UC PEOPLE
Fran Vescio, Academic Project Coordinator
Shannon Farrell, Project Manager, School of Online & Extended Studies

By Marissa Filletti ’18, PR Intern

Q: Tell us a little about yourselves and how you came to hold your current positions here at UC.

A (Shannon): Well, I’ve been in higher education for about 10 years. I started out at Herkimer County Community College as an administrative assistant, and then I worked at SUNY IT in the human resources office for about a year before coming to UC. I am also currently working on my master’s degree in higher education administration.

A (Fran): I’ve lived the Utica area for my entire life. I am new to the College, just starting in December. After I graduated from UC, I worked for Utica National, then in human resources and various leadership positions and project management. I have Masters in Management Science and a number of certifications in Lean Six Sigma and Problem Solving. Now, I am an academic project coordinator here at UC. What’s so unique about the combination of Shannon and I is that she brings the background knowledge in academia and I come from the project management side. That’s why it’s so funny that everyone jokingly refers to us as one being, “Frannon.”

Q: What exactly are your job descriptions? Walk me through a day-in-the-life of the “Frannon” duo.

A (Shannon): We concentrate on the curriculum development process. From the first inception in a faculty about a year before coming to UC.

“Programs can’t be created in a bubble; the process really does affect the entire campus.”

- Fran Vescio
HR NOTES

New Hires
Andrea Curley, Student Financial Services Counselor
Michael Blehar, Student Financial Services Counselor for e-Learning Programs

New Titles
Caren Summers, Student Employment/Wellness Coordinator

Retirees
Rebecca Sullivan
Linda Stewart

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

Bob Harvey
Congratulations, Bob, 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

2016 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER ANNOUCED

Kevin Carroll, best-selling author and agent for social change, will give the keynote address at UC’s undergraduate commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 8.

Carroll is the founder of Kevin Carroll Katalyst/LLC, an organization that specializes in inspiring individuals, from Fortune 500 companies to school children, to embrace the spirit of play to jumpstart their creativity and maximize personal and professional growth. Carroll has dedicated his life to advancing sports and play as a vehicle for social change.

UTICA COLLEGE RECEIVES $100,000 GRANT FROM THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF HERKIMER & ONEIDA COUNTIES

The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, Inc. awarded a grant for $100,000 in support of Utica College’s downtown expansion project to bring students, faculty and local enterprises together, where networks and professional relationships can be formed.

This grant from the Rosamond G. Childs Fund of The Community Foundation is vital in UC’s relocation efforts. Undergraduate majors including business, accounting, management, business-economics, health studies management, and risk management and information assurance will move to the Clark City Center in downtown Utica. The new location will also be home to UC’s two MBA programs, one is campus-based and the other is “blended,” offering both online and on-ground classes.

In addition to the new facilities showcasing UC’s suite of business programs, bringing students to the Clark City Center will support the growth and revitalization of downtown Utica, including offering programs such as financial literacy for the community.

“Our faculty and our students are excited about the move and what it means in terms of supporting the growth and development of downtown Utica,” said James Norrie, dean of the School of Business and Justice Studies.

“The Community Foundation has embraced and supported our plan to connect the business school to the business community it serves. This grant supports our plans to continue building a great regional business school of distinction, creating the contemporary and compelling degree programs that students have come to expect from Utica College,” said Norrie.
James Brown, assistant professor of criminal justice, Raymond Philo, professor of practice-criminal justice and Polly Smith, associate provost of online learning and vice president of online and extended studies, published an article titled “Command Transitions in Public Administration: A Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of Proactive Strategies,” along with Anthony Callisto, senior vice president for safety and chief law enforcement officer at Syracuse University.

- Brown and Philo also presented their enhanced case study research titled “The Corr of the American Criminal Justice System: Lessons & the Anatomy of an American Tragedy,” at the annual conference of the academy of criminal justice sciences in Denver, CO. (photo, front cover)

David Chanatry, professor of journalism, won a Broadcast Education Association (BEA) Best of Competition award in the radio hard news category for his story, “Church Closing,” which focused on the decline of mainstream Protestant churches in Upstate N.Y. The story, produced in conjunction with the New York Reporting Project at Utica College, aired on WRVO Public Media and WAMC Northeast Public Radio. The award will be presented at the 14th annual BEA awards ceremony in Las Vegas next month.

