What Catherine McAuley suggested in her letter, was a life pursuit, a purposeful action that drives us to betterment, betterment of community, world and self. And in concert with such action is the recognition that change is not only possible, but expected. We move forward, driven by curiosity and the possibility for discovery.

Scholarship, as we at Mercyhurst define it, is fueled by curiosity and discovery, a melding of exploration, application and dissemination. We also ask our peers and colleagues to critique our works. At Mercyhurst University students and faculty engage in systematic and creative works designed to move academic disciplines forward, and designed to take academic disciplines deeper. At Mercyhurst University, we embrace scholarship because it allows us to confront the unknown simply for the sake of the confrontation.

As a community of scholars, we take time to celebrate the accomplishments of our colleagues. We celebrate the diversity of our disciplines recognized on the national and international stage. We congratulate our friends in their never-ending pursuit of what Robert Pirsig calls the “dynamic quality.”

Phillip J. Belfiore, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Professor, Special Education

Publications In Press:


2014 Papers/Presentations:


Richard McCarty • Assistant Professor of Religious Studies

Publications:


Publications In Press:


2014 Papers/Presentations:


“Religious Perspectives on Gender and Sexual Diversities,” Panelist, LGBTQ/Gender Conference, Penn State University, the Behrend College, Erie, PA (April 12, 2014).

2014-2015 Professional Appointment:

Chair: AAR Mentoring Program Sub-Committee

2014 Book Review:

2014 Peer Reviewer:

Writings in Development:

2015 Papers in Submission:

Dyan Jones • Assistant Professor of Physics

Peer-Reviewed Papers:

Presentations:
Optical microscopy as a context to facilitate learning in interdisciplinary students. Dyan L. Jones, Shauna Novobilsky, and Rebecca Wheeling. Contributed poster, PERC, July 30-31 2014, Minneapolis MN.


Robert H. von Thaden, Jr. • Associate Professor of Religious Studies

Publications:

Academic Presentations (National):


Public Lectures:

Other Scholarly Activity:
2012-2013 Research Fellows: 2014 Accomplishments

Chris Magoc • Professor of History

Traditional Scholarship:
Works Under-Contract/Forthcoming/In Progress


“Reflections on the Public Interpretation of Regional Environmental History in Western Pennsylvania.” The Public Historian: 50-69, August 2014.

(Chosen by the National Council on Public History for the G. Wesley Johnson Award, Honorable Mention for best article of 2014 in The Public Historian.)

“Rethinking the Environmental History of the Mid-Atlantic.” In a forthcoming special issue of Pennsylvania History, “Discovering and Defining the Mid-Atlantic Region,” Summer 2015.


Public Scholarship
Co-Chair, Historic Resources Survey Committee of Preservation Erie — producing the first comprehensive inventory of historic resources in Erie County since 1982.
2011-2012 Research Fellows: 2014 Accomplishments

Pete Benekos • Professor of Criminal Justice

Books Published:

Journal Publications:

Chapter Publications:

Paper Presentations:


Works in Progress:


Juveniles in the Adult Criminal Justice System. Impact of PA Act 33 on Erie County Youth. Research Project with Mercyhurst Civic Institute, Erie County Prison, Erie County Juvenile Probation Department, and Research Assistant, Mandi Linz.
Feature interview: *The Sound of Science Fiction*, aired on WBUR (Boston’s NPR news station), July 20, 2014, and as a livestream broadcast, with an archived podcast on the WBUR website and on iTunes.


Presentation on the choreographer/composer collaborative process, Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts Dance Department, September 22, 2014.


Worked with students Andrea Flores (Business) and Jessica Hillburn (History) on in-depth projects related to the corporate history of Moog Music, Inc., in conjunction with my forthcoming biography of synthesizer pioneer, Bob Moog.


Two compositions, *Toccata-Scherzo*, and *Sunbow*, incorporated into composer David Borden’s tribute, “for Albert Glinsky,” as part of his *Earth Journeys* series, performed at the Fourth River Music Project concert, Duquesne University, February 27, 2014.
2010-2011 Research Fellows: 2014 Accomplishments

Daniel Burke • Professor of Art

National Juried Art Shows:
Winning of a Juror Award for Cautionary (mixed media painting), in the 78th National Midyear Exhibition of American Art at the Butler Institute of American Art.

Selected and included in the juried Regional 91st Annual Erie Art Museum Spring Show.

Invitational Art Shows:
• The Urraro Gallery Northwestern Pennsylvania Artists Association Annual Show
• The Friends of Mercyhurst Annual Show
• The Art Faculty Annual; the Campbell Gallery Invitational Show
• Glassgrowers Gallery

Donated a recent painting titled “Star Search” to the permanent collection of Mercyhurst University in memory of Sister Helen Jean Sullivan.

Tom Forsthoefel • Professor of Religious Studies

Articles, Essays, Poetry, Book Reviews:


Completed, forthcoming:


Manuscript in progress:

Praying with the Poets: Poetry of the Sacred in the World’s Religions.

Peer Reviewer:

Of the scholarship of assistant professor of Hinduism for the peer review committee of the Department of Philosophy and Comparative Religion, Cleveland State University.


