

Provost Digest

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN • Creighton University Provost



April 22, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

This week has been filled with a variety of events. First, let me acknowledge the work that was devoted to hosting the annual Research Week and St. Albert's Day, which showcased the talents of our students and their faculty mentors. The event was culminated with a luncheon hosted by the University Research Council that honored Prof. R. Collin Mangrum and Dr. Shashank Dravid as the 2022 Research Award Recipients; Dr. Bruce Mattson as the 2022 Dr. and Mrs. Randolph Ferlic Undergraduate Research Mentor Award recipient; and Dr. Terry Grindstaff as the 2022 Dr. Robert Heaney Graduate Research Mentor Award recipient. Congratulations to these very deserving faculty for the contributions they make in research and scholarship and for their impact on our students.

I hope all of you who were not able to attend the presentations this week on the results of our Campus Climate Survey, either in person or virtually, will be sure and [view a recording](#) and/or read the final report on the [Campus Climate Survey website](#). While there certainly are aspects about our campus environment and sense of community to enthusiastically acknowledge, the information shared in the report and this week's presentations clearly illustrate that we have work to do in select areas to ensure that everyone who lives, learns and works at Creighton feels welcome and valued. Thank you to those of you who also are participating in the action-plan forums which will help us take next steps in the process. I am very pleased that an additional faculty forum has been scheduled for Reading Day, May 3. [Registration for this forum is available online](#). Additionally, everyone (faculty, staff, students) is invited to provide feedback for possible action through [this online form](#).

Please also consider joining the new Creighton employee resource group, [CANDLES — Challenging and Navigating Dialogues Leveraging Equality Systematically](#). The mission of the group is to create a community and foster connections among faculty and staff, and I am very enthused about the good that could come from this initiative.

As we reach the close of the spring semester, thank you for your commitment to our students and our mission. I look forward to celebrating with you and your graduates at hooding, pinning, commissioning and commencement events and receptions on [Commencement Weekend](#), which begins May 12.

Sincerely,
Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost

Student Named All-American Official

Chris Green, a junior in exercise science, was named an “All-American” official at the 2022 National Intramural and Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) National Basketball Championships this past weekend, the highest national award a student official can earn. He competed with 33 other officials. Creighton has a rich history of All-American officials, but this is the University’s first All-American basketball referee. Green was a commuter student who decided to become an intramural official as a way to stay connected to campus. Over 100 officials participated in NIRSA regional or national basketball, and he was recognized as one of the top six in the country.



Winegard Named to National Post

Tanya Winegard, PhD, vice provost for Student Life, has been appointed president-elect for the Jesuit Association of Student Personnel Administrators (JASPA), which is comprised of student affairs professionals at the 27 Jesuit colleges and universities in the U.S. and offers professional development, formation and collaborative programs. Winegard will serve as JASPA president in 2024.

Depew, Pilli and Team Launch Novel Treatment

Division chief and Department of Medicine associate professor **Zachary Depew**, MD, assistant professor **Suchitra Pilli**, MD, and the interventional pulmonology team from the Pulmonary and Critical Care Division at CHI Health Creighton University Medical Center - Bergan Mercy recently launched a Zephyr Valve program. They treated their first patient in Nebraska with the valves a month ago and have treated four patients subsequently with this novel treatment. Zephyr Valves

are a less invasive bronchoscopic lung volume reduction treatment option for severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)/emphysema.



McBride Inducted into Hall of Fame

Chad McBride, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Communication Studies, is being inducted into the [Central States Communication Association \(CSCA\)](#) Hall of Fame. Hall of Fame members have belonged to CSCA for 25 years or more and have contributed to the discipline of communication through meritorious scholarship, teaching/mentoring, participation at conventions, and service to the association.

Heider on Business Tackles Economic Issues

MacAllister Chair for Regional Economics **Ernie Goss**, PhD, and Heider Dean **Anthony Hendrickson**, PhD, recently recorded their [first episode of Heider on Business](#), discussing how current events such as the Russia-Ukraine war affect our regional economy, from suppliers all the way to consumers.