Ashraf Almarakby, assistant professor of physical therapy; Ashraf Elazzazi, associate professor of physical therapy; Molly Hickey, associate professor of physical therapy; James Smith, associate professor of physical therapy; and Ahmed Radwan, associate professor of physical therapy, led a group of 23 Doctor of Physical Therapy students to the American Physical Therapy Association’s annual conference in Anaheim, California in February. The group gave six poster presentations and two platform presentations. The students were: Lee Applequest, Jordan Bakowski, Erin Bolowsky, Kendra Burke, Cecilee Cashman, Hayley Coon, Kaitlyn Day, Jessica DelMedico, Bridget Greenwald, Catherine Houshower, Eryn Hyde, Taylor Lennon, Ken Maturo, Adam Ryan, Ryan Scheminger, J. Alex Sheridan, Jacob Templar, Joshua Torre and Mathew Wyland. (photo at right)

Tyson Kreiger (pictured, lower left), associate professor of psychology, presented a poster at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference in New York titled, “The real deal: How college students conceptualize authenticity.” Kreiger also presented a poster with one of his students, Stream Coniguliaro ‘16 (pictured, top right), “Personality and imaginary audience.”

John Schwoebel, assistant professor of psychology, and Benjamin T. Wadas ‘16 (pictured, lower right) presented a poster at the Eastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting in New York recently. The poster was titled “Improving long-term memory: The role of retrieval practice in different contexts.” 3/16

Chris Fobare, adjunct professor of history, presented his paper, “Republicans’ Free Labor Ideology and Its Discontents,” at Boston University’s Eighth Annual American Political History Institute Conference. 4/1

Steven Specht, professor of psychology, presented a paper on “Identifying precursors of positive psychology in the ‘success manuals’ of 19th Century America” as part of an invited symposium at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association in New York.

- Specht also authored his second article in Kolaj magazine, an international publication about contemporary collage. The article focused on copyright issues related to collage and other appropriation arts.

Utica College’s “Bold Move for Tomorrow” video announcing the tuition reset won a Silver Telly, the Telly Award’s highest honor presented to outstanding local, regional, and cable TV commercials and programs, video and film productions, and online commercials, video and films. Winners represent the best work of the most respected advertising agencies, production companies, television stations, cable operators, and corporate video departments in the world. More than 13,000 entries were received from all 50 states and numerous countries.

- The video also won a Merit Award from the Educational Advertising Awards, a national competition sponsored by Higher Education Marketing Report. The video, shot by independent news videographer Scott Alexander, was produced by the Office of Marketing and Communications.

Sharon Wise, professor of biology and dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, had a paper published in the journal Behaviour. The paper, coauthored with R.G. Jaeger, was on seasonal and geographic variation in territorial conflicts by male red-backed salamanders. 2/16

Please send information and photos for KUDOS to source@utica.edu.
**IN THE NEWS...**

- **James Norrie**, dean of the School of Business and Justice Studies, spoke with WKTV News Channel 2 weekend reporter **Kevin Montano ’16** and TWC News reporter Melissa Krull about the work of Utica’s Strategic Planning Committee. 3/19

- **James Norrie**, dean of the School of Business and Justice Studies, spoke with WKTV News Channel 2’s **Rachel Murphy ’11** about Governor Cuomo’s proposal to raise the minimum wage in New York State to $15 an hour. 3/21

- **James Norrie**, dean of the School of Business and Justice Studies, spoke with WUTQ’s “Talk of the Town” hosts Dave Coombs and Jay Aiello about Apple’s new marketing initiative. 3/22

- **Austen Givens**, assistant professor of cybersecurity, spoke with WKTV News Channel 2’s **Rachel Murphy ’11** about Governor Cuomo’s proposal to raise the minimum wage in New York State to $15 an hour. 3/22

- **Rick Fenner**, professor of economics and chair of business, spoke with WUTR Eyewitness News reporter Marc Barraco about how a $15/hour minimum wage would affect local small businesses. 3/24

- **Anthony Cecil**, adjunct in the master’s in professional accounting program, authored a two-part article in Accounting Today magazine, on “Getting the Brass to Buy into Data Analytics Tech,” using UC masters students as an example of the younger generation of tech-savvy professionals, eager to apply technology to glean more from data and deliver deeper insights. 3/28

- **David Roberts**, adjunct professor of psychology and grief expert/counselor, wrote a blog for “On Coming Alive” titled “Light After Loss.” 3/21

- **Roberts** also penned another blog for The Huffington Post’s GPS For The Soul titled “Birds in the Rain,” a tribute to their late daughter’s cat, Bootsy. 3/28

**AROUND CAMPUS AND BEYOND**

- **Jessica Thomas**, left, assistant professor of biology, with winners of the 38th Annual Utica College Regional Science Fair. **B.** Science Fair participants. **C.** Kevin Montano ’16, UC student and WKTV weekend news videographer, interviews students about their projects. **D.** Larry Aaronson, professor of biology, was surprised when colleagues honored him for 25 years at the helm of the science fair. 4/2
member's mind all the way through program launch, we help the faculty with the right paperwork, getting through the approval processes, and communicating the different phases with the various stakeholders and offices on campus that need that information. Programs can't be created in a bubble; the process really does affect the entire campus. We basically house curriculum development information. Historically, UC was associated with Syracuse University, which, I have been told, handled the curriculum development process. So, we're still a fairly young college when it comes to developing our own programs. We are still finding our way and figuring out what the most efficient and effective way to do this is.

