reporting responsibilities.



Finally, Associate Professor of Physics and the recipient of the 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award, **Susan Fischer, Ph.D.**, gave a presentation titled, "Let Go of the Lecture Notes! How Studio Classrooms Transformed my Teaching." Dr. Fischer has been dabbling in Physics Education Research for the past six years, with a particular interest in embodied cognition, in which students directly experience or feel the physics concept being studied. For the last ten years, she has collaborated with colleagues teaching DePaul's algebra-based introductory physics courses and has worked to include and develop research-based teaching methods for these classes.

Her presentation centered on DePaul's two introductory physics lab spaces that were gutted and replaced in 2014 with a large, single studio classroom equipped with 6 round tables seating 9 students each. The new space allows faculty to teach in a non-traditional style by guiding students through course materials that integrate lab activities, computer simulations, whiteboard discussions, problem-solving, clicker questions, and other activities designed to promote active-engagement. Dr. Fischer has taken a leading role in developing materials for DePaul's algebra-based introductory physics courses taught in the studio classrooms.

The **studio classroom concept**

**peer instruction:** students typically work in groups of 3

**The physical space:**

- Large round tables (but not too large!)
- 9 students per table
- Tables have power and network connections
- Whiteboards on many walls
- 3 projector screens
- Central podium and open space
- Designed to promote active engagement

**integrated lab and/or computer-based activities**

**mini lectures, demonstrations, and guided discussions**

Three small images showing students in a studio classroom setting: one working at a computer, one at a whiteboard, and one in a group discussion.

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## CSH Degree Program Announcements

CSH recently announced new and revised undergraduate and graduate degree programs that are available beginning this fall. These programs allow students to enhance their knowledge in a specific area and learn new skills to further their careers. Learn more about each degree below.

### **Master of Science in Environmental Science**

The new Master of Science in Environmental Science (MSES) builds upon the Department of Environmental Science and Studies' track record over the past three decades of delivering high quality environmental education at the undergraduate level. This new program will be the Department's first graduate degree. This master's program enhances the ability of the Department of Environmental Science and Studies to vocationalize the training of graduates in environmental science and related disciplines. Significant growth in the professions of restoration ecology, species and landscape conservation, biodiversity management, green infrastructure management, and ecological consultancy associated with these approaches to natural resource management, creates opportunity for developing a graduate program in this area.

### **Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science (revision)**

The Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science degree has existed in CSH for many years. However the Society of Actuaries (SOA) and the Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) have announced the introduction of several new professional examinations. Both organizations aim to strengthen their coverage of applied statistics and predictive analytics, which is a response to the growing amount of data and the importance of analytics in the insurance industry. In recognition of the upcoming changes in the credentialing process for actuaries by the SOA and the CAS, as well as industry trends, Mathematical Sciences has revised the program's curriculum to offer students the option to specialize in Life/Pensions and Property/Casualty. Updating and modernizing this degree keeps it at the forefront of industry knowledge.

In addition to the new and revised programs, CSH is expanding its offerings of accelerated combined degree programs. By taking advantage of this option, students can apply up to twelve credit hours toward both a Bachelor's and Master's degree, allowing them to complete the two degrees in a shorter amount of time. Additionally, the combined degree program reduces both the direct cost and indirect opportunity cost (e.g., foregone wages) of obtaining both degrees. For each of these combined programs, there is an opportunity for every DePaul undergraduate with at least 88 credits (junior standing) and preparatory work in Mathematics (roughly equivalent to a math minor) to apply for early admission.

### **Combined Bachelor's and Master of Science in Applied Statistics**

The interdisciplinary nature of this program will be beneficial to non-mathematics majors who are interested in studying the theory and application of mathematics and statistics as well as statistical computing. This can help them connect applied statistics to their area of study and will provide them with contextualized experience with data analysis, which is what is used in the workforce.

### **Combined Bachelor's and Master of Science in Pure Mathematics**

This will be beneficial to non-mathematics majors who would like to add the Master's degree in Mathematics to their current BS degree. Research focuses are available in subjects such as Algebra (Representation theory, Lie theory, Hopf algebras and quantum groups), Analysis (Harmonic, Fourier and functional analysis; Operator algebras; Spectral geometry), Combinatorics, Dynamical systems, Number theory, and Probability theory. This degree will open career opportunities such as teaching Mathematics at the college level or pursuing a doctorate or professional degree.

### **Combined Bachelor's and Master of Science in Applied Mathematics**

The interdisciplinary nature of this program will be beneficial to non-mathematics majors interested in studying more advanced topics in applied and computational mathematics as they are used in other fields. The tools and methods of Applied Mathematics are in demand wherever quantitative analysis is used for strategic decision-making. The program provides the needed expertise to use those tools and methods in business, industry or government. It also provides a solid foundation for those interested in pursuing a doctorate.

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## Department of Mathematical Sciences Hosts 2018 Inquiry-Based Learning Workshop



In collaboration with the [Academy of Inquiry Based Learning \(AIBL\)](#), this summer the Department of Mathematical Sciences hosted a four-day workshop on Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) in mathematics. AIBL is a community of college math instructors, math teachers, and supporters of inquiry-based learning who define IBL broadly and support the use of a wide range of empirically-validated teaching methods in mathematics courses consistent with courses where students are (a) deeply engaged in rich mathematical tasks, and (b) have ample opportunities to collaborate with peers. One of the goals of AIBL is to improve undergraduate math education via increasing the use of IBL methods

across a wide range of courses and institutional environments.

The PRODUCT IBL workshop series offers professional development for college math instructors from across the United States and Canada, and is funded by a \$2.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation. Participants in the workshop learn new skills from experienced IBL instructors, reflect on current teaching practices, and prepare to teach their own IBL math course during the next academic year.

## CSH Publishes New Issue of *DePaul Discoveries*

The most recent edition of [DePaul Discoveries](#), CSH's peer-reviewed undergraduate research journal, was published in May. This volume, the journal's seventh, contains twelve articles from a variety of disciplines that highlight the quality of academic work and research undertaken within the College of Science and Health.

*DePaul Discoveries* articles are accessed from all over the world and have been downloaded over 18,700 times from over 2,100 institutions and 150 countries. Thank you to the editorial board listed below, faculty mentors, and students who contributed to this volume!

### Editor-in-Chief

**Susan Dvorak McMahon, Ph.D.**, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development, College of Science and Health, DePaul University

### Editorial Board

**Sarah Connolly, Ph.D.**, Department of Biological Sciences

**Cecilia Martinez-Torteya, Ph.D.**, Department of Psychology

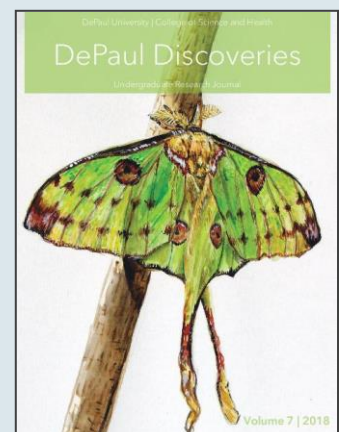
**Gabriela Gonzalez Aviles, Ph.D.**, Department of Physics

**Kyle Grice, Ph.D.**, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Mark Potosnak, Ph.D.**, Department of Environmental Sciences and Studies

**Sarah Bockling-Conrad, Ph.D.**, Department of Mathematical Sciences

**Douglas Bruce, Ph.D.**, Department of Health Sciences





# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## CSH Faculty Present at American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition

Part of doing science is communicating results in both written and oral form. To this end, DePaul faculty regularly travel to conferences to present the work they've done with DePaul students.

Over spring break, the [American Chemical Society \(ACS\)](#) held its 255<sup>th</sup> National Meeting and Exposition in New Orleans. The theme of the meeting was "Nexus of Food, Energy & Water." Two faculty members from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry presented research at the conference, **Kyle Grice, Ph.D.** and **Paul Vadola, Ph.D.**

Dr. Grice gave a talk on carbon dioxide reduction research performed with DePaul undergraduates. The abstract can be found [here](#). Dr. Vadola gave a talk on gold-catalyzed C-C coupling reaction research he has been performing with DePaul undergraduates. The abstract can be found [here](#).

