UC PEOPLE

R. Scott Smith, Professor of Psychology

By Marissa Verdon ’19, PR Intern

Q: Tell us a little about yourself.
A: I’ve been teaching psychology here at UC since 1991. I generally teach more applied courses like counseling interviewing process, abnormal psychology, industrial and organizational psychology, and I often teach an anthropology course called “Culture and personality.” Prior to being a professor at UC, I worked for a couple of years at Wake County Child and Family Services in Raleigh, NC. I got my undergrad in psychology at the University of Rochester and both my master’s and doctorate at Duke University in clinical psychology.

Q: What made you come to UC?
A: What brought me to UC was a wonderful mix of circumstances. I had done a program in the summer after I had earned my Ph.D. at Duke University and the keynote speaker at the program encouraged women and underrepresented groups to seek careers in the sciences and particularly go to graduate school in the sciences. The speaker, Julian Earle, a physicist at NASA, happened to be very good friends with Ron Danilowicz, the chair of the computer science department here at UC. Ron mentioned to him that we had a number of faculty positions open and asked Julian if he knew of any freshly minted Ph.D.s, and I was recommended. It’s interesting though, I went for my undergraduate at the University of Rochester and I promised myself that I would never return to upstate NY. I figured I’d go see what it was all about and the warmth of the people offset the

“I do think there is a bit more sympathy for the refugee experience in the community here than there might be in other places.”

- R. Scott Smith

"Warmest" thanks to members of 10 Greek organizations at UC who raised funds to purchase warm hats and gloves for first-grade classes at Kernan Elementary in Utica. The early holiday gifts were hand-delivered, to the delight of many youngsters. (See page 7 for more photos). 12/12
New Hires
Ashlea Schad, Director of Development, Office of Advancement
Paula Gravelding, Administrative Assistant II, School of Health Professions and Education
Julie Laribee, Purchasing/Accounts Payable Specialist, Office of Purchasing/Accounts Payable
Melissa Phimasone, Administrative Assistant III, Office of Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program
Kelley Citrin, Administrative Assistant III, Center for Student Success
Zachary Duff, Mail Services Clerk, Office of Communications
Tristan Brooks, Transfer Credit Evaluator - ABSN Coordinator, Office of the Registrar
Saikat Chakraborty, Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry, School of Arts and Sciences
Mario Colon, Interim Director of the Barrett Art Gallery, School of Arts and Sciences
Mikelle Deck, Site Assistant, Young Scholars Liberty Partnerships Program
Samantha Dewan, Site Assistant, Young Scholars Liberty Partnership Program
Elizabeth Dohner, General Accounting Clerk, Office of Financial Affairs
Anthony Figueroa, Technology and Media Support Specialist, IITS
Julian Galimo, Regional Development Officer, Office of Alumni and Development
Lena Moser, Director of Learning Commons, Library
Jade Osterhout, Assistant Sports Information Director, Athletics
Kimberly Devins, Coordinator of Enrollment Operations
Sara Heinrich, Campus Employment Coordinator

Title Changes
Paula Bochniak, Financial Analyst, Office of Financial Affairs
Lauryn Moore, Director of New Student Programs, Office of Student Affairs
Kathy Novak, Assistant Registrar-Data Management, Office of the Registrar

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The Kudos Card program monthly drawing winner is...
Jennifer Yanowitz
Congratulations, Jennifer, 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

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2020 Spring Semester Student Employment Pay Schedule

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2020 FACULTY/EXEMPT PAYROLL CALENDAR
Leslie Corbo, assistant professor of cybersecurity, speaks with WUTR Eyewitness news reporter Jenn Seelig about how law enforcement agencies obtain information from social media accounts. 10/03

- **Outside** interviewed **Steven Specht**, professor of psychology, calling upon his research on nostalgia to help create an unscientific ranking of the best popsicles. 8/30

- **Luke Perry**, professor of government and politics and director of UC’s Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, was a guest on **WIBX Radio’s First News with Keeler in the Morning** to discuss Claudia Tenney entering the race for NY-22. 10/1

- **Luke Perry**, professor of government and politics and director of UC’s Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, was interviewed by **City and State New York** reporter Zach Williams about Democrat congressional challengers backing impeachment. 10/2

- **WKTV News Channel 2** covered a story on Utica College’s football team showing its support for the Believe 271 Foundation by hosting the annual Believe Bowl. 10/4

- Utica College was ranked one of the top five Online Bachelor’s in Corrections by **Online Schools Report**. 10/7

- **WKTV News Channel 2** covered a story about Utica College’s football team hosting a luncheon before the annual Believe Bowl, naming honorary team captains and cheerleaders. 10/7

- **Blaise Faggiano**, head football coach at UC, was a guest on **WIBX Radio’s First News** with Keeler in the Morning to discuss the annual Believe Bowl.

