

PENN STATE HARRISBURG

FACULTY
AND STAFF

Recognition Program



PennState
Harrisburg



2020

Retirements

Felicia L. Brown-Haywood 1991
Glen A. Mazis 1991

Jo A. Tyler

2005

25-Year Service Chairs

Joseph W. Brugger
Toni Chainey
Kim L. Matinchek

Linda Roberts
Michael J. Roth

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PENN STATE HARRISBURG
FACULTY AND STAFF
Recognition Program

Retirements

Felicia Brown-Haywood

Director, Division of Student Affairs and Engagement

Affiliate Assistant Professor, Penn State University Graduate School

Penn State Harrisburg School of Behavioral Sciences and Education

Administrator, educator, mentor, preacher, entrepreneur, singer, speaker, mental health advocate, wife, great-grandmother, and more – Dr. Felicia wears many hats. Whatever her role, she sees it as her life purpose to inspire others to maximize their potential. A graduate of Cheyney University, Shippensburg University, Penn State Harrisburg, and the Virginia Union University School of Theology, Felicia has lived her strong belief in the value and power of education. She is a nationally certified counselor, licensed professional counselor, licensed cosmetologist and cosmetology instructor (former vice chair of the State Cosmetology Licensure Board), and a licensed and ordained minister.

Felicia has served Penn State Harrisburg in many capacities, including as director of Student Affairs and Engagement, affiliate faculty member, director of Equity and Intercultural Affairs (Penn State Harrisburg and Penn State Schuylkill), and staff counselor. She served for years as co-chair of the Diversity and Educational Equity Committee and was co-founder of the nationally recognized Multicultural Academic Excellence Program. Her leadership as director of Student Affairs and Engagement was pivotal in the successful move of Penn State Harrisburg from an upper-division and graduate campus to a freshman to doctoral campus.

She is the recipient of numerous awards for her commitment to the community, including the Kathryn Townes Women's History Award from Penn State Harrisburg, the Achieving Woman Award from Penn State University, the Woman of Excellence Award from the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg, and the Mentor of the Year Award from the Carlisle Chamber of Commerce.

Those of us who know Felicia well had to share her with the rest of campus. She is a friend to all and will take an interest in the achievements, hurdles, and daily life of anyone who wishes to share.

Days after retiring from Penn State Harrisburg, Felicia was introduced as the new vice president and chief diversity officer at Millersville University, a fitting cap on her career path and personal journey.

Contributed by Dr. Steve Backels

Glen A. Mazis

Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Humanities

School of Humanities

Dr. Mazis earned his Ph.D. in philosophy at Yale University in 1977 and served as a visiting assistant professor at the University of Illinois and Louisiana State University before his hire as an assistant professor in 1980 at Northern Kentucky University and eventual tenure and promotion in 1984. He came to Penn State Harrisburg in 1991, hired as an assistant professor of philosophy and humanities and gained tenure for a second time as an associate professor in 1995. He has also held positions as a visiting professor at Wesleyan University, St. Lawrence University and the State University of New York at Stony Brook, as well as a tenured position at Soka University, where he was a founding faculty member. He was promoted to the rank of professor at Penn State Harrisburg in 2003. In 2018, he was honored with the title of Distinguished Professor of humanities and philosophy.

Throughout his career, he has been a prolific scholar, having published five treatises on philosophy, and one book of poetry, *Merleau-Ponty and the Face of the World* (2016), *The River Bends in Time* (2012), *Human, Animals, Machines: Blurring Boundaries* (2008), *Earthbodies: Rediscovering our Planetary Senses* (2002), *The Trickster, Magician, and Grieving Man* (1994), and *Emotion and Embodiment* (1993). His books, along with dozens of published essays and book chapters, frequent conference presentations, lectures, and professional service, have distinguished him as a scholar of “embodied philosophy.” He has also been widely recognized as a “poetic philosopher,” with over seventy published poems and one book of published poetry to his credit, as well as a second book in press.

As an international leader in the philosophy community, Mazis has long served on the board of the Merleau-Ponty Circle Association, as a reviewer for seventeen scholarly journals, and a member of the board for *The Journal of Environment, Space, and Place*. His *Merleau-Ponty and the Face of the World* (SUNY, 2016), the capstone of his career work on Maurice Merleau-Ponty, was especially well received. In a review of the book, Dr. Galen A. Johnson of the University of Rhode Island wrote:

“Glen Mazis is one of our most prolific, reliable, and creative interpreters of Merleau-Ponty’s philosophy. The author of five scholarly books directly and indirectly linked with Merleau-Ponty, his latest is *Merleau-Ponty and the Face of the World* . . . It is a monumental work . . . with a highly original thematic reading of Merleau-Ponty’s writings, published and unpublished . . . *Merleau-Ponty and The Face of the World* is a work of a lifetime of poetic phenomenology. It embodies the ‘oneiric perception’ that is the life, heart, and depth of creative thought, creative action, and continued birth. It captures us and captures the philosophy of Merleau-Ponty.”

