UC PEOPLE

Halina Lotyczewski, Executive Director of the Center for Career and Professional Development

By Jessica Bates ’20, PR Intern

Q: Tell us a little about yourself.
A: I’m originally from Palmyra, NY, a classic Erie Canal village just outside Rochester. While it boasted small town charm, I was eager to expand my horizons and find new experiences to shape my worldview. At the age of 13, I managed to convince my parents to allow me to travel to Poland by myself and live with relatives there for a year. It was a kind of family exchange program orchestrated by my grandmother, as a year later I returned with a cousin who resided with my family for a year.

Living in rural Poland just a few years after the fall of their Communist government was a revelatory experience, and it in part led me to study sociology at SUNY Geneseo. I then went to Fordham University for a master’s degree in social work with concentrations in both research and administration. While at Fordham, I participated in a year-long internship at Hoffmann – La Roche Pharmaceuticals, where I designed staff development programs, some of which centered around career development. After graduation, I concentrated my job search to this field, and that ultimately led me to UC. I wanted to work in a setting where I would have the ability to make an impact, and I haven’t been disappointed. My favorite part about working here is the opportunity I have to collaborate with faculty and staff colleagues on a range of institutional issues, all with the central focus of improving the student experience.

“The ultimate goal, of course, is to advance our students’ interests and support them with their career and professional development.”

- Halina Lotyczewski

Held in the Ellen Knower Clarke Lounge, a vigil kicked off a number of events on campus celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. See page 7 for more photos. 1/20
HEART RUN & WALK 2020 EVENTS

Team UC is excited to be finishing up 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 www.utica.edu/heartrun.

Team UC is also excited to announce some information on our final fundraisers and educational initiatives that we have going on this month.

T-SHIRT SALES & RAFFLES
THROUGH MARCH 6

Monday - Friday
Dining Commons
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesdays & Fridays
White Hall Bake Sale Table
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

HEART RUN & WALK UP PARTY
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Stop by for Pie a Coach, Raffles, t-shirt sales, and Hands Only CPR

ANNUAL TEAM UC PHOTO
SATURDAY, MARCH 7
Ellen Knower Clarke Lounge, Strebel Student Center
9:30AM

We look forward to seeing you for some of our final events. For more information, please contact Marissa Finch (mmfinch@utica.edu)
UC GEARS UP FOR 23RD ANNIVERSARY HOSTING AMERICA’S GREATEST HEART RUN AND WALK

By Jessica Bates ’20, PR Intern

Utica College is excited to be gearing up for the Heart Run and Walk 2020 being held on Saturday, March 7 with a goal to raise more than $1 million. Nearly 10,000 people will come together to put their legs (and hearts) to work in the fight against heart disease and stroke. With the help of UC students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and neighbors, this event promises to be the most successful to date.

From February 17 to March 6, Team UC will table from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday in front of the Dining Commons selling t-shirts and raffle tickets to raise money to donate to the American Heart Association. The Team will also have a table in White Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On Friday, March 6, there will be a health expo from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Clark Athletic Center. During the expo, participants will receive a free health and wellness assessment from local medical providers and learn more about conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes and more.

On Saturday, March 7, the day of events will begin with the 30K run at 7:30 a.m. and the 10-mile run at 8:10 a.m. Buses for the 30K run will leave Utica College at 6:30 a.m. for Van’s Tavern, Barneveld. Buses for the 10-mile run will leave UC at 7:40 a.m. for Route 291, Irish Rd, Stittsville. The five-mile and three-mile runs will begin at 9:20 a.m. and will start at UC. The five-mile and three-mile walks will begin at 10:30 a.m., also beginning at UC.

The team will host the annual “Pie a Coach” event as part of a Wrap-Up Party on Wednesday, March 4 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Strebel Lounge. At this event, the team will continue to sell their Team UC t-shirts and raffle tickets for a variety of items, as well as host Hands-Only CPR sessions.

The Honorary Captain for Team UC for 2020 is Matt Miller, who joined UC on Sept. 2, 2019 as library assistant at the Circulation and Information Desk. Miller holds a bachelor’s degree from The College at Brockport, State University of New York where he majored in History and Anthropology.

Miller was chosen as this year’s honorary captain due to the struggles he’s faced, which began before he was born. While in utero, Miller had a stroke. As a result, he suffers from hemiparesis, a muscle weakness on one side of the body. At age 12, Miller was diagnosed with high blood pressure and has since had a kidney stent put in his artery to help with blood flow.

“Don’t let stereotypes about both diseases overshadow reality. Heart disease and stroke can happen to anyone, no matter their age or lifestyle,” said Miller.
IN THE NEWS...

