

ENCOMPASS



Fall 2016

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK MAGAZINE

70TH ANNIVERSARY

A Hometown Celebration

PAGE 4

KENT STATE
UNIVERSITY

STARK



Encompass

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Editor and Photography:

Mike Rich, marketing coordinator

Editor: Cynthia Williams, PR coordinator

Layout and Design: Grabowski & Company

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MESSAGE from the DEAN

Dear Members and Friends of Kent State University at Stark,

In this edition of *Encompass*, we reflect on the rich history and incredible growth of Kent State University at Stark over the past 70 years. What a wonderful milestone to celebrate! It is important for this campus and the community it serves to examine the hard work and optimism of past generations which provides perspective and motivation to our current faculty, staff and students.

"We transform lives and communities through the power of discovery, learning and creative expression in an inclusive environment."

– Kent State University mission statement

The relationships fostered, the lives enriched and the community partnerships formed over the past 70 years are countless. More importantly – they are life changing. And that is what we do every day at Kent State Stark – Your Hometown University – we do indeed "transform lives and communities." Our exemplary faculty

has a proven track record of providing a quality, affordable education to the citizens of Stark County and beyond. Our dedicated staff demonstrates daily their tireless commitment to our students and their families.

I invite each and every one of you to celebrate this milestone anniversary with us as we look back at our history with pride, while focusing on the untold opportunities for the future. As Winston Churchill said, "The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you can see." I see that the future for Kent State Stark and Stark County is bright indeed!

Warm regards,

Denise A. Seachrist, Ph.D.

Life in 1946

The world looked quite different 70 years ago...



POLITICAL LEADERS

United States President:

Harry S. Truman

Governor of Ohio:

Frank J. Lausche

Mayor of Canton, Ohio:

Carl Klein

Gallon of gas:
\$0.15

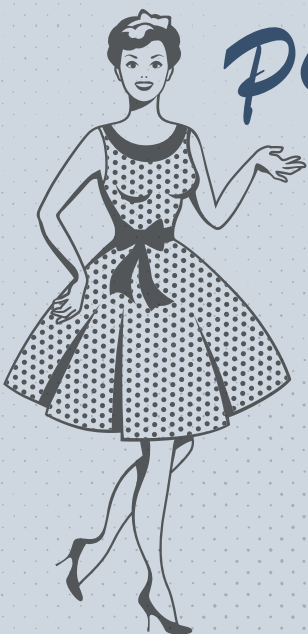
Average wages
per year:
\$2,500

PRICES of
EVERYDAY
things

New
Home
\$5,600

New car (average):
\$1,120

People



The **baby boom** begins; more babies are born in 1946 than ever before: 3.4 million (20 percent more than the year before).

CELEBRITY BIRTHS INCLUDE: Jimmy Buffett, George W. and Laura Bush, Cher, Susan Sarandon, Freddie Mercury, Dolly Parton, Steven Spielberg, Sylvester Stallone, Donald Trump and Bill Clinton

Top 10 baby names

Girls: 1) Mary 2) Linda 3) Patricia 4) Barbara 5) Carol 6) Sandra 7) Nancy 8) Susan 9) Sharon 10) Judith

Boys: 1) James 2) Robert 3) John 4) William 5) Richard 6) David 7) Michael 8) Thomas 9) Charles 10) Ronald



POP CULTURE

Norma Jean changes her name to *Marilyn Monroe* and has first studio contract with Fox.

It's A Wonderful Life is nominated for five Academy Awards, but loses best picture to *The Best Years of our Lives*.

Dean Martin, B.B. King and Bill Haley begin their music careers.

Popular musicians/artists this year:

Frank Sinatra, Ink Spots, Bing Crosby, Duke Ellington, Perry Como and The Andrews Sisters



KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK

Investing in Students for 70 Years

IN THE 70 YEARS SINCE KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK WAS FOUNDED, MUCH HAS CHANGED – the school’s location, program offerings, faculty and administration, just to name a few. The driving force behind all of these changes, however, is the same today as it was in the beginning: a desire to meet the needs of the students it serves.

Since 1946, when Kent State University Canton (KSUC) first opened its doors to the community, its hallmark has been equipping regional students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed – close to home and at an affordable price. Every investment the university has made, from hiring distinguished, knowledgeable faculty and administrators, to expanding the physical campus, has been undertaken for the betterment of students.

William G. Bittle, Ph.D., the campus’s longest serving dean, led the faculty and staff under the united vision that “students are not an interruption of our work, but the reason for our work.”

Building on inaugural Dean Jack Morehart’s vision, Bittle made it his mission to create a small, liberal arts college experience that was open to everyone; a private school education at public school prices, within the embrace of a major university.

And it’s taken a village. Bittle strongly believes that the success of the campus is a direct result of the support and tenacity shown by the faculty and staff. “Everything we accomplished, we did as a team.”

“While we have evolved from a one classroom institution in a high school to a beautiful 200-acre campus that serves more than 7,000 students year round, our core values have remained the same,” said Denise A. Seachrist, Ph.D., dean at Kent State University at Stark. “We take our role as the public university in this community very seriously. It is our responsibility to not only educate the students who walk through our corridors, but to be actively involved in our community’s success.”



KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK

1946



2016

INVESTING IN STUDENTS FOR 70 YEARS



A History of Investment

1946

The Early Years

In 1946, KSUC opens to accommodate the huge influx of students exiting the military and using the GI Bill. For five years, KSUC provided both day and evening classes that satisfied the requirements for the first two years of many Kent baccalaureate degrees, giving veterans and civilian students alike a way to earn a high-quality college education close to home. **Despite its small size, KSUC provided students with an impressive array of extracurricular activities, including foreign language clubs, fraternities, theatre productions, intramural sports teams and much more.**

1964

The Canton Center's director, Jack Morehart, knew that Timken would only be a short-term solution. **At the end of the 1960-61 winter quarter, Morehart moved the center to nearby Lehman High School, allowing evening classes to continue for the now 500-strong student population – by 1964, the number grew to 1,000.**

1966

The House that Jack Built

By 1966, the Canton Center had once again outgrown its physical facility, necessitating yet another move, this time to American Legion Post #44. **While this move allowed the school to offer regular daytime classes during a non-summer quarter for the first time, it was merely a temporary solution for the rapidly expanding institution.**

1967

In 1966, the Ohio state legislature authorized an official Stark County branch of Kent State University and appropriated funds to construct a permanent home for the school. A citizen's committee of community leaders raised funds to cover the county's financial responsibility, while a search committee scoured the area to find the best location to build. Twenty possible sites for the school were considered in both Canton and Massillon before the current Frank Road location was selected. **Construction on Main Hall began on January 7, 1966, and the facility opened in the fall of 1967 – Kent State Stark students finally had a permanent place to call their own.**

1981

A Shift in Focus

After 20 years with Kent State Stark, Morehart turned the campus over to Bittle's leadership in 1981. **Following the substantial expansion of the physical campus in the 1970s, Bittle shifted the school's focus to academic expansion in the decades that followed.**

Before it was a university standard, Bittle consolidated the student services departments and staff into a single location, eliminating the shuffle of stopping in multiple places on campus to meet with advisors, pay fees, discuss financial aid issues and register for classes. **This provided students with an added level of convenience, proving yet again that students always come first at Kent State Stark.**

1990

For the first time in the campus's history, the 1990s brought a chance for students to earn full baccalaureate degrees rather than simply completing the first two years of a degree program and finishing at the Kent Campus. Program offerings became available in business management, English, history, general studies, middle childhood education, industrial studies, industrial technology and justice studies.

2015

The latest addition came in the fall of 2015, when Kent State Stark opened the Science and Nursing Building – bringing the major facility count to seven.

2016

Looking to the Future

In the last decade, Kent State Stark's program offerings have continued to grow by leaps and bounds, facilitated most recently by the appointment of the current dean, Denise A. Seachrist, Ph.D. Beginning as interim dean in 2014, Seachrist officially accepted her permanent appointment as dean and chief administrative officer on February 1, 2016. Serving more than 7,000 students annually, Kent State Stark now offers the core courses for Kent State's more than 282 bachelor's degrees, and offers all courses required for 19 complete baccalaureate degree programs, the part-time master of business administration (MBA), the M.A. or M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction and the master of arts in mathematics for secondary teachers.

2016

As the university celebrates and reflects on its first 70 years serving the Stark County community, "Students remain at the core of our focus. We've expanded the opportunities available to them locally and globally. Not only have we enabled them to go out and travel the world, but we continue to bring the rest of the world to them," Seachrist says.

1950

Following the closure of KSUC in 1950, as a result of state funding cuts, **Kent State still recognized a need in the Canton community for its services and continued to provide students in the region with self-sustaining, evening extension courses at McKinley High School through 1953.**

1953

Kent State University's Stark County program received a huge boost in 1953, following the creation of the state's Emergency Cadet Teacher Program. In response to a rapidly growing need for more teachers, the program allowed for the issuance of "cadet" teaching certificates to students who completed an intensive two-year curriculum. **Kent State saw an opportunity to provide interested students in Stark County with the coursework necessary to achieve the certificate, launching a popular three-year version of Kent's Cadet Program** via the Canton Teacher Education Program throughout the mid- to late-1950s.