The success of *Merleau-Ponty and the Face of the World* led the international Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy to name Mazis as one of three featured authors at its 2019 conference in Pittsburgh. As a result of his influential research, Mazis received the Penn State Harrisburg award for Excellence in Research in 1994 and 2009.

In addition to his acclaimed scholarship, service has been a high priority for him. In 2018-19 he served as Faculty Senate president for Penn State Harrisburg. In 2018, he was asked by vice president of Commonwealth Campuses, Dr. Madlyn Hanes, to chair the search for a new chancellor of Penn State Harrisburg, which resulted in the hire of Dr. John M. Mason Jr. His most lasting contribution to the campus was leading the steering committee, writing the program

curriculum, and being the first director of the Penn State Harrisburg Honors program. In recent years, Mazis has led the Ethicsville Town Hall series, bringing hundreds of students from six area high schools to campus to discuss gun violence with Penn State Harrisburg students.

At the community level, he has served as Borough Council President of Marietta, Pennsylvania, advocating for renovation of the downtown and protection of the community from flooding. One recent success has been the town's securing of a \$460,000 economic development grant to protect Marietta from recurrent flooding.

Above all, Mazis has been a remarkable teacher and mentor to many students throughout his career, having directed dozens of master's theses as professor-in-charge of the master's in humanities program. The words of his students say the most about his work as a teacher.

Dr. Phil Nelson, Ph.D. in philosophy at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, currently an instructor in philosophy at SUNY Purchase, wrote of Dr. Mazis:

"Of all my mentors, Professor Mazis was the first and certainly the greatest influence on my philosophical career. From the first time I told him I'd like to pursue an academic career in philosophy, he took me under his wing and treated me like his own son – he taught me the things I had to know as well as the things that ultimately continue to shape who I am today. I still recognize his style in my own teaching and I'm grateful for that every time I get in front of my class. I'm truly blessed to be able to call him up from time to time and ask for advice or just a chat. His friendship means the world to me. I'd like to congratulate him on such a great career, and also to thank him for touching my life in such a wonderfully deep way."

Dr. Silvia Serrano, Ph.D. in romance studies, Duke University, currently a postdoctoral associate in romance studies at Duke University, wrote of Dr. Mazis: "During my time at Penn State Harrisburg, Glen Mazis left an indelible mark on my academic education. I experienced first-hand his commitment to transforming students' lives through deep and thought-provoking discussions that linked greater philosophical questions with everyday life. When I was struggling with difficult readings, Glen listened to me with compassion but also invited me to embrace the challenge. This modeled for me a balance between kindness and encouragement that I now aspire to develop as a teacher. The transformation I experienced as his student is one of the reasons that inspired me to pursue a life as a professor and academic. Thank you, Glen, for being such a wonderful role model and for imbuing your teaching practice with so much joy and passion for knowledge and learning."

For his long dedication to Penn State's students, the School of Humanities wishes Dr. Mazis many happy years of writing poetry and philosophy as well as sailing on his new sailboat in the nearby waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

Contributed by Dr. Jeffrey P. Beck

Jo A. Tyler
Associate Professor of Training and Development
School of Behavioral Sciences and Education

Dr. Jo Tyler, associate professor of training and development, is retiring after providing 15 years of dedicated service to Penn State Harrisburg. Tyler completed a bachelor's degree in English and secondary education from Fitchburg State University, a master's degree in technical writing from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a doctorate in adult learning and leadership

from Columbia University. Before joining Penn State Harrisburg as a full-time faculty member in fall 2005, she acquired extensive experience in business and industry that would greatly inform her work as a teacher-scholar, including positions as a manager or senior executive at Hewlett Packard, the Otis Elevator Corporation, Pratt and Whitney, and Armstrong World Industries. She also founded a consulting firm, Humanizing Business, which has provided workshops on systems change, innovation, and curriculum design to for-profit and non-profit organizations.

During her years at Penn State Harrisburg, Tyler was an outstanding teacher, earning stellar reviews from her students for her fine instruction, her service on dissertation committees, and her friendly, helpful approach to advising. She played a key role in helping to revise the training and development curriculum and developed new courses for the curriculum. Tyler also has achieved many impressive accomplishments as a scholar, publishing her work as peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters in the domains of organizational changes and management, human resources, adult education, transformative education, and storytelling. She has served on the editorial boards of journals pertaining to organizational sciences and storytelling, and she has provided valuable service to the University on initiatives regarding diversity and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender equity; and to the community through her volunteer work for the arts, on behalf of immigrants, and to promote literacy.

