

# UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

MAGAZINE

Volume 29 · Number 3

AT THE CORNER OF  
MAIN STREET  
AND  
MEMORY LANE





*Fall at*  
**FULL TILT**



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NO. 3

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EVAN KRAPE

### BACK ON CAMPUS AND FEELING LIKE HOME

This fall, UD resumed its 1743 Welcome Days, a fun-filled weekend of activities and social events to help incoming students settle in, meet new friends, explore campus and learn more about life at UD. Pictured here, a canine cutie enjoys head scratches while students learn about Puppy Raisers of UD (PRoUD), a student organization that raises puppies for The Seeing Eye guide dog school, and Canine Companions for Independence, another student group that trains assistance dogs for adults and children with disabilities.



**ON THE COVER:** Inspired by Edward Hopper's 1942 "Nighthawks" painting, we have paid homage to the diner at the corner of Main and Haines. Whether you know it as Jimmy's or Jude's (or something else altogether), it's one of the mainstays of Main Street, connecting Blue Hens from across generations.

# 5 THINGS TO LEARN FROM THIS ISSUE

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FROM OUR

# PRESIDENT

## PREPARING FOR OPPORTUNITIES IN 2022 ... AND BEYOND

Every new year brings a mixture of uncertainty and hope, a chance to reaffirm our commitments and embrace fresh opportunities for growth as individuals and as a vibrant University of Delaware community. Grounded by its historic legacy of impact, UD thrives on constant renewal fueled by new students, new faculty, new discoveries and inspired ambitions to create a better world.

This year, as we continue to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, I see a future full of extraordinary potential. The most common question I hear these days is “What’s next?” followed immediately by “And how can I help?” The authentic engagement of our Blue Hens is invigorating.

As an institution, our priorities speak both to UD’s foundational mission and our bold vision for the future. We strive to empower our students to succeed by providing an amazing experience in and out of the classroom. And through research and engagement, we seek to reach far beyond our campus to lead the invention of tomorrow.

Student success is – and always will be – a central goal for the University. It starts by igniting our students’ curiosity through hands-on learning and global experiences, then unlocking their potential through a rigorous, interdisciplinary education that helps them make sense of an increasingly complex world. We are committed to supporting them holistically so they can

embrace everything that our beautiful and modern campus has to offer. A UD education not only prepares our students for success, but also contributes to broad socioeconomic growth throughout society.

Indeed, the University shapes the future in myriad ways. To address the grand challenges ahead, we are innovating solutions and collaborating with public, private and nonprofit partners around the world. Addressing climate change – the challenge of our generation – remains a top priority of our scholarship and service efforts. And our commitment to promoting diversity, inclusion and social justice is an essential step toward resolving the inequalities in our society that the pandemic has laid bare.

We can realize this exciting vision for the future only by working together – students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends. There are so many opportunities to do so, and I invite you to find new ways to engage with the University of Delaware this year.

My wife, Eleni, and I send our best wishes to you and your loved ones for a new year filled with happiness, health and endless inspiration.

Dennis Assanis, President

# ON THE GREEN

NEWS FROM CAMPUS AND BEYOND



KATHY F. ATKINSON

## UD ATTRACTS TOP TALENT... AGAIN

After three surreal semesters away, Blue Hens are finally back on campus, with one of the largest, most diverse and academically accomplished incoming classes in UD history.

This fall, 4,286 first-time, full-time students joined the University, marking a 14% increase over the previous year's freshman class and continuing a steady trend of record-shattering applications (nearly 34,000 this year).

The incoming undergraduate class has also made historic progress for the University. Enrollment of African American students increased by 21% and Latinx students increased by 39%—the largest enrollment of underrepresented minorities ever. Students who identify as multi-ethnic also grew by 16%.

A diverse class also brings exceptional academic strength, with an average GPA of 3.94.

“UD’s reputation continues to attract the best and brightest, and we’re seeing that reflected even in such unprecedented times,” says Rodney Morrison, vice president for enrollment management.

Graduate education also saw notable gains, with 1,397 incoming students (12% over 2020) and the largest total enrollment (4,577 students) in 12 years.

“We experienced growth in all sectors,” says Lou Rossi, dean of the Graduate College, “but the biggest story has been our strength in international student recruitment.”

With 360 new students from more than two dozen countries, UD witnessed a landmark 63% jump in international graduate enrollment, which Rossi attributes to two key factors: more welcoming and efficient policies for processing education visas and an ease on global travel restrictions.

Rossi also credits the University’s online marketing, targeted recruitment efforts, tuition rate realignment and enhanced faculty engagement in recruiting with the overall increases in graduate enrollment.

“We saw growth across all colleges, so the whole UD community shares in that success,” he says.

UD’s largest areas of graduate study include doctoral programs in chemistry and chemical engineering, the online MBA, music, physical therapy and TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language). The most popular undergraduate majors for first-year students are psychology, business, biological sciences, nursing, mechanical engineering and “University Studies.”

Total enrollment at UD is now 23,996, with 17,968 undergraduates on Newark’s campus, 739 students in the statewide Associate in Arts Program, and 4,577 graduate students. 🐦

# STUDENTS LEAD THE WAY

To strengthen social justice, perhaps students must become the teachers.

That's the mantra behind UD's new Social Justice Peer Education program, in which 10 undergraduates, all of whom hold minoritized identities, will help lead training sessions and workshops for their fellow students through paid campus positions.

Program architect Rachel Garcia Peer believes students have great potential to impact the status quo at UD. As associate director for student diversity and inclusion, Garcia developed the new initiative after many students approached her and her colleagues in their quest for a deeper social justice experience at UD.

The resulting peer educator program was thus designed intentionally, focusing on best practices and empowering students to chart growth and actualize the University's commitment to diversity.

The work is sensitive, complex and often situational. Mentors are expected to lead tricky dialogues with peers, answering questions that might befuddle experts. And, while each student is equipped with a thick compendium of research on diversity, equity and inclusion, some of the more relatable lessons come from a less cerebral source: pop culture. A discussion of a scene from HBO's hit show, *Insecure*, for instance, can be a lesson in discriminatory systems and the need for collective allyship.

The primary concern for all involved is having the chance to speak, not preach, to ensure students learn from each other in these polarized times.

"There is not a lot of communication happening. Hopefully with this, we're having a communication that we were missing," says Peer Mentor Kya McIntrye, AS22. "I see it as a first step."

That is precisely what leaders in the Office of Institutional Equity, Diversity and Inclusion hope it will achieve, eventually helping thousands of students each year unlock new insights and bring about social justice. 🐦

—Andrea Boyle Tippett, AS02, BE13M

# NEW VP NAMED



Fatimah Conley, who has served as interim chief diversity officer since October 2020, was named

to the newly created position of vice president of institutional equity and chief diversity officer earlier this fall, following a nationwide search.

In the new position, Conley reports directly to President Dennis Assanis and works across UD to enhance and advance the University's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.

In this role, Conley will be a leader, adviser, advocate and catalyst for change. She will lead the Office of Institutional Equity, Diversity and Inclusion that includes the vice provost for diversity, Student Diversity and Inclusion, the Center for Black Culture, the Office of Disability Support Services and the Office of Equity and Inclusion.

"Working closely with President Assanis over the past year, I have learned that with his commitment to social justice principles and diversity comes the expectation for transformational and sustainable change," said Conley. "As the CDO, I look forward to continuing to work with the entire community to continue progress toward becoming a more equitable and diverse campus, where every Blue Hen knows that they belong." 🐦

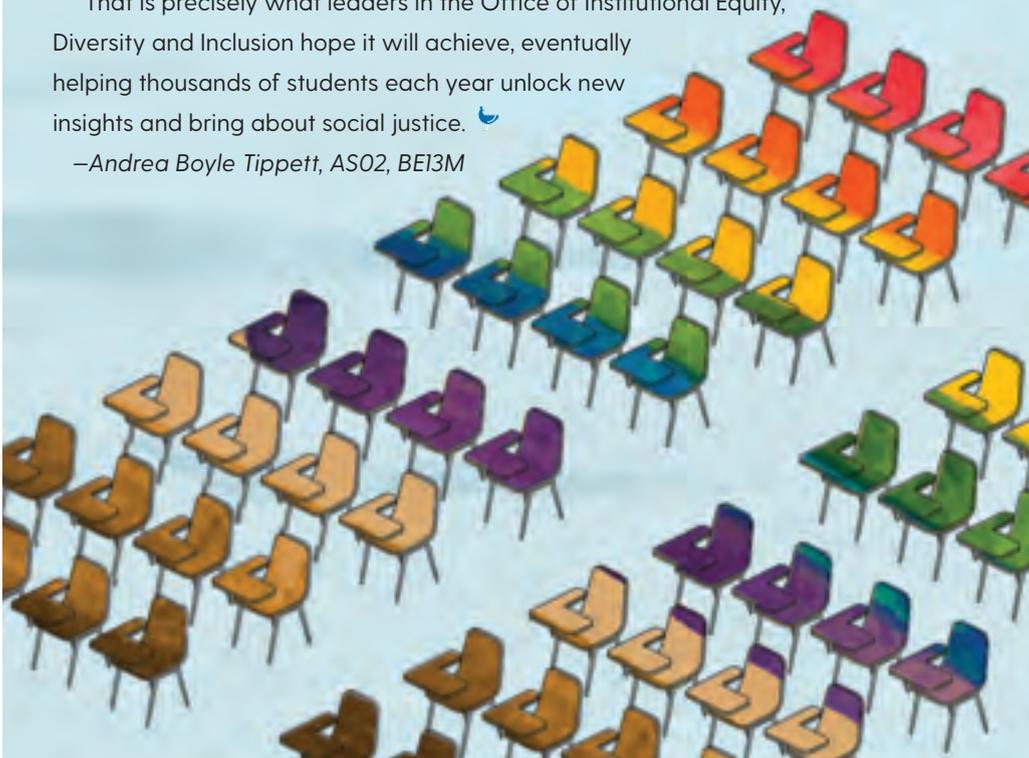


ILLUSTRATION BY JEFFREY C. CHASE

# UNITY IN COMMUNITY

## *Blue Hens confront and condemn intimate partner violence*

The world can be a violent place, and not even a college campus is spared. During the fall, a female student was brutally attacked in an off-campus apartment. Her alleged attacker was a fellow student who was swiftly banned from campus. Many of us were shocked. All were appalled. But a small few—those faculty, staff and students who have dedicated their lives and careers to preventing such gender-based violence—were tragically unsurprised.

“Gender-based violence takes place every day on college campuses across the country,” Prof. Jennifer Naccarelli told a crowded Mitchell Hall audience, shortly after the incident rattled the Blue Hen community.

For an institution that prioritizes student success and offers one of the only educational programs in the country on preventing partner abuse and domestic violence, the incident was particularly painful.

Students mobilized on social media and took to the streets. As a community, we came together to ask basic, fundamental questions: How could this have happened? How can we better protect each other? How can we strengthen safety measures on campus and off? And how can we prevent this from happening again?

The forward-looking questions would become a source of hope, unity and action.

The University quickly enhanced and expanded many of its safety services, adding golf-cart transportation until 1 a.m.; new off-campus shuttle services; and evaluating and upgrading the blue light phone system, which connects anyone who picks up a blue light phone directly to a University Police dispatcher.

As co-directors of UD’s Center for the Study and Prevention of Gender-Based Violence, Naccorelli and Prof. Angie Hattery partnered with senior administrators, fellow faculty members and the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCADV) to offer a two-hour “teach in” and listening session at Mitchell Hall the following week.

Speaking to a mostly student audience, Sue Ryan, executive director of the DCADV, said, “Your protests remind all of us that intimate partner violence is a community problem.”



EVAN KRAPE

The Centers for Disease Control estimates that one in five women and one in seven men have been the victim of severe physical violence by a partner. Women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rates of abuse, three times the national average, according to the Department of Justice.

“We can prevent this, but it will take all of us,” Ryan said. “UD students, you are the hope and the change to come.”

Indeed, that sense of hope could be felt most palpably at a student-organized vigil on The Green, which honored survivors and victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault and gender-based violence.

“Together, we’ve turned a place of pain into a place of community and support,” said Kiera Spann, AS24, who helped organize the earlier protest and demonstrations.

President Dennis Assanis, and his wife, Eleni, were in attendance at the vigil to share their support.

“This is a difficult time for everyone, and it really speaks to the UD culture and our values as a community,” he said. “We have a lot of work to do, and that starts with coming together as we are doing tonight to take steps toward positive change. 🐦”



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# MORAL COURAGE

The legacy of Collins J. Seitz, a White man who grew up in segregated Delaware and would one day help desegregate Delaware schools, was celebrated by his son, Collins J. Seitz Jr., chief justice of the state Supreme Court, at the annual James R. Soles Lecture held earlier this fall.

“The cold hard fact is that the state discriminates against Negro children,” Judge Seitz wrote in the historic 1952 decision that would become part of the *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court case, where Seitz’ ruling was the only one in the bundle of cases in favor of desegregation. Two years prior Seitz had ordered the University of Delaware to admit African American students for the first time. Pioneering civil rights lawyer, Louis L. Redding, served on both cases.

In his lecture titled “Black, White and Brown: The desegregation decisions of the 1950s in Delaware,” the chief justice spoke of his father’s commitment and courage.

He said his father described himself as a child of the Depression and the youngest of five, both of which made him empathize with the underdog. He also cited two incidents



KATHY F. ATKINSON

The late Chancery Court judge Collins J. Seitz was remembered and celebrated by his son at the University’s annual Soles Lecture.

that his father never forgot: A driver who mistreated a Black passenger when she failed to move quickly to the back of a bus; and a car crash in which the Black driver was arrested though the White driver was at fault.

His father, the chief justice said, often spoke about the need for everyone to have the moral courage to stand up for the ideals of America. 🐦

—Beth Miller



A rendering of the new Chabad Center, which will be built behind the original South College Avenue building that was ravaged by an arson fire last year.

# FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

How do you answer acts of hate and darkness?

For the Chabad Center for Jewish Life, it’s through creating an even greater source of light, mutual respect, tolerance and service to all.

That was the resounding message on Aug. 30, as plans were unveiled for a new Chabad Center to be built on a half-acre behind the ravaged “Little Blue House” that was destroyed by an arson fire just one year before.

The new \$3.6 million center will include a student lounge, worship space, commercial kitchen, dining area, library, offices and an apartment on the second floor. So far, \$2 million has been raised.

After an outpouring of sorrow, anger and support on social media last summer, the response was swift. Jewish students and alumni, as well as the entire UD and Newark communities, rallied around Chabad. Students created a GoFundMe and raised more than \$500,000 to support Chabad and launch the rebuild.

“This rebuild is a continuation,” said Rabbi Avremel Vogel. “And, obviously, we’re going to come out the other side. We’re going to come out stronger and better.” 🐦

—Peter Bothum, AS97

# HIGHLY RANKED UD

The University of Delaware has once again been recognized by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the nation's top public universities, ranking No. 38, up two spots from last year. Additionally, in the *Forbes America's Top Colleges 2021* rankings released earlier this fall, UD rose 39 spots to No. 108.

*U.S. News* rankings are based on a variety of factors, and UD is particularly strong in many of them:

- **Graduation rate:** UD's 6-year graduation rate for entering first-time full-time first-year students has increased from 81% to 84%.
- **Faculty:** The percentage of full-time faculty has increased from 88% to 91%.
- **Financial resources:** Educational expenditures per student have increased over 4%.

UD stands apart from other higher education institutions in a number of

ways. Its four-year graduation rate of 73% places it among the best in the nation among public institutions. Over the past five years, pipeline programs have been strengthened, with scholarship aid increasing significantly by 43%. Applications and enrollments have achieved record levels in all categories of students, including in-state, out-of-state, underrepresented minorities, international, honors, graduate and transfers.

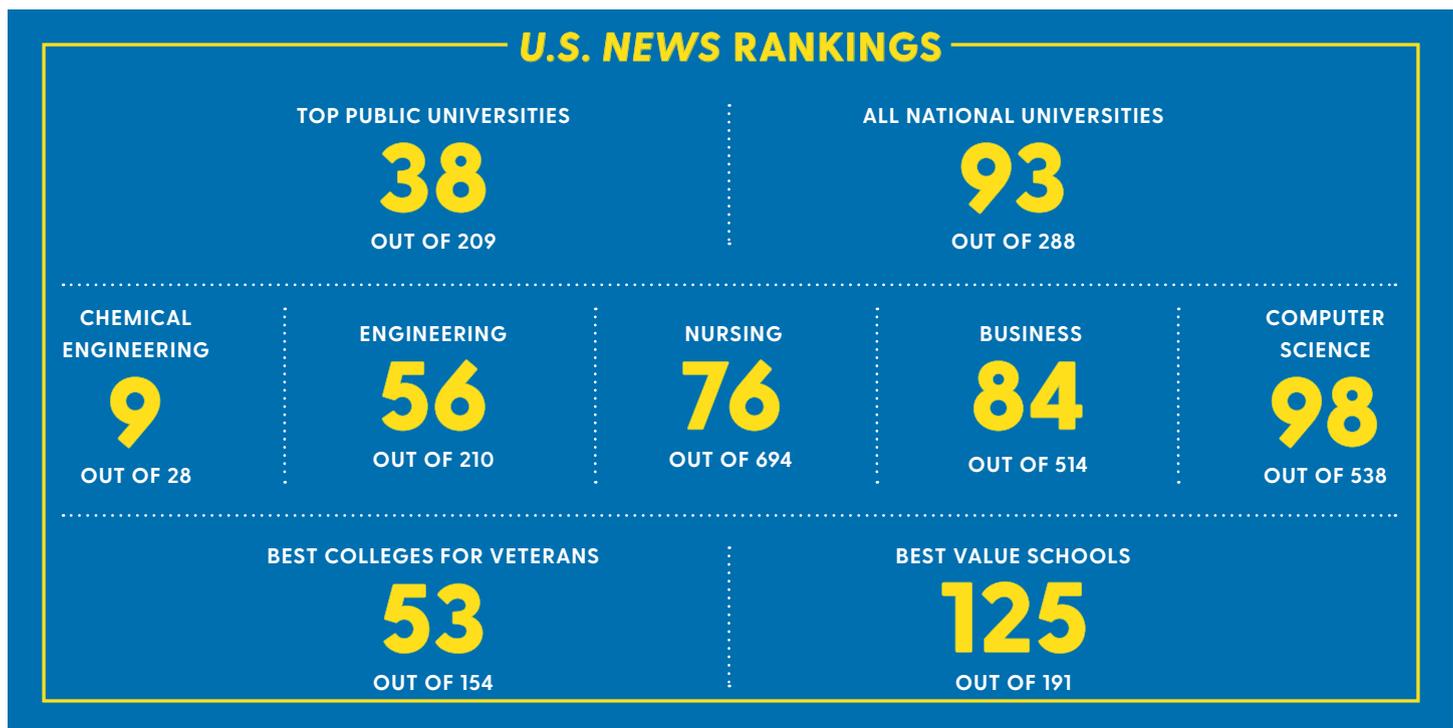
In the *U.S. News* ranking of all national universities, both public and private, UD moved up four positions from last year to No. 93, out of 288, tying with Stony Brook University, the University at Buffalo, the University of California-Merced, the University of Denver and the University of San Diego.

