UC PEOPLE
Beth Samuels, Associate Director of Student Success

By: Jessica Bates ’20 PR Intern

Q: Tell us a little about yourself.
A: As the associate director of Student Success, I primarily oversee the success coaches and assist with the academic advising and course registration process at the College. I was born and raised in Falconer, NY. I am a graduate of St. John Fisher and Canisius College. I earned my master’s degree in higher education student affairs and have now been working in higher education for nine years. My husband, Matt, and I live in Rome with our beautiful daughter Charlotte. My hobbies include everything in the realm of being a mom and taking care of my little baby. Although I do not watch a lot of television lately, I do have a favorite TV show, which is Grey’s Anatomy.

Q: What does your position entail?
A: In addition to supervising the success coaches on campus, I am currently working to implement the new academic recovery program for students who need additional academic support. I am also heavily involved in the launch of a product called EAB Navigate. My day-to-day tasks include assisting the students toward degree completion and helping students retain and enjoy their experience at UC.

Q: What was the thinking behind the recent merging of the Office of Student Success and SFS?

“Merging the offices allowed it to become a one-stop shop so we could help to make sure that students are completing their degree in the correct time frame and earning the right amount of credits to help them maintain their financial aid.”

- Beth Samuels
New Hires
Doreen Rogers, Assistant Professor of Nursing, School of Health Professions and Education
Kevin Alexander, Counselor/Tutorial Coordinator, HEOP
Elaine Brown, Professor of Practice - Nursing, School of Health Professions and Education
Audrey Cross, Assistant Professor of Construction Management, School of Business and Justice Studies
Jonathan Gaffney, Assistant Professor of Physics, School of Arts and Sciences
Ismael Morales, Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity, School of Business and Justice Studies
Kyrra Marchese, Assistant Professor of Health Studies, School of Health Professions and Education
Robert Price, Professor of Practice - Cybersecurity, School of Business and Justice Studies
Margaret Roberts, Professor of Practice - ABSN (St. Pete), School of Health Professions and Education
Jillian Smith, Assistant Professor of Nursing, School of Health Professions and Education
Oligens Sulo, Professor of Practice - Nursing, School of Health Professions and Education

New Titles
Heather Breittholz, Senior Online Instructional Designer, School of Online and Extended Studies
Gregory Farley, Online Instructional Designer, School of Online and Extended Studies
Kristin Phelps, Benefits and Compensation Supervisor, Office of Human Resources

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

John Oevering
Congratulations, John, 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

“You were so helpful today getting my computer back on track. You have the best work ethic and always have a smile on your face. You are super great to work with.”

2019 FACULTY/EXEMPT PAYROLL CALENDAR

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2019 - NON-EXEMPT PAY SCHEDULE

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2019 SPRING SEMESTER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT PAY SCHEDULE

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UTICA COLLEGE RECEIVES GRANTS FOR THURSTON HALL

Utica College received $325,000 in grants to help with the construction and technologies of Thurston Hall, the College's new Construction Management building. One grant, totaling $200,000 came from the Fred L. Emerson Foundation and was awarded last month.

The other grant in the amount of $125,000 came from the George I. Alden Trust earlier this month.

Amy Lindner, executive director of government, foundation and corporate relations, completed the formal grant application for the Emerson Foundation. President Laura Casamento also visited the foundation. John Rowe, executive director of graduate admissions, made the first introduction to the foundation in February of 2017.

The Emerson Foundation, located in Auburn NY, has provided support to core community organizations in Auburn, as well as in surrounding Central NY areas. A large portion of its funding is used to support colleges and universities in the area and in just over 85 years, the Foundation has granted more than $125 million to support health and human services, parks and recreations, as well as others.

The George I. Alden Trust has awarded the College with several grants before, for a variety of different things, such as nursing simulation and biology equipment. However, the grant given to help with the specialized technology needs for Thurston Hall is the largest gift to date that the trust has made to the College.

