

BUCKNELL

SUMMER 2022



THE HUNTER

THE SILK ROAD OF STOLEN ANTIQUITIES ENDS AT THE OFFICE OF
MANHATTAN ASSISTANT DA MATTHEW BOGDANOS '80

DUAL COMMENCEMENTS, P12

Historic Heart Transplant, p16

VIRTUAL WORLDS, P26

Joy-filled Jobs, p32

BY WAY OF BUCKNELL

STARRY NIGHT

Campus provides the perfect viewing platform for catching a celestial show.

If you would like a reprint of this photo, please fill out the form at bucknell.edu/bmag/PhotoOffer. We will send you a complimentary 8 x 10 print.

photograph by EMILY PAINE





PATHWAYS



FROM KENYA

to

DUBAI

by BROOKE THAMES

Jack Casturo '24 was 11 years old the first time he visited Kenya, on a mission trip that he kickstarted with his father through their church. There, in the city of Kisumu, the Pittsburgh native learned how to combine a solar panel, inverter and battery to build a powerful appliance.

"We built a few of these solar sets with students there and showed them how to power their homes," Casturo says. "My interest in engineering took off from there."

He followed his fascination to Bucknell, where the electrical engineering major has partnered with classmates to design an electric slot machine and a line-tracing robot – in addition to fun, personal projects like a flashing LED "Thank You" display for a car's rearview mirror.

Casturo even attended the 2021 U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon in Dubai to see college students like himself construct high-performance, low-carbon buildings powered by renewable energy.

"I'm not even through my sophomore year and have had so many cool experiences," he says. "Being a Bucknell engineer really does give you an advantage. I can't say enough good things about the program."





FROM CAPE VERDE

to

HARVARD MEDICAL

by KATIE WILLIARD

Growing up in Cape Verde, **Victor Svistunov '22** "hardly had medical access. I've seen people die of simple infectious diseases. It sparked my passion to help."

Upon arriving in the U.S., he dove into the pre-health professions program at Harrisburg Area Community College before coming to Bucknell through the Community College Scholars Program. The biology major immediately got to work in the labs of Professors Sarah Lower and Moria Chambers. "All the knowledge I've gained – bioinformatics, genomics, microbiology techniques – I can use to study gut biology to discover novel ways of fighting infectious diseases."

His future kicks off in the fall when he'll start as a research assistant at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital. Ultimately, he'll pursue an M.D./Ph.D. in gastroenterology, satisfying his desire to both treat patients and contribute to scientific advancement through research.

"I want to help back home by building infrastructure so people have medical access," he says.

"Building a hospital will help a certain population. But research helps in a larger scope.

"It's hard to see people dying just because they don't have doctors. I want to get my education from the best so that I have the resources to help."

LETTERS

THANK YOU, SHERRI KIMMEL.

You enriched many
people's lives via the
award-winning
Bucknell Magazine.

JAI KIM, PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
Vienna, Va.

A LIFETIME EDUCATION

YOUR PIECE IN THE SPRING

2022 *Bucknell Magazine* about **John McKeegan '84** [P. 31] brought back memories of his father, **Hugh McKeegan P'81, P'83, P'84, P'86, G'10**, who was a professor of education at Bucknell in my days there in the late '60s. Hugh and another education professor, William Goodwin, were instrumental in my career development in many ways.

Both were involved in field research in school districts surrounding Lewisburg, and allowed me to apply research

methods that I was learning in the classroom in their projects. In 1975, Dr. McKeegan joined me in Portland, Ore., on a federally funded project directed at advancing the practice of testing students' ability to apply what they have learned in real-world settings. Later he invited me to speak at Bucknell on this topic.

Dr. Goodwin lit a fire in me through our research projects and steered me to enter the Ph.D. program in educational research at the University of Colorado. Faculty interest in

their students' futures and co-authoring applied papers with them were two aspects of my Bucknell education that I will always value. And, in addition, the liberal arts curriculum at Bucknell has influenced my lifelong interest in developing interdisciplinary graduate education and research. I have learned that most research requires applied knowledge and methods from multiple disciplines.

Thank you, Bucknell.

JAMES SANDERS '66, M'68
Kalamazoo, Mich.

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Fun is all in a day's work for these Bucknell alumni.

ON THE COVER:

Matthew Bogdanos '80 steps outside the DA's office at One Hogan Place in Lower Manhattan. Photograph by Barry Williams.

A PUG GETS PERSONAL

WHEN THIS ISSUE [SPRING 2020] ARRIVED, first online and then in hard copy, I was so excited for one “aww shucks” reason: The cover photo and how it evoked memories for me ... of my dog, Amos, and how the McKinnys’ remarkable “VIP” Mort brings me full circle to Lewisburg.

Amos lived with the Fitzgerald family, blessed us really, for 14 years, and made a huge difference in how we lived as a family. Amos taught us humor, patience, the need to slow down, the need to be a peacekeeper. It looks like Mort exudes those same qualities, and I’ll bet he is a de facto “therapy dog” whom students seek out, while they also come for the company and counsel of the McKinnys.

One other thing that needs to be told is that my name is Mort! When I was very young, my sister and two brothers reduced the formality of Margaret to ... Mort. And it stuck.

When I arrived at Bucknell in 1973, I introduced myself as Margaret, no family nicknames attached. But a chance letter from my sister at Trinity College was addressed to Mort Boles. My roommate announced it at a hall meeting with our RA, and it was greeted with enthusiasm. From there, I decided to keep it going (or my hallmates would not let it go), and within quick order, it became a “point of differentiation” and really – in some ways – served me quite well: Young lotharios thought it quite sexy (go figure), general folks thought it quite “cool,” it helped me



Mort the pug resides in Roberts Hall.

stand out in the vigorous tide of young women swimming like salmon through the streams of sorority rush (one rarely forgets meeting a woman named Mort), and I was going to start a trend that Madonna, Rihanna, The Weeknd and others would emulate: a one-name phenom.

I loved the McKinnys’ story and their brave and beautiful decision to join the Bucknell family, and my entire family’s collective heart melted at the sight of all those photos of Mort. For so many reasons, this story resonated with me and my family.

MARGARET BOLES FITZGERALD ’77, P’15
Boston

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GOING OUT ON TOP

I WAS A BIT SADDENED to see that magazine editor Sherri Kimmel is moving on, but quite happy to see that it’s while she’s still a “starter” like Peyton Manning was.

Your story [Spring 2022, Editor’s Letter] is amazing and motivating, even to this elder octogenarian. I was moved by your commitment to your next quest, Sherri, and commend your focus and spirit. So many today lack both. Continue to make a difference.

DICK BODDIE ’61
Huntington Beach, Calif.

I AM WRITING TO THANK [former editor Sherri Kimmel] for your brilliant leadership during your seven years at Bucknell. You and your staff have transformed the publication dedicated to meaningful stories and updates about the University. You have a brilliant ability to select germane topics that resonate with the alumni, as well as the University and local Lewisburg communities.

Positive energy is an invaluable component of success. You epitomize this trait, both in your personal writing and in the format and “feel” of *Bucknell Magazine*. I am certain that you will bring your infectious positive energy to your endeavors in public service.

GARY TOUBMAN
Newington, Conn.

Brad Putman Named New Garman Dean of the College of Engineering

by MIKE FERLAZZO

FOLLOWING A NATIONWIDE SEARCH,

Bucknell has hired Brad Putman as its new Richard E. Garman Dean of the College of Engineering. Putman previously served as associate dean for undergraduate studies in the College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences at Clemson University. He took office at Bucknell July 1.

Originally from New York's Southern Tier, Putman earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in civil engineering from Clemson. Upon completion of his Ph.D., he joined the faculty in Clemson's Glenn Department of Civil Engineering. Putman was named interim associate dean for undergraduate studies for the college in November 2016 and became the permanent associate dean in August 2017. His research is focused on construction materials and pavement engineering.

"Bucknell has an excellent reputation for undergraduate engineering education, and that's something that drew me to this opportunity," Putman says. "I am looking forward to working with and supporting the faculty and staff in the college to build on the already outstanding experiences for Bucknell engineers and computer scientists. We will develop the leaders, innovators and entrepreneurs of the future. I am honored and excited for the opportunity to lead Bucknell's nationally ranked College of Engineering."

Putman is currently a co-principal investigator for a \$2 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to lead the transformation of Clemson's civil engineering curriculum as part of the NSF Revolutionizing Engineering Departments program. He also led the development of a strategic plan for undergraduate studies in the engineering college, among other initiatives.



New dean Brad Putman wants to "build on the already outstanding experiences for Bucknell engineers and computer scientists."

Bucknell President John Bravman says Putman's background in shaping Clemson's undergraduate engineering and computing experience and his commitment to undergraduate education made him the top choice to lead the College of Engineering.

"Brad's passion for building a superior student experience was apparent," Bravman says. "He has a proven track record of building successful programs at Clemson, and we look forward to welcoming him to Bucknell to enhance the educational experience for our engineering students."

Putman succeeds Pat Mather, who departed last August to become dean of the Schreyer Honors College at Penn State University. Professor Erin Jablonski, chemical engineering, served as interim dean following Mather's departure.

NEWS TICKER

HEALER/SCHOLAR

Modern Healthcare magazine honored President John Bravman with an Excellence in Governance award, recognizing his six years of service as board chair for Geisinger Health.

RESEARCH LEADERS

Students and recent graduates won seven National Science Foundation Research Fellowships this spring, the most of any institution in Bucknell's peer group, placing the University in the top 20% of schools nationwide.

FAR AND AWAY

Bucknell was again named a Top Producing Institution of Fulbright U.S. Scholars by the State Department, topping the list for faculty awards at baccalaureate institutions.