The ACS journal of *Organometallics* recently published a special virtual issue focusing on undergraduate research in organometallics. Dr. Vadola and Dr. Grice had their papers included in this special virtual issue!

According to the special issue's [website](#), the issue features 24 organometallic chemistry papers from research groups at Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs) published in four core journals from 2014-2018:

*Organometallics*, [Inorganic Chemistry](#), [Organic Letters](#), and [The Journal of Organic Chemistry](#). The researchers featured represent a broad spectrum of institutions across the U.S. and Canada, career levels of faculty, and areas of interest. As the guest editors of the special issue note: "The research featured in this virtual issue is a testament to the high-level work that can be performed with undergraduates. ...Research for undergraduates is often a transformative experience, providing a natural incubator for the next generation of organometallic chemists."

Congratulations to Dr. Vadola and Dr. Grice and their students for having their work highlighted!



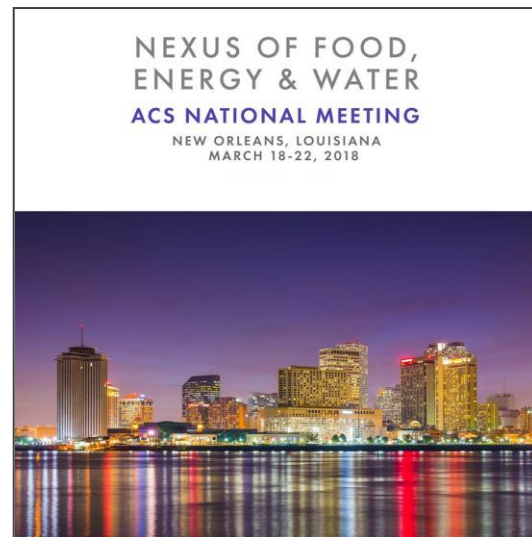
### **Electrocatalytic Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> by Group 6 M(CO)<sub>6</sub> Species without "Non-Innocent" Ligands**

Kyle A. Grice\* and Cesar Saucedo  
*Inorg. Chem.*, **2016**, 55 (12), pp 6240–6246  
DOI: 10.1021/acs.inorgchem.6b00875



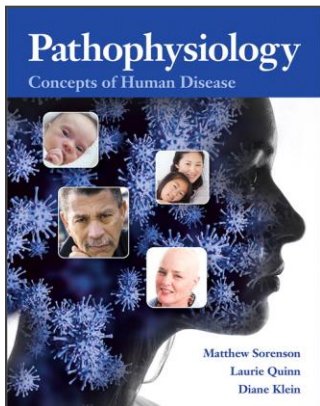
### **Gold-Catalyzed Hydroarylation of N-Aryl Alkynamides for the Synthesis of 2-Quinolinones**

Taylor Vacala, Lauren P. Bejcek, Chloé G. Williams, Alexandra C. Williamson, and Paul A. Vadola\*  
*J. Org. Chem.*, **2017**, 82 (5), pp 2558–2569  
DOI: 10.1021/acs.joc.6b02984



# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## CSH Professor Authors New Textbook on Pathophysiology



Associate Professor and Director of the School of Nursing **Matthew Sorenson, Ph.D., APN, ANP-C** is among the authors of a new textbook published this spring, *Pathophysiology: Concepts of Human Disease*. The text focuses on the human aspect of pathophysiology, acknowledging that diseases, disorders, and syndromes occur not in a vacuum, but in people – across the lifespan. Drawing on the health stories of real individuals, the authors provide the latest information in pathophysiology that is relevant to clinical practice, while empowering students with competencies that endure throughout a nursing career. The text's approach to

pathophysiology reflects a shift of focus in healthcare from understanding diseases in their later stages to understanding risk factors and the interventions that can maintain good health and slow progression of disease.

In addition, Dr. Sorenson will be induced as a Fellow in the [American Academy of Nursing \(AAN\)](#) this November. The AAN serves the public and the nursing profession by advancing health policy, practice and science through organizational excellence and effective nursing leadership. The Academy's more than 2,500 members, known as Fellows, are nursing's most accomplished leaders in education management, practice and research. Invitation to the fellowship represents more than recognition of one's accomplishments within the nursing profession: AAN fellows also have a responsibility to contribute their time and energies to the Academy and to engage with other health leaders outside the AAN in transforming America's health system.

## School of Nursing Students Selected for Schweitzer Fellowship

School of Nursing students **Nhu Do**, **Sarah Kwon**, and **Alexandra Strawbridge** have been selected for the prestigious Schweitzer Fellowship – a year-long service learning program that empowers Fellows to design and implement projects that help address the health needs of underserved Chicago communities.

Named in honor of famed humanitarian and Nobel laureate Dr. Albert Schweitzer, the Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program, an initiative of the [Health & Medicine Policy Research Group](#), encourages students to become lifelong leaders in service by helping to address unmet health needs among vulnerable Chicagoland residents. In collaboration with existing community organizations, each Schweitzer Fellow will launch a community-based project, providing 200 hours of service. The DePaul Schweitzer Fellows are planning the following community projects:

- **Nhu Do** proposes to initiate an after-school program to teach anatomy and science to school-age girls at Erie Neighborhood House. The program will seek to empower girls to explore STEM and related health fields.
- **Sarah Kwon** proposes to work in partnership with the Japanese American Service Committee to expand their current Out of the House program for older adults. Weekly meetings will provide social support, physical exercise, health education, and other community-building activities.
- **Alexandra Strawbridge** proposes to help a West Chicago grade school expand their current learning garden into a year-long education and family enrichment program.



## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

### Chicago Area Undergraduate Research Symposium (CAURS)



The annual [Chicago Area Undergraduate Research Symposium \(CAURS\)](#) took place at DePaul's Student Center on April 15. This annual research symposium is a partnership between several area universities – primarily DePaul, Northwestern, Loyola, ITT, Roosevelt, and the University of Chicago. CAURS is one of the largest annual undergraduate research conferences in the country, bringing together hundreds of undergraduate students in the Chicagoland area from all academic disciplines to present their research through poster presentations, oral presentations, and roundtable discussions. The site of the Symposium rotates between the participating institutions every year; DePaul last hosted in 2010.

One of the most unique aspects of CAURS is that it is planned and run almost entirely by undergraduate students who work year-round to organize the symposium. This year, two CSH students served on the CAURS Inter-School Board (ISB): **Monica Carson**, a Health Sciences senior, served as one of the two directors, and **Laura Griseta**, a senior majoring in Health Sciences and minoring in Biology, served on the board.

Congratulations to **William Asztalos** (Mathematics), who won Best Interdisciplinary Sciences Presentation!

### Public Health Scholar Bowl Team Competes in St. Louis



For the second year in a row, the Department of Health Sciences competed in the St. Louis University Public Health Scholar Bowl. The Public Health Scholar Bowl is a chance for burgeoning public health leaders to connect with their peers from 15 different universities and compete to win up to \$1,000 in the Quiz Bowl and Case Study competitions.

The competition consists of two parts. In the case study competition, teams receive a case one month prior to the competition. Teams work together to propose a solution and prepare a presentation that is judged by leading public health professionals. In the Quiz Bowl competition, teams compete against teams

from other universities in a tournament. With current public health topics ranging from disease outbreaks to global and community health, there's something for everyone.

The Department of Health Sciences Team was comprised of both returning undergraduate team members – **Lakerrie Forrest**, **Alexis Gonzalez**, **Maddie Ireland**, and **Ema Mujic** – and new members – **Emma Conners**, **Kayleigh Greenwood**, and **Jessie Rosato-Wyan**. The team was led by professors **Michele McCay, MPH, DrPH** and **Douglas Bruce, Ph.D.**

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## 2018 Undergraduate Summer Research Program

The Undergraduate Summer Research Program (USRP) grants financial awards to undergraduate students in support of summer research projects undertaken in collaboration with a faculty member. The program offers a complement to the typical classroom experience by giving students an opportunity to design a project, develop a proposal for competitive review, work closely with a faculty mentor on the project, and prepare results for presentation at the annual CSH Undergraduate Research Showcase as well as *DePaul Discoveries*, the college's undergraduate research journal.