As Dr. Tyler moves on to the next chapter of her life, we want her to know that we will remember her with fondness and appreciation for her keen intellect, her self-confidence, her welcome and fun sense of humor, and her dedicated contributions to Penn State Harrisburg and society.

Contributed by Dr. Mark S. Kiselica

25-Year Service Chairs

Joseph W. Brugger
Facilities Electrician A
Office of Physical Plant

Joe began his career at the campus in April 1995 and has served as the campus electrician since then. He has seen the campus transform from overhead high voltage cabling to underground electricity. Joe is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the electrical systems and infrastructure on campus, from the lighting in offices to the main switch gear that supplies 12,470 volts to the campus distribution gear. Joe has been a mentor and shared countless bits of information and knowledge with numerous supervisors, fellow staff and even the occasional engineer. Joe has always put the campus and student needs first and continues to share all that he knows.

Joe can often be seen driving on campus in the only electric gator the campus has and embraces the philosophy of energy sustainability. When Joe has a few moments of downtime,

he loves to talk about the outdoors and has taught many of his fellow staff the tips and tricks to help land the big fish or get that deer.

Contributed by Daniel Barlup

Toni Chainey

IT Support Specialist 3

Information Technology Services

Toni Chainey first came to Penn State Harrisburg in 1993 as a part-time staff assistant in the Continuing Education office. She held a variety of administrative support position over the years and in 1998 found herself in what was then called “IIT” (now ITS). Toni worked diligently at acquiring IT skill sets and was soon our IT operations manager. At the same time, she completed a master of professional studies degree in information sciences to complement her undergraduate degree in letters, arts, and sciences.

Toni has managed our student IT workforce for a dozen years. Our student consultants are a diverse group of individuals that strive for operational excellence. There is little doubt in my mind that our student team is the best of the Commonwealth Campuses. Toni also has worked with other campuses to improve their student led service desks.

When Penn State decided to move toward an enterprise wide service management platform (ServiceNow), Harrisburg volunteered to be an early adopter. Toni, with her dedication to service, was the logical choice to lead our participation efforts. Toni is our process manager for incident management, request fulfillment, change management, problem management, and knowledge management. She has continually fought for the needs and requirements of Penn State Harrisburg and the rest of the Commonwealth Campuses.

Continued professional growth allowed Toni to be reclassified as an IT support specialist in 2018. Toni’s talents include extensive knowledge of Penn State account management, lab and residential computing, and collaboration tools. She has also been a frequent presenter at our yearly “TechPros” conference.

Her volunteer experience includes the Penn State Harrisburg Diversity and Educational Equity Committee and a leadership role in the Penn State Harrisburg Commission for Women.

When not serving Penn State Harrisburg, Toni can be found at Hershey events (music and sporting) and visiting places on her bucket list. She enjoys spending time with her two adult children, Joe and Kristine, and taking care of her grand puppy, Wags.

On behalf of the entire Penn State Harrisburg community, congratulations on twenty-five years of excellent service.

Contributed by: Dr. John D. Hob

Kim L. Matinchek
Maintenance Worker
Office of Physical Plant

Kim commenced employment at Penn State Harrisburg as a part-time custodial services employee with the Housing and Food Services office. She was responsible for cleanliness of the Meade Heights housing complexes when they were operational housing units on the western side of the campus. She then served a short assignment as a food service attendant at the Lion's Den Food Court when it resided in the basement of the Olmsted building. In 1994, Kim was hired full-time as a maintenance worker with the Office of Physical Plant where her positive attitude and superb work ethic propelled her to positions of increased responsibility. Her current assignment is to ensure all event set-ups are accomplished in a timely manner at numerous campus locations. She goes above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that each customer is truly satisfied with the requested set-up. As part of the grounds crew, she ensures the safe and continuous operation of the campus during snow events by plowing and salting roadways and walkways and willingly assists with beautification projects to ensure the campus grounds provide a positive first impression for incoming students and their families. She is also responsible for the removal and relocation of furniture, supplies, and equipment throughout the campus. Kim is a team-player and works closely with fellow tech services personnel, faculty and staff to ensure outstanding customer service and timely job completion. She does not hesitate to take charge to ensure customer satisfaction. She is an extremely valuable employee of the Maintenance and Operations department, and exemplifies the Penn State tradition of "We are... Penn State." In her spare time, Kim enjoys throwing darts with family and friends.

