WE HAVE debated, questioned, mourned, and celebrated together over the last several months. As we transition from 2016 to 2017, I know we have learned much as individuals and a community this past year, which will serve us well as we face new opportunities and challenges ahead. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from you and with you as I support our faculty and our mission to deliver quality educational experiences for our students that have the potential to transform lives and our world in significant ways. Thank you for your hard work, your thoughtfulness, and your dedication to our students and their learning.

-- Mary McGee, Provost

CELEBRATE!
Congratulations to the 2016-17 PRIDE award recipients!

Ryan Davis, Infrastructure Architect
Gary Higgins, Technical Support Specialist and Developer
Rodney Warfield, Professor of Education

Members of the Albright community are nominated by colleagues and a committee consisting of former PRIDE recipients chooses the recipients who have demonstrated the following characteristics in their job relevant to Albright’s mission: Pride, Respect, Initiative, Desire, and Enthusiasm.

FACULTY LEAVES

Back from sabbatical for spring semester:
Jon Bekken, Professor of Communications
Brian Jennings, Associate Professor of Sociology

Sabbaticals (Spring 2017):
Devon Mason, Associate Professor of Physics
Archie Perrin, Professor of German and Art History
Rob Seesengood, Associate Professor of Religious Studies
Bartee Thompson, Associate Professor of Anthropology
Lisa Wilder, Associate Professor of Economics

Personal Leave (Spring 2017)
Bruce Auerbach, Professor of Political Science
Justin Couchman, Assistant Professor of Psychology
Keith Feigenson, Assistant Professor of Psychology
T.C. Smith, Professor of Political Science
**Professional Leave (2016-2017 academic year)**

Samira Mehta, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies

is pursuing research at the Library Congress, where she is a Larson Fellow in the John W. Kluge Center.

**Medical Leave**

Frieda Texter, Professor of Biochemistry

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**RECENT FACULTY PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Joe Cunningham, (Business Accounting and Economics) completed his 5th consecutive year of service to the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) as a member of the planning committee for the annual Accounting Educator’s Conference. Additionally, Joe serves the PICPA on the College and High School Relations committee and on the Editorial Board for the CPA Journal. The journal is published four times per year serving 22,000 members.

Teresa Gilliams (English) participated in a weekend-long course planning seminar at the Center for Hellenic Studies (CHS) in Washington, D.C. along with other faculty members from various independent colleges and universities. The seminar, aimed at assisting faculty in developing a course on *The Histories* of Herodotus to be offered next spring, involved an emphasis on the collaboration between faculty to design online common session topics, reading assignments and writing prompts, several of which she will include in the Herodotus section of her spring Synthesis course titled "What is grit?"

Brian Glaze (Art) will be exhibiting "Learn to Fly" at the Danville Art Trail in Danville, VA. for 18 months, starting in January 2017. The Danville Art Trail competition is a national call exhibition with only seven sculptures being selected for the city of Danville’s Sculpture Trail each year. “Learn to Fly” is constructed out of welded steel and stainless steel.

Jennifer Koosed (Religious Studies) attended the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. While there, she presented a paper entitled “Moses in the *Cave of Forgotten Dreams.*” She also served as a respondent with affect theorist Ann Cvetkovich, on a panel about the use of Cvetkovich’s work in biblical studies and theology.

Heidi Mau (Communications) was lead author on the book chapter “Virtual Life after ‘Game Over’ / Living in Post-Narrative Play,” published November in *Games, Leadership and Learning Environments*, InterDisciplinary Press, UK.

In November, Samira K. Mehta (Religious Studies) gave a conference paper entitled “Race, Religion, and Reproduction” at the American Academy of Religion meeting in San Antonio, TX, where she also began her term on the Steering Committee for the North American Religion Program Unit. In December, she gave a paper entitled “The Water that Transforms: Swimming Pool as Secular, California Mikveh in Jill Soloway’s Transparent” at The Transparent Symposium at The University of Rochester, Rochester, NY. She has also reviewed Hillary Kaell’s *Walking Where Jesus Walked* for Material Religion and Leslie Dorrough Smith’s *Righteous Rhetoric: Sex, Speech, and the Politics of Concerned Women for America* for Theology and Sexuality.