The new *U.S. News* rankings are for undergraduate programs

only; graduate rankings are released in the spring. In March of this year, 21 UD graduate programs were ranked among the 100 best in the nation, with 12 in the top 50.

*Forbes* spent the last year rethinking its evaluation and updated its methodology accordingly. The new rankings now account for low-income student outcomes and graduate earnings, as well as student debt, return on investment, persistence and the number of students who make the *Forbes American Leaders List*, win major national scholarships and go on to earn doctoral degrees.

*Forbes'* new methodology favorably affected UD's ranking as a research university with very high activity, moving it from 80 to 76. As a university in the Northeast, UD's rank climbed from 70 to 47. 🐦





# QUOTED IN THE NEWS

UD THOUGHT LEADERS SHARE THEIR PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERTISE

“IT IS REALLY HARD TO HAVE A VERY VISIBLE, COME-TOGETHER MOMENT AROUND SOMETHING THAT’S, IN SOME WAYS, SO SCATTERED.”

Anthropology Prof. **Jennifer Trivedi** in a **Salon.com** story on how 9/11 brought Americans together while the pandemic is tearing them apart.



“Think about what your mother always told you about cleaning your room. Keep items off the floor and tidy up. But you don’t have to go as far as making your bed.”

Hospitality Prof. **Sheryl Kline** in a **Washington Post** story on how to manage reductions in hotel housekeeping services

“They feed on everything from the biggest, toughest apex predators — like white sharks, orcas, everything you can imagine — down to the smallest little critters. There’s not very many animals that do something quite like this.”

Marine Science and Policy Prof. **Aaron Carlisle** discusses cookiecutter sharks with **Live Science**



“PEOPLE SHOULD FEEL PROTECTED, NOT INVINCIBLE.”

Epidemiology Prof. **Jennifer Horney** discusses breakthrough COVID cases in **The Philadelphia Inquirer**



“IT’S A BIZARRE, REALLY REGRESSIVE WAY OF THINKING ABOUT WHAT MARRIAGE IS...”

History Prof. **Rebecca Davis** in a **New York Times** story on the federal immigration law that legitimizes proxy marriages (where the wedding couple is not physically together) only after consummation

“People think their houses are financial investments, but in some places that won’t be the case. If floods get worse, homes in these areas may start to lose value, and owners need to be prepared for that.”

**A.R. Siders**, core faculty in UD’s Disaster Research Center, to **The Real Deal** real estate news outlet, on the danger of buying a dream home on the coast or in a fire zone.



“If the engineer had any notion of such a failure, I would have expected the report to be written very differently, and the engineer to immediately go to the local jurisdiction to let them know that there was a risk to the health and safety of the residents.”

Civil and Environmental Engineering Prof. **Michael Chajes** on a 2018 report detailing concerns with the Champlain Towers South building in Surfside, Florida, that collapsed in June. The story appeared in **USA Today**.

# ACCELERATING AND DIVERSIFYING TECH

In an effort to accelerate the transformation of scientific discoveries into benefits for society, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has established a new regional innovation network with UD as a key partner.

Supported by a \$15 million grant, the NSF Innovation Corps (I-Corps™) Northeast Hub is one of five new hubs in a nationwide NSF-funded network of universities formed to boost the economic impact of federally funded research while building skills and opportunities among researchers from all backgrounds, including those historically underrepresented in entrepreneurship.

Princeton will serve as the principal institution in the I-Corps Northeast Hub, with the University of Delaware and Rutgers University as partner institutions. The hub also will include five initial affiliates: Delaware State University, Lehigh, Temple, New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rowan. The hub will expand by adding new affiliates each year.

Prof. Julius Korley, inaugural director of entrepreneurship and strategic partnerships in the College of Engineering,

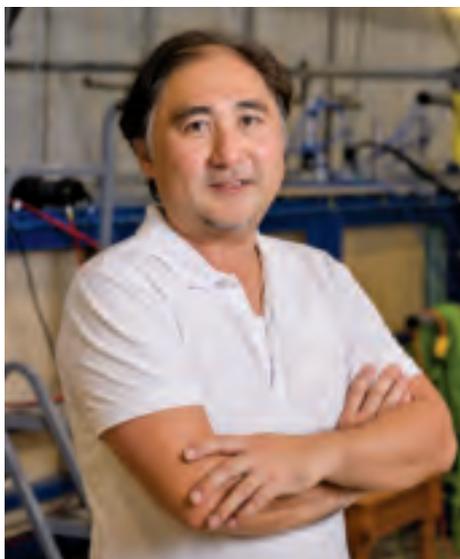
will serve as co-director of the hub. Prof. Dan Freeman, founding director of UD's award-winning Horn Entrepreneurship initiative, will serve as faculty lead for UD. Horn Entrepreneurship will lead UD's activities in the hub.

The new hub will make use of its proximity to "deep-tech industries" that revolve around fundamental discoveries in areas such as health care and pharmaceuticals, energy, the environment, earth- and water-friendly "green and blue" technologies, financial technologies, agriculture, communications and digital information.

A major focus also aims to strengthen national prosperity and global competitiveness by training the next generation of innovators from all backgrounds.

"We're going to leverage our network to draw in diverse candidates for all of these roles important to entrepreneurship," Korley says of such opportunities as instructor, mentor or trainee. "We're very excited to get started." 

—Tracey Bryant



EVAN KRAPE

Prof. Tian-Jian Hsu has received the 2021 Hans Albert Einstein Award.

## EINSTEIN AWARD

A UD professor whose research has the potential to save lives and a great deal of money has just received the Hans Albert Einstein Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Civil and Environmental Engineering Prof. Tian-Jian Hsu was recognized for his work that anticipates how sand will move during a weather event.

Such predictive models might someday help prevent tragedies like the recent Surfside condominium collapse in Miami, which killed 97 people. Engineers have speculated saltwater intrusion under the building may have been one of the factors that led to the corrosion of the foundation, a circumstance a numerical model could potentially flag in the design phase.

Using data collected via underwater sensors engineered by his colleagues at UD's Center for Applied Coastal Research and elsewhere, Hsu and his collaborators, including many UD graduate students, have built and fine-tuned numerical computer models that predict sediment transport.

Such calculations are essential for coastal communities looking to safeguard homes from beach erosion and flooding. The models will be an important tool for determining who may need to evacuate before a hurricane or nor'easter, and for deciding where to place jetties, breakwaters and other protective assets. 

—Diane Stopyra



## 'RONA RAGE? NOT REALLY.

Rage, it seems, is everywhere.

All through the cascading crises of these past endless months, from COVID-19 to the Capitol riots, there's been a feeling that the world has become an angrier place, and that people are more likely to lose their cool.

So it's a bit of a relief to learn that, in general, anger has not markedly increased since 2020, according to research by UD Psychology Prof. Philip Gable. He has discovered, however, that some of us have become more likely to feel that time is "dragging" during the pandemic, a response that tends generally to be associated with negative states of mind and negative feelings (in other words, "time doesn't fly when you're not having fun").

It's also important to remember that the occasional negative emotion can be to our benefit, says Gable, who

developed a smartphone application to document, month-by-month, the emotions, perceptions and behaviors of Americans during the pandemic. "Anger can be useful to us because it motivates us to want to overcome an obstacle," he says. "We found that when you're angry, you tend to zero in and focus in more specifically on the problem, as opposed to being distracted by something or someone else."

In these times, there seems to be a growing issue with anger that serves no real purpose: Pointless Facebook or Twitter rage sessions, for example. "It's a bunch of screaming voices in a room," he says. "Anger can be more productive if you're willing to engage with someone civilly in person."

The lesson is clear. Detach from the digital and focus instead on the real. 🐦

—Eric Ruth, AS93

### THE SUBTLE SIGNS OF AN ANGER ISSUE

Occasional angry episodes are part of being human and may even be to our occasional benefit. But not always. Here, Gable offers are some insights into the quiet clues that your anger could be a problem.

- **Not all anger is expressed angrily.**

Beware of "passive" anger: sarcasm, apathy or meanness. Seemingly solitary emotions can also be part of a problem, including irritability, anxiety and "shutting down" during conflict.

- **Look to cues from the people around you.** Ask yourself: Do people avoid me? Is my family afraid to talk to me? Do I often get into tense situations at work?

- Excessive, unresolved long-term anger can cause physical changes that threaten health, so **be watchful for these symptoms**: headaches, tingling, tightness in chest, elevated blood pressure and fatigue.

- **Be sensitive** to the possibility that your anger may be locked in a vicious circle with depression: Lashing out angrily leads to alienation and guilt, which in turn can feed depression. Unresolved depression then makes it difficult to handle emotions, increasing the likelihood of more angry outbursts—and so on. 🐦

# CONTROVERSIAL CONVERSIONS

By Andrea Boyle Tippett, AS02, BE13M

The America of 2021 loves reinvention, spiritual journeys and motivational words of wisdom.

The America of yesterday? Well, that’s a bit more complicated, according to UD History Prof. Rebecca Davis, who studies the histories of gender, sexuality and religion, with a particular focus on “moments when private thoughts, behaviors and beliefs become part of a public conversation.”

Her latest book, *Public Confessions: The Religious Conversions That Changed American Politics*, explores the very tenuous relationship between the personal and political.

Change, particularly religious conversions, she says, revealed broader cultural attitudes and prejudices toward politics, authenticity, sexuality and race. They weren’t simply personal decisions about whether one worshipped in a synagogue, church or mosque; rather, they were lightning rods for public outrage and debate.

In profiling certain American celebrities from World War II to the Cold War—all of whom converted from one religion to another—she hopes to highlight controversies that would help define the nation.

Here are a few notable examples:

## CLARE BOOTHE LUCE



PICRYL.COM

Playwright, journalist and politician Clare Boothe Luce may not be a household name today, but she was the talk of

the town well before she converted to Catholicism in 1946. By then she was serving a second term in the U.S. Congress, following her work as a war correspondent, *Vanity Fair* editor and writer of the Broadway smash, *The Women*, the first such play where the entire cast was female.

Luce converted in her early forties, when, as Davis writes, “her personal life was shattered.” Her only child, Ann, had been killed in a car accident two years earlier. The loss triggered a breakdown, including two suicide attempts. Luce

believed Catholicism was not just the salve for her pain but the antidote to Communism. The Catholic church had long denounced Communism for its materialism, among other attributes. As Americans grew increasingly weary of the Soviet Union, Catholic bishops emphasized their opposition, as did Luce.

“She’s sort of the first one to say ‘My politics are true, because as a Catholic convert, I have this ability to tell you what the alternatives are, and to see what’s at stake,’” says Davis, the Miller Family Early Career Professor of History.

The congresswoman’s conversion story ran in *McCall’s* women’s magazine, serialized over three months. *McCall’s* paid \$10,000 for the privilege, following a bidding war. The reaction from Protestants, who then made up about 70% of the population, was critical. Many wrote letters questioning her loyalty to America, saying it was

superseded by loyalty to the pope.

According to Davis, the comments’ true source was likely fear of control. “A group that has dominated all aspects of politics and culture reacts to modest assertions of influence with dire warnings of its own imminent demise,” Davis writes. Notably, the author adds, Luce did not receive a single disapproving letter from a Jew, Muslim, Hindu or Baha’i.

## SAMMY DAVIS JR.



WIKIMEDIA.ORG

Sammy Davis Jr. viewed Judaism as an answer to many of life’s questions. To his critics, it was a choice to set himself

apart. Many insisted he could not hold two identities at once. He could not be

both Black and Jewish. Throughout his life the authenticity of the entertainer's conversion was questioned.

The showman studied Judaism for several years prior to his conversion ceremony. He admired the religion's tenets and the Jewish people's tenacity. In a 1960 interview with *Ebony* magazine entitled "Why I became a Jew," he shared his many reasons, including his desires for security and inner peace. He also saw parallels between his identity as a Black man and the two groups' struggles against oppression. "For Davis, battling Jim Crow and being Jewish were two fronts in the same war for social acceptance and self-respect," the UD professor writes.

But as letters to the editor of *Ebony* reveal, African American readers disapproved of Davis' decision. "My estimation of Sammy Davis has dropped to zero.... He must realize that he is a Negro," wrote one, and "The reasons he gave [for his conversion] all add up to nothing," wrote another.

Meanwhile, Davis was a passionate crusader for civil rights. He raised tens of thousands for the cause and marched with Martin Luther King Jr. in Alabama from Selma to Montgomery.

"There was no such difficulty in accepting white Jews who allied with Black Christians in the civil rights movement," UD's Davis points out. The criticism from his fellow African Americans was made all the more painful when contrasted with the strength of his devotion.

### MARILYN MONROE



GETTY IMAGES

In stark contrast to Sammy Davis Jr. is the story of Marilyn Monroe's religious journey. When

the blonde bombshell converted to Judaism an hour before marrying Jewish playwright Arthur Miller, her personal decision became a stereotype-breaking Hollywood storyline. Almost overnight the actress transformed into the model Jewish housewife. Gossip columnists covered her attempts at cooking cultural staple gefilte fish. Writers with Jewish publications mused over her status as the new, sexy ideal Jewish housewife (in direct contrast to the mainstream narrative of the Jewish woman as dowdy and plain). Indeed, when the equally famous actress Elizabeth Taylor converted, she received a similar welcome.

According to Davis, "their conversions demonstrated how racially uncomplicated it was for a white Christian woman to become a Jew." The depth of their faith was not questioned; the focus instead was about their availabilities to host fundraising galas.

### MUHAMMAD ALI



WIKIMEDIA.ORG

The association between brainwashing and religion began with Muhammad Ali, Davis says. The boxer was the first famous convert

to be tagged with the brainwashing term after announcing his membership in the Nation of Islam in 1964. The Nation's teachings about the history of white supremacy and encouragement of Black men to embrace their personal power scared many Americans, particularly white ones.

Ali's indignities came in varied forms: Crowds booed. Sports journalists refused to call him by his chosen name, appending his birth name, Cassius Clay, to their reports. The president of the World Boxing Association even threatened to strip Ali of his title. Through it all, Ali held fast to his faith. And although he later severed ties with the Nation, he remained a devout Muslim for the remainder of his life.

As he aged, his public image again began to shift, this time to that of an inter-faith peacemaker. Crippled by Parkinson's disease, the former heavyweight champion lit the Olympic flame in Atlanta in 1996 and took part in a star-studded fundraiser for victims days after the Sept. 11 attacks, where he was introduced by actor Will Smith as "one of the greatest heroes of our time, and he is a Muslim." 

**CHANGE,**  
particularly religious conversions,  
revealed broader cultural attitudes and prejudices toward politics, sexuality and race. They weren't simply personal decisions; they were lightning rods for public outrage and debate.

## Meet CLELLA BAY MURRAY



### SHE'S CALLED JENNER'S POND HOME SINCE 2011

Twenty years ago, Clella Bay Murray authored a mystery novel, *A Fox on You*, just one of her several works of fiction—but writing wasn't her first career.

Born in Albia, Iowa, in 1930, Clella studied science at Smith College and earned a master's degree from the University of Michigan, where she researched the atomic effects on chromosomes.

Clella went to work at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, where she met and married fellow researcher Richard B. Murray in 1956. They moved to Delaware, where Richard joined the University of Delaware's Department of Physics, and raised two daughters, Ada and Annette.

When Richard became provost at the University of Delaware, Clella turned to writing. Her mystery series features the fictional Noir group that resolves international incidents out of the public eye. Her daughters inspired her humorous magic series, including *Matrimonial Magic and Mayonnaise*. Her first children's book, *Dangerous Journey*, is based on a true 18th-century journal written by her great-great-grandmother.

Clella's writing life has been far from solitary. She organized church and community groups. And she's still an organizer—including a book club at Jenner's Pond, where she has lived since 2011.

Call us today at 610-890-7434, or visit [JennersPond.org/UD-CM](http://JennersPond.org/UD-CM) to see for yourself why Clella Murray and so many other intellectuals choose Jenner's Pond for retirement living.

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*at Jenner's Pond*

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# A FEAST OF NEW DINING OPTIONS

Students have a full plate of dining options, including five new spaces that opened this fall.

## UDAIRY CREAMERY CAFÉ

UD's beloved UDairy Creamery has expanded its reach with a new Café that opened this summer in the University's Barnes and Noble Bookstore. Serving such favorites as ice cream, waffle cones and cheese, the UDairy Creamery Café also includes a full coffee drink menu and light fare, including sandwiches made with UDairy Creamery cheese.

## LITTLE GOAT IN TRABANT

The Little Goat coffee shop right off Main Street has made its way into the Trabant Food Court as Stomping Grounds, which features hand-crafted beverages made with coffee from Newark's own Little Goat Coffee Roasting Co.