Contributed by: Thomas Swartzick

Linda Roberts
Operator, Centralized Copy Center
Business Services

Linda began her career with Penn State Harrisburg in November 1994 as a cook in the Lion's Den in Olmsted, then in November 1995 she moved to the Physical Plant as a grade 10 janitorial worker. In April 1996, she was promoted to a grade 9 janitorial project worker. In December 1999, Linda began working as the copy center operator where she operated two large production sized copiers. Before coming to Penn State Harrisburg, Linda held a position as lead inspector and repair technician for Ricoh Electronics in California, which could be why she felt right at home in the copy center.

When not at Penn State Harrisburg, Linda enjoyed spending time with her friends, family, children, grandchildren and her two dogs.

The success of the Penn State Harrisburg Copy Center is due to Linda's dedication and commitment in serving the college's students, staff and faculty. Linda passed away on Wednesday, April 8, 2020. A dedicated employee and a dear friend to many, Linda will be greatly missed.

Contributed by Linda DeMoranville

This recognition was given posthumously.

Michael J. Roth
Facilities Supervisor
Office of Physical Plant

Mike started with Penn State Harrisburg in October 1994 as the group lead for Grounds. He came to the campus after working for several years in a supervisory role with Ehrlich Co. In his capacity as group lead, Mike would coordinate the grounds team's activities and fill in for the grounds supervisor when needed. This provided Mike with many opportunities to develop his interpersonal skills and led to him developing a level of ownership for the Penn State Harrisburg grounds and plantings which he continues to be passionate about to this day. Over the years that he was group lead, Mike developed an excellent understanding of the campus needs and wants as well as what was required to keep the campus looking its best for all employees, students, and visitors.

In October 2013, Mike was promoted to the grounds supervisor position where he continues to work today managing Grounds, fleet, mail, and the athletic fields. Mike is a certified arborist, horticulturalist, and facilities professional. Mike also coordinates all the efforts, to push back when "Old Man Winter" shows up with snow and/or ice. Through his team's efforts the campus parking lots, roads and sidewalks are cleaned and salted so campus can open as soon as possible. Congratulations Mike for twenty-five years at Penn State Harrisburg.

Contributed by Charles Garber

Awards

Staff Service Award

To recognize staff for extraordinary service

Jennifer L. Keagy

Director

The Center for Teaching Excellence

In her role as director of the Center for Teaching Excellence, Jennifer has demonstrated her commitment to extraordinary service to the campus community by helping to create and foster many impactful programs that directly influence staff, students and faculty. Her entire staff nominated her, which is a sign of true service and excellence. The Center for Teaching Excellence team noted, "She is a mentor to each of us, provides constant opportunities for growth, empowers us to make decisions, take risks, express creativity and contribute to the campus community."

Jennifer's contributions are extensive and invaluable. A few of the highlights include: her service on the WeCare Food Pantry committee; her assistance in the development of staff orientation and the staff onboarding initiative; her service as a mentor in the staff mentoring committee; her development of the Teaching and Learning Technology symposium; her

leadership and service with the unit assessment team, her role as an adjunct faculty member which gives her a broader perspective of the college; her leadership in the Middle States accreditation process; and her development of the hybrid course classification system. Jennifer serves in ex-officio roles on numerous committees, not only for the Harrisburg campus, but also the Commonwealth Campuses. Her committee service is exemplary and she is willing to directly serve broader college constituencies.

Jennifer has actively contributed to Penn State's online learning community through the Online Coordinating Council, the e-Education Council, and by co-chairing the Faculty Engagement Subcommittee. Her team stated, "By contributing to a network of dedicated educators, designers and staff, Jennifer has helped to foster the sharing of best practices and resources which help maintain the quality of our online programs and spark innovations in the online learning space to benefit our students' learning experience."

One of her nominators recalls Jennifer's core strength as "her ability to make genuine connections among individuals in order to accomplish common cause." Jennifer's contributions to the campus community, along with her depth of knowledge and experience, exemplify a capacity for serving on a level commendable of special recognition.

Contributed by the Staff Service Award Committee

Faculty Service Award

To recognize faculty for extraordinary service

Glen A. Mazis

Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Humanities

School of Humanities

Dr. Mazis has demonstrated exemplary service to his school, college, University, profession and the wider community during his almost thirty-year career at Penn State Harrisburg. During the last three years, he has served in major roles such as professor-in-charge of the master's degree in humanities for graduate students, president of the faculty senate, and the chair of the chancellor search committee; chair of the associate dean of research search committee; and chair of the assistant to the senior associate dean search committee.

At the school level, Mazis has an illustrious service record on curriculum development and design illustrated through many years of work on the Humanities Interdisciplinary Core Program, the Humanities Curriculum Committee, and as the coordinator of the interdisciplinary master's degree. Mazis has served on numerous occasions on the school's and college's tenure and promotion committees. His service to the University extends to his work on developing and creating the curriculum for the Honors program, of which he was also the inaugural chair. His service includes major diversity initiatives such as working on the diversity committee and the gender studies advisory board.