1959

Propelled by support from the community, freshman-level university courses were added to those required for the Teacher Education Program. The resulting surge in enrollment necessitated a more permanent learning institution and the Canton Center was born. Soon, the center had a full-time director, staff and regular faculty, and the program outgrew its McKinley High School home. **In 1959, the Canton Center moved to Timken Vocational High School to better serve the nearly 400 students enrolled in classes.**

1971

Morehart hired "the best and the brightest" faculty to give students the finest education possible. Many of the student activities that had begun at Lehman continued to grow in the new location, including a student newspaper, sports teams, cheerleaders and a variety of student organizations.

The positive response to the school's new location was evident in its enrollment numbers – by the second year of operation at the new campus, the student body totaled more than 2,100 students. It was once again time to expand. However, funding was limited and according to the state, no money was available for the Stark Campus.

In a show of determination, students formed a protest movement, demanding that the state find funds to help the campus expand. Their actions, in combination with pressure from community leaders, local legislators and Kent State University officials, resulted in a \$3 million appropriation from the Ohio Board of Regents. **These funds allowed for the construction of two new campus buildings, beginning in 1971 – the Health and Physical Education Building (now the Conference Center) and the Fine and Professional Arts Building. In 1976, the Learning Resource Center was added. These new structures provided dedicated space for services and activities that were previously housed off-campus, further unifying the Kent State Stark experience for students.**

1991

During this time, Bittle launched the Featured Speakers Series, further elevating Kent State Stark as a center of education and culture within the community. **The series, which marked its 25-year anniversary in the 2015-16 season, provides a truly unique experience for students and community members.** Speakers have included civic leaders, such as Rev. Jesse Jackson and Robert Kennedy Jr., media icons, like Al Roker and George Stephanopoulos, members of the arts and entertainment world, including John Updike and Kurt Vonnegut, and beacons of progress, such as Benazir Bhutto and Shirley Chisholm to Canton, Ohio. Prior to each lecture, faculty members nominate students to enjoy dinner with the speakers.

1999

In 1999, the campus grew again with the addition of the East Wing on Main Hall, followed almost immediately by the new Recreation and Wellness Center in 2000. The former Health and Physical Education Building, after extensive renovation, became the Conference Center. This impressive facility supports professional development and contract training programs provided by The Corporate University, the Small Business Development Center and the Canton chapter of SCORE.

2004

In June 2004, the Campus Center opened its doors, providing students and faculty with a bookstore and a dining facility, as well as space for tutoring, testing and staff offices. This construction bookended Bittle's impressive career. He retired a month later, after 23 years of service to Kent State University.



Seachrist



Morehart



Bittle

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK DEANS

Jack D. Morehart
Director, 1960-1980

William G. Bittle, Ph.D.
Dean, 1981-2004

David G. Baker, Ph.D.
Interim Dean, 2004-2005

Betsy V. Boze, Ph.D.
Dean, 2005-2009

Ruth C. Capasso, Ph.D.
Interim Dean, 2009-2010

Walter F. Wagor, Ph.D.
Dean, 2010-2014

Denise A. Seachrist, Ph.D.
Dean, 2014-current



INVESTING FOR 70 YEARS – FEATURE STORY

FACULTY Spotlight

STAFF IN PHOTOS ABOVE

Top-left: Marylouise Bush

Top-center and right: Alicia Pieper

Bottom-left: Terry Sosnowski

Bottom-center: Fred Worrell

Behind the impressive titles, degrees and professional achievements of the faculty at Kent State University at Stark, there exists a shared passion not only for the university itself, but for the students who call it home. It's this passion that drove Terry Sosnowski, Ph.D., Marylouise Bush, Fred Worrell and Alicia Pieper to devote their careers to the school – and they would all do it again in a heartbeat.

All four joined the university within a year of its move to the Frank Road campus, giving them a front-row seat to the school's transformation over the last 50 years – a transformation due in large part to devoted faculty such as themselves.

Terry Sosnowski Ph.D.

Retired Assistant Professor of English /
Adjunct English Faculty Member



FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS,

Terry Sosnowski, Ph.D., has been as much a staple of the Kent State Stark campus as the furnishings themselves.

"I often say that I came in with the original furniture and that I am the only thing about the campus that hasn't been thoroughly refurbished," jokes Sosnowski.

As one of the first faculty members hired to teach at the new campus in the fall of 1967, Sosnowski has witnessed firsthand the amazing transformation the school has undergone through the decades.

"During my time with the university, the campus has expanded to include five new buildings," says Sosnowski. "We've seen a huge growth in enrollment, our curricular offerings now feature full bachelor's and master's degrees, we host exchange students from around the world, we're a center for community involvement and advancement...and that's just the tip of the iceberg!"

"Kent State Stark is my professional home and I love it with all my heart."

Thinking back on the early years of her career with Kent State Stark, Sosnowski recalls that many of the students were veterans who had recently returned from the Vietnam War. Class options were limited in those days, and the latest technology came in the form of slide and 16-millimeter movie projectors – a

far cry from the fully equipped, multimedia classrooms on campus today. Back then, students hand wrote or typed their essays, and tests were run off on ditto stencil.

"When I first started teaching, I had no idea what a computer was," admits Sosnowski. "Now, nearly a third of my teaching takes place online!"

She also remembers when William Bittle, Ph.D., joined the staff as dean, commenting that he possessed, "a talent for unifying and organizing the faculty's talents." Following his appointment, the campus experienced a period of extensive expansion. "From across the country and around the world, we hired new faculty, including a young historian who was installed in the office across the hall from mine," she remembers fondly. "I frequently say that he came with a note pinned to his lapel which read, 'Terry, if this one doesn't do, we aren't sending any more.' We married in the winter of 1980, and recently celebrated our 36th wedding anniversary."

Fred Worrell

Retired Administrator / Retired Emeritus
Assistant Professor of Sociology



FRED WORRELL, LIKE MANY FACULTY MEMBERS

who have retired from Kent State Stark, still feels a strong connection to the school, and a great sense of pride in what the university has accomplished over the years.

Along with his fellow colleagues, Worrell watched as Kent State Stark transformed itself from a one-building campus surrounded by farmland into a sprawling university center that now serves more than more than 7,000 degree-seeking students and an additional 4,000 professionals enrolled in continuing education classes through The Corporate University.

As many did in the early days, Worrell wore several hats at the beginning of his career in 1966. In addition to teaching sociology and social work, he also took on administrative roles, serving as head of faculty and community relations before moving into the classroom full time. Even after retiring in 1994, Worrell continued to teach in an adjunct capacity until 2010.

"A great sense of comradery and community existed among the faculty, and we had wonderful relationships with the students," recalled Worrell.

"Teaching and getting to know the students.... That was the best part."

"We had a lot of spirit in those days, there was pride in being new. Now, our pride and appreciation centers around the caliber of the faculty and programs and in the value of the degrees we provide."

Worrell still keeps in touch with fellow retirees of the school and will always remember his time at Kent State Stark fondly.

Marylouise Bush

Retired Spanish Professor



ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED WITH KENT STATE STARK FROM THE BEGINNING

knows the name Marylouise Bush. As one of the first three faculty members hired by Jack Morehart to teach at the newly founded campus in 1967, Professor Bush had the honor of building the school's foreign language program from the ground up.

A Kent State alumnus herself, Bush has many wonderful memories from her career with the school. One of the most notable, however, was attending the university's groundbreaking ceremony and watching then-governor James Rhodes dig the first shovel of dirt to inaugurate the new campus.

Bush had been teaching Spanish at Lehman High School when she was approached by her former high school teacher Jack Morehart to come work at Kent State Stark. She remembers Morehart as a highly renowned educator in the community and the "right man" to found the Stark Campus. She jumped at the opportunity – and the rest is history.

Always an active faculty member, Bush remained connected to the school even after retiring and has enjoyed watching the school grow over the years.

"When the campus first started, the inaugural faculty only taught intro courses," said Bush. "It's so exciting and wonderful to see that we now grant full degrees and offer graduate work."

"In my opinion, the current faculty provides students with an ivy-league level of education at an affordable cost. Today's professors are not only master teachers, but also impressive researchers and publishers who share their knowledge in the United States and abroad."

Bush also has compliments for the school's administrators, both past and present. "We have always had a strong administrative team and the present Stark administration is really exemplary."

She feels privileged to have worked under the college's longest serving dean, William Bittle, Ph.D., who Bush credits with leading the school through its "greatest, most ambitious period of expansion to date." Bittle, she continued, had the "courage, insight and cutting-edge attitude to grow the campus to the place it is today."