GROWING GREENER

Holmes Hall, Bucknell's newest academic building, was lauded for its planet-friendly features with a LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

'burg and Beyond

In Lewisburg and far afield, Bucknell's students and staff make a positive and palpable difference.



▲ Maggie McConnell '22 worked with Taylor Lightman, director of the Lewisburg Neighborhoods nonprofit, to create a climate action plan for the borough.



Shamokin, Pa.

When the coal mines of Shamokin closed and enterprise moved on, the once-booming town was left with only the shadows of the back-breaking work that built it. The Shamokin Creek, orange and rusty from acid mine drainage, lies as a remnant of the abandoned industry.

But when Johnathan Favini, visiting assistant professor of international relations and environmental studies, took to designing a project for his Environmental Ethnography course, the creek's potential became his class' focal point.

What They Learned

Partnering with the Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance (SCRA), the class conducted interviews with residents and developed a surprising sense of the relationship between the townspeople and the water.

"Coal mining resulted in extreme environmental devastation," says **Molly O'Neil '22**, an environmental studies and Italian studies double-major. "Its impacts caused high poverty levels and declines in human health and population."

"I heard hopelessness," **Kayla McElroy '23**, who is

majoring in managing for sustainability and environmental studies, says of her conversations. "Government organizations have ignored their needs. With this history of disappointment, we realized how the care and concern of our work could shift patterns of neglect."

The Impact They Made

For Steve Motyka, vice president of the SCRA, the outcome of the research is serving his group's pursuit of environmental justice. "This research gives a tangible, professional report that shows what we're doing," he says. "It opened doors to mayors, councils and commissioners on the local level and state representatives."

For Shamokin residents, McElroy says, "our project carries the potential to restore something greater than a creek — an entire community." — *Katie Williard*



Lewisburg, Pa.

There's no catch-all solution to climate change, and its effects are as diverse as the people who feel its impacts. To help the residents of Lewisburg tackle their unique climate challenges, **Maggie McConnell '22** partnered with local constituents to draft the borough's first climate action plan.

What She Did

McConnell began her work in fall 2021 by taking a meticulous look at Lewisburg's greenhouse gas emissions, seeking to pinpoint the borough's largest contributors. "For a rural Pennsylvania town, transportation tends to be the biggest generator of greenhouse gas," says McConnell, an environmental studies and political science double-major. "I actually analyzed origin and destination points using Google Maps and cell phone location data, which gave me a clearer image of local car transportation volume."

She also created and deployed two community surveys to gauge residents' top environmental concerns and identify the most vulnerable populations.

What's Next

McConnell collaborated with a task force comprising Lewisburg citizens, infrastructure experts, government officials and community organizers — including a nonprofit called Lewisburg Neighborhoods.

"Real change happens through local community effort," McConnell says. "The strategies that are created need to work for this specific community, so it was important to have as much representation as possible."

"It's been great to amplify so many different voices, and to combine my interests and passions into something I'm proud of," she adds.

Once completed, the climate action plan will go before the Lewisburg Borough Council for a vote.

— *Brooke Thames*



▲ The Shamokin Creek runs bright orange with sulfurous acid mine drainage.



More Than Medicine

Humanities grant funds new health minor with a liberal arts focus

by BROOKE THAMES

THE HEADLINES ARE EVERYWHERE:

hospital admission rates, infection spikes and projections about a years-long pandemic keep health at the forefront of our everyday concerns.

But the health landscape isn't cleanly delineated by diagnoses, pharmaceutical treatments and advancements in biomedical interventions. For many Bucknell professors in the humanities, health is a complex field of understanding rooted in people — their histories, environments and experiences.

Starting this summer, 14 faculty members will begin designing a new health humanities minor that will explore these intricacies through numerous lenses. The minor is funded by a \$150,000 grant awarded to the faculty team by the National Endowment for the Humanities and will be part of the College of Arts & Sciences. It is anticipated to launch in three years.

An emerging field in higher education, health humanities draws upon history, philosophy, cultural studies and

the social sciences to create a rounded, humanistic understanding of health and medicine.

How does one's culture, faith or living environment influence what it means to be healthy or sick? What influence do race, gender and class have on who is considered healthy and who is not?

"The answers aren't biological facts that can be discovered or objectively observed," says Professor Jennifer Kosmin, history. "They're reflections of cultural ideas, societal norms and values."

In the new minor, students will wrestle with these multifaceted approaches to health with all of the rigorous interdisciplinary study that marks a Bucknell education. While the minor will be open to students from any discipline, its foundation in the humanities will serve to broaden the boundaries of health and medicine far beyond the applied sciences. For those eager to work in law, finance, policy and more, "understanding the fundamental relationships between science, culture,

power and medicine is incredibly valuable and empowering," says Professor Jeremy Chow, English.

But students won't have to wait until after graduation to put these tools to work. To distinguish Bucknell's approach to health humanities, the minor will feature a capstone course centered on community engagement partnerships with medical and nonprofit organizations in the Susquehanna Valley. Students will work with these service providers on meaningful local projects, taking humanistic health beyond classroom curiosity and into the real world.

"Establishing Bucknell as a local, regional and national leader in the health humanities is core to our vision," says Professor John Penniman, religious studies. "The expertise of our faculty, as well as other institutional partners in the area, is so strong. We seek to be ambitious about what we can do with that strength."

▲ Professor John Penniman, religious studies, is one of 14 faculty designing a new health humanities minor within Bucknell's College of Arts & Sciences.

Photo: Emily Paine



- ▶ Emma Cashwell '22 scans financial data on a Bloomberg terminal in the new Moriarty Investment Center.
- ▼ Holmes Hall opened for the fall 2021 semester.



Management Milestone

The Freeman College Turns 5

by MIKE FERLAZZO

THE FREEMAN COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT officially marked its fifth anniversary on July 1, but the celebration has been going all year — starting with the opening of Holmes Hall and encompassing the college's first top 20 appearance in the "Best Undergraduate Business Schools 2022" rankings by *Poets&Quants*.

But Raquel Alexander, the Kenneth W. Freeman Professor and dean of the Freeman College of Management, emphasizes that this is just the latest in a series of achievements since the college's founding.

"The remarkable naming gift from Ken and Janice Freeman has allowed us to double the size of our entering class, offer eight majors and two minors, and pair every student with an alumni mentor," Alexander says. "Based upon student outcomes and experiences, we

earned a No. 17 ranking among undergraduate schools nationwide for 2022.

"We have also paused to collectively make meaning of this moment in history when the world has weathered a global pandemic, come to a reckoning around racial justice and recognized a climate emergency," she adds. "Our approach to management education — interdisciplinary and experiential — prepares Bucknellians to lead ethically and solve the complex challenges that will face current and future generations. The world needs more leaders and more Bucknellians."

And Bucknellians, including current students, have benefited from the college's growth as well. In addition to ranking the college, *Poets&Quants* named **Luke Grover '22** and **Bridget Tobin '22** among its "100 Best & Brightest Business Majors of 2022."

"I think the evolution in the leadership sense — where it's not just academic and it's pushed toward that sustainable, empathetic leadership side of every student — is something that's evolved since I started," says Grover, now an associate auditor in banking capital markets for PricewaterhouseCoopers.

"The holistic approach of the college has evolved too," adds Tobin, now a wealth management strategy analyst at Bank of America. "It provides a holistic view for you to explore whatever you want and then do whatever you want."

The college officially celebrated its fifth anniversary during a Reunion Weekend reception.



▲ Chad Tiernan '23 was named a 2021 DII All-American by National Collegiate Rugby.

In the Scrum

by ANDREW FAUGHT

FOR FANS weary of commercial breaks and the leisurely pace of play in sports like baseball and golf, **Chad Tiernan '23** has just the antidote: the time-out-free game of rugby.

"It's constant, there's no stopping," says Tiernan, co-captain of Bucknell's club team, "meaning it's exhausting with the constant running and hitting."

At 6 feet, 2 inches and 225 pounds, Tiernan is one of the bigger athletes on the pitch. He plays a position called No. 8, a catch-all role responsible for tackling, setting rucks (in which players compete for the ball on the ground), running with the ball and passing it — always backward, per game rules — to teammates scrambling for the end zone (or "try zone," in rugby parlance).

Tiernan decided to give the football-soccer hybrid game a try during his first year of high school in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., joining the school's squad on a whim because his friend wanted to play.

He's been mixing it up in the scrum ever since.

Growing up, Tiernan played basketball and football, the latter for which he was a

defensive end. He never got to touch the ball. Rugby changed all of that: "Being able to run with the ball and break tackles was something that was super fun to me."

The Bison compete in the Mid-Atlantic Rugby Conference (MARC), and Tiernan's efforts haven't gone unnoticed. In March, he was named a 2021 DII All-American by National Collegiate Rugby. This year's team will kick off the new season in September. Tiernan is itching to play, especially after recovering from an ankle fracture he suffered while playing in January.

As co-captain, Tiernan aims to get the best out of his teammates with upbeat chatter, while also stressing the importance of game fundamentals.

"The brotherhood aspect of the game is huge," he attests. "I want to make sure we have good energy before a game. You've got to make sure that the guys are ready to go and excited to play. We talk about being smart with the ball."

For all of the game's physicality, most players, including Tiernan, compete without protective gear or

padding. That rugby players mostly avoid serious injury is due in large part to a cardinal rule: all tackles must be made below the shoulders.

Because rugby players typically run 4.35 miles over the course of two 40-minute halves, it's not surprising that training focuses on endurance. Tiernan's regimen includes sprints, distance runs and weight training.

Off the field, Tiernan is a finance major who will serve an internship this summer at BNY Mellon, a corporate investment firm. The experience, he says, will give him a glimpse of work life, while helping him decide on a career.

Tiernan enrolled at Bucknell for its academics, "and when I visited, I loved the campus," he says. "Getting to play rugby was obviously a bonus."