## THE DEN BY DENNY'S

The new indoor, outdoor diner along Academy Street serves up all-day breakfast and comfort foods. Operating independently from other dining stations in the Perkins Student Center, the diner offers late-night options.

## FLIP KITCHEN

The new Flip Kitchen at Perkins offers an innovative, fast casual concept and two rotating menu "flips." In addition to its core menu of tossed salads, smoothies, grilled flatbreads and globally inspired rice bowls, Flip Kitchen also rotates its menu to include gourmet mac and cheese, artisan-style pizzas, stuffed baguettes and more.

## LOCAL RESTAURANT ROW

A new partnership between UD's Dining Services and local restaurants aims to bring global flavors and authentic, Newark favorites to the Local Restaurant Row in Perkins. 🐦

## GRAIN RESTAURANT COMES TO STAR CAMPUS

UD's vision for a food-fortified Science, Technology and Advanced Research Campus is expected to materialize in mid-2022, when the kicked-up pub-grub Delaware chain Craft Bar + Kitchen – already an East Main Street institution – opens for breakfast, lunch and dinner on the ground floor of the FinTech Building, just off South College Avenue (Delaware 896).

Already, Grain's hospitable potential is coming into focus: There will be broad windows and soothing views of the green spaces around it. There will be catering available to other campus locations, and hearty greetings for UD and non-UD customers alike. There will be coffee-and-breakfast, brews and burgers, alfresco options and locally sourced ingredients.

"We want to be that place where people come to hang out," says owner Lee Mikles, EG90, who has parlayed his electrical engineering degree into successive and successful careers in marketing and restaurant empire-building. He and partner Jim O'Donoghue, AS91, (both Fightin' Blue Hen football season ticket holders) sense a game-day buzz around STAR, a momentum that will inevitably grow.

"We started as a Delaware-centric brand, and we're proud of being UD grads," says Mikles. "We really want to celebrate that." 🐦



# LOVE AND BASKETBALL

*For Women's Basketball head coach Natasha Adair,  
leadership is an act of listening and love*

By Artika Rangan Casini, AS05

Kids these days.

Born at the dawn of a new millennium, they have already witnessed terror attacks, economic collapse, political instability, environmental calamity, death, devastation and a digital revolution that has, in fact, been televised. Forgive them their youthful follies and flaws, for it can all feel a bit overwhelming, especially at 19.

But life was never intended to be easy and change rarely is. So, when confronted and gripped by forces that have reached a perilous, ominous, terrifying boil, what do any of us become?

Natasha Adair suggests a coffee bean.

As head coach for Delaware Women's Basketball, she has found a hopeful message in this Twitter parable,\* in which a mother explains life's great hardships to her daughter by bringing three pots of water to boil. In the first, she places a carrot; in the second, an egg; in the last, a single coffee bean. Unlike the strong, firm carrot, which wilts in the water to become soft and weak, or the egg, which starts out fragile only to be hardened by the heat, the coffee bean remains uniquely intact, releasing instead something from within that transforms the water around it.

Adair discovered the story last spring, as a pandemic whirled and cries for social justice wailed, and a much-anticipated CAA Tournament ended in abrupt cancellation. The message of internal power against external threat spoke so deeply to Adair that she had each of her student-athletes place a coffee bean in a mason jar. When the season finally resumed in late 2020, the team brought the jar to practices. Managers would pack it carefully and bring it to games. There were moments at halftime when Adair would lock eyes with her players and say, "We're the carrot right now," and then point back to the jar as a reminder of what and whom she expected her team to be.

*\*Based on the book,  
The Coffee Bean,  
by Jon Gordon and  
Damon West*



PHOTOS BY MARK CAMPBELL



“COACH A. WANTS EVERYONE TO BE THEMSELVES, AND SHE’S TAUGHT ME THAT YOU NEED TO BE THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF.”

-Forward Lizzie Oleary, AS21, 23M

The message worked. In 2021, UD Women’s Basketball won the CAA season championship for the first time since 2013; senior Jasmine Dickey, HS22, was named CAA Player of the Year; and Adair was honored as CAA Coach of the Year.

It was at once a triumphant celebration and a prelude to the victories that lie ahead. For while the game-day trophy may seem like a fairy tale ending, the story of unstoppable young women who have found their strength, conviction, courage and voice has only just begun.

## MORE THAN ENOUGH

Adair beams at the mention of her players and all they have achieved.

There’s Lizzie Oleary, AS21, 23M. The basketball forward is the team’s foundation, says Adair. “She keeps us together. She’s a natural leader, confident in every way. Her evolution, from quiet, hard worker to mother hen is incredible.”

There’s Dickey, who plays guard and forward. She and Paris McBride, BSPA22, were the first two players to sign under Adair. McBride was “art in motion,” and Adair was immediately struck by the point guard’s demeanor, “her calm way of getting teammates to do what needed to be done.” Dickey, meanwhile, was fearless in every way. “You saw it in her eyes—her toughness, her competitiveness, how she moved on the court. I watched her play and said, ‘That’s the culture [I want to cultivate].’”

Adair speaks at great length about her team. That’s what makes her a great leader, according to Oleary. “A good coach can look at all of their players and know them on a deeper level.”

Last season, Adair developed a new exercise for her athletes. “Describe yourself in three words,” she told them, and to her staff, she said, “We’re not going to coach them with our words. We’ll coach them with theirs.”

One particular response caught the coach by surprise. “Enough,” the student-athlete told Adair. A transfer from another university, the student admitted to “always feeling like I had to prove myself, like I didn’t fully belong.”

That changed at UD. At practices, when she would miss a shot and hang her head down, Adair would clap her hands, look the player in the eyes and remind her, “You’re enough.”

“She treats us like family,” says Tee Johnson, AS23. “She has my back. She doesn’t care about me because I’m on her team, making a basket for her. She’s just there for us, mentally. If I call her at 3 a.m., I know she’ll pick up. She gives me the confidence to know that I can play at this level. That I’m okay. That I’m enough.”

More than enough, in fact. Adair marvels at her players: at their growth and confidence, their spirit and strength.

“I want people to listen to our young people,” Adair says. “They’re sometimes misunderstood, or thought of as ‘too ambitious,’ or dismissed for having short attention spans. But they’re so informed and so aware.”

## BIGGER THAN BASKETBALL

That awareness extends beyond youth. In May 2020, the world watched in horror as a man was killed, his neck to the ground, his last words an agonizing cry to his mother. In the aftermath of George Floyd's murder, more unarmed Black Americans would continue to die, again and again, as a virus raged across the globe and disproportionately ravaged communities of color.

The trauma would impact us all, but Adair would fight against despair. As a mother first and foremost, she knew: "You don't have all the answers, but you know you love the people in front of you. Listen to them."

With her players, she set up a Zoom call. "How are you feeling?" she asked, and they answered honestly: Hurt. Pain. Anger. Confusion. Then Adair asked: "What do you need from me?" Direction, they said.

The coach strategized. She went to Athletic Director Chrissi Rawak, who said, "Natasha, our size allows us to do things that other states can't. We can make change." That was precisely the direction Adair and her players were headed. "Actions Over Words," O'Leary said, and the student's phrase would become the basketball team's motto, recited before games and inscribed on team bracelets.

The students met with legislators and police officers, with the governor and attorney general. They learned the power of their voice and wrote letters to elected officials across the state, asking them to ban the use of excessive force and chokeholds, which was signed into Delaware law on June 25, 2020.

At UD, players continued the conversations around racial and social justice. Some came to Adair and asked to kneel during the national anthem. The coach wanted to understand their rationale, not sway their decision. And as she heard her players talk about inspiring change through action and education, an idea came to mind.

In 1900, on the birthday celebration of a White man who famously united the country, Black children from a segregated school in Florida would sing a song "full of the faith that the dark past has taught us" and "full of the hope that the present has brought us."

Abraham Lincoln had died 35 years before the lyrics to "Lift Every Voice and Sing" were written; Adair would share the words with her students 121 years later. A timeless message with a uniquely American history, the song of freedom and its boundless optimism now follows the national anthem at all Women's Basketball games. It also plays at soccer and volleyball games.

The words take Adair to another place and time. "I hear it pierce through my soul," she says. "For me to stand here as a Black woman and have this role, to be this example for *all* my students, for the University, for whomever."

It means something. Much like the coffee bean. When the world reaches a perilous, ominous, terrifying fever pitch, you can be an egg or a carrot or something wholly different. You can raise your voice in hatred and anger and frustration and scream, or like the women of Delaware Basketball, you can lift every voice and sing. 🐦



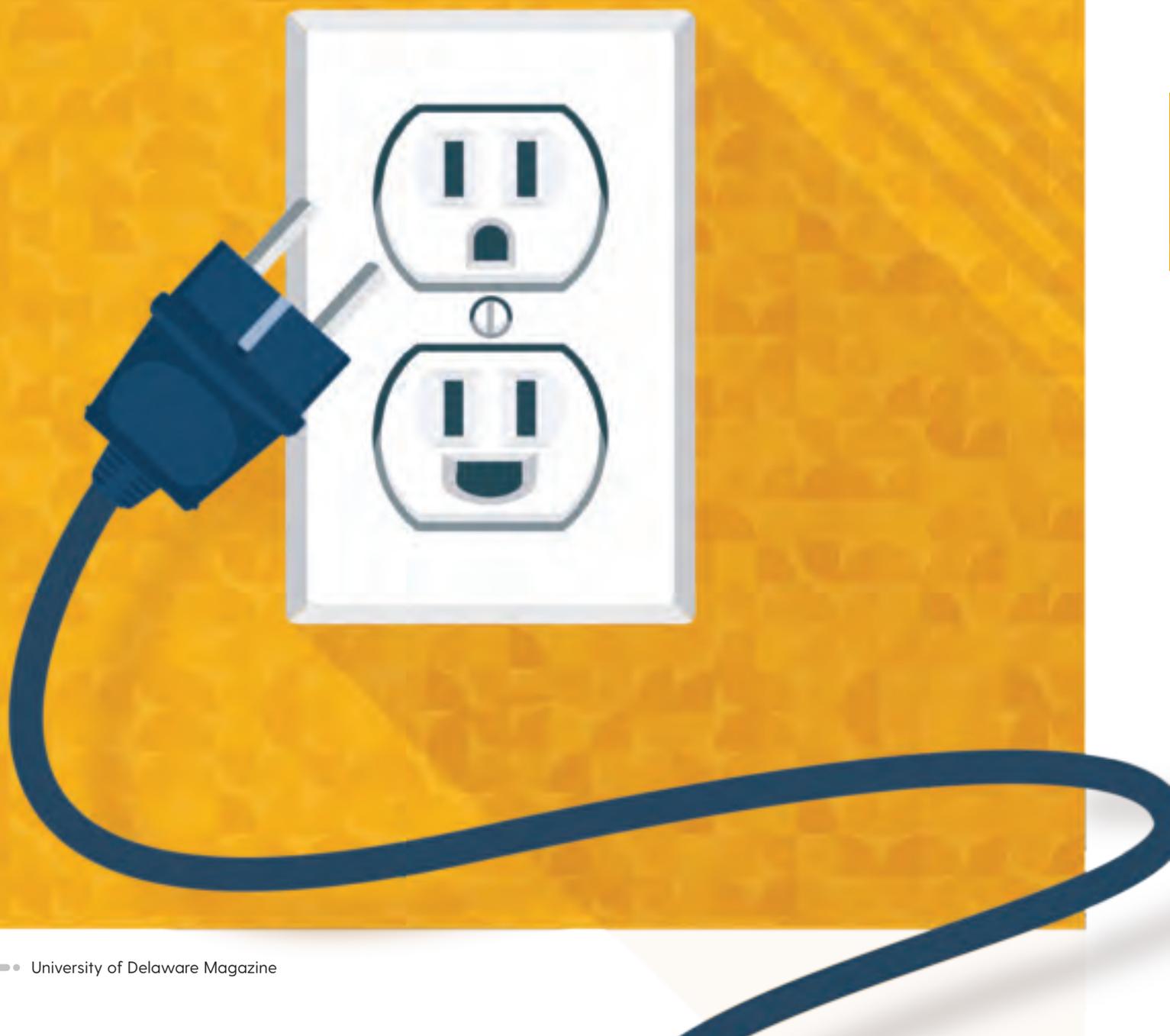
**"I'M QUIET. I DON'T REALLY SAY MUCH. COACH A. HELPED US FIND AND USE OUR VOICE."**

*—CAA Player of the Year Jasmine Dickey, HS22, on CAA Coach of the Year, Natasha Adair*



# UNPLUG

BY ERIC RUTH, AS93





PAUL SPECHT

## BLUE HENS WROTE THE BOOK ON BREAKING THE BURNOUT CYCLE

Amelia Nagoski once thought she knew all about connecting with her feelings. After all, she was a professional musician, deeply attuned to the emotions that could breathe life into her art.

Then came that day in the hospital when she thought she might be dying.

Amelia, AS99, had been admitted with a severe abdominal pain, leaving her baffled and frightened. Twin sister Emily Nagoski, AS98, was by her side, frantically trying to soothe her anguish. At last, as they thumbed through self-help books, they found the answer.

Emotional exhaustion, Amelia was astonished to learn, can ravage our bodies, causing pain just as assuredly as a physical blow. The solution, they would find, lies in the kind of healing that can only come from others, and through a daily process of self-examination.

Those words helped save Amelia's life, but it also inspired a greater passion in the twins. They believed they needed to do something, to share their revelations about stress, and help ease the

unremitting angst that so many women face today.

And so, having both experienced this epiphany together, they began writing together.

The result is the current *New York Times* bestseller *Burnout*, a breezy-but-science-driven examination of the causes of and solutions to chronic stress in women's lives. Already, the Delaware-raised Blue Hen twins have become darlings of the talk-show circuit, delivered a twinned-up TED talk, and are being enlisted by corporations for online employee workshops.

"After writing *Come as You Are* [her first self-help best-seller], I had sworn I would never write a book again," says Emily, who now lives in Massachusetts, not too far from Amelia. "And I thought writing it with Amelia would be easier. Instead of me typing while I was crying, it would be both of us typing while we were crying."

Subtitled *The Secret to Unlocking the Stress Cycle*, the new book helps women identify the sources of stress (spoiler alert: the



Amelia (left) and Emily Nagoski during their UD days

patriarchy is involved), and leads them through exercises that aim to help actively process emotions in ways that settle the brain’s stress-fueling neurochemistry.

Emily, a former professor who holds degrees in counseling and health behavior, led the work uncovering the science behind the book, and Amelia pushed back to make it all more digestible and relevant. In Emily’s guest room, they bounced themes and chapters back and forth, Emily at her desk, Amelia cross-legged on a bed, tapping away on a laptop.

Their elemental connection added momentum. Amelia could often sense just what Emily was

trying to say, and how to make it user-friendly. Throughout the process, they found emerging themes: Human connections are key to emotional health. And the solutions are within reach of us all, through measured, reformed approaches to everyday living.

As they wrote in their book, “The problem is, the world has turned ‘wellness’ into yet another goal everyone ‘should’ strive for, but only people with time and money and nannies and yachts and Oprah’s phone number can actually achieve.”

While their work was all wrapped up and on the bookstore shelves well before the pandemic, the timing turned out to be fortuitous. “What the pandemic has done, it has amplified all of the experiences we were writing about,” says Emily. “If people were worrying about work-life balance in 2019, they’re now feeling it tenfold.”

It also helped that the two have been so close for so long. They attended school together since the age of 3, and both started at UD in 1995, living together in a house on Beverly Road.

“We’re so Delawarean that Jill Biden [AS75, EHD06EdD, 10H] was our 10th grade honors English teacher at Brandywine High School,” Emily jokes. “She was extremely supportive. We had a short story exercise, and she gave me explicit advice that I was a good writer and that I should keep on writing.”

The two would begin to part ways somewhat when Emily pursued the counseling path at UD, while Amelia delved ever deeper into voice training and choral conducting (she is now a professor of music at Western New England University). Emily would kick-start her career as a peer health educator at UD,

## TIPS FOR UNLOCKING THE STRESS CYCLE

1. Realize that stress is not always bad for you. Being stuck in stress is.
2. Physical activity is the single most efficient strategy for managing the “stress cycle.”
3. Pursue these daily goals: Breathing. Positive social interaction. Laughter. Affection. (“Wellness is not a state of being; it is a state of action.”)
4. Self-compassion and gratitude empower us to recognize the difference between who we are and who the world expects us to be.
5. Take a more “planful” approach to stressors you can change, and positively reappraise the things we can’t control (i.e., reframe difficulties as opportunities for growth and learning).
6. Focus on the healing connections with others — even your cat. Connections can create energy, renewing both sides. So when you feel sadness, rage — *connect*.
7. Meaning is important in life. Make meaning by engaging with something larger than yourself.
8. Get some rest.

Tips and excerpt from the book *Burnout* by Emily and Amelia Nagoski. Copyright © 2019 by Emily and Amelia Nagoski. Used with permission from Ballantine, an imprint of Random House Group, a division of Penguin Random House LLC. All rights reserved.

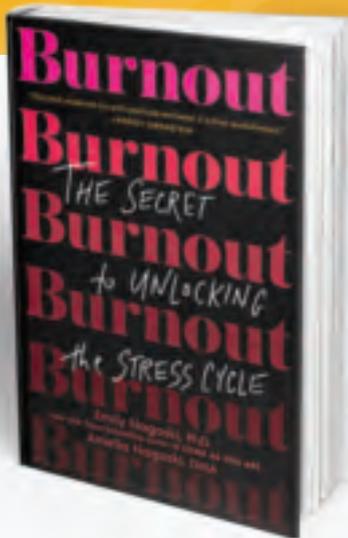
helping fellow undergraduates cope with issues surrounding stress, nutrition and sex.

“I loved it. All the academic work couldn’t compare what it felt like to see sex education change someone’s life right there. That feeling made me like who I am as a person,” says Emily, who credits her professional growth to Nancy Chase, still UD’s director of student wellness and health promotion. “She was a spectacular human being and incredibly supportive.”