Shreeyash Palshikar (History) presented a paper "Violence, Diversity, and Democracy in South Asia" and performed an Indian magic show at the Annual Conference on South Asia at The
University of Wisconsin-Madison from October 20-23. He was also invited to address a public colloquium on December 17 at the Ludington Library in Bryn Mawr on the 1947 Partition of India and Pakistan.

**Lindsay Phillips** (ADP Psychology) has an article coming out in the *Journal of Adult and Continuing Education*. The article, entitled, “Adult Student Preferences: Instructor Characteristics Conducive to Successful Teaching,” was co-authored by three ADP alumnae, Carolyn Baltzer, Lisa Filoon, and Cynthia Whitley.

**Bonnie Rohde** (Business, Accounting and Economics) reviewed draft chapters 4, 7 and 16 of *Small Business Management: The New Entrepreneurial Dynamic* by Dr. G. Autry and Dr. L. Huang for SAGE Publications, Inc. She also attended the IEEE 5G Summit held at Seattle University, Washington in November. The summit provided a platform for industry leaders, innovators, and researchers from the industry and academic community to collaborate and exchange ideas on this emerging technology to help in driving the standards and strategies for rapid deployment. Additionally, Bonnie attended the “5G Innovation & Technology Roadmap” working group discussion which was held in December at Globecom 2016 in Washington, D.C. and led by Chi-Ming Chen (AT&T) and Mischa Dohler (King’s College London).

**Farhad Saboori** (Business, Accounting, and Economics) attended the joint conference of the Federal Reserve Banks of Dallas and Kansas City, “Oil and Economy: Adapting to a New Reality” in November 2016

**Farhad Saboori** and **Trudy Obazee** (Business, Accounting, and Economics) presented a paper "The Impact of Falling and Volatile Oil Prices on Oil Exporting Countries" at the 82nd International Atlantic Economic Conference in Washington D.C. on October 13-16, 2016. They also presented a paper titled “The Impact of Domestic Corruption on Foreign Direct Investment: An Empirical Analysis of Five Sub-Saharan African Countries” at the 39th Annual meeting of the Northeastern Association of Business, Economics and Technology in State College, PA. on October 27th – 28th, 2016

**Rob Seesengood**’s (Religious Studies) essay “A World of Feeling: The Affect of Lars von Trier and/as Apocalyptic” appeared in Laura Copier and Caroline Vander Stichle’s *Close Encounters Between Bible and Film: An Interdisciplinary Engagement* (Semeia Studies, 87; Atlanta, GA: SBL Press, 2016). The volume was one of four featured for review at the annual meeting of the Bible and Film subsection of the Society of Biblical Literature. In November, he presented two papers at the joint Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature (“Justice Outside the Law: Bandits, Indians, Outlaws and Messiahs in the Bible and American Westerns” and “Reading, Libraries and Urban Change in the Shadow of Late Capitalism and the Apocalypse: Walter Benjamin reads John of Patmos”)

**Melissa Wells** (Business, Accounting & Economics, ADP Business Program Coordinator) was a presenter at the Wyomissing Junior-Senior High School Career Day on the topic of “Preparing for Careers in Business”. Supporting information and materials were provided by Jenn Williamson and Sheila Hogue of the Admissions Office.
RECENT STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

December graduates inducted into the Jacob Albright Honor Society include: True Kessler, Angelyn Dodson, Katelyn Reifsnyder, Raymond Reyes, Ashley Canning, Sydney Saylor, and Neil Rapp. Each of these students graduated with a minimum grade point average of 3.7.

At December graduation, Rosa Estela Palacios-Romero and Jessica Lynn Williams were honored with the Green-Lee Academic Achievement Award, which recognizes the academic achievement of Accelerated Degree Programs students who have demonstrated overall excellence within their major and show great potential for contributions to their field.

