University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown

Of Note

A newsletter published twice a year for faculty and staff of the University

Fall 2005

Academic Support Center

Diane Van Blerkom's *College Study Strategies: Becoming a Strategic Learner* fifth edition was published by Thomson/ Wadsworth (2006).

Academic Support Center and Natural Sciences

Several members of the UPJ faculty and staff will be attending the annual meeting of the College Reading and Learning Association being held in early November in Long Beach, Calif. Diane Van Blerkom, Academic Support Center; Malcolm Van Blerkom, Education, and Sharon Bertsch, Psychology, will be making a presentation titled, "Study Strategies and Generative Learning: What Works?" It is based on research that they have done over the past two years. Susan Dawkins, Laura Perry-Thompson, Diane Van Blerkom, and Jonathan Gonder, all from the Academic Support Center, will give a presentation titled, "It Takes a Village: Weaving a Community to Help At-Risk Students," which is based on the Success Program for UPJ Returning Students (SPURS) program that they developed last year. In addition, Diane Van Blerkom, along with several colleagues from throughout the country, will be presenting a session titled, "Transitions in CRLA Publication Opportunities: The New Media Advisory Board."

Admissions

James Gyure was awarded a doctor of philosophy degree in mass communications from the Pennsylvania State University in August, 2005. His dissertation was entitled "Organizational Identity and Partnership with Media: A Case Study from Higher Education." He holds a master's degree in writing and a bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Pittsburgh. He also has been named to the editorial advisory board of the journal, *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*, a publication of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Athletics

The Athletic Department added three new NCAA Division II varsity sports for the 2005-2006 season, women's soccer, and men's and women's golf.

Eric Kinsey has been hired full-time as men's soccer coach and men's and women's golf coach. He was previously the part-time men's soccer coach.

Crystal Dye has been hired full-time as women's soccer and women's track and field coach.

Jaime Petsch has been hired full-time as assistant athletic director.

Education

Nina Girard has been accepted to present a general interest session at the 54th Annual PA Council of Teachers of Mathematics (PCTM) Conference in Harrisburg on October 26-28. Her session titled "Arranging and Assessing Cooperative Problem Solving" is designed for an audience of middle and high school teachers, as well as teacher educators. The session will look at cooperative problem solving, which involves a group of learners working together to solve a problem, and will discuss the teacher's role and an assessment scheme that will ensure both group and individual accountability. She has served as an affiliate representative for the Laurel Highlands Mathematics Alliance (LHMA) on the PCTM Executive Board in Harrisburg for the past 10 years. And most recently, she has assumed the duties of General Co-Chair of the 55th Annual PCTM Conference to be held at Seven Springs in October 2006. The conference is being co-hosted with LHMA and the Mathematics Council of Western Pennsylvania. She will be responsible for the overall planning and organization of the conference. Several other UPJ faculty members from the Mathematics Department are assisting as committee chairs: Chris Morgan, conference treasurer; Joe Wilson, registration chair; Linda Tully and Jackie Baird, publicity co-chairs, and Terry Shustrick, NCTM materials coordinator.

Engineering Technology

Gregory M. Dick presented his journal article "Robots and Microprocessors: Increasing Student Interest in Introductory Programming," in the proceedings of the American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference, Portland, Oregon, June 12-15, 2005.

Maher Murad's journal article, "A Review of Asphalt Pavement Friction Testing, Safety Requirements, and Their Applications in Design and Maintenance in USA" was published in the *International Journal of Pavements* (IJP), vol. 3, number 1-2, pp. 63-75. His paper, "Redesigning the

Transportation Course to Incorporate Team-Oriented, Project-Based Field Assignments," was published in the proceedings of the 2005 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition, Portland, Ore. He gave a presentation at the UPJ Lunchtime Faculty Lecture Series, "Asphalt Concrete Pavement Friction: Trends and Prediction Models Using the LTPP National Database." He is an ABET Evaluator for ASCE.

Andy Rose's journal article, "RMR Rock Properties for Shallow Foundation Design" was published in the *Journal of Engineering Technology*, vol. 21, no. 2, pp. 42-50. His article, "Graphical Communication Using Hand-Drawn Sketches in Civil Engineering," was published in the *Journal of Professional Issues in Engineering Education and Practice*, vol. 131, no. 4, pp. (In press). A paper, "Interaction of Engineering Technology and Fine Arts through Instructor Collaboration," was published by Valerie Grash and Rose in the proceedings of the 2005 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition, Portland, Ore. A paper by Amy Miller, Maher Murad, and Robert Martinazzi and Rose, "The Spaghetti Factor – A Peer Leadership Model for the 'Sticking Together' of Untenured Faculty Prior to Their Tenure Decision," also was published in the ASEE proceedings.