For journal *International Journal of Hindu Studies* article submission: “Paradigms and Styles of Advaita Mission: An Experiment of Interpretation.”


Of candidate application and performance for Erie County 2014 Poet Laureate Contest and Laureate Finalists Performance.

Lecture:


Peer-reviewed an article, "IR Needs Pragmatism," for the Journal Perspectives on Political Science.

Presented a paper on a panel: Rewriting the Unwritten Constitution. Presented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Philosophy and Letters in Baltimore, MD, June 6-8.


Presented: Religious Freedom and Obamacare’s ‘Contraceptive Mandate.’ Presented at Hope College, April 17.

Participated in a debate; Hamilton vs. Jefferson. Presented at the University of Louisville September 12.

Presented address: The Constitution Day address at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, September, 17.

Presented: Religion in America: A View from the Court. Presented at an ISI conference in Pittsburgh, PA, October 11.
Laura Lewis • Professor of Social Work

Conference Paper:
Engaging Citizens, Enhancing Opportunity, Improving Community, 

Publications:


Public Scholarship:
Completed research (Dr. Black, co-researcher) that assessed human service readiness to address problem gambling in Erie County. (In collaboration with Erie County Department of Human Service (DHS). Presented report and findings to DHS staff.

Provided on-going oversight, coordination, strategic planning, and evaluation for Erie Together. Played key role in crafting a grant proposal that secured three years of funds years from the Erie Community Foundation (grant awarded Oct. 2014).

Christina Rieger • Associate Professor of English


Co-editing Motivating Millennials: How to Promote Active Student Reading in an Online Era with Natalie Mera Ford (St. Joseph’s University) for submission to NCTE Press.

Presented “Mystery and Material Culture in the Late-Victorian Transforming Drug Narrative” at Victorian Institutes conference in Charlotte, NC, October.

Presented “The Value of Net Obscurity: A Single Situation Victorian Genre Assignment” at NeMLA in Harrisburg, PA, April.
Excellence in Scholarship For 2014

Books


Book Chapters/Monographs


**Juried Exhibitions & National/International Performances**


Hunter, T. (2014). Reconstruct and presented Grand Pas de Deux from The Nutcracker for the Cleveland Ballet Conservatory, Cleveland, OH.


National/International Peer Reviewed Journals & Abstracts


Cook, T.B., Frantz, C., Shammin, M.D., & Petersen, J. (20014). Measuring the transition to sustainability: from diagnosis to prescriptions for change. *Solutions, 5*(1), 70-78.


Excellence in Scholarship For 2014


**Regional/National/International Funded Grants**


Cook, T.B. (2014) (CO-PI), with Val Callanan (University of Akron). Using court data to target groups at highest risk of injury. Ohio Department of Public Safety. Division of Emergency Medical Services, Emergency, Medical, Fire & Transportation Services Board. Amount Award $29,716; sub-contract to MU, $10,695.


**National/International Conference Presentations & Invited Addresses**


Excellence in Scholarship For 2014


McFee, D. (2014, August). How do Religious NGOs Shape Environmental Policy? The UN’s Millennium Development Goal on ‘Water for Everyone’ as a Case Study. Presented at the Just Sustainability Conference at Seattle University, WA.


Teufel, J. (2014, August). Medical-legal partnership (MLP) return on investment (ROI). Presentation to the Where Health Meets Justice Fellows of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association and the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership, Washington, DC.


Teufel, J. (2014, April). Return on investment: Framing the social impact and business case for legal care. Presentation at the Medical-Legal Partnership Summit, Seattle, WA.


Weaver, M.T. (2014, February). The Dual Reinforcement Model of Nicotine. Presented to the Department of Psychology at Westfield State University, Westfield, MA.


Braymiller, J.L, Cox, E, Tavella, S, and Weaver, M.T. (March 2014). Differences in cue-reactivity between dependent and social smokers. Presented at the Eastern Psychological Association’s Annual Conference, Boston, MA.

Kist, J, Yoon, JH, Weaver, M.T. (March 2014). Impulsivity and credit card debt in college students. Presented at the Eastern Psychological Association’s Annual Conference, Boston, MA.
Excellence in Scholarship For 2014


Williams, L. (2014, April). The number of matchings which commute with a permutation. Presented at the Mathematical Association of America Allegheny Mountain Section Meeting, Westminster College, PA.

*Denotes student researcher

Other National/International Notable Accomplishments


Clemons, R.S. (2014). External program reviewer. Political Science Department of SUNY at Buffalo State University.

Dausey, D.J. (2014). Federal Grant Reviewer for SIPs 14-021 (Panel C). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Atlanta, GA.


Kelly, P. (2014). Awarded *Distinguished Faculty Mentor of Undergraduate Mathematics Students*. Presented by the Allegheny Mountain Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA).


McFee, D. (2014). Religion and Violence in Guatemala: An Overview of the Guatemalan Civil War, Published for Pura Vida (NGO) and Wesley Foundation of Colorado State University.


**Addendum: Omitted 2013 Scholarship from 2014 Report**

**Book Chapters/Essays:**


**National/International Conference Presentations:**


*Denotes student researcher*