Wherever his future leads, Tiernan knows one thing for certain: He's going to continue playing rugby.

"The game brings me so much joy," he says. Some passions never die.

INSTANT REPLAY

PROUDEST MOMENT

Being selected to the high school All-American team and playing with the other All-Americans in Chula Vista, Calif.

It was such a proud moment for me to be able to represent my country like that.

A SPORT LIKE NO OTHER

The whole game, you're offense and defense. The variety of what you can do makes it fun for me.

BRAINS AND BRAWN

My biggest strength is seeing gaps on the field and attacking that space. Being bigger, I'm also able to use my body to get things open.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

My dad played rugby at Georgia Tech, but he never really tried to get me to play. He was ecstatic that I did.

KEEPING A GOOD EMPLOYEE



→ The Great Resignation is here. Workers are retiring, leaving to pursue other opportunities or just quitting at levels not seen in decades. In the already high-turnover field of college admissions, Bucknell bucked this trend, holding on to all 15 of its front-line admissions counselors since the pandemic began. And it's done so while also debuting innovative initiatives to enhance student recruitment and breaking records for applications and enrollment. Lisa Keegan, vice president for enrollment management, shares her tips for keeping talent in a competitive market.

GIVE YOUR PEOPLE PURPOSE

When the pandemic hit, we worked to make Bucknell more accessible to potential students. By spring 2021, we started shipping Oculus headsets to admitted students so that they could visit campus through our newly developed virtual reality experience. As we made progress and worked through pandemic challenges, I acknowledged those efforts with tangible morale-boosters. Making connections and emphasizing that our work matters was key.

BE FLEXIBLE

As in-person tours resumed, staff members came to me with an idea: Because some counselors preferred to start late, was there a way to do campus tours late in the afternoon? Though our office had traditionally closed at 5 p.m., we began offering guided evening tours. These 5 o'clock slots filled quickly, and struck the balance between the team's preferences and the desires of prospective students and their families.

SHOW EMPATHY AND BE VULNERABLE

Bucknell announced my appointment in 2020 the same week students and faculty were told they would finish the spring semester remotely. I thought very carefully about how to connect with my new team, recognizing the unbelievable uncertainty they were facing. It was critical to let them know, "I am in this with you. I am feeling the levels of stress and anxiety that you are."

PLAY THE LONG GAME

I asked counselors to think about how new approaches and programs could be fun, useful and relevant for five or 10 years. That approach helped people realize that they weren't just responding to a crisis — they had the opportunity to move the needle.

ROLL WITH THE PUNCHES

During this time, good leaders are still bound to lose good people. We have to think about the recruitment and retention of our teams in new ways. Higher education is not typically known for being particularly nimble. Now, we have to be.

Class of 2020

Saturday, May 21

In a long-awaited celebration, the Bucknell Class of 2020 returned to campus for Commencement, kicking off a memorable weekend that included the traditional Candlelighting ceremony and, finally, the crossing of the stage on Malesardi Quad. More than 500 of the 869 class members soaked in the experience, taking their victory lap as one of Bucknell's most resilient classes.



▲ Class of 2020 President Arianne Evans called out the “legendary, history-making, resilient, brave and mighty” character of her classmates.

“We’ve been eagerly awaiting this day so that we can personally congratulate you here, in the heart of campus, in the way you truly deserve.”

President John Bravman



▲ Graduates of the Class of 2020 exit the Christy Mathewson Gates.



▲ Malesardi Quad namesake Doris Malesardi P'75, P'79, P'87, G'08 attended the ceremony.



Despite a two-year postponement of their Commencement, graduates arrived with eager, celebratory spirits.



The Class of 2020 enjoyed a full weekend of traditional Commencement events.



Class of 2022

Saturday, May 22

Under a banner of blue sky, graduates of the Class of 2022 were honored in a traditional Sunday Commencement ceremony. Guest speaker **Daisy Auger-Domínguez '95** sent off the class with honest and thought-provoking remarks: "Everything under the sun, it's been said and done before, but your slant into the world is singular and magical. Embrace the curves on the road. The circuitous path. Your path. That's where you'll find what makes you come alive."



▲ Daisy Auger-Domínguez '95, chief people officer at Vice Media Group, built her career by embracing authenticity, courage and compassion. She encouraged the new graduates to do the same.



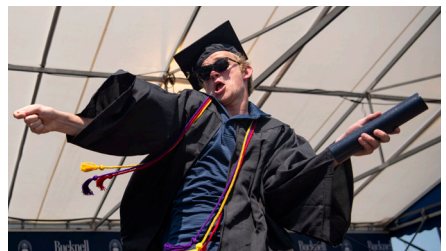
Photos: Emily Paine and April Bartholomew



▲ Lia Zavattaro '22 opened the ceremony with the national anthem.



▲ Student Speaker Tarrin Earle '22 challenged his classmates to "keep winning."



▲ Class of 2022 President Amelia Schmall led the procession through the Christy Mathewson Gates.



At Candlelighting, soon-to-be graduates reflected on their time as students.

Going After Good

How transplant experimentation at Bucknell led Dr. Bartley Griffith '70 to the first xenotransplant in history

by KATIE WILLIARD

It started with rats, exhausted from psychology lab experiments. Hovering over them, a young biology major – **Bartley Griffith '70** – waited for the effects of his carefully dosed chlorhydrate to take over.

"The first human heart transplant had just been performed in South Africa. I couldn't get that out of my head," says Griffith. "That somebody can live with somebody else's heart. It's unbelievable."

Griffith knows the limits of belief. On Jan. 7, he completed the first successful full organ xenotransplant in history, placing a genetically modified pig's heart into his human patient. Xenotransplantation is any procedure that replaces tissue, live cells or organs in a human with those from an animal source. His research is a significant step in the medical community's quest to help thousands awaiting transplants across the world.

"A pig's heart," he says. "It's hard even for me to wrap my arms around that."

Years earlier, while a student at Bucknell, he was inspired by early heart rejection research being done at the University of Pittsburgh. "They plugged [the heart] into the abdominal blood

vessels in a way that the heart was perfused with blood but wasn't working as a heart," he explains. "It allowed them to determine if the immune suppression they gave was effective."

A young Griffith presented the research concept he wanted to reproduce at Bucknell to Professor Hulda Magalhaes, who "just shook her head" before granting him approval to try.

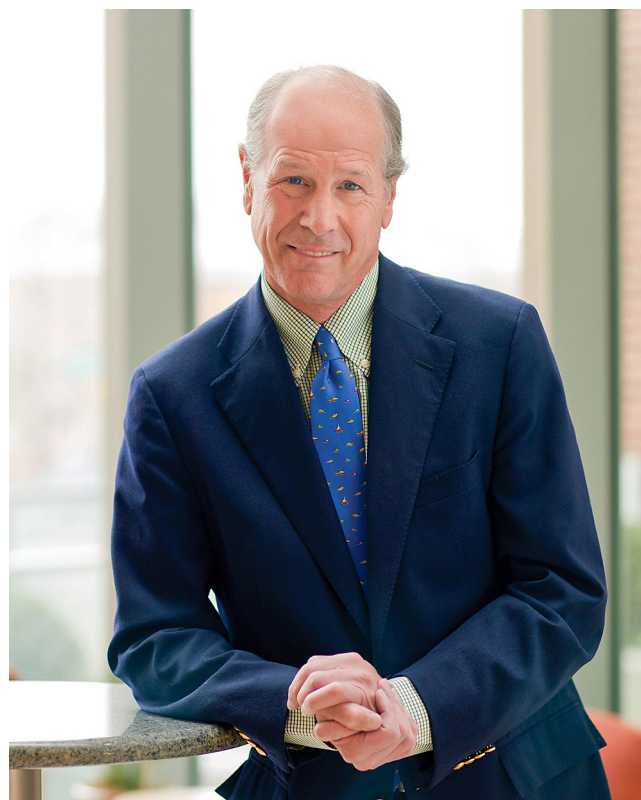
"Bucknell always said, 'Try something. It might work,'" he says. "It gives students an unbri-dled opportunity to expand their breadth of knowledge. The kind of professors that I remember, they treat you like an adult. So you might fall down, but you get a chance to get back up."

In this first step into transplant research, tenacity and ingenuity carried him through his experimentation. He quickly recognized his ability to solve problems from a mechanical point of view – something that has sustained him in his career as a scientific surgeon.

Novel and Noble Work

Now, evidence of his willingness to try has brought him to the world stage.

As a tenured professor of surgery at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Griffith specializes in cardiothoracic, heart transplant, lung



▲ Griffith served on Bucknell's Board of Trustees during the development of the University's biomedical engineering program, helping to establish networks with his medical colleagues and a pipeline for externships and research partnerships.

transplant and cardiac surgery. In addition to teaching and practice, Griffith dedicates his time to research that advances patient care.

The experimental pig heart transplantation – led in partnership with his colleague Dr. Muhammad M. Mohiuddin, with whom Griffith serves as co-director of the Cardiac Xenotransplantation Program at the UM School of Medicine – was performed on patient David Bennett.

Diagnosed with advanced heart failure and ventricular fibrillation, Bennett was ineligible for a human transplant based on his medical history. When Griffith suggested the experimental surgery, Bennett knew the risks.

"There is this incredible inner faith that, ultimately, we as humans will make right decisions," says Griffith of Bennett's agreement to the

procedure. "And he was self-sacrificing in so many ways."

Throughout his career, Griffith has focused on treating the most acute illness and finding new avenues to bring healing. "When there were no medicines or classic surgeries that we could do, I looked for alternatives," he says.

Griffith's research has led to the discovery of heart and lung treatments that save lives, making him a pioneer in cardiopulmonary medicine. He finds inspiration to perfect his craft from diverse avenues – from his experience working with pediatric patients with pulmonary disease to his time on the Bucknell lacrosse team.