Congratulations to this year's USRP recipients who conducted the following research with their faculty mentors over the summer:

### **Devin Becker**

#### **Jesús Pando, Ph.D.**

Department of Physics

Measuring the Evolution of Hierarchical Structure Formation in Lyman Alpha Forests

### **Jacob Klein**

#### **Bernhard Beck-Winchatz, Ph.D.**

Department of Physics

Designing a Geiger Counter for High-Altitude Ballooning

### **Gabbi Lynch**

#### **Leonard Jason, Ph.D.**

Department of Psychology

Small Network Characteristics and Recovery Outcomes

### **Kiana Mittelstaedt**

#### **Kyle Petersen, Ph.D.**

Department of Mathematical Sciences

One Dimensional Random Walks with a Reset

### **Tholang Mota**

#### **Bernhard Beck-Winchatz, Ph.D.**

Department of Physics

Magnetic Activity of Low Mass Stars

### **Daniel Olesak**

#### **Richard Niedziela, Ph.D.**

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Optical Properties of Synthetic Motor Oil

### **Elli Parisi**

#### **Lourdes Cricel Molina de Mesa, PhD**

Department of Health Sciences

Race and Health: The Effects of Depression on Health

### **Maciej Piwowarczyk**

#### **David Sher, Ph.D.**

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Frobenius Numbers of Three Element Sets

### **Simone Rhodes**

#### **Margaret Bell, Ph.D.**

Department of Biological Sciences

Piloting Protocol for Double Labelling Dopamine Receptors on Microglia

### **Madeline Robertson**

#### **Christie Klimas, Ph.D.**

Department of Environmental Science & Studies

An Environmental Impact Comparison of Children's Toys

### **Kelly Velazquez**

#### **Bala Chaudhary, Ph.D.**

Department of Environmental Science & Studies

Living Dust: Elucidating Microbial Dispersal through Genetic Analysis of Air-borne Symbiotic Microbes

### **Jacob Wat**

#### **Graham Griffin, Ph.D.**

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

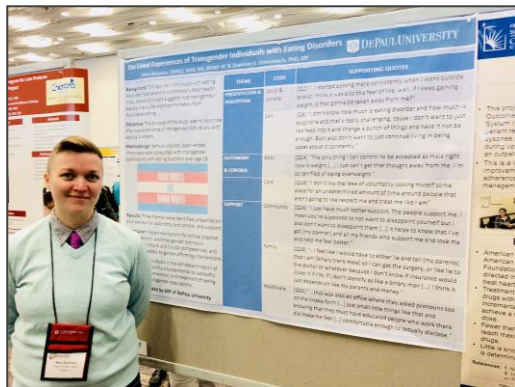
Computational Study of the Excited State Electronic Dynamics of Polythiophene Oligomers

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference 2018

In April, graduate students and faculty from DePaul's School of Nursing travelled to Cleveland, Ohio for the Midwest Nursing Research Society's (MNRS) 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Research Conference. The theme for the conference was "The Future of Nursing Research: Economic Realities and Creative Solutions".

Each of the participants was able to attend the Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference in part due to their applications for funding from the [Graduate Research Fund](#).



"Presenting a student poster at the MNRS Annual Conference was a tremendous experience to connect with and learn from other nurse researchers – both veterans in the field and others at the beginning of their research careers. Discussing my research with peers and fellow scholars fortified my understanding of my methodology and results, and offered a dynamic opportunity to develop my ideas further as I craft my manuscript for publication."

– Mary Bowman

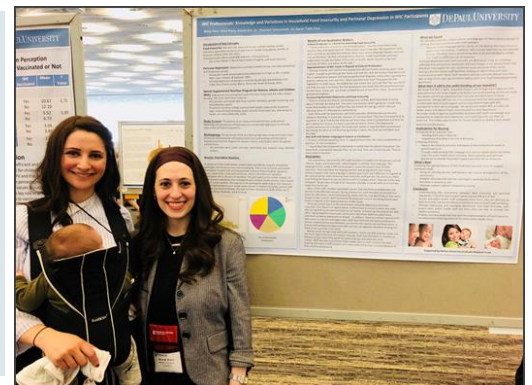
### The Lived Experiences of Transgender Individuals with Eating Disorders

Authors: Mary Bowman, DNP(C), MSN, RN, WHNP-BC (pictured); Shannon D. Simonovich, Ph.D., RN

"The MNRS conference was an exceptional experience where I got to see nursing research come to life! So many people had different perspectives to share on what was important to them and I appreciated the experience immensely." – Shira Prero

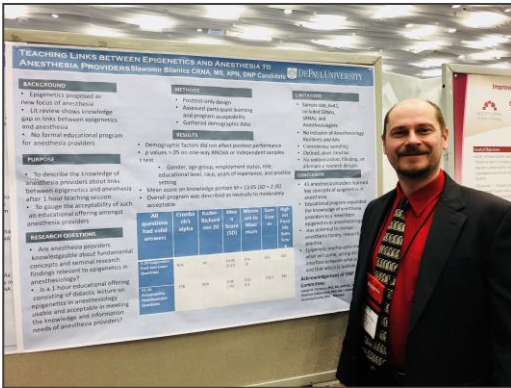
### WIC Professionals' Knowledge and Variations in Household Food Insecurity and Perinatal Depression in WIC Participants

Authors: Maya Bass (pictured); Shira Prero (pictured); Shannon D. Simonovich, Ph.D., RN; Karen Tabb Dina, Ph.D.



# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH SPRING AND SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

## Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference 2018



“The MNRS Conference was fulfilling, eye-opening, and inspirational. It helped me recognize that I was part of a larger community, which was also striving to advance nursing research, science, and practice. The conference provided me an outlet to represent the work I had done, while showing me that there was more to do in ways never before considered. The MNRS Conference was an opportunity to meet other nursing scholars from around the country, to network, and to grow.” – **Slawomir Bilanicz**

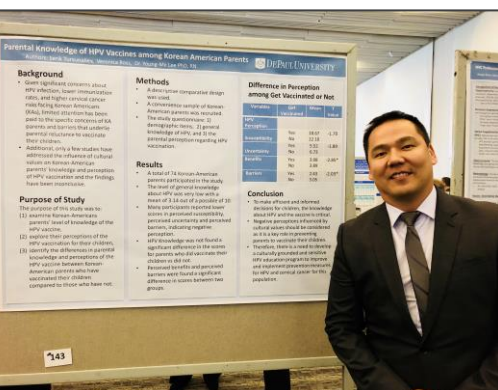
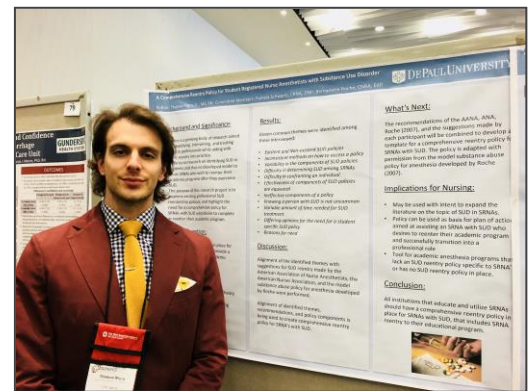
### Teaching Links Between Epigenetics and Anesthesia to Anesthesia Providers

Author: Slawomir Bilanicz, DNP(C), CRNA, MS, APN

“I appreciated the scholarly engagement of the poster presentation. The conversations I had throughout the morning were encouraging in that each person that I spoke to viewed my research as beneficial to our profession.” – **Thomas Nigro**

### A Comprehensive Reentry Policy for Student Registered Nurse Anesthetists with Substance Use Disorder

Author: Thomas Nigro, DNP(C), MS, RN (pictured)  
Committee Members: Pamela Schwartz, CRNA, DNP; Bernadette Roche, CNRA, EdD



“The highlight of the trip was when Dr. Simonovich and Dr. Tariman introduced me to their mentors. I was impressed at their manners and ability to relate to me as a student and a future colleague. I left the conference wanting to become like those who surrounded me: intelligent, kind, and so humble. Looking forward to many more conferences and meeting great nursing educators around the globe.” – **Serik Tursunaliev**

### Parental Knowledge of HPV Vaccines among Korean American Parents

Authors: Serik Tursunaliev (pictured); Veronica Ross; Young-Me Lee, Ph.D., RN

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

## CSH Honorees Recognized at Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon

At the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon held on May 15 at the Chicago Cultural Center, several faculty and staff from the College of Science and Health were honored for their service to the University. The luncheon honors DePaul employees who have reached work anniversary milestones between 10 and 50 years, and is also where the prestigious *Via Sapientiae* Award is presented.