The Alden Trust was established in 1912 by George I. Alden with the purpose of “the maintenance of some charitable or philanthropic enterprises.” Overall, the trust is interested in promoting education in schools, colleges and other educational enterprises.
Congratulations to the UC athletic department for another record-breaking semester in the classroom last Fall as 20 teams earned a grade point average of 3.0 or better. The overall athlete GPA was 3.15, with 29 student-athletes earning a perfect 4.0 and 113 student-athletes accomplishing a GPA of 3.75 or better.

Taking the lead with an overall team GPA of 3.43 is the Empire 8 Championship game-qualifying women’s soccer team, while the women’s basketball team placed second with a GPA of 3.39. The reigning UCHC Conference champion men’s hockey team accomplished a GPA of 3.38 and the women’s swimming team came in with a GPA of 3.35. The women’s golf team received a GPA of 3.32 and the Empire 8 Conference Champion men’s cross country team recorded a 3.31 to round out the top six.

The softball team, which advanced as far as the E8 Championship game last Spring along with the men’s swim and dive team finished the Fall semester with an exceptional 3.28 GPA. The women’s volleyball team held the top GPA in the department last Spring and received a 3.27 this past semester while the Empire 8 champion women’s cross country team also achieved an overall GPA of 3.27. The field hockey team hit the mark with a 3.23 and the women’s lacrosse team, after earning a conference tournament bid last Spring, had another stellar semester in the classroom with a 3.21.

The women’s hockey team, currently receiving votes in the latest national polls, concluded the Fall term with a 3.19 while the men’s golf team aced the semester with an outstanding 3.14. The men’s soccer team came in with a 3.12 and the baseball team collectively hit a home run receiving a 3.10.

Rounding out the teams with a 3.0 or better were women’s track & field with a cumulative GPA of 3.09, women’s tennis with a 3.08, water polo made a splash with a 3.02 and men’s track & field received a 3.01.

Keep up the great work!

Bryant Buchanan, professor of biology, and Sharon Wise, professor of biology and dean of the school of arts and sciences, recently co-presented two posters with students at ALAN 2018: 5th International Conference on Artificial Light at Night. The posters were “Growth and Development of African Clawed Frog (Xenopus laevis) Larvae Reared Under Different Intensities of LED Light at Night,” which was authored by Buchanan, Wise, Danielle Haasbeek ’19, Kristen Johnson ’19, and Jennifer Liu ’19, and “The Effect of Artificial Light at Night (ALAN) on Activity Patterns of a Nocturnal Salamander,” with authors Buchanan, Wise, Tenae Barker ’19 and Steffon Williams ’18.

Austen Givens, assistant professor of cybersecurity and director of the graduate cybersecurity program, recently published an article, “Going Global: The International Dimensions of U.S. Homeland Security Policy” in the Journal of Strategic Security. In this article, Givens and co-authors Nathan E. Busch and Alan D. Bersin present evidence from the homeland security sub-fields of border security, counterterrorism, cybersecurity, public health, and disaster management to show that U.S. homeland security policy is now inherently transnational in nature and therefore best analyzed and understood by taking a broader, global perspective.

Tyson Kreiger, associate professor of psychology, John Schwoebel, assistant professor of psychology, Steven Specht, professor of psychology, and Julia Shove ’18 each had submissions accepted by the Eastern Psychological Association conference in New York City.

Kreiger had three submissions accepted. The first is titled “Engaged for Success? Student Use of Traditional and Institution-Based Academic Support,” which he worked on with UC students Amina Badjievic ’18, Kali Regan ’19, and Angelee Smith ’19, as well as Christine McDermott and Albee Mendoza from Wesley College in Delaware. The second talk is titled “First-Generation College Students: Understanding Their Educational Barriers, Grit, and Motivation” which he worked on with Regan ’19 and, Smith ’19, as well as McDermott and Mendoza. He also had a poster accepted titled “Keeping the Job and Buying the Stuff: Understanding the Nature of “Adulting”” which he worked on with Regan ’19 and Smith ’19.

Schwoebel also had three submissions accepted. First was a paper titled “Enhancing Recall: The Role of Reinstating Episodic Contexts in Retrieval-Based Learning,” which he worked on with Kali Regan ’19. His next presentation is titled “Imagination: The Role of Reinstating Episodic Contexts in Retrieval-Based Learning,” which he worked on with David Buko ’19 and Brittany Gawel ’19. Lastly, he also had a poster accepted titled “Your Decisions Matter! Teaching Intervention Improves Decision Making,” which he worked on with Ashley Rohacek ’20.