"I can remember one time I was playing midfield and a kid from Penn State – much bigger than I am – just whacked me and I couldn't breathe," he reflects. "I thought I was gonna die. I was terrified for the two



▲ Griffith (second from right) performs the seven-hour xenotransplant surgery. The pig heart received 10 genetic edits, including the removal of four pig genes and the addition of six human genes.

minutes that it took to get over it. And I think about that when I see children who have premature lung disease.”

Those paired experiences led Griffith to invent an artificial lung that patients can take home, not unlike artificial heart pumps. “There’s no suffering like being unable to take a deep breath,” he says.

A Legacy That Lives On

Griffith’s groundbreaking transplant surgery was lauded around the world, including in a front page story in *The New York Times*. But then, on March 9, David Bennett died.

Griffith faced the outcome with a firm grasp on reality. “I don’t know what his future is,” he said prior to Bennett’s death. “He knows I don’t know. But his alternative was pretty small. And again, here’s this wonderful thing about humans. At the end of the line, he said,

‘I’ll try it because I love life. And if it doesn’t work, maybe you’ll learn something.’ ”

Surely, Griffith’s learning can be quantified. Thanks to his work, data now exists to move xenotransplant toward future success, and hints at the reality of providing a reliable avenue for those on transplant wait lists. “We’ll have animal organs on demand,” he predicts, “because we’re going to make animal transplants not only

good for the heart, but good for the lung, the kidney and maybe other solid organs.”

At the root of this success lies Griffith’s belief in his duty to serve his patients. “This work, when you go to the operating room and somebody gives you the privilege of opening their breastbone and fixing their heart – we do all we can,” he says.

What can’t be placed on data sheets is the hope that

lingers for the future of science and medicine – and the good that Griffith pursues. He sees the gift Bennett gave in his willingness to be the first man with a pig’s heart as “a bigger gift than I’ve ever made.”

“For me,” he says, “my gift may be in the area of innovation, mechanical or otherwise, to support my patients. Just to look a little bit around the bend where nobody’s been.”

“When there were no medicines or classic surgeries that we could do, I looked for alternatives.”

Bartley Griffith '70



In addition to hosting discussions on religion, Bucknell's multifaith fellows gather for community dinners throughout the semester.

Faithful Friends

New faith-focused fellowship program brings Bucknellians of varied beliefs together

by BROOKE THAMES

It's rare to find a place where thorny "dinner-table topics" are not only welcomed but encouraged. At Bucknell, a new multifaith fellowship program aims to create a constructive space for students to build community across religious lines.

"It's no secret that religion can often be a difficult subject to converse around, but we also know that Bucknell students are immensely curious about other people," says Director of Religious & Spiritual Life Kurt Nelson, who worked with Bucknell's Muslim and Jewish chaplains to launch the program in fall 2021. "Students come in expecting to learn about a range of nationalities, racial and cultural identities, and religions. We want to create healthy, meaningful opportunities to do that."

Funded by a yearlong grant from the Interfaith Youth Core, the multifaith fellowship brought 14 students together

for rich weekly discussions about a range of religious themes and experiences — from baby-naming ceremonies to the classic question of whether all dogs go to heaven. Each conversation invited students to share personal narratives about faith, religion and spirituality as well as texts from their traditions or other meaningful literature.

But students didn't need to have a firm religious affiliation to participate. To make room for as many diverse perspectives as possible, the fellowship welcomed anyone with the slightest interest in the dynamics of faith.

"I feel like I'm less religious and more spiritual," says **Brie LaPree-Chavez '25**, an animal behavior major from Guilford, Conn. "Part of what drew me to this was the fact that you could be any sort of background — Christian, spiritual, atheist, whatever.

"It's not often that you find a bunch of people who are really engaged in talking about religion," she adds. "The fellowship gave us a space to learn and talk deeply about how our beliefs impact our lives."

A favorite activity of animal behavior major **Ibrahim Ware '24** was a series of short, rotational conversations called "speed faithing," where students spent a few minutes one-on-one asking and answering questions about their faith.

"Islam doesn't always get the best representation, so I enjoyed the chance to share and expand my knowledge as well," Ware says. "Religions aren't just a set of principles and doctrines — they're made up of people. The most impactful thing for me was getting to make connections with other people."

Those connections are key to building religious literacy, "which is so civically important," Nelson says. "It's such a fruitful entry point for empathy, community-building and partnership."

Photo: Emily Paine

The background of the entire page is a digital sculpture of a cozy, rustic cabin in a snowy forest at night. The cabin has a stone chimney with smoke rising from it, a small window with a warm light, and a wooden door. A person in a VR suit stands in the snow in front of the cabin. In the background, there are snow-covered trees and a night sky filled with stars. Two glowing, circular objects with flames are visible in the snow to the right of the cabin.

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Digital sculpture by Yuki Yao '25





ANCIENT EVIDENCE



AT BUCKNELL, HE STUDIED THE LEGACY OF
THE CLASSICAL WORLD. AS HEAD OF THE
MANHATTAN DA'S ANTIQUITIES TRAFFICKING
UNIT, **MATTHEW BOGDANOS '80** IS BRINGING
IT BACK HOME.

by EVELINE CHAO

Photographs by BARRY WILLIAMS

On March 22, a small crowd of journalists and government officials from multiple countries gathered in New York City to admire a display of 28 antiquities from the ancient Middle East. The most precious of the items included two gold masks from around 5000 B.C., and three death masks from the neolithic era, between 6000 and 7000 B.C. But this ceremony, punctuated by speeches and the flashing of cameras, was not happening at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Natural History or other cultural institution. It took place at the offices of the Manhattan district attorney, where the items had been temporarily removed from an evidence locker.

Valued at more than \$5 million combined, the pieces on display were looted antiquities from Israel acquired by the hedge-fund billionaire and prominent art collector Michael

Steinhardt. (Through lawyers, Steinhardt has said in the past that dealers had told him the items he purchased were lawfully acquired.) Now, they were being repatriated to Israel, due to the work of Assistant DA **Matthew Bogdanos '80**, senior trial counsel and chief of the world's first Antiquities Trafficking Unit.

"These extraordinary works are not just pieces of cracked alabaster or limestone or bronze," Bogdanos says. "They are living, breathing testaments to our shared cultural heritage. They are a reminder of everything good in the world."

Over the past decade, the Antiquities Trafficking Unit has seized almost 4,000 antiquities valued at more than \$210 million. Nearly 1,800 have been returned to their homelands — including Greece, India, Pakistan, Cambodia, Nepal, Italy and Sri Lanka — with hundreds more scheduled to be

repatriated this summer. They are an unlikely team of investigators — experts in art and archaeology working alongside detectives and special agents from the Department of Homeland Security. Bogdanos and his team have hand-delivered a \$12 million statue to Beirut, raided the venerated Christie's auction house in Rockefeller Center, and forced the Metropolitan Museum of Art to return a golden first-century-B.C. Egyptian coffin it had acquired for \$4 million (a case breakthrough came after Kim Kardashian posed for a photo next to the coffin at the 2018 Met Gala).

Due to their work, museums, antiquities dealers and collectors have been forced to look more closely into the provenance of the items they acquire, when they might otherwise be tempted to overlook red flags.



Objects repatriated to Israel by the Antiquities Trafficking Unit date back as far as 7000 B.C.

THE WARRIOR-SCHOLAR

Bogdanos' reverence for the ancient world goes far beyond his work with the DA's office. A Bucknell philosophy and classics major with a master's in classics and law degree from Columbia University (as well as a second master's in strategic studies from the Army War College), he grew up reading the great works of the Hellenic tradition. (His mother gave him his first copy of the *Iliad* when he was 12.) Bogdanos' parents ran two Greek restaurants in Manhattan, and he and his siblings were "raised very Greek," as he puts it.

As a restaurant kid, Bogdanos grew up expecting to go into the family business, and finished high school with no plans of attending college. It wasn't until a few years after his graduation, when he tried to join the Marines, that a recruiter reviewed his test scores and advised Bogdanos to go to college so he could become an officer. He bought a book of college profiles, and in one long night, went through it page by page, narrowing down what he wanted in a university. He figured, based on his long-held affinity, he would major in classics, but he also wanted to play football, to not be in a city since he'd already grown up in one, and to go somewhere relatively small, because "I didn't want to get swallowed up." He settled on and applied to just one school: Bucknell.

The next day, he sent in a handwritten, 15-page letter — "I didn't have a typewriter," he says — explaining why he wanted to attend and asking to be considered even though he had missed the application deadline. The dean of admissions wrote back encouraging him to apply, and happily, Bogdanos was accepted. "He mentioned to me later on that it was literally the longest letter he had ever gotten, and I was so mortified," Bogdanos recalls. He took Bucknell's acceptance letter to his Marine recruiter and immediately joined the officer program.

CLASSICALLY TRAINED

He became the first in his family to attend college, and his first time seeing the campus was the first day of class (he had skipped Orientation to work a last shift at the restaurant). Fortunately, he fell in love immediately: "It was everything I expected and wanted. It was exactly everything I thought college was supposed to be."

ETHICS AND ORIGINS IN BUCKNELL'S COLLECTIONS

By KATIE WILLIARD

THERE'S A HUMAN SKULL IN BUCKNELL'S COLLECTIONS.

For the last year, Samek Fellow Sarah Hixson has been working to develop an understanding of what to do with it.

Hixson curated the Samek Downtown Gallery's spring show, *Memento: Museums & Their Dealings With The Dead*, as an examination of the ethics of museum collections, including Bucknell's own. "Museum professionals today inherit these collections and their ethical consequences," her research reads. "Repatriation work provides current and future museum workers with the space to acknowledge the ethnocentric and colonial histories of our institutions and work on establishing better, more ethical ways of engaging with the public and growing our collections."

