UC PEOPLE
Sharon E. Wise – Professor of Biology
By Kevin Montano ’16, PR Intern

Q: Tell me a little bit about yourself.
A: I have two children and I’m married to Dr. Bryant Buchanan, another member of the biology department. I love being outside and I love running. I’ve run five marathons, a number of half marathons and I run the Boilermaker Road Race every year.

Q: What interested you in studying biology?
A: Growing up I always liked animals, so when I went away to college I thought about studying to be a veterinarian but then I took an interest in research in biology. My first female instructor really inspired me to pursue biology and do research in the field.

Q: What are some of your duties as associate dean?
A: My main duty is as a liaison between the dean and the faculty in the Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. I help to resolve any issues the faculty may have and I serve on numerous committees as a representative of the dean. I also participate in admissions events on behalf of the division.

Q: What are your current research interests?
A: My latest research centers on the impact of light pollution on the behavior and ecology of amphibians and other animals. I’ve focused a great deal of my work on red-backed salamanders.

Q: Why the red-backed salamander?
A: Red backs are found in many forests

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“My first female instructor really inspired me to pursue biology and do research in the field.”

-Wise
New Hires
Paula Bochniak, General Accounting Clerk
Amanda Bielby, Purchasing/Accounts Payable Specialist

DID YOU KNOW...

...the College sponsors additional, and very affordable, Accidental Death & Dismemberment insurance to benefit eligible employees and their families? You can enroll in this insurance at any time. More information is online under Section 7 of the Benefits & Wellness page: http://www.utica.edu/hr/benefits.cfm. Please contact Linda Madore at ltmadore@utica.edu if you have any questions.

STUDENT ADVOCACY

A-B. Students in UC’s Occupational Therapy Program traveled to Albany to talk to legislators about supporting bills that affect licenses, reimbursement and early intervention services for occupational and physical therapists and the patients they serve. 3/3

C-F. A group of UC students headed to Albany for Student Advocacy Day, coordinated by the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (cICU), to express to legislators how vital state aid is in helping them afford college. 2/10

TIAA-CREF ON CAMPUS

A TIAA-CREF Individual Client Services Consultant will hold individual meetings on:
- April 21 in Strebel Student Center, Room 105C
- June 3 in Strebel Student Center, Room 105C
Take this opportunity to discuss investment options and your retirement goals. To make an appointment, please visit www.tiaa-cref.org/utica under “Products & Services” or call 1-315-477-9016. Can’t make it to campus? Call 1-315-477-9016 or 800-732-8353 to schedule a phone consultation.
Utica College was well represented at this year’s conference of the Southern Humanities Council in Athens, GA. Mary Ann Janda, professor of English, presented a paper titled “Three American Tricksters: House, Huck and Heisenberg”; Linnea Franits, associate professor of occupational therapy, presented a paper entitled “Virtue and Vice: Disability and Device”; and Steven Specht, professor of psychology, presented a paper entitled “The Salience of Psychosexuality in the Creative Works of Egon Schiele and Joseph Cornell.” In addition, Janda and Specht also read selections of their original poetry at the conference.

David Chanatry, associate professor of journalism, administered a talk about his public radio broadcasts on Kosovo and South Sudan. His presentation featured the photography of Bruce Strong, chair of the multimedia journalism department at Syracuse University. It took place at Mohawk Valley Community College’s Utica and Rome campuses on March 4.

Three members of UC’s football staff, Blaise Faggiano, head football coach, Jim Kramer, offensive coordinator, and William Pluff, defensive coordinator, spoke at the New York State High School Football Coaches Association (NYSHSFWA) 15th Annual Football Clinic held at the Turning Stone Casino and Resort Feb. 5 and 6.

- Since UC holds the record for having the second most punt returns in the country, Faggiano led a discussion on punt and kick returns at the conference. Pluff explained pass defensive techniques since UC broke a record for pass breakups in a season, and Kramer discussed the UC Run Game and the school’s record of 29 rushing touchdowns.

Students in UC’s Occupational Therapy program, under the direction of assistant professor Denise Nepveux, raised funds to help local activist Donna Reese pay for a corneal implantation surgery to restore her vision. Reese is an advocate for people with disabilities, especially the blind and visually impaired. OT students Julie Headley, Ali Kowalski and Michelle Carpenter coordinated a fundraiser for Reese’s benefit. Thanks to their efforts and those of other local organizations, $5,000 was raised for Reese’s “last chance” surgery.

James Norrie, dean of business and justice studies, presented a keynote address at the “Cyber Security and Insider Threat Effective Strategies for Defending Your Data and Organization” conference held in Ottawa, Ontario on Feb. 18 and 19.

- Norrie’s lecture, “World War III? Inside and Outside Cyber Threats – Defending the New World of Threat and Opportunity,” discussed the existing and emerging cyber threats that organizations face. “We have entered a new period of obvious geo-political cyber warfare,” Norrie explains, “and companies and government entities are underestimating and misunderstanding current cyber threats and their nature.”

- To support his hypothesis, Norrie discussed relevant cases such as the recent Sony Pictures Hack, social media efforts from ISIS, the Edward Snowden saga, and the J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. breach.