In addition to his tireless service to Penn State Harrisburg, Mazis' service to his profession is extensive, with multiple editorships of books and journals. He uses poetry and meditation to connect with culturally diverse constituents and participates in activities in Middletown to welcome international students. He has extensive service in community outreach and is an active

member of Marietta's Borough Council. For the last two consecutive years, Mazis has led the Ethicsville Townhall discussion on gun violence. In the abridged words of his nominator for this award: Dr. Mazis has made exceptional service contributions to the University and external stakeholders.

Contributed by the Faculty Service Awards Committee and Dr. Jeffery Beck

Excellence in Research and Scholarly Activity Award

To recognize and encourage excellence in academic research, creative activity, scholarship, and mastery of the subject by faculty

Eileen M. Ahlin

Associate Professor of Criminal Justice

School of Public Affairs

Dr. Eileen M. Ahlin is an associate professor of criminal justice in the School of Public Affairs. Ahlin joined the faculty in 2013 after 15 years conducting research at the federal, state and local levels. She received a B.A. in administration of justice and sociology from Penn State University and her M.A. in sociology from George Mason University. She earned her Ph.D. in criminology and criminal justice from the University of Maryland, College Park. Her teaching and research interests include criminological theory, violence, neighborhood effects, corrections, racial and social justice, and research methods. Ahlin was named a 2016 W.E.B. Du Bois Fellow by the National Institute of Justice to expand her work on risk and protective factors associated with exposure to community violence and violent behaviors. Her research appears in journals such as *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *American Journal of Public Health*, *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*, *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, *The Prison Journal*, *Race & Justice*, and *Aggression and Violent Behavior*.

Contributed by the Research and Scholarly Award Committee

Excellence in Teaching Award

To recognize and encourage excellence in teaching

Richard S. Brown

Associate Professor of Management

School of Business Administration

Dr. Brown has numerous qualities that make him an excellent instructor. These include his ability to actively engage students in the learning process, his passion for his discipline, and his motivation for helping students think critically in the world of business. He has committed to applying various practical learning tools that make students confident in interpreting current trends and actions in the field of management. In addition to a history of excellent course ratings and comments, students also have recognized his teaching excellence by awarding Brown the Beta Gamma Sigma Professor of the Year Award in 2014. He consistently continues

to challenge himself as an instructor by investing his time and expertise to develop new and innovative courses for our undergraduate and graduate students, often holding class in the evenings or weekends to best accommodate his students' needs.

His students comment that they value his professional work experience, and they appreciate his consequent ability to offer theoretical and practical perspectives on the business issues they discuss in class. This high level of engagement facilitates his primary learning objective for them, to increase their critical thinking skills by developing their ability to interpret and effectively utilize information. Also noted by his students, their appreciation for his knowledge, enthusiasm, demeanor, and ability to get them excited about the course material. Brown is an exceptional educator. His students look forward to their time in class with him and they seek out future opportunities to take the classes he teaches.

Contributed by the Excellence in Teaching Award Committee and Dr. Stephen Schappe

John Grosh

Associate Teaching Professor of Mathematical Sciences

School of Science, Engineering, and Technology

Dr. Grosh has gained a well-deserved reputation as an exquisite teacher among students and colleagues. Many students praise his classes and teaching style, and his sections are first to fill due to his popularity. Grosh has previously been recognized by student organizations for the quality of his teaching and student academic development. He received the 2017 National Society of Leadership and Success Excellence in Teaching Award. He was also the recipient of the 2019 James A. Jordan Award for Teaching Excellence given by the Student Government Association at Penn State Harrisburg.

Grosh's expertise and teaching excellence are recognized by his program. He has gone the extra mile with nurturing and exhorting many of our most dedicated students. He has also had many informational communications with students regarding topics beyond the normal curriculum of his current course that guide those students in their extracurricular academic pursuits, whether it be a topic of immediate curiosity or a matter of shaping a student's overall scholarly trajectory. Grosh's success has been attributed to his winsome and friendly demeanor that energizes the classroom, his very patient and approachable persona in one-on-one interactions with students, and his personally warm and professional conversations he has with students in bringing them to an understanding and appreciation of the mathematical content he teaches. Grosh is an exemplar of excellence in the teaching of mathematics.

Contributed by the Excellence in Teaching Award Committee and Dr. Ronald Walker

Excellence in Advising Award

To recognize faculty for excellence in advising

Roderick L. Lee

Associate Professor of Information Systems

School of Business Administration

Dr. Roderick Lee began his Penn State Harrisburg career as a teaching and research assistant in 2000 and currently holds the position of associate professor of information systems. In his current capacity, he serves the School of Business Administration as professor-in-charge for the master of science program in information systems and the Ph.D. program in biomedical sciences and master of science in information systems. He is also the program coordinator for the bachelor of science in information systems program.