"Some of my very first research of the fellowship involved trying to figure out where the skull came from and why it's here in the first place," Hixson says.

In 2018, as the University worked to refine inventory and collections records, the staff came across the cranium in a cardboard box. Hixson has discovered that it was gifted to Professor Nelson Davis in 1935 by the first Bucknell biology graduate, **Gilbert S. Perez, Class of 1907.**

Davis, serving as the head of the biology department, had curated the University's first Natural History Museum, which was housed in Old Main. When the building burned in 1932, the collection was lost. In his effort to rebuild, Davis solicited donations from alumni, students, families and the community.

His request resulted in an outpouring of art and artifacts without record of their origins.

"The main question we now must ask of the items in our current collection is 'Did they come ethically?'" says Hixson. "We're figuring out what potentially needs to be repatriated and working on getting those things back to where they need to be."

Hixson's curatorial text pinpoints the importance of intentional examination: "The stories that hide in museum collections are often found in the dark. They whisper secrets from locked cabinets and storage boxes of death, human history, the rising and falling of empires, genocidal atrocities, and social and political upheaval. Academic museums are not excluded from this pattern of collecting. Human remains, culturally sensitive and sacred objects and more are mined and excavated from graves and ruins from around the globe. Collected in the name of science and the humanities, these objects help us to better understand other cultures and genetic histories. However, when objects are taken under duress or illegally, the dead are exploited for something or someone else's gain."



George Groff (top right) and Nelson F. Davis were curators of Bucknell's earliest biology collections. Taxidermied ducks from the original ornithology collection were recently on display at the Samek Downtown Gallery.

Photo: Samek Art Museum



“What I tell my team at every ceremony, like a mantra, is, ‘Let’s take a well-deserved break to celebrate this moment, to feel good about what we’ve done. And when the break is over, let’s get back to work to recover tomorrow’s antiquity.’ ”

MATTHEW BOGDANOS '80



Clockwise from top:

The DA's office has seized 180 stolen antiquities valued at \$70 million from billionaire art collector Michael Steinhardt, including 39 returned to Israel in March.

Bogdanos steps away from a repatriation ceremony for a call. The bulk of his work involves homicide cases.

Bogdanos views antiquities on display during the March 22 repatriation ceremony.

Two gold masks dating from about 5000 B.C. are valued together at \$500,000.



He played football, joined Sigma Chi, and started a boxing club. (Growing up, Bogdanos dreamed of becoming a boxer, and he still boxes today for fun and in charity events, many of them hosted by an organization he co-founded called Battle of the Barristers.) And, just as he'd planned, he studied classics.

Bucknell classics professors James Heath and Barbara Shailor were especially influential — to the extent that he took four or five classes from each of them. Professor Heath “was really old-school and taught me classical Greek, and I translated one of the books of the *Iliad* for one of his courses. It was just terrific,” Bogdanos recalls. Heath also advised Bogdanos on his honors thesis, which was about Alexander the Great. As for Professor Shailor, “she came at things from a much more holistic, psychological approach. We would do psychoanalysis

Corps Reserve, serving in Kosovo, Guyana, Kazakhstan and Operation Desert Storm.

On the fateful day of Sept. 11, 2001, Bogdanos was set on the path to his present-day role, hunting down looted antiquities. He was recalled to active duty and served in Afghanistan — where he earned a Bronze Star for combat actions against al-Qaeda and was promoted to colonel — then Iraq. In 2003, mere days after the U.S. invaded Baghdad, looters emptied Iraq's national museum of approximately 14,000 priceless objects dating to the dawn of civilization, more than 7,000 years ago. By this point, Bogdanos had been appointed deputy director of the Joint Interagency Coordination Group, a team comprising counterterrorism agents from many different U.S. agencies. As detailed in his memoir, *Thieves of Baghdad*, Bogdanos requested

down, but kept cultivating contacts in the antiquities world. After a new DA, Cyrus Vance, came into office, he eventually got to work on — and successfully prosecuted — a high-profile case involving suspicious rare coins from Italy. From there, Bogdanos found himself working on more and more cases involving antiquities until the formation of the Antiquities Trafficking Unit in 2017. He's continued his role under new DA Alvin Bragg.

To be clear, prosecuting homicides remains the larger portion of Bogdanos' workload — much of his time is spent on cases involving violent death, being “connected to the worst moment in people's lives.” For that reason, he describes his work in the Antiquities Trafficking Unit as a source of “solace.” He also likes that, in his view, the work transcends politics and human conflicts. The unit has proudly returned antiquities to Iran, despite the U.S. not having normalized relations with the country, and to struggling nations that some would argue should not be entrusted with the stewardship of something so precious.

“When we recover an antiquity from Mesopotamia, whether it's Iraq or Syria or Turkey, we're recovering something that's extraordinarily valuable and predates the split between Christianity and Judaism and Islam,” Bogdanos muses. “These objects that we recover resonate with every major world religion in the West.” In Southeast Asia, he adds, many looted antiquities come from small temples whose idols have been hacked from their pedestals, leaving villagers to worship before a replica or even a photograph of the idol. “It's an outrage that is rivaled only by the sense of joy when we recover that item and return it,” he says.

For Bogdanos, however, those moments of joy are all too short.

“Every time you recover an antiquity, it's a painful reminder to me that there are so many more out there,” he says. “Every time someone says congratulations to me at one of these [repatriation] ceremonies, I want to say, and frequently do say, ‘Thank you.’ But what I hear is, ‘You're not done yet.’” ■



of Greek tragedy, or look at how Jean-Paul Sartre or Friedrich Nietzsche interacts with Socrates or any of the Greek dramas.” Through all of these studies, Bogdanos was seeking — and firmly believes that he found — “a road map to how you're supposed to live a life.”

THIEVES OF BAGHDAD

Bogdanos went on to complete a law degree and master's at Columbia. That was followed by three years as a military lawyer at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. In 1988, he left active duty to join the Manhattan DA's office and became a homicide prosecutor, although he would continue to be deployed as a member of the Marine

permission to secure the museum with members of his team. Over the next few months, they managed to recover thousands of stolen antiquities, and eventually recovered almost 9,000 worldwide. Bogdanos was awarded a National Humanities Medal by President George W. Bush for his accomplishments.

MANHATTAN TOMB RAIDER

In 2005, after being released from active duty and returning to his job as a prosecutor, Bogdanos made waves by pressuring the Manhattan DA's office to create a task force dedicated to antiquities theft and trafficking — by announcing in *The New York Times* that it was already happening. He was shot

UP CLOSE AND

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE THE IMPOSSIBLE WITH VR HEADSETS

by BROOKE THAMES



VIRTUAL



Civil & Environmental Engineering Professor Ron Ziemian stepped inside Bucknell's Academic East before a single shovel had pierced the ground on which the building would sit.

A 78,000-square-foot innovation hub, Academic East opened in 2019. It houses a spacious human motion lab for biomedical research, top-of-the-line scanning electron microscopes and multifunctional spaces for senior engineering design — as well as high-tech classrooms and offices for the Department of Education.

Ziemian got to preview it all in the three-dimensional world of virtual reality (VR).

“As an associate dean in the College of Engineering at the time, I’d been given

access to VR renderings of Academic East before construction began,” he says. “It provided an incredibly realistic feeling for what to expect when the structure was done. Actually, it was very strange to come back and walk the building in real life for the first time — I had this déjà vu feeling that I’d been there before.”

That was one of Ziemian’s first glimpses into the wonders of virtual technology in engineering, architecture and construction — but it wouldn’t be the last. As one of several professors experimenting with VR in Bucknell classrooms, Ziemian is now using the futuristic medium to expand learning possibilities for the aspiring engineers he instructs.

An evening lab for his spring Design of Steel Structures course transported 15 students from a computer lab in Bucknell’s newly erected Holmes Hall to the 52nd story of a Chicago high-rise construction at midday; then inside the immense, product-filled warehouses of the High Steel fabrication plant in Lancaster, Pa.; and, finally, to the melt shop floor at the Nucor-Yamato Steel Company in Blytheville, Ark.

“So we began with the finished product — this huge steel building — and then worked backward through the production process to see how these beams and columns and other elements are made,” Ziemian says.

Equipped with Oculus

Quest headsets and a pair of handheld controllers, students experienced riding a crane as it hauled soon-to-be-recycled metal from a scrapyard, standing mere feet away from a volcanic metal-melting furnace and watching steelworkers weld girders in real time — all via immersive 360-degree video streamed through the Oculus.

Widely used in video gaming, these headsets combine surround sound, split-picture imaging and head motion sensors to immerse the wearer in thrilling simulations.

The module “would have been impossible to replicate through normal classroom instruction,” says **Tyler Hagerup ’23**, a civil engineering major from State



Previous page: Oculus Quest headsets transport students to the top of high-rise buildings, digital sculpture parks, the interior of molecules and beyond. Photo: Emily Paine.

Above: Art students used computer design software like Unreal Engine, Rhinoceros and ZBrush to craft expansive and immersive virtual worlds.

College, Pa. “It was amazing seeing how so many different civil engineering concepts come together to build a skyscraper. The VR headset allowed me to visualize everything I’ve been taught during my past three years.”

CREATIVE CAPABILITIES

In years past, Ziemian would’ve relied on PowerPoint presentations to simulate a tour through an operational steel plant. Or, if schedules and funding permitted, he might have arranged excursions for his class to visit an industrial facility in person. When the COVID-19 pandemic introduced travel restrictions and hybrid learning models, he decided to get creative.

Ziemian drew inspiration from a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison who had collaborated with the American Institute of Steel Construction to produce the 360-degree video within the Chicago skyscraper. Then he went hunting for the equipment he needed to get his students 52 stories high without leaving campus.

Along the way, he found Professor Joe Meiser, studio art, who had already begun incorporating VR headsets into Bucknell’s art department curriculum and was happy to share his hardware.