- *WKTV News Channel 2* and the *Observer-Dispatch* covered a story on the Point of Distribution Exercise hosted by Utica College and the Oneida County Health Department, which was practice for distributing medicine in case of an outbreak. 11/6

- *WKTV News Channel 2* and the *Observer-Dispatch* covered a story on the dedication ceremony hosted by Utica College’s Student Veterans Association and Student Contractors Association, who collaborated to honor veterans and recognize students and alumni who have served in the armed forces with a special monument and flagpole. 11/8

- *The Rome Daily Sentinel* highlighted Clemmie Harris, assistant professor of history, giving a talk on “The African American Experience” at Rome Free Academy. 11/15

- *The Rome Daily Sentinel* covered a story on Utica College hosting the Veterans’ Tribute Concert to honor and recognize local veterans. 11/16

- *WKTV News Channel 2* morning anchor Katrina Smith spoke with Chris Tingley, assistant professor of marketing and strategy, about strategies for Black Friday shopping. 11/28

- The *Observer-Dispatch* and *WUTR Eyewitness News* covered a story on Utica College’s plan to build a new science center. 12/7

- 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 Campaign 2020 and Representative Brindisi’s vote to further an impeachment inquiry. 11/5

- Dave Roberts, adjunct professor of psychology, spoke with Lynda Fell of International Grief Institute, for a video titled “Day of the Dead: A Celebration of Life or Death?”

- Tony Martino, director of the Northeast Cyber Forensics Crime Lab at Utica College, was a guest on *WUTQ Talk of the Town 100.7 FM* to discuss Iranian cyber threats and Russia versus Ukraine hacking. 1/6

- 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 rational politics, NY-22, and recent attacks. 1/8

- *WKTV News Channel 2* interviewed Tony Martino, director of the Northeast Cyber Forensics Crime Lab at Utica College, about cyber threats from Iran. 1/8

- *WKTV News Channel 2* reporter Joleen Ferris ’92 spoke with Luke Perry, professor of government and politics and director of UC’s Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, about Representative Brindisi’s email pull to constituents. 1/15

- Dave Chanantry, professor of journalism, was a guest on *WUTQ Talk of the Town 100.7 FM* to discuss the importance of middle and high school students learning what real journalism is. 1/16

- WUTR Eyewitness News reporter Jazzmyn Allen spoke with Rob Swenszkowski, professor of practice of criminal justice, about when social media turns into crime. 1/17

- *The Rome Sentinel* covered a story on Christopher Riddle, associate professor of psychology, being selected as a visiting scholar at the Hastings Center. 1/17

- *The Observer-Dispatch* referenced a recent column written by Luke Perry, professor of government and politics and director of UC’s Center for Public Affairs and Election Research, in their article “Easier Voting Doesn’t Mean More Voting.” 1/16

- Suzanne Lynch, professor of practice of economic crime, was interviewed for an HBO documentary on money laundering. 1/20

- Daniel Tagliarina, assistant professor of government, spoke with Bill Keeler on *WIBX Radio’s First News with Keeler in the Morning* about impeachment. 1/21

- Spectrum News reporter Melissa Krull spoke with Adam Schoonmaker, professor of geology, about berms and if they may be able to help with recent flooding. 1/20
As a closeted introvert, I spend time outside of work reading, usually some form of narrative or expository non-fiction. When the weather cooperates, I enjoy hiking with my husband, Scott, and spirited rescue pup, Stella. I also work regularly with two Sudanese refugees on strengthening their English language skills – those women are my heroes.

Q: What does your position entail?
A: Essentially, I lead the operations of the center’s three functional areas: career coaching, employer relations and campus employment. I also like to say that it’s my job to tell my office’s story, articulating where we’ve been, where we’re going, and how we’re going to get there. This requires me to engage in meaningful assessment, advocate effectively, and build mutually beneficial partnerships with all of our stakeholders. The ultimate goal, of course, is to advance our students’ interests and support them with their career and professional development.

Q: Tell us about the expanding scope and duties of your department; what services does your department offer to students?
A: There have been a number of exciting developments within my area. We now have three career coaches, one for each school. The coaches meet with students on a number of topics, including career exploration, job and internship searches, and application support (resume, cover letters, interviewing). In the fall semester alone, we recorded 865 meetings. Additionally, we have two employer relations staff who source and engage with employers, encouraging them to hire UC students. To accomplish this, they coordinate fairs, networking events and site visits. Last semester, they brought more than 60 employers to campus, they coordinate fairs, networking events and site visits. Last semester, they brought more than 60 employers to campus, and that will double by the end of the year. Finally, campus employment is a newly acquired operation for The Center. We have 650 students working on campus, and staff in this area coordinate those experiences. One exciting initiative out of the area is the Professional Readiness Employment Program. PREP is designed to be a high-impact practice that gives students meaningful, challenging work in a mentored setting. The opportunities are specifically created to develop the skills and abilities that employers want most in entry-level talent: communication skills, critical thinking, intercultural fluency, teamwork and leadership. It’s no coincidence that these are also the skills that we teach here at UC. At this point, 20 students employed in both faculty and staff departments are part of PREP, and we’d like to grow that number.