Another administrator who greatly impresses Bush is current dean, Denise Seachrist, Ph.D., who she describes as a highly respected academic leader in the community. "Dr. Seachrist really seems to have her finger on the pulse of the pace at which the university needs to operate moving forward."

"The spirit of collaboration and cooperation among the faculty and staff is what has made Kent State Stark an outstanding institution of learning."

Alicia Pieper

Coordinator, Human Development and Family Studies Program



ANOTHER KENT STATE STARK ORIGINAL,

Alicia Pieper has worked under every dean who has led the campus, beginning with Jack Morehart when she started teaching in 1968.

"It's been very interesting to experience each dean's tenure, as they have all been successful in different ways," notes Pieper. Jack Morehart, for instance, led the building of the physical campus on Frank Road, establishing a foundation upon which the university has flourished. William Bittle, Ph.D., then expanded the school's program offerings by leaps and bounds, beginning full, four-year degree programs on campus and hiring a diverse and decorated faculty. Now, Denise Seachrist, Ph.D., continues to grow the university's program offerings and is extremely active in the community.

When Pieper first began her career at Kent State Stark, she was the entire Human Development and Family Studies Department. These days, the department employs four full-time and four part-time professors, and the classes are targeted toward specific degrees.

"I have had the pleasure of teaching some really wonderful, hardworking students over the years, and knowing you've made a difference in a student's life... well, that's the kind of reward that money could never buy."

"You have to start somewhere," Pieper comments, when remembering the department's humble beginnings. "In those early days, the faculty and students were very close; the small class sizes and the fact that everyone was housed in Main Hall (students, faculty and administrators alike) provided a unique opportunity to really get to know everyone personally."

Despite all the growth the school has experienced, we still have very workable class sizes that allow the professors to really get to know their students to this day."

Although Pieper could have easily retired a long time ago, she still enjoys being in the classroom far too much to leave.

The year was 1945,
and a young Joe Niamtu
had just returned home
to Canton, Ohio, after
serving three years in
the military.


Eager to use the GI Bill and further his education, Niamtu began investigating colleges in the region – even hitchhiking to Columbus and Athens to look at The Ohio State University and Ohio University.

Unable to find viable housing options at either university, Niamtu once again returned home to discover a school he hadn't yet considered, right in his backyard – Kent State University Canton (KSUC). The Stark County branch of Kent State University had just opened in McKinley High School to accommodate the large influx of students attending college under the new GI Bill. Niamtu was admittedly "pleasantly surprised" with the quality of education he found at KSUC.

"Here was a school just down the road from me that offered everything I was looking for in a university," recalls Niamtu. "It was a blessing to have found a local college that not only provided a wonderful education, but also a variety of extracurricular activities and community outreach opportunities for its students."

Niamtu enrolled in 1946, and attended as many classes through KSUC as possible before transferring to the Kent Campus to finish his bachelor's degree in business, which he obtained in 1951. Even after graduating and beginning what would become a very successful career with Frito Lay, he proudly remained an active supporter of the school throughout the years.

Several members of Niamtu's family followed in his footsteps, as well. His son, Joe Niamtu, M.D., is one of Kent State University at Stark's distinguished alumni. He is now a highly respected cosmetic surgeon in Richmond, Virginia. Two of Niamtu's grandsons have also attended Kent State Stark and Niamtu's daughter, Lisa Waite, M.A., is a senior lecturer in the Communication Studies Department.



**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
CANTON ALUMNUS JOE NIAMTU
REMEMBERS THE EARLY DAYS**

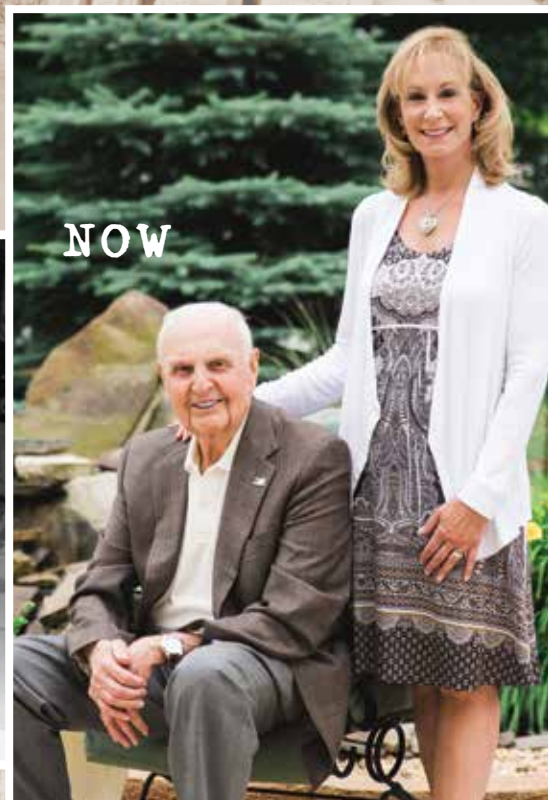


... Joe Niamtu, a student who has been here for 30 years. We present Joe Niamtu, a graduate of Timken high school, a liberal arts student who is a student and hopes to be a teacher in the year school of it. Each is one of his favorite and no doubt you will hear his smooth voice on one of our recent Saturday afternoon radio club broadcasts over the air.

Joe served three years in the U.S. Army and Central Pacific. He enjoys Tex. Band, especially "Night Serenade," especially when he's with his steady Elsie. Number one on his list are girls with pleasing personalities.



THEN



NOW



Several members of Joe Niamtu's family have strong ties to the Stark Campus, including his daughter, Lisa Waite, M.A., a senior lecturer in the Communication Studies Department.

"Many times in life, things don't work out exactly the way you want. But you pick yourself up, reevaluate things and figure out where to go next."

Looking back on his time at KSUC, Niamtu has many fond memories. "Many of the other students attending class alongside me were also newly discharged veterans, many so fresh that they had not yet had the chance to get a wardrobe together for school." Niamtu chuckles as he remembers, "A lot of guys came to class wearing their military attire every day."

"We had a lot of good things going on during that time – great classes and instructors and wonderful extracurricular offerings, like theater (we even put on a Shakespearean play!), dances at the Moonlight Ballroom, language clubs, intramural sports teams – you name it. For the small size and the funds we had to work with, KSUC provided a huge amount of value to its students and the community."

Niamtu says he will never forget the "excellent school spirit" everyone had back in those days, something he believes helped propel the university toward the success it enjoys today.

"We really worked hard in those early years to build support for Kent State within the community – we knocked on hundreds of doors, passed out flyers and held countless planning meetings. We worked hard to keep the campus alive because we cared about it that much."

Despite several setbacks, including a failed levy for the school that would have allowed it to move into donated land and buildings from the Timken Foundation, the students, faculty and administration never lost their passion for the school.

"Many times in life, things don't work out exactly the way you want," concedes Niamtu. "But you pick yourself up, reevaluate things and figure out where to go next."

As we all know, the school did just that – thanks to the enthusiasm and heart for the university displayed by so many over the years, Kent State Stark overcame its challenges to become Stark County's only public university and the largest regional campus of Kent State University. For that, Niamtu is grateful.

"This university is a tremendous asset to the community, and I'm very proud of what it has become – I am honored to be an alumnus. To the administration I say, 'job well done.'"



"My greatest hope is for people to take away from this is how important history is and how it shapes everything that happens around us – the impact it has lasts forever."

MICHAEL ARCHER, PRESENTER, KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK STUDENT CONFERENCE

Student Conference Showcases a Variety of Exceptional Works for Campus Community

EACH SPRING, THE STUDENT CONFERENCE provides Kent State University at Stark students with the opportunity to transform their class projects into professional, academic presentations that they personally deliver to a public audience of their peers and professors. Any student is eligible to submit a proposal to have their papers, posters, artwork, music or theater presentation included in the conference. Nearly 60 students participated in this year's conference, held on April 29.

"The conference is such a great experience because it places the focus on the incredible work so many of our students are doing," says Leslie Heaphy, Ph.D., Honors program and conference coordinator. "It is rewarding to watch them present and see the students so excited about their education."

Journey Through Stark County's Past

Presented by Michael Archer, Paul Bradley, Chris Martau, Dani Sprout and Heather White, Journey Through Stark County's Past included five different topics within a single presentation. Each group member chose to focus on a subject of historical significance, providing a unique snapshot of the county's past.

"My greatest hope is for people to take away from this is how important history is and how it shapes everything that happens around us – the impact it has lasts forever," says Archer. Here, each group member shares a bit about their part in the project:

Meyers Lake Amusement Park

MICHAEL ARCHER

Before researching the amusement park for his part of the project, Archer never realized just how important Meyers Lake was to the development of Stark County.

"It had such a large impact on the area socially and economically, not only because it brought people in to the area, but also because it encouraged other businesses to build around it," says Archer. "The amusement park was one of the largest in Ohio until it was eventually overshadowed by Geauga Lake and Cedar Point. It closed in 1974."