- **Leslie Corbo**, assistant professor of cybersecurity, was interviewed by **Health Tech Magazine** reporter Jacquelyn Bengfort about phishing attacks. 10/10

- **Chris Tingley**, assistant professor of marketing and strategy, was a guest on **WKTV News Channel 2** at Daybreak to discuss marketing of e-cigarettes and vaping products. 10/10

- **Wall Street Journal** reporter Jimmy Vielkind spoke with **Luke Perry**, professor of government and politics and director of UC’s Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, about the Town Hall featuring Democratic presidential hopefuls. 10/10

- **Dave Roberts**, adjunct professor of psychology, wrote an article for **Medium**, “The Blessing of Shock.” 10/11

- **Observer-Dispatch** highlighted Utica College’s partnership with New York Sash for the Teddy Bear Toss, which supports Operation Sunshine’s holiday campaign. 10/13

- **Observer-Dispatch** ran a feature story on Utica College’s Emergency Medical Services club. 10/16

- **WKTV News Channel 2**, **WUTR Eyewitness News**, **WIBX 950**, and **Observer-Dispatch** highlighted Utica College’s press conference at which UC celebrated receiving the largest bequest in its history. 10/16

- **Rome Sentinel** ran a follow-up story about Utica College receiving the largest bequest in its history. 10/16

- **Central New York Business Journal** highlighted the bequest given to Utica College. 10/17

- **Dave Roberts**, adjunct professor of psychology, wrote an article for **Medium**, “Assemblage: If I Could Be Where You Are.” 10/22

- **Luke Perry**, professor of government and politics and director of UC’s Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, was interviewed by **City and State New York** about Representative Elise Stefanik. 10/22

- **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 the controversy surrounding political ads and fake news on Facebook. 10/22

- **Galaxy Media** reporter Joe Salzone interviewed **Luke Perry**, professor of government and politics and director of UC’s Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, for his public affairs radio show regarding the impeachment inquiry. 10/23

- **Dave Roberts**, adjunct professor of psychology, wrote an article for **Medium**, “The Boys of Summer.” 10/27
Congrats to Utica College faculty and staff, Jessica Amerosa, assistant director of learning services, Samatha Ashley, area coordinator, Dawn Cittadino-Santiago, administrative assistant, Dawn Evans, assistant professor of physical therapy, Kristin Garrity, assistant athletic trainer, Clemmie Harris, assistant professor of history, Christopher Hicklin, adjunct lecturer of English, Mara Horan, adjunct lecturer of theatre, Douglas Houghton, adjunct professor of English, Aaron Mallace, assistant professor of health studies, Matthew Marmet, assistant professor of management, Dave Roberts, adjunct professor of psychology, Mary Siniscarco, associate professor of health studies, Steven Specht, professor of psychology, Mark Vrooman, assistant professor of management, and Jennifer Yanowitz, associate professor of psychology, who were honored by UC’s Women’s Basketball team at the 8th annual “A Game for Brooks Miles.”

Kyung-seok Choo, associate professor of criminal justice and economic crime and director of the financial crime and compliance management master’s programs, was elected president of the Korean Society of Criminology in America, a nonprofit, academic organization that pursues scholarly research and professional activities in Korea-related criminology and criminal justice areas.

Thomas Crist, Harold T. Clark, Jr. Professor of Anthropology and Anatomy and professor of physical therapy, presented a paper titled “Osteobiographies of British Prisoners from the Old Convict Burial Ground on Watford Island, Bermuda” at the annual conference of the Society for Historical Archaeology.

Crist also presented a paper titled “Dental Restorations as an Indicator of Lifestyle Change in a Nineteenth-century Woman from New Hampshire” at the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Conference.

