



INFORMATION. TIPS. EVENTS.

UC MATTERS

THE SOURCE

APRIL 2018

UC PEOPLE

Timothy Ecklund, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students and Campus Life

By Kelsey Carlo '18, PR Intern

Q: Tell us a little about yourself and how you came to take your position at UC.

A: I am originally from Jamestown, NY. I received my bachelor's degree from SUNY Geneseo in elementary education and psychology, master's degree from Buffalo State in student

State. I haven't worked at a private college until now. I was very drawn to the mission of Utica College as well as the commitment to the student body. Students that attend UC are not traditional for a private institution – it is very diverse here with many first generation college students like me. I was pleased by the amount of faculty commitment to students, programs of study, and geographically it made sense for me and my family as I am originally from western New York State.

Q: What does your job entail?

A: As the assistant vice president of Student Affairs, I am responsible for many offices such as Student Living and College Engagement (SLCE), Campus Safety, Student Conduct, Health and Counseling Center, and Career Services. In this role I have to ensure all areas are current and our

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personnel administration and my PhD higher education and administration from the University @ Buffalo. I have been a student affairs professional for many years now, working at public institutions including The University of Illinois, Stony Brook University, University of Buffalo and Buffalo

"Finding a position and starting a career is all about connection – the relationships that you build and nurture are more important than ever."

-Timothy Ecklund



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HR Notes



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Around Campus, and Beyond



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In the News, Kudos



BACK COVER
Events & Training



Computer science majors Aaron Gudrian and Nicholas Ingersoll know their classes don't "drone" on, as their machine takes flight to survey WiFi strength on campus. Part of a special project in Dr. Ronny Bull's CSC432 Computer and Network Security class, the students mounted the Hak5 WiFi Pineapple nano device to the drone and are using it to fly over campus buildings and audit the wireless signal from designated access points. (Remember, drones can only be flown over campus with the prior approval of Campus Safety.) Visit UC's Facebook Page for more photos. [4/11](#)

UTICA
COLLEGE

Never stand still

HR NOTES

New Hires

Raymond Biggs, *Assistant Coordinator of Communication Services, Financial Affairs*

Thomas Lane, *Counselor II, Counseling*

Christina Poplaski, *Administrative Assistant II, HPE*

New Titles

Jessica Skeldon, *Administrative Assistant III, Career Services*

Randi Bell, *Administrative Assistant III, Library*

Shelly LoGalbo, *Administrative Assistant II, HPE*

Kyle Riecker, *Administrative Assistant III, HPE*

Retiree

Linda Szczesniak, *Administrative Assistant III, Career Services*

CONGRATULATIONS!



The Kudos Card program monthly drawing winners are...

Joanne Hathaway

Congratulations, Joanne, and enjoy your prize!

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

"I'm grateful that you took time out of your day to help make the Job and Internship Fair a success. The employers and students were in excellent hands with you at the registration table. We simply couldn't host such a large-scale event without people like you!"



2018 COMMENCEMENT

Undergraduate and Graduate Commencement Ceremonies to be held on Sunday, May 6, 2018.

Both ceremonies will be held at the Adirondack Bank Center at the Utica Memorial Auditorium.

Our graduate ceremony will begin at 9:00 a.m. Shuttle bus service to the Adirondack Bank Center will depart from Strebel Circle starting at 7:30 a.m. Our undergraduate ceremony will follow, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Shuttle bus service to the Adirondack Bank Center will depart Strebel Circle starting at 2:00 p.m. For both ceremonies, return bus service will be available immediately following. A reception honoring all graduates will be held on the lawn near the rose garden, or in the case of inclement weather, in the Clark Athletic Center.

staff are using their best practices in order to maintain a high quality experience for students. As the dean of students, I am responsible for the quality, safety, and care of all students. I have to be aware of societal and higher education trends and also to be aware of our college population. I am part of leadership on campus and I help on committees to create programs that have to do with student needs.

Q: What do you like best about UC?

A: I would have to say the students for sure. They are so wonderful, active, passionate, and they definitely do not stand still. They are always showing the faculty and me that the work we do is important. . The faculty I've met so far align perfectly with the mission as far as the commitment to the students. The staff are all very committed professionals and are especially fun to work with. It also makes me very happy to help students reach their dreams

Q: What is challenging about UC or Utica?