Then, years later, that day in the hospital would bring the twins together again in a way they never imagined. Now, they’re a bit flabbergasted at all it has meant, and the stir their book has caused.

“It’s been extraordinary and surprising,” Emily says. “I had no expectation that we’d be on *The New York Times* bestseller list for three weeks. We were second to Ina Garten’s *Modern Comfort Food*, so I’m happy for that No. 2 behind the ‘Barefoot Contessa.’” 🐦

*“The problem is, the world has turned ‘wellness’ into yet another goal everyone ‘should’ strive for, but only people with time and money and nannies and yachts and Oprah’s phone number can actually achieve.”*



## FROM THE BOOK

So what exactly is an “emotion,” and how do you exhaust it?

Emotions, at their most basic level, involve the release of neurochemicals in the brain, in response to some stimulus. You see the person you have a crush on across the room, your brain releases a bunch of chemicals, and that triggers a cascade of physiological changes—your heart beats faster, your hormones shift, and your stomach utters. You take a deep breath and sigh. Your facial expression changes; maybe you blush; even the timbre of your voice becomes warmer. Your thoughts shift to memories of the crush and fantasies about the future, and you suddenly feel an urge to cross the room and say hi. Just about every system in your body responds to the chemical and electrical cascade activated by the sight of the person.

That’s emotion. It’s automatic and instantaneous. It happens everywhere, and it affects everything. And it’s happening all the time—we feel many different emotions simultaneously, even in response to one stimulus. You may feel an urge to approach your crush, but also, simultaneously, feel an urge to turn away and pretend you didn’t notice them.

Left to their own devices, emotions—these instantaneous, whole-body reactions to some stimulus—will end on their own. Your attention shifts from your crush to some other topic, and the flush of infatuation eases, until that certain special someone crosses your mind or your path once more. The same goes for the jolt of pain you feel when someone is cruel to you or the ash of disgust when you smell something unpleasant. They just end.

In short, emotions are tunnels. If you go all the way through them, you get to the light at the end.

Exhaustion happens when we get stuck in an emotion. 🐦

# DEAR MAIN

**I**t's just a place, after all. A short street lined with tiny shops in a city that's more aptly called a town. So why do we think about you so often? Why does your presence linger, so many years since we walked your length, side by side, arm in arm?

Main Streets exist everywhere, but Newark's biggest boulevard is something special, someplace Blue Hens still hold close, wrapped up in the warm-and-fuzzies of our receding college years. Our memories of UD are inseparable from Newark, and Newark is surely defined by Main, teeming endlessly with traffic and treacherous crossings and late-night tastes too good to forget.

Those days come back in a dreamy vision: Teetering back to the dorm with a gaggle of giggling roommates, still juiced and jumping from a Stone Balloon blowout ("Can't believe I met Metallica!"). Meeting up at midnight at the old State Theatre for a *Rocky Horror Picture Show* soiree. Digging into an NDB bagel sandwich, too famished and too tired to care for anything but its gooey goodness.

Will life ever be so sweet again?

Maybe not. And, just maybe, our memories have been

quietly reshaped and repolished by time, their rougher edges politely smoothed. Fearful of a lost past, we worry sometimes that Main Street is no longer what it was. So many places have gone; newer places seem (for now) mere interlopers. But others endure, their legacy alive: The Newark 5&10 still stands in its fusty glory; Klondike Kate's soldiers on, belly to the bar; Wonderland endures in all its freak-flag glory.

We remember how we felt then, newly free and secretly intimidated. To our tender minds, there was always an imagined sense that this street outside of our buttoned-down campus was a tad untucked and uncouth, a slouching presence on the fringes of academic decorum. And so we felt free to untuck, too. Late-afternoons led to evenings lined up outside Kate's, or Grotto's, or the Deer Park, everyone revved for a dose of the boisterous behavior that has fueled Main Street's nighttime vibe since roughly 1896.

But Main Street brought us more than mere revelry and left us with far more than queasy mornings. We are lucky to have had a street, and a town, with such quirky, artsy, open-minded sensibilities. We're fortunate to have had a pleasant place for us to grapple together against the idea of our impending



25¢

## 5 MIN IN & OUT

Check out some alumni memories on pages 28-29 and share your own.



25¢

25¢

## 15 MIN BROWSE

Stroll down Memory Lane and celebrate the iconic shops of our past and present



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## 30 MIN WALK

Remember the bands that rocked the street (p. 32), test your memories with a quiz (p. 27) and see how a Blue Hen changed Main Streets across the country (p. 34-37)



# STREET

adulthood, frighteningly free from mom and dad at last.

After all, a street can be more than just a street, but no place ever seems quite real without people. In the end, that was what made it precious: The people we knew and the unforgettable ways we came together. 🐦



—Thanks for the memories,  
Eric Ruth AS93



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY TORREY AS87



EVAN KRANE



PHOTO COURTESY OF JIM LIBERAKIS

## Test your Main Street Memory

# FUZZY? OR FRESH?

- 1 What dearly beloved 1929 building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places before being demolished in 1989?
- 2 What trendy, minimally clothed activity led to a riot in 1974 near the Deer Park?
- 3 What invading army marched up Main Street in 1777?
- 4 What were various names of the classic diner on the corner of Main and Haines streets over the years?
- 5 What famous American author delivered a lecture at the Academy Building on Main?
- 6 Which Main Street locale was devastated by a 1990s fire, but rose from the ashes more popular than ever?
- 7 How many years was the Newark Newsstand open before closing in 2012?

To see how you did, turn to page 33 for the answers.

# ALUMNI MEMORIES

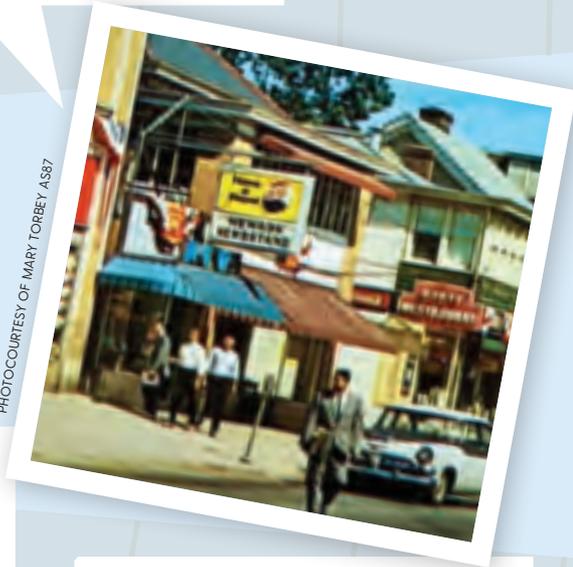
Earlier this fall, we posed a question on the UD Alumni Facebook and Instagram pages, asking you to share your favorite Main Street memories. Here's a sampling of what you had to say.

I watched George Thorogood come out of the Newsstand one day and throw his orange peel away in a trash can. Guess who grabbed that orange peel!!!

**Joyce Evans Mixner, EHD81**



PHOTOCOURTESY OF WWW.OLDWILMINGTON.NET



PHOTOCOURTESY OF MARY TORBEY AS87

Too many!!!!  
Warren Zevon at the Stone Balloon, Mug Night at Deer Park, Rocky Horror at the State Theatre followed by Frankenstein in 3D  
The list goes on.....

**Julie Ebright Pearson, EHD85**

1985-1990: Stone Balloon, Deer Park, Down Under, Klondike Kate's, Wonderland Records, I Like It Like That Records, Rainbow Records, Reborn Records, Newark Newsstand

**Dave Chambers, AS92**

Wonderland Records. New releases for \$3.50. Practically lived there.

**Ron Cox, EG78 (or AS80)**



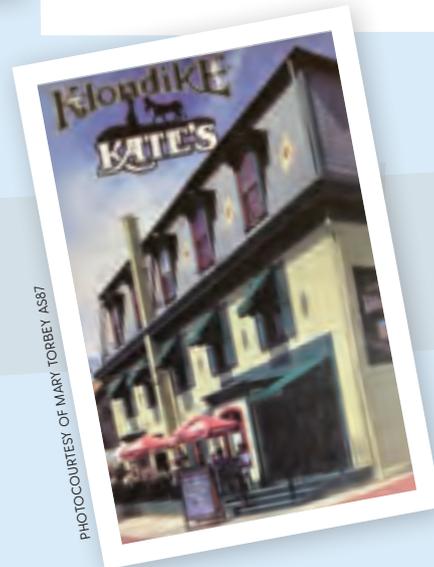
PHOTOCOURTESY OF MARY TORBEY AS87

Aren't the best memories the ones we barely remember?

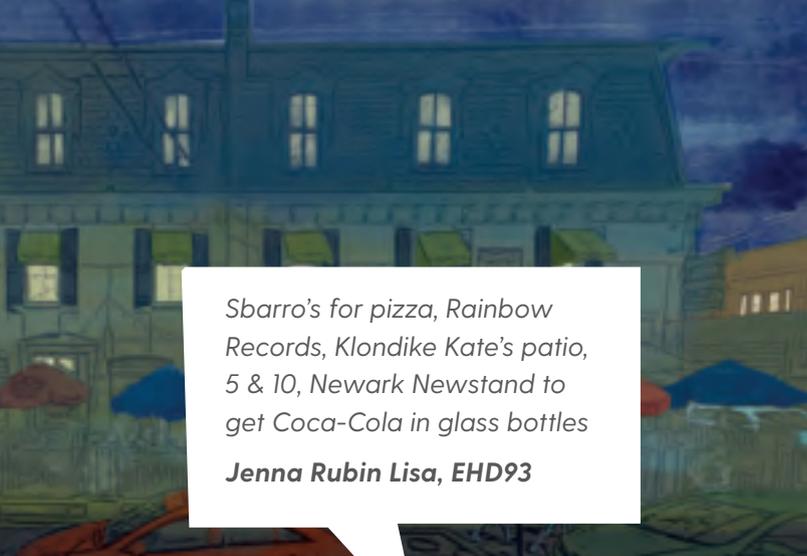
**Dawn Moffett-Hugg, EHD95**

Pitchers inside Kate's on a snow day when the town was all but shut down!

**George Sorvalis, AS96**



PHOTOCOURTESY OF MARY TORBEY AS87



Sbarro's for pizza, Rainbow Records, Klondike Kate's patio, 5 & 10, Newark Newstand to get Coca-Cola in glass bottles

**Jenna Rubin Lisa, EHD93**

When I was in school, The Stone Balloon was called The O House.

**Daniel Orendorf, BE70**

PHOTO BY JIM JONES, BS'26, PHD'95



Rainbow music, meatloaf sandwiches at Kate's, late night CalTort, and the bouncer at Deer Park on my 21st saying, "Happy birthday. Please don't throw up in here."

**Dave Schwartz, AS08**



**Have something to add? We'd love to hear it. Either share your memories with us at [magazine@udel.edu](mailto:magazine@udel.edu) or leave us a voicemail at the Remember When phone line at 302-831-MYUD.**

# BLUE HENS ON MAIN

*While a thorough accounting remains elusive, we know for certain that much of Main Street's charm has been due to generations of Blue Hens who stepped up and built their own businesses here.*

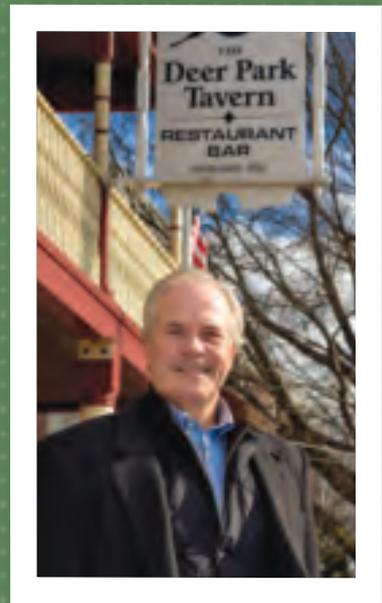
Beguiled perhaps by the laid-back vibe and small-town charm, many Blue Hens have made Main Street home to their businesses, and their businesses have, in turn, made Main Street feel like a home to many more. This small sampling gives an idea of what that impact has been.

Among the most prominent places is **Iron Hill Brewery and Restaurant**. **Kevin Finn, BE02M**, would grow a homebrewing hobby into a beloved regional chain, starting with his first scratch brewery and craft kitchen that opened in 1996 at 147 East Main St.

Down the street in either direction are a pair of restaurant mainstays: **Grain Craft Bar + Kitchen**, owned by **Jim O'Donoghue, AS91**, and **Lee Mikles, EG90**, and **Caffé Gelato**, owned by **Ryan German, BE00**, and revered by students as the go-to place for dinner with the parents.

Another Blue Hen has for years stood at the leading edge of Main Street's ongoing shift toward healthier dining: **Sasha Aber, AS98**, opened **Home Grown Café** in 2000 and has since solidified its standing as a veggie-friendly, arts-oriented destination.

And, of course, nobody could forget **Deer Park**, purchased and renovated by **Bob Ashby, BE77**, in 2001. "There's a lot of history here," he says of the famed hotel-turned-bar. "It's part of the fiber that connects people to Newark and to UD." 🐦



Bob Ashby, BE77

KATHY F. ATKINSON

# LOCAL LEGENDS

**WE MISS THESE LEGENDARY LOCALES.** Whether hunger struck at midnight or whenever a new record came out, Main Street delivered in spades.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY TORREY ASB7



## **Rhodes Pharmacy**

(now Newark Deli and Bagel): Perennially a favorite destination for students thanks to its campus-hugging location, this longstanding Main Street fixture has evolved from its early days as a “soda shop” to today’s incarnation as a crucial source of gooey breakfast and lunch creations. Often a must-visit place for returning Blue Hens.

## **Corner Deli**

(now The Galleria): Sandwiches served as on-the-go fuel for late-to-class students at this beloved eatery near the Mall/Green. In its stead, we have a mini-mall of sorts, including grab-and-go Grotto pizza by the slice.

## **Newark Newsstand**

(now Insomnia Cookies): Many miss the bookish, tobacco-scented aromas of this sliver-thin shop filled with

periodicals and newspapers from around the world. Today’s students revere it for a different reason: reliable deliveries of oven-fresh cookies as late as 3 a.m.

## **Newark Farm and Home Supply**

(now Main Street Plaza/Taverna): They said you could find anything you needed in the cozy aisles of this old-school hardware store, a place that helped define the once-indelible neighborly vibe of this street.

## **Post House**

(now Duck Donuts): Many a student tucked up to the counter at this mainstay of breakfast and lunch delights, watching the line cooks churn out endless plates of bacon and eggs as the happy chatter flowed, just as they had since 1957. Today, we remain grateful for the luscious donuts that now fill the void.

## **DeLuxe Luncheonette**

(aka “The Greasy Spoon”) (now The Galleria): Its nickname was more praise than a potshot, offering another narrow, cozy eatery for students to snuggle up to plates of eggs, and a solid dose of local charm.

## **The Newark Diner**

Home to many incarnations, this “classic” steel-clad diner always stood as a perfect casual retreat and a spot for countertop chats. Known variously over the years as Jimmy’s Diner, Jude’s Diner and Korner Diner. Soon destined to be a Five Guys Burgers and Fries.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY TORREY ASB7

## **East End Cafe**

(now Grain restaurant): They say a pizza shop once stood here, but music lovers will long remember it as a prime spot for live bands, even as they relish the good grub now served at Grain by its Blue Hen owners.

## **Bert’s Records**

(now Caffé Gelato) and ***I Like It Like That***: Relics of an era that preserved its musical memories in vinyl, these record

PHOTO BY JIM JONES, BS76, PHD95



stores were reliable refuges for browsing the latest releases, flipping through albums in analog-age innocence.

### Margherita's Pizza

(relocated to "Elkton Road"/South Main): Long touted as the best slice on Main, this old-school pizza shop decided to move down the street (or up the road) after 38 years.

### The Malt Shoppe

(now The Galleria): Under the loving oversight of the late Susie Ambry, EHD72, armies of undergraduates refueled with milkshakes, bagels and ice cream. It all came tumbling down in 1995.

### State Theatre

(now The Galleria): Many memories were made at midnight showings of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (and at frequent screenings of *The Song Remains the Same*) inside this 1929 movie house, which fell to the wrecking ball (and "progress") despite its listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

### Stone Balloon

(reinvented as a restaurant): Notorious nights of revelry and some of the greatest rock acts in the world still echo from the perpetually sticky floors of this now-departed bar, though its name lives on in the modern American restaurant that stands in its place. 🐦



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY TORBEY AS87



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICK BIASOTTO



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY TORBEY AS87

## THE MAINSTAYS OF MAIN STREET

**Klondike Kate's:** Timeworn comfort and a plate of cheesy nachos are perfect accompaniments to our urge to over imbibe.

**Wonderland:** Scene of our first "head shop" encounters, it seemed perpetually immersed in counterculture vibes.

**Sinclair's Café:** Quiet and civilized and perfected suited to having your breakfast in some semblance of peace.

**Newark Deli and Bagels:** From recent generations to the students of today, everyone seems to find college memories in an eggy breakfast sandwich.

**Newark 5 and 10:** Unapologetically old-fashioned and adorably out of date, the "Five and Dime" is still a best-bet for any campus citizen's sundries.

**Bing's Bakery:** Swing by on a weekend for a box of post-party sweets.

**Home Grown Café:** Still stands as a dose of counterculture in a sometimes staid town.

**Rainbow Records:** Once proudly flying its freak flag high on Main Street proper, this treasured music store is now just around the corner from Switch Snow and Skate.

**Grassroots:** Selling everything from bohemian clothes to home decorations, this artsy shop has been around since 1975.

**Days of Knights:** A treasure trove for all who love games, the store features thousands of board games, card games, role-playing games and more.