President McKinley and his wife, Ada, famously enjoyed the park, and Leon Czolgosz – the man who assassinated McKinley – was seen on the property weeks before the assassination with a prohibited firearm. According to historical accounts, he was chased by the police, but never caught. Three weeks later, he killed President McKinley in Buffalo, New York.

William Henry "Boss" Hoover and The Hoover Company

PAUL BRADLEY

"The Hoover Company wasn't just a business that produced vacuums, but an economic strongpoint to the citizens of North Canton, Ohio," notes Bradley. "Business wasn't always good for the Hoover family and they didn't start out making vacuums, either. The family began their business making leather goods and would merge into the business of building vacuums after Boss Hoover purchased James Murry Spangler's patents."



He revolutionized the way products were marketed to consumers, realizing the importance of advertising to bolster sales in the early 1900s. On December 5, 1908, Hoover advertised his vacuums in the *Saturday Evening Post*, offering customers 10 days free use of his machines. In 1909, he advertised in ladies' magazines and sales began to rise. He and his sons built the company into an international trademark in the years that followed.

"[Presenting at the conference] was an amazing experience overall," reflects Bradley. "As someone who wants to work in public history, it was the first time that I was able to truly work as a historian."

Civil War Medal of Honor Recipients from Stark County

DANI SPROUT

Massillon native Robert Pinn was exemplary in many ways. An African-American Civil War hero, Pinn was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by Abraham Lincoln for his courageous acts of service in battle.

"After his commanding officers were either injured or killed, he took control of his segment of troops during the Battle of Chaffin's Farm in Virginia," says Sprout. "He was only a first sergeant in his unit, the 5th U.S. Colored Infantry. Lincoln awarded Pinn with the Medal of Honor, the Army's highest military award for bravery in combat, in 1865."

Pinn was one of only four African Americans to be awarded the medal during the Civil War. Afterward, he graduated from Oberlin College and went on to become an attorney.

"Pinn faced many difficulties in his life," acknowledges Sprout, "but he overcame these obstacles to become a very successful person. It just proves that if you try, you can do anything you set your mind to."

Hoover and the WWII Refugee Children

HEATHER WHITE

With England under attack during WWII, many people felt they had no choice but to send their children away to other countries to protect them. Thousands of children fled the region, including 84 children of the Hoover Company's European employees who were brought to Stark County and given a safe haven until they could return to England.

"People say love is selfless and I believe this story demonstrates just that," says White. "These parents sent their children away not knowing when,

or even if they would see or hear from them again. It was such an act of selflessness, knowing the pain it would bring them in exchange for the safety it would afford their children."

It was also selfless on the part of the host families in Stark County, White adds. "This was the beginning of the 1940s and Stark County, along with a large portion of the country, was still rebounding from the Great Depression. Taking on these children, and not knowing for how long was a huge financial responsibility."

Many of the children stayed for four or five years, returning home at the end of the war in 1945.

"Growing up in Stark County, I had never heard of these children or Hoover's efforts to bring them here," says White. "Sometimes, when we don't have a monument to look at or have a lasting impression to remind us of an event, it's forgotten. I fear that has happened to this story and I wanted to bring awareness to it through this presentation."

Pro Football Hall of Fame

CHRIS MARTAU

While many people know that the National Football League (NFL) began in Canton, it's a lesser-known fact that in the early 1900s, Canton was home to a professional football team, the Canton Bulldogs. In fact, notable Bulldogs player Jim Thorpe served as the first president of the American Professional Football Association (later renamed the NFL) when it was founded in Canton in 1920.

"Most of the early NFL teams came from the Midwest, an idea not commonly thought of," says Martau. "The NFL did not begin in New York, Los Angeles or other big city hubs. It began with the Midwest working class, and grew and thrived in communities like Stark County."

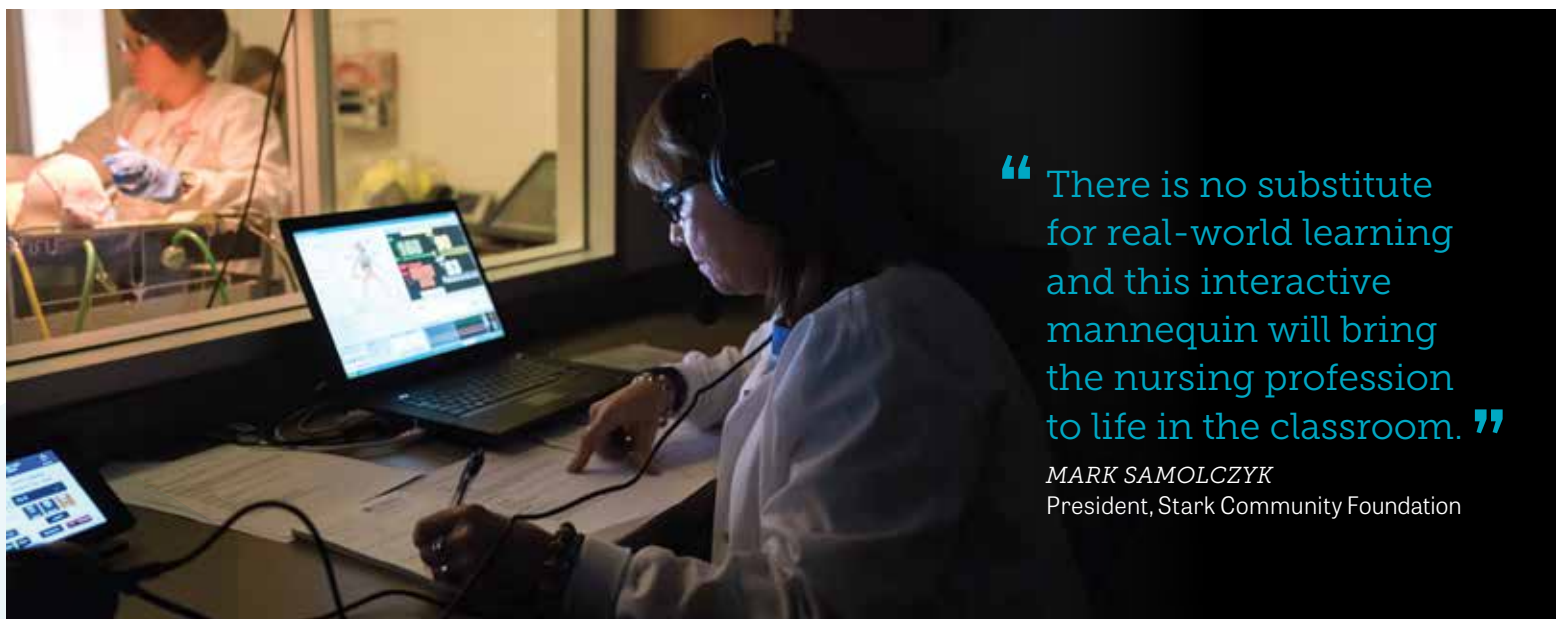
The "cradle of the NFL," Canton continues to attract thousands of sports fans each year during the annual Pro Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival and numerous more who journey to visit the legendary Pro Football Hall of Fame that opened in 1963.

GRANT FROM
**Stark
Community
Foundation**

ALLOWS
**Nursing
Program**

TO ACQUIRE
**New
High-Fidelity
Simulation
Mannequin**





“There is no substitute for real-world learning and this interactive mannequin will bring the nursing profession to life in the classroom.”

MARK SAMOLCZYK
President, Stark Community Foundation

THEY SAY PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT, and thanks to a generous grant from the Stark Community Foundation (SCF), nursing students at Kent State University at Stark can now practice assessments and interventions on a brand new, state-of-the-art, high-fidelity simulation mannequin.

The high-fidelity METIman mannequin – which replaces an older, outdated mannequin acquired in 2002 – was purchased with \$38,369 from the Credit Bureau of Canton Charitable Fund at SCF. Equipped with new training scenarios and the latest technology, it will allow students to better learn essential skills outside of the hospital before they face patients.

“The foundation recognized the enhanced impact that this high-fidelity simulation mannequin would have on the teaching and learning experience at Kent State Stark,” says Mark J. Samolczyk, president of SCF. “There is no substitute for real-world learning and this interactive mannequin will bring the nursing profession to life in the classroom.”

Simulation is the gold standard for medical training, providing health care professionals with the opportunity to experience real-life medical emergencies and interventions in the safety of a controlled environment. Everything from cardiac arrest to respiratory distress and seizures can be simulated through the mannequin, which is an anatomically precise replica of a human patient with a pulse, breath and heart sounds, intravenous access and blood pressure. Instructors are able to control vital signs, as well as “speak” as the patient from behind one-way glass in the simulation lab.

“Through the generosity of donors and the Stark Community Foundation, we are able to provide critical opportunities for our students to learn how to treat

patients in a coordinated setting,” says Dean Denise Seachrist, Ph.D. “This invaluable experience gives the faculty time to analyze results and teach students the ‘right’ way to approach a variety of medical scenarios before they become part of Stark County’s tremendous healthcare system. For this, we can all be grateful.”