**A (Fran):** The Provost's Office handled all of this before. The number of new programs here just exploded; there are so many new programs and minors and concentrations that I can imagine it was overwhelming to keep track of them all. We are not only the communicators of this information but we’re also the intake mechanism. As soon as we hear of a potential program, we get in touch with the contact person in that department and see how we can help.

**Q: What is in the works right now?**

**A (Shannon):** In industry, it matters what you call things. So, we are really working hand-in-hand with industry to make sure our graduates are as ready as possible and that they can advance in their careers. Many people have to go back to school to brush up on things because technologies change so quickly. People in industry need specific certifications and once we find out, we try to figure out exactly what we need to put it all together in order for that group of people to get certified here at UC. We just received approval on a number of certifications. In addition, there is a sports management program and data science program in the works right now that I think are going to be very popular with students.

**Q: Are there more or less steps in the process depending on the program?**

**A (Shannon):** All new programs go through the same process: they need to get approved by the provost, the cabinet, leadership, the curriculum committee, the faculty senate and then by New York State. Then they are ready to launch.

**A (Fran):** It varies a little bit depending on if it needs New York State Education Department (NYSED) approval or not; the ones that don’t usually get done a little faster, as they would not be subject to NYSED review – like creating a new undergraduate minor.

**Q: What do you foresee for the future of online and non-traditional program development?**

**A (Shannon):** Those programs are becoming more and more popular and I think it presents struggle in all of higher education right now. Colleges and universities want to continue to serve those traditional college-age students with traditional on-ground classes, of course. That's why we have residence halls and all of our student services on campus. At the same time, there are people in the workforce, not of traditional college age and not seeking a traditional college experience at this point in their lives, who want to advance in their career or change their career path entirely. We also want to try to accommodate them. There are working adults all over the country taking UC online courses, and the challenge with that is determining how we can still make those people feel like they are a part of Utica College.

**A (Fran):** We also have the blended MBA program, which gives students the option of having both the traditional classroom experience and/ or the online learning experience. The new classroom at the Clark City Center in downtown Utica is really cool and high-tech, supporting this new flexible, convenient, blended approach to college learning. This is the future.
Utica College athletics stepped up to the plate, literally, as coaches took plates full of whipped cream to the face in support of the American Heart Association. The annual “Pie Your Coach” event helps raise funds for Utica College’s team in America’s Greatest Heart Run and Walk.
A – B. More than 100 students, faculty and staff turned out to be a part of Team Utica College for America’s Greatest Heart Run and Walk. President Todd Hutton served as the team’s honorary captain.

UPCOMING EVENTS/TRAINING
Please visit utica.edu/hr/training for updates and to register.
For Health and Wellness events, visit utica.edu/hr/wellness

April
03/30/-
05/04/16 H&W Yoga Class with Jeff Percacciante (Wednesdays).
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.; Barrett Art Gallery. $5/class
04/08/-
04/09/16 Relay for Life 6:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m.; Todd and Jen Hutton Sports and Recreation Center
04/12/16 H&W: Lunch & Learn - Wendy Burkhardt-Siegel from Common Thread talking about Community Supported Agriculture - CSA
04/13/16 Implementing Clickers for Windows (40 minutes).
10:00 a.m.; IITS Training Room L121
04/14/16 H&W Community Garden Informational Meeting.
10:00 a.m.; Strebel Student Center Lounge
04/15/16 H&W: Chair Massages
04/19/16 H&W: The Tipsy Palette. 5:30 -7:30 p.m.; Boehlert Conference Room. $40/person - must register by 4/15
04/20/16 Intro to Banner Native. 10:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m.; IITS Training Room L121 (Each session limited to 6 people)
04/22/16 H&W: Lunch & Learn - Dan DeBloise - Learn about money and social security
04/22/16 Word Table of Contents (15 minutes) Webinar. 3:00 p.m.
04/24/16 Annual All-Campus Clean Up 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; Meeting location - Welcome Center parking lot.

May
05/02/16 TIAA Individual Appointments. Strebel Student Center, Room 105C
05/07/16 Graduate Commencement Ceremony
2:00 p.m.; The Stanley.
05/08/16 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony
9:30 a.m.; The Utica Memorial Auditorium.

SAVE THE DATE

Save The Date!
Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Utica College is showing its appreciation to longtime employees and auxiliary service personnel for their commitment and support. Please join us in recognizing employees celebrating milestone service anniversaries.

We will also honor employees who are retiring, Professional Excellence in Service Award winners and the recipient of the Diversity Committee Certificate of Recognition.

President Todd S. Hutton and emcee Kim Lambert will begin the presentation of the awards at 2:30 p.m.