**Blue Hen Comics:** A one-stop, pop culture shop, the comic store has been a local favorite since 1980. 🐦

# MUSIC ON MAIN ST.

**THE SCENE.** From Rock to Reggae, from Punk to Pop, Main Street has entertained crowds large and small over the years.

## BANDS THAT HAVE PLAYED ON MAIN

(an extremely incomplete list)

*Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, The Allman Brothers, The Dave Matthews Band, Metallica, George Thorogood and the Destroyers, Robin Trower, David Crosby, Eddie Money, Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, Bonnie Raitt, Chubby Checker, Iggy Pop, Blue Oyster Cult, Bo Diddley, Hall and Oates, Bad Company, Barenaked Ladies, De La Soul, The Psychedelic Furs*

PHOTO COURTESY OF UD LIBRARIES

## THE STONE BALLOON JOURNEY

Hall and Oates have partied on Main Street. The Pointer Sisters, too. The Rolling Stones almost did, but time wasn't quite on their side.

In the pantheon of rock legends from the '70s, '80s and '90s, you'd be hard pressed to find one who hasn't heard of a tiny street in Newark, Delaware. Or more specifically, a bar.

Named after a café in the Virgin Islands, the Stone Balloon would become a music legend soon after its Feb. 22, 1972, debut, a success that founder and owner Bill Stevenson, BE72, attributes to one man.

"Bruce changed Main Street," Stevenson says of the Aug. 13, 1974, concert that brought Springsteen to Delaware. "He put the Stone Balloon on the map. The bigger he got, the bigger we got."

Opening as other businesses shuttered and the Vietnam War claimed more lives, the Stone Balloon offered a much-

needed reprieve. Its motto was simple: Great music, good fun, no food.

"I wanted to make it like Woodstock, but smaller," Stevenson says.

Indeed, he did. From 1972 to 2005, thousands of bands, big and small, rocked the joint, with thousands more in attendance. It's a great point of pride for Stevenson, and a great source of love.

"It always amazes me how often the Stone Balloon still comes up in conversations," he says. "It was a special place for so many people for so many years." 🐦

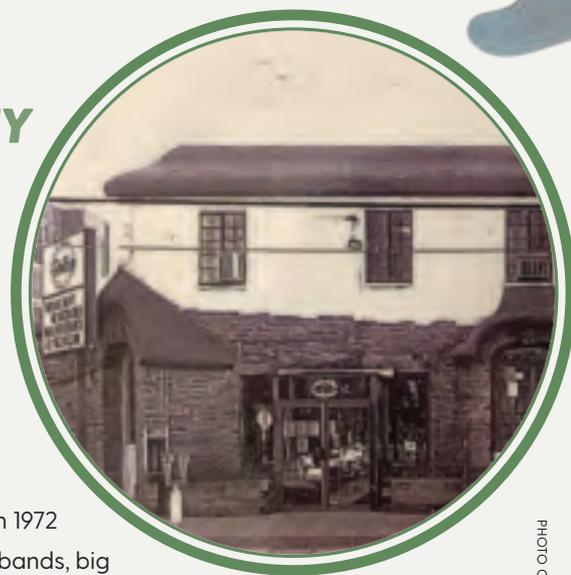


PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY TORREY ASB7

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ERIC RUTH



ERIC RUTH

“We merged I-95 and Main Street. People stopped driving by and started driving in.”

Bill Stevenson, BE72



EVAN KRAPE

# WHAT'S NEW on Main Street?

*The Main Street of today is no less vibrant than the one from your memories. Here are some of the newer stores and spots from your favorite street.*

**Peach Blossom Eatery:** Inspired by the old Post House diner, with its open kitchen and long counter, this new breakfast and lunch destination features homemade meals.

**Hamilton's on Main:** An expansion of Hamilton's Tavern 1840 in West Virginia, the new location in Newark aims to bring approachable fine dining to the town.

**Hyatt Hotel:** Construction has not yet begun on a new 104-room Hyatt Hotel and apartment building, to be erected directly behind the century-old Green Mansion at the far end of Academy Street and Main.

**Rooted on Main:** Designed to bring the community together through local art, jewelry and goods, this new boutique follows in the tradition of such established favorites as Grassroots and Bloom

**The Little French Café:** A taste of France can be found in the coffee shop previously occupied by Brewed Awakenings.

**Oishii Ocean Japanese & Cajun Seafood:** Main Street is expanding its cultural culinary roots with these two unique cuisines.

**Made 2 Order:** A new burger joint with, you guessed it, made-to-order burgers, M2O is quickly becoming a go-to destination for students and locals alike.

## How did you do?

1. the State Theatre | 2. “Yes, there was a riot on Main and it started with streaking. Which is kinda fun to say as a sentence,” says Lisa Gensel, UD’s archivist. | 3: The British army, a.k.a. “The Redcoats.” | 4. Cheeburger Cheeburger, Newark Diner, Jimmy’s Diner, Jude’s Diner and Korner Diner. Soon destined to be a Five Guys | 5. Edgar Allan Poe | 6. Klondike Kate’s | 7. 75.

# MARY MEANS



KATHY F. ATKINSON



(small)

# BUSINESS

by  
JOANN GRECO

**Thanks to her early efforts to help small towns stay relevant, Mary Means and “Main Street” have become practically synonymous. Lately, she’s taken stock of a lifetime of triumphs.**

**I**t wasn't until very recently that Mary Means, AS76M, realized how big an impact her career had made.

It started decades ago, when as a young preservationist, she led a nationwide effort to revitalize America's small towns. What began as a grassroots network grew into a national movement now known as Main Street America.

Over the years, in the interest of keeping their commercial corridors resilient, vital and relevant, some 1,600 towns have embraced the core approach that Means and her colleagues developed – a recipe that blends organization, design, promotion and economic vitality to build a thriving local economy and create vibrant public spaces.

According to the organization, the economic impact of the towns' initiatives includes nearly \$90 billion in reinvestment, with some 150,000 new businesses creating more than 650,000 jobs. Not incidentally, the program can also boast the rehabilitation of about 300,000 downtown buildings

Together, these stats unspool one epic narrative. But thousands of smaller success stories lay behind the scenes. They involve the folks restocking shelves at the bookstore and proffering treats at the pet shop, the ones exhibiting patient souls at the toy shop and patent soles at the shoe store. These entrepreneurs, and those who came before them, have battled urban decline and population exodus, the growth of malls, the

## “A LOTTA LITTLE”

**A lot of little efforts made by a lotta ordinary people can add up to a great deal.**



KATHY F. ATKINSON

**The Main Street  
America Program  
founded by  
Mary Means, AS76M,  
has helped towns across  
the country open  
150,000 new businesses  
and create more than  
650,000 jobs.**

surge in online retailing, economic downturns and, now, a pandemic that just won't quit. Means calls the secret sauce in the program's success "a lotta little." As in, a lot of little efforts made by a lotta ordinary people can add up to a great deal.

So, no wonder the woman who started it all found herself sitting at a luncheon of the American Planning Association, an invited honoree who had been designated 2019's National Planning Pioneer. The award is conferred on members of the profession who have made innovative contributions to the nation's urban planning efforts.

"As I was called to the stage, they started playing a video," she recalls. "And they were reading off all those numbers about jobs created and businesses started, and my jaw just dropped. I had no idea. I thought, 'This thing is really big and yet no one knows about it!'"

She thought, "I really should write a book about it."

The resulting title, *Main Street's Comeback: And How It Can Come Back Again*, reads as part biography-part manifesto. "Mary blazed her own path professionally," says Randall Mason, who penned the book's foreword. Now a professor in historic preservation and

city and regional planning at the University of Pennsylvania, he spent the early years of his career working for the consulting firm that Means opened in the '80s. "Not only did she launch the hugely influential Main Street program but she combined preservation, planning, management consulting and communications in very creative ways," he observes.

Means had just completed the final chapter of the book— "about how wonderfully 'main street' as a concept had turned out" — when COVID-19 began making headlines. "I was petrified," she says. "It really felt like this was it, that these towns would never recover." She spent three or four months bingeing television series and gardening and "trying to avoid figuring out how I was going to finish this book." She eventually got down to writing again, moving from a celebratory tone to a more cautious one. "In the end, though, I do think these communities are going to recover," she says.

Means points out that during the pandemic, Main Street organizations helped many of their merchants set up online presences, apply for rescue funds and advocated on their behalf for municipalities to ease regulations like those that govern

parking, liquor sales and outdoor dining. “There was a trust built up among these people who shared a vision for what their collective downtowns could be.”

The lessons behind Main Street America’s history and its continued strength are important ones to consider “for those throwing zillions of dollars at a company to try and get it to open a factory that promises 800 jobs and delivers a fraction of that,” she continues.

Whether we call it First or State, Peachtree or Magazine or, indeed, Main Street, our town’s commercial center is the “heart of our community,” Means says. “It’s where we bump into our neighbors, where we celebrate and mourn, where transactions happen. Before the automobile came along and enabled us to travel more than 3 or 4 miles away, it was the setting for our entire life, the center of our entire world.”

Means recognized that idea early. As a child growing up in Atlanta, her family lived for a time in a historic neighborhood called Ansley Park. “One of my earliest memories is Fiske’s toy store, where my mother parked me and my siblings while she shopped for groceries,” she says. “Mr. Fiske treated us like real customers. He showed us new toys that had come in and helped us set up his version of layaway plans.”

Having a father as an architect – and a classicist, at that – honed young Mary’s sense of appreciation for old, walkable places like Savannah, where in 1968 she joined him at the annual conference of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “It was amazing to meet all of these kindred spirits working in the field,” Means says. “I was in college at Michigan State and all of a sudden I knew that I wanted to go to

graduate school.”

Other universities offered degrees in historic preservation, but she chose Delaware, lured by the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture. While there, she learned two things. She didn’t want to pursue a career in academia and she wasn’t interested in becoming a connoisseur.

She wanted to do stuff. Her first stop: the Philadelphia Historical Commission, where she spent a summer internship helping write (ultimately successful) nominations for structures like Pennsylvania Hospital and City Hall to be added to the National Register of Historic Places. Now, Means says, when she’s in Philadelphia to teach or attend a meeting – she lives a few hours away in Silver Spring, Maryland – she looks up at a flourishing classic building such as the Reading Terminal Market and says, ‘wow, I did that’. A stint at the National Register itself followed before Means landed at the very organization whose assemblage had sent her on this path – the National Trust.

Hired to open a Chicago field office to foster local preservation in the Midwest, Means spent her days driving around a territory that included 10 states. She gawked at the vernacular courthouses and libraries that grounded these small towns, gaining an appreciation for their quality and significance. “I looked at these buildings and these main streets and saw what an amazing resource they

were,” she recalls. “They were just taken for granted.”

Excited, she called her father to tell him about her new job and its revelations. After a moment of silence, he responded: “Sweetie, there’s nothing worth preserving there.”

Still, Means persisted and, as she details in her new book, what was to become the National Main Street Center at the National Trust for Historical Preservation took off. A pilot program tackled three small towns with a mission of showing residents and owners the beauty and value of their downtown buildings; then a statewide initiative expanded to include another 30. The program mushroomed from there, garnering national media attention and accolades. Means ends her book on a hopeful note by observing that the “power of ‘Main Street’ as a core value in the American imagination” has saved it again and again. “May it continue to be so,” she writes. 🐦

## MAIN STREET

**“It’s where we bump into our neighbors, where we celebrate and mourn, where transactions happen. Before the automobile came along and enabled us to travel more than 3 or 4 miles away, it was the setting for our entire life, the center of our entire world.”**



Skin = deep  
Scholarship



# BLUE HEN DAVID LANE UNCOVERS THE SECRET WORLD OF TATTOOS

By Eric Ruth, AS93

Staring into the barrel of the gun pointed at his head, David Lane didn't realize at first that he was also looking directly into his future.

In those days, he was a carefree skateboarding punk, a young man with a bachelor's degree but scant forward momentum. The time seemed right to take a break, to float in sea-breezy limbo at the beach, surfing and chilling in the sun.

Then, that night in Ocean City, Maryland, a robber descended on him, beating his friend and pulling a pistol on Lane, AS13PhD. The chance encounter, and those fearsomely existential seconds as a human target, would trigger his transformation from skatepunk to scholar.

Days after his brush with early death, he applied for graduate school in sociology feeling at last he had some direction, along with a fresh and fiery curiosity: What pushed this man to attack? What bigger forces shape those whom society considers "deviant"?

Those questions would soon pull him further and further toward the fringes of society, into the realms of less-conformist, more-mysterious subcultures. When it was time to choose a doctoral thesis, the Baltimore native again looked toward himself: To the swirling, colorful tattoos that now adorn half his body, and to the culture of tattooing that had always fascinated him.

In the world of academic sociology, it was a shadowy place that few had dared touch.

"I kept asking what's new here, what can I add," says Lane, now a criminal justice professor at Illinois State University who recently taught one of the nation's few (if not only) college

PHOTO COURTESY OF ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

# I LIKE TO SAY I ONLY HAVE FOUR TATTOOS, BUT THEY COVER MAYBE 50% OF MY BODY.”

— DAVID LANE, AS13PHD

**GOT ANY BLUE HEN INK?** If so, we'd love to see your UD-inspired body art (fit for family consumption, of course). Pictured here is a tattoo from the very first YoUDee mascot, Robert Boudwin, BE97. "It was the first tattoo of YoUDee and my personal first of 136 more to come," says Boudwin, who also had a notable career as Clutch the Bear from the Houston Rockets.



courses on tattooing. "And I wake up and the thought in my mind is, 'I don't want to read anything else about, "Why do people have tattoos?" and "What do they mean?"' It seemed like every journal article was about that.

"Then I realized, nobody was doing anything about the tattoo workers," says Lane, who has expanded the work he began at UD into a new book, *The Other End of the Needle: Continuity and Change among Tattoo Workers*. He would find that, contrary to common perceptions of them as solitary, counter-establishment artists (which in some ways they still are), tattooists also inhabit their own informal, but highly stratified social realm, filled with traditions and structure.

As Lane writes in his book: "Tattooists operate independently, and need to be self-sufficient with a DIY ethic, but they are also interdependent on one another for the exchange of knowledge and materials. Tricks of the trade are hard fought, something only to be passed on to trusted associates. You had to earn the right to get the knowledge."

It's a world that also seems perpetually focused on its own past, Lane discovered, and one that tends to be far less concerned with contemporary society or the profession's future.

"Tattooists don't work in isolation. This book is about the collective culture they sustain. It's a vivid world, but it's a world

we don't know much about," says Lane. He would find a sharp contrast between the tattoo culture and other "trades" that seek to align professionals behind a common set of values. The centralized, regimented training found in trade schools is frowned upon, because that would mean you paid to learn your craft.

Instead, fledgling tattooists are expected to seek (and follow) the mentorship of experienced pros, who then orally pass down the deeply held traditions: An apprentice never, ever sets

up shop in the same town as his mentor. A tattooist is his own boss. Until recently, notions of rules and codes were staunchly resisted in favor of self-regulation.

"They also have a whole history of travelling as a tattooist and seeing the country as they worked. They went to where the people were. It really resonates with our American value set, our urge to hit the road," Lane says. "It's inherently part of the mindset. They think travel and freedom is something they need."

That freedom to explore this esoteric topic was fostered here at UD, Lane says, by such inspiring sociology and criminal justice scholars as Profs. Joel Best, Tammy Anderson, Anne Bowler and Benigno Aguirre. An hour before his UD doctoral hooding in 2013, Lane had received a job offer from the University of South Dakota, where he would soon be sending students out into the tattoo subculture as part of his unique course.

Today, having packed up and moved from too-frequently-frigid Vermillion, South Dakota, to a more temperate Midwest locale, Lane's tattoo courses are on hold, but he has found new fire, and embraced a more customer-focused line of tattoo research, which explores the role ink can play in grieving and healing.

"There are people who have gotten tattoos as part of the

process of moving past trauma,” Lane says of the people he is interviewing for his new research. “They see it as a way to conceive of themselves as having power and control of their bodies, so you see tattoos being used therapeutically by anorexics, even self-cutters, victims, veterans and those who have lost loved ones.”

Often, they prefer to keep their tattoo’s significance secret, even as its presence serves to untether them from pain. “It’s been a bit shocking and a bit horrific at the same time,” he says. “You just don’t know some of the horrors people have experienced, and how resilient they are about it. To them, these tattoos represent freedom, self-control, even liberation.”

He’s also discovered (to his delight) that his new school has

something of a fascination with fringe culture itself. In the library at Illinois—located, of all places, in the city of Normal—there’s a formidable collection of circus history material, fed by the area’s long legacy as an off-season home for travelling circuses.

Circuses, he knows, quite often come with (you guessed it) tattooed circus workers and performers.

So, as he takes yet another dive toward the wild side, he senses that in a way, his old UD professors will be along for the ride.

“They were the people who believed in me and encouraged me when maybe there wasn’t that much evidence on the table of my success,” he says. “By them believing in me, it encouraged me to see my full potential.” 🐦

## BOOK EXCERPT: HIGH ART vs. STREET SHOPS

Take a peek into Prof. David Lane’s new book, *The Other End of the Needle: Continuity and Change among Tattoo Workers*. (Excerpted with permission from Rutgers University Press.)

Traditionally, scholarship divides tattoo work into two ideal types, the street shop and the high art studio. [But] a class-based model falls short in explaining how tattooists create and sustain cultural divisions within their world.

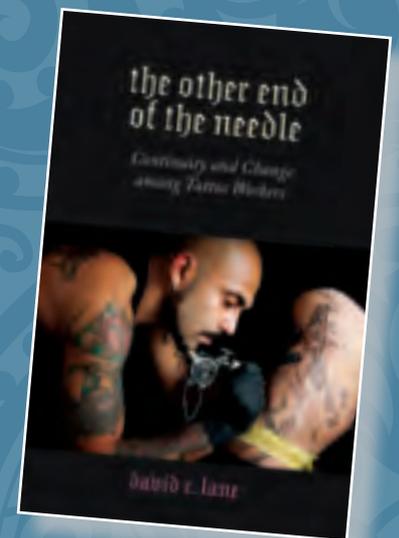
Craftsmen orient their work around the time-bound traditions of tattooing. They have a reward system that values the traditional, established way of doing things. This way of doing things involves passing on traditions from mentor to mentee. These tattooists work within established channels and attempt to uphold these traditions as an honorific component of the occupation.