Q: How can faculty and staff take an active role in recommending that students use the services that your department provides?
A: I think that awareness of our services, resources and events is key. There are a number of ways that we communicate information: in-class presentations, our website, our social media presence, targeted emails, etc. Because we also have employers who specifically request UC students for their opportunities, we need to rely on faculty and staff to help us source candidates. We’re eager to listen to people’s ideas, too, as we regularly tailor our services to accommodate specific requests. We take pride in our communicative nature and accessibility, and we’re always ready to collaborate and try new things.

Q: What further changes and improvements to your department do you hope to see in the next five years?
A: We’d like to broaden our work with employers to include new on ground and virtual networking events; expand on ground and virtual interviews; and develop a job shadow program to support students’ career exploration. We’re also conducting a technology audit to assess if our existing software and web-based resources best support our office’s and stakeholders’ needs, and I expect to see some improvements made there in the future. And, to scale our career coaching and reach more students, we’re also moving in the direction of developing more video-based content. The next five years has a lot in store for us, but I’m thankful to have such innovative and dedicated staff who are ready to take it on with me!
Timothy Ecklund, assistant vice president of student affairs and dean of students and campus life, received the 2019 Eminence In Mentoring Award at the annual conference of the College Student Personnel Association.

Ecklund was also elected to the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) Foundation Board for a 3-year term.

Alison Franklin, director of counseling, and counselors Sade Cardin and Brittany Higgins presented at the College Counseling Centers of New York’s annual conference that was held at Skidmore College this past June.

Alison Franklin, also presented on “Supervision & Leadership” at the Association of University and College Counseling Center Director’s annual conference in San Antonio, TX in October.

Suzanne Richardson, assistant professor of creative nonfiction, will host a free class at the Utica Public Library on “The Art of Poetry,” where those in attendance can explore their inner poet and learn and practice the basics of poetry writing.

Steven Specht, professor of psychology, presented his paper titled “High Priests and Acid Tests: Revelry and Reverence in the Context of LSD Experiences” at the Southern Humanities Conference.

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

Members of the Holiday Party Planning Committee send a big THANK YOU to the College Community, who once again have shown tremendous generosity in our efforts to support Lukus Becker ‘19.

After monetary donation, a 50/50 raffle in which winner Andy Beakman, vice president for Legal Affairs and General Counsel, generously donated back his 50/50 winnings. This, combined with donations and money from the Student Holiday Dinner, a total of $2555.00 was raised. All funds have been deposited in the “UC Cares” fund. A check will be cut and sent to Lukus.

Thank you for attending the party and for your generosity in supporting one of UC’s own. Thank you also to members of the Utica College Board of Trustees for sponsoring this wonderful annual event.

For photos of the annual holiday party, see page 8.

Holiday Party Planning Committee:
Mariann Munson
Brandi Dodge
Colleen Bently-Ciccone
Beth Ricci
Jessica Skeldon
Joanne Hathaway
UC Community members celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr’s life and legacy with two weeks worth of events and activities. 1/20-1/30
UPCOMING EVENTS/TRAINING
Please visit utica.edu/hr/training for updates and to register.
For Health and Wellness events, visit utica.edu/hr/wellness

February
02/27 - Ghost Stories at Yotsuya - (Spring Play)
03/01/20 TH-SA - 7:30 p.m., SU - 2:00 p.m., Strebel Auditorium

March
03/04/20 Internship and Job Fair hosted by the Center for Career & Professional Development 1:00-3:00 p.m., Library Concourse
03/06/20 America’s Greatest Heart Run and Walk Pre-registration, WIBX Radiothon, WKTV Heart Telethon, My Heart/My Life Expo with Health, Wellness Assessments, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Clark Athletic Center
03/07/20 America’s Greatest Heart Run & Walk, 6:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., UC campus

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

2019 HOLIDAY PARTY
Making memories at the 2019 Board of Trustees Holiday Party 12/16

Save the Date for UC Superheroes II: Day of Giving
Thursday, April 2, 2020
Get involved in this year’s Day of Giving:

- Raise funds for your department or program*
- Become an official Day of Giving Advocate and help spread the word on social media.

*Only departments or programs with restricted funds are eligible for participation.

To get involved or for more information, please contact Kerr Flanders, director of Annual Support Programs, at keflande@utica.edu or 315.792.3084 by Tuesday, March 3.