The Staff Council is entering a transitional phase in its membership this semester, as several “original” members’ two-year terms expire.

Those departing the council at the end of the Fiscal Year, and their replacements, include:

- Admissions: Jane Ozga, replaced by Christine Vandenberg;
- Athletics: Josh Huber, replaced by Matt Klank;
- Business Office: Michelle Gustavson, replaced by Ruth Ann Mueller;
- CAPS: Kathy Gandy, replaced by Kathy Oswald;
- Strategic Advancement: Eric Strauss, replaced by Kate Broda

New Additions:
- Student Engagement: Maria Crimi has joined the Council, filling a vacant position;
- Equine: Rebecca Huestis (Equine) has joined as a new departmental representative

Thus far in 2011, the Council has worked on issues including vacation policy for certain eligible Staff members and general campus maintenance. In addition, members met with the Strategic Plan committee to offer input for this important document. As always, the Council is happy to hear from any Staff members with issues of concern affecting the Staff.

APP Faculty Published

Thomas Barto, adjunct faculty member and math coordinator for A&PP, recently had two academic research papers presented at international conferences. His first paper “Deterring Adolescent Dependency on Text Messaging: a Conceptual Model and Framework for Behavior Control” was presented at the Americas Conference on Information Systems in Lima, Peru, in August 2010. This research study provided a behavior control conceptual model intended to govern technology over-adaptation.

His second paper “Online User Information Privacy Concerns and Other Situational Factors as Viewed through Equity Theory” was presented at the Association for Information Systems’ Conference on Information Security & Privacy in St. Louis, Mo., in December 2010. This research study provided a conceptual framework based on equity theory as a new lens through which online buyer-seller relationships can be studied. Tom is a faculty mentor, instructor of statistics and management science, and co-founder of the Adult Studies Center which provides tutorial services as well as developmental training for English and Math in A&PP.
Dr. Ken Autore, Assistant Professor of Business, will present a paper at the Academy of Finance Conference in Chicago on March 24. Its title is “An Evaluation of the Stock Price Announcement Effect of Seasoned Equity Offerings.” Dr. Autore will also be the primary discussant at another finance presentation at that conference.

The May issue of Bioscience will feature an article by Dr. Lauren Bergey, Assistant Professor of Biology. Coauthored with J. S. Weis, A Candelmo and J. Reichmuth, it is entitled “Living in a Contaminated Estuary: Behavioral Changes and Ecological Consequences for Five Species.” The issue’s cover will display a photo of a fiddler crab taken by one of Dr. Bergey’s colleagues.

Stephen Davis, Assistant Professor of Theatre, has been teaching with the distinguished Folger Shakespeare Theatre of DC at two New Jersey high schools. The program brings Shakespeare to life in classrooms and culminates in brief performances at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey as part of the Shakesperience NJ Festival, May 16-17. Seniors at Memorial High in West New York will present The Merchant of Venice and freshmen at Bloomfield High will present Romeo and Juliet. Having enjoyed the privilege of working with the Folger in 2009, Professor Davis comments, “This is food for my soul.”

A Centenary community effort coordinated by Christopher Linne, Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice, resulted in the January gift of an HP laptop computer to a hard-pressed school in Ghana, West Africa. Professor Linne worked with three student groups to achieve this significant contribution to the learning experiences of students at the Obuasi Independence M/A (Municipal Assembly) Middle School. The groups are: Kappa Delta Epsilon, an honorary professional education fraternity; Omega Rho Fraternity; and the Sociology/Criminal Justice Club. The groups raised cash through book sales and table displays at College events and area venues. The fundraising was supplemented by faculty and staff donations.

Dr. Keith Morgen, Assistant Professor of Psychology, has been elected Secretary of the International Association of Addiction and Offender Counselors. At the American Counseling Association Conference in New Orleans in March, Dr. Morgen was the Chair and a presenter on a panel about the addiction counseling licensure process.

At the Eastern Psychological Association Conference in Cambridge, MA, in March, five undergraduate members of Dr. Morgen’s substance abuse research team presented posters and Dr. Morgen presented a paper on building such a team at a small liberal arts college.