“I’d been experimenting with it over the past three to four years in personal projects,” says Meiser, who specializes in sculpture and teaches an art fabrication course utilizing 3D printing. “There are also a number of artists in the field who are venturing into the virtual medium, which has been interesting to follow.”

Those creatives include pop artist Jeff Koons and Icelandic-Danish sculptor Olafur Eliasson, who have developed mesmerizing virtual experiences in partnership with Acute Art, a digital platform that allows artists to translate their works into new, augmented realities.

Meiser’s course, Digital Sculpture 2, invited Bucknell students to compose their own dynamic environments and virtual installations that could be explored through the Oculus. An early exercise employed ZBrush, a computer-aided design software, to render sculptural representations of “the grotesque.” Another placed students in artistic dialogue with contemporary sculptors as they molded large-scale installations for a virtual sculpture park.

The assignments not only encouraged the exploration of aesthetic experiences but of emotional ones too.

Taking full advantage of the world-building capabilities of VR, **Ethan Sales ’22** mined the philosophical tension between fate and self-determination in the course’s penultimate project — an interactive space meant to provoke reflection on a societal conundrum.

Isolated on an island within Sales’ virtual world, the user rolls a dice and proceeds up a long, sunlit staircase to then be sequestered into one of three rooms: a lonely jail cell, a white-collar office filled with paperwork or a serene dining room with a table set for a fancy meal.

“The lower your number on the dice, the more stressful your situation.



Image: Next/Now

The Bucknell Virtual Experience offers a curated view of life on campus.

SETTING TRENDS IN HIGHER ED

By BROOKE THAMES

The classroom isn’t the only place Bucknell is breaking new ground in virtual reality. Since its launch in spring 2021, the Bucknell Virtual Experience has provided prospective students with an innovative new way to discover all that awaits them as Bucknellians.

Comprising 10 interactive exhibits, the virtual experience features audio, photos and 360-degree videos woven into beautifully rendered environments that incorporate details from Bucknell’s real-life campus. Using Oculus headsets and controllers, visitors can gaze up at the iconic Bertrand Library bell tower, bask in the neon glow of the Campus Theatre marquee and even stand center court at Sojka Pavilion during a Bison basketball game.

Produced in collaboration with the digital agency Next/Now, the Bucknell Virtual Experience is one of the first of its kind in higher education.

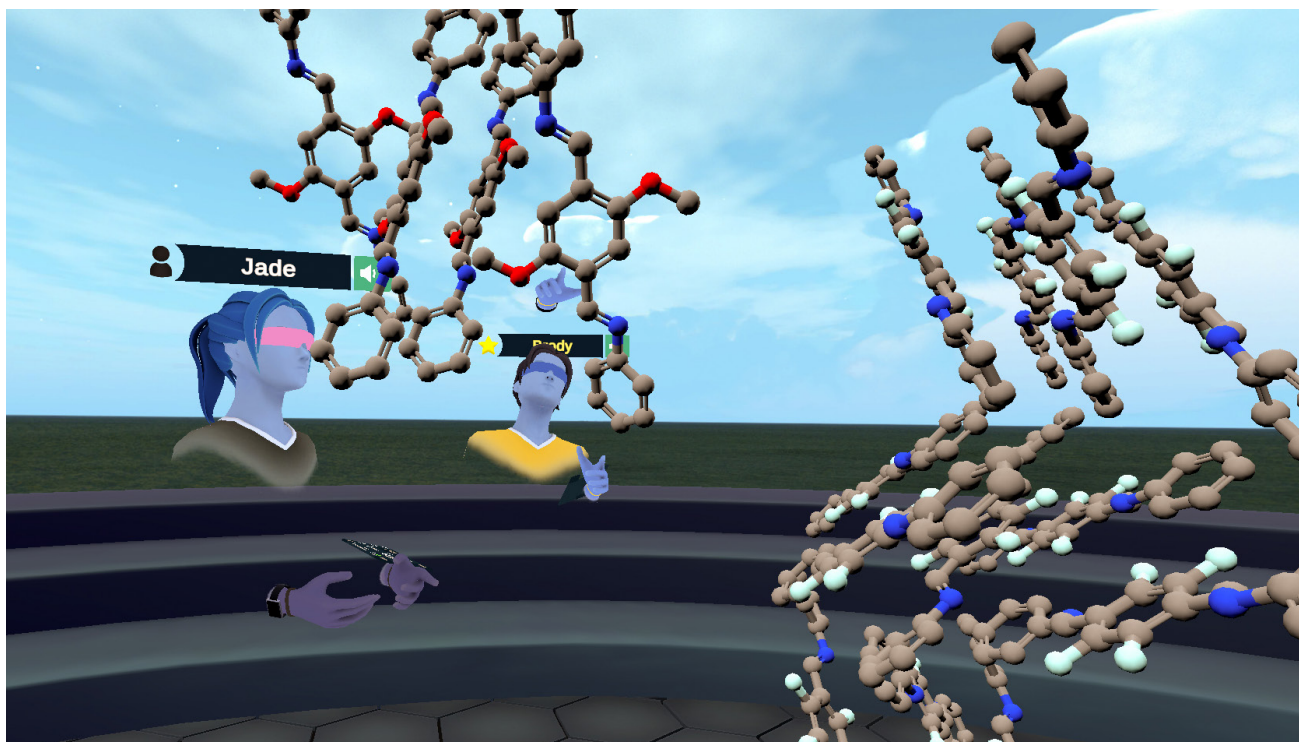
“It’s the epitome of bringing a school to a student,” says Andrea Cova, a college counselor and high school program director at College Match Los Angeles, which supports low-income and first-generation high schoolers as they seek admission into the nation’s top universities. “When students are making decisions about college, the ability to see themselves on a campus makes a huge difference — especially when traveling isn’t an option.”

Cova is one of several counselors across the country who have stepped inside the Bucknell Virtual Experience via an Oculus headset delivered directly to her from the University. In April, College Match Los Angeles’ fresh cohort of high school juniors got the opportunity to explore the immersive world for themselves.

“We set up a ‘tech corner’ at our orientation event, where students could try out the technology and get introduced to Bucknell,” Cova says. “A lot of the students were excited by it because they hadn’t had a virtual experience before — and they hope that other universities can catch up.”

 go.bucknell.edu/VR





Chemistry students analyze molecular structures in virtual space using a cutting-edge molecular modeling program.

Much like real life, the luck of the draw can heavily affect how you proceed,” explains Sales, who came to Bucknell as a computer engineering major but later chose to pursue a degree in studio art. “The amazing thing about using VR as an artistic medium is that you can make unique environments at a scale that you just can’t do in reality unless you’ve got a million-dollar budget.

“Not everyone can do Anish Kapoor-scale sculpture or produce giant, spiral towers like Louise Bourgeois,” Sales adds. “But in VR, anything is possible.”

INSIDE THE MOLECULE

That sense of possibility has long invigorated Professor Brian Smith, chemistry. For years, he’s searched for a more dynamic way to visualize the complex molecules he works with in his courses and in his research lab at Bucknell.

“As a materials scientist, a lot of what I do is think about

molecules — their shape, their patterns and how they fit together,” Smith says. “It’s something that’s often hard to conceptualize because it all occurs on such a small scale.”

At the center of Smith’s work are complex structures called covalent organic frameworks (COFs), a class of crystalline materials that exist in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional forms. While the former is well understood, three-dimensional COFs are interlaced and hollowed, making the conditions of their formations and behavior more enigmatic.

The gamut of chemistry visualization software is “pretty good, but still has the constraints of a flat screen,” says **Jade Gregg ’24**, who conducts research with Smith as a Presidential Fellow. “So you lose a lot of dimensionality of structures like COFs when simply viewing it on a computer.”

Enter Nanome, a VR-based

molecular modeling program that not only allows users to build chemical structures but also interact with them in a virtual environment. Gregg spent her first semester at Bucknell exploring the program’s vast range of features — from tools for calculating the angles of chemical bonds to a database of life-size molecules that can be loaded into the virtual environment. Then, in spring 2021, she helped Smith introduce the modeling software into his upper-level inorganic chemistry course.

Using Oculus headsets, students climbed inside expanded, jungle-gym-like molecules to see the intricacies of their construction more closely than ever before.

“Communicating three-dimensional volume is always a challenge when teaching chemistry, but the depth perception of VR is game-changing,” Smith says. “It gives students a real, tangible sense of size and scope that you just don’t get

when looking at drawings of compounds on paper or rotating models in your hands. It’s like the molecule comes alive in VR.”

The ability to manipulate molecular renderings has also proven transformative for Smith’s research, in which he and his cohort of undergraduate partners are untangling the complexities of how three-dimensional COFs are formed and structured. Because they’re porous, the crystalline solids carry great potential for use in water treatment and purification — if they can be mass produced and designed to attract multiple contaminants at once.

“The dream is this chemical compound that water can flow through, and it’s designed to grab lead, and then mercury, and then chlorine. But this layered, systematic functionality just doesn’t exist yet,” Smith says. “There are fundamental questions that have yet to be answered about how

“COMMUNICATING THREE-DIMENSIONAL VOLUME IS ALWAYS A CHALLENGE WHEN TEACHING CHEMISTRY, BUT THE DEPTH PERCEPTION OF VR IS GAME-CHANGING. IT GIVES STUDENTS A REAL, TANGIBLE SENSE OF SIZE AND SCOPE.”

PROFESSOR BRIAN SMITH, CHEMISTRY

we design this kind of complexity into a material.”

“That’s where VR is incredibly useful,” Gregg says, “because we can learn things about these compounds that we might not have without this interactive technology” — like the fact that COFs are flexible, which Smith’s team was able to analyze in Nanome.

“I’m excited to see how much more we can do as we continue to experiment,” Gregg adds. “I feel like the sky’s the limit.”

