

INFORMATION. TIPS. EVENTS.

UC MATTERS

# THE SOURCE

AUGUST 2015

## UC PEOPLE

Alane Varga, Dean of Diversity and Student Development

By Marissa Filetti '18, PR Intern

### Q: Tell us a little bit about yourself

A: I'm from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania originally. I have my bachelor's degree in Special Education and Elementary Education as well as my master's degree in Counselor

for a couple of years, but the place completely hooked me. I loved the students and the people I worked with and there were so many opportunities for professional development. Now, I've been here for 32 years. It's been a great 32 years; I couldn't imagine a better place to live and work.

**Q: Your personal philosophy is a quote by Audre Lorde: "It is necessary to teach by living and speaking those truths which we believe and know beyond understanding ... for it is not difference which immobilizes us but silence." How are you able to apply this philosophy to help students now in your new position as the Dean of Diversity and Student Development?**

A: I think there are so many layers within that quote. Audre Lorde talks about living those truths that you believe, and for me that means it is

*continued on page 4*

Education from Slippery Rock State College. I also did doctoral work at Syracuse University for Counseling Services. When I came to Utica College for my first professional job, I thought I was going to stay

*"I believe that people learn to appreciate diversity by engaging with each other and opening up to making connections and learning."*

- Alane Varga



PAGE 2  
HR Notes



PAGE 3  
Young Scholars  
on Campus



PAGE 4 & 5  
Kudos and  
In the News



BACK COVER  
Events, Health  
and Wellness,  
Around Campus



New furniture is unloaded for students who will be residing in Burrstone House.  
06/18

**UTICA**  
COLLEGE

*Never stand still*

# HR NOTES

## Welcome

Ronny Bull, *Assistant Professor of Computer Sciences, School of Arts and Sciences*

Kyung-Seok Choo, *Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Economics, School of Business and Justice Studies*

Michele Desmarais, *Administrative Assistant I for Residence Life*

Jessica Dvoracsek, *Success Coach-Florida, School of Online and Extended Studies*

Kyle Green, *Assistant Professor of Sociology, School of Arts and Sciences*

Donna Gregory, *Assistant Professor of Nursing, School of Health Professions and Education*

Sara Manning, *Nursing Lab Simulation Coordinator, School of Health Professions and Education*

Gabriele Morello, *Associate Professor of Physical Therapy, School of Health Professions and Education*

Herbert Rau, *Associate Professor of Marketing, School of Business and Justice Studies*

Anne Robinson, *Receptionist for Office of the Registrar*

David Smith, *Professor of Practice - Cyber Policy, School of Business and Justice Studies*

## New Titles

James Brown, *Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice*

## Retirees

Walter DeSocio, *VP of Legal Affairs and General Counsel*



## STUDENT EMPLOYMENT 2015-16

For questions, contact Rebecca Sullivan at 792-3353 or [resullivan@utica.edu](mailto:resullivan@utica.edu)

Watch your email for important information regarding the application portal open dates.

### APPLYING

- Every student must apply and complete a job acceptance before he or she can begin working
- Students must apply online every year, even if they have previously worked the same job.
- Students are only allowed to apply for one position at a time with few exceptions.
- Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 to submit an application and have no holds on their account.

### EMPLOYMENT PAPER WORK

- Applications can be submitted through the student employment web page.
- New students and returning students who have never worked at UC must complete employment paper work.
- Completed employment paper work can be submitted in White Hall 239, Aug. 28 through Sept. 11.

### SUPERVISORS

- Supervisors will receive an e-mail once a student has applied for a position.
- Supervisors should log in to accept or reject the application. (This should be done in timely manner since student may only apply for one position at a time and rejected students can be notified and may apply for other positions.)
- Once accepted, students will receive a default e-mail with employment paper work instructions.
- Supervisors will receive an e-mail notice when students have completed their employment paper work. DO NOT allow students to work prior to this notice.
- Supervisors can view the Supervisor Orientation by visiting the student employment website.