Dr. Amanda Orenstein, Assistant Professor of Biology, has an article in the January issue of The American Biology Teacher, a publication of the National Association of Biology Teachers. Coauthored with Eileen Gregory and Jane P. Ellis, it is entitled “A Proposal for a Common Minimal Topic Set in Introductory Biology Courses for Majors.” The object of the study was to identify the topics and skills that college and university biology instructors believe students completing introductory biology should have learned. Dr. Orenstein is also scheduled to present on this subject at the March conference of the Society for College Science Teachers, a sub-group of the National Science Teachers Association.
Students and classes have officially moved to our new location in Metro Park on February 14th, 2011. Located at 333 Thornall St. in Edison, NJ, our new 5,000 square feet of space is located on the 7th floor of a modern office building. In addition to office space for enrollment, advising and financial aid, there are 6 classrooms, a kitchen/break-room, and space for students to meet, study and receive tutoring.

Students and faculty are excited about the new space and the amenities. In addition to lots of parking, there is a café on the first floor where students can stop to get some food before attending class.

Look for information about our Grand Opening celebration in the fall.

In addition to the successful start of the first Associate level cohort at Verizon Wireless in Warren, NJ Verizon Wireless, one of our strongest corporate partners recently requested we work with them to start cohorts for their employees at their location in Orangeburg, NY.

The enrollment team has been working with Verizon Human Resources to determine the interest level and currently have secured over 35 applicants for an MBA program, and 25 applications for an undergrad business degree from Orangeburg. It is anticipated that cohorts will begin in late April at this new corporate location.

Despite the seemingly endless snows this past winter, the adult programs started 11 new cohorts. Six new groups started in Parsippany, 1 in Hackettstown, 2 in Metro Park, 1 On-line and our first Associate level cohort at Verizon Wireless in Warren.

Overall, 100 new students enrolled in the adult program. The next scheduled start date for the adult programs will be the end of April.
The Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony, Class of 2011, was held on Saturday, Jan. 29, in the Folkner Family Gym. Diane Finnan, Mona Ressaiissi and Bob Quade, were all inducted in-between the men’s and women’s basketball doubleheader against Rosemont.

Diane Finnan had a successful playing career in the Big Ten Conference at Northwestern University. Upon graduation she began her coaching career and served as an assistant coach at George Washington University, where she received a graduate degree in Human Development in Education.

Finnan became the head coach of the Centenary women’s basketball team in 1995 after the squad won five contests in 1994. She led the team to a 15-8 mark her first year and finished her tenure with double-digit victories all five seasons as head coach, including a program-best 22 wins in 1997-98.

Finnan led the Cyclones to four-straight Women’s Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Championships from 1996-97 through 1999-2000 and was a three-time WIAC Coach of the Year, winning three consecutive years, from 1996-97 to 1999-2000.

In 1997-98, Finnan guided the team to the National Small College Athletic Association (NSCAA) Championship game and a 22-6 overall record. For their efforts, the squad was named New Jersey College Basketball Coaches Association (NJCBA) Team of the Year. In 1999-2000, Finnan’s team won 17 games and received the program’s first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance. She finished her coaching career with an impressive 89-36 overall record, which at the time put her in 37th-place in the NCAA in winning percentage among active coaches. In 1998, Finnan became the Director of Athletics at Centenary and stayed in that position through 2005.

Robert T. Quade came to Centenary College in 1986 as the Chair of the Business Division, where he served for 15 years. Quade attended the College of the Ozarks (now University of the Ozarks), in Clarksville, Ark., where he was a member of the wrestling team. In 1990, he was approached by a few Centenary students who knew he had wrestled, and they asked him to start up a wrestling team at the school. That year there were seven wrestlers and they managed to win Centenary’s first dual meet, defeating West Point Prep, while establishing the squad as a club team.

After graduation, when transfers and military enlistments left the team with one wrestler, Centenary was forced to drop the club team. However, in the Spring of 1993, President Bennett-Smith asked Quade to reinstate the wrestling team the following year. Citing the potential of the wrestling program, Quade finally convinced the administration to hire an experienced coach, and in the Fall of 1996, the College brought on Joe Gomez as the program’s second head coach. Gomez, who recently passed away, established the Cyclones as an NCAA Division III wrestling program in 2000.

