GRADUATE EDUCATION AT WCU is BIGGER than EVER
Pharmaceutical Lab Founder Song Li Funds $200,000 Biomedical Engineering Endowment

Song Li, Ph.D., the chairman and founder of Frontage Laboratories, and his family in December donated $200,000 to endow the Lei and Song Li Scholarship for students in the University’s new undergraduate biomedical engineering program.

“West Chester University is honored to be the recipient of such a generous gift,” said President Christopher Fiorentino. “At a time when the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics projects a 23% growth in the number of biomedical jobs needed by 2024, Dr. Li’s gift will help cultivate the next generation of biomedical scientists at West Chester University. We are deeply grateful.”

Pictured (L-R): Jesse Placone, faculty, biomedical engineering; Helen Hammerschmidt, West Chester University Foundation, director of corporate and foundation relations; Zhongping Huang, department chair, biomedical engineering; Anna Carroll, WCU student, biomedical engineering; Dr. Song Li, CEO, Frontage Laboratories, Inc.; Wendy Li, Dr. Li’s daughter and a doctoral student at University of Wisconsin; WCU President Christopher Fiorentino; Tony Nicastro, department chair, physics; JC Atienza, WCU student, biomedical engineering; Radha Pyati, dean, WCU College of the Sciences and Mathematics.
On the Cover: Graduate Student Success

Celebrating its 60th anniversary, graduate education at WCU is bigger than ever.

Alumni Profile: Angela Wilsey ’06, M’19

A managing director in Corporate Finance who leads a global operations function for JPMorgan Chase.

WCUAA Board of Directors Candidates

Background information and candidate statements for the nominees for the WCUAA Board of Directors.

WCUAA Board of Directors Ballot

The WCUAA Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the 2020 WCUAA Board of Directors ballot.
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY touches many lives. While we often talk about the undergraduate student experience, equally important is the graduate student experience. At a time when WCU is celebrating 60 years of graduate education, students are coming to us in increasing numbers to pursue a variety of graduate degree programs that will help them thrive in a 21st century market. In fact, over the last seven years, graduate student enrollment at WCU has grown from 2,134 graduate students, or 13.5 percent of the total enrollment, in fall 2013 to 3,054 graduate students, or 17.3% of the total enrollment, in fall 2019.

Deeply motivated to succeed, graduate students have a proclivity for discovery. It is exciting to see them reinvent themselves for career changes, transform positions in the workforce, and even venture out on their own as entrepreneurs. Investing in these students just makes sense. For this reason, the University established an official Graduate School in 2018 to provide such students with a streamlined process for navigating through graduate degrees and developing as scholars and professionals. The Graduate School also creates more opportunities for synergies and interdisciplinary collaborations across campus. The result? Graduate student success is palpable.

In the pages ahead, you will read about the mission of graduate student success on our main campus, at our campus in Philadelphia, as well as online; the advent of doctoral education as a major milestone; the important role played by those in our Graduate Student Association; and more. When you think of WCU, we want you to be proud of the achievements of your entire family.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Fiorentino
President
The Ed Snider Youth Hockey and the Goals & Assists Program have assured that many of their student-athletes can attend West Chester University for four years tuition free. In November, Snider Hockey Program President & CEO Scott Tharp presented the University with a second $500,000 check, bringing their total donation to WCU to $1 million. Pictured with Rammy at the presentation are (L-R) WCU Foundation CEO Christopher Mominey, WCU Provost Laurie Bernotsky, WCU President Christopher Fiorentino; Snider Hockey Chairman Bill Whitmore; and Scott Tharp; current WCU Goals & Assists Scholar Jasmine Martinez; Treasurer Snider Hockey and Goals & Assists BOD member Sandy Lipstein; and Goals & Assists BOD member Melissa Helmbrrecht.

**WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES**

J. Adam Matlawski ’80 (chair)  
Marian D. Moskowitz (vice chair)  
Barry C. Dozor ’71  
Thomas A. Fillippo ’69  
Christopher Franklin ’87  
Jonathan Ireland ’95, M’03  
Erin Kaliszak (student)  
Stephen Kinsey ’81  
Christopher A. Lewis  
Susan Yoder Schick ’88  
Robert M. Tomlinson ’70

**West Chester University Alumni Association**

**President**  
Lisa Wright Bryant ’87

**Vice President**  
William Scattoline ’74

**Treasurer**  
Nick Polci ‘00, M’05

**Secretary**  
Lauren Bolden ’12, M’14

**Past President**  
Matt Holliday ’09

**Directors**  
Lauren Bolden ’12, M’14  
Lisa Wright Bryant ’87  
Bernard Carrozzi ‘66  
Rick Daniels ’75, M’81  
Mark Drochek ‘86  
Robert Fanelli ’60, M’66  
Matt Holliday ’09

**Emeriti**  
Carmen Evans Culp ’52, M’64 (deceased)  
Janice Weir Etscheid ’50 (deceased)  
Karl Helicher ’72, M’82, M’87  
Joseph F. Kienle ’72, M’74  
Richard D. Merion ’59, M’69  
John F. Murphy ’43 (deceased)  
Luther B. Sowers ’49 (deceased)
Graduate Programs
Rank among the Best in the U.S.

Grad Reports has recognized WCU’s online MBA as one of the best nationally based on early-career earning potential, ranking it at #22, and the graduate psychology program at #13.

College Consensus, a website that aggregates results from college rankings publishers, has named West Chester's online MBA as the 14th best for the military for 2020.

A different ranking entity, Intelligent.com, has awarded top national ranking status to multiple WCU graduate programs. The University comes in at #6 on their list of the Best Online Master’s in Early Childhood Education for the master of education in early and middle grades education and #8 for the online and traditional special education master's program. Of the 28 programs on their list of the Best Online Master’s in Social Work (MSW) Degree Programs, WCU ranks #9 and is lauded as the Best Trauma-Informed Program. Intelligent.com ranks WCU’s master of science in community nutrition at #11 on their list of Best Online Nutrition Degree Programs.

Grad Reports also ranks four WCU undergraduate programs as follows for early career earnings potential: biology #10, fine arts #23, music #19, special education #15.

WCU’s Doctor of Clinical Psychology Earns American Psychological Association Accreditation

Since it earned American Psychological Association (APA) accreditation last summer, WCU’s Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology program is now one of only nine such accredited programs at a public university nationwide. That makes it one of the country’s most affordable accredited clinical PsyD programs, and one of only two programs of its kind offered at a public institution in Pennsylvania.

“We specialize in training clinicians versus researchers and provide more comprehensive training in a wide variety of clinical disorders compared to school psychology or traditional counseling programs,” says Vanessa Johnson, chair of the Psychology Department and core faculty member in the PsyD program. “We provide not just training in therapy, but also in diagnostic and psychoeducational testing.”

The inaugural cohort, which entered the full-time, five-year program in fall 2016, will graduate in 2021. Students can choose to specialize in trauma or child and adolescent mental health. Currently, 31 students are enrolled.

The APA has granted the PsyD program accreditation on a contingency basis through July 21, 2024—at which point, following the graduations of several cohorts, WCU will request full accreditation.
The University celebrated Martin Luther King, Jr., Day on January 24, after students, faculty, and staff returned to campus for the spring semester.