Congratulations to Mark Kovacs, director of alumni and parent relations, on receiving the Campus Event Planner of the Year Award from Power Performers! Kovacs’ selection, in the “Best Overall Event” category, was based on the Leon Etienne performance held in conjunction with UC’s 2014 Homecoming celebration.

Please send information and photos for KUDOS to source@utica.edu.
• WKTV News Channel 2’s meteorologist Bill Kardas did a live remote broadcast from Alpha Chi Rho’s “Deep Freeze” fundraiser behind Strebel Student Center for the American Cancer Society. 2/4

• WUTR Eyewitness News reporter Kody Fisher spoke with NCFC Director Anthony Martino about FCC Commissioner Tom Wheeler’s proposal to regulate the Internet to ensure that providers don’t block or slow Web traffic. 2/4

• Fisher also interviewed the AXP brothers participating in the Deep Freeze and candlelight vigil. 2/4

• WKTV News Channel 2 photojournalist Kirk Tupaj spoke with NCFC Director Anthony Martino about “watchdog” apps that parents may use to track their children’s activities on social media and the Internet. 2/4

• Jonathan Mahler, a reporter for The New York Times, interviewed Alane Varga, dean of diversity and student development, about UC’s decision to ban YikYak from wireless networks. 2/4

• OD photo/web journalist Peter Franchell interviewed the brothers of Alpha Chi Rho at the Deep Freeze. 2/5

• Colleen Flaherty, reporter for Inside Higher Ed, interviewed Robert Halliday, associate provost and dean for graduate studies, about the process of reviewing academic deans. 2/10

• Faraz Mirza, editor of the Daily Illini, interviewed Alane Varga, dean of diversity and student development, about the College’s decision to ban YikYak over its wireless networks. 2/10

• WKTV News Channel 2’s videographer Kirk Tupaj interviewed Austen Givens, professor of practice in cybersecurity, about President Obama’s proposal to send troops to fight ISIS. 2/11

• Tupaj also interviewed Alan Goldenbach, assistant professor of journalism, about NBC’s decision to suspend anchor Brian Williams for six months. 2/11

• Austen Givens, professor of practice in cybersecurity, participated in an on-air debate on net neutrality on the Keeler in the Morning. 2/26

• President Todd Hutton spoke with Observer-Dispatch reporter Lindsay Boyle about his plans to retire in the summer of 2016; this news was also covered by WKTV, WIBX and other local media. 2/26

• News of UC CIMIP’s final report on its study, “Hiding in Plain Sight? A Nationwide Study of the Use of Identity Manipulation by Registered Sex Offenders,” was posted on nearly 200 websites across the country, including Reuters, Baltimore Business Journal, The Street and New9.com in Oklahoma City.

• Donald Rebovich, professor of criminal justice and executive director of CIMIP, spoke with OD reporter Micaela Parker about the study. 3/5

throughout the Northeast and are one of the most abundant vertebrate in these forests. The red-backs are an important component of the forest and thier health of the population can help tell you about the health of the forest. My graduate thesis was on salamanders and I’ve continued to study them ever since.

Q: What do you hope to accomplish through your research?
A: I know my research isn’t lifesaving, I’m not finding a cure for cancer. The purpose of my research is three-fold. First, I find it is an excellent avenue to teach students the process of scientific discovery so one of them might go on to find the cure for cancer. My second purpose is to answer theoretical and fundamental questions I have about animals and their behavior. Finally, the research I’m doing can help to improve conservation of wild places.
**AROUND CAMPUS**

**A-E:** Members of Alpha Chi Rho camp out behind Strebel Student Center as part of the “Deep Freeze” to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. 2/4

**F:** Winning team of President Hutton’s snowman building contest. 2/11

**G-L:** Students take part in the snowman-building contest behind Strebel Student Center. 2/11
UPCOMING EVENTS/TRAINING
Please visit utica.edu/hr/training for updates and to register.
Health and Wellness: utica.edu/hr/wellness

March
03/11/15 H&W - Lunch and Learn: Care to Grow a Garden? Learn about ergonomic gardening 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.; Boehlert Conference Room
03/12/15 H&W - Chair Yoga (continues) 12:00-1:00 p.m.; Boehlert Conference Room
03/17, 03/24, 03/31, 04/07 H&W - Workout with Maggie 12:00-1:00 p.m.; Clark City Center
03/18/15 Lunch and Learn: How can IITS Partner with you? 12:00 p.m.; Strebel CDR
03/18/15 Tips for Scheduling Meetings (15-30 Minutes). 3:00 p.m.; TBA
03/20/15 H&W - Chair Massages. 11:00 am - 3:00 pm; 105C Strebel
03/25/15 Tips for Scheduling Meetings (15-30 Minutes). 3:00 p.m.; TBA
03/27/15 Google Maps, Google Earth in the classroom (15 minute webinar). 3:30 p.m.
04/01/15 Intro to Banner Native 10:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m.; L121
04/17/- 04/18/15 Relay for Life 6:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m.; UC Campus

AROUND CAMPUS
A-D: Career Services hosted more than 50 employers at the annual Job and Internship Fair for UC students and the public. The employers shared information about professional-level positions in public, private and non-profit sectors. 3/4

E-G: The Department of Performing Arts took a new approach to its spring production this year by taking two one-act plays, “Chamber Music” and “The Actor’s Nightmare,” and performing them in a single show. 2/26-3/1