### TIMESHEETS

**11:59 p.m. Thursday (according to pay schedule):** Deadline to submit timesheets

**9:00 p.m. Friday (the next day):** Deadline for supervisors to approve

## CONGRATULATIONS!



The Kudos Card program monthly drawing winner is.....

**Deborah Wilson-Allam,**  
*Director of IEP*

Congratulations, Deborah, and enjoy your \$50 gift certificate to Symeon's Restaurant!

You can access the link below at any time to recognize a colleague for his/her great work:

[utica.edu/kudos](http://utica.edu/kudos)

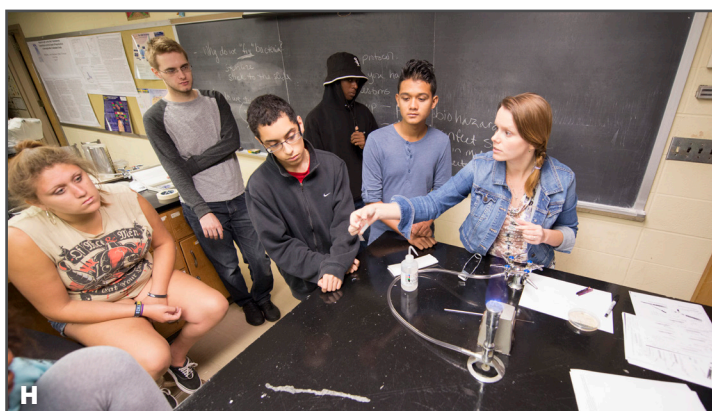
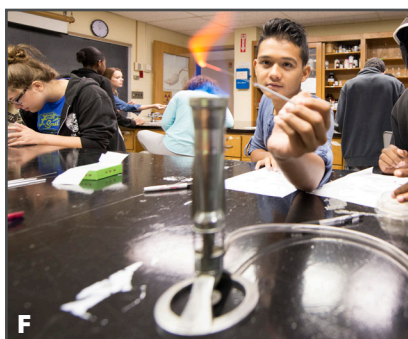
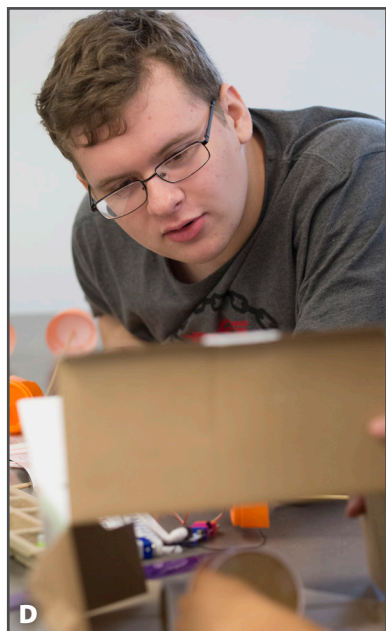


## SUMMER HOURS 2015

Please be reminded that employees are to return to their normal business hours and attire, effective Monday, August 17. In general, the normal business day at UC begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m.

Please contact the Office of Human Resources at ext. 3276 (or 792-3276) with any questions.

## YOUNG SCHOLARS ...



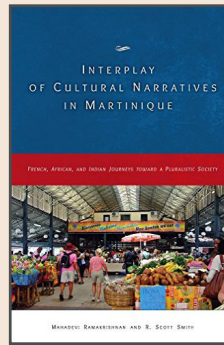
**A - G.** Students in the Young Scholars Liberty Partnership Program participated in Young Scholars LPP summer program at UC. Students explored science, technology, mathematics and science through hands-on activities and classes with faculty members. *7/14, 7/21* **H.** Ewa Szymanska Mroczek, Ph.D. (right), demonstrates to Young Scholars how to prepare a slide for staining during the Young Scholars summer program. Mroczek herself is a YS alumnae. *7/14* **I.** Joseph Ribaud, associate professor of physics (left), helps students build a mock-mars rover during the Young Scholars summer program. *7/21*