Madelyn Greth and Viola Youssif joined Professor Joe Cunningham for the ACBSP Region Two Conference in Washington D.C., where they presented their research on corporate fraud and tax evasion respectively.

Students Bridget Christ, Lisa Davis, Marlena Dolenti, Kelly Harper, Emily Kilgore, and Matt Shehoski from the ADP Pottstown Business 14 cohort, under the direction of Melissa Wells (Business, Accounting & Economics, ADP Business Program Coordinator) created and presented a comprehensive marketing plan for a local small business, Dandelion. Dandelion is a 50-year old, women-owned artisanal jewelry retailer with locations in Wyomissing, Saucon Valley, King of Prussia, Philadelphia and Princeton, NJ. The marketing plan was orally presented to representatives of Dandelion, including the General Manager, Marketing Manager and one of Dandelion’s owners, as part of the completion of the students’ Marketing Concepts 2 course.

The following Albright students and faculty participated in the Dearden Leadership Academy: Elizabeth Weinelt, Marissa Scalese, Megan O’Brien, Coleman Mitchell, Muhammad Haras, Michael Quintin, Cynthia Rann, Jeffrey Jones, and Daniel Louviaux. Faculty: Rich Schott and Jayanthi Rajan. The Dearden Leadership Academy, aims at perpetuating the legacy of William Dearden and his desire to serve underprivileged youth. The Dearden Honor Society of Albright College will work with Dearden Leadership Academy to facilitate a training workshop for Reading High School students in February 2017. The program goals are to provide foundational leadership principles and experience to high school students using research-based content from the Center for Creative Leadership and the Dearden Leadership Academy. The Dearden Leadership Mentor training program took place at Purcell Friendship Hall, Hershey on November 14 and 15, 2016. The program was organized by Ralph Carfagno, senior director alumni relations, Milton Hershey School and president of the Dearden Foundation.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gingrich Library’s main floor is getting a sprucing up over winter break with new carpeting and painting, thanks to the generous donation of Albright alumnus and Chair of the Board, Jeff Joyce ’83. Some additional improvements will continue through the spring semester. Fundraising for the future and full renovation of the library is still on-going and a significant goal of the current Albright campaign.

Experiential Learning and Career Development Center is pleased to announce the following spring semester large events:
- Albright College Career and Internship Fair, Feb. 15
- LVCCE Career and Internship Fair, Feb. 22
- Albright College Non-Profit/Social Enterprise/Government Career and Internship Fair, March 1
- Study Abroad Fair, March 9
- Teacher Recruitment Day, March 14
- Careers in the Humanities: Thinking Outside the Box, April 5
- BYOB: Bring Your Own Briefcase – an evening of etiquette and professionalism, April 26

The Albright Study Abroad Advisory Committee selected fifteen students for a total of $33,800 in scholarships to study abroad during interim and spring 2017. Eight of the awardees will study on short-term courses led by Albright faculty and seven will study on semester-long programs.

Nineteen student-faculty pairs were selected to participate in the Interim 2017 ACRE program. Students will work with their faculty mentors throughout the interim on projects to advance their knowledge of research in their respective fields.

The Board of Visitors for our Business, Accounting, Economics, and Political Science programs, globalization committee organized a panel discussion on global issues followed by dinner in Conshohocken, Philadelphia on November 2, 2016. The objective of the event was to increase student awareness of global issues and network with the speakers. Alumnus Joe Matina hosted the event. Fourteen students and two faculty members from the department of Business, Accounting and Economics attended the event. The speakers Laura Kane, Joseph Matina and Maryellen Frank from UBS Financial Services, covered the global business environment and more specifically topics such as the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and the investment opportunities arising from them.

The 17th Annual HECBC Undergraduate Research Conference will be held at Penn State-Berks on Saturday, April 22, 2017. More information and registration deadlines will be shared soon.

**Next Faculty Meeting**

The next Albright College faculty meeting is **Wednesday, February 10, 2017, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Campus Center South Lounge.** Snacks and beverages will be provided.