The beneficiaries of Lee's advising are the students he comes into contact with in his classes, and the students he engages through his involvement with clubs and student athletes. A student who wanted to nominate Lee for this award stated that Dr. Lee showed him the resources needed to be successful and helped him gain a certain level of confidence in his studies. He added that if it was not for Lee, he probably would not be in school anymore.

Lee has served as the faculty mentor and liaison for the Penn State Harrisburg men's basketball team since 2015. He meets with freshman players when they arrive for classes and builds a relationship based on trust and mutual respect, advising them on time management and taking advantage of all resources offered to Penn State Harrisburg students. He also works closely with the coaching staff to monitor the players' academic progress, allowing the coaches to intervene early in the process when a student is struggling.

Lee has played a vital role with the student athletes getting involved in internships and job opportunities. He also helps look out for all students when it comes to applying for supplemental scholarships. He is constantly passing along scholarships and their criteria so that qualified students can help subsidize their education.

Lee is highly sought after as an adviser and he truly enjoys the benefits that come from mentoring students and having a positive, lasting impact on them. He expects much from his advisees; but, more importantly, he encourages them to expect much from themselves.

Contributed by Professor Jane S. Kochanov and Coach Donald Friday

Cobi S. Michael

Associate Teaching Professor of Psychology

School of Behavioral Sciences and Education

Dr. Cobi Michael has been a faculty member at Penn State Harrisburg since 2003. She has served as the coordinator for the bachelor of science in psychology program for many years. Besides doing an excellent job with her advisement responsibilities, Michael goes above and beyond to provide service to the faculty and students she works with, makes herself available to other staff for consultation, has an open-door policy and is very approachable.

Michael has served on the academic advising council at Penn State Harrisburg since October 2018. The purpose of this committee is to promote the effective administration and delivery of advising services to students on campus.

Michael has the largest number of students in her advising load in social sciences and

psychology. She not only works with traditional students, but also advises students enrolled in the Honors program or dual-majors. She is more than willing to learn the rules and regulations in order to effectively work with students with various needs. This includes a group of students that study at the Schuylkill campus, but travel to Penn State Harrisburg to take courses.

In addition to her active participation in the college open house, transfer student orientation, and new student orientation events, Michael also provides a very valuable service to her program by training new faculty on how to advise students. She also makes herself available to provide consultation to the current faculty on matters related to advising.

Michael inspires many students in her introduction to psychology course to make informed decisions about choosing a major. She uses her counseling and clinical skills to help students think, to help them learn and practice decision making skills, and to assess and evaluate their decisions.

Contributed by Dr. Senel Poyrazlı

Thomas Eberlein Excellence in Teaching Award

To recognize faculty and encourage excellence in teaching in the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology at Penn State Harrisburg

Brian A. Maicke

Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

School of Science, Engineering, and Technology

Dr. Brian Maicke is an associate professor of mechanical engineering. Since joining the Penn State Harrisburg faculty in 2012, he has taught 17 different courses in the mechanical engineering and mechanical engineering technology curriculum across a range of topics and instructional types. Several of these courses are focused on aerospace topics that touch on Maicke's area of research.

At the core of his teaching philosophy, Maicke believes that engaging course content is important in student success and has been a part of several programs and initiatives towards this goal. He was a participant in the open educational resources pilot, which provided support in replacing an expensive textbook with open electronic alternatives and has served as a panelist for the "Enhancing Teaching: Open Education Resources" program held at Penn State Harrisburg to discuss incorporating open education materials. Maicke has redesigned several of his courses to include a focus on project-based learning, in which his mechanical engineering students are forced to think beyond the 'one correct answer' idea and instead are tasked with analyzing and designing devices to overcome practical challenges.

Maicke also looks to engage his students outside of the classroom. He has been a participant in the Penn State Multi-Campus Research Experience for Undergraduates program since its inception, working with seven students to develop research skills over the summer during their undergraduate career. He has mentored two students through the Honors program, with one student earning the Penn State Harrisburg Outstanding Honors Thesis award and the second earning a federally funded scholarship to pursue graduate study. Several of these students have had a chance to present their research at the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) professional meetings, with one capstone team earning a second-place finish at the Region I student conference for their work on designing a hybrid rocket for a Mars sample

return mission. Maicke has also discussed education at professional meetings, having presented material on propulsion education at Penn State on his own and as a member of a multi-campus team featuring contributors from Altoona, University Park, and Harrisburg.