Crist also served as the keynote speaker at the annual conference of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology.

Kathleen Cullen, assistant professor and chair of education, conducted a roundtable presentation titled “Critical Literacy in Community: A Self-Study of Teacher Educators Across Contexts” at the Literacy Research Association’s (LRA) 69th Annual Conference.

Ashraf Elazazzi, professor of physical therapy, and David Schilling and Aaron Mallace, assistant professors of physical therapy, coauthored “Shoulder Range of Motion Characteristics in Division III Collegiate Softball and Baseball Players,” which was accepted for publication in International Journal of Sports Physical Therapy, Vol. 14, (5).

Dawn Evans, assistant professor of physical therapy, gave a presentation at Utica College’s Integrated Healthcare Strategies Conference.

Richard Fenner, associate professor of economics, and Zhaodan Huang, professor of finance, coauthored a piece titled “Idiosyncratic Volatility Shocks, Behavior Bias, and Cross-Sectional Stock Returns,” which was published by the Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance.

Elizabeth Gleasman, associate professor of nursing, completed a presentation entitled “Communication in a Multigenerational Workforce” at the annual Campaign for Quality conference at Hamilton College.

Molly Hickey, associate professor of physical therapy, will present 2 three-hour educational sessions titled “Frontiers in the Future of Acute Care Clinical Education” and “Once Upon a Time, There was a Clinician who Wished to be a Lab Assistant...” at the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting in February.

Hickey also presented a three-hour educational session titled “Assessing Simulation-Based Learning Through a Curriculum: A Call to Action” at the Academy of Physical Therapy Education/American Physical Therapy Association Education Leadership Conference.

Zhaodan Huang, professor of finance, coauthored a paper titled “Momentum, Reversal, and the Firm Fundamental Cycle,” which received the Best Paper Award from the World Finance Conference.

James Knippen, adjunct lecturer of English, had his poem “Couplets for Hopelessness” published by Denver Quarterly.

Sara Manning, nursing lab simulator coordinator, was a conference organizer for the Sharing is Caring Conference hosted by Simulation Educators of Eastern New York, an organization for which she is the leader.
Manning also completed a presentation at the conference titled “Simulation Challenges and Solutions: From Evaluation and Facilitation to Certification and Workload.”

Denise Nepveux, associate professor of occupational therapy, presented a poster titled “Awaiting Change: Disabled People’s Perspectives on Ten Years of Ghana’s Persons with Disabilities Act” at the Nordi Network on Disability Research in Denmark.

Stephanie Nesbitt, associate professor of risk management and insurance, coauthored with James Norrie, adjunct professor of cybersecurity, a chapter titled “Five Eyes Intelligence Relations” for a book titled “Intelligence Relations in the 21st Century,” published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Brett Orzechowski, associate professor of journalism and management, was nominated by students and community stakeholders for the Community Connector category for the Upstate Venture Connect’s annual conference.

Christopher Riddle, associate professor of philosophy, was selected as a finalist for the inaugural Baruch A. Brody Award & Lecture in Bioethics, which recognizes junior and mid-career scholars who have made important theoretical contributions to the field of bioethics.

Victoria Schad, professor of practice of nursing, was an editor for the Touhey: Ebersole & Hess’ Gerontological Nursing and Healthy Aging, 6th Edition.

David Schilling, assistant professor of physical therapy, and Ahmed Radwan, associate professor of physical therapy, presented “Are Athletes Ready to Return to Competitive Sports Following ACL Reconstruction and Medical Clearance?” at the World Congress of Physical Therapy Conference in Geneva, Switzerland.

Schilling also presented a poster on “Interventions for Partial Thickness Rotator Cuff Tears: A Systematic Review” at the American Physical Therapy Association’s NEXT Conference.

Ellen Smith, assistant professor of nursing, presented two posters at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Baccalaureate Education Conference.

James Smith, professor of physical therapy, represented the American Physical Therapy Association on a Technical Expert Panel held by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to address Functional Outcome Quality Measures for Long-Term Care Hospitals.

Smith presented two education sessions titled “Post-intensive Care Syndrome (PICS): Rehabilitation and the Role for a Clinic” and “Research, Scholarly Activity, and National Presentations: A PTA Educator Guide” at the American Physical Therapy Association’s Combined Sections Meeting 2019.