Johnson Receives Multiple Honors

Ronn Johnson, PhD, ABPP, associate dean for diversity and inclusion, School of Medicine, was awarded a division award from CommonSpirit for leadership in developing the [Mini-Medical School pathway programs](#) in the School of Medicine. Johnson also has been appointed to the advisory board of the *Journal of Clinical Psychology* in Medical Settings and his article “Transdiagnostic Group psychotherapy in RRTP as an Evidence-based Care Option for Rural Trans-Vet: A Clinical Health Psychological Paradigm” appeared in *The Group Psychologist* in March.

Two Students Named Goldwater Scholars

Two College of Arts and Sciences juniors [received the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship Award](#): **Tavian Sanchez**, a neuroscience major who plans to pursue an MD/PhD program specializing in neuroimmunology; and **Presley Kimball**, a mathematics and Spanish major who plans to pursue

a PhD in applied mathematics and epidemiology. The federally funded Goldwater Scholarship program is one of the nation's most distinguished academic awards for young scientists. This year, 417 students from across the U.S. were selected to receive the award from an initial pool of more than 5,000 college sophomores and juniors. Creighton is the No. 1 Goldwater-producing Catholic university for the last 18 years.



Manz Named a Peer Reviewer

Julie Manz, PhD, RN, CNE, associate professor of nursing, was accepted as a member of the Peer Reviewer Corps for the Higher Learning Commission. She will attend peer reviewer training May 10-12 in St. Charles, Illinois.

Kelly Moderates Panel, Presents Research

Mike Kelly, JD, LLM, the Sen. Allen A. Sekt Endowed Chair in Law, attended the annual meeting of the American Society of International Law April 6-9 in Washington, DC, to moderate a panel and present his preliminary research on the transference of human rights from the kinetic to the digital world. As co-chair of the American Bar Association's Internet Governance Task Force, he is constructing a matrix tracking both the digital conversion and enforceability of each right and freedom.



Guthrie Receives Press Club Award

Tim Guthrie, MFA, professor in the Department of Computer Science, Design and Journalism, will receive the 2022 Omaha Press Club (OPC) Foundation Outstanding Educator award. He will be honored at the OPC Foundation brunch April 23. This year's OPC Foundation Scholarship recipients from Creighton include **Gabby Dammkoehler**, **Max Fritsch**, **Marin Grehan** and **Asha Martel**, who will also be honored at the event.

Two Mentees Receive Summer Fellowships

Jack Diers and **Elyssa Pereyra**, undergraduate mentees of professor and chair of Biomedical Sciences **Jian Zuo**, PhD, and assistant professor **Tejbeer Kaur**, PhD, respectively, have been

selected as 2022 CURAS Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship awardees. Pereyra is studying the role of glucocorticoids in degeneration and repair of cochlear ribbon synapses, and Diers's project is on dissecting the role of Lsd1, an epigenetic regulator, for hair cell regeneration aiming at restoring hearing, using multiple approaches including single cell RNA seq and lineage tracing.



Pop Publishes Book on Romania

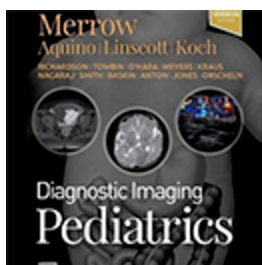
Cristina Pop, PhD, assistant professor in medical anthropology in the Department of Cultural and Social Studies, just published a book with Rutgers University Press in a series edited by Lenore Manderson, one of the leading global scholars in medical anthropology. Her book is titled

[The Cancer Within - Reproduction, Cultrual Transformation, and Health Care in Romania.](#)

Commissioning Ceremony for Graduates Planned

The Office of Military and Veterans Affairs is proud to announce the upcoming commissioning and promotion of our graduates in the Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, and Pharmacy and Health Professions on May 13 at 1 p.m. in the Lied Education Center for the Arts, mainstage.

Approximately 15 Creighton graduates will take part in the ceremony and will be accompanied by family members, fellow service members and mentors.



Richardson Writes 48 Chapters

Randy Richardson, MD, regional dean, School of Medicine Phoenix campus, wrote 48 chapters in the new textbook *Diagnostic Imaging Pediatrics, 4th edition*.