The day began with the 27th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Brunch, a scholarship fundraising event hosted by the University and the Frederick Douglass Society in the Sykes Student Union Ballrooms. The event celebrated Dr. King’s life and legacy through images, spoken word, performances, and music with the WCU Gospel Choir.

The day also honored a WCU alumna whose life reflects Dr. King’s ideals. This year’s Drum Major for Justice honoree was Laurena Tolson ’10, principal of Add B. Anderson School in the Philadelphia School District. The award title is taken from a sermon Dr. King delivered two months before his assassination in 1968, in which he said he wanted to be remembered as “a drum major for justice.”

Under Tolson’s leadership, in just five years her school has witnessed: the development of several non-profit and community partnerships; growth in English as a Second Language and math test scores; 20% more students reading on grade level; and increased family involvement. In addition, Tolson, who started at Anderson as the youngest African American principal in Philadelphia, acquired nearly $1 million in grant funding to build a state-of-the-art school playground.

The native Philadelphian earned her B.S. in elementary and special education from WCU in 2010. Since then, she has collaborated with WCU faculty to launch the Community-Immersive Semester for Educators (CISE), a program for undergraduate education majors in early grades preparation, including special education dual majors, to take an entire semester of coursework in a community setting.

In 2015, Tolson graduated with a M.S. in educational leadership from Temple University and is currently pursuing a doctorate in educational leadership there.
The University is proud that its RAM (Real Achievement Matters) Initiative Pilot for Non-Degree-Seeking Students with Intellectual Disabilities has been so successful that it is being transformed into a full-fledged program.

With WCU meeting its fundraising goal of $50,000 by the established deadline, the Lubert Family Foundation donated $50,000 in matching grant funds, bringing the total 2019-20 funding to the initiative's $100,000 annual goal.

“Our deepest appreciation goes out to Mr. Ira Lubert for recognizing this program as a worthwhile investment,” wrote Deputy Provost Jeffery Osgood to the families of Emily, Nate, and Olivia, the three students currently enrolled in the RAM Initiative Program. “We will continue to work to raise funds for the program in subsequent years, so we can realize the full potential of the Lubert Family Charitable Foundation’s generous match challenge.”

In November, Lubert made a surprise call to the University indicating that he and the Lubert Family Charitable Foundation would support the initiative by matching $50,000, dollar-for-dollar, if the University raised another $50,000 each year for the next five years.

Upon establishing the $250,000 total challenge grant, Lubert said, “Our family believes that this is a most worthy program that challenges and helps these students grow. We hope additional people will also recognize this and be supportive.”

Numerous students, faculty, staff, and members of the community — including the parents of the three students currently participating in the program — rallied to successfully meet the initial $50,000 challenge. The Chester County Down Syndrome Interest Group also made a $10,000 donation.

For the past two years, the RAM Initiative pilot has enabled three current non-degree-seeking students with intellectual disabilities to have a full, residential, college-immersion experience at WCU. Two of the RAM Initiative Program students plan to receive certificates of completion this May and the third student will receive a certificate of completion at commencement in May 2021. Applications for the initiative for the 2020-21 academic year are being reviewed.

Community members may contribute to the RAM Initiative for 2020-2021 through the West Chester University Foundation's webpage: www.wcufoundation.org.
Team of Health Faculty and Students from WCU and Costa Rica Offer Free Health Screenings

In December, students and faculty from Costa Rica joined WCU students and faculty in offering free health screenings to community residents. Prior to the screenings, WCU Speech-Language Pathologists Liz Grillo and Patricia Swasey Washington, as well as WCU Registered Dietician Patricia Davidson, over two days taught a team of 22 students and faculty from both WCU and the Universidad Santa Paula in Costa Rica the principles of interprofessional collaborative care (IPC). The care model preferred by the American Public Health Association, IPC is based on the premise that patient care improves when health care professionals work together in a collaborative manner.

The international team of students then spent three days screening community members for a variety of disorders ranging from communication, swallowing, and feeding issues to nutritional concerns. Residents received recommended care plans from the faculty/student team at one on-campus and two off-campus locations.

“The students from both West Chester and Costa Rica were able to learn from, about, and with each other as interprofessional teams,” says Grillo.

The screenings were supported by the University’s College of Health Sciences, Wegmans Downingtown, Community Volunteers in Medicine, and Timothy’s Restaurant in West Chester.

WCU Again Earns Carnegie Community Engagement Classification

WCU is one of only 11 Pennsylvania universities and 359 institutions nationwide that have received the 2020 Carnegie Community Engagement Classification—the leading framework for institutional assessment and recognition of community engagement in U.S. higher education.

WCU is one of just 67 public institutions, and one of only 27 Pennsylvania institutions, to be classified this year.

First classified in 2010, WCU prepared for the 2020 reclassification more than two years in advance by gathering staff and faculty from a variety of departments and disciplines to engage in a comprehensive self-study around community engagement efforts.

WCU’s Office of Service-Learning and Volunteer Programs serves as a key department for the coordination of community engagement efforts.

There would be nothing to submit, however, were it not for the initiative and dedication of the WCU faculty, staff, students (and former students) who are on the front lines of community engagement work. They are responsible for West Chester's successes in this area.

The University could not have achieved this milestone without them.

Sara Hinkle, assistant vice president of Student Affairs and a member of the core writing team, notes “The University is using the data from the self-study to advance our institutional strategic priorities, inform our Middle States [Commission on Higher Education] reaccreditation work and other accreditation needs, and enhance our efforts around community engagement.”
Fewer than 200 Tuskegee Airmen are reported to still be alive, but four of them (the youngest is 94) were on campus in February to celebrate the debut of a book that contains their personal war-time and civilian stories.

Signing copies of Tuskegee in Philadelphia: Rising to the Challenge (The History Press) were these Philadelphia-area natives and original members of the Tuskegee Airmen: Alma Bailey (nurse); Roscoe “Coach” Draper (flight instructor); Eugene Richardson, Jr. (fighter pilot); and Nathan O. Thomas (logistics). The veterans spoke about their service here and abroad, their encounters with racism while they served their country and when they returned home.

WCU history students Brandon Langston, Steven James Zaharick II M’19, Matthew Rothfuss ‘10, M’17, Michael Kowalski M’18, current graduate student Jeffrey Markland, and Michael Weiss ‘17, M’19, researched and interviewed these and other veterans for the book and shared co-authorship with Robert Kodosky, professor and chair of WCU’s history department.

Kodosky is donating all proceeds from sales of the book to the scholarship fund for the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen.
total of 1,410 students—939 undergraduates and 471 graduate-level students—received their degrees during separate commencement ceremonies held by all five University colleges the weekend of December 14-15.

Marc Duey, the founder, president, and CEO of ProMetrics, gave this year’s sole commencement address, speaking at the ceremony for College of the Sciences and Mathematics graduates. Duey’s King of Prussia-based firm is a data aggregation, analytics, and reporting partner to specialty biopharmaceutical manufacturers. For more than a decade, the adjunct professor has taught in the Marketing Department and the Pharmaceutical Product Development program.

In association with the Duey family, he made a generous gift of $1 million toward WCU’s construction of the Sciences & Engineering Center and The Commons. Slated to open this year, this $130-million facility will house the University’s rapidly growing health sciences curricula, physics, and the new biomedical engineering program, highlighted by the Duey Center for Biomedical Engineering and the Duey Center for Immersive Learning.