In addition to providing students with experience handling emergency situations, the mannequin also offers the advantage of reproducing symptoms that may be hard to capture during a student’s clinical rotations. It’s these types of consistent experiences and practice that enhance learning and overall understanding of many different health conditions.

“Unlike a real-world situation, we can slow everything down in a simulation,” says Dawn Richards, B.S.N., RN, nursing lab coordinator and simulation instructor. “We can analyze results, and teach students the proper way to perform an intervention. We can go back and try again and reflect on performance and how to improve. In this regard, simulation mannequins are an exceptional teaching tool.”

The acquisition of the new mannequin is just the latest in a string of accomplishments for the burgeoning nursing program at Kent State Stark, which now boasts nearly 400 students. In the fall of 2015, the Science and Nursing Building opened on campus, providing students with the latest technology, equipment and laboratories in which to complete all requirements for the Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing degree and the RN to B.S.N. program.

For more information about the program and facilities, visit www.kent.edu/stark/nursing.

ABOVE

Senior Lecturer Jean Zaluski, M.Ed., creates real-world medical emergency situations for nursing students from the control room.



Associate Lecturer Loretta Aller, RN, M.S.N., C.N.S., instructs students performing CPR on the simulation mannequin.

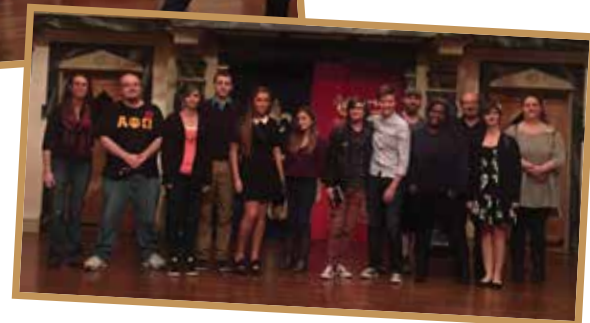


Experiential Learning Brings Shakespeare to Life Outside the Classroom

When Ann Martinez, Ph.D., assistant professor of English at Kent State University at Stark, took a group of students from her Shakespeare Experience course to the American Shakespeare Center (ASC) in Staunton, Virginia, last fall, she saw them connect with the material they had learned in class in a whole new way.

"Seeing these plays acted out by real Shakespearean actors brings the material we learn in class to life," says Martinez. "It's one thing to read one of Shakespeare's plays, but it's another to see it performed right in front of your eyes. Some of the students had never attended a professional theater performance prior to the trip and they left with a newfound appreciation for Shakespeare and the live theater experience."

The trip was such a success that for the second year in a row, Martinez and Charles Baker, Ph.D., will co-lead a group of students, faculty and alumni back to the American Shakespeare Center this fall to see live renditions of three Shakespearean masterpieces – *King Lear*, *Twelfth Night* and *Henry VI, Part 2* – in Blackfriars Playhouse, the only replica in America of Shakespeare's indoor theatre. The trip, scheduled for October 5 – 9, 2016, also will include on-stage workshops with the actors and design team. Topics last year included Stage Combat, Acting Choices, Staging Conditions and Early Modern Special Effects.



In addition to serving as a field trip for students in the Shakespeare Experience, a collaborative English and Theatre department course, the outing is also open to any interested student, faculty or alumni who wishes to join. While only those registered in the class will receive credit for the trip (three hours in either English or theater), the getaway shouldn't be missed if you're a Shakespeare fan.

"Even if you have gone on the trip before, it's worth going again to see the new plays being performed this year," encourages Martinez.

A previous student of the course, Marlissia Moore echoed this sentiment, commenting, "We know that Shakespeare's plays were meant to be seen rather than read. [Seeing the plays performed at the ASC] allowed me to say, for the first time ever, I liked the movie more than the book. Or rather, I liked the play more than the script, as the case may be! There are so many things that cannot be experienced just by reading the play."

This is especially true of ASC performances, as students last year had the opportunity to sit on the side of the stage, on "gallant stools," and interact with the performers throughout each play – an option Martinez says will be available to attendees this year, as well.

After traveling to Virginia and seeing the plays performed live, another student, Raeann Baggott, summed up the experience perfectly by saying, "It felt as though I was watching the play exactly how William Shakespeare himself would have wanted me to see it."



To go or not to go: that is the question!

For more information on the trip to the American Shakespeare Center, contact Ann Martinez at 330-244-3577 or amart108@kent.edu.

400th *Anniversary*

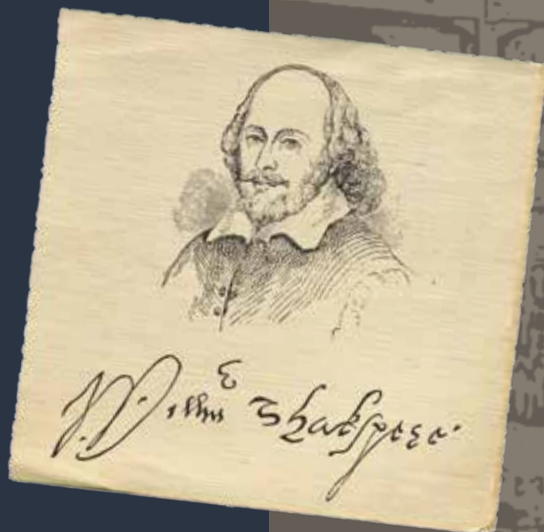
SHAKESPEARE REMEMBERED

On Monday, April 25, the students, faculty and staff at Kent State University at Stark joined the world in commemorating the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death by hosting a day-long event in his honor.

Attendees enjoyed refreshments and activities at numerous stations set up in the Campus Center, including Shakespeare-themed board and card games, a wheel of fortune that featured Shakespearean prizes and a selfie station with the playwright himself (in the form of a life-size cardboard cut-out). After taking a photo, participants were encouraged to post it on social media sites, using the hashtag #shakespeare400 to contribute to the global remembrance of the anniversary.

A modern adaptation of the "Play Within the Play" from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* also was performed by students from the fall cohort of the Shakespeare Experience class; it was the second enactment for the students, who initially presented the performance as their final project in the course last year.

"Although the English Outreach Committee has hosted an event like this around Shakespeare's birthday for years, we wanted this event to be grander than normal in recognition of the 400th anniversary," said Ann Martinez, Ph.D., assistant professor of English. "It was a wonderful day, enjoyed by all. It also was an exciting opportunity for our new English Club that was formed last December, as they co-hosted the event for the first time. We look forward to many more successful collaborations in the future!"





Erie Insurance conference

NEW CONFERENCE CENTER TEAM FOCUSES ON COMMUNITY

THE CONFERENCE CENTER at Kent State University Stark is the only major building on campus to have fully evolved from its original purpose as the Fieldhouse, home of intramural athletic programs, to one of Northeast Ohio's elite facilities for business and professional development.

As one of Northeast Ohio's only facilities accredited by the prestigious International Association of Conference Centers (IACC), the center is uniquely positioned to provide the region with an unparalleled level of accommodation for meetings, training programs and special events.

"IACC facilities provide the world's most trusted meeting environments, services and professional support," says Conference Center Director Stephanie Monastra. "We adhere to a set of quality standards that ensure the staff is focused on an exceptional experience. We are required – and committed – to uphold the highest standards of quality in the meeting industry."

The diligent management team is an integral component, providing clients with superior customer service, delicious dining choices and customized packages for a successful meeting, training or event within the distraction-free, state-of-the-art environment.

In cooperation with Conference Center veteran Janet Capocci – who has been with the Center for seven years and continues to head the sales team – the following administrative team members recently joined the staff to provide clients with a five-star experience from start to finish.

Meet Our New Administrative Team Members



STEPHANIE MONASTRA

Director, Conference Center

As Conference Center director, Monastra's every activity aims to build and reinforce the vision of Kent State Stark as a high-quality educational institution and valued community partner. Not only is she responsible for soliciting, planning and directing events and activities within the facility, she also delivers and oversees all operational and service expectations. She is continually engaged in creating a customer-centric culture of hospitality while adhering to IACC standards. Additionally, Monastra develops and oversees the budget and operating expense for the center, proposes and monitors capital improvements, and is responsible for overall operations at the Emporium, the dining hub, located in the Campus Center.

Monastra joined the Conference Center in August 2015 after working in event management for Diebold Inc., most recently as director of global events. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Bowling Green State University and is both a certified meeting planner and a certified meeting manager.



CHAD CHRISTINE

Culinary Operations Manager

Christine, the culinary operations manager, is responsible for all aspects of food service production for the Conference Center (including special campus events), delivering a high-quality, high-value dining experience to customers. Not only is he in charge of food preparation and presentation – including creating and developing menus – he also developed kitchen policies and procedures to complement the philosophy of a client-centric culture of hospitality.

A U.S. veteran, Christine holds a bachelor's degree in dietetics and sports nutrition from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania; a certified chef and diet technician degree from the U.S. Army Academy of Culinary Arts; and an associate degree in operations and crisis management from the U.S. Academy of Health Sciences. He also was a member of the U.S. Army Culinary Arts Team and most recently, served as director of food service operations for Saber Healthcare Group.