A: One of the challenging things about UC is that it is small enough that I feel the need to get to know all of the students – or as many as I could – which may not be possible. I would love to go to every event on campus and every sports game, but that unfortunately there's just not enough time. I want to make sure that the students know me. As a result of how fast

social media changes it a continuous struggle to find with ways to communicate with students. For the Utica area, I would just say the highway systems are very confusing... and the weather!

Q: What drew you to want to work with college students? Most challenging part? Most rewarding?

A: When I attended SUNY Geneseo I was an RA in my residence hall. I had an amazing dean of students that told me I would be good at something like that and I should look into it. I never thought about it but I always did love being on a college campus; it just felt right for me. I found it to be a place to craft a nice career and do something really great. I truly enjoy helping students and I learn so much from them as well. The most challenging part is trying to get students who start college here to stay and finish here. On the bright side, the most rewarding thing during this time of year is seeing students get awards that recognize their achievements and of course, commencement. Another thing I enjoy is that some students tend to get themselves tangled up with school, life, etc. and to be there to help them out is very rewarding. I also enjoy that I get to create programs and renovations which in turn will create long lasting positive effects on the campus.



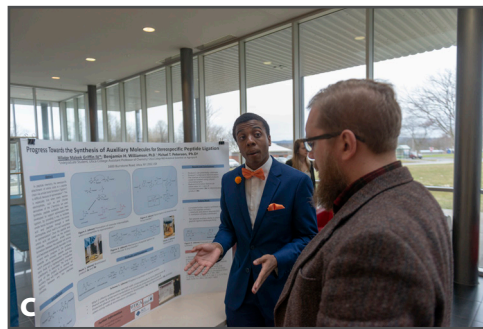
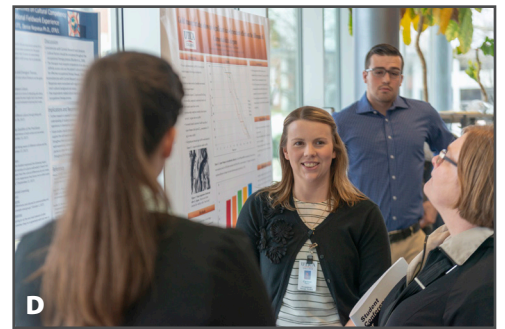
“SWEET” SENTIMENTS

UC Community hosts Ice Cream Social to thank Law Enforcement

It was cold outside, but members of law enforcement received a warm welcome to campus. Students, faculty and staff had the chance to say “thank you” during the ice cream social, honoring their amazing work during the March 5 campus lockdown. Thank you for keeping UC safe! 4/17



AROUND CAMPUS, AND BEYOND



A-E: Some very impressive work presented, discussed and displayed at UC's Student Conference for Research, Professional Activities and Creative Arts! Students presented on topics ranging from economic growth in Africa, gold nanoparticles and possible environmental and toxicological impacts, to using open source Asterisk to sound emergency alerts ... and much more. 4/18

F: Players from the men's and women's ice hockey teams served as waiters and waitresses at the Zonta Club of Utica 26th Annual Champagne Brunch on Sunday, April 21. The players were in competition with each other to see which team could raise the most money through tips and selling raffle tickets. 4/21

G: The total amount raised for the American Cancer Society at Relay for Life was \$16,000. There were 29 teams and over 260 participants. Faculty, staff, sports teams, student organizations and fraternities/sororities all participated. As a club, Colleges Against Cancer individually raised \$4,000 for the American Cancer Society. The entertainment for the night included performances from Cassidy Gerkin, Cliff Carey, and Natalie Taylor, as well as early morning zumba. Raising this amount of money was made possible by members of Utica College and the community coming together for the common goal of finding a cure. 4/18

Thomas Crist, Harold T. Clark Jr. Professor of Anthropology and Anatomy, was chosen as Utica College's first representative in the Erasmus+ Faculty Mobility Programme, funded by a grant from the European Union. Over the course of one week in April, Crist presented a series of lectures on bioarcheology, forensic anthropology, and heritage tourism at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

Crist also co-authored a presentation at the annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists with Shannon Caldwell from the University of Wisconsin, one of his students from Utica College's 2017 Albanian/Romanian Anthropology Field School. Their presentation was titled, "A Probable Cause of Extradural Meningioma in a twentieth-century Cranium from the Francisc I. Rainer Anthropological Institute in Bucharest, Romania."