### DR. JEFFREY BERGEN RECEIVES VIA SAPIENTIAE AWARD

The *Via Sapientiae* Award is the highest award that the university can bestow upon a member of its community. It recognizes both faculty and staff members who have made distinctive and extraordinary contributions to the university throughout their professional lives. Recipients must have contributed a minimum of 10 years of service to the university, and nominations are made at the time of retirement, or posthumously.



Professor Jeffrey Bergen  
1955-2018

Jeff joined DePaul University in 1981 as an Assistant Professor after receiving his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Chicago. His Ph.D. dissertation, *Prime Rings and Derivations*, was written under the supervision of the world-known algebraist, I. N. Herstein. Jeff was promoted to Associate Professor in 1986, and he was promoted to full Professor in 1991.

Jeff's service to the university and community was immense. He directed the M. A. in Mathematics Education Program (MAMED) from 1996 until he passed away on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018. He served on many university committees, including the University Board on Promotion and Tenure (UBPT), CSH Promotion and Tenure Board, Provost Search Committee, University Athletic Board, and Academic Program Review Committee.

At the departmental level he chaired many committees, including the Academic Program Review Committee, the Faculty Search Committee, the Personnel Committee, and the Course Redesign Committee which he chaired until he passed away. Outside DePaul University, he served on Maine Township-District 207 School Board and became the School Board President in 2001-2002. He gave many TV interviews over the years on NCAA March Madness explaining the odds of winning a perfect March Madness bracket.

He received the Excellence in Teaching Award in 2001 and the Cortelyou-Lowery Award for Excellence in 2007, and he was inducted in the Vincent De Paul Society in 2012. He authored 2 books, edited 3 monographs, and published 69 papers. He organized 7 algebra conferences at DePaul University in 1985, 1990, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, and 2007.

Most importantly, Jeff was an excellent colleague, a dedicated teacher, and a loving spouse and parent. He was the rare individual who routinely went out of his way in the quest to benefit others. Those of us who had the pleasure of knowing and working with him mourn his passing. We also recognize how his efforts at DePaul over many years warrant this recognition posthumously.

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

## CSH Honorees Recognized at Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon

The following CSH faculty and staff were also honored at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon for their years of service to the University:

### CSH SERVICE HONOREES

#### 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Douglas Cellar** – Associate Professor, Psychology  
**William Chin** – Professor, Mathematics  
**Nydia Rodriguez** – Dept. Assistant, Mathematics

#### 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Bernhard Beck-Winchatz** – Professor, STEM Studies  
**Susan Fischer** – Associate Professor, Physics  
**Philip Funk** – Associate Professor, Biology  
**Liam Heneghan** – Professor, Environmental Science and Studies  
**Theresa Luhrs** – Director of Undergraduate Studies, Psychology  
**Richard Niedziela** – Associate Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
**Margaret Workman** – Instructor/Laboratorian, Environmental Science

#### 15 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Rima Barkauskas** – Senior Instructor, Biology  
**Paula Kagan** – Associate Professor, Nursing  
**Young-Me Lee** – Associate Professor, Nursing  
**Claudia Schmegner** – Associate Professor, Mathematics

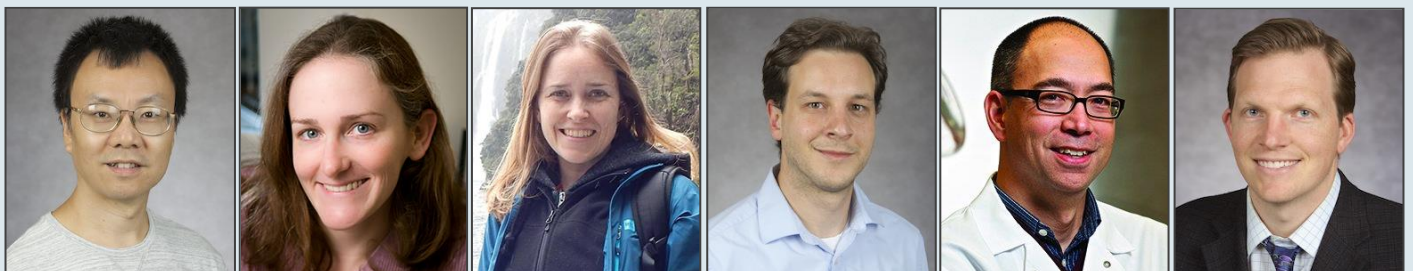
#### 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Jocelyn Carter** – Associate Professor, Psychology  
**Eric Landahl** – Associate Professor, Physics  
**Justin Maresh** – Associate Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
**Carolyn Martineau** – Senior Instructor, Biology  
**Mark Potosnak** – Associate Professor, Environmental Science and Studies

## CSH Promotion and Tenure

Congratulations to the CSH faculty who were promoted to the following positions effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018:

**Enrico Au-Yeung, Ph.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, Department of Mathematical Sciences  
**Sarah Connolly, Ph.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, Department of Health Sciences  
**Jalene LaMontagne, Ph.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, Department of Biological Sciences  
**Karl Liechty, Ph.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, Department of Mathematical Sciences  
**Eric Norstrom, Ph.D.**, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, Department of Biological Sciences  
**T. Kyle Petersen, Ph.D.**, promoted to Professor, Department of Mathematical Sciences





# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

## CSH Faculty Honored at 2018 Convocation Ceremony



Each year, DePaul recognizes faculty and staff across the university for their dedication to academia and the campus community. This year, 34 members of the DePaul community received recognition at the annual academic convocation ceremony on August 30<sup>th</sup>.

One of the recipients was **Kenshu Shimada, Ph.D.**, Professor of Paleobiology, who received the 2018 Excellence in Teaching Award on behalf of the College of Science and Health. Dr. Shimada was chosen for this recognition out of a pool of several well-qualified colleagues by the faculty members of the college's Teaching and Learning Committee.

Also honored at the academic convocation was **James Montgomery, Ph.D.**, Associate

Professor of Environmental Science and Studies, who received the Spirit of DePaul Award. The Spirit of DePaul Award was instituted during DePaul's Centennial celebration to highlight institutional Vincentian Values and their relation to the achievement of DePaul's mission. The award also seeks to personally honor and recognize diverse members of the DePaul Community for their leadership and service in the spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul.

## McNair-CSH Faculty Mentoring Fellowship

Two members of CSH faculty have been selected as Faculty Fellows for the McNair-CSH Faculty Mentoring Fellowship. Working with and supervising a McNair Scholar, the Faculty Fellows lead a summer research project while offering a positive, engaging learning environment for McNair Scholar participants. This involved meeting regularly with the students to provide guidance regarding conducting literature reviews, entering, coding, or analyzing data, writing, and other tasks related to the project. The McNair Scholars will also develop a poster presentation for the McNair symposium and the Undergraduate Research Showcase, and they will submit research articles to *DePaul Discoveries*, CSH's undergraduate research journal.

Congratulations to this year's recipients!

**Susan D. McMahon, Ph.D.**

**Gabbi Lynch**

Parents Perpetrators of Teachers Directed Violence: The Untold Story

**Charles Rubert Pérez, Ph.D.**

**Alexis Gonzales**

Characterization of Heptapeptides for Supramolecular Self-Assembly via Aromatic Interactions

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

### Young-Me Lee Inducted into the Society of Vincent de Paul Professors



**Young-Me Lee, Ph.D., RN**, Associate Professor in the School of Nursing, has been inducted into DePaul's Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Professors. The Society is an organization of professors who have distinguished themselves within a family of distinguished teachers and scholars. Members of the Society commit themselves to service projects that support the university's mission.