Specht and co-author UC student David Buko ’19 had a poster presentation accepted titled “Meaning in Life, the “Small Self,” and Liking of Artwork.”

UC student Julia Shove ’18 had her single author submission accepted titled “Evidence of Co-Rumination in a Social Media Platform.”


Gabriele Moriello, associate professor of physical therapy, presented a paper titled “A Practical Guide to Implementing an Oral History Project in the Gerontology Classroom,” with colleagues Mary Ligon, from York College of Pennsylvania, and Katie Ehlman, from the University of Southern Indiana, at the 2018 Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Scientific meeting in Boston.

Moriello and colleagues’ manuscript for the same project was accepted for publication in the International Journal of Reminiscence and Life Review.

Moriello also had a manuscript for a project titled “Outcomes Following a Locomotor Training Protocol on Balance, Gait, Exercise Capacity and Community Integration in an Individual with a Traumatic Brain Injury: A Case Report” accepted for publication in Physiotherapy Theory and Practice. She worked on the project with a faculty member from The Sage Colleges and therapists from Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital.
MACIAG AWARDED 2018 SANS DIFFERENCE MAKER AWARD

Chester Maciag, adjunct professor of economic crime management and cybersecurity, was awarded the 2018 SANS Difference Maker Award at the SANS Cyber Defense Initiative in Washington, D.C. recently.

Maciag was nominated for this award by UC master’s student Margaret Murphy of Rhinebeck, who said, “He is an excellent teacher and truly cares about his students. He helped us learn more about the government and is very focused on helping students succeed.” In his course, Maciag taught Murphy and her classmates about nuclear engineering and nuclear non-proliferation. With the help of Professor Maciag, Murphy is currently working on her statement of purpose for her MS/PhD program application to apply cybersecurity protection to radionuclide detection devices. “I will always be grateful to Professor Maciag,” said Murphy.

By day, Maciag is a principal computer scientist with the Air Force Research Laboratory in Rome, NY, where he has worked for 28 years. He is currently on temporary assignment with the U.S. Department of Defense in Alexandria, VA. An adjunct professor at UC for 16 years, he was recognized for his contributions in the Cybersecurity master’s program. Maciag teaches CYB 671—Open Source Intelligence and has inspired students in a wide variety of fields to apply open source intelligence concepts to their research and future careers. He is known to strongly encourage women to enter the field and has contributed to measurable increases in cybersecurity.

SANS Institute is a leading cybersecurity organization that was established in 1989 as a cooperative research and education organization. The organization created the SANS Difference Makers Award to “honor security professionals that are quietly succeeding and making breakthroughs in advancing security. By raising awareness of what works, SANS hopes to help others achieve similar cybersecurity success.”

“A distinguished leader in the cybersecurity profession, Chet embodies the values and spirit of Utica College. We are fortunate to have him as an instructor in our program. This award from SANS further cements his reputation as an exceptional teacher and mentor to our students,” said Austen Givens, assistant professor and director of the graduate cybersecurity program.

Moriello had a third project accepted for publication in Physical & Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics entitled “Outcomes Following Equine Assisted Therapy on Neuromotor Function and Bladder Control in Children with Down Syndrome: A Case Series.” She worked on this project with Mary Ellen Terpstra and Jeremy Earl ’99 from the Root Farm.

James Smith, professor of physical therapy, will present four talks at the American Physical Therapy Association’s Combined Sections Meeting in Washington, DC this month. His first presentation is on “Post-intensive Care Syndrome (PICS): Rehabilitation and the Role for a Clinic” which he will present with colleagues from University at Buffalo and University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Next will be a poster presentation, “Interventions for Patient Adherence with Exercise or Activity: A Review of Systematic Reviews.” Smith’s team for this project included Utica College librarian Janis Winn and DPT students Aaron Knapp, Jenna Narolis, Emmalee Ritz, and Raphael Warnon. Narolis ’19 and Warnon ’19 will attend and participate in the presentation. Another talk will be on “Research, Scholarly Activity, and National Presentations: A PTA Educator Guide” which he presents with colleagues from Missouri and North Dakota. Lastly, he will speak about “The Praxis of Physical Therapy,” which is a presentation for the Academy of Acute Care Physical Therapy’s honorary lecture.