Three recipients of Presidential Medallions were also honored during other commencement ceremonies:

Thomas A. Fillippo ’69, the chairman of the board of Devault Foods, a long-time WCU supporter who has served on the WCU Council of Trustees since 1998.

Barbara J. Lappano ’67, M’73, retired professor of dance (1970–2004) who is the executive director of the Alumni Dance Chapter, director of WCU’s annual Winter Dance Festival, and creator of a dance minor scholarship in her name.

Michael Peich, professor emeritus of English, the founder of the University’s Aralia Press, co-founder of the renowned West Chester University Poetry Conference and, since 2014, a member of the West Chester University Foundation Board of Trustees.
Ever since he was a high school junior in Old Bridge, NJ, Daniel Ilaria has been intrigued by mathematics and how to best teach it. Credit his math teacher that year, Don Groninger, who ultimately became Ilaria's mentor.

At Groninger's suggestion, he returned to his former high school during his senior year at Drew University (NJ) to study the effectiveness of new technologies to tutor math students. "It was great," recalls the WCU associate professor of mathematics education. "Compared to another internship I had done in actuarial sciences, it was a lot more fun interacting every day with students in the classroom."

For 12 years, he then worked—first as a middle and high school math teacher, then as a mathematics teaching supervisor—in five New Jersey public school districts, including Old Bridge. Over that time, he also earned two master's degrees (in math education and math) and a Ph.D. in math education, all from Rutgers University. He became a supervisor to have a greater impact outside his classroom. "I was lucky enough to have taught both AP classes and students who struggled with mathematics. Ever since, I am always thinking about how we can help all students enjoy math more and be successful at it."

He particularly liked hiring new teachers and mentoring them, just as Groninger had mentored him.

It was a natural transition, then, when he first began teaching math education at WCU nine years ago.

As the B.S. in math education coordinator, his responsibilities include teaching pedagogy classes and supervising student teacher candidates. He also directs WCU's new Woodrow Wilson STEM Teaching Fellowship program. Over the next two years, the program will train and certify 36 B.S. graduates in math, biology, chemistry, and physics to teach in underserved urban schools.

Says Ilaria, who also is a T3 (Teachers Teaching with Technology) national instructor regarding math education technology for Texas Instruments, "I enjoy staying connected to middle and high school classrooms by watching our candidates teach and working with and supporting practicing teachers. "It's a great opportunity to build upon everything I learned before I came to West Chester."
India’s Matheeha Majeeth Focuses on International Student Affairs

During Matheeha Majeeth’s senior year of college at the Abdur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science and Technology in Tamil Nadu, India, where she was raised, massive floods disrupted the fall exams—and generated student protests over how the situation was handled.

“It was the first time I had ever gotten involved in a student movement,” says Majeeth, who eventually earned a B.S. in technology, electronics, and communication engineering. “It made me understand how much student voices matter.”

Inspired to pursue a career in student affairs, she was attracted to WCU for two reasons. First, she says, “The University’s M.S. degree program in higher education policy and student affairs (which launched its second cohort with Majeeth in August 2018) was exactly what I wanted to study in order to make a difference back home for students.”

Secondly, she could join her sister, Shereen, who earlier that year had earned an M.S. degree in computer science and is now a PeopleSoft application manager for the University.

With a current 3.97 GPA, Majeeth excels in the classroom. Although she lives with her sister, she says that life outside the classroom, including accessing public transportation and buying food, at times was challenging.

After serving a year on the Graduate Student Association Executive Board, to specifically help support students from abroad last May she initiated the formation of the International Graduate Student Association (IGSA) and became its first president. Truly international, the IGSA’s 59 members represent 22 countries on five continents: Africa, Asia, Europe, and North and South America. Its members regularly communicate with each other via social media, hold networking events, and meet twice a semester with the Center for International Programs (where Majeeth is a graduate assistant) to express their views.

Following her May graduation, Majeeth will return to Mumbai, India, where she will wed and launch her career.

Speaking of the IGSA, she says, “My dream is to work with international students, so to have been able to make a small part of the dream come true here has been the greatest achievement for me.”
Celebrating Its 60th Anniversary
Graduate Education at WCU is Bigger Than Ever
This academic year, West Chester University has achieved significant graduate education milestones.

Since the first graduate degree program—a master’s of education, naturally—was initially offered in fall 1959, the University has now offered graduate education for 60 years.

This past fall also marked the first time that enrollment in what is now the Graduate School exceeded 3,000 students—far larger than any of the other 13 Pennsylvania State System universities.

In addition, many of WCU’s graduate programs are nationally ranked by U.S. News and others.

“Given the increasingly competitive marketplace for good jobs and technological advances that are developing faster than ever, graduate education has become a key part of a student’s educational and career journey,” says Jeffery L. Osgood Jr., dean of the Graduate School. “Some fields even require graduate degrees as entry-level credentials for licensure and employment.

“In response, we are continually adding new programs, revising curricula, and creating multiple types of credentials. We view graduate education as critical to ensuring the long-term success of our students.”

Reflecting that commitment, over the last five years WCU experienced a 28% increase in graduate enrollment—from 2,385 (14.3%) of the total university enrollment (undergraduate and graduate) in fall 2015 to 3,054 (17.3%) of the total enrollment in fall 2019. In addition to four doctoral programs introduced in the past decade, WCU now offers more than 100 master’s degree and certificate programs.

“Most people have always thought about West Chester as a teachers’ school and, indeed, in the early days, most of the programs were for educators,” says Osgood. “But since then, West Chester has evolved into a comprehensive regional university that offers advanced degrees in all fields.

“The College of Education and Social Work still represents 34% of our graduate enrollment, but in fact, with over 500 students, our largest program is our online MBA degree, which U.S. News ranks as one of the top 50 online programs in the country.”

Denise Saurennann, executive director of graduate admissions, cites three key factors for increased graduate enrollment: quality, convenience, and affordability.

“As a state institution, we are competitively priced,” she says. “But that’s not the top selling point. Our high-quality programs are accredited by many prestigious accrediting bodies and our graduates achieve excellent outcomes. For example, within a year, 89% of our Higher Education Policy and Student Affairs Program graduates are working in higher education or related fields, and 65% of our 2018-2019 MBA graduates are annually earning at least $70,000, including 40% who are making more than $100,000.

“And whether it involves classes on the main or Philadelphia campus, online learning, or a hybrid of the two, we stress convenient accessibility.”
Ben Morgan Supports Non-traditional Students at Philadelphia Campus

Graduate students, including the many non-traditional students who have flocked to WCU’s Philadelphia campus, present unique challenges in supporting their student success.

“Graduate students are balancing a lot—family, professional and academic responsibilities—in ways that undergraduate students just aren’t,” says Ben Morgan MA’16, the Philadelphia campus’ associate director of student success. “Accordingly, our support has to be more flexible and responsive to their individual, family, and professional needs.”

Morgan, who worked in the main campus writing center when he earned his master’s degree in English in 2016, provides one-on-one or group tutoring as well as workshops for students interested in improving their writing, conducting research, or developing resumes and personal statements. Also, Morgan is supervising a team of graduate assistants who serve as peer tutors and organizers of co-curricular programming in Philadelphia.

“We also work closely with faculty to understand their expectations and intervene when students are struggling or have concerns,” he says.