Even after handing over the coaching reigns, Quade has remained dedicated to Centenary Athletics. He has traveled with and supported the wrestling team for 17 years and has seen it grow from a club team practicing on wall mats, to current times where the team has become Nationally ranked and practices in a brand new 5,000-square foot facility. In 1990, Quade founded the Centenary men’s cross country team and served as the team’s first head coach. He coached the men’s team for two seasons and was also the head coach of the women’s cross country program during their 1991 season.

Quade received an Honorary Doctorate Degree from the College in 2006 and is currently a Professor Emeritus. Quade is the school’s NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative and recently accepted the position of the Director of Business Student Development at Centenary.
Mona Ressaissi was a three-sport athlete at Centenary, competing for the basketball, soccer and cross country programs. She was a member of Centenary’s women’s basketball team from 1995-98 and currently ranks third in the program’s record book with 1,216 career points.

Ressaissi was the first Centenary women’s basketball player to surpass the 1,000-point mark since becoming a member of the NCAA DIII. She was a three-year starter for the Lady Cyclones, earning ECAC Metro Rookie of the Year as a freshman and National Small College Athletic Association (NSCAA) All-American honors as a junior. That same year she led Division III in three point shooting, hitting at a 53.0 percent clip.

Ressaissi received New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NIAIAW) Woman of the Year honors in 1997-98 and was a two-time New Jersey College Basketball Coaches Association (NJCBCA) All-State Team Honoree.

Ressaissi recorded eight triple doubles in a single season, still a school-record for both the men’s and women’s teams, and was a two-time NJCCA All-State Team honoree. As a soccer player, she earned Second Team All-WIAC accolades in 1997.

Ressaissi graduated Summa Cum Laude from Centenary in 1998 with a BA in Political Science and a BA in International Studies. She played overseas for two seasons with the Eos/Malbas Women’s Semi-professional team in Sweden before returning to Hackettstown to take an assistant coaching position with the Lady Cyclones from 2000-02, where she also served as Athletic Academic Advisor.

Ressaissi earned her law degree from Rutgers School of Law-Newark in 2005 and served as the graduation speaker of her class. She has worked at Margolin & Neuner in Hackettstown since 2006 and has been an adjunct instructor at Centenary since 2000. She is currently in her first season as co-head coach of the Centenary women’s basketball team.

Head Wrestling Coach John Garriques was one of 11 alumni who was inducted to the Gloucester County College Sports Hall of Fame, this past September. Garriques was GCC’s second Individual National Champion in wrestling in 1998 and helped lead the Roadrunners to two National Championships in 1998 and 2000.
The Office of Strategic Advancement said goodbye to Vice President Debra Albanese in February. Debra left Centenary to head the Englewood Hospital Foundation after more than a decade leading the College’s fundraising efforts, capped by the successful Campaign for Centenary College, which closed in 2010.

In happier news, Strategic Advancement and the Equine Studies Department combined for a successful “Equine Phonathon” in late February in support of the Back Barn Restoration Project. Equine Studies students, Faculty and Staff raised $900 in credit card donations, $465 in outstanding pledges, has another 21 outstanding pledges for unspecified amounts, and recruited 23 volunteers for the project. There was a healthy competition going on between the students, because Department Chair Kelly Munz offered a free riding lesson to whoever brought in the most money. Because they all worked so hard (even calling their family members for donations), they all got a free group lesson for their efforts! On top of all that, one student was even offered a job by an alum who owns a barn in Kentucky! Faculty and Staff participants included Kelly, Octavia Brown, Heather Clark, Tara Clausen, Timothy Cleary, Michael Dowling, Dr. Michael Fugaro, Amy Gregonis and Sarah Marchese.

Finally, a special thank you to the members of the Centenary College Faculty and Staff for their ongoing generosity! So far for the 2011 calendar year, 40 Faculty and Staff donors have contributed more than $4,000 to the Centenary Fund and other College initiatives. If you would like to make a gift, please contact Roxanne Thompson ’02, Advancement Director for the Annual Fund, at thompsonr@centenarycollege.edu or extension 2367.

WNTI News

WNTI has two exciting events coming up!

Friday April 1, 2011
Join us for an evening with singer/songwriter Steve Forbert. Best known for his hit song "Romeo's Tune" Forbert has been cranking out hits and touring since the 1980's.