Smith also presented a poster session with UC students Jenna Narolis ’19 and Raphael Warnon ’19 titled “Interventions for Patient Adherence with Exercise or Activity: A Review of Systematic Reviews” at APTA’s Combined Sections Meeting 2019.

Smith also joined the board of directors for Resource Center for Independent Living’s Living Independently is For Everyone, Inc. (LIFE).


Laurence Zoeckler, professor of education, Patrice Hallock, professor of education, and Kathleen Cullen, assistant professor and chair of education, gave a presentation titled “Induction into the Profession: The Experience of New Teachers” at the 2019 New York State Association of Teacher Educators - New York Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Annual Fall Conference.

Please send information, and photos, for KUDOS to source@utica.edu.
cold of the climate, and I’ve been here ever since. Over the years, I’ve reflected on snow blowing vs. boarding my house for hurricanes and decided that snow blowing far outweighs hurricanes.

Q: You’ve been doing some research lately; would you like to tell us about it?

A: The research I’ve been doing for the last several years is the psychology of cultural evolution, particularly focused on an area in the French Caribbean. I first became interested in this because I had an opportunity to go to the island of Martinique a few years ago. During graduate school, I was very interested in the work of Frantz Fanon, who did a lot of interesting work on racism as psychopathology and the psychological impact of racism on its targets.

I sort of filed that in the back of my mind and when I got the opportunity to go there I said to myself “Why does that sound familiar? Wait, that’s where Frantz Fanon is from!” As I learned more about the island and its history I became really fascinated. It’s a very interesting place in that it and its sister island, Guadeloupe, are some of the very few former colonies that ended up deciding not to seek independence from the colonizer but rather to join and petition to be added to the state of France. They basically have the same relationship to France as Hawaii does to the United States. They have representation in the senate and assembly, operate under French laws, use the euro as currency, and pretty much any store you can find in Paris you can find in Martinique. They are French but decidedly not French and I wanted to understand that relationship. The other thing that fascinated me about it is that there’s a very interesting dynamic where they embrace all aspects of their cultural narrative in terms of being able to look at a pluralistic society that in lots of ways seems to have a very healthy attitude and much less inter-ethnic conflict than we’re used to.

I co-authored a book with my colleague and wife in 2015 on the cultural evolution in Martinique from 1635 when it was colonized up to the present. We’re currently working on another book on Guadeloupe and looking at these two islands like siblings in a family, quite similar but very different in many ways.

Q: That’s such a unique blend of cultures. Where did this interest come from for you?

A: It’s very interesting to look at both the internal culture of the island and how they relate to other island nations in the Caribbean. This sort of evolved out of my interest in how communities adapt to newcomers like refugees. I’ve done a lot of research on what made Utica such a particularly effective refugee settlement site. The term “culture shock” refers to how people who come to a new place have to adapt, but I became interested in looking at it from the other angle, how do communities adapt to newcomers?

I really wanted to investigate in particular how Utica and the Mohawk Valley in general has adapted to so many refugees. I think currently it’s 1 in every 7 people living in the Mohawk Valley is a refugee; that’s a pretty substantial chunk of our population. We’re fourth per capita in the nation for population who are refugees and we do a pretty damn good job resettling them. In college, everybody talks about how freshmen have to adapt to the new college, but there’s not a lot of talk about how seniors have to adapt to the incoming freshmen. Not a perfect analogy, but it gives an idea of how I approached that topic.

Q: With so many waves of immigrants coming to Utica, do you find that overall are people accepting of new immigrants?

A: Yes, I think that part of the reason Utica has had so much success is that it had a fairly long history of migration and that history still has a current connection. For example, many people of Italian descent here still have grandparents or parents who are first-generation, so there are first and second-generation immigrants from places like Italy, Germany, Ireland, and even Poland, Russia, and Ukraine. There are already established pockets of community that have a living current connection to the experience of immigration and even some refugees, particularly the Russian and Ukrainian population who fled the former USSR in the 1980s because of religious persecution.