ENSURE THAT YOUR NEXT MEETING OR SPECIAL EVENT WILL BE A SUCCESS.

Contact the Kent State Stark Conference Center team at 330-244-3300 or learn more about this impressive facility at www.kent.edu/stark/cucc.



BRITTANY ACUFF

Guest Services Manager

The guest services manager is responsible for elevating and enhancing the overall guest experience at the Conference Center. Acuff works with the sales manager and culinary manager to ensure proper transition of customer services from meeting inception to delivery. She also manages, trains and develops guest service attendants and wait staff and implements service standards and procedures for both teams.

A graduate of Jackson High School, Acuff received her bachelor's degree from the University of Mount Union and her master's degree from Kent State University. Before joining the Conference Center team last November, she was employed by the University of Arkansas as the assistant director of facility operations.

LONGTIME PARTNERSHIP UNCOVERS NEW AVENUES FOR TRAINING

Many years ago, Gregory Industries of Massillon recognized the importance of equipping its employees with the tools they need to succeed through professional development courses.

"We're a growing company," says Mike Rothacher, VP of corporate services at Gregory Industries, "and it's essential to have well-trained, creative employees help us build and adapt processes to deliver world-class products and services. Our employees hold the key to this notion, since they work with all the processes on a daily basis and understand better than anyone what works and what doesn't. So, we empower them to fix things that are clunky and ineffective."

Since the early 2000s, when the company partnered with The Corporate University to train their entire workforce in lean manufacturing and operational excellence, they have benefitted from Kent State Stark's resources and knowledge sharing.





"As I look back, this was really the beginning of an important shift in our culture," recalls Rothacher. "The owners and our president at that time wisely realized that the company was growing beyond the capacity for a few people to do all the teaching and mentoring. We began to place much greater emphasis on measuring and continuously improving our processes and engaging all of our employees to identify problems and solve them creatively. These concepts are now embedded in our organizational thinking. We believe that everything we do is part of a process to deliver great products to happy and loyal customers."

Faith Sheaffer-Polen, director of The Corporate University, is quick to point out that the relationship is mutually beneficial.

"We approach all of our relationships with the idea that we can learn from each other," says Sheaffer-Polen. "Mike is committed to offering ideas and sharing what he knows in order to improve our local and global economy."

It was this spirit of collaboration that sparked the idea for one of Kent State Stark's most popular professional development courses – Supervisory Boot Camp. Sheaffer-Polen recalls asking Rothacher which training would make the most difference in his business and his response gave her an idea.

"Mike made the point that supervisors are often promoted based on technical skills, but are then asked to use a completely different skill set to be a successful manager," says Sheaffer-Polen, "so courses that cover 'people' or 'soft' skills, such as interpersonal communication, human interaction, etc., would be extremely beneficial. Following our initial conversation, I asked some other employers if they also saw a need for this type of course and they did."

From there, Sheaffer-Polen conducted extensive research, pulling from the experiences of established, successful supervisors, to create Supervisory Bootcamp. After some tweaking of the initial curriculum, based on participant feedback, the course took off and hasn't slowed since.



In addition to offering the course several times at capacity enrollments in the Conference Center, the well-equipped facility that hosts The Corporate University, Sheaffer-Polen's facilitators have also trained interested companies on-site. "MAC Trailer in Alliance was the first custom program," she remembers. "Since then, we have held it for H-P Products, Test America, ARE and Skipco, as well as conducted courses at Fannie May Chocolates, GOJO Industries, Hendrickson Trailer and TruBridge Inc." And, it's all thanks to a conversation.

"These types of collaborations [like the one with Gregory Industries] and the sharing of ideas and resources lay the essential groundwork for successful people and companies," says Sheaffer-Polen. "The more development we can offer any employee in any industry, the better off we all will be."

Where It All Comes Together

Family-owned and operated for five generations, Gregory Industries Inc. has more than 100 years of experience in galvanizing and metal processing and over 40 years roll-forming steel products serving multiple industries. Gregory is a leader in manufactured steel products, including highway safety guardrail and high-tension barrier systems, metal framing strut channel products and fastener accessories, as well as sheet coil and fencing.



Grant Spotlight

Grant Funding Gives Life to Kent State University at Stark Initiatives

Here's how recent awards will enhance Kent State Stark's programming and research:



Adam Larison

Funding for Inaugural Guitar Weekend – \$7,121

With the help of a special projects grant from ArtsinStark (\$3,500) and an ArtSTART grant from the Ohio Arts Council (\$3,621), Kent State Stark's Music Department will be able to bring the top performance and academic talent in classical, jazz and popular guitar styles together for one weekend to perform for and teach the community.



Aptly dubbed Guitar Weekend, the event will provide an opportunity for both students and interested community members to experience a wide range of guitar genres from musical artists to which they wouldn't otherwise have access.

"The hope is that audiences who are drawn to one style might, through this festival, come into contact with another musical style that is new to them," says Adjunct Music Professor Adam Larison, who is heading the project.

The event also will act as an educational opportunity for the recently founded Canton Youth Guitar Orchestra, a collaboration between the Canton Guitar Society and the Canton Youth Symphony. "Kent State Stark is uniquely situated in our community to bring these two organizations together to ensure a lasting musical/educational partnership that is beneficial to all involved," comments Larison.

Research on Emerging Country Multinationals – \$5,500

Assistant Professor of Economics Deepraj Mukherjee, Ph.D., has been awarded a \$5,500 grant from the College of Business Administration at Kent State to research the success of multinational businesses coming out of emerging countries around the world.

According to Mukherjee, these businesses stand to become serious competition for the traditional western businesses that operate multinationally and he hopes his published research, *Location Strategies of Emerging Country Multinationals: Evidence from Indian Firms*, will uncover useful information surrounding the resulting economic shift.

The study, which will include data from 1,750 Indian companies, will address questions related to each company's core strategies, factors surrounding their competitive edge and the impact their success will have on international trade. He hopes to complete his research in the fall of 2016.



College Credit Plus Teacher Credentialing Grant – \$498,442

In an effort to expand the availability of college-level courses to high school students in the region, Kent State Stark – in partnership with the Stark County Educational Service Center – was awarded \$498,442 in College Credit Plus (CCP) Pathway One funding to provide graduate training to qualified teachers. The grant, which is the largest Kent State Stark has ever received, is paying for tuition, books and some professional development for all participating teachers, who will then be equipped to deliver CCP courses to students.

"In the last two years, Kent State Stark has increased its partnerships with high schools in Stark County and surrounding counties, increasing enrollment from 80 students in fall 2013 to more than 600 this semester," says A. Bathi Kasturiarachi, Ph.D., assistant dean of academic affairs at Kent State Stark and principal investigator of the grant. "As a result, more Kent State coursework is being offered through these schools, despite the fact that many districts do not currently have teachers credentialed to teach college-level courses. This grant will change that."

At least 50 teachers from 11 Stark County public schools and four schools in neighboring counties are taking advantage of this opportunity to further their education and positively impact countless high school students.

“

When I didn't have any food,
I felt better knowing that the
pantry was here.

—

Gives my family meals when
we can't afford groceries.

—

Everyone has certain times
where they struggle and
need a little help.

”



Donations for Flash's Food Pantry are appreciated!

**Donation bins for non-perishable food
items are located in campus buildings.**

*Monetary donations are accepted in
the Academic Success Center in the lower level
of the Campus Center or by mail (checks only),
payable to Kent State University at Stark.*

Kent State University at Stark
Undergraduate Student Government
c/o Flash's Food Pantry
6000 Frank Avenue NW
North Canton, Ohio 44720

Thank
= you =



Flash's Food Pantry Provides a Helping Hand in Times of Need

*"I only make enough money to buy gas or food;
I have to pick which one."*

It was comments like this from within the Kent State University at Stark community that led the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) to start Flash's Food Pantry in November 2015. Thanks to the pantry, the student quoted above no longer has to choose between gas or food: "With the pantry, I can eat *and* come to school."

Open to any student, faculty or staff member on campus, the pantry has served more than 100 individuals in need since opening last fall. Guests are welcome to visit the pantry once a week and take up to 12 items at a time. In addition to food and hygiene items on hand, educational opportunities about local resources and food insecurity in Stark County are available to visitors.

"Since establishing the pantry, we have learned a great deal about the needs of our campus community, including the incredibly difficult decisions our students are forced to make in their daily lives," says Ashley Brightbill, student activities and services manager.