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

- **Tony 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 spying cameras and safe online shopping. **12/5**

- **WKTV News Channel 2** reporter **Joleen Ferris ’92** spoke with **Laura Casamento**, president of Utica College, about new safety measures at UC after the Omerovic trial. **12/5**

- **WUTR Eyewitness News** reporter Parker Tully spoke with **Sara Manning**, nursing lab simulation coordinator, about proper handwashing techniques. **12/10**

- **WUTR Eyewitness News** reporter Ben Dennis spoke with **Alison Franklin**, director of counseling, and **Scott Nonemaker**, executive director for student living and college engagement, about reducing stress for students during finals. **12/10**

- **WUTR Eyewitness News** reporter Parker Tully spoke with **Tony Martino**, director of the Northeast Cybersecurity and Forensics Center at Utica College, about net neutrality. **12/10**

- **WKTV News Channel 2** reporter **Joleen Ferris ’92** and **WUTR Eyewitness News** reporter Parker Tully spoke with **Suzanne Lynch**, professor of practice in economic crime, about money laundering. **12/11**

- **WUTR Eyewitness News** reporter Jenn Seelig spoke with **Alison Franklin**, director of counseling, about holiday stress and depression. **12/18**

- **Dave Roberts**, adjunct professor of psychology, wrote an article for the Medium, “During Times of Challenge, Angels Appear.” **12/19**


- **Luke Perry**, professor 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 Mitt Romney’s latest attack on President Trump. **1/04**
A: Through New York State, a lot of student scholarships and tuition assistance is dependent on course credit and degree completion. A lot of the requirements for NYS TAP and the Enhanced Tuition Awards are connected and dependent upon if the student is earning and maintaining enough credits toward their degree. Merging the offices allowed it to become a one-stop shop so we could help to make sure that students are completing their degree in the correct time frame and earning the right amount of credits to help them maintain their financial aid. By moving into the same office, students can easily meet with their financial aid counselor and success coach at the same time or one right after the other. We are also implementing the concept of an academic care team, which includes the faculty advisor, the success coach, and the financial aid counselor.

Q: What changes were made?

A: We are now called the Center for Student Success. We work hand in hand with all the areas of need. The big change is that we have more people working with each student. With this merge, we are now able to connect with each other much more quickly and much more easily. We are able to track students progression easier and resolve any issues that may arise in a really efficient manner. With the merging of the offices, we’re collaborating more with various departments. Working with other offices isn’t necessarily a change, as we have been doing this all along. However, the speed at which we are to accomplish these collaborations to help get students’ needs met has changed due to our combined offices.

Q: In what ways will this move continue to be beneficial in the future?

A: From when a student makes a deposit to when he or she applies to graduate, the merge of the two offices really helps to make sure that the student understands the academic piece of what he or she needs to do for degree completion, but also hand in hand with how much they are paying, how much they are going to owe in loans, and any other questions they might have about the financial aspect of their college experience. We’re including an entire financial literacy component about understanding exactly what higher education costs and what that means for each individual student. Therefore, moving forward, everything is streamlined. From the moment the student makes the deposit, he or she can meet with both individuals and have assigned staff members that work with them depending on their major.

Q: Can you think of specific instances where this merge has been particularly helpful to students?

A: Absolutely! In between semesters, the merged offices have been able to connect a student who may have a financial need get that resolved and in the same moment, as soon as that financial need was handled, we were able to get that student registered for classes instantly. We have had a lot of students who have noticed that it is a lot easier and a lot more efficient. They no longer have to track people down, run around, or go back and forth from office to office. It’s all done simultaneously. People are now aware, and we can track how we are doing. We’re also able to address the needs of students who may have had a rough semester, a rough start, or whose fall semester just didn’t go the way they wanted it. We’re able to incorporate financial literacy, intrusive academic support, and by partnering with career services, we’re able to talk about majors and minors and if a program is right for a specific student.