Osgood agrees. “It’s no longer about asking students to come to West Chester’s main campus. It’s about taking our excellent education to the students wherever they are, whether that be in the school districts to prepare the next generation of advanced practice teachers; taking the online MBA program to corporations; conveniently timed classes at the Center City Philadelphia campus; or actually meeting a student in their living room through online education.”

Montana Leaks, the Graduate Student Association president (and former undergraduate Student Government Association president) who will earn her Master of Public Administration degree this May, concurs: “The Graduate School does a good job of providing different modes of education. Sometimes there are only two other students in a class with me, but 20 more are online.”

“Currently 40% of our music education master’s program is offered online, but soon we will be offering the entire research concentration online so that educators can obtain a degree from the Wells School of Music while managing their busy teaching schedules,” says Christopher Hanning, dean of the Wells School of Music.
Since it opened in 2013, the WCU in Philadelphia campus—in the heart of Center City at 701 Market Street — has also fueled graduate student growth and contributed significantly to diversifying the graduate student body in many program areas. This fall, 155 graduate students were enrolled there in three master’s programs. The majority were the 144 Master of Social Work (MSW) students who, for the first time, eclipsed the MSW main campus enrollment (137).

Echoing Saudernann, Joseph H. Santivasci, associate vice president and director of the Philadelphia campus, cites program quality, affordability (10% Philadelphia campus tuition discount), and convenience. “Most of our students are adult learners who work long days in and around the city and cannot commute to the main campus,” he says. “Most of our classes are held late afternoon or in the evening.”

Says Cali Tran, a graduate assistant in the campus’ Student Success Center who will earn her MSW degree this spring. “Our professors really want the best for us and are very accommodating. They understand we all have outside responsibilities that aren’t so prevalent with undergraduates.”

Ash Yezuita, a third-grade math teacher at Smedley Elementary School in Philadelphia’s Frankford neighborhood, is in the first Philadelphia cohort of the M.S. in Transformative Education and Social Change program, which launched last fall. “It appeals to me because it emphasizes that a child’s whole experience — in school and out — is important,” says Yezuita. “Also, being around really smart people is important, and this program has a lot of smart people, both professors and students.”
Two fine examples of WCU’s outstanding graduate programs include the M.A. in Languages and Cultures and the Master of Public Health. With its emphasis on global cultures as well as French, German, or Spanish languages, since its introduction in 2014 the languages and cultures program has grown rapidly. Most of the current 50 students are pursuing M.A. degrees with a few seeking teaching certifications. Offered in partnership with Millersville University, besides foreign language teachers and Ph.D. aspirants, the program also attracts those interested in careers in global business, immigration, international development, language interpretation, or non-profits that work globally or in minority communities.

“Acquiring cultural competency skills and understanding how culture influences history and human actions has applicability for a wide variety of fields,” says the program director, Associate Professor Iliana Pagán-Teitelbaum.

David Reyes-Farias, a clinical research coordinator at the University of Pennsylvania’s Perelman School of Medicine who earned his M.A. in Spanish last year, agrees. “It’s made me more conscious of the many cultural and language differences in the U.S. and a lot more adept at communicating with people from different backgrounds.”

After earning her Master of Public Health degree in 2015, Allison Casola last year earned her Ph.D. in epidemiology from Temple University. She currently is a post-doctoral research fellow in family and community medicine at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

“West Chester was a great fit for me,” says Casola, whose current research focuses on reproductive health and women’s care. “In preparing for my doctoral studies, I worked closely with an anthropologist, a gerontologist, and a social worker at West Chester. That broad experience enabled me to pick up a lot of tangible skills, including health program evaluation, and a very strong background in the theoretical foundations of community health, that were all very beneficial as I pursued my Ph.D. and began designing my own research trajectory.”
The Master of Music Education degree also follows that trend.

Other factors propelling graduate enrollment growth include:
- The four doctoral programs introduced between 2013 and 2016: the online doctor of nursing practice; online doctor of public administration; PsyD in clinical psychology; and Ed.D. in policy, planning and administration;
- A 30% increase, since 2012, in paid graduate assistantships, which now exceed 400; and
- A dozen 3+2 blended bachelor’s/master’s degree programs, which allow students to earn both degrees in just five years.

Prompted by the strong growth, two years ago the University transitioned from a Graduate Studies Office to the Graduate School, a one-stop shop designed to support graduate student success through a wide range of services, from entry through degree completion. These services include providing guidance about the degree process, graduation requirements, and theses and dissertation submissions, as well as financial and social need referrals. The Graduate School also ensures strong graduate advocacy within University programming and services, which an active Graduate Student Association also delivers.

Overseeing and delivering much of this support are the faculty members who serve as coordinators for each graduate program.

WCU in Philadelphia is located in Center City Philadelphia at 701 Market Street, Concourse, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Contact Assistant Director for Recruitment in Philadelphia Kelly Smack at 267-386-3019 to learn more about courses, the application process, financial aid, and employer reimbursement.

The College of Health Sciences (CHS) will introduce a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies degree program in summer 2021. Registration for the program’s first cohort opens this May.

“As life expectancies increase, there has been a growing shortage of healthcare providers in the state and Mid-Atlantic region,” says Scott Heinerichs, dean of the College of Health Sciences and professor of sports medicine. “This program will help address that shortage and will focus on the prevention and management of chronic injury and illness in the aging population.”

CHS excels at preparing its graduates. In fact, for the past five years, all of the approximately 135 graduates of the M.A. degree in speech-language pathology had a first-time 100% pass rate on their certification exams. Last spring, the first dozen graduates of the M.S. degree in athletic training program all passed their certification exams on their first attempt.

“These results indicate not only the faculty and institutional commitment in preparing students to pass their certification exams but that, more important, they are ready to work in their professions,” says Heinerichs.
The WCU debut of Angela Wilsey ’06, M’19 could not have been more inauspicious. More fond of campus social life than academics, she flunked out — at age 19 and pregnant — as a sophomore. Undeterred, five years later, the 24-year-old mother of two pre-schoolers rematriculated. Working and attending classes full time, she earned her bachelor’s degree in accounting, magna cum laude, in just three years, even though her previous credits were wiped out.

Her career quickly took off. After five years managing advisory services client engagements for Big Four accounting firms KPMG and Ernst & Young, Angela joined JPMorgan Chase’s Card Services division in 2012. Today, she is a managing director in Corporate Finance who leads a large-scale global operations function.

Recalling her second WCU stint, the West Chester native says, “My professors knew I had a steep road to climb and they really helped support me in reaching my goals.”

Since assuming her finance operations role in 2016, she has expanded the function based primarily in New York to more sites throughout the U.S., Poland, and India. In the process, she transformed her staff from 10% to 49% female and from 8% to 43% minorities, all while improving efficiency and performance.

“Diversity is the essential ingredient for creating and sustaining high performing teams,” Wilsey explains. “We need to challenge the status quo and bring different perspectives to the table to ignite change.” Named the WCU College of Business & Public Management’s 2017 Outstanding Accounting Alumna of the Year, Wilsey is now on the college’s advisory board. Her message to several on-campus women’s groups: “Take risks, don’t fear failure, support each other, and apply for reach positions because our male counterparts do it and are rewarded with opportunities we are self-opting out of.”

Wilsey also has hired more than 50 WCU grads for Chase’s Delaware offices.