Showtime is 7:30pm in the Historic Whitney Chapel at Centenary College.

Tickets and information at: www.wnti.org or www.blackpotatoe.com at the cost of $20.00 each general admission.

May 7, 2011
Our next event will blow the roof off the Lackland Center because WNTI has a date with The Smithereens! Rock and roll at its finest, The Smithereens hits include "Blood and Roses", "A Girl Like You", and "Behind The Wall of Sleep" just to name a few. Pat DiNizio, Dennis Diken, Jim Babjak, and Severo "The Thrilla" Jornacion will have you out of your seat and dancing in the isles of the Sitnik Theater.

Showtime is 8:00pm with special opening act Sarah Borges and the Broken Singles.

Tickets are $25.00 each general admission and available at: www.wnti.org or by phone: 908-979-4355 ext. 1

As an added bonus to the event, there will be a Fender guitar raffle with proceeds benefiting the United Way Womens Leadership Council Scholarship Fund. The guitar is autographed by all band members, must be present to win and ready to come on stage to accept the guitar!
March

March 21

2pm-3pm—Book Discussion *Cleopatra, by Stacy Schiff
Heath Village, Hackettstown, NJ - Call WC ext. 2374
for more information

March 30

Women’s Achievements Through the Decades.

10:30am—Slide Show:Alice Paul: New Jersey; Heroine for Equality, presented by Lilyan Cralle,
Alice Paul Institute

11:15am - Women’s History 2.0 presented by Janice Kovach, former Director, Division on Women
Front Parlours, Seay Building

“Women in Mind” Cable Show, "a Pediatrician Speaks to Grandparents."

April

April 17

2:30 pm—Women’s Playwright Series, How to Pray, by playwright Michele Carter,
The Edith Bolte Kutz ’42 Theater, David and Carol Lackland Center, Centenary College

4:00pm - Talk back with the cast, facilitated by Dr. Deborah Diamond Fisch, Dir. Women's Center

April 27

12noon-1pm— Book Discussion* Professors House, by Willa Cather, Heath Village, Hackettstown, NJ,
Call WC ext. 2374 for more information

May

May 14

Commencement & Flower Sale

Book Discussion* - TBA
Information Technology has been focused on many projects over the past three months.

**Blackboard to Moodle Conversion**
The contract with Blackboard has been finalized and Blackboard will be turned off at the end of October. The savings to the college for the elimination of Blackboard is in the neighborhood of $300,000 per year. A small pilot group for Moodle was started in January that included courses from APP, as well as, traditional. We have had a lot of positive feedback and numerous ideas to enhance the Moodle experience.

Moodle training has been moving along fairly well. Information Technology has been in contact with every department head to determine the training schedule that best suits their department. We are currently providing one-on-one training to those eager to get in now and begin building their department’s Moodle courses. Soon we will move into a one-to-many format for full Moodle training. Our plans for those instructors who will use Moodle strictly for Final Grades and Attendance is to offer a brief 10-15 minute presentation at the August faculty workshop. For all others who want to be fully trained, please contact your department head to indicate that you want full Moodle training.

To accomplish the amount of training that needs to be completed, we are doing train the trainer sessions for several folks in Information Technology. This will not only provide us with the ability to get everyone trained in a timely manner, it also delivers a needed skill set to the folks in Information Technology who will be fielding your calls for Moodle issues.

**Classrooms**
Thanks to a grant for new classroom projectors, Information Technology recently received 15 new Epson projectors. The grant could not have come at a better time because we had many classrooms with broken and overheated projectors. The IT staff has been working to get the most troublesome projectors replaced. We appreciate everybody’s patience and help in calling help desk to report any classroom issues.

**Possible Future Projects**
We are looking into two new technologies for possible new projects. Courseware is a type of software that would allow us to create a more dynamic online learning experience. Online courses would have an interactive/live experience that is fully recordable for those who can’t attend the live session. A second technology we are looking into is the use of handheld applications. We are very excited about this one because it puts the information that students need to know at their fingertips (cafeteria menu, sports schedules, course schedule, etc.)
Thank you to everyone involved in contributing information to the Faculty and Staff Newsletter.

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