Bev Withiam, R. L. Samuel, and K. A. Pasquariello published a journal article, "PENNDOT's Ambassador Program and UPJ," in the *Journal of Professional Issues in Engineering Education and Practice*, vol. 131, no. 1, pp. 11-12. She attended "The Written Word: What Project Managers Need to Know" 16-hour course and the PennTec 2005 – Pennsylvania Water Environment Association Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition. She has been appointed to the ABET Board of Directors representing the American Society of Civil Engineers. She also received the 2005 ASCE Faculty Advisor Certificate of Commendation.

James Bandstra, and D. A. Koss's journal article, "A Simulation of Growth and coalescence of Voids During Ductile Fracture," was published in *Materials Science and Engineering* A 387-389 (Elsevier Press), pp. 399-204. He is an ABET Evaluator for ASME. He and D. A. Koss presented, "A Void Coalescence Criterion for Ductile Fracture," at the Navy Dynamic Ductile Fracture Workshop, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock.

Brian Houston's papers, "Incorporating Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge Planning into a Construction Management Course" and "Mathcad in the Civil Engineering Curriculum," were published in the proceedings of the 2005 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition, Portland, Ore. He received a fellowship to attend the ASCE ExCEEd Teaching Workshop at USMA, West Point, N.Y.

Maddu Karunaratne presented three papers at the 48th IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems held in Cincinnati, Ohio. The papers included: "A Dynamic Switching Activity Generation Technique for Power Analysis of Electronic Circuits," M. Karunaratne, I. Ranasinghe, A. Sagahyroon; "RTL Fault Modeling," M. Karunaratne, A. Sagahyroon, S. Prodhuturi, and "A Functional Verification Environment," A. Sagahyroon, Geetha Lakkaraju, M. Karunaratne.

Robert Martinazzi and Richard Youchak had a paper, "T.H.I.N.K. – Acronym for 'Turning Hunches Into New Knowledge,' " published in the proceedings of the 2005 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition.

Amy Miller, Maher Murad, and Robert Martinazzi had a paper, "The Alchemy of Helping Freshmen Turn Dreams into Reality," published in the proceedings of the 2004 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition, Salt Lake City, Utah. Miller, D. Strayer, and T. Williams, had a paper, "Forging the Way to a Better Axle," published in the proceedings of IMECE 2005: ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition, Orlando, Fla. She spoke to seventh and eighth grade students in March at Our Mother of Sorrows and to Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center students on "What to Expect as an Engineering Student" and "What is Mechanical Engineering?"

Frank Pietryga's paper, "Solving Differential Equations Using Matlab/Simulink," was published in the proceedings of the 2005 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition. Grinberg, Stratton, Pietryga, and Maxwell had a paper, "Continuous Improvement Plan for Electric Power Systems Courses at Three Universities," published in the proceedings of the 2005 ASEE Annual Conferences and Exposition, Portland, Ore. He spoke to Greater Johnstown Career and Technology students and gave a presentation, "Power Engineering" at the IEEE Johnstown section meeting.

William Wieserman presented "Ultra-Wide Band (UWB) – A Wireless Technology and Its Applications," along with Michael Ream and Robert Gates, at the Science and Technology Forum at Concurrent Technologies Corporation.

Tom Malmgren attended a one-day Programmable Logic Controller workshop on Allen-Bradley PLCs sponsored by Advanced Technology and FutureTek and the "Outperform Your Competition: Increase Productivity Through Automation," one-day seminar sponsored by Kennametal, GE Fanuc and SME.

Humanities

Catherine Cox presented a paper, "Pink-Collar Pilgrims: Negotiating Value in the *Canterbury Tales*," at the Medieval Feminist Forum of the Modern Language Association (MLA) convention, on December 28 in Philadelphia. She also presented a paper, "Neo-Feminism and *Baise-Moi*: Reconfiguring the Rape-Revenge Genre," at the annual

meeting of the Eastern Communication Association (ECA), in Pittsburgh.