One of my findings was that I do think there is a bit more sympathy for the refugee experience in the community here than there might be in other places. That’s not to say that there aren’t people who have really inaccurate and misguided ideas about refugees but what’s interesting to me is a lot of the major systems present here were from the top down very responsive to the presence of refugees. For example, the hospital system here is really ahead of their time with robust translation services, especially for cities of this size. We have strong multilingual medical translations, legal translation services, and the municipal housing authority has done a lot to adapt their policies and procedures to assist refugees with housing and to connect and make it a mutually rewarding experience.

The Utica City School District has done an enormous amount with ESL and is really culturally sensitive to the fact that there are some 17 different languages representing somewhere around 39 different countries in Proctor High School. The very fact that the systems that affect people’s lives on a day-to-day basis have really found ways to adapt themselves willingly and in most cases pretty effectively to the presence of refugees make this area, according to the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees, the “town that loves refugees.” They actually had a whole UNHCR magazine devoted to highlighting what an awesome job Utica does resettling refugees.

Q: Switching gears, you’ve been at UC for 29 years. What changes have you seen?

A: There are a number of pretty significant changes in the college. One significant change is the college has expanded and it’s become much more anchored within the community. The best example of that is the Young Scholars program, which started in 1993. That program has been a really vital part of linking and connecting Utica college to the Utica community. A lot of those Young Scholars are from refugee backgrounds and I’ve had the privilege of seeing of several students who started out in the first cohorts and deciding to come here and were great students and see them go on to be very successful. We’re starting to see a change and an inflection point, a lot of people may not be aware of this, but the college’s student population is more diverse now than it was when I arrived here, and even then the college was
population is more diverse now than it was when I arrived here, and even then the college was pretty diverse. We’re now beginning to see progress in the faculty and staff mirroring the student population, and I am encouraged by witnessing this.

Q: When you retire in May 2020, what are your upcoming plans?

A: Well, I am also a practicing clinician and have maintained a very limited part-time practice. Part of the reason I was skeptical about taking a job at UC is because my career game plan was that I’d be in the trenches doing clinical work and then someday retire into academia, so as it happens I stood that on its head and now I’m feeling the call of the one-on-one aspect of clinical work. I think I would just like to spend a little bit more of my time doing that.

Q: Anything else you’d like to add?

A: I’d just like to add that the major reasons I have stayed at Utica College and what I will miss most when leaving here is the colleagues that I have who are ferociously dedicated to the well-being of students and each other, and care passionately about academic the purpose of a liberal arts education. That has been such an incredibly nourishing and encouraging environment to be in. The other thing that has kept me here that as a first generation college graduate myself, 55% of our students are first generation students and it speaks to the mission of UC. I and every colleague I’ve interacted with on a daily basis are determined to do everything we can to educate and prepare those students so when they leave here, they will be competing with people who have a long legacy of college attendance and compete on an even playing field. I feel that is truly noble work and that is what I cherish about this place and I will continue to support that mission in any way I can, even when I’m not here full time.

There are far too many people to mention but, I’ll go into my Oscar speech and say that I’m going to thank everyone who has been kind and thoughtful.
February

02/13  TIAA Individual Meetings. Stribel 105C please call 1-800-732-8353 to schedule an appointment.

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

UC To Host 2020 America’s Greatest Heart Run/Walk

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Team UC is excited to be continuing our initiatives for the Heart Run and Walk which will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2020! If you would like more information on the Health Expo (held on Friday 3/6) or on the Heart Run and Walk please visit our website utica.edu/heartrun.

Team UC is also excited to announce some information on our next two fundraisers.

Penny Wars

Last year we raised over $850 on this war and Facilities became the 2 year-running grand prize champions!

Sip & Paint

Team UC will be hosting our 2nd Annual Sip and Paint for UC Faculty and Staff on Wednesday, February 5 at 5pm in the Carbone Auditorium. Some specific information on this fundraiser:

- This event is open to UC Faculty and Staff and one guest who are over 21 years of age.
- The cost for participation is $25 per person or $40 per couple.
- The cost will cover one 16x20 canvas painting (the image will be similar to the photo provided but may not be exactly identical).
- The cost will also cover 2 glasses of wine from Sodexo (please make sure you bring proper identification).
- To register: https://goo.gl/forms/aWoNlslJlcp7PH2

We look forward to seeing you for some of our events!