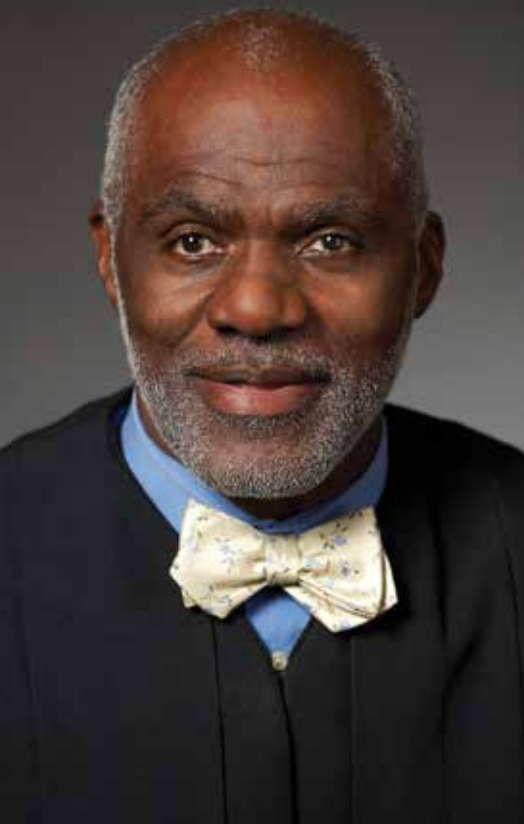
"Flash's Food Pantry provides a service that not only educates, but offers hope and opportunity to those it serves," adds Brightbill. "The pantry embodies the importance of humanity and respect, which positively contributes to a transformative experience here at Kent State Stark."

The food pantry also has been fortunate enough to receive assistance from great community partners. Last fall, Fishers Foods generously made multiple contributions of non-perishable food items, ensuring that the shelves were fully stocked for opening day.

This year, a new partnership with Interfaith Campus Ministry, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization hosted by Kent State Stark, will make it possible for the pantry to realize one of its major goals – supporting and working cooperatively with the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank.

"Partnering with Interfaith Campus Ministry will allow the pantry to purchase food directly from the Foodbank at a greatly discounted price so we can maximize the monetary donations we receive and serve more students, faculty and staff who frequent the pantry," says USG representative April Arbogast.

Pro Football
Hall of Famer
and former
Minnesota
Supreme
Court Justice
Alan Page



Retired
NASA
astronaut
Mark Kelly



SILVER FEATURED SPEAKERS SEASON HAS A CELESTIAL ENDING

The 25th season of the Featured Speakers Series will not soon be forgotten. The final two speakers, held in the spring semester, were met with widespread enthusiasm from Kent State University at Stark students and employees, as well as community members.

Canton welcomed back one of its own when Pro Football Hall of Famer and former Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page visited campus in February. The Central Catholic High School alumnus spoke about the importance of education and being a positive role model for youth.

Retired NASA astronaut Mark Kelly made quite the impression on the capacity crowd during his April appearance. His twin brother and fellow astronaut, Scott, who recently returned after a 340-day stint in space, opened the event with a surprise video. Kelly's fascinating discussion covered topics from his days as a Naval captain to life on the International Space Station to the attempted assassination of his wife, former Arizona congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.

THE STARK CAMPUS HOSTS EARTH DAY CELEBRATION FOR COMMUNITY

Each April, Kent State University at Stark takes time to recognize our planet by educating and entertaining the community at the Annual Earth Day Celebration. Since 2007, this successful tradition continues to bring together local organizations, performers, exhibitors and Stark Campus student groups to inform the young and the old about how to protect, care for and appreciate the world in which we live.

The outdoor event provided hundreds of families with the opportunity to learn about environmental awareness at numerous demonstration tables, including an extensive array of live and mounted insects and invertebrates from around the world. Attendees also enjoyed kid-friendly games and activities, such as performances by a recycling magician, a musical artist singing nature-themed selections and a guided tour of the campus pond and research area – an EPA-protected, Certified Wildlife Habitat™ where a variety of species and plants reside.

Following a tree-planting ceremony, a representative from the Arbor Day Foundation honored Kent State Stark as a Tree Campus USA University for its dedication to campus forestry management and environmental stewardship. This is the seventh consecutive year the campus has received this designation.

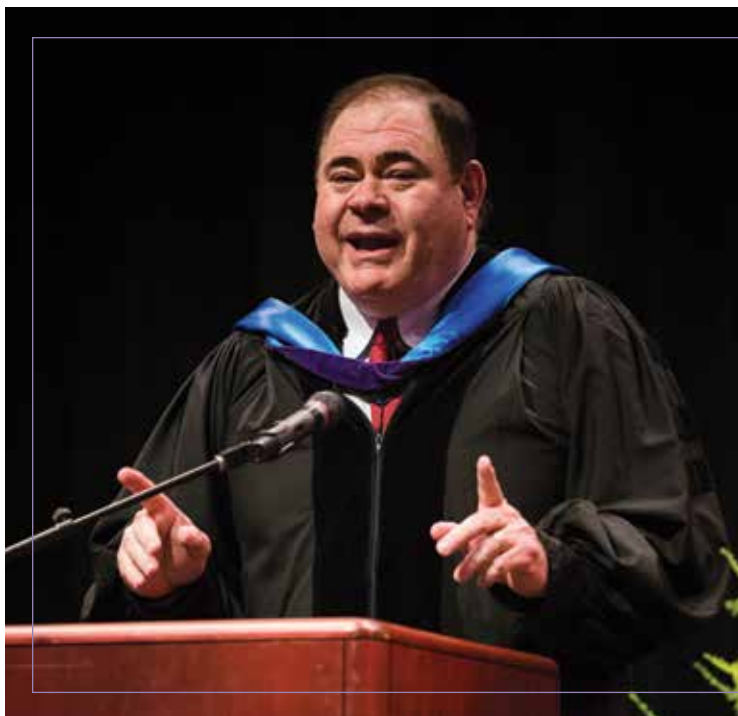


TOP STAFF CELEBRATED FOR EXCELLENCE

The annual Kent State University at Stark Staff Excellence Awards recognize an administrator and a staff member who have been nominated by their peers for going over and above to serve students, illustrating superior customer service and showing a strong commitment to their jobs and Kent State.

The 2016 award winners are Administrative Clerk Bobbi Groves as the staff recipient and Senior IT User Support Analyst Jared Weber as the administrative recipient.





STARK CAMPUS GRADS ADVISED TO PURSUE A HALL OF FAME LIFE

Nearly 200 graduates who participated in Kent State University at Stark's 43rd Spring Commencement ceremony, held in May 2016 at Canton's Umstattd Performing Arts Hall, were encouraged by an address from David Baker, the president and executive director of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. He urged the new alumni to embrace the core values – commitment, integrity, courage, respect and excellence – that earn the game's best athletes the honor of being inducted into one of our nation's most revered organizations.

Baker's inspiring speech detailed how these admirable characteristics on which the Hall was established were not only the keys for success on the field, but also in the game of life.



From left: Clarke Earley, Ph.D., James Seelye, Ph.D., A. Bathi Kasturiarachi, Ph.D., Matthew Lehnert, Ph.D., Denise A. Seachrist, Ph.D., Lisa Waite, M.A. and Eugene Guiley, M.S.

TEACHING HONORS AWARDED TO STARK CAMPUS FACULTY

Each year, Kent State University at Stark students, alumni, faculty and staff are invited to submit nominations for the Distinguished Teaching Award for full-time faculty and the Award of Distinction for part-time faculty. A selection committee, comprised of students and faculty, chose the recipients based on criteria including comprehensive knowledge of his or her field; effectiveness in organizing and presenting material, ability to stimulate thinking and develop understanding; demonstrated resourcefulness; ability to arouse student interest; and concern for students.

The 2015-16 Distinguished Teaching Award recipient is Matthew Lehnert, Ph.D., assistant professor of biological sciences. One student's nomination referred to him as an overall excellent professor. "He is not afraid to challenge students with difficult, yet essential material

in his classes," it stated. "He is very helpful, answering questions both in and out of class and dedicating time outside of his office hours helping students to fully comprehend the material."

Finalists for the Distinguished Teaching Award are James Seelye, Ph.D., assistant professor of history, and Lisa Waite, M.A., senior lecturer of communication studies.

Receiving this year's Award of Distinction is Eugene Guiley, M.S., adjunct faculty of mathematical sciences. Remarks from a student's nomination included, "Math is a hard subject for many students, but with Mr. Guiley, he made the class very understandable. He's a great teacher and would always be available whenever you needed help – even after class."

by FACULTY

Brian Betz, associate professor of psychology, presented “Increasing Instructor Presence in Online Courses through the Use of Asynchronous Video” at the Association for Regional Campuses of Ohio 22nd Annual Conference at Kent State University at Trumbull in Warren, Ohio, April 15-16, 2016.

Sebastian Birch, assistant professor of music, was commissioned to compose the music for Wayne Turney’s new translation of Sophocles’ *Elektra*. The play received 10 performances at DeSales University in Center Valley, Pennsylvania, Feb. 24 - March 6, 2016.

Joel Carbonell, assistant professor of political science, presented “Democracy and Environmental Protection” at the Western Political Science Association Conference in San Diego, California, March 23-27, 2016.