Michael Cox gave a critical paper on John Cheever's Shady Hill stories at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania College English Association in Gettysburg. He also read one of his own short stories, "Second Shot," at another session, and has been appointed as chair of the judging committee for the creative prose award for the 2006 conference. He also reviewed Per Winther's *The Art of Brevity: Excursions in Short Fiction Theory and Analysis* for *Choice Magazine*.

Valerie Grash presented a paper, "Merchant, Manufacturer, Banker, Industrialist: Men of Wealth and the Shaping of Pittsburgh's Central Business District," at the Midwest Art History Society conference in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Ako Inuzuka contributed to a chapter, with Victoria A. Newsom, "Creation, recreation, and re-creating identities: Performance theory and interculturality in global contexts," to the collection *Intercultural Communication and Creative Practice: Music, Dance, and Women's Cultural Identity* (Greenwood, 2005).

Alessandra Lynch published a poem in *The Antioch Review* and has two poems forthcoming in *The American Poetry Review*. She was awarded a residency at Yaddo this summer to complete her second manuscript of poetry, generate new poems, and write the introduction of a book (a collection of my poetry and accompanying paintings) in which she is collaborating with painter Richard Rosenblatt. She also was nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

David Magill's essay, "Spectacular Male Bodies and Jazz Age Celebrity Culture," was accepted for publication in *Celebrity Culture*, a collection from Routledge Press. His entries on Sinclair Lewis, Bruce Barton, and Willa Cather appeared in the *Encyclopedia of Men and Masculinities*, edited by Michael Kimmel. In addition, he presented four papers at conferences this year: "Toni Morrison's *Paradise* and the Crime Fiction Genre" at the American Women Writers of Color Conference in Baltimore; "Hybridity and the Re-Construction of White Masculinity in *Underworld*" at the Florida State University 30th Annual Conference on Literature and Film in Tallahassee; " 'My Valuable Qualities:' Masculinity as Property in Ernest Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises*" at the 20th Century Literature Conference in Louisville; "Paul Beatty's *The White Boy Shuffle* as Post-Civil Rights Satire" at the Penn State University Celebrating the African American Novel Conference at State College.

Victoria Newsom will present two papers at the 2005 National Communication Association Annual Convention in Boston in November. They are: "Biographies as Sociological Propaganda: An Analysis of the cultural Presentation of Lafcadio Hearn in Japan" and "War and Peace: A Study of Japanese Media Coverage of the 2004 Presidential Election." At the same conference, she will also be the respondent of the panel, "Global, 'Warming' Trends: Encouraging International Contact through Alliance Building."

Jon Ritz's personal essay "The Art of Regret" has been published in the anthology *Higher Learning: Reading and Writing About College* (Prentice-Hall). "Remembrance of Pierogies Past," another nonfiction piece is featured in the online journal *The New Yinzer*, and his review of Shelly Clark and Marjoire Saiser's *Road Trip: Conversations With Writers* appears in the current *Great Plains Quarterly*. In March he delivered a paper on "Reflections as Postmodern Writing Practice" at the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC).

Carrie Rohman attended the six-week program at the School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell University, where she studied with Professor Elizabeth Grosz in a seminar entitled "Time and Becoming: Darwin, Nietzsche, Bergson, Deleuze." Mini-seminars also were offered by scholars such as Homi Bhabha and Toril Moi. She presented a paper, "White Puppies and Sacred Cows: Species Transgression and Projection in Francis Ford Coppola's Apocalypse Now Redux," at the 30th Annual Conference on Literature and Film, held in January in Tallahassee. She was awarded the 2005 Newly-Published Lawrence Scholar Award from the D.H. Lawrence Society of North America at the international conference in Santa Fe, N.M. She presented a paper on "Ethics and the Non-Human Other" during her studies at the Cornell School of Criticism and Theory this summer. She also presented her paper, "On Marrying a Butcher: Rebecca West's 'Indissoluble Matrimony' and the Critical Unconscious of Modernism," which has been supported by a UPJ Faculty Research Grant, at the 2005 Rebecca West Society Conference in Manhattan. Her article, "Revising the Human: Silence, Being, and the Question of the Animal in Djuna Barnes' *Nightwood*" has been accepted for publication in the journal, *American Literature*. She also has been invited to participate in the Human-Animal Studies Development Conference this October, which is sponsored by the Society and Animals Forum.