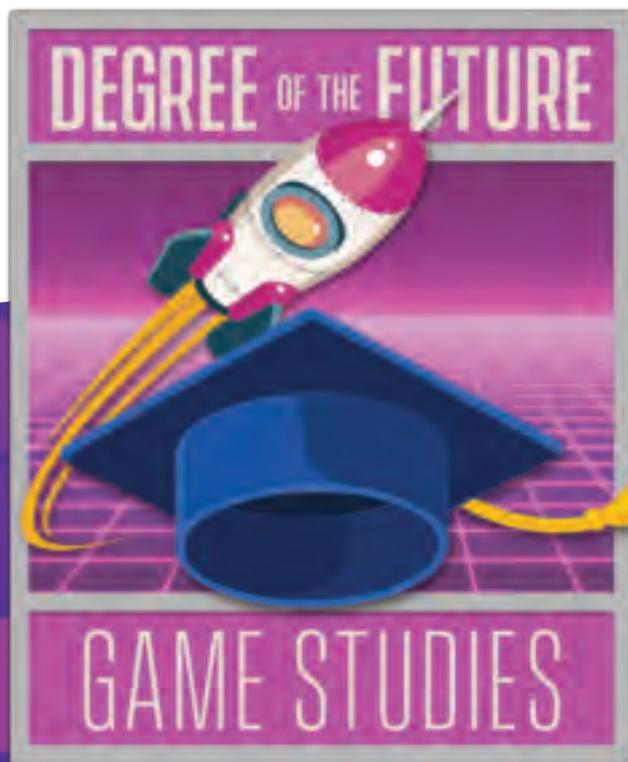
Artists, on the other hand, have their own hierarchy. Their reward system values artistic freedom. They seek to grow as artists, and view tattooing as another medium to explore their artistic talents. Those who are artists value their creative freedom and are often at the forefront of promoting new aesthetics that may become legitimated genres of tattoos. Just like craftsmen, those at the top of this hierarchy have

more freedom and control over their work than those at the bottom.

Tattoo work requires cooperation between craftsmen and artists. Artists rely on the craftsmen to produce tools and materials. Craftsmen rely on artists to create new aesthetics and push the boundaries of the craft. Those in the craft hierarchy spend more of their time working on the tools and technical aspects of tattooing. Those in the art hierarchy are more interested in the art of tattooing.

At the bottom of this world are the shopless and scratcher tattooists. The shopless encompass all those cast as outsiders by the established tattoo world. These tattooists, usually untrained or self-taught, have entered the occupation without following the accepted cultural code. In other words, they are discredited for lacking honor. There is a subset of shopless called scratchers, who are a folk devil, which established tattooists pin the evils of tattooing upon. 🐦





**75%**  
of U.S. households  
own a video  
game device.

futures in a field once laughed off as folly. Now, in a shift that might have seemed inconceivable 10 or 20 years ago, the University of Delaware has decided to get even more serious about so-called “fun and games.”

This digitized wave in higher education gathered momentum last year, when UD established its first “eSports” teams, plunging headfirst into this distinctly 21st century take on athleticism. Soon, that tide will also touch the classroom, as UD kicks off its first undergraduate degree program in “Game Studies,” an innovative new effort to prepare students – techies and creative-types alike – for careers in this high-rolling industry.

“It’s going to give our University a big advantage, taking the leap into this industry,” says Gary Chang, a UD art professor who will teach the program’s course on the art and design of games. “The students will actually be sharing and merging their knowledge from different perspectives, from the style and art to the computer science perspective, which gives them hands-on skills of programming.”

UD’s new effort isn’t the first “gaming” degree in the country, but by all indications, it is among the most holistic and inclusive. While other universities focus more on technical aspects of game studies, UD is aiming to make it a major

**N**ot so long ago, a game was just a game.

Those were the days of Pac-Man and Pong, of seemingly shiftless youngsters idling away in noisy arcades and secluded bedrooms – cut off from the world and doomed to a slacker’s destiny.

Times sure have changed.

Witness now the real revenge of the nerds: Electronic gaming has grown into a \$170 billion-a-year industry, and three in four American households have a game device in their homes. Gaming companies awash in revenue are screaming for workers, and serious scholars are making careers dissecting the cultural impacts of gaming.

Even better, UD graduates are already building successful (and lucrative)

**65%**  
of adults play video  
games.



“WE HAVE COURSES ON DIVERSITY IN GAMING, SEX/VIOLENCE IN THE MEDIA, ETHNIC AND CULTURAL STUDIES. WE’RE ALSO ONE OF THE ONLY PROGRAMS THAT OFFERS A CONCENTRATION IN ESPORTS MANAGEMENT.”

—Prof. Phillip Penix-Tadsen

that embraces all abilities, tapping the potential of aspiring writers, artists, musicians and engineers alike.

“You don’t have to be a particular kind of student to benefit from this program,” says Rachael Hutchinson, a professor of Japanese studies who has done extensive research on game culture in Japan. “Whatever interests you have, we want to be able to build on those.”

Hutchinson spearheaded the program’s conception with Phillip Penix-Tadsen, a professor who has studied game culture in Latin America. They’re now recruiting for the 2022-23 freshman class and have lined up a curriculum of core courses, ranging from art and design, to writing game narratives, to coding the game program itself. Students will also gain a uniquely “meta” perspective on gaming, through courses that examine gaming’s broader impacts on society.

**\$91,080:**  
*Video game designers’  
median salary.*

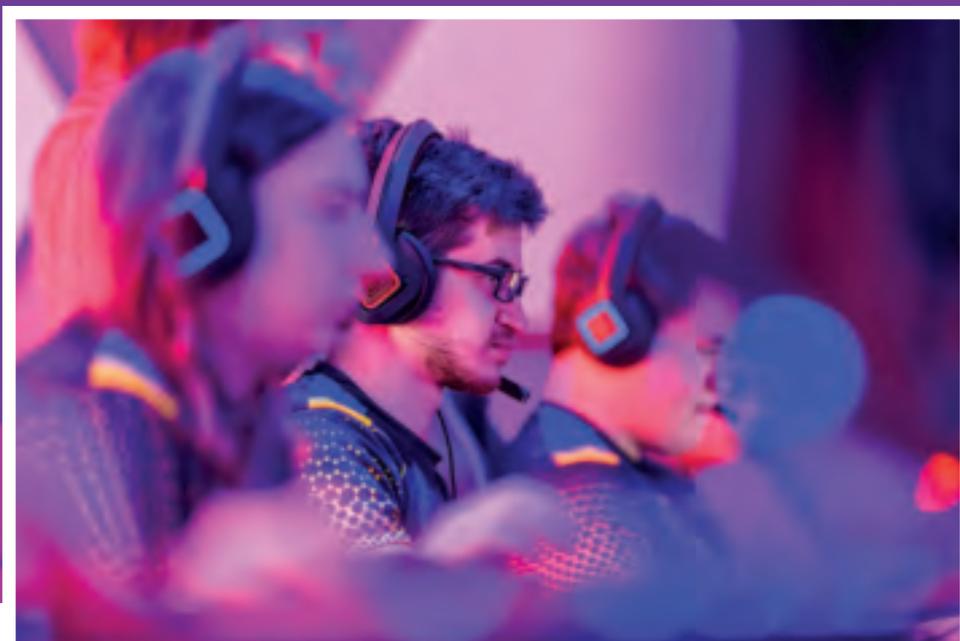
“Those are things that you’ll seldom see included in other programs,” Penix-Tadsen says. “We have courses on diversity in gaming, sex/violence in the media, ethnic and cultural studies. We’re also one of the only programs that offers a concentration in eSports management.”

As students from across the interest spectrum gravitate toward the new major, so will UD’s professors, who are being enlisted from nine departments within three UD colleges. Building off UD’s existing minor in Game Studies, the program lets students choose from three primary pathways: Games, Culture and Society; Game Design and Development; Game Industry and eSport Management.



“YOU DON’T HAVE TO BE  
A PARTICULAR KIND OF  
STUDENT TO BENEFIT  
FROM THIS PROGRAM.  
WHATEVER INTEREST  
YOU HAVE, WE WANT  
TO BE ABLE TO BUILD  
ON THOSE.”

—Prof. Rachael Hutchinson



EVAN KRAPE

*There are more than*  
**2.5 BILLION**  
*gamers around the  
world.*

UD’s new undergraduate degree in Game Studies is among the most holistic in the country.

70%

of parents believe video games have a positive influence on their children's lives.

41%

of U.S. gamers are women.



“THE STUDENTS WILL ACTUALLY BE SHARING AND MERGING THEIR KNOWLEDGE FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES, FROM THE STYLE AND ART TO THE COMPUTER SCIENCE PERSPECTIVE, WHICH GIVES THEM HANDS-ON SKILLS OF PROGRAMMING.”

—Prof. Gary Chang

“For an interdisciplinary major to go across three colleges is pretty unique,” Hutchinson says.

Part of the major’s appeal lies in gaming technology’s increasing relevance to a variety of “nongaming” endeavors. More businesses are turning to gaming technologies to train employees and help shape workplace environments, and game-derived “virtual reality” technology is already helping patients in rehabilitation therapy.

Meanwhile, postgraduation opportunities abound in the Mid-Atlantic: Nintendo’s U.S. headquarters is in Washington, D.C.; there are dozens of independent game studios in Philadelphia and Baltimore; and major industry players like Bethesda Softworks and Rockstar Games are within a couple hours’ drive from Newark.

At UD, organizers hope to hire six or seven new professors for the major and aim to have internships in game-related

industries in place within four years. A capstone seminar will allow students to work on individual and collaborative game-development projects. Strong student interest in UD’s existing game courses hints at future success for the program, and early momentum should be energized by more than a decade of interdisciplinary faculty scholarship that has already been done on game-related topics.

“It was a long time coming, but there was a lot of work done in previous years that led up to this,” Hutchinson says. “We had to put aside our academic differences and ask, ‘What does a student want to get out of this?’ We really tried to take away some of the obstacles that kept students out of the minor. We didn’t want people looking at it and thinking, ‘This major’s not for me.’”

—Eric Ruth, AS93

\$180.1 BILLION

Expected video game profits in 2021

Sources: Gamesindustry.biz, Gamingscan.com, WePC, ESA, Statista



EVAN KRAPE

## VIRTUALLY PERFECT

*Alina Christenbury sees a new world within reach*

When she was just 4 years old, Alina Christenbury would get so annoyed with her uncle when he wouldn't let her load the disc into his video game player.

Today, that spirit of expectation-defying precociousness still lives in this UD doctoral student and future boundary-breaker. Charmingly effervescent, astonishingly ambitious and seemingly predestined to be a leader, this Millsboro, Delaware, native has already started her own video game label, founded a group that aims to catalyze the game industry in Delaware and led a project that aims to bring "virtual reality" ever closer to our daily lives.

She senses it is all coming together now, as the world enters the age of Big Gaming.

"The games industry is bigger than films and movie and maybe music combined. The numbers are wild," says Christenbury, EG19, who is now pursuing her graduate degree in computer science. "I view it as a whole other medium. It's a bit more than music, it's a bit more than film, it's all of them combined into one. There's so much potential to make new and interesting games."

And so she churns forward, leveraging the tech-immersed momentum she has built since childhood. She has been a gamer "all her life," developing educational games for children, and now pursuing next-generation advances in virtual and augmented realities – technologies that can pull the user into an immersive digital experience.

"I've always been into making them and figuring out how to make them tick. I want to make one that people will love as much as the ones I've loved," says the eldest of seven siblings.

She sees a time not too far away when augmented reality will be able to help people learn how to play guitar, piano or other instruments. She envisions virtual reality technology that will open an unseen view of human experience.

"It will allow us to experience scenarios and events that would otherwise be impossible or deadly, like exploring the surface of Mars or an active volcano," she says. "No matter what your passion is, you can make a game out of it." 🐦

**"THIS IS THE MEDIUM OF THE FUTURE. IT'S VERY ANALOGOUS TO THE TRANSFORMATION OF BOOKS TO FILM, AND IT'S GOING TO HAVE AN EXTRAORDINARY IMPACT ON THE WAY WE LIVE OUR LIVES."**

—Alina Christenbury, EG19, 22M,  
on augmented reality and virtual  
reality technology

**ON THE WEB** | [www.delawaregamescollective.org](http://www.delawaregamescollective.org).  
Christenbury founded this group to bring together game makers, developers and artists in Delaware.



# TALKING TRASH AND FIGHTIN' DIRTY

**Jon Merryman, EOE85, is on a mission to clean the planet, one piece of litter at a time**

BY ARTIKA RANGAN CASINI, AS05

Here's a dirty little secret about human behavior that we can often spot in others but rarely see in ourselves: People are trashy.

Literally. We throw our trash everywhere. From Beverly Hills to Baltimore, Berlin to Bombay. Where there are people, there is trash. It's littered on our streets, tossed beside garbage cans, strewn at our feet in lazy indifference, a veritable ocean of junk too endless, too overwhelming, too gross to touch.

And so there it stays. Crumbling. Decomposing. Polluting our planet ... until Jon Merryman comes along.

Armed with a pair of gloves, work boots, and some heavy-duty canisters and garbage bags, Merryman, EOE85, is waging a one-man crusade against haphazard waste. For more than a decade now, the geography alumnus has traversed highways and waterways, bridges and bays, cities and suburbs, picking up the trash that others leave behind.

"So much of this is not seen by others," he says. "I seek it out. I know where people tend to dump their junk."

In short, it's everywhere. But junk is especially prevalent in the places we rarely visit: behind grocery stores, at rest stops, on highway ramps. "Storm drains are like targets for people because nobody will see it disappear," he says.

Since he began his trash-picking efforts in 2008, Merryman has been to 28 states, collecting more than half a million pounds of trash, "and that's a conservative estimate." This is partly because trash is hard to weigh and even harder to compare. For



**"I MIGHT NEVER MEET  
MY GREAT-GRANDKIDS...  
BUT I CARE ABOUT THE  
WORLD THEY'LL INHERIT.  
WE GOTTA BE ON  
THE SAME TEAM."**

instance, a bag of Styrofoam is far lighter than a bag of beer bottles, but both harm their surrounding ecosystems in long-lasting ways.

Just how long is difficult to say. The Native Americans believe that we must think seven generations ahead, and the ancient Iroquois philosophy resonates with Merryman. "I might never meet my great-grandkids," the 59-year-old says. "But I care about the world they'll inherit. We gotta be on the same team."

Building that future begins today. For Merryman, it started 13 years ago. That's when the software developer took a lunch break from his Lockheed



Martin desk job to venture to the Patapsco Valley State Park, located just behind his office in Hanover, Maryland. With sandwich in hand, he saw beer cans, a motorcycle, even a washing machine dumped beside the nearby Deep Run creek. "Somebody's really got to clean this up," he thought to himself.

On his second lunch visit, a bald eagle—the first he'd ever seen in Maryland—soared above his head, and in that moment, Merryman knew. Nobody else was coming. If the area was ever to get cleaned, he would need to do it himself.

"You can do a lot by yourself," he explains, "especially when you're not doing it for yourself."

Merryman, with occasional help from his Lockheed coworkers, spent the next five years transforming the creek from "dead zone" to sustainable habitat. Today, he sees at least one bald eagle a year, along with beaver, river otters, kingfishers, herons, owls, even a coyote.

Meanwhile, he keeps picking up trash anywhere he sees it. On his clean-up missions, Merryman has found the wacky, weird and downright disturbing. He's seen sex dolls, portable toilets, satellite dishes, newspaper boxes, a frog trapped inside a Gatorade bottle, shopping carts from long-shuttered businesses, bowling balls, hundreds of Christmas village accessories still encased in Styrofoam, an airport luggage trailer, a heart-shaped Jacuzzi, bags of human waste, giant stuffed animals, a 450-pound cast iron tub and his greatest pet peeve of all: tires.

Tires have been dumped for decades, and finding them is like



KATHY F. ATKINSON

unearthing relics of our ancient, trashy past. In 2013, Merryman sought to remove 1,000 tires by the year's end; by March, he had already exceeded his goal. Upstream of U.S. Route 1, on one section of the Patapsco River, Merryman has removed a few hundred tires, "but whenever there's a big storm, more appear, like magic."

He has also found dismaying government apathy—and worse. "One county was dumping all their old tires in the woods behind their maintenance yard," he fumes. "County government! I snuck in there, rolled and carried all 304 tires to the nearest road, then reported them to the same county to be cleaned up."

And so Merryman does what others won't. He walks his dog with a bucket backpack for any roadside junk he finds. He spends 10-20 hours a week on his volunteer vocation, though that number will surely increase upon his upcoming retirement. And he manages two Facebook groups, where he notices the growing tendency to vilify others.

"People often point the blame somewhere else: 'It's those people.' 'Those guys are pigs,'" Merryman says of social media's divisive commentary. "It's everybody, or a percentage of everybody. Everybody's doing it and has been doing it. Trash is overflowing from every rural county, every city block. It's all of us. We're all responsible for this crap."

It's a responsibility that could feel futile if it weren't for Merryman's contagious optimism. A former UD cheerleader, he doesn't dwell on the "millionfold still to get." Instead, he looks at each pile he collects and says, "There's that much less out there."