In addition to her experience in nursing academia, Dr. Lee has extensive clinical experiences working in the hospital setting and public health fields for Asian populations. Her scholarly work is primarily community-based research addressing mental health needs among minority populations, health disparities in economically and educationally disadvantaged communities, and preventive health focused on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and the Human Papillomavirus (HPV). In addition, she has actively engaged in enhancing the education mission of DePaul University through playing a prominent role in obtaining resources to increase the recruitment and retention of minority nursing students utilizing two major grants, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Currently, she is involved in four national and international collaborative research projects, which focus on preventive health behaviors to reduce health disparities in Asian populations. These collaborative research projects promise to foster more cross-disciplinary scholarship activities among faculty within and outside of DePaul, demonstrates commitment to the Vincentian mission, as well as recognize Dr. Lee as a global nurse leader and scholar.

### Karen Larimer Receives Award from the Preventive Cardiovascular Nursing Association



The Preventive Cardiovascular Nursing Association (PCNA) awarded the Advocacy Award for CVD Prevention to Assistant Professor of Nursing **Karen Larimer, Ph.D., ACNP-BC, FAHA**, at the PCNA's 24th Annual Cardiovascular Nursing Symposium in April. Dr. Larimer was recognized for her volunteer work on local, state and federal health policy advocacy. Her advocacy focus is on innovation and technology acceleration with a focus on community health. Most recently, she worked to implement a sweetened beverage tax in Cook County. Dr. Larimer also serves as the President of the American Heart Association (AHA) Chicago Board of Directors and is also on the Illinois State Advocacy Committee for AHA.

### Kathryn Grant Awarded 2018-2019 Wicklander Fellowship



**Kathryn Grant, Ph.D.**, Professor in the Department of Psychology, has been chosen to receive one of DePaul University's Wicklander Fellowships for 2018-2019. The Institute for Business & Professional Ethics administers the Wicklander Fellowship, which is awarded annually to two full-time faculty members who demonstrate an interest in applied or professional ethics as these topics relate to his or her field of research. Dr. Grant's research proposal, "Development of an Applied Ethics Research and Teaching Model in the Context of a University-Community Partnership (Cities Mentor Project)," was described as extraordinarily interesting and a great contribution to academia. Wicklander Fellows are expected to present a lecture to the Wicklanders' board and are encouraged to publish their work in the *Business and Professional Ethics Journal*.

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

## Spring and Summer CSH Department Highlights

Over the spring and summer, several members of the CSH faculty and staff were broadly recognized for their work and expertise in their respective fields. Below is a sampling of some of these accomplishments and recognitions. For more information, please visit each center, school, or department's website.

### DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

**Kyle Grice, Ph.D.** and **Graham Griffin, Ph.D.**, along with four DePaul student coauthors, published a collaborative paper in the [Journal of Physical Chemistry A](#) in March. Their study reveals the solution phase structure, electronic structure, and electronic dynamics of a metal-ligand complex that has applications in organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs) and other organic electronic technologies.

**Wendy S. Wolbach, Ph.D.** co-authored a book chapter titled "Brief Overview of the Younger Dryas Cosmic Impact Datum Layer 12,800 Years Ago and Its Archeological Utility" in the recently published book titled [Early Human Life on the Southeastern Coastal Plain](#).

### DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

**Ida Salusky, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Clinical-Community Psychology, was highlighted in the June 2018 edition of the *Monitor on Psychology*, in the article "Help for Refugees who Need Mental Health Care," for the volunteer assessment services she provided to refugees.

Also in the same June 2018 edition of the *Monitor on Psychology*, **W. LaVome Robinson, Ph.D.**, Professor of Clinical and Community Psychology, was recognized for developing a culturally adapted stress reduction program that "has demonstrated promise for reducing suicide among African-American youth."

**Suzanne Bell, Ph.D.** was honored as an Association for Psychological Science APS Fellow; a Society for Industrial-Organizational Psychology (SIOP) fellow; and recently published an influential [article](#) in the current issue of *American Psychologist* (with DePaul students) on teamwork.

The DePaul chapter of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society of Psychology, has been designated as a Model Chapter for this current academic year. The honor comes with a modest stipend that will be used to help the community and for internal event funding. Congratulations to the outgoing, remaining, and incoming officers – **Kekoa Erber, Jake Broschart, Fiona Maylath-Bryant, Marisol Villaseñor, Rhymese Liu, Natalia Moreno, Kirsti Zimmerman, Francesca Chavez,** and **Brandon Isler.**

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

## College of Science and Health 2018-2019 Committee Appointments

### ADVISING COMMITTEE

**Justine Amato** – Biology  
**Paty Arreola** – CSH Advising  
**Erin Berkowitz** – CSH Advising  
**Molly Brown** – Psychology  
**Gabriela Gonzalez Aviles** – Physics  
**Caitlin Karver** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Richard Niedziela** – Chemistry & Biochemistry (Chair)  
**Michael Roberts** – CSH Academic Services  
**Stefanos Orfanos** – Mathematics

### ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

**Alan Berele** – Mathematics  
**Tim French** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Pablo Gomez** – Psychology  
**Richard Niedziela** – Chemistry & Biochemistry (Chair)  
**Jennifer Sweet** – Teaching Learning and Assessment  
**Philip Yates** – Mathematics

### COLLOQUIUM COMMITTEE

**Joe Ferrari** – Psychology  
**Yan Li** – Psychology  
**Karl Liechty** – Mathematics  
**Susan D. McMahon** – Psychology  
**Joseph Mikels** – Psychology  
**Jim Montgomery** – Environmental Science & Studies  
**T. Kyle Petersen** – Mathematics (Chair)

### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

**Donna Badowski** – Nursing  
**Bernhard Beck-Winchatz** – STEM/Physics  
**Joanna Brooke** – Biology  
**Eiron Cudaback** – Health Sciences  
**Mary Bridget Kustus** – Physics  
**Yan Li** – Psychology  
**Richard Niedziela** – Chemistry & Biochemistry (Chair)  
**Mark Potosnak** – Environmental Science & Studies  
**Michael Roberts** – CSH Academic Services  
**Carey Southern** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Bridget Tenner** – Mathematics

### GRADUATE DIRECTORS COMMITTEE

**Paty Arreola** – CSH Advising  
**Dona Badowski** – Nursing  
**Jocelyn Carter** – Psychology  
**Jerry Cleland** – Psychology  
**Pablo Gomez** – Psychology  
**Ronald Graf** – Nursing  
**Desale Habtzghi** – Mathematics  
**Jane Halpert** – Psychology  
**Barbara Harris** – Nursing  
**Yevgenia Kashina** – Mathematics  
**Eric Landahl** – Physics  
**Susan D. McMahon** – Psychology (Co-chair)  
**Lynn Narasimhan** – STEM  
**Michael Roberts** – CSH Academic Services (Co-chair)  
**Bernadette Sánchez** – Psychology  
**Quinetta Shelby** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Timothy Sparkes** – Biology  
**Roxanne Spurlark** – Nursing  
**Ilie Ugarcovici** – Mathematics

### INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

**Phillip Funk** – Biology  
**Juan Hu** – Mathematics  
**Jessica Jerome** – Health Sciences  
**Young-Me Lee** – Nursing  
**Yan Li** – Psychology (Chair)  
**Cecilia Martinez-Torteya** – Psychology

### PATHWAYS HONORS COMMITTEE

**Lindsey Burdick** – CSH Advising  
**Phillip Funk** – Biology (Chair)  
**Caitlin Karver** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Joseph Mikels** – Psychology  
**Lourdes Molina de Mesa** – Health Sciences  
**Michael Roberts** – CSH Academic Services  
**Charles Rubert Pérez** – Chemistry & Biochemistry

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

## College of Science and Health 2018-2019 Committee Appointments

### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

**Kim Amer** – Nursing  
**John Dean** – Biology (Chair)  
**Liam Heneghan** – Environmental Science & Studies  
**Lihua Jin** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Bernadette Sánchez** – Psychology  
**Anuj Sarma** – Physics/STEM  
**Bridget Tenner** – Mathematics