María-Cristina Saavedra attended the annual Latin American Studies Association Conference in Las Vegas in the fall semester. In October, she participated in a panel on Contemporary Cuban Studies on the Oakland campus, with Pitt scholars Carmelo Mesa-Lago and Alejandro de la Fuente as part of the Contemporary Issues in Latin American Series through the Center for Latin American Studies. She also presented and led a discussion at a public screening of the film *Guantanamera* at the Melwood Screening Room through the Mattress Factory/Pittsburgh Filmmakers Cuban Film Series. In December, she attended the 26th International Film Festival in Havana, where she spoke on the topic of exile in Cuban cinema. In January 2005, she chaired the panel "Crossings and

Subjectivities: Race, Nationality, and Species in Contemporary Film" at the 30th Annual Conference on Film and Literature, in Tallahassee with David Magill and Carrie Rohman, where she presented her paper "Hybrid Identity/Hybrid Reality: Negotiating a Transnational Identity in *Cosas que dejé en La Habana*."

Kamal Verma's article "The Structure of Colonial Fantasy" has been published in the *South Asian Review* 25.1 (2004): 3-15. He attended the British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies and the USACLALS Conference held February 25-27 in Savannah, Ga. At this conference, he read a paper "Intersections of Indian and Western Aesthetics: Mulk Raj Anand as a Critic of the Arts," and also presided over a panel "The 'Other' and Mother India: Art, Poetry and Cultural Criticism." He was elected as Membership Secretary of the U.S. Chapter of the USACLALS. He was the keynote speaker at the Colloquium, Arcadia University, Philadelphia, April 5. The topic of his paper was "V.S. Naipaul's *A House for Mis Biswas*: Poetics of History, Modernity and Culture."

Jeff Webb led the UPJ Concert Choir and Blair Concert Chorale in a performance of Faure's *Requiem* on April 25 at the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center. He will be the guest conductor for the Huntington County Chorus Festival in November and the conductor of a performance of Handel's *Messiah* in December in Bedford.

Robert Whitbred's paper, "The Relationship Between the Mission Statement and Members' Interpretations in the Virtual Organization," was accepted for publication in the *Business Research Yearbook*, published by the International Academy of Business Disciplines. He was the solo author of the same paper presented at the 17th Annual Meeting of The International Academy of Business Disciplines. He was the solo author of another paper, "The Sensemaking of Organizational Mission I: A Conceptual Model," presented at the 96th Annual Eastern Communication Association Convention. The paper received a Top Paper award in the Organizational Communication Division. He was the solo author of the paper, "The Sensemaking of Organizational Mission II: A Conceptual Model and Extension (a revision and extension of the previous paper)" presented at the 55th Annual International Communication Association Convention. His co-authored paper (with Noshir Contractor, Fabio Fonti, Chunke Su, and Christian Steglich), "Understanding the Ties that Bind: A Longitudinal Investigation of the Evolution of a Communication Network," was presented at the 55th Annual International Communication Association Convention. He will present a paper titled "Mission Statements and Perceptions: A Comparison of a Bureaucracy and a Virtual Organization" at the 91st Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association being held in November in Boston, Mass.

Susan Wieczorek along with Steve Curran, John Thompson, and Michael Ferencak presented a symposium discussion, "Technical Speaking in Mathematics" as a "Vice President's Pick" at the Eastern Communication Association. Likewise, "Creating a Primary Speaking Course in Mathematics," an exploratory version of this project, also appeared at the AMS-MAA Joint Mathematics Meeting in Atlanta with John Thompson as the presenter. On February 28, Susan Wieczorek also represented her discipline at the Quest Program dinner for undeclared students. On November 9, with Michael Ferencak, Steve Curran, and John Thompson, she will present "Technically Speaking: In Math, That Is" at the Teaching Excellence Fair at Pitt, Oakland in response to their results from their ACIE Innovation in Education Grant for "The Development and Implementation of a Technical Speaking Course in Mathematics."

Patty Derrick wrote an oral history of Geistown entitled *Geistown: The Memories of a Community*. The book is available at no charge at the Geistown Borough Building.

Eric Schwerer participated in poetry readings on September 15 at The Coffee Den, Mount Lebanon, Pa., and on September 21 at the Monroeville Public Library. He gave a "Poet in the Classroom" presentation at Carnegie Mellon University. He will be the event chair and panel participant of "Life in the Provinces: Enhancing the Branch Campus Writing Major," being held in March 2006 at the Associated Writing Programs national conference in Austin, Texas with colleagues Alessandra Lynch, Michael Cox, and Jonathan Ritz. His book, *Whittling Lessons* (poetry collection, Finishing Line Press, 2005), was nominated for an Ohioana Book Award. He will have a poem in the Winter issue of *The Laurel Review*, and a collection of poems, *Went*, was a finalist for *The Laurel Review's* 2005 Chapbook Award.