Sponsored Programs, Research Compliance News

Sponsored Programs Administration welcomes **Jolene Buckingham** as the initial contact for Arts and Sciences, Nursing and Heider faculty seeking external funding for research and sponsored projects. She will assist with funding searches, provide guidance with proposal and budget development, help ensure documents are properly entered in the InfoEd Sponsored Projects system, and provide some post-award support. The Research Compliance Office

welcomes **Sarah Reilly**, MPH, as a senior IRB administrator. She comes from the State University of New York at Buffalo, where she served as an IRB administrator for six years. **Kindra Cooper**, JD, MPA, MA, CIP, IRB director, has been accepted as an AAHRPP site visitor. The Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Program (AAHRPP) is the preeminent accreditation body for all aspects of human subject research. Cooper also is co-presenting a webinar on FDA-regulated research through Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research, "[Un-Common Rules: Navigating FDA-Regulated Research and the IRB](#)." The webinar airs April 26.



Borchers Article Reviewed

An article by Lillis Family Distinguished Professor of Law **Patrick Borchers**, JD, "[Ford Motor Co. v. Montana Eighth Judicial District Court and 'Corporate Tag Jurisdiction' in the Pennoyer Era](#)," published last year in the *Case Western Reserve Law Review*, was recently reviewed.

CIPER Names Outstanding Facilitator

One way the Center for Interprofessional Practice, Education and Research (CIPER) is celebrating [National Interprofessional Healthcare Month](#) is by recognizing **Ashley Aubry**, RDH, MA, assistant professor in the School of Dentistry, as an outstanding Interprofessional faculty facilitator. She has been an integral part of the Healthy Smiles School-Based Dental Sealant Program, an IPE Passport activity since 2017. Aubry and her team lead students through this community health program in Omaha elementary schools that provides oral health education, dental screenings, fluoride varnish, dental sealants, and case management services for children at risk for dental disease.



Hanna Premieres Piano Concerto

Frederick Hanna, DMA, professor in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts, premiered his Piano Concerto No. 1 April 7 on the mainstage in the Lied Education Center for the Arts, performing with the Creighton University Orchestra, conducted by **David Michael Galant**, DMA. Hanna undertook an extensive review of the great Russian Masterworks composers, studying the scores of Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Stravinsky and Prokofiev, as well as the Finnish composer Sibelius. He composed his first piano concerto for piano solo and full orchestra. Pre-pandemic, Hanna was able to travel to Moscow, St. Petersburg and Helsinki in the summer of 2019 to immerse in the culture of the master composers by visiting concert halls,

museums and cultural areas of interest such as Red Square, Tchaikovsky Concert Hall and more.

Physics Student Receives Summer Fellowship

For the second consecutive year, **Erika Jank**, biomedical physics major, has been awarded an American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Summer Undergraduate Fellowship, which includes a \$5,500 stipend. She was among the top 16 selected from a national pool of applicants.



Gustafson Gives Talks, Named to Post

Andy Gustafson, PhD, professor of business ethics and society, has been appointed executive director of the Society of Business Ethics for the 2022-2027 term, starting in August. He also gave the inaugural lecture for the opening of Marquette University's new Center for Data, Ethics and Society, "Some Ignatian Concerns on Data Ethics and Society." Gustafson also gave the keynote for a conference on "Leadership and Authentic Community" put on by the Foster Center for Responsible Leadership at St. Bonaventure University in Allegheny, New York, April 7. His live, in-person talk was "Authentic Human Leadership and the Common Good in Light of AI, Zoom Meetings, and Virtual Society."

Undergraduate Research Survey Input Sought

Juliane Strauss-Soukup, PhD, has been a councilor for the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) for the past six years. A primary CUR project focuses on recognizing and valuing the mentoring of undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity (URSCA) in workload, tenure and promotion. (See [white paper on the CUR website](#).) CUR is asking member institutions (Creighton has an enhanced CUR membership) to complete a survey focused on institutional support for faculty mentorship of undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity. [Please provide your input by completing this survey](#).



Moody Publishes Poem in *The Atlantic*

A poem by **Trey Moody**, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of



English, was published in *The Atlantic* magazine. "[The Living](#)" was published on March 16.

Sieberson to Receive Public Service Award

Stephen Sieberson, PhD, JD, professor of law, will receive the 2022 Robert M. Spire Public Service Award at the Omaha Bar Association Law Day Lunch May 2. Sieberson and Scott Paul of McGrath North Law are co-founders and co-chairs of the Creighton School of Law/OBA Seminar on Ethics and Professionalism, which has been held for 16 years and provides two hours of free ethics CLE to all Omaha Bar Association members. [Learn more](#).

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