**Lawrence Aaronson**, professor of biology and Harold T. Clark, Jr. Professor of Microbiology, presented three posters at the 115th General Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in New Orleans on May 31 with his research students. The poster “Isolation and Characterization of hmgA Mutants of *Pseudomonas uticensis*: Evidence of a Tyrosine Transport Deficiency” was presented with **Stephanie Seifert** '13, “Characterization of Pyomelanin-Overproducing Mutants of *Pseudomonas uticensis*, a Novel Melanogenic Bacterial Species” was presented with **Pamela Lawrence** '18, and “The Effect of the Antifungal Secretions of a Novel *Pseudomonas* Species on Cell Hydrophobicity, Growth Viability and Ion Permeability of *Candida albicans*” was coauthored with **Daniele Casper** '15 and **Danielle McHarris** '15. He also received support from the U.S. Dept. of Energy - Joint Genome Institute for his proposal (coauthored with **Pamela Lawrence** '18) to generate a complete DNA sequence of the genome of the novel bacterial isolate, *Pseudomonas* sp. UC17F4 (tentatively named *Pseudomonas uticensis*). DOE/JGI will perform the genomic sequencing as part of a larger project to study genetic diversity in the genus *Pseudomonas*. Analysis of the complete genome sequence will help confirm the identification of this bacterium as a unique and previously undescribed species. 5/31

**Annette Becker**, associate professor of nursing and director of the RN-BSN Online Program, presented a paper “Meeting the Challenge of Assessment When the Outcome is Personal Transformation” at the international Assessment in Higher Education Conference 2015 in Birmingham, UK. 6/24

**Suzanne Lynch**, professor of practice in economic crime investigation and director of the financial crime management program, spoke at the New York Bankers Association Internal Audit Training in Syracuse. Her presentation was titled, “Preventing Electronic Payment and Card Fraud: Are you doing enough?” 6/10



**R. Scott Smith**, associate professor of psychology, and his wife, Mahadevi Ramakrishnan, senior lecturer of French at Colgate University, co-authored a book, “Interplay of Cultural Narratives in Martinique: French, African and Indian Journey Toward A Pluralistic Society.” The book explores the history of immigration and development of cultural identities on the Caribbean island of Martinique, and how the introduction of those cultures blended with the indigenous people. The book was published in May by Caribbean Studies Press.

**Domenica Newell-Amato**, assistant professor of French, presented a special topic talk at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute of Art titled “The French Connection: Where Art Meets Literature, Music and Dance.” She discussed how late 19th- and early 20-century French painting mirrors French literature and poetry, as well as music and dance, and explored how all these art forms were influenced by a changing, increasingly modern France. 7/31

**Donald Rebovich**, professor of ECI and executive director of CIMIP, traveled to Sigmund Freud University in Vienna, Austria for the 34th Bi-annual International Congress on Law and Mental Health. While in Vienna, Rebovich gave a presentation titled, “A New Life: Criminal Innovation and Imagination as Driving Forces in the Creation of New Identities by Registered Sex Offenders.” This research delved into the concept of sex offenders within the system trying to reinvent a new persona and manipulating their identities in order to escape stigmas. 7/12

**Christopher Riddle**, assistant professor and chair of philosophy and director of the Applied Ethics Institute at U Utica College, has served as editor for a special issue of “Essays in Philosophy,” a scholarly biannual journal published by Pacific University. The issue focuses on philosophical discussions about the ethics of owning guns and the permissibility of regulating or restricting their ownership. The six authors who contributed to the journal reside in four different countries, Riddle said, offering wide-ranging insights and points of view. Riddle also wrote an essay for the journal, titled “On Risk and Responsibility: Gun Control and the Ethics of Hunting.” 7/7