“I’ve been very impressed with the top-notch talent WCU is producing,” she says. “JPMorgan Chase didn’t recruit at West Chester. Now 15% of our finance analysts in Delaware are WCU grads.”

While again working full time, Wilsey completed WCU’s online MBA program last summer—with a perfect 4.0 GPA—in just seven months. Why? “I’m responsible for cultivating the next generation of business leaders, which requires me to be agile and remain relevant in a rapidly evolving market,” she says. “You need to be prepared to pivot because you don’t know where the future will take you.”
More than six decades ago, sophomores Alison ’60 and Robert Fanelli ’60, M’66 met at West Chester. They — and WCU — have been a great match ever since. “It was wonderful at West Chester,” says Alison. “I loved all my professors, learned a lot, and, of course, I met Bob.”

“We’re very close to the school,” says Bob, who currently serves on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. “We’re very lucky and owe the school a lot.”

An elementary education major, Alison taught third grade before raising the couple’s two children, Jennifer and Robert, then became a reading specialist.

Bob, a music education major who played saxophone and clarinet, taught music and led student bands for six years in the Rose Tree-Media School District. But after earning his WCU M.S. in music education, for financial reasons, he pursued a business career that culminated in 30 years with three Johnson & Johnson companies in sales, marketing, and communications management. After retiring, he and Alison also operated three local Home Instead Senior Care franchises.

But Bob never gave up music. “It’s just such a part of me,” he says. In 1962, he started “The Teachers,” a vocal and instrumental quartet of West Chester alumni. As vocalists, they backed up Chubby Checker, Bobby Rydell, and Al Martino recordings. They also appeared on “The Tonight Show” and the “Mike Douglas Show,” and played Caesar’s Palace in Las Vegas and the Rainbow Room in New York City.

The Schuylkill Jazz Society’s 2001 Lifetime Achievement Award in Saxophone recipient played saxophone for the Criterions, WCU’s outstanding jazz band, beginning in 1959 and for the Criterions alumni reunion band ever since. The 83-year-old also still plays with The Last Big Band led by retired WCU jazz professor H. Lee Southall ’64.

That is why the Edgmont Township residents—who 10 years ago donated a substantial charitable annuity to West Chester—have been directing their contributions, including scholarships, to the WCU Wells School of Music. “It’s one of the best music schools in the country,” says Bob, who sits on the School’s advisory board.

Adds Alison, who also served for 20 years on Chester County Hospital’s Women’s Auxiliary, “We’re just amazed at how far the University has come since it was just a state teacher’s college when we went there. There are no boundaries to their thinking now.”
CHAPTER NEWS

For more information about any chapter or its events, contact the chapter directly or the WCU Alumni Office at alumni@wcupa.edu.

ALUMNI DANCE CHAPTER
The Alumni Dance Chapter this January performed its 12th Annual Winter Festival, which benefitted the Barbara J. Lappano Dance Scholarship. Our chapter remains active in promoting the current dance programs at WCU and providing a network for alumni dancers. Are you a WCU Dance Team alumnus interested in getting involved with this chapter? Follow us on Facebook: WCU Alumni Dance Chapter.

BALTIMORE METRO AREA ALUMNI
Calling all Baltimore area alumni! We are looking ahead to our summer event planning and want to hear from you. Interested in getting involved or have an idea for an event? We are always looking for new alumni to join us! Stay connected with our upcoming events and meetings on our chapter page www.wcualumni.org/BaltimoreMetro, and follow us on Facebook: BMAC WCU.

BANDS ALUMNI
We are always planning and looking ahead to our next event and band reunion so SAVE THE DATE for Homecoming – Oct. 24, 2020! Looking to support students with current bands? Sign up as a mentor on Ram Nation and join our Bands Alumni group. Register today: ramnation.wcupa.edu/. Stay connected with all of our updates and happenings on our website www.wcubaa.com and follow us on Facebook: WCU Bands Alumni Association.

BLACK ALUMNI CHAPTER
The BAC is celebrating our 55th anniversary this year and reflecting on all of the great accomplishments over the years. Please join us in celebrating this milestone event on June 20. Event details available at www.wcualumni.org/BAC. Follow us on social media for updates on future events on Facebook: WCU BAC and Instagram: BACWCUPA.

CHESTER COUNTY CHAPTER
Another sold-out Princess and Superhero Brunch was hosted in March. We are seeking a Chester County Ram to serve as our chapter president. We are gearing up for another full year of events and excited to see all the changes on campus. Interested in getting involved? Contact the alumni office at alumni@wcupa.edu. To keep updated on all of our upcoming events and meetings, check out www.wcualumni.org/ccc.

Make sure you LIKE our Facebook page to stay tuned with the latest and greatest. Facebook: WCU Chester County.

COMMUNICATION ALUMNI CHAPTER
We are up and running, eager to re-engage our communication studies alumni and support our current students. Congratulations to our newly elected chapter officers: President: Claude Taylor ’92, M’94 Co-Vice President: Aryn Coblentz ’19 Co-Vice President: Rob Satterly ’19 Secretary: Katie Kennedy ’07 Treasurer: Ryan Mease ’19 Join us as we continue to build our chapter and plan for our future events. For more information on the chapter and to register online, visit our chapter page www.wcualumni.org/CAN. Be sure to LIKE us on Facebook: WCU CAN.

FRIARS ALUMNI
Looking forward to our annual summer events. A big thank you to all who have supported our alumni chapter and the current Friars Society students. We are so proud to be able to continue a mission of service and leadership. Stay connected with our events, meetings, and initiatives supporting the Friars by following us on Facebook: Friars Society Alumni Association.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY ALUMNI CHAPTER
Are you an alumni veteran who is interested in getting involved or taking on a leadership role with this chapter? Visit our chapter page to see how you can get involved and support our current student veterans at www.wcualumni.org/IMAC. Stay in touch with all that is going on within our alumni veteran community by filling out our survey and joining the mailing list.

LAW ALUMNI CHAPTER
Our network is growing and opportunities to support student success are greater than ever. We are continuing our mentorship through our Law Alumni Group in Ram Nation and looking forward to our upcoming events. Are you an alumnus employed in a legal-related field that is interested in getting involved with this chapter? Check out our chapter page at wcualumni.org/lawalumnichapter or contact our chapter representative: wcu.law.alumni@gmail.com.

LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER
We are a brand-new chapter excited to connect with alumni in the Lehigh Valley and re-engage you with all the new advances on campus and opportunities available as an alum. Looking forward to our upcoming events in the Summer and hope to see you there! Check us out on our chapter page, wcualumni.org/lehighvalley and on social media to let us know what kind of events you would like to see.
Also, congratulations to our newly elected chapter officers:  
President: Tim Jones ’08  
Vice President: Abbey Berkes ’18  
We are still looking for interested alumni to serve with us as chapter officers and would love to hear from you! To get involved with our chapter, contact the WCU Alumni Office and follow us on Facebook: WCU Lehigh Valley Alumni Chapter.

NEW YORK ALUMNI CHAPTER  
Our network is strong and we are looking forward to a visit from WCU President Christopher Fiorentino for a one-of-a-kind experience at the One World Observatory coming soon. We're always planning new events and hope to see you there. Get the most up-to-date event information on our chapter page at wcualumni.org/NewYork. Interested in getting involved with this chapter or have an idea for an event? Contact the WCU Alumni Office and LIKE us on Facebook: WCU New York Alumni.

PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION ALUMNI CHAPTER  
We are excited to announce our official charter as a new WCU alumni chapter! Big plans are coming and we are looking forward to connecting and engaging with all of our MPA alumni. We hope to see new alumni getting involved and help us in this building stage of our new endeavor. Check out our chapter page for all our news and a link to join our alumni mentoring group on Ram Nation at wcualumni.org/PPA.

WCUR ALUMNI CHAPTER  
Our chapter is growing every day and we are always looking ahead to our next event and opportunities for alumni to get involved. WCUR alumni are encouraged to reach out and join us. Check out our chapter page for all our news, upcoming meetings, and events at wcualumni.org/WCUR.

YORK COUNTY CHAPTER  
At 100 years old, we are celebrating all the accomplishments we have made as a chapter and the tremendous impact we have had on our alumni, WCU and current students. Our events throughout the year will support the York County Chapter Scholarship and offer community outreach to our local York County alumni. Looking ahead to our 100th Anniversary Celebration this fall, we encourage alumni and friends to connect with us on social media for all upcoming events and a glimpse of our history. Facebook: York County West Chester Alumni Association.

ZETA PSI ALUMNI CHAPTER  
Our 50th Anniversary is here! We're excited about a big year of celebrating all the great history of our fraternity and hope to see our alumni at our upcoming events. Check out our chapter page for all of our upcoming events and chapter meetings at www.wcualumni.org/ZetaPsi.

UPCOMING CHAPTER ADDITIONS  
Look for our newest chapter addition coming soon: MBA Alumni Chapter!

Interested in getting involved in a local chapter or in starting a new one? Check our chapter page, www.wcualumni.org/chapters, to see how you can reconnect with your fellow Golden Rams!

ALUMNI MENTORS NEEDED!  
Hello Alumni! Are you ready to share your experience with current WCU students? You're invited to join us on Ram Nation, an online alumni-to-student "flash" mentoring platform. Through Ram Nation, alumni have a direct impact on WCU student success by offering advice (one-on-one or in a group setting), job shadows, and mock interviews. As a mentor in Ram Nation, you control how often you would like to be contacted and which experiences and topics you feel comfortable offering. You’ll enhance your leadership, management, and interpersonal skills while experiencing the personal satisfaction of giving back to WCU.  
Once registered, you’ll have access to a discussion board, be able to join interest groups, and connect directly with others using Ram Nation. Signing up online is quick and easy:

JUST VISIT RAMNATION.WCUPA.EDU/
1950s

Elliott Cooper ’58 retired after 35 years as branch head for the Free Library of Philadelphia and 22 years for the School District of Philadelphia as a substitute teacher.

1960s


Karen (Klinedinst) Markey M’64 recently moved to Jenner’s Pond, a continuing care community in West Grove, PA. She still plays piano and organ for several organizations and sings in a community chorus.

David E. Robinson ’66 had a distinguished career in the Caesar Rodney School District in Delaware prior to his retirement in 2004. He served as a coach, teacher, high school assistant principal, principal, and district superintendent. In October 2019, the school district board named a new school the David E. Robinson Elementary School.


Jane (Theophel) Pippart-Brown ’69, former chair of the Music Education Department from 2000 to 2004, received a grant from the National Endowment for Arts to train music teachers in Austin and Houston, TX, and faculty at Texas State University in San Marcos.

1970s

Tom Faustman ’70 published the next book in his Dylan Frazier mystery series.

Deborah A. Dooling ’72 retired from Tredyffrin/Easttown School District as a teacher. She received the 2019 Library Champion Award from the Easttown Library Foundation during its annual donor appreciation reception on November 8, 2019. She was honored for her longstanding support, service, and continued advocacy of the Easttown Library.

Starla R. Gable ’73 has been retired from the Yakima School District for 15 years and spends time weekly volunteering for Habitat for Humanity in and around Yakima, WA.

John Baker ’74 stayed at the University after graduating to teach and eventually chair the Art Department. WCU recently awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Thomas McCabe ’76, a retired career military analyst for the U.S. Department of Defense and a retired Lieutenant Colonel with the U.S. Air Force Reserve, had an article published by the U.S. Air Force Air University entitled “Operational Plan Orange: American Strategy in a Western Pacific War.”

Tom Quinn ’77 was named president of the HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy in Philadelphia.

Tom Coates ’78 was inducted into the West Chester University Football Hall of Fame.

1980s

Mary Emily Pagano ’81 was honored by Holy Child Academy, Drexel Hill, PA, at the school’s annual auction.

Joseph M. Fabrizio ’83 retired from coaching after 37 years, including 14 years as the head football coach at St. Petersburg High School in Florida. Joe is looking forward to spending his golden years with his wife Deborah ’84, children, and grandchildren.

Joanne Glusman ’85, a social worker at Main Line Health, has been named a finalist for the 2019 National Compassionate Caregiver of the Year Award.
Julie (Moyer) Drochek ’86 and Mark Drochek ’86 were inducted into the West Chester University Football Hall of Fame.

Joe Ellis ’86 was inducted to the West Chester University Football Hall of Fame.

Antonis Christodoulopoulos M’88 is the CEO for a group of broiler production companies.

Kevin Conner ’88 founded and is currently the managing director at Conner & Associates in Newtown, PA.

1990s

Martha Bixby ’92 joined Brown and Caldwell, an environmental engineering and construction firm based in Walnut Creek, CA, as vice president of health and safety.

Maria (Thompson) Hoover ’94 last year was named assistant superintendent of the Hempfield School District in Lancaster County, PA, where she previously served as an elementary school principal. Prior to that, she taught for 15 years and was named the coordinator of the Gifted and Accelerated Academic Program, the professional development coordinator, and an elementary school principal in the School District of Lancaster.

Claude Taylor ’92, M’94 is currently working at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, NJ as an advisor-in-residence for academic transition, promoting first-generation student success in higher education.

Bryan Tuk ’96 has released a new CD entitled Life in High Gravity.

Taura Thompson ’98 has been promoted to the director of human resources at Simon Lever.

Bernie Gillespie ’98 and Matt Kresge ’01 met while studying at WCU and created the duo “Shady Groove.” They recently performed the music of Simon and Garfunkel at an event at Paris Bistro.

Michelle M. Forsell ’99 has been elected to the board of Project Live Upper Perk, which promotes prevention and recovery support to individuals and families impacted by substance use disorders in the Montgomery County, PA Upper Perkiomen Valley.

2000s

Arun L. Jayaraman ’01 works in anesthesiology and perioperative medicine at the Mayo Clinic Hospital in Phoenix, AZ, directing the medical students and critical resident care rotations.

J. Renay Loper ’02, M’06 is currently vice president of program innovation at PYXERA Global in Washington, D.C., and was recently selected to receive the 40 Under Forty Award from The Network Journal.

Graham Eggleston ’04 was inducted into the West Chester University Football Hall of Fame.

Chris Ciminera ’05 was promoted to principal in the accounting and auditing department of Belfint, Lyons & Shuman, P.A., in Wilmington, DE.

Rachel Brown ’06 joined Chadds Ford Winery to spearhead the reserve tour program since being named the winery’s wine educator last October. She also received the Young Leaders Scholarship.

Josh Maxwell ’08 was appointed Chester County commissioner and began his term in January 2020.