Information Technology

Linda Leech, Rick Povich, and Joyce Block attended the Conference for Adobe Photoshop Users presented by CompuMaster. The conference presented Photoshop techniques in a multi-track, multi-session format.

Staff from Information Systems, Technical Services, and User Services attended web casts, webinars and on-line presentations covering new technologies ranging from "Achieving Positive ROI from Your Digital Asset Management Investment" (Extensis Software and Forrester Research) to "802.1xSecurity" (EDUCAUSE and the University of Texas-Dallas).

Information Technology-Information Systems

Joyce Block was hired in Information Systems as a systems/programmer II. Her responsibilities include support of the Estrada Content Management System and

the development of software applications to support UPJ offices and departments. She also completed Photoshop Basics, an on-line course, through Kennesaw State University-School of Continuing Education

Jeff Sernell has been awarded a Graphics and Animation Certificate from Kennesaw State University-School of Continuing Education. Course work for the on-line program included basic, intermediate and advanced courses in Adobe Photoshop, Macromedia Fireworks MX and Macromedia Flash MX.

Information Technology-User Services

Ralph Miller attended the ResNet 2005 Symposium held June 24-28 at the Georgia Institute of Technology. The symposium brought together professionals at the intersection of IT, academics, and college/university housing and offered a variety of opportunities to learn about new technologies, investigate support models, develop staff management techniques, discuss academic initiatives, and interact with peers and colleagues.

Rob Eckenrod attended EDUCAUSE 2005 in Orlando, Fla. The conference focused on the theme "IT From a Higher Vantage Point" and included pre-conference seminars; track sessions; poster sessions; small group meetings, and corporate exhibits, presentations, and workshops.

Natural Sciences

Lisa Bell-Loncella attended an advanced workshop on Computation in Chemical Education sponsored by the National Computational Science Institutive on Computation in Chemistry at the University of Northern Colorado. She will implement the case studies she developed at the workshop in her General Chemistry and Inorganic Chemistry courses. She attended the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in August in Washington, D.C. She co-presented a poster with Dr. Ping Furlan from Pitt-Titusville. The poster, "Computation and Molecular Visualization in General Chemistry Laboratories using CAChe Software" described student computational activities developed at UPJ and UPT for the General Chemistry laboratories. She was one of three presenters at a seminar for graduate students interested in academic positions at predominantly undergraduate institutions held at the Chemistry Department of the University of Pittsburgh, Oakland campus. She gave a presentation titled "Teaching at a PUI: Hints and Tips for the Job Search."

Michael Ferencak's journal article, "Outline and amalgamated transitive triple systems in the special case when just two vertices are amalgamated" was published in the *Congressus Numerantium*, vol. 167. Steve Curran and Dr. Ferencak gave a related presentation entitled "Time for a Technical Speaking Course in Mathematics?" at the 2005 Allegheny Section Meeting of the Mathematical Association of America held in April at Slippery Rock.

Teresa McConnell is a part-time figure skating coach with the Johnstown Figure Skating Club. This past July she took three students to compete at the State Games of America which was held in Colorado Springs. Overall the students received two fifth places, two sixth places, and one third place bronze medal. To qualify for the State Games of America the skaters had to place in the top three in the Pennsylvania Skating Championships held last February in York, Pa.

John Mullennix presented a research paper titled "Memory for emotional tone of voice" at the XV Annual Pacific Voice Conference on Voice Quality and Emotions in March at Emeryville, Calif. Dr. Mullennix and his collaborators (including UPJ students Amy Ross, Chris Smith, and Leslie Pivirotto), presented two research papers at the Midwestern Psychological Association in May in Chicago, titled respectively, "Do voice typicality ratings predict confusions for voice memory?," by A. Ross, C. Smith, and Dr. Mullennix, and, "Stroop effects for words representing cognitive expectancies for smoking," by Dr. Mullennix, L. Pivirotto, M. Kilbey, and S. Fisicaro. Dr. Mullennix also participated in the University of Pittsburgh Provost Faculty Diversity Seminar in May in Oakland.