**David Roberts**, adjunct professor of psychology, gave the keynote speech, “Wallowing Through the Muck: Finding Meaning and Joy After Loss,” at the National Gathering of the Bereaved Parents of the USA in Hartford, Conn. He also presented a workshop at the conference. 7/26

Congratulations to the members of the Team UC competing for the Boilermaker Corporate Cup:

**James Brown, Gil Burgmaster, Michele Davis, Sarah Elleman, Brad Emmons, Dave Fontaine, Gary Heenan, Sharon Kanfoush, Doreen Murray, Adam Pack, Richard Racioppa, Chris Riddle, Meghan Soja, Michael Stockman, Sharon Wise and Linda Zee.** The team finished in a respectable 5th place in the Coed Division for medium-size businesses and corporations. 7/12

Please send information, and photos, for KUDOS to [source@utica.edu](mailto:source@utica.edu).



"Blue moon" refers to something that is rare, but the moon does not actually appear blue, says Joe Ribaudo, UC associate professor of physics. Learn more from his interview with WKTV meteorologist Jill Reale: [wktv.com/news/local/Dont\\_Miss\\_the\\_Blue\\_Moon\\_Friday\\_Night.html](http://wktv.com/news/local/Dont_Miss_the_Blue_Moon_Friday_Night.html)

- **David Roberts**, LMSW, adjunct professor of psychology and grief expert, published an article on *The Huffington Post* "GPS for the Soul" blog site. Roberts' piece, titled "The Quest for Wholeness," highlights his efforts to come to peace with the memory of his father, who left the family – never to be seen again – when Roberts was just 5 years old. *5/19*
- **Donald Rebovich**, professor of ECI and executive director of CIMIP, was interviewed by reporter Susan Ladika for [creditcards.com](http://creditcards.com) about the extensive emotional toll that identity theft can have on a person or family. *7/22*
- A story in *The Rome Daily Sentinel* highlighted the work of occupational therapy masters students with the Rome Rescue Mission. The students got hands-on experience in developing and implementing programs that teach daily living skills and facilitate client independence. *7/22*
- **Pamela Matt**, executive director of the Young Scholars LPP, and Mary Hayes Gordon, assistant director, spoke with *WUTR Eyewitness News* and *OD* education reporter Alissa Scott '13 at the conclusion of the YS Summer STEM Program. *7/23*
- **Pamela Matt**, executive director of the Young Scholars LPP, was a guest on *The Joe Kelly Show* on *WUTR* and *CNYHomepage*. Matt discussed the YS program, initiatives taken this summer, and her hopes for the future of the program. *7/26*
- **Joseph Ribaudo**, associate professor of physics, spoke with *WKTV News Channel 2* about the first "blue moon" in three years, and about the connection between physics and astronomy. *7/30*

## Varga *continued from page 1*

important to do the best we can to consciously serve, both professionally and personally, as a role model and a mentor. As for my role as Dean of Diversity and Student Development, I'm looking forward to working with others across campus to provide opportunities for people to interact and learn from each other, and take advantage of the opportunities for growth that diversity brings. I believe that people learn to appreciate diversity by engaging with each other and opening up to making connections and learning – and there are many ways to do so. For instance, in the spring the Asian Student Union hosted the Holi festival of colors, a traditional Hindu celebration to commemorate good harvest. On a larger scale, the Applied Ethics Institute, Geotalk Series, or Art Gallery events provide varied learning opportunities. There are a multitude of programs on campus that allow students, faculty and staff to explore the ways in which we differ from each other and the commonalities we share.

**Q: Tell me about your involvement in the K. Della Ferguson Womyn's Resource Center.**

**A:** In 1989, I was one of a group of students, staff and faculty members who originally applied for a grant through an alcohol and drug education program to create the Womyn's Resource Center. I co-advised with Traci Fordham and Della Ferguson, whom the Center is now renamed after, and have been an adviser to the Center since then. The Center's goal is to empower all women through education, mutual support, and growth as well as address issues women face, which means we provide programming on everything from women's history to women's health, sexual and domestic violence and gender socialization.