Bill Zwaan, Jr. ’08 was inducted into the West Chester University Football Hall of Fame.

Tara Mangan M’09 joined the Environmental Science Department of King’s College in Wilkes-Barre, PA, as a faculty member.

2010s

Matthew Balutis ’11 was appointed the new service and merchandising area manager at Wegmans Food Market in Raleigh, NC.

Giana Magaro ’13, DMD, recently returned to her hometown of Hershey, PA, to join the Crosstown Dental Group.

Lauren Weber ’13 joined the Farm Credit of the Virginias marketing team.

Joseph D. Baublitz ’15 joined the business, real estate, and school law practice groups at Stock and Leader, Attorneys at Law, in York, PA.

Matthew Mascari ’15 now serves as a part-time police officer in Bridgeport, West Vincent Township, and Spring City Borough.

George Rizzuto M’15 was appointed the new chief executive officer at West Boca (FL) Medical Center.

Kaitlin Lederer ’16 and Phoebe Hannah ’16 collected donations to help victims of Hurricane Dorian buy necessities such as food, water, and toiletries. They raised approximately $11,000 in nine days.

John Robol ’16 was sworn in as the newest member of the Long Hill Township (NJ) Police Department.
Jill Megna M’18 is a fitness coordinator at the Becoming Center in Ambler, PA, where she assists members in achieving their fitness and health goals.

Sarah R. Rosecrans ’18 has been promoted to GIS analyst II at Barton & Loguidice, a Mid-Atlantic consulting firm.

Kiersten Bonsall ’19 has worked as an athletic trainer at Archmere Academy in Claymont, DE—her dream job—and is pursuing an online master’s degree in sports management from the University of Florida.

Julie Dieffenbach ’19 is now a school counselor at Northeast Middle School for 7th and 8th graders in the Reading School District.

Lauren Holden ’19 is attending graduate school at Loyola University of Maryland as a speech language pathologist graduate clinician. She credits WCU with shaping her into a young professional.

Lauren Longhi ’19 is in her first year as a middle school choir teacher in the Cecil County (MD) Public Schools.

Alumni of WCU and other institutions celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the WCU French Junior Year Abroad Program. These alumni all studied in Montpellier, France, for one year and are graduates from WCU’s program in 1971.

Back row: Peg Mullin Laron (MU), Robert Yost (WCU), Kathy Dillon Leach (WCU), Rita Miller (Grove City College), Jay Hartley (MU). Front row: Jeanne Dorsey Reynolds (WCU), Joanne Miller Moll (WCU), Barbara Alleman Eisenhart (MU), Mary "Jane" Toner McConnell ’70 (WCU), Dushanka (Dolly) Glumac Keane (WCU), Cherylene Trace Shollenberger (WCU), and Ingrid Benjamin DeBellas (MU)

Mary "Jane" Toner McConnell ’70, Cherylene Trace Shollenberger, Ingrid Benjamin DeBellas, Retired French Professor Roger Brown, Barbara Alleman Eisenhart, Professor of French Michel Sage, Jay Hartley, and Peg Mullin Laron.

SUBMIT your class notes to the Office of Alumni Relations to alumni@wcupa.edu.
ENGAGEMENTS

(1) Gail LeChien ’15 to Frank Finn ’14
(2) Brittany Jones ’14 to Ryan Gatta ’14, M’17
(3) Noelle Gaffney ’15 to John Iorio

MARRIAGES

(4) Alex Diggory ’12 to Jess Macay Diggory ’14
(5) Carmin Bermudez ’09 to Douglas Disbrow ’11 in November 2019
(6) Kyle Gallagher ’13 to Chelsea Brunie ’14 in July 2019
(7) Thomas Hooper ’09 to Sarah Stoner ’09 in August 2019
(8) Christine Mackin ’14 to Thomas Meluskey, Jr. in May 2019

FUTURE ALUMNI

(9) James Alderfer ’13 and Katelyn Bright Alderfer ’12, welcomed Mason James Alderfer in August 2019
(10) Christina Durbin Davis ’12 and William Davis ’13 welcomed Quigley Aidan Davis in September 2019.

2019 Homecoming was an epic event for the TKE brothers of West Chester University as we had more than 80 Tekes attending. Not to mention a few TKE sweethearts, family and friends. We look forward to returning to campus in spring 2020 and reestablishing our undergraduate Chapter with the support of our alumni. We also want to help to rebuild the Greek community as we celebrate their 50th anniversary at WCU.
Over the past month, our beloved West Chester University has been going through a challenging time due to the pandemic. Staff supported faculty, who rapidly changed how they deliver instruction. Students pushed through their anxieties to pursue their dreams. This transition has unified and strengthened the WCU community like never before.

Over the past two years, the Alumni Association has also gone through a switch. The board of directors set a goal to engage students past, present, and future. For the association to grow, we believe we must:

- Host events that appeal to all alumni.
- Support the chapters.
- Get to know our current students before they become alumni, let them know who we are and what we do.
- Attend WCU events.
- Be ambassadors for the University by wearing WCU swag in the community.
- Talk to potential college students about WCU.

Some of our accomplishments toward these goals:

- Added six chapters
- Increased events attendance
- Established collaborative partnerships with WCU departments
- Established a presence on the Philly campus
- Increased presence at commencement
- Increased sponsorships
- Laid the groundwork for a Young Alumni Advisory Board

As I near the end of my term as president, I thank the Board of Directors for their dedication, hard work, sacrifice, support, and commitment. Thank you to Jenna, Brigid, Chantal, and Diane in the Alumni Relations Office, who continually provide support and assistance to the association. We appreciate you more than you know. Many thanks to all of you for the honor of being your elected leader.

Remember, we are Golden Rams! No matter where we come from, what we look like, when we graduated, we are Golden Rams! Make a decision to be a part of the purple and gold movement by attending or volunteering at upcoming events. Visit wcualumni.org to see the events. Let us know if there is an event or reunion you would like the association to host. We welcome your suggestions. Finally, remember that we are one West Chester University Alumni Association, 113,000 strong. Each and every one of you has made us the best Alumni Association around.

Rams Up!

Lisa Wright Bryant ’87
President, WCU Alumni Association
The Nominating Committee of the West Chester University Alumni Association is pleased to announce the 2020 WCUAA Board of Directors ballot. Six members will be elected to serve a three-year term of office beginning on July 1, 2020. The results of the election will be posted online at www.wcualumni.org before July 1, 2020, and published in the fall issue of the West Chester University Magazine.

The background information on each nominee for the 2020-2023 term appears on the following pages. Please note that nominees are listed in the same order that they appear on the ballot. Questions regarding the election should be directed to the Office of Alumni Relations at 610-436-2813 or alumni@wcupa.edu.

**KATIE JO RIGHI**


During my time spent at West Chester University, I refined my skill set and forged lifelong friendships that helped propel my career. I would like to use my expertise in fundraising, strategizing, and event planning to further enhance the mission of the University. It would be an honor to help steer its leadership for current and future generations.

---

**TIMOTHY JONES**

**Education:** WCU, B.S., Business Management, 2008

A few years ago, I started my own business in the Lehigh Valley and West Chester provided me with the bulk of my education to get me where I am today. As a small business owner and now president of the Lehigh Valley Alumni Chapter, I want to continue to give back to my alma mater and build on top of what is an already amazing University. I feel that being a part of this board will help me bring more of the Golden Ram culture to the Lehigh Valley. I also feel that it is my responsibility, as a president of a local chapter, to be as informed as possible on what the University is doing, as well as its short- and long-term goals.