Bruce Robart gave a presentation at the Association for Biology Laboratory Education 2005 conference held in June at Virginia Tech. The title of the workshop was "Digital Documentation: Merging the Traditional Laboratory Experience with Digital Imaging Technology." Co-presentors were Kim Ziance and Melanie Dropik. He gave a poster presentation of research results at the Botany 2005 conference held in August in Austin, Texas. The title was "Asia to North America and Back Again: Phylogeography of 'Pedicularis' (Orobanchacea)." Co-presentor was UPJ biology student Tom Frank.

Steve Stern and John Mullennix continued their collaborative work on social perceptions of speech technology. They, along with UPJ student Ilya Yaroslavsky, have a research article in press titled, "Persuasion and social perception of human vs. synthetic voice across person as source and computer as source," to appear in the *International Journal of Human Computer Studies*. Drs. Stern, Mullennix, and their collaborators presented a paper in April, at the Conference of Group Processes in Computer-Supported Interaction: Technological and Social Determinism, in Oxford, Ohio, titled, "Social perceptions of disabled and non-disabled users of synthetic speech: Evidence for positive prejudice and Black Sheep effects," by S. Stern, J. Mullennix, M. Dumont, and I. Yaroslavsky. They also presented two papers at the 17th Annual American Psychological Society conference held in May in Los Angeles, titled respectively, "Gender differences in memory for speech rate," by J.

Mullennix, S. Stern, O. Cornielle, and J. Huart, and "Positive prejudice toward disabled synthetic speech users persists for externally attributable factor," by I. Yaroslavsky, J. Mullennix, and S. Stern. Also, at the American Psychological Society conference, Dr. Stern presented a paper titled, "Persuasive appeals delivered with concatenated synthesized speech may be as effective as human speech," co-authored by Brezo Cortes and Jacques-Phillipe Leyens of the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium.

Alan Teich gave three presentations: Hale, T., Tarachko, S., Yaroslavsky, I., and Teich, A.H. (2005), "Gender of subject and confederate in pain threshold and pain tolerance," Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Society; Yaroslavksy, I., and Teich, A.H. (2005), "Greek sorority personality differences and specific vulnerability factors for depression," Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Society, and Teich, A.H. (2005), "Children and Divorce," 25th Annual Child Abuse Workshop, Living Learning Center, UPJ.

David Willey instructed a half day workshop on using demonstrations when teaching physics for approximately 50 high school teachers at CMU on July 21 as part of the GIPSE 2005 program. He also performed two shows this summer to raise money for the American Cancer Society, one at UPJ on July 29, the other at Forest Hills High School on June 18. On August 11 he gave a presentation at the Luzerne Community College as part of a conference on nanotechnology. On May 11 he appeared on the *Tonight Show* with Mariah Carey. And, on February 8 he performed a firewalk for the Canadian Discovery channel.

Kimberly Ziance and Bruce Robart's teaching proposal, "Integrating Digital Documentation into the General Biology Laboratory Curriculum," was selected for funding under the Provost's Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence's Innovation in Education Awards Program. She presented a workshop on stream organisms for the Environmental Day Camp program held in July at Stackhouse Park.

Nursing

Nancy Grove has published a book review of "A daybook for Nurses: Making a Difference Each Day." The review was published in the May/June 2005 issue of *Nursing Education Perspectives*. In July, she was notified that she received the third Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation grant for $24,000 for the 2005/2006 academic year. She also was just notified that a new course she developed was approved by the School of Nursing as an elective course. It is a two-credit theory course titled "Safe Practices in Health Care."

Becky Sease was a reviewer on the textbook, *The Practice of Nursing Research: Conduct, Critique, and Utilization*, published 2005. She submitted a poster for the first annual Memorial Medical Center Research Poster Symposium, March 2005. She published the fourth edition, *Introduction to Nursing Science Studyguide*, published August, 2005.

Owen Library

Deborah Rinderknecht attended the American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago from June 23-29. She also attended the Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference September 25-28 in Hershey.

James Langan attended the American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago from June 23-29. He also attended the Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference September 25-28, where he presented a poster session entitled, "Creating a Training Manual for Student Library Assistants."

Patricia Balko attended the Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference September 25-28 in Hershey.

Daniel Parker attended the Spring Conference of the Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia (WPa/WVa) Chapter of the ACRL on April 15 in Canonsburg, Pa.