### PRE-HEALTH ADVISING COMMITTEE

**Justine Amato** – Biology  
**Lindsey Burdick** – CSH Advising  
**Jocelyn Carter** – Psychology  
**Sarah Connolly** – Health Sciences  
**Phillip Funk** – Biology (Co-chair)  
**William Gilliland** – Biology  
**Caitlin Karver** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Hung-Chih Ku** – Mathematics  
**Karen Larimer** – Nursing  
**Kitty Long** – CSH Advising  
**Hillary Longnecker** – Career Center  
**Eric Norstrom** – Biology  
**Michael Roberts** – CSH Academic Services (Co-chair)  
**Heather Sevener** – Health Sciences  
**Susan Tran** – Psychology  
**Paul Vadola** – Chemistry & Biochemistry

### RESEARCH AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Joanna Brooke** – Biology  
**Douglas Bruce** – Health Sciences  
**Jessica Choplin** – Psychology  
**Chris Goedde** – Physics  
**Kyle Grice** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Barbara Harris** – Nursing  
**Christie Klimas** – Environmental Science & Studies  
**Susan McMahon** – Psychology (Chair)  
**T. Kyle Petersen** – Mathematics

### TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

**Joanna Buscemi** – Psychology  
**Phillip Funk** – Biology (Chair)  
**Graham Griffin** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**David Jabon** – STEM/Mathematics  
**Craig Klugman** – Health Sciences  
**Michele McCay** – Health Sciences  
**Joseph Tariman** – Nursing  
**Kashica Weber-Ritchey** – Nursing

## College of Science and Health Faculty Council Representatives and Alternates

The Faculty Council is the primary body through which faculty share in the governance of DePaul. The Faculty Council aims to promote the values of involvement and service as they work to facilitate faculty participation in the creation of policies that continually improve and invigorate the University. The following faculty will represent CSH on the Faculty Council for the 2018-2019 academic year:

### REPRESENTATIVES

**Chris Drupieski** – Mathematics  
**Joseph Mikels** – Psychology  
**Mark Potosnak** – Environmental Science & Studies  
**Quinetta Shelby** – Chemistry & Biochemistry  
**Ahmed Zayed** – Mathematics

### ALTERNATES

**Bernhard Beck-Winchatz** – STEM Studies/Physics  
**Ralph Erber** – Psychology  
**Alice Stuhlmacher** – Psychology

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH GRANTS

### New External Grants

#### **Carolyn Narasimham, Ph.D.**

STEM Center; Department of Mathematical Sciences



*Chicago P12 Math Collaborative Expansion Project*

\$195,658

*Chicago First Fund: The Chicago Public Schools Foundation*

DePaul University will continue to partner with the CPS Department of Mathematics and one CPS network from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019 to support the work of professional development and collaborative mathematics coaching for Network 11 in the CPS district.

*STEM Coaching Services*

\$15,921

*Chicago Public Schools*

Three DePaul instructional coaches will support the Chicago Public Schools Department of STEM in planning and assisting with professional learning for mathematics teachers.

#### **Antonio Polo, Ph.D.**

Department of Psychology



*Project Adaptation and Implementation of the Modular Act & Adapt Program*

\$22,025

*Chicago Public Schools*

Consultant services will be provided by DePaul University for training, assessment, and support in intervention to participating ACT & ADAPT CPS Schools. These services include training selected CPS school staff such as social workers, school psychologists, and counselors in the ACT & ADAPT protocol for youth at risk for depression. The goal is to help teens and pre-teens learn how to tackle stress and depression by changing their behavior (act) or by adjusting their perceptions and expectations (adapt).

#### **Joanna Buscemi, Ph.D.**

Department of Psychology



*Identifying Predictors of National School Lunch Program Participation in Chicago Public High Schools*

\$7,004

*National Dairy Council*

The National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program provide meals to over 30 million children across the country. In 2010, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) was passed to revise the national school meal standards to be consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the Institute of Medicine recommendations. There is some evidence that student meal participation reduces food insecurity among low-income children and adolescents. Additionally, there is recent evidence that the implementation of the HHFKA has increased healthful eating among children without producing additional waste. This research will identify psychological and behavioral predictors of participation to determine the most effective strategies for increasing participation in schools, especially in secondary schools where rates of participation are subpar.

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH GRANTS

### New External Grants

**Jalene LaMontagne, Ph.D.**

Department of Biological Sciences



*Problem-solving performance of songbirds*

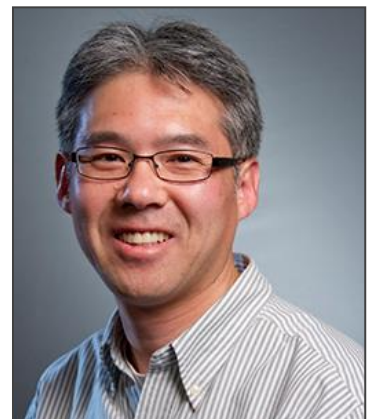
\$1,000

*Illinois Ornithological Society*

The purpose of this research project is to address the question: How do urbanization and habitat types affect problem-solving success, latency (amount of time to solve the problem) and associative learning performance of songbirds in the wild? The goal of this project is to gain a better understanding of how urbanization and habitat types affect problem-solving performance in songbirds by using a field-based foraging task.

### CSH Professor Receives NSF Sedimentary Geology and Paleobiology Grant

The biology of iconic megatoothed 'megalodon' shark – the largest shark species to have existed on Earth – and other extinct sharks remain enigmatic. A central question persists regarding the thermophysiological origins and environmental habitats of these predatory sharks in the fossil record. For example, it is unclear whether 'megalodon' was ectothermic (i.e. 'cold blooded') or endothermic (i.e. 'warm blooded') and how the thermophysiology of contemporaneous fossil shark species compare. These biological details coupled with environmental reconstructions could elucidate the role of thermophysiology in the ultimate demise of 'megalodon' during the late Pliocene (about 2.6 million years ago), and thus help to better understand the sensitivity of large shark species to ecosystem changes.



Professor of Paleobiology **Kenshu Shimada, Ph.D.** is a member of the research team that has been awarded a three-year 'Sedimentary Geology and Paleobiology' grant by the National Science Foundation that is slightly over \$571,000 in total. This project, entitled "Collaborative Research: Biogeochemical Fingerprinting of the Megatoothed ("Megalodon") Shark: A Dual Study in Thermophysiological Evolution and Seawater Chemistry," quite timely with the recent release of the movie "The Meg", is in collaboration with Dr. Michael Griffiths and Dr. Martin Becker (William Paterson University) as well as Dr. Robert Eagle (University of California - Los Angeles) and Dr. Sora Kim (University of California - Merced). Much of the work, including sample preparation and costly isotopic analyses, will be conducted by Dr. Shimada's collaborators and their students.

This project uses isotopic (chemical) 'fingerprinting' of teeth to reconstruct not only the body temperatures, but also dietary behavior and ambient seawater chemistry of 'megalodon' and other shark species during the past 15 million years. Shark teeth are ideal for such geochemical analyses because they are arguably the most abundant type of vertebrate fossils, and their hardness has provided practically no chemical alteration through geologic time. Coupling the use of a relatively new technique called 'clumped' isotope thermometry with other types of biogeochemical analyses to explore shark paleoecology over geologic time is the first of its kind.