And so he keeps walking and working, trash bag in hand, to make this blue marble slightly cleaner for ourselves and our kids, and for the great-great-great-great grandchildren still to come. 🐦

## THE WEIRD AND THE WACKY

Just some of the bizarre bits of trash Merryman has found over the years



Giant stuffed animals



Bowling balls



Old tires



450-pound cast iron tub



Newspapers



Shopping carts from long-shuttered businesses



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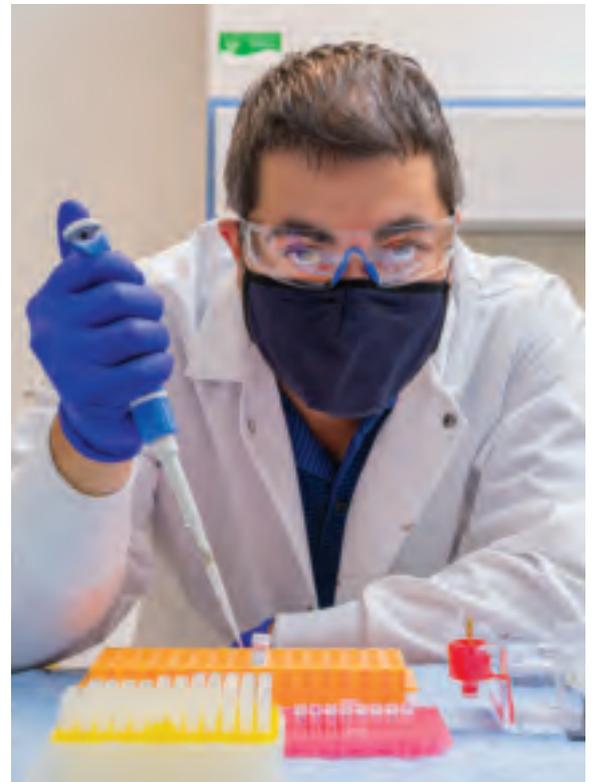
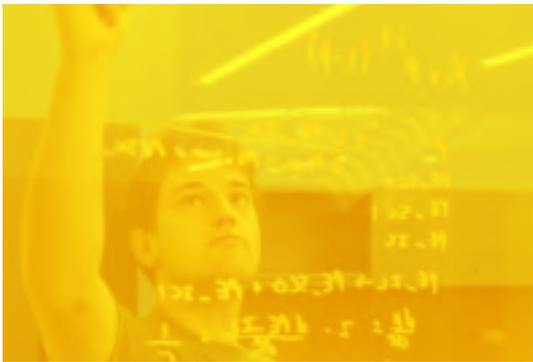
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 DELAWARE FIRST  
**DRIVING TOWARD \$1 BILLION**



# FIRST AND FORWARD

On October 7, 2021, University of Delaware President Dennis Assanis announced the extension of **Delaware First: The Campaign for the University of Delaware** with an ambitious goal of \$1 billion—a bold, historic goal to raise more support for UD’s people, programs and places.

Since the Campaign’s launch, more than 100,000 donors—alumni, friends, parents, students and employees—have helped transform campus, create unparalleled opportunities, enhance unique experiences and more.

Fueled by the generosity of **Delaware First** donors, the UD’s students, faculty and staff are making impactful discoveries, breaking down barriers and making their mark on the world already. Support—of any amount—through the extended Campaign gives even more students access to a UD education, enhances their Blue Hen experiences and ensures they are well-equipped to tackle the grand challenges of today and tomorrow.

## THE FUTURE OF PHILANTHROPY AT UD

**Delaware First** is the largest fundraising and engagement campaign in UD’s more than 275-year history. Its impact to date has propelled the University’s momentum and opened possibilities to what more can be accomplished.

The power of collective giving makes the \$1 billion goal attainable and, once reached, the funding will make a meaningful difference for the UD community and campus. Every gift of every size fuels the initiatives of the next chapter of the Campaign and advances the University’s mission.

The Campaign extension will focus on two themes to advance innovation, growth and discovery:

### REDEFINING STUDENT SUCCESS: EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACROSS DISCIPLINES

From a central hub for student programs to experiential learning to competitive and recreational athletics to wellbeing resources, the opportunities outside of the classroom are just as critical to those inside. The transformational experiences—internships,

research projects, study abroad—give Blue Hens the chance to put their academics into practice, better preparing them for life after UD.

Continued philanthropy will reimagine the student experience with a holistic, hands-on approach to ensure all Blue Hens are growing and thriving while feeling empowered to explore beyond their limits.

### INVENTING TOMORROW: DRIVING SOLUTIONS TO GRAND CHALLENGES

UD’s scholars and scientists are addressing today’s grand societal issues, while also preparing the next generation of changemakers to use logic, collaboration and curiosity to create solutions for tomorrow’s challenges.

**Delaware First** donors will help fund the future of discovery at UD by providing the space, programs and opportunities to drive innovation, ensuring the University community has the necessary resources and support to make an impactful difference far beyond campus.

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# ALUMNI NEWS

## SIT. STAY. DETECT COVID

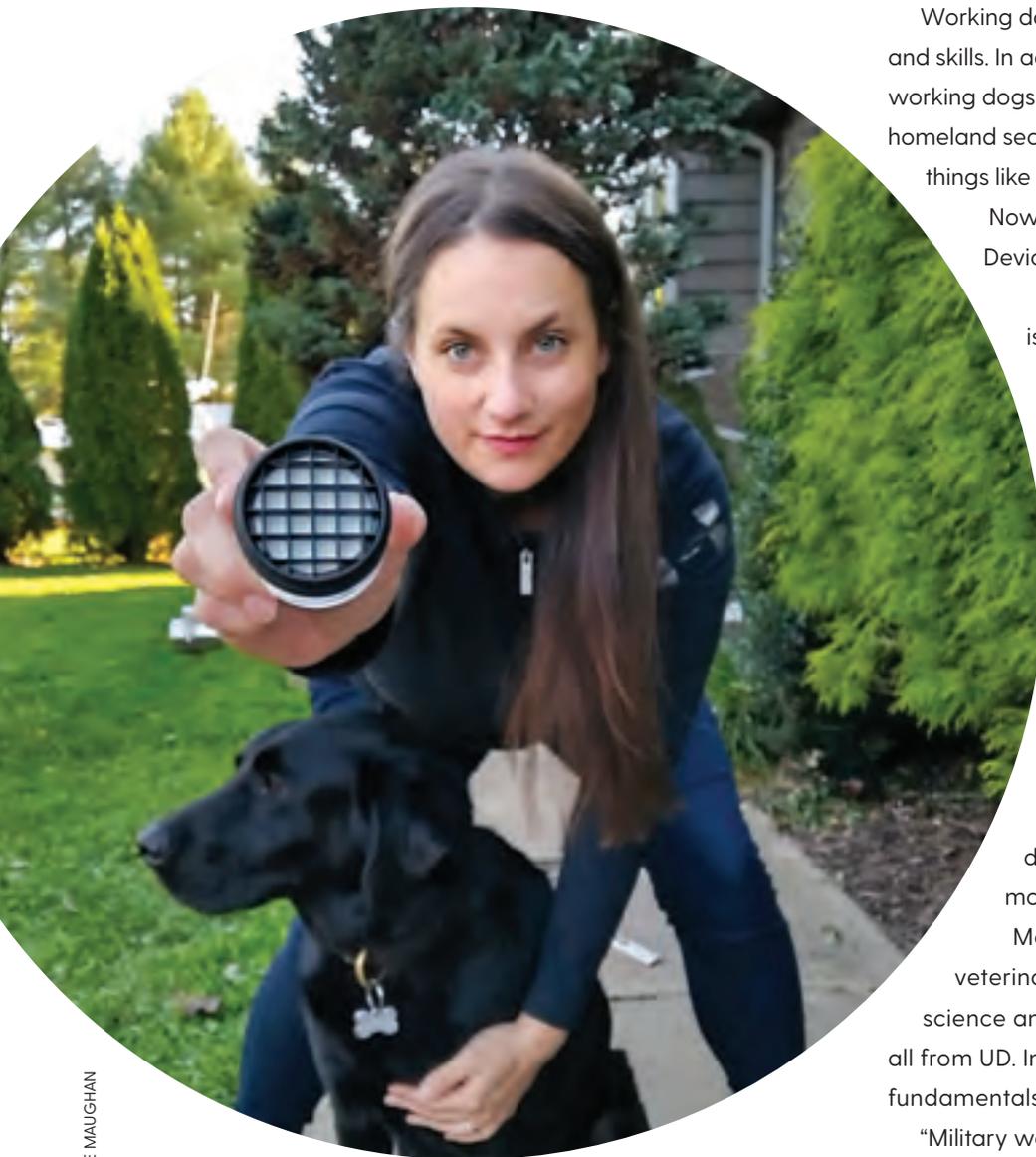


PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELE MAUGHAN

CANR alumna Michele Maughan developed TADD, a containment vessel that allows military working dogs to detect hazardous substances without coming into contact with the particulate itself.

Working dogs are trained to perform a wide array of tasks and skills. In addition to patrol and combat capabilities, military working dogs are also masters of detection, aiding military, homeland security and law enforcement officials in finding things like explosives and narcotics.

Now, with the help of TADD—the Training Aid Delivery Device—they’re sniffing out coronavirus.

Developed by alumna Michele Maughan, TADD is a containment vessel that helps dogs detect a hazardous material by exposing canines to an odor, not to the dangerous particulate.

“We now have thousands of these in the field that are helping to train dogs to detect explosives, drugs, human remains and are even used in conservation to detect endangered species,” says Maughan, ANRO3, O6M, 12PhD, who works as a contract research scientist and program manager for the United States Army.

At the onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic, Maughan and her team saw the demand for rapid virus detection and set out to determine whether military working dogs could be mobilized as an effective screening tool.

Maughan earned a bachelor’s degree in pre-veterinary medicine, a master’s degree in animal science and a doctorate in animal and food sciences, all from UD. In her current role, she’s able to combine fundamentals learned in each of her degree programs.

“Military working dogs are very serious, sometimes terrifying dogs. I immediately raised my hand,” she says. “Not only am I not afraid, but I knew I would love to do this. Now my work is focused on olfactory sciences, which actually incorporates a lot of different components and skills – all gained at UD – that came together really well.” 🐾

—Lauren Bradford

# TOGETHER AGAIN!

## Blue Hens gather at regional events and beyond

From late summer into fall, UD alumni and friends revived regional get-togethers for the first time since the start of the pandemic. In several of the 20-plus established regional Blue Hen networks across the country, Blue Hens and their families reconnected to get crafty, celebrate their Blue and Gold spirit, cheer on their favorite sports teams and indulge in a few special treats.



### SOUTH CENTRAL PA BLUE HENS

Blue Hens met up at Fox Meadows Creamery in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, which was stop number six (of eight!) ice cream shops in an end-of-summer tour.



What's better than chocolate and wine? Chocolate and wine with fellow UD alumni and friends! Blue Hens had the opportunity to take part in this inaugural and exclusive pairing event at Hershey's Chocolate World in September.

### BOSTON BLUE HENS

After meeting at a local bar before the game, Blue Hens cheered on the Red Sox as they took on the Mets at Fenway Park in September. Bonus (for Boston): They won!



### KENT & SUSSEX COUNTY

#### BLUE HENS

Creativity abounds as Blue Hens painted and decorated custom projects at Hammer & Stain in Lewes, Delaware, in September.

### MORE BLUE HENS OUT AND ABOUT:



Ryan Lora, AS13, BE17M, and wife, Angela, a self-proclaimed "Blue Hen at heart," cheer on Delaware at Rutgers Stadium.



UD Football alumni Lamont Watson, AS00, James O'Neal, AS00, Kenneth McNair, BE02, and Ricardo Walker, BSPA03, get together in Northern Jersey



After gifting a portrait of beloved Prof. Peter Williams, who passed away in August 2021, Jason Austin, AS20M, enjoys a meal at Deer Park with Department of Art and Design faculty members Lance Winn, Aaron Terry and Greg Shelnett.



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## FROM WVUD TO THE NHL

With only 32 radio play-by-play jobs in the National Hockey League, landing this role is a one in a million shot. But not for Joe O'Donnell, AS02.

After 16 seasons of minor league hockey, the communication alumnus has achieved his professional dream, taking the reins as an NHL radio announcer for the Minnesota Wild this fall.

A native of Havertown, Pennsylvania, O'Donnell developed his love of hockey early. He played street, roller and ice hockey as a child, but it was as a UD student that he discovered another side to the sport.

During first-year orientation, he stumbled upon WVUD, the University's radio station, and leapt at the chance to join. He started out doing color analysis for hockey games before working as play-by-play hockey broadcaster and, finally, as the student general manager his senior year. As GM and a member of the sports department, O'Donnell helped put together sports schedules, arrange travel and handle the difficult task of negotiating preemptions (in which one broadcast is prioritized over another) with the on-air staff.

"Joe did it with style and grace," says Chuck Tarver, AS94, who served as station manager during O'Donnell's tenure. "Because of his love for hockey, he had to do the preemption dance beyond football and basketball. His enthusiasm helped sell it to the air staff."

WVUD fueled O'Donnell's love of broadcasting and gave him the hands-on experience he needed to break into the field. Soon after graduating, he landed a job as an intern with the Reading Royals and began grinding his way up the NHL radio ladder—a competitive field where "it can be difficult to even get feedback on your work, let alone get a job interview," as O'Donnell explains.

But he earned his way, serving as the play-by-play announcer for the Houston Aeros from 2008-13 and the Iowa Wild from 2013-21, before being formally named play-by-play radio announcer for the Minnesota Wild this past September.

For his friends and WVUD family, the recognition is much deserved. "It's humbling to think that involvement with WVUD led someone to their dream job," says the radio station director Steve Kramarck, AS93. "It's a testament to what the station has meant for so many students over the years and also a testament to Joe's hard work, talent and passion."

For his part, O'Donnell feels the same. "I never would have gotten to this point in my career without the on-air opportunity WVUD afforded me," he says. "And having the chance to work with some great people at WVUD really helped shape me as a broadcaster." 

—Sean Diffendall, AS07



## POWERING THE WORLD WITH HYDROGEN



Hydrogen is so hot right now. And not just because this highly combustible gas burns at around 2,000 degrees. The

chemical element is also trending among developed countries with a vested interest in combating climate change (ahem, all of them). Global leaders are increasingly looking to this clean fuel source as a potential saving grace – er, saving gas.

India, the world's third-largest emitter of planet-killing carbon, is hoping to lead this charge. The nation's prime minister recently announced a National Hydrogen Mission, aiming to become a global hub for the development and export of green hydrogen that could one day power our homes, cars and buildings.

The man creating a roadmap for this clean and independent energy future? Blue Hen Ashish Lele, EG93PhD. Earlier this year, he became director of India's National Chemical Laboratory, or NCL, an internationally recognized research organization.

"I owe much of my career to UD," says Lele, who has six patents to his name. "I learned from the University that to solve

tough problems, you have to go back to the science fundamentals."

Such fundamentals are critical to his latest endeavor. While renewable technologies in clean energy have come a long way, most are intermittent.

You cannot capture wind energy on a breezeless day, for instance, and you cannot capture solar energy at night or in overcast conditions. This means humans must find a way to store such power for use during down periods.

There are several options for this, but hydrogen storage, which Lele is working on refining and scaling, may be the most cost effective.

In this method, energy created by wind or sun can be used to send an electrical current through water, which separates the H from the H<sub>2</sub>O. Later, these separated molecules can be recombined with water, creating the energy to power everyday appliances and machines.

"We call hydrogen storage the Swiss knife of energy transmission, because it can be used to do so many things," says Lele. "You can heat residential spaces, make steel with fewer emissions, run vehicles with less pollution."

That last avenue is an especially

important area of focus, since the transportation sector currently generates a large share of greenhouse gas emissions. To mitigate this problem, the NCL team is working to create a next generation fuel cell, which will do the aforementioned work of combining hydrogen and water to produce electricity in a car or bus. Goodbye, toxic carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide; hello, benign water vapor.

"This is end-to-end technology development," Lele says. "We are figuring out the most efficient way to split the water to get the hydrogen. We are figuring out the most economical way to store this hydrogen – whether in a liquid or gas or solid form. We are working closely with industry to put the fuel cells into a bus and integrate them with the vehicle's control program. And we are determining who can participate in the country's entire hydrogen value chain."

A stress-inducing workload? Yes. "The pressure is huge," Lele confirms. But when things get intense, he can always rely on those foundational principles learned at UD: "I am not joking when I say I still go back to my graduate school notes." 🐔

—Diane Stopyra

# CLASS NOTES

## 1940s

**Bob Hilliard, BA48**, of Sanibel, Fla., was the subject of a WGCU Public Broadcasting television special, *A Force for Freedom: The Robert Hilliard Story*, detailing his efforts to help concentration camp refugees during his military service in World War II.

## 1950s

**Richard A. Passwater, AS59**, of Wilmington, Del., was inducted into the Orthomolecular Medicine Hall of Fame in May 2021 during the 50th annual International Orthomolecular Medicine Conference.

**Jim Lawson, EG59**, of Thousand Oaks, Calif., has retired at 82 after working for BTL/Western Electric, Sperry, Raytheon, CMAC, ITT and National Semiconductor. He continues to volunteer at the Reagan Library, where he served as president of the 400 docents. Lawson has completed 51 marathons and 40 half marathons since 2002 and still hikes, swims and travels to see his two children and family.

## 1960s

**Susan Doherty, AS69**, of Seattle, has taken down the final shingle from the private investigation business

she launched in 1983. "I always attribute my liberal arts education to my success, not monetarily, but in satisfaction and results," she says.

**Greer Firestone, AS69**, of Wilmington, Del., playwright and founder of heartinthegame.org, has published his first historical novel, *Alexei and Rasputin: A novel about a boy who changed the course of history*.

## 1970s

**Andrea Abrams, EHD74**, of Rockville, Md., has published *Bearing Children: A Memoir of Choices*, described by Kirkus Review as "a debut memoir of motherhood that also offers a full-throated defense of abortion rights."

**Michael R. McDowell, ANR75**, of Newark, Del., has coedited, with the late Gary B. Nash, *Writings of Warner Mifflin: Forgotten Quaker Abolitionist of the Revolutionary Era* (University of Delaware Press), which includes the correspondence, petitions, memorials, semi-autobiographical essays and other materials of Warner Mifflin, a Delawarean who was a key figure in the U.S. abolitionist movement between the end of the American Revolution and the Jefferson presidency.