Contributed by Dr. Thang Bui

Faculty Diversity Award

Hannah M. Spector

Associate Professor of Education

School of Behavioral Sciences and Education

Dr. Hannah Spector, associate professor of education, promotes diversity in her service to the campus community. She served on the college's Diversity and Educational Equity Committee (DEEC) from 2014 to 2019. As the chair (2017-18) and co-chair (2018-19) of the DEEC Programming and Training subcommittee, she co-developed a range of programs and events that have included spreading awareness on National Coming Out Day, developing speaker-panel events on bullying among diverse populations, Latin American migration to the United States, and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

In the classroom, Spector has long taught the diversity-focused course Social and Cultural Factors in Education (EDUC 315W), a course which provides teacher candidates with a comprehensive view of the social and cultural factors integrally linked to the evolving field of education and society. Spector has brought academic knowledge and expertise to campus in a variety of roles. She has served the campus community as a writer for the Diversity Alignment Report for Teacher Education Accreditation, a founding member of the campus branch of the PSU Coalition on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, her roles in the DEEC Programming and Training subcommittee, chair of the International and Intercultural Affairs subcommittee of the Faculty Senate (2014-2016), and secretary of the Teaching of Diversity Support Group (2015-2016).

Spector has contributed to a breadth of programming on the campus and in the surrounding community. In 2014, she spoke as a panelist for the "Holocaust Curriculum and Secondary Education in PA," a discussion of the importance of the Holocaust and Genocide Education Law in Pennsylvania. Her dedication to diversity, inclusion, and equality continues to bring programming and awareness of diversity topics to the community. Spector spearheaded "Silenced Voices: Invisibilities on Campus" and is currently working with others to develop survey and focus groups to better understand LGBTQ+ issues on campus.

"Hannah demonstrates an exemplary passion towards diversity events and causes dedicated to promoting responsible citizenship among the campus community. She is an amazing instructor and a tireless advocate for equitable practices and informed decision-making to ensure all students, faculty, staff and community members are treated with the respect they deserve," said Dr. Jane Wilbourne.

Without question, the service, teaching, and research interests and accomplishments of Spector demonstrate a strong commitment to diversity and inclusivity. Please join us in congratulating her on her exceptional commitment to diversity at Penn State Harrisburg.

Contributed by Kiernan Gladman and Jennifer Shultz

Staff Diversity Awards

Ilhan Kucukaydin

Web Manager

Office of Marketing and Communications

Dr. Ilhan Kucukaydin, web manager for the Office of Marketing and Communications, promotes diversity, equity, and equality in his service to the Penn State Harrisburg community and the greater Harrisburg area.

At Penn State Harrisburg, Kucukaydin is an active leader on Penn State Harrisburg's Diversity and Educational Equity Committee (DEEC), co-chair of the DEEC Outreach subcommittee, and a member of the DEEC Programming and Training subcommittee. An immigrant in the United States and a minority in his native Turkey, Kucukaydin uses his experiences to aid those around him on and off campus. He mentors international students at Penn State Harrisburg and has lent his professional skills to the Turkish American Society of Central Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Immigrant and Refugee Women's Network.

Kucukaydin has also focused his research on diversity issues. While a doctoral student in the Adult Education program, he studied how underrepresented groups learn under various conditions, culminating in a dissertation that explored a Kurdish woman's learning under socio-political and economic hardships. He continues to expand his diversity learning and recently graduated from the Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Institute, where he helped spearhead a community engagement initiative aimed at closing the knowledge gap between criminal justice administrators and community leaders.

"He is a fierce advocate for all societal issues related to race, ethnicity, gender, and class," said a colleague. "He believes in inclusive leadership to serve community and working collectively to bring positive change." Kucukaydin's many contributions on campus and beyond include activism through the Harrisburg Diversity Forum, LGBTQ+ Safer Places Safer People, Black Lives Matter, YWCA's Race Against Racism, Women's March, Solidarity Rally, Families Belong Together, March for our Lives, and MLK50. Please join us in congratulating him on his steadfast commitment to diversity at Penn State Harrisburg.

Contributed by Kiernan Gladman and Jennifer Shultz

Kathryn Towns Women's History Month Award

To recognize Penn State Harrisburg students, alumni, staff, or faculty members who have demonstrated a commitment to heightening the awareness of issues and concerns having an impact on women at the college.