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH GRANTS

## New Internal Grants

### ACADEMIC INITIATIVE PROGRAM AWARDS (CURRICULAR PROJECTS and RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES)

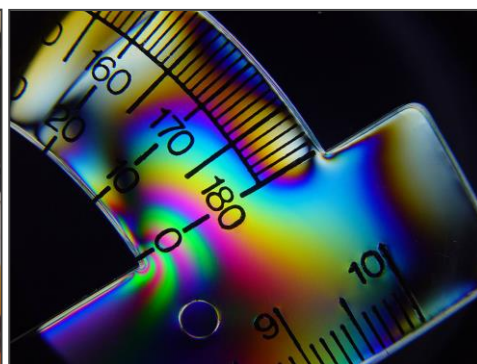
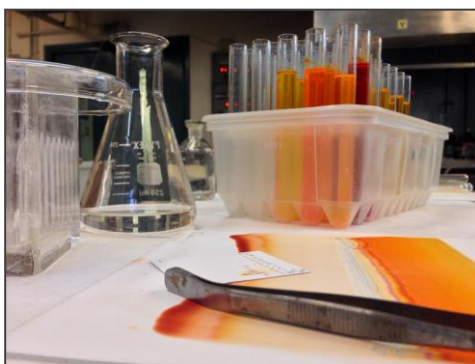
- Bernhard Beck-Winchatz, Ph.D.** Cosmic Ray Research from a High-Altitude Balloon Platform
- Molly Brown, Ph.D.** Perspectives of Individuals with Extensive Shelter Histories on Barriers to Housing
- Bala Chaudhary, Ph.D.** Living Dust: Elucidating Microbial Dispersal through Genetic Analysis of Air-Borne Symbiotic Microbes
- Kathryn Grant, Ph.D.** Next Steps in Basic and Applied Research on Stress Processes
- Megan Greeson, Ph.D.** Forensic Nurses' Perceptions of their Working Relationships with Rape Victim Advocates
- Kyle Grice, Ph.D.** Synthesis and Characterization of Novel Metal-Based Drugs Targeting Caspase-1 and Cancer Cells
- Liam Heneghan, Ph.D.** Awe and Despair: Describing Biodiversity Loss, and Encouraging the Repair of Nature
- Elizabeth LeClair, Ph.D.** Comprehensive Analysis of L-Plastin Mutant Zebrafish
- LaVome Robinson, Ph.D.** Preventing African American Youth Violence
- Ida Salusky, Ph.D.** The Role of Identity & Social Networks in College Persistence for First-Generation College Students
- Ahmed Zayed, Ph.D.** Faculty Recognition Grant

### QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION COUNCIL GRANTS

- Windsor Aguirre, Ph.D.** Galapagos: Evolution and Society
- Christie Klimas, Ph.D.** Resources, Population, and the Environment: Forests, Mining, and Communities in Peru
- Eric Norstrom, Ph.D.** Development of a Laboratory Manual for BIO201 - Human Anatomy

### UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COUNCIL GRANTS

- Margaret Bell, Ph.D.** Effects of an Environmental Contaminant on Neuroimmune Dopamine Receptors
- Jason Bystriansky, Ph.D.** AutoResp Software to Improve Research Capability and Productivity
- Sarah Connolly, Ph.D.** Restoring Function of a Mutant Herpesvirus Fusion Protein by Natural Selection
- Eiron Cudaback, Ph.D.** APOE Genotype Differentially Regulates Neprilysin Expression and Activity
- John Dean, Ph.D.** The Vacuolar Transport of Phenolics by Plant Cell MATE Transporters
- Jalene LaMontagne, Ph.D.** Problem-Solving Performance of Songbirds across an Urbanization Gradient
- Timothy Sparkes, Ph.D.** Evolution and Diversity of Isopod Personalities





## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH – DONOR FUNDED RESEARCH

### Dean's Undergraduate Fellowship Recipients at Work

The Dean's Undergraduate Fellowship is a donor funded, 10-week paid summer research internship program for undergraduate students in the College of Science and Health. Fellows selected for the program are placed at Chicago-area sites to participate in research projects over the summer.

This summer 13 CSH students conducted research at 11 world-class institutions. Congratulations to this year's group of Fellows who participated in research at the following sites:

**Julie Barich**

Rush University Medical Center – AARTS Center

**Bob Coulson**

Adler Planetarium

**Katherine Czervionke**

Brookfield Zoo

**Joe DeVito**

Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum

**Jessica Harris**

Field Museum – Botanical Collections

**Fabricio Marin**

Argonne National Lab

**Emma McCarthy**

Shedd Aquarium

**Evan Muccio**

Northwestern University – Peptide Synthesis Core

**Raisa Munshi**

Field Museum – Lichens

**Molly Nealon**

Stanley Manne Research Institute – Zebrafish Lab

**Bella Noyes**

Lincoln Park Zoo – Urban Wildlife Institute

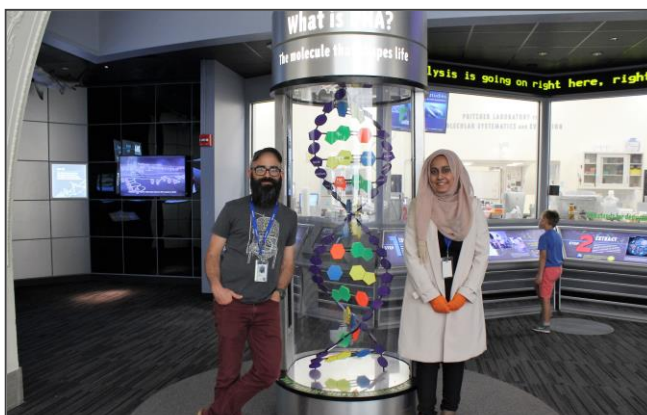
**Sofia Silveri Sytnaik**

Chicago Department of Public Health

**Nora Westman**

Lincoln Park Zoo – ZooMonitor

The quality of these fellowships is made possible, in part, through site visits by CSH Advising staff like Assistant Director of Undergraduate Advising and Research **Jennifer Salazar**, who spends considerable time communicating with the Fellows and their site supervisors to ensure everyone involved is having meaningful experiences. The summer research experiences of some of this year's Fellows are detailed below:



Health Sciences major **Raisa Munshi** conducted research at the Field Museum with Dr. Thorsten Lumbsch and Ph.D. candidate Joel Mercado-Diaz. Raisa practiced DNA extraction and the sequencing of lichens from around the world.

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH – DONOR FUNDED RESEARCH

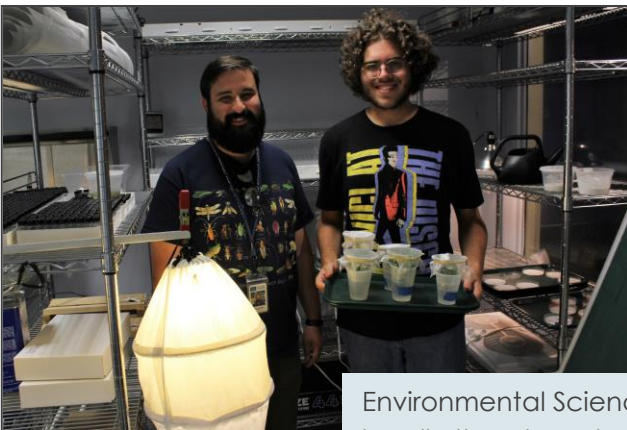
### Dean's Undergraduate Fellowship Recipients at Work



Biological Sciences major **Emma McCarthy** worked at the Shedd Aquarium with Dr. Christine Nye, the Manager of Horticultural Programs, applying soil amendments to one of two beds that contain the same crops and then comparing the results.



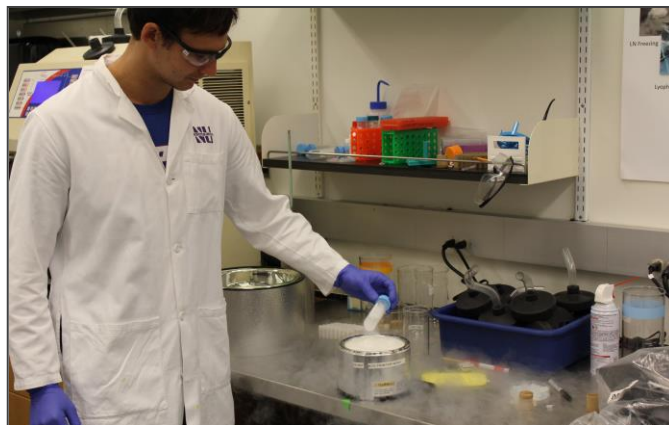
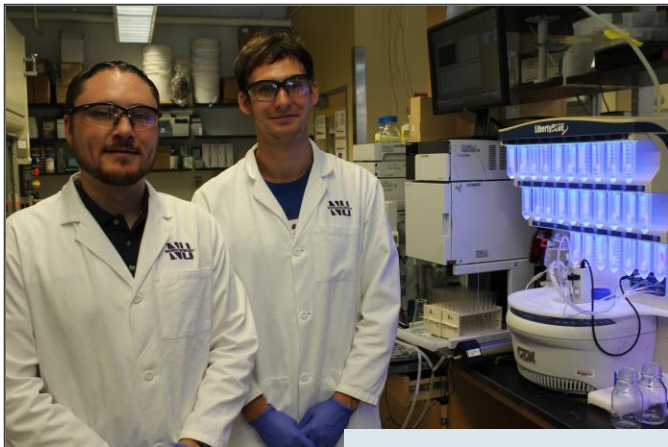
**Bob Coulson**, a Physics major, spent his Fellowship at the Adler Planetarium with Dr. Geza Gyuk. Bob worked on creating a mechanism for guiding a steerable parachute on the high-altitude balloon payloads that were used to capture last year's solar eclipse.