Jamie Cuda, assistant professor of health care administration and director of the health care administration graduate program, was a guest presenter at the Herkimer County Career Day sponsored by the Genesis Group. Cuda presented on the topic of careers in health care administration. In addition, she shared information about the UC health care administration degree program as well as the School of Health Professions and education degree programs.

Brett Orzechowski, assistant professor of management and media, discussed his book "FOIL: The Law and the Future of Public Information in New York," at Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications.

Christopher Riddle, associate professor and chair of philosophy and director of the Applied Ethics Institute, testified before the New York State Assembly on April 23.

The Assembly conducted a hearing on physician-assisted suicide where pro and con views were voiced. As an ethicist, disability studies scholar, and disability rights advocate, he argued that suggesting people with disabilities are easily coerced and likely to hasten their death because of ablest social attitudes, is demeaning and risks compounding, rather than rectifying, injustices against people with disabilities.

Sara Scanga, associate professor of biology, presented her collaborative research on ecosystem recovery from acid rain was presented at the 14th Annual Adirondack Research Forum in Old Forge on March 6. The title of the talk was "Decreased retention of nitrogen in forested Adirondack watersheds recovering from acidic deposition."

Lawrence Aaronson, professor of biology, and **Molly Hickey**, associate professor of physical therapy, have been awarded the Harold T. Clark Summer Fellowship/Research Grant to assist with funds to pursue their respective research agendas.

Austen Givens, assistant professor of cybersecurity, **Gary Leising**, professor of English, **Arlene Lundquist**, professor of psychology, **Lisa Orr**, professor of English, **Shanna Van Slyke** associate professor of criminal justice, and **Linda Zee**, professor of Spanish, have been awarded the Summer Fellowship/Research Grant to assist with funds to pursue their research agendas.

Claudette Abounader, assistant professor of nursing, **Amy Haver**, assistant professor of nursing, and **Patricia Swann**, professor of public relations and journalism, have been awarded the Virgil Crisafulli Fund for Summer Fellowship/Research Grant to assist with funds to pursue their research agendas.

Please send information and photos for KUDOS to source@utica.edu.

PROFS SCANGA, THOMAS AND STUDENTS PUBLISH RESEARCH IN OPEN-ACCESS JOURNAL; PATENT PENDING

Last year, a group of four Utica College students and two professors conducted experiments to see if using a natural sugar substitute as an insecticide would harm growing vegetables. As part of their research project with UC professor Jessica Thomas, students learned from published research that the sweetener erythritol (marketed as Truvia®) kills fruit flies and may have promise as a natural insecticide.

The students – Bilal Hasanspahic '17, Andrew Rahme '17, Jasmina Kozenjic '17 and Edin Zvornicanin '17 – then approached Thomas and another UC professor, Sara Scanga, about taking this experiment to plants in their BIO325 (Botany) course. They wanted to test whether using the sweetener as a natural insecticide would have any effects on crop plants.

Conducted in the college's greenhouse facilities, the students found that erythritol, which comprises 99 percent of Truvia, did not harm corn plants. It did, however, have a detrimental effect on tomatoes as well as corn and tomato seeds, the students found. The research shows that erythritol exposure harms certain plants, suggesting that farmers may want to proceed with caution when using this as a natural insecticide.



The research, published in PLOS ONE, a peer-reviewed open access scientific journal published by the Public Library of Science, was coauthored by the students and professors. In fact, the researchers have filed a provisional patent with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for using erythritol in this way, Scanga said.

IN THE NEWS...