**Terry F. Neimeyer, EG77**, of Parkton, MD, has announced his retirement as chairman of the board for KCI Technologies Inc., in Sparks, Md. He had previously served as president and chief operating officer of the firm.

## 1980s

**Steven Craig Bondy, AS84**, of Alexandria, Va., has been nominated as U.S. ambassador to Bahrain by fellow Blue Hen President Joseph Biden.

**Tracey Brown, EG89**, of Vienna, Va., was named president of retail products and chief customer officer for Walgreens. She had been CEO of the American Diabetes Association.

## 1990s

**Jeff Riegner, EG90**, of Newark, Del., has been named chair of the National Complete Streets Coalition,



Bob Hilliard, BA48



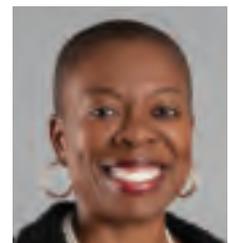
Jim Lawson, EG59



Susan Doherty, AS69



Terry F. Neimeyer, EG77



Tracey Brown, EG89

## SHARE YOUR NEWS

The *Magazine* encourages alumni to send us news to share with your fellow Blue Hens. A new job, a promotion, a personal or professional award ... they're all accomplishments we want to announce.

Email a note or a press release to

[magazine@udel.edu](mailto:magazine@udel.edu)

Please include your hometown, graduation year and college or major.

### COLLEGE DEGREE LEGEND

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- BSPA • Biden School of Public Policy & Administration
- M • master's degree
- PhD
- EdD • doctoral degrees
- DPT
- H • honorary degree



Jeff Riegner, EG90

a consortium of organizations focused on making streets safer and more inclusive. Riegner is vice president of consulting firm WRA.

**Jennifer G. Shorr, AS91**, of Philadelphia, has joined the Weber Gallagher law firm's general liability practice.

**Wendy Van Wyck Good, AS91**, of Pebble Beach, Calif., has published *Sisters in Art*, a biography of California artists Margaret, Esther and Helen Bruton.

**Kristin McGlothlin, AS92**, of Jupiter, Fla., has published her second middle-grade fiction book, *Listen*.

**Dave Chambers, AS92**, of Smyrna, Del., has been named creative content director for the Hook PR & Marketing firm. Chambers is also a full-time abstract expressionist/neo-expressionist artist whose work can be seen at davidwadechambers.com.

**W. Barksdale Maynard, AS94**, of Wilmington, Del., has published *Artists of Wyeth Country: Howard Pyle, N. C. Wyeth and Andrew Wyeth*, which features artist biographies as well as a guidebook for six walking or driving tours in Chadds Ford, Pa.

**Rebecca Carr Wong, AS94**, was selected as site manager for Devils Postpile National Monument at Yosemite National Park in California. She had been monument manager for Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, near Napa County, California.

**Theresa Hessey, AS96**, of Newark, Del., has published *Photographs from the Newark Historical Society*, a book that features historical photos of the city taken in the early 20th century by Ed Herbener, a traveling photographer and postcard salesman based in Newark. Hessey is a senior assistant librarian at UD's Morris Library.



Christian Zwickert, HE96, center, and Christopher Burdick, AS91, right, celebrate the 2021 European Lacrosse Challenge championship.

**Christian Zwickert, HE96**, of Bear, Del., and **Christopher Burdick, AS91**, of Tampa, Fla., were part of the Polish National Senior Men's Lacrosse Team that placed first in the 2021 European Lacrosse Challenge, where they beat Slovakia, Poland u21, Czech Republic, Croatia and Luxemburg in round robin play.

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**Steven Wrenn, EG96M, 99PhD**, of Swarthmore, Pa., has been appointed head of the Department of Chemical Engineering in the College of Engineering at Virginia Tech. He was previously a faculty member in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at Drexel University.

**Melissa Orsen, AS97**, of Manalapan, N.J., has become the first woman to oversee both South Jersey Gas and Elizabethtown Gas. She was formerly senior vice president of South Jersey Industries and president and COO of South Jersey Gas.

**Bonita Green, AS98**, of Wilmington, Del., has been named 2021 Teacher of the Year by the Delaware Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Green is a Spanish teacher at Hodgson Vo-Tech.

**Glynn Willard, HS98**, and **Rose Willard, AS03**, originally of Landenberg, Pa., have embarked on a cross-country

RV trip with their children, Gavin and Zach, and are chronicling their adventures (@resetyourjourney).

### 2000s

**April Veal, AS00, 03**, of Milford, Del., has earned her doctorate in educational leadership from Wilmington University.

**Jeremie Axe, AS04**, of Middletown, Del., welcomed son Palmer James on May 28.

**Patrick Dugan, AS04**, of Bethlehem, Pa., has been named a 2021 Forty Under 40 honoree with Lehigh Valley Business. Duggan is a senior insurance commercial adviser with Brown & Brown.

**Jennifer Cross, AS05**, and **Ben Cross, EG04, 07M**, of Leesburg, Va., welcomed Hattie Jane on March 12, 2021.

**Jennifer Weidler Karpchuk, AS06**, of Radnor, Pa., has been named a



Double Dels Glynn, HS98, and Rose Willard, AS03, have become a full-time RV family of four



Jeremie Axe, AS04, and son Palmer James, cheer on the Hens' first football game from their couch.



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Hattie Jane Cross with big brothers Maxwell and Hudson

“Lawyer on the Fast Track” by The Legal Intelligencer.

**Michelle O’Malley, EG09PhD**, of Santa Barbara, Calif., has been awarded the American Institute of Chemical Engineers 2021 Allan P. Colburn Award, named for the professor who founded UD’s chemical engineering department. The award recognizes contributions through publications by younger institute members. O’Malley is a UC Santa Barbara chemical engineering professor.

**Tracie (Ervin) Ahneman, EG12, and Derek Ahneman, AS12**, of Catonsville, Md., welcomed baby Sophie Elizabeth in March 2021.

**Brett Finnicum, AS13, M17**, of Newark, Del., has published the first book in a series, *An Outcast in Another World: Book 1 - Human Insanity*. The novel combines the fantasy genre with gaming and follows the adventures of Rob, a college sophomore dragged to another world to prevent the same fate from befalling his friend. Upon waking, he quickly discovers that his body is now governed by stats and skills akin to an RPG.



Paul Stoltz, HS10, and Nicole Lombardo, AS11

## 2010s

**Justin Kates, AS10**, of Nashua, N.H., was elected leader for the International Association of Emergency Managers, where he will represent nearly 5,000 emergency management professionals from around the country.

**Monica Sterk Kurek, ANR13**, of Nanuet, N.Y., welcomed twin girls and “future Blue Hens” Violette and Emily in March 2021.

**Paul Stoltz, HS10, and Nicole Lombardo, AS11**, of Hauppauge, N.Y., were married in September 2020 in a small ceremony attended by a number of fellow Blue Hens.

**Anthony Verdi III, EG15**, of Flemington, N.J., proposed to **Samantha Lombardo, AS15**, of Hauppauge, N.Y., on The Green.



*It is with great pleasure and excitement to announce as of July 1, 2021, we changed the name of our firm from Schiavi + Dattani to Clariti Wealth Advisors.*



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- We provide advice and education on a full range of financial matters such as investing, tax planning, estate planning, retirement, insurance, stock compensation, Social Security, Medicare, and education funding
- A team-oriented process
- We provide solutions not products
- Focus on building a knowledgeable team of professionals to help our clients achieve their financial goals
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**Lai Ming Ho, BE16**, of New Castle, Del., has been promoted to senior accountant at Belfint Lyons & Shuman, PA.

**Charles Riordan, BE18**, of Newark, Del., has been promoted to senior accountant at Belfint Lyons & Shuman, PA.

**Drew Naomi Sanclemente, HS18**, of Middletown, Del., was crowned Miss Delaware USA. A former UD Plastino Scholar who climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, Sanclemente credited her "pursue your passion" Plastino experience with giving her the courage to enter both med school and the pageant.

**Jennifer Baczewski, BE19**, of Bear, Del., received the 2001 Bonnie T. Meszaros Economic Educator of the Year Award from UD's Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship. Baczewski is a social studies teacher at Mount Pleasant High School.

**Rachel Mulderrig, BE19**, of Newark, Del., has been promoted to staff II accountant at Belfint Lyons & Shuman, PA.

**Sophie Phillips, EOE19**, of Bear, Del., has been named Miss Delaware 2021, and is set to participate in this year's Miss America pageant.

**2020s**

**Christian Wills, AS20**, of Wilmington, Del., served as journalist-in-residence for the Delaware Shakespeare professional theatre company.

**Ana Mellos, AS21**, is the recipient of a highly selective Knowles Teaching Fellowship as she embarks on her teaching career. The prestigious fellowship is awarded each year to 35 high school science and math teachers nationwide. She is teaching geometry and algebra this fall at her former high school near Odenton, Maryland. 🐦



Samantha Lombardo, AS15, says yes to Anthony Verdi III, EG15



Violette and Emily Kurek



Drew Naomi Sanclemente, HS18

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# IN MEMORIAM

**Nicole Lynn Lobascio, BE04,**  
July 26, 2020

**Milman E. Prettyman Jr., AS50,**  
Feb. 13, 2021

**Ralph F. Keil, AS53,** March 1, 2021

**Paul W. Mueller, HS53,**  
May 20, 2021

**Lee F. Brown, EG55M, PhD63,**  
June 30, 2021

**Stephen R. Butcher, HS55,**  
Aug. 31, 2021

**William P. McKinney, EG57,**  
July 22, 2021

**Joseph T. Zappala, BE57,**  
April 3, 2021

**George A. Webber, BE58,**  
May 18, 2021

**Austin J. Edison, EG61M,**  
Feb. 16, 2020

**Donald P. Allegretto, BE68M,**  
May 19, 2021

**Mahlon I. Schlegel, EHD68M,**  
Aug. 15, 2021

**Mary Aiken Dolbow, BE70,**  
June 23, 2021

**William S. Titus, BE72,** Oct. 12,  
2021

**Gilbert K. Davis Jr., AS73,**  
March 7, 2021

**Judith L. Allison, AS74,**  
May 23, 2021

**Wenda S. Long, AS75,**  
March 18, 2021

**Douglas A. Tibbetts, AS80,**  
June 30, 2021

**Andrew DalNogare, AS84,**  
June 6, 2021

**Gerald S. Norde' Sr., AS86PhD,**  
Feb. 25, 2021

**Christopher E. Brennan, AS88,**  
Nov. 24, 2020

**Adam D. Shaw, AS94,** Aug. 11, 2021

**Barbara Dintaman Hendricks,**  
**HS97,** March 30, 2020

**Meighan Brady Davis, ANR99,**  
**O2M,** June 14, 2021

**Laura DePhillips Hoyer, AS06,**  
May 17, 2021 🐦

## Faculty and Staff

**Dorothy Ann Amsler,** IT senior  
technical writer, May 27, 2021

**Charles Warren Dunham,**  
professor emeritus of horticulture,  
July 1, 2021

**Guang Gao, Endowed**  
Distinguished Professor Emeritus of  
Electrical and Computer  
Engineering, Sept. 12, 2021.

**Judith Leonhard Hendricks, HS71,**  
retired assistant nursing professor,  
May 9, 2001

**Russel C. Jones,** 23rd president of  
the University, May 8, 2021

**Matthew Marcellus Shipp,** a  
long-time continuing education  
administrator and faculty member,  
July 5, 2021

**Evelyn V. Stevens,** information  
resource consultant, May 8, 2021

**Young-Doo Wang,** retired  
professor and associate director  
of the Center for Energy and  
Environmental Policy, July 29, 2021

**Peter Williams,** professor of  
painting and prolific artist,  
Aug. 19, 2021 🐦

Please share news of a  
loved one's passing with us at  
<https://inmemoriam.udel.edu>

## R.R.M. 'RULY' CARPENTER III



R.R.M. 'Ruly' Carpenter III, in a 2012  
portrait.

R.R.M. "Ruly" Carpenter III, a  
long-time member of the  
University of Delaware Board of  
Trustees, friend of the University  
and generous benefactor, died  
Sept. 13. He was 81.

Carpenter's life was marked by  
a steadfast devotion to UD,  
proudly carrying on a family  
tradition that extended back to  
his grandfather and father, both  
of whom also served on the  
University's Board of Trustees.

Two prominent campus  
buildings bear the names of those two men: The Carpenter Sports  
Building (or "the Little Bob" as it is now known), which opened in  
1942, is named for his grandfather, Robert R.M. Carpenter Sr., and  
the Bob Carpenter Sports/Convocation Center (aka The Bob),  
which opened in 1992, honors his father, Robert R.M. Carpenter Jr.  
In 1990, Ruly Carpenter led the fundraising campaign to build The  
Bob, the 5,000-seat facility that is home to UD's men's and  
women's basketball programs and women's volleyball program.

After the death of his father who had served on the University's  
Board of Trustees for 45 years, Carpenter was elected to the  
board in 1990. He served as a trustee for the next 24 years,  
stepping down in 2014. During his tenure, he chaired the Student  
Life and Athletics Committee and the Athletics Visiting Committee.  
He also served on the Executive, Grounds and Buildings, and  
Nominating committees.

As one of the University's most generous benefactors, Carpenter  
supported many campus projects, including the construction of  
the Bob Carpenter Center, the Whitney Athletic Center and the  
Bob Hannah Baseball Stadium. He also endowed a scholarship  
fund for baseball and was a long-time season ticket holder for  
Delaware Football.

In September 2005, Carpenter was recognized for his fundraising  
efforts with the University's Medal of Distinction.

Carpenter's family owned and operated the Philadelphia Phillies  
for nearly 40 years, and he served as that organization's president  
from 1973-81.

A graduate of Yale University, Carpenter was active in several  
community organizations, serving on the boards of Tower Hill  
School, Ronald McDonald House, the Delaware Olympic  
Committee, Ducks Unlimited and others. 🐦

## A CONVERSATION WITH...

When **Jennifer Horney** joined UD in 2018 as founding director of the Epidemiology Program and core faculty in the Disaster Research Center, she had already worked on outbreaks of infectious diseases across the globe. Excited by the opportunity to strengthen and diversify the future public health workforce (currently 70% female, 70% white and largely on the brink of retirement), Horney arrived in Newark on the eve of the greatest public health crisis of a lifetime. Here, our resident expert sheds light on the virus that has changed the world.

---

### Is there hope on the horizon?

We have more time left, maybe through 2023 or 2024. It's important to note that other coronavirus outbreaks have ended differently. In 2003, SARS spread globally and had a 10% mortality rate but disappeared about 8 months after the first cases. MERS has continued to pop up since 2012. The most likely scenario [for COVID-19] is one where we're able to increase vaccination rates globally over the next few years, and COVID becomes endemic with sporadic outbreaks.

### Could COVID have been predicted or prevented?

After 9/11, we made really big investments to improve public health preparedness in the U.S., focusing on intentional attacks with biologic agents like smallpox, anthrax or ricin. But people lost interest and there wasn't a powerful enough base in 2008, when we had the global financial crisis, to say, "No, no, we need to keep preparing." Which is ironic because we had the H1N1 influenza pandemic in 2009, followed by Ebola and Zika. As we came to the 100-year anniversary of *the* pandemic, the 1918 pandemic, a lot of people were thinking, our time is up.

### What made 2020 different from 1918?

The speed at which we can move ourselves and infectious disease across the world. We're so incredibly connected. I can get on a plane in Philly and fly around the world in 24 hours, which means our response systems also have to be connected and prepared for threats to emerge anytime, anywhere.

### What have been your main professional takeaways?

That a lot of the people most impacted by decisions made in a public health emergency don't have a seat at the table. We have to think about what different people need – and the inequities inherent in our responses – and address those.

### What have been your takeaways more personally?

Balancing risks for my children [ages 9 and 11]. I can't be an epidemiologist whose kids get COVID, but their mental health and social development are also so important.

### What question do you wish more people would ask you?

Early on, I wanted people to ask about public health emergency powers and authority. People would say, "How can they make me stay at home or wear a mask?" Well, we have the responsibility to protect people. A Supreme Court case in 1905 [Jacobson v. Massachusetts] upheld the legal authority for public health to enforce compulsory vaccination. Our work is invisible to many. We don't recognize the role public health plays to ensure safe restaurant meals or municipal water systems, or to count the cases of diseases prevented by vaccines. I wish more people knew all that public health does.

### What are you tired of answering?

I don't think it's a problem of people asking questions. It's a matter of whether they're listening to the answers. I wish more people would ask more questions of experts and value their expertise.

### Is the likelihood of future pandemics increasing?

Yes. One hundred years ago, we had an epidemiologic transition. The primary causes of death changed from infectious diseases to chronic diseases. You no longer died of cholera or dysentery because you couldn't drink the water in your home; you died of cancer or heart disease. I believe that now we are in a second epidemiologic transition, which means we are again at increased risk of infectious diseases as we encroach on the habitats of animals that can serve as vectors of disease or change the climate so these vectors can live in new places. All this and more increases the likelihood of future pandemics. 🐦



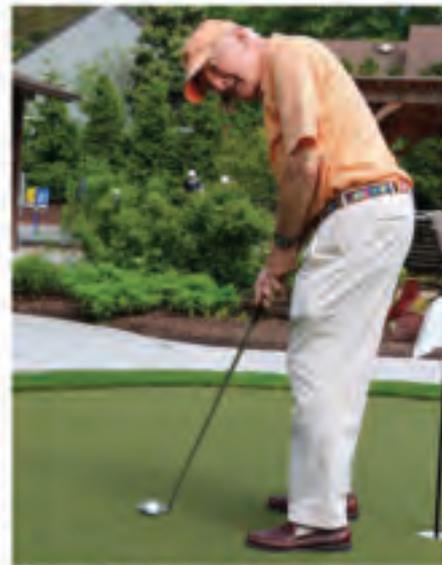
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