THE FUTURE FRONTIER

Estimated at approximately \$6 billion in 2021, the global market for head-mounted virtual reality devices is

projected to more than triple within the next few years. As the market balloons, so does the hope of rapid advancement in VR tools for use in higher education — especially for professors like Ziemian.

“I can easily imagine using this technology to transport students to construction sites all over the world to view structures up close and identify safety concerns. But we’re not there yet,” Ziemian says. “The VR experience my students had was definitely good, but it wasn’t developed to the extent that it could be. What we’ll get as technology progresses is sure to have a major impact on how we educate our students.”

Accessibility is another

hurdle to conquer. A top-of-the-line Oculus, for instance, is priced at \$399 (controllers and charging accessories included). For a single class of 15 students, that’s roughly a \$6,000 investment.

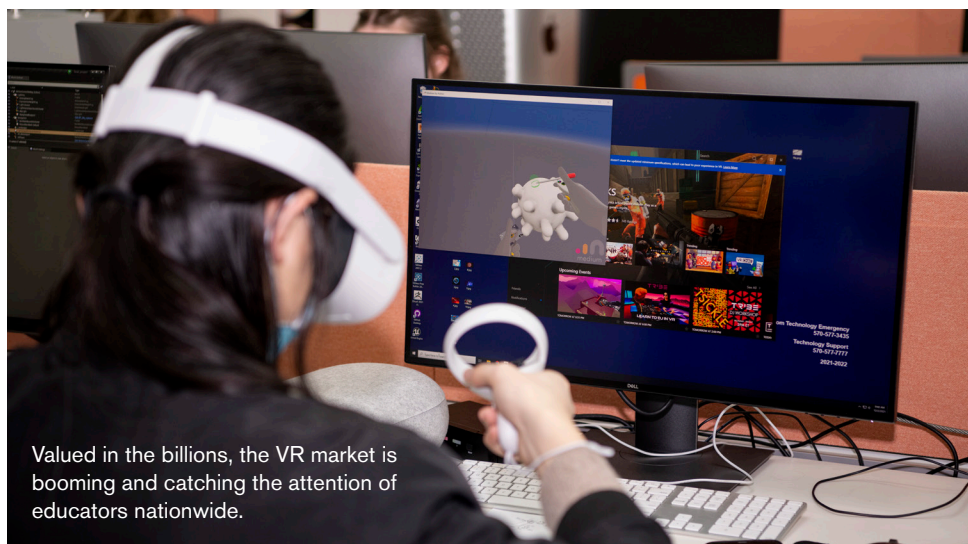
“Having one headset doesn’t do much for teaching, right? But if you have a dozen, now we’re talking — now, there are possibilities,” says Smith, who again deployed his fleet of Oculus headsets in his inorganic chemistry course this spring. “As VR becomes more accessible, we should see its incorporation in classrooms skyrocket out of infancy.”

Bucknell is among the first crop of universities moving to

permanently integrate VR into curricula across varying disciplines, joining schools like the University of Wisconsin, the University of Michigan, Morehouse College and South Dakota State. The latter institutions are two of 10 colleges planning to launch virtual “metaversities” to mirror their in-person campuses.

It’s a revolutionary landscape that intrigues forward-thinkers like Meiser, who’s investigating the potential of Facebook’s cutting-edge VR world-builders as platforms for collaborative learning. Together with Presidential Fellow **Yuki Yao ’25**, an economics major from Tokyo, Meiser is workshoping the creation of a virtual classroom, where students can work with peers on virtual projects in real time.

“It’s been posited that the emergence of the metaverse is going to be as important as the birth of the internet, just as the development of 3D printing will be as important as the industrial revolution,” Meiser says. “If those statements prove true, who knows what the world of the future will have in store for us.” ■



Valued in the billions, the VR market is booming and catching the attention of educators nationwide.



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GET A JOB

I HAVE FUN!

The illustration features a winding path that curves through a green landscape dotted with small trees. The path has several segments: a blue segment at the top right with the text 'SEE THE FUTURE' (rotated); a red segment on the left with the text 'WORK HARD' and a yellow emoji with a wide grin; a green segment with the text 'FLEX CREATIVE MUSCLE'; an orange oval segment with the text 'FREE SPACE'; a light blue segment with the text 'LAUNCH PRODUCT' and a small rocket icon; and a pink segment at the bottom right with a yellow emoji with a neutral expression. In the center, there are three stylized buildings: a red house, a blue house, and a yellow skyscraper. At the bottom center, a red robot with a boxy head and a single antenna stands on the path. In the top left corner, there is a stack of colorful papers or books. On the right side, a white building with many windows is visible.

WORK

AT

PLAY

FUN IS ALL IN A DAY'S WORK FOR THESE BUCKNELL ALUMNI

BY MARK RAY

ILLUSTRATIONS BY SHAW NIELSEN

IF YOU'VE SEEN THE MOVIE *BIG*, you may remember this scene: A group of toy executives is listening to a product pitch that focuses more on demographics, market share and revenue projections than on the actual toy in question – a skyscraper that turns into a robot. As the pitch winds down, Tom Hanks' character, who is a 12-year-old boy stuck in a 30-year-old body, raises his hand.

"I don't get it," he says. "What's fun about playing with a building?"



What indeed? And how can people who work for toy and game companies maintain a sense of fun while keeping an eye on demographics, market share and revenue projections? To find out, we spoke with three Bucknell alumni who know. Although they play different roles at different companies, they all agree on one thing: Fun is fundamental, but work is still work.

THE FUNCTIONS BEHIND THE FUN

Take **Rick Hoskinson '01**, for example. He's the technical lead for the game engine behind Riot Games' wildly successful video game *League of Legends (LoL)*. Despite working on a game populated by assassins, fighters, mages and marksmen, he spends most of his time with actual – and hopefully less dangerous – people.

"Most of what I do is try to build consensus between other engineers and teams that use the engine tools, like artists and content

designers," he says. "There isn't a typical day. Some days, I feel more like a producer. Some days, I feel more like a designer. Some days, I feel like a pure backend engineer who could be working on anything that isn't even necessarily entertainment software."

Emma Miller '20 can relate. A content editor with card-game company *What Do You Meme?*, Miller spends much of her time knee-deep in a Google Doc that tracks the progress of each game from planning through production. She ensures content is handed off properly and that nothing gets lost in translation – tasks people in any business can relate to. She also edits game cards and writes instructions before they go into production. "I've looked at, like, 1,500 cards in a single day, making sure everything is spelled correctly and certain content isn't included and stuff like that," she says. "My eyes will bleed."

THE COVID BUMP

Toys and games may be fun, but they're serious business. According to the Toy Association, the U.S. toy industry tallied \$38.2 billion in sales in 2021. That's a 14.2% increase over 2020 and more than a third higher than 2019, the last full year before the pandemic.

Tara Badie '93 credits COVID-19 with much of that growth. "When things are bad, parents want to keep their kids happy," she says. "On top of that, during the pandemic especially, they needed things to keep them busy, because parents were trying to work from home while teaching and everything."

She also anticipates a wave of new products from people who had plenty of time during pandemic lockdowns to dream up amazing new toys. "We're expecting a huge creativity boom in the next year or so," she says.





For **Tara Badie '93**, the pain is in her feet, not her eyes. A senior director of brand strategy for Bandai America, she's accustomed to spending long days standing at Toy Fair trade shows, where more than a thousand exhibitors vie for the attention of toy buyers from major retailers. (The show will be back in person this fall.) But the promoting doesn't end after Toy Fair. "I present to buyers – and press and influencers – all the time," she says, something marketers of everything from ties to tires can understand.

FINDING FUN AT WORK

For many professionals, trade shows, Google Docs and team meetings rarely evoke a sense of fun. Badie's fun stems from her coworkers and from the products she publicizes. "I think part of marketing is really loving the product that you're selling," she says. "I've worked on some products that I haven't been a fan of, and it's harder to get that excited."

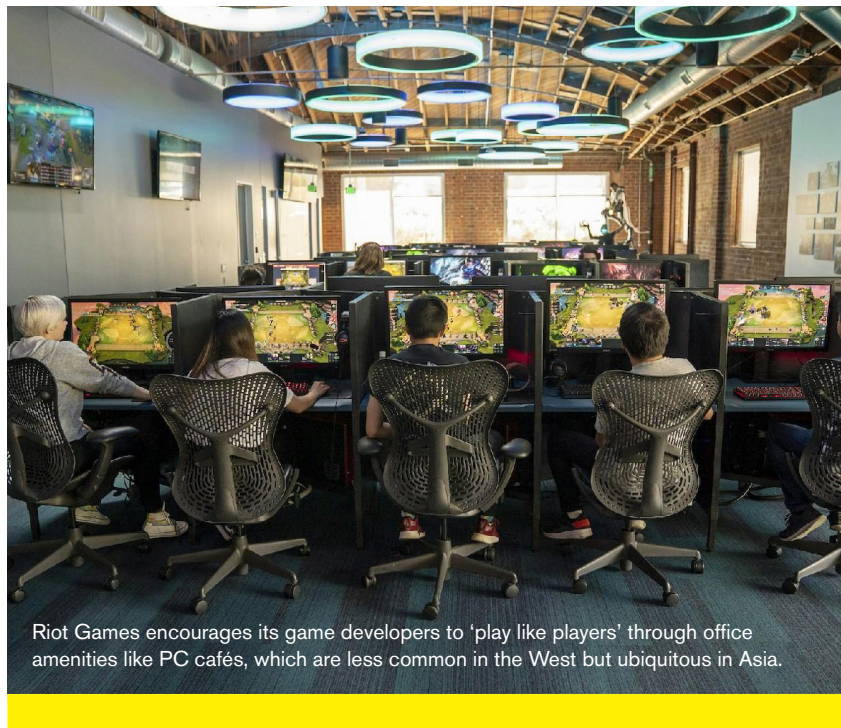
In fairness, Badie is tasked with selling products from Bandai's tween-focused brands, so finding the love can take a bit more effort. Miller, on the other hand, sits nicely in the demographic for her company's games, as do many of her coworkers. She and her colleagues often test new games at the office, checking for playability, making sure the instructions make sense, and looking for problems like duplicate cards. "There's no way it's not going to be fun," she says.