- *Public Now* and the *Rome Daily Sentinel* ran a story about the Utica College Business Programs hosting a day-long event on April 6 focused on the future of work and employment opportunities in the Mohawk Valley. [3/1](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* multimedia journalist Earl Davis previewed Utica College preparing to host the Health Expo and America's Greatest Heart Run and Walk. [3/1](#)
- *Observer-Dispatch* reporter Greg Mason spoke with **Brett Orzechowski**, assistant professor of management and media, about the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL), which allows members of the public to access records of governmental agencies. [3/1](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* and *WUTQ FM* spoke with **Dave Fontaine**, director of physical education and athletics, about the Dome passing its first test during a significant winter storm. [3/3](#)
- Hundreds of media outlets, including major national news organizations, covered UC's lockdown as the result of threats of violence, the investigation and subsequent successful outcome. A few outlets included *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *Yahoo News*, *Syracuse WSYR*, *Fox News*, *Associated Press*, *CNN* and *Thompson Reuters*. [3/5](#)
- *Observer-Dispatch* reporter Greg Mason spoke with **Luke Perry**, professor and chair of government and politics and director of UC's Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, about Reclaim New York, a nonprofit, nonpartisan group devoted to helping citizens engage their governments to facilitate governmental transparency and affordable policy. [3/5](#)
- **Luke Perry**, professor and chair of government and politics and director of UC's Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, was a guest on *WUTQ Talk of the Town 100.7 FM* to discuss the congressional campaign and politics. [3/5](#)
- *The Central New York Business Journal* ran a story about the Utica College Business Program holding the Pioneering the Future business competition on April 6. [3/5](#)
- *WRVO Public Media* reporter Payne Horning spoke with **Luke Perry**, professor and chair of government and politics and director of UC's Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, about the race between Claudia Tenney and Anthony Brindisi for the 24th congressional district. [3/5](#)
- **Anthony Martino**, director of the Northeast Cybersecurity and Forensics Center at Utica College, was a guest on *WUTQ Talk of the Town 100.7 FM* to discuss the forensics involved in locating suspects who make threats by telephone. [3/8](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* reporter Marc Barraco spoke with **Calico Yaworski '18**, **Marissa Verdon '19**, and **Malik Gayle '18** about "Together UC Us" and the efforts the campus community is taking to recover after the event earlier that week. [3/8](#)
- *WUTR Eyewitness News* reporter Marlee Tuskes spoke with **Alison Franklin**, director of counseling, **Peter Gaughan '21**, and **Lukus Becker '19** about what the UC community is doing to recover from the incident and lockdown earlier in the week. [3/8](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* highlighted **Bethany VanBenschoten**, assistant director for college engagement, being awarded at the Genesis Group Annual Striving for Success Award Dinner. [3/8](#)
- *Observer-Dispatch* reporter Amy Roth spoke with **Jeffery Gates**, senior vice president of student life and enrollment management, about the recent walk-out protests in schools due to anti-gun laws and if participation should affect college admission. [3/9](#)
- *Observer-Dispatch* reporter Amy Roth spoke with **George Nehme**, vice president of Advancement, about the impacts of financial aid at UC if Bundy Aid wasn't restored in the state budget. [3/9](#)
- *Observer-Dispatch* reporter Amy Neff Roth spoke with **Kyle Green**, assistant professor of sociology, about whether or not schools should make students wear uniforms. [3/10](#)
- **Brett Orzechowski**, assistant professor of management and media, wrote a column for the *Sunday Observer-Dispatch*, "FOIL lets sun shine on the people." [3/11](#)
- *Palm Beach Florida Weekly* reporter Robbie Spencer spoke with **Donald Rebovich**, professor of criminal justice and executive director of CIMIP, about the Identity Fraud Institute hosting its first Organizational Privacy Summit and what this means for advancement in cybersecurity. [3/15](#)
- *Observer-Dispatch* reporter Edward Harris wrote a story highlighting local women awarded Women of the Year including **Mary Hayes Gordon**, director of program operations for Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program. [3/20](#)
- **Luke Perry**, professor and chair of government and politics and director of UC's Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, was a guest on "First News with Keeler in the Morning" radio show on *WIBX* to discuss Cynthia Nixon's bid for NYS governor and the 22nd congressional race. [3/21](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* reporter **Rachel Murphy '11** spoke with **Michael McCarthy**, assistant professor of sociology and program director for masters in data science, about the Facebook data breach involving Cambridge Analytica. [3/21](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* covered the Edith Langley Barrett Art Gallery event opening. [3/22](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* reporter Alicia Daddario spoke with **Dave Fontaine**, director of physical education and athletics, for an update and preview of the Dome. [3/23](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* reporter **Joleen Ferris '92** interviewed UC guest speaker Jerry Leo, executive vice president of program strategy, lifestyle networks, NBCUniversal Cable Entertainment, and production for Bravo Media. [3/23](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* reporter Cody Mooney covered the Regional Science Fair on campus which included winners from area middle and high schools. [3/24](#)
- The *Rome Daily Sentinel* ran a story about **Joseph Ribaud**, associate professor of physics, granted an award from the National Science Foundation to help further explore how galaxies and stars are formed. [3/24](#)
- *Observer-Dispatch* reporter **Samantha Madison '10** spoke with **Anthony Martino**, director of the Northeast Cybersecurity and Forensics Center at Utica College, about Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente's proposed CyberOneida initiatives. [3/25](#)
- *WUTR Eyewitness News* reporter Jamie DeLine spoke with **Anthony Martino**, director of the Northeast Cybersecurity and Forensics Center at Utica College, about revenge porn and also spoke with **Joseph Ribaud**, associate professor of physics, about the grant he was awarded from the National Science Foundation. [3/26](#)