---

**LAUREN BOLDEN **

**Education:** WCU, B.A., English, 2012, M.S., Counseling: Higher Education & Student Affairs, 2014

I would love to serve a second term and continue supporting the forward progress that the board, Foundation and WCU community has been able to achieve. Since joining the board, I have served as the Executive Committee’s secretary and co-chaired various student and WCU events. I also wish to continue establishing authentic relationships with students and alumni from multiple generations.

---

**CAREY PIERANGELI**

**Education:** WCU, B.S., Marketing, 2002

I enjoyed my time at WCU and after graduation stayed in the area since I grew up about 2 1/2 hours away. I still attend family activities and homecoming with my family and it is nice to run into alumni at these events. In September 2019, I was able to attend a career fair hosted at WCU for my current company and it was exciting to see all the new buildings and meet young, ambitious students at WCU. I would like to serve on the board to continue to see WCU grow and to help students and graduates prepare for life after college.

---

**TONY FRAGALE**

**Education:** WCU, B.S., Health & Physical Education, 1977, Western Michigan University, M.A., Public Administration, 2001

I’ve had a rewarding 41-year career in the non-profit sector and appreciate that West Chester University gave me my start. The WCU environment provided me the opportunity to excel and put me on the path to a career in community service through the YMCA. Throughout the years, I applied what I learned at West Chester and it has served me well. It’s time to re-engage and repay my debt to the institution where it all began.

---

**SUSAN SILBERMAN SCALZI**


---
I am interested in serving on the WCUAA Board of Directors in hopes of giving back to the school that provided me a solid foundation for my current career and a high-quality university experience. I also have seen many students who have graduated from the community college at which I work transfer to West Chester University and become successful in their fields.

LAUREN M. GROW


It’s simple—West Chester University changed my life. As a young alumna, I want to dedicate myself as a passionate volunteer on the WCUAA Board of Directors to maintain and enhance West Chester University’s position as a pioneer of higher education in Pennsylvania and the United States. With a continually growing campus, award-winning academics, and purple and gold spirit experienced by students and alumni alike, WCU is an incredible institution for which I’d be honored to serve as an elected leader.

MARK T. PENNPACKER, SR.


It would be a great honor to be able to give back to WCU. West Chester has given me so much. My desire is simply to help the University become a better place today than it was yesterday and a better place tomorrow than it is today. Serving on the board would allow me the opportunity to do that.

CAROL LYNN KASHOW

Education: WCU, B.S., Physical Health & Recreation, 1977

Now that I will be retiring in December of this year, I would sincerely like to give back to the institution that gave me so much as a student-athlete. I had an amazing experience at West Chester—both in the classroom, which well-prepared me for my career, and on the athletic field, where I met my lifelong friends while playing three sports. I have both the time and the resources to do so at this time in my life.

ALLISON MAZZA (HARRIS)


I am a firm believer that WCU has been, and continues to be, the foundation of some of the best services, stories, and people we have here in our local community (and beyond). After moving back to the area, I am so excited at the prospect of being able to give back and serve the community that gave me so much in the form of education, relationships, and wings.

GREGORY P. SAUNDERS


I believe that my experiences in both federal law enforcement and as an officer in the U.S. Army will benefit me as a board member. Throughout my careers, I have worked in staff groups and committees working on various topics and tasks. In addition, I am currently the Drug Enforcement Administration NYD Division training coordinator and demand reduction coordinator. I would enjoy being a part of the academic community at WCU and working with other professionals who have graduated from the University. Both of my successful professional and military careers were the result of me obtaining a criminal justice degree and receiving my commission as an officer through the Army ROTC program at WCU.

JAMES BROOKOVER


My desire to serve on the Alumni Board is initiated by a lack of connection with my alma mater. I owe so much to my education and continued aspiration to learn that I truly want to give back to WCU with like-minded individuals. I want to drive positive change and participation in our alumni network, foster stronger relationships with the student body, and have a greater impact on our local community.

** Running for a second term
### WCUAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020 BALLOT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidates for Board of Directors</th>
<th>Voter 1</th>
<th>Voter 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katie Jo Righi ’05</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy Jones ’08</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Bolden ’12, M’14**</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carey Pierangeli ’02</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Fragale ’77</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Scalzi ’97</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Grow ’16</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Pennypacker Sr. ’82</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Kashow ’77</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Mazza ’10 M’12</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory Saunders ’87</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Brookover ’03</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signature of Voter 1 ________________________________________________

Print Voter 1 Name/Year ____________________________________________

Signature of Voter 2 ________________________________________________

Print Voter 2 Name/Year ____________________________________________

Street ___________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip ____________________________________________________

Telephone (with area code) __________________________________________

E-mail ____________________________________________________________

Please seal the ballot in an envelope, one ballot per envelope. Clearly write your name(s), class year(s), and address on the outside, and mail to: WCUAA Nominating Committee, Office of Alumni Relations, 202 Carter Drive, West Chester, PA 19382.

The ballot must be received by mail no later than 12 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2020.

** Running for a second term

---

### VOTING GUIDELINES

Alumni listed on these pages have been nominated for election to serve on the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the WCUAA Nominating Committee. Each has agreed to serve if elected.

All WCU graduates are eligible to vote for a maximum of six (6) candidates.

There are two ways to cast your ballot: online and this original written ballot.

Alumni who choose to vote online can go to www.wcualumni.org and select 2020 Board of Directors Election. Follow the voting instructions.

If you do not wish to vote online, please check the box next to the name of the candidate(s) of your choice as listed below. Couples who are both WCU graduates may use one ballot, indicating Voter 1 and Voter 2. The Office of Alumni Relations will verify the name(s), class year(s), and address on each mailing envelope as requested by the Nominating Committee. The order of names on the ballot are random.

For this ballot to be considered valid: Only this magazine ballot, with the alumnus’ mailing address on the reverse, will be accepted. No copies or scans will be permitted. Each voter must sign and complete the name, class year, and address section of the ballot. Please print or type.

The ballot must be received by mail no later than 12 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2020.

** Running for a second term
West Chester University
West Chester, PA 19383-7401

The West Chester University Magazine is published three times a year for the alumni, friends, and family of West Chester University of Pennsylvania by the Office of Communications, West Chester University, West Chester, PA 19383-7401.

Postmaster: Send address changes to:
West Chester University Foundation,
202 Carter Drive, West Chester, PA 19382

Moving?
Help us keep your magazine coming by filling in the address change and sending it to us before you move.

Name _________________________________ Class Year ____________
Address ______________________________________________________
City __________________________________________________________
State ___________________________ Zip ___________________________
Phone __________________________________________________________
E-mail __________________________________________________________

Mail to: West Chester University Foundation,
202 Carter Drive, West Chester, PA 19382

Upcoming WCU Alumni events!
wculumni.org

JUNE
Black Alumni Chapter Anniversary Celebration
WCU at Dorney Park

AUGUST
Rams in the Sand

OCTOBER
York County Chapter 100th Anniversary Celebration
Homecoming (23-25)

JULY
35th Annual Criterions Reunion

CONNECT WITH US
www.wculumni.org
610-436-2813