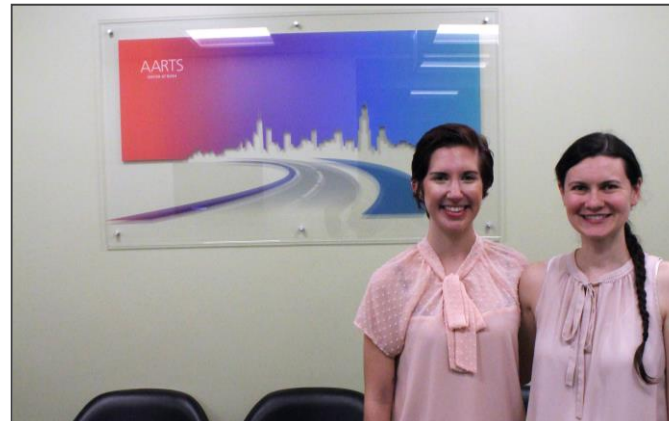
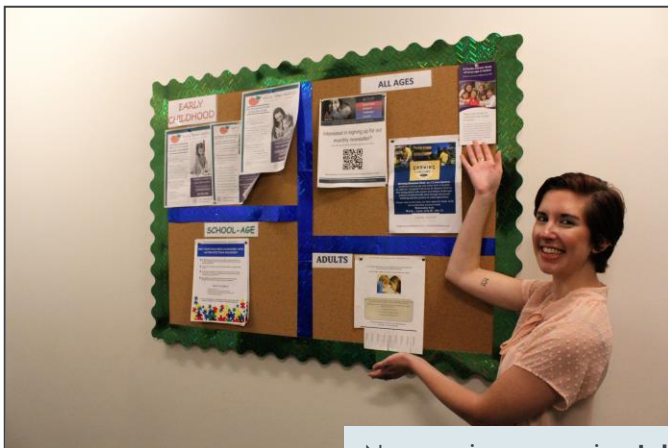
Environmental Science and Studies major **Joe DeVito** attempted to catch the locally-threatened regal fritillary butterfly and spent his summer fellowship at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum working on butterfly conservation.

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH – DONOR FUNDED RESEARCH

### Dean's Undergraduate Fellowship Recipients at Work



**Evan Muccio**, a Chemistry major, spent his Dean's Undergraduate Fellowship at Northwestern University's Peptide Synthesis Core with Dr. Mark Karver. Evan specifically worked on synthesizing the peptide amphiphile, one of the most common PA's made in the lab.



Neuroscience major **Julia Barich** worked at the Autism Assessment, Research, Treatment and Services (AARTS) Center at Rush University Medical Center with Dr. Allie Wainer & Dr. Caroline Leonczyk (pictured). She worked on autism assessment and helped recruit families for SPARK, a genetic study looking for specific genes that have been linked to autism.

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## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH – NEW ROLES, NEW FACES

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### **Laura Griggs**

#### **Graduate Program Assistant, Psychology**

Laura Griggs has joined the Department of Psychology as the new Graduate Program Assistant. Laura graduated from the University of Illinois in 1989 with a BA in Speech Communication and worked in sales until being lucky enough to be a stay-at-home mom of 4 children for 21 years. Before joining the Psychology department this summer, Laura worked for DePaul's women's basketball team for 2 years. In her free time, Laura loves to golf, play the piano, spend time with family and friends, and spend time with her beagle, Dibs (yes, named after DePaul's mascot!). She really enjoys helping people and is excited to work with students.



### **Julia Lippert**

#### **Assistant Professor, Health Sciences**

Julia Lippert has joined the Health Sciences department as faculty in epidemiology and public health. She joins CSH after teaching in DePaul's Master of Public Health program. Julia received her doctorate from UIC specializing in environmental and occupational health and currently works in environmental health promotion and to improve the health and happiness of workers. In her life away from DePaul, Julia enjoys comedy, seeing movies with friends, reading with her cats, playing tennis, and listening to podcasts about crimes, politics, and science. Julia is excited to bring her enthusiasm about teaching and her dedication to health equity into the classroom and to her new role.



### **Mike Nowakowski**

#### **Coordinator of Data Management & Compliance, School of Nursing**

Mike Nowakowski has joined SON as the new Coordinator of Compliance and Data Management. Mike graduated from DePaul with a Master's in Business Information Technology in 2018 and holds a BS in Psychology from Loyola. He has held various positions in hospital systems in the psychiatry, cardiology, and labor and delivery departments. He spends free time designing and building custom computers, sound systems, and home theaters. Mike is also an arcade and pinball fanatic. He is enthusiastic about starting this role and is happy to see the transition from classroom to the hospital unit for his students.



### **Damien Rodriguez**

#### **Department Assistant, Biological Sciences**

Damien Rodriguez has joined the Biological Sciences Department as the new Department Assistant. Damien graduated from Loyola University with BA degrees in English and History, along with an MA in History. He has over 15 years of administrative experience working at Loyola University, Northwestern, University of Chicago and DePaul University. During his free time he enjoys biking around Chicago, taking his English bulldog to agility classes, playing chess, catching a Cubs games in Milwaukee, and taking night courses at DePaul. Damien is excited to bring his passion for working with students, faculty and guests to his new role.

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH – UPCOMING EVENTS AND CALENDAR

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- October 18**      *Chemistry and Biochemistry Meet & Greet.* Faculty and staff will introduce themselves and talk about the various courses they teach and research they are involved in. There will be nachos! McGowan South 3<sup>rd</sup> floor atrium, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
- October 19**      *Biological Sciences Seminar Series.* Elsa Anderson, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Illinois at Chicago and DePaul alumna, "Vacant and verdant: exploring Chicago's vacant lots as a socioecological system." McGowan South 104, 1 pm – 2 pm
- October 23**      *Illinois State Physics Project (ISPP) Meeting.* DePaul hosts the monthly meeting of high school and college physics teachers emphasizing phenomenological learning. Byrne Hall 208, 5:30 pm – 8 pm
- October 26**      *SACNAS Halloween Party.* Hosted by the DePaul chapter of the Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science, the Society of Physics Students, and the Society for Women in Physics. Arts & Letters 101, 5 pm – 9 pm
- November 1**      [Faculty Summer Research Grant \(FSRG\)](#) applications due  
  
[Study Abroad: Dominican Republic](#) applications due
- November 2**      *Undergraduate Research Showcase.* The Science and Mathematics Undergraduate Research Showcase is an annual event open to undergraduates conducting research in the natural sciences, mathematics, technology and computer science, geography, and anthropology. DePaul students from across the university, family members, employers, internship recruiters, faculty, prospective students, and young scientists are all welcome. McGowan South, 12 pm – 5 pm
- November 6**      *Physics Colloquium.* Special Computational Physics Colloquium featuring **Tanu Malik, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor at the College of Computing and Digital Media, on the topics of reproducible science and scientific data management. Byrne Hall 208, 2:45 pm – 4 pm
- November 9**      *Chemistry & Biochemistry Seminar Series.* Joshua Telser, Ph.D., Roosevelt University. McGowan South 103, 1 pm
- November 22-23**      Thanksgiving holiday – University officially closed

**Thank you to Steven Reese and all contributors for your work on this newsletter!**

If you have an idea for features, honors, awards, events, and/or news items that you would like considered, please send them to [CSHDean@depaul.edu](mailto:CSHDean@depaul.edu), or contact the CSH Newsletter Publication Editors [Kurtis Todd](#) and [Susan D. McMahon](#).



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Fall 2018 Newsletter