- *WKTV News Channel 2* covered the Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program for their 25-year anniversary celebration dinner. [3/27](#)
- *WUTR Eyewitness News* reporter Jamie DeLine spoke with **Pamela Matt**, executive director of YSLPP, about the 25-year anniversary and interviewed keynote speaker Juan Cangas. [3/27](#)
- **Joseph Ribaud**, associate professor of physics, was a guest on "First News with Keeler in the Morning" on *WIBX* to discuss the grant he was awarded from the National Science Foundation. [3/28](#)
- **Delaney Marshall '19** and **Lyndsey Chenier '19** were guests on *WKTV News Channel 2 Live at Five* to talk about Colleges against Cancer, an organization on campus, and Relay for Life that was held at Utica College. [3/29](#)
- *WKTV News Channel 2* ran a story featuring **Leslie Corbo**, assistant professor of cybersecurity, where she discussed Facebook and the importance of online privacy. [3/29](#)
- **Luke Perry**, professor and chair of government and politics and director of UC's Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, recently joined *Ivory Tower WCNY*, a weekly round-table discussion that focuses on news and events from the perspective of academicians from across Central New York. The Show was hosted by David Chanatry, professor and chair of journalism. [3/30](#)
- *Post-Journal* reporter Jordan Patterson spoke with **Joseph Ribaud**, associate professor of physics, about the grant he received from the National Science Foundation. [3/30](#)



SUCCESS STORIES

Young Scholars LPP Celebrates 25 years of "Growing Big Dreams" at Annual Dinner

Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program (YSLPP) is a multi-year collaborative project, established in 1993 with Utica College (UC) and the Utica City School District (UCSD). This program is designed by education professionals to motivate diverse and talented students to stay in school, earn a New York State Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation, and pursue post-secondary education. Young Scholars students participate in a comprehensive program providing academic, social, and cultural enrichment.



UPCOMING EVENTS/TRAINING

Please visit utica.edu/hr/training for updates and to register.

For Health and Wellness events, visit utica.edu/hr/wellness

May

- 05/01/18** Employee Recognition, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Library Concourse
- 05/03/18** TIAA Individual Meetings, Strebel Student Center, Room 105C
- 05/06/18** Graduate Commencement, 9:00 a.m., Adirondack Bank Center at the Utica Memorial Auditorium
- 05/06/18** Undergraduate Commencement, 3:30 p.m., Adirondack Bank Center at the Utica Memorial Auditorium
- 05/08/17** Supervisor Orientation, 10:00-11:00 a.m., ECJS Seminar Room (209)

AROUND CAMPUS



UC HEALTH & WELLNESS



Food Trucks are Back!

**BEGINNING MAY 16TH
12:30-2:00 P.M.**

Burrstone Rd. parking lot opposite Gordon Science Center. The first two trucks of the season will be Doughboy BBQ and Mangia Macrina Wood Oven Pizza.

Chair Massages

FRIDAY, MAY 18TH 11-2PM

Book NOW to hold your favorite time.

2018 CSA Vegetables

Please contact the farm to sign up - commonthreadcsa.com. Your participation is need to continue being a drop-off site. Financial arrangements available.



A: The UC Business Program hosted "Pioneering the Future" business competition. From Left, Rebecca Vennero '18; Inesha Briggs, MVCC; Molly D'Agostino, SU Law School; and keynote speaker Adam Day. **4/6** **B:** More than 60 students from 10 area high schools competed in the UC Regional Science Fair. **3/24**