**Q: I understand that you stand on the Presidential Search Committee. Explain the process and how it's going so far.**

**A:** I would say the best way to track the process is to get on line and go to the presidential search webpage on the Utica College website. That's where the chair of the search committee will post information for the Utica College community and invite feedback, answer questions and give updates on how the process is going. There has been intentional development of a process that is as inclusive and as transparent as possible. In terms of involvement of the College community, faculty, staff, alumni, and students are all being invited to vocalize what is important to them and what they want to see in the next president.

**Q: Many would say UC is in a transitional period; from the presidential search, to the implementation of new programs, to all the construction and renovations on campus. What can you foresee happening in the upcoming year?**

**A:** It's certainly easiest to see all the development we are undergoing this year as far as physical structures, such as the Welcome Center and the dome. Doing all of that and implementing new programs at the same time transitions in leadership are occurring will be challenging. In the next year, I would anticipate many conversations exploring who we are and who we want to be moving forward. Discussions about what direction we want to go and how we are going to get there will come up in a lot of different places in a lot of different ways. The outcomes? I have no crystal ball to help me predict them. But, I think it will be really great to see what that's going to look like. It's going to be a very exciting year at Utica College.



## UPCOMING EVENTS/TRAINING

Please visit [utica.edu/hr/training](http://utica.edu/hr/training) for updates and to register.

For Health and Wellness events, visit [utica.edu/hr/wellness](http://utica.edu/hr/wellness)

### August

- 08/11/15 Google Drive.** 10:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m., L121
- 08/12/15 TIAA-CREF Representative on Campus.** Strebel Student Center, Room 105C
- 08/13/15 Google Drive.** 10:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m., L121
- 08/26/15 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Teaching Day: "Don't Lose STEAM".** 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon, Faculty Center 101.
- 08/27/15 Semester Welcome.** Refreshments 8:00 a.m., Ellen Knowler Clarke Lounge; Welcome 8:30 a.m., Strebel Auditorium
- 08/27/15 Your Ripple Effect - 4 Core Masteries for Effective Leaders, Webinar (HERC).** 1:00-2:00 p.m., Office of Human Resources, Rhoads Conference Room
- 08/28/15 Move-In Day, Picnic** 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center, Strebel Back Lawn
- 08/28/15 Convocation** 2:30 p.m., Clark Athletic Center
- 08/29/- Fall Orientation**
- 08/30/15**
- 08/31/15 Fall Semester Classes Begin**

### September

- 09/09/15 TIAA-CREF Representative on Campus.** Strebel Student Center, Room 105C

Check out HR's new page for training and development:  
[utica.edu/hr/trainingopp.cfm](http://utica.edu/hr/trainingopp.cfm)

## AROUND CAMPUS

**A. - B.** Construction continues on the Student Welcome Center and the Todd and Jen Hutton Sports and Recreation Dome. *7/16*

**C.** Brandy Gray, institutional research assistant, picks vegetables from the UC community garden. *7/28* **D.** Jessica Skeldon, administrative assistant III, Academic Affairs, picks vegetables from the UC community garden. *7/28*  
**E.** The College's community garden is an initiative of the Health and Wellness committee. *7/28*



## SAVE THE DATE

Catch the excitement!

**HOMECOMING 2015**  
ALUMNI AND FAMILY WEEKEND  
**OCT. 2-4**

Save the date for this year's Homecoming celebration, featuring a weekend full of fun activities, sporting events, and class reunions for '50, '55, '65, '75, '90, '05 and '10.

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GREAT INCENTIVES  
BY REGISTERING ONLINE BY SEPT. 4!**

Visit [www.utica.edu/homecoming](http://www.utica.edu/homecoming) for updates about events, hotel options, and more.