Hoskinson doesn't play *LoL* at work, but he never forgets that he creates fun for a living. He's been playing video games since he was a kid – the *Final Fantasy* games were early favorites – so fun informs everything he does. "A lot of my career's been focused around that shared joy of knowing what kinds of products I'm making and really being connected to the actual outputs in a way that, if I were working on industrial CNC software, I wouldn't be," he says.

Fun spills over from the workplace to life outside the office. Because toy and game companies tend to attract people who like to have fun, colleagues end up playing together after hours and on weekends. "I think a lot of people are very connected to the concept of play, and it's something that they do very naturally," Hoskinson says.

THE FUTURE OF FUN

The toy and game industry isn't going away, and it's definitely not standing still. That means people like Hoskinson, Badie and Miller have to keep an eye on tomorrow even as they're handling today's tasks.

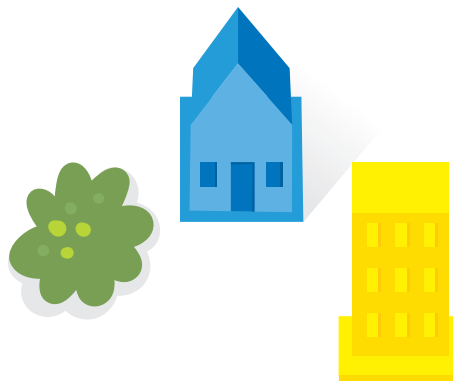


Riot Games encourages its game developers to 'play like players' through office amenities like PC cafés, which are less common in the West but ubiquitous in Asia.

Photo Courtesy of Riot Games

“WHAT WE’VE GOT is actually a really strong foundation of solid gameplay – the kinds of ideas that will keep people happy and engaged for their whole lifetime.”

RICK HOSKINSON '01



THE COMPANIES THEY KEEP



RICK HOSKINSON '01

**PRINCIPAL ENGINEER
RIOT GAMES**

RIOTGAMES.COM

Online battle arena video games and esports leagues

Major Titles: *League of Legends, Valorant, Teamfight Tactics*



TARA BADIE '93

**DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
BANDAI AMERICA**

BANDAI.COM

Japanese-inspired toys and collectibles for kids and “kidults”

Major Brands: Tamagotchi, Digimon, Dragon Ball Super, Anime Heroes



EMMA MILLER '20

**CONTENT EDITOR
WHAT DO YOU MEME?**

WHATDOYOUMEME.COM

Party, family, relationship and drinking games

Major Titles: *What Do You Meme?, Merry Dissmas, Buzzed, Let's Get Deep*



Despite media hype about the metaverse and Web3, Hoskinson thinks video games are entering a phase where they're maturing, not transforming. “I think what we've got is actually a really strong foundation of solid gameplay – the kinds of ideas that will keep people happy and engaged for their whole lifetime,” he says.

What comes next, he predicts, is an explosion in content creation. “The biggest games we have are still 8 kilometers by 8 kilometers, so there's 64 square kilometers of space you have to fill with interesting stuff to do,” he says. “Imagine trying to blow that up to the next level, where you're trying to explore the entire state of Pennsylvania, for example.” (If you're keeping score, that's 119,283 square kilometers.)

For Badie, one of the most important trends in toys is the growing popularity of Asian culture – from anime to K-pop. Bandai is well positioned to tap into that trend since it's a Japanese company with product lines like Anime Heroes and Gundam Infinity.

The future also looks bright for party games like the ones Miller works on. As people return to in-person gatherings, she thinks they'll look for games they can take along. “We're working on a lot more party games that fill that need,” she says.

FROM COLLEGE TO CAREER

Miller first encountered her company's games at Bucknell – the original *What Do You Meme?* debuted the year she enrolled – but that's not the only connection to her Bucknell experience. As a creative writing major, she learned how to express ideas in fresh ways. “Developing that creative muscle was incredibly helpful, because when you're writing a tagline, when you're coming up with a game, it's really easy to fall into these patterns of what you've seen a million times before.”

Also beneficial was her work as a stage manager in Bucknell's theatre program. Through that experience, she developed organizational skills she uses every day as a content editor.

For Badie, the single marketing class she took for her management degree inspired a career change after she'd spent a few years as an internal auditor. Her class on Japanese business was also beneficial – up to a point. “I now work for a Japanese toy company, and the only Japanese words that I can say are ‘Ohayou gozaimasu’ – which is ‘good morning’ – because we started class every day with it,” she says. “Now my friends in Japan laugh at me when I say it. They tell me it's good, but they still laugh.”

Bucknell had the most profound impact on Hoskinson. Although he'd always aspired to create video games, he came to college with no programming experience. His high school didn't have a computer lab, and he'd never even heard of the programming languages his peers were already using. He got up to speed quickly thanks to small class sizes and accessible professors. “I was at the level of my peers after my freshman year,” he says. “By my junior and senior year I was the one helping them with their homework assignments.”

He particularly remembers the time he wanted to do a graphics assignment on some proprietary software his heroes in the industry used. His professor talked him out of it, emphasizing the importance of focusing on learning underlying principles. “I've worked on a lot of graphics code in my life and I've been through probably 30 or 40 different, proprietary ways of doing it,” he says. “I'm glad I didn't learn at the surface level; I'm glad I went deep and understood why they were making those things the way they did.”

Despite their different paths, passions and perspectives, all three share the same “why” as anyone who works in the toy and game industry: Fun truly is fundamental. ■



'ray **BUCKNELL**

FROM THE
PRESIDENT

HOW CIVIL
WARS START

TAKING
THE RIDE

ILLUMINATED
HISTORY

IN THE MOMENT STUDENTS SNAP PICS AT RAPPER JACK HARLOW'S APRIL CONCERT ON CAMPUS

photo by **SAM GODSHALL '24**



Embracing the Uncertainty of Opportunity

LIKE MANY ACADEMICS, I love books. It's a love that began early in my childhood, and one that drove my ambition to become the first in my family to go away to college. Some of the books I first encountered as a boy left such a lasting impression that I've sought them out as an adult. Reading is a joy I like to share with friends and colleagues, to whom I often give books that have made a particular impact on my thinking.

The process of reading — self-education, really — has been a constant throughout my life. So when a journalist recently asked me to describe the role of education in the lives of students, my response was simple and immediate: Education is the best friend who is with you even when you are alone; a

North Star that guides the journey. It builds individuals who, in turn, build their communities, nations and the world.

I see this transformation in action every day in my role as Bucknell's president. Our students choose Bucknell because they prize the value and versatility of the liberal arts education we offer, and they commit themselves to intellectual growth. In fact, I believe their dedication to this ideal helped them navigate the challenges of the pandemic's most uncertain days. Their coursework and their quest to earn their degree remained constant, even as they were unsure what to expect as COVID-19 swept the globe.

At its core, all education is preparation for an uncertain future. We all face two types

of uncertainty throughout our lives. The first is the uncertainty of crisis — a negative situation such as an illness, a job loss or even a pandemic. The other is the uncertainty of opportunity — the positive and, if we are fortunate, more prevalent type of uncertainty, such as getting an unexpected job offer or invitation to travel, or discovering your academic passion.

Successfully managing both kinds of uncertainty requires the same set of skills — critical thinking, flexibility, resilience and the confidence to make decisions and act on them — which we strive to instill here every day, in and out of the classroom. Our students can't predict the future, but a Bucknell education prepares them to adapt and thrive in any situation.

In this issue, you'll find just a few examples of alumni who deftly maneuver junctures of uncertainty, starting with our cover story. **Matthew Bogdanos '80** is a first-generation college student whose colorful career path began at Bucknell, where he studied classics and philosophy. He's an Army colonel and Manhattan prosecutor who works to recover stolen antiquities from around the world.

On the frontiers of science, **Bartley Griffith '70** seeks opportunities to change the outcomes of medical crises, making headlines last winter for performing the world's first successful transplant of a pig heart to a human. His interest in transplant science began as a biology major and was nurtured by faculty who supported his research.

Kendy Alvarez '06, featured in our last issue, was recently elected as Lewisburg's first female mayor of color. It's a position that marries her passion for Bucknell with her love of the town to which she immigrated from Trinidad as a child, and one that allows her to devote her talents to cultivating our fruitful town-gown partnership.

These three leaders chose very different paths but share two key advantages: a Bucknell education and an appetite for embracing opportunity. I hope you're as inspired by their stories as I am. Keep forging your own path — one that excites you, makes an impact, and above all, always keeps you learning.

John C. Bravman
President



EMERITI

**NICOLE CONNOR
TAYLOR '01**
[nicole_connor1979@
yahoo.com](mailto:nicole_connor1979@yahoo.com)

AMY MEDELL POE '89
amyb.poe@gmail.com

Betsy Kanouse, daughter of **ELIZABETH BERNHARDT RIZZOLO '46**, shared that her mother died June 30, 2021, after a short illness. She writes, "my mother loved genealogy and was a member of the Passaic County (N.J.) Historical Society. She was an avid gardener and enjoyed playing bridge in her spare time. At Bucknell, she was a math major and a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society." — A.M.P.

The University was saddened to learn of the passing of **CAROLYN BERKHEIMER ROSSER '46** Dec. 29. Carolyn earned a psychology degree, was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority and proudly served in the Red Cross Volunteer Nurse's Aide Corps during WWII.

She was a teacher and