THANK YOU!
FEED OUR VETS GRATEFUL FOR UC SUPPORT

Dear: All who made the veteran’s concert possible.

On behalf of Feed Our Vets, I thank you for your support of and donation of 100 pounds of food and $260.00 cash donation to the Feed Our Vets Organization. Wow, an awesome donation and very generous. You folks are a blessing to the Military Veterans who gave so much for this country and are to be commended as well as being true patriots of the United States. Thanks for letting us be the recipients of your generosity. Please keep us in mind for next year. This is the fifth year in a row that you folks have supported the mission of the FOV Organization. It is so much appreciated. The exposure of the FOV Organization was fabulous. Thanks again and God Bless.

In 2014 we gave out 98,000 pounds of food and fed 1,900 vets and their families. In 2015 we gave out 172,000 pounds of food and fed 2,220 vets and dependents. In 2016 we gave out 200,000 pounds of food and fed 2,900 vets and dependents. In 2017 we gave out 230,000 pounds of food and fed 3,200 vets and dependents. So as you can see, we need your help. We have a total of 521 registered veterans plus their dependents in the Utica area alone. We also have a pantry in Watertown, NY. We also have a mobile pantry trailer that we use to travel to locations throughout New York State. Utica pantry address in Utica is 195-206 Genesee Street, Utica, NY. Call 315-982-0698 for pantry times. Donations given in the Utica area stay in Utica.

Our needy and hungry vets, their spouses and children thank you. We look forward to your support in the future. If we can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to contact me. If you would like to tour the pantry and see your donations at work, please give me a call.

Yours in Patriotism,
Joseph P. Ancona
Master Sergeant (Ret), US Army
Director, Utica Feed Our Vets Pantry
315-982-0698
UPCOMING EVENTS/TRAINING
Please visit utica.edu/hr/training for updates and to register.
For Health and Wellness events, visit utica.edu/hr/wellness

January
01/17/- Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Events. Please visit utica.edu/mlk for a detailed event listing.
01/31/19

February
02/25/19 TIAA Individual Meetings. 9:00-5:00 p.m., Strebel 105C

Check out HR’s new page for training and development:
utica.edu/hr/trainingopp.cfm

SAVE THE DATE

UC To Host 2019 America’s Greatest Heart Run/Walk
Saturday, March 2, 2019

UC will once again host America’s Greatest Heart Run/Walk on Saturday, March 2. As in years past, the College will also host the Health Expo on Friday, March 1. Look for TEAM UC’s various fundraising events to take place in the coming weeks!

For more information please visit www.utica.edu/heartrun or Contact Marissa Finch at mmfinch@utica.edu or x4575 for more information.

Pennies: This Means War!
The war is on! Departments across campus are pooling their pennies in an effort to support Team UC in America’s Greatest Heart Run and Walk. Each penny deposited will count one point toward an office total, while silver coins or dollar bills can “sabotage” another office (for example, a nickel is a -5 point sabotage, while a dollar bill is a -100 point sabotage).

This year’s participating offices are: Arts & Sciences, Athletics, Campus Safety, Events & Conference Programs, Facilities, Financial Affairs, Human Resources, the Library, Center for Student Success, Student Living and College Engagement, and the Welcome Center! If you wish to help any of these offices and Team UC, please stop by with your spare change!

2018 HOLIDAY PARTY

Members of the Holiday Party Planning Committee send a big THANK YOU to members of the College community, who once again have shown tremendous generosity in supporting local causes:

Twelve full boxes of “wish list items,” as well as monetary donations totaling $603, were collected and delivered to the Stevens Swan Humane Society.

The 50/50 raffle raised a total of $774. Winner Jennifer Klimek-Yingling, assistant professor of Nursing, generously donated back her winnings. Combined with funds raised during the Student Holiday Dinner, a total of $1075.17 will be donated to Valley Kids Care Foundation.

Thank you also to members of the Utica College Board of Trustees for sponsoring this wonderful annual event.

Holiday Party Planning Committee:
Mariann Munson
Brandi Dodge
Colleen Bentley-Ciccone
Beth Ricci
Jessica Skeldon
Joanne Hathaway