



Where Are They Now?

Zachary Beaver



# Faculty Updates

## Dr. Holley A. Belch

Well, the fall this year seems to mirror last October at this time. It's sunny and in the 70s – a glorious time of year. It does appear though that the "real" fall will emerge later this week. In some ways I'm looking forward to the sights, sounds, and crisp air – pumpkins, hay bales, and the last spurts of humming from lawn mowers as we prepare for the winter season.

As the yearly cycle of beginning another academic year settles in with new students in classrooms, I am pleased to share that I am excited to work with the incoming cohort of students. They are a good bunch and are destined to be good practitioners.

Last spring brought the typical spring events -- attending ACPA in Las Vegas, the SAHE Banquet, and commencement in Pratt Auditorium. Perhaps the most exciting news is the hiring of a new faculty member, Dr. Mimi Benjamin. She's already had an impact and is a great addition to SAHE.

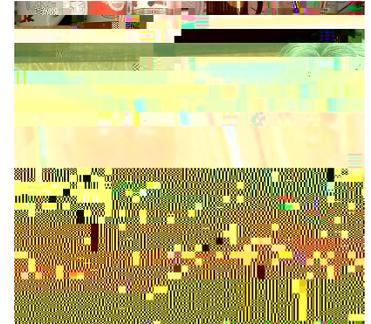
During the spring, I also spent time finalizing a book chapter, which is part of a compendium of books ACUHO-I published during the summer. My scholarship focused on students with psychiatric disabilities continues.

The summer was a bit different this year. After spending a good deal of time in Vermont during June, I was able to visit with friends in Indiana (the state), Massachusetts, and Washington, DC and went to Boston for some time with my nieces. While in Indiana (the town), I focused on biking, training for a charity half marathon walk, and general projects around the house... oh, and an occasional nap on a rainy day. It was a wonderful time for reflection, rejuvenation, and simply just being.

As we engage in another year of working with students, remember the wise words of Snoopy that great flying ace and philosopher – "Learn from yesterday. Live for today. Look to tomorrow. Rest this afternoon." Best wishes for a peaceful year that brings you professional satisfaction and personal rewards.

## Dr. Mimi Benjamin

Fall is my favorite time of year – I love the start of the new school year, the energy on a college



Dr. John A. Mueller

That's "Ni hao" in Mandarin or "Hello" in English. Last year at this time, I was

With our summer move to Fredericksburg, VA and the sale of our Indiana home, my 2008 retirement from IUP and SAHE now feels quite official and complete. The relocation truly closed a wonderfully long (41 years) chapter of our lives and we're now starting fresh to establish relationships and activities in an unfamiliar place. Despite a warm welcome in our new neighborhood, both Peggy and I still often refer to Indiana as home. In preparing for retirement, people typically caution about how the loss of a work identity might feel, but I've found the move from a small town where roots were deep to also be a pretty significant change.

That said, we very much like our new home and community, and have participated in numerous events that allow for quick assimilation there. Of course, being about an hour from our granddaughter (turns 1 in Nov.) and being closer to our place in Kitty Hawk, NC are major benefits and the primary reasons for the move to Fredericksburg. In other family news, we have a new grandson in Boston where our son Dave is doing a spinal surgery fellowship this year. I'll finally be traveling to Boston for something other than an ACPA or NASPA convention.

I continue to enjoy golf, pickleball, the beach and most of the activities that go with maintaining a home. I'm hoping to get back to

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# Student Updates

**Tom Baker ('05)** presented the annual Get Involved! SAHE Student Leadership Award and \$250 scholarship to **Lauren Gigler ('14)** on May 10 at the SAHE Banquet. This award recognizes a first-year student leader who demonstrates passion and interest in bettering the SAHE community. SAHE greatly appreciates Tom and Erin Baker's support and generosity in establishing this award.

**Sarah Fiore ('13)** was chosen to give the address at the SAHE commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 18. SAHE students and faculty annually select the department commencement speaker on the basis of oratory excellence and ability to represent their classmates.

**Jenna Konyak ('14)** and **Katie Shoemaker ('14)** were the winners of the PCPA Graduate Student Case Study Competition in October at the annual conference of PCPA.

**Michael Mastalski ('13)** received the Outstanding Scholar Award for academic achievement and ability to enhance the learning environment for his colleagues.