Julie Cremeans-Smith, assistant professor of psychology, presented “Physiological Indices of Stress Prior To and Following Total Knee Arthroplasty Predict Severe Post-operative Pain” at the Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., March 29 – April 3, 2016.

Jennifer Cunningham, assistant professor of English, presented “Multimodality, Its Pedagogy, Theory, and Practice: An Intersection in the University Writing Center” at the East Central Writing Centers Association Conference in Alliance, Ohio, March 4-5, 2016.

- Presented “Consistency is Key: Comparing Digital African American Language among Social Media Messages and Text Messages” at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association in Seattle, Washington, March 21-25, 2016.
- Presented “Less Smoke and Mirrors: Student Perceptions of Avatars to Create Social Presence in an Online Writing Class” at the College English Association in Denver, Colorado, March 31 – April 3, 2016.

Amy Damrow, assistant professor of education/cultural foundations, presented “HBCU & PWI Preservice Teachers’ Shared Stories: Raising Sociocultural Consciousness” at the 37th Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum at the University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Feb. 25-28, 2016.

Peter Dorff, associate professor of accounting, presented “First Time Online Course Development and Delivery” at the Teachers of Accounting at Two-Year Colleges Conference in Denver, Colorado, May 18-22, 2016.

Kim Garchar, assistant professor of philosophy, presented “New Scholarship in American Philosophy” at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy in Portland, Oregon, March 2-6, 2016.

Marie Gasper-Hulvat, assistant professor of art history, presented “Changing Mental Models and Priorities in the Art History Survey” at the College Art Association in Washington, D.C., Feb. 3-7, 2016.

- Published the blog post, *Pizza Margherita, the Rolling Stones, a Scavenger Hunt, and a few Unknowns: Introducing the High Italian Renaissance* for *Artsfuture.org*, April 6, 2016, which won the 2015 Arts Future Classroom Competition.
- Presented “A Person Unwilling to Make Compromises? Kazimir Malevich’s 1930 Arrest” at the Space Between Society Conference in Montréal, Canada, June 2-4, 2016.

Peter Kratcoski, emeritus adjunct professor of criminology and justice studies, co-edited the following books:

- *Collaborative Policing: Police, Academics, Professionals, and Communities Working Together for Education, Training, and Program Implementation* (CRC Press/Taylor and Francis Group, 2016).
- *Corruption, Fraud, Organized Crime, and the Shadow Economy* (CRC Press/Taylor and Francis Group, 2016).

Co-authored the following chapters:

- *Justice Agencies: Academic Collaboration in Experiential Education*, pp. 137-158; *Perspectives on the Professional Practitioner in Criminal Justice*, pp. 247-292 and *Academic, Professional and Community Collaboration: Past, Present, and Future*, pp. 294-306; in *Collaborative Policing: Police, Academics, Professionals, and Communities Working Together for Education, Training, and Program Implementation* (CRC Press/Taylor and Francis Group, 2016).
- *Introduction: The Relationship of the Informal Economy to Corruption, Fraud, and Organized Crime*, pp. 1-6; *The Informal Economy: The Connection of Organized Crime, White Collar Crime, and Corruption*, pp. 53-64 and *Conclusion and Future Perspectives*, pp. 197-206; in *Corruption, Fraud, Organized Crime and the Shadow Economy* (CRC Press/Taylor and Francis Group, 2016).

Keith Lloyd, associate professor of English, published the following articles:

- *Beyond ‘Dichotomous’ Rhetoric: Interpreting Field Recitations to Feminist Critiques of Academic Rhetoric through an Alternate Multivalent Rhetoric in Rhetorica*, 2016.
- *Is Reasoning Universal? Perspectives from India in Argumentation and Reasoned Action: Proceedings of the 1st European Conference on Argumentation* (College Publications, 2016).

Gave the following presentations:

- “Engaging the Global in the Teaching of Writing: Workshop Discussion II” at the 2016 Conference on College Composition and Communication in Tampa, Florida, April 6, 2016.
- “Using India’s Nyāya Reasoning to Teach FYC: Building Relational Arguments” at the 2016 Conference on College Composition and Communication in Houston, Texas, April 7, 2016.
- “Not Just a Figure of Speech: A Proposal for an Analogical Understanding of Rhetoric,” at the Days of Ivo Škarić Third International Conference on Rhetoric on the Island of Brač (Postira), Croatia, April 20-23, 2016.

Ann Martinez, assistant professor of English, presented “From Warriors to Weepers: Kingly Depictions of Macbeth and Henry V on Film” at the Shakespeare Association of America in New Orleans, Louisiana, March 23-27, 2016.

Jack McWhorter, associate professor of art, exhibited paintings titled, *Signals that Gather* in New York, New York, Feb. 3-6, 2016 and at The Painting Center exhibition in New York, New York, Feb. 27 – March 1, 2016.

- Presented “Curatorial Report: Retrieval of the Beautiful,” at The Painting Center in New York, New York, April 26-27, 2016.

Robert Miltner, professor of English, presented “Raymond Carver’s Presence in Global Cinema/Carver Studies 2; Chair: Carver Studies 1: Pen in Hand—Editing Raymond Carver” at the American Literature Association Annual Conference (International Raymond Carver Society) in San Francisco, California, May 25-28, 2016.

Jayne Moneysmith, associate professor of English, presented "Mentoring Innovation: Providing and Seeking Mentorship for Radical Pedagogical Approaches" at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Houston, Texas, April 5-8, 2016.

Deepraj Mukherjee, assistant professor of economics, presented "Economic Globalization and Governance: The Role of Social Globalization" at the American Economic Association Conference in San Francisco, California, Jan. 3-6, 2016.

- Presented "Understanding the International Trade-Corruption Linkage: Taking Stock and Moving Forward" at the International Conference on Business and Economic Development 2016, in New York, New York, April 2-5, 2016.
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Andrea Myers, assistant professor of art, exhibited Work in Progress Residency at the Textile Art Center in New York, New York, June 1-30, 2016.

Thomas Norton-Smith, professor of philosophy, presented "On the Appropriateness of Appropriation" and "Common Themes in American Indian Philosophy" as the featured speaker at South Alabama University in Mobile, Alabama, March 23-25, 2016.

Chris Post, associate professor of geography, presented "Making Place through the Memorialized Landscape and Panelist: Geographies of Media III: 'California, I'll be Knocking on the Golden Door': Geographical Thought in the Grateful Dead's Legacy" at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, March 28 – April 2, 2016.

Mary Rooks, assistant professor of English, presented "The Allure of Spectacle and Sarah Fielding's Cleopatra" at the 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers Conference in Athens, Georgia, June 2-5, 2016.

James Seelye, assistant professor of history, presented "Native Americans and Fort Laurens" at the Fort Laurens Speakers Series in Fort Laurens, Ohio, March 19, 2016.

- Presented "Reaching the Venerable: Frederic Baraga and the Catholic Hierarchy" at Evening at the Archives at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan, March 24, 2016.
 - Participated in the "On Native Grounds: Studies of Native American Histories and the Land" National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., June 19 – July 15, 2016.
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Relja Vulcanovic, professor of mathematics, gave a series of six lectures at the Advanced Workshop on Singularly Perturbed Partial Differential Equations: Theory, Computations and Applications, and presented "Numerical Solution of Stationary Shock Problems" at the International Conference on Mathematical Modelling, Differential Equations, Scientific Computation and Applications in Kanpur, India, March 21-30, 2016.

Rachel Waddell, assistant professor of music, presented "From Paper to Podium: Exploring the Gap Between University Training and Professional Experience in Orchestral Conductors" at the College Orchestra Directors Association 2016 National Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, Jan. 12-17, 2016.

Lisa Waite, senior lecturer of communication studies, presented "Lean In: Tactical Solutions for Success" at the Spirit of Women in Business Conference at Kent State University, in Kent, Ohio, March 9, 2016.

- Presented "The Spirit of Service" at the Nursing Home Administrator's Conference at Kent State University at Stark, North Canton, Ohio, March 10, 2016.
 - Presented a leadership seminar to Western Reserve corporate team at Western Reserve headquarters, Wooster, Ohio, April 29, 2016.
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by STAFF

Rob Kairis, Library Director, presented the workshop: "Plagiarism School: Strategic Efforts for Educating and Rehabilitating Students" at the Teaching Learning Collaborative with Wayne College and The University of Akron in Orville, Ohio, April 8, 2016.

Emily Ribnik, LPCC-S, Clinical Mental Health Counselor, presented "Personal Safety as a Professional" at the Ohio Division for Early Childhood and State Support Team Early Childhood Special Education Conference in Columbus, Ohio, June 3, 2016.

- Presented "Infusing Pop Culture into Counseling to Build Rapport and Client Success" at the Glenbeigh Outpatient of Canton's "Rise and Shine" Free CEU Series in North Canton, Ohio, June 9, 2016.
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Faith Sheaffer-Polen, Director, The Corporate University, presented "Networking Know-How" at Canton Professional Coders in Canton, Ohio, April 14, 2016.



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