Perdeta L. Bush

Equity and Compliance Specialist, Title IX Resource Person

Division of Student Affairs and Engagement

Perdeta L. Bush serves in many different roles at Penn State Harrisburg. In her role as the Equity and Compliance Specialist/Title IX Resource Person, Perdeta is charged with working closely with students, staff, faculty, human resources, athletics, and academic affairs to oversee Penn State Harrisburg's compliance efforts with regard to Title IX of the Education

Amendments of 1972, Violence Against Women Act, Clery Act, Stand For State, as well as other laws and rules relating to sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, gender and interpersonal violence, sexual assault and related policy violations. She also develops, implements, and oversees programs and trainings to ensure compliance with required protocols, regulations, and laws with the aim to foster a safe and supportive environment that is conducive to the academic pursuit and healthy personal development of all persons. Perdetta co-facilitates one of three mandatory first-year seminars that focuses on consent, sexual misconduct, and the University's drug and alcohol policy. S.T.A.T.E. (Student Title IX, Alcohol and Drug, Training and Education) will have reached over 1,200 students by the end of the 2019-20 academic year. Perdetta also manages the campus's reporting of incidents involving acts of bias, intolerance, discrimination, harassment, and/or incivility due to age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religious belief, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Perdetta's hope is that her work will help to create a campus culture where everyone feels respected, safe and supported.

Another shared responsibility that Perdetta champions is the Penn State Harrisburg Reads campaign. Perdetta believes that common reading programs such as Penn State Harrisburg Reads build campus community and emphasizes the message that reading is an essential part of the college experience. Reading is a passion that fuels her dedication to this program.

She holds a bachelor of science degree in public relations with a minor in African and African American studies from Georgia Southern University, a master's of education from the University of Georgia and is currently pursuing a doctorate in adult education and lifelong learning from Penn State Harrisburg. Her research interests center on forgiveness as a vehicle towards inner healing, social reconciliation and transformative learning.

Perdetta is actively involved in speaking into the lives of youth and adults in the central Pennsylvania area and abroad. Educating youth and young adults about healthy relationships has become her 'mission.'

Contributed by Sarah Horton

Roderick L. Lee
Associate Professor of Information Systems
School of Business Administration

Dr. Roderick Lee is an associate professor of information systems and director of information technology degree programs in the School of Business Administration. He has dedicated his over twenty years of experiences as an educator in the U.S. Army and academia to empowering individuals – especially women and students of color – to achieve their academic, personal, and professional goals.

While at Penn State Harrisburg, Lee has been involved in numerous initiatives aimed at helping women develop social capital, and gain self-confidence and a belief that they will succeed in all their endeavors.

As an educator in a computing discipline, Lee firmly believes that we have an ethical and moral obligation to contribute to programs and initiatives that are intentionally designed to empower women in computing to be successful in the classroom and in their future careers. To address this challenge, he helped launch Women in Tech (WIT) during fall 2019. The purpose of

WIT is to provide a system of support for women, and support the recruitment and sustained interest of women in computing disciplines.

In order to further heighten awareness of issues that women face in computing disciplines and careers, Lee was instrumental in organizing a series of Women in Tech panels facilitated by Capital Blue Cross and Deloitte. More recently, Lee organized and attended the Women in STEM Networking Night at the Whitaker Center with nine members of the Women in Tech Club. In terms of supporting the Commission for Women, Lee served as a panelist for “Managing a Career with Kids” in 2017 and facilitated a session on “Understanding Your Mentorability Quotient” as part of the Women’s Commission Lunch and Learn series in March 2010.

Since the inception of DIII athletics at the college, Lee has been a supporter of the women’s basketball program as evidenced by a recent quote from a current student-athlete: “To have the full support from a faculty member like yourself, is something that us as student athletes cannot accurately put into words how much that means to us. I know my parents were taken aback when they found out that you were a professor and not a parent of a student-athlete - that really made an impact on them as well as many other parents, coaches and obviously us players.”

A clear example of mentoring women in computing includes Lee’s colleague, Kelsey Kirk, who nominated him for this award. In many instances, Kirk was the only woman in the class. However, she was provided with the support that she needed to excel in all her endeavors. Based on her superb academic achievement and participation in extracurricular activities, he successfully nominated Kirk for the Penn State University Ralph Dorn Hetzel Memorial Award and the Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Society Graduating Senior Award. Moreover, based on her service-learning projects, she was recognized by ABC27 as a hometown hero. In an email, Kirk noted: “In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I just wanted to send you a quick note to say... THANK YOU! You probably have no idea how much you’ve helped me while I transition into this new (and very different) role.”

Lee also was instrumental in supporting a cohort of international women in the master of science in information systems program achieve their academic and career goals. As a result, this cohort is now employed at prestigious corporations such as Pandora, Google, Eurofins, Deloitte, etc.

It is clear that Lee has demonstrated a commitment to empowering women to achieve their academic, personal and career goals as noted by a former student “I hope you continue to motivate, push, and encourage students for many years to come.”

Contributed by Marissa Graby Hoover

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