**Sean McGowan ('14)** received the PCPA Outstanding Graduate Student Award in October at the annual conference of PCPA.

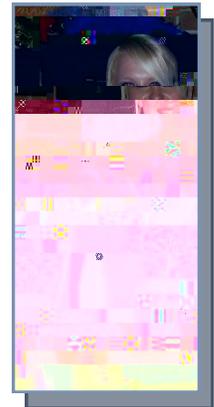
**Allison Shumar ('13)** received the S. Trevor Hadley Outstanding Student Award for her academic accomplishments and significant service to the campus and the community.



Lauren Gigler ('14) and Tom Baker ('05)



Michael Mastalski ('13)



Allison Shumar ('13)

## Conference Presentations Continued

Jenna Konyak ('14) and Brian Root ('06) presented "If These Walls Could Talk: A Look at the OACS Living Community at Pitt-Greensburg" in October at the annual conference of PCPA.

Jenna Konyak ('14) and Katie Shoemaker ('14) presented "Getting the Most Out of Your Graduate Experience" in October at the annual conference of PCPA.

Jenna Konyak ('14) presented "Goal Setting: Challenging Yourself while Challenging Others" at the University of Pittsburgh at Kon

# SAHE Travels Abroad: A Student Reflection

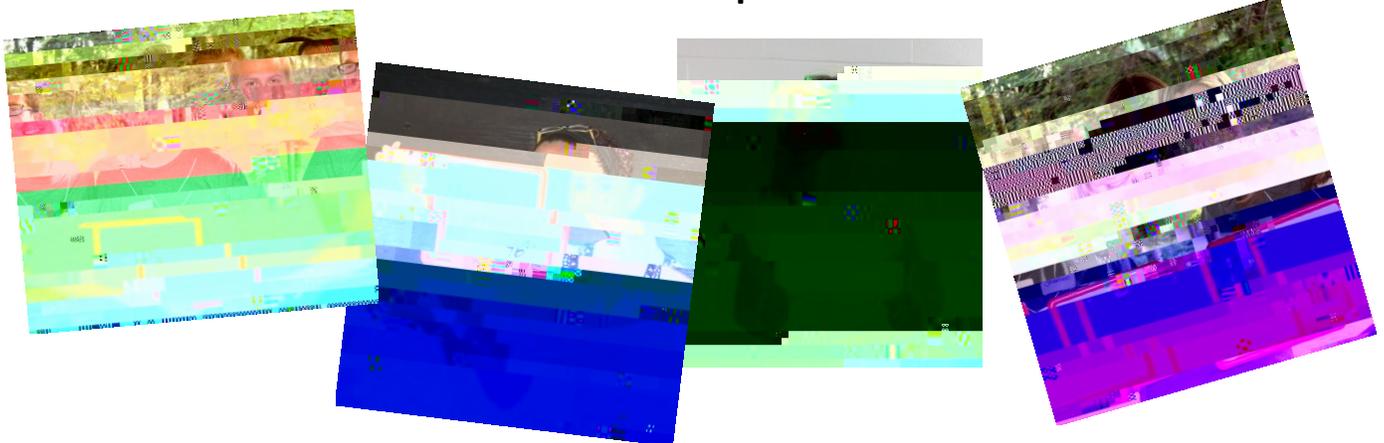


## Call for Nominations

Last spring, the SAHE department announced the recipient of the 2013 Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award: Virginia Koch ('86). We are now accepting nominations for this year's award. The Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to an alumnus of the SAHE department who has been in the student affairs professional for at least five years and whose practice reflects the standards and values of the SAHE department as exemplified by Dr. Lunardini. Details on the nomination criteria and process are available on the SAHE [website](#). Nominations are due by February 3, 2014 and the announcement of the recipient will be made prior to and celebrated at the ACPA convention in Indianapolis. Please start thinking about your SAHE colleagues and mentors who are deserving of this recognition and consider nominating them.

Virginia Koch ('86)

## Alumni Updates



Continue to visit our Facebook page and you may see a current SAHE student showing their appreciation of you!

### Professional Updates

**Kate Adams ('11)** began a new position in July 2013 as a complex coordinator in Residence Life & Housing at the University of Delaware.

**Amanda L. Anderson ('07)** is now an area director at Radford University in Radford, Virginia.

**Karl Bluemel ('10)** is now residential learning communities specialist at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

**Jilliane Bolt-Michewicz ('09)** is now the peer education coordinator at Susquehanna University.

**Mallory Bower ('09)** is now the associate director of Career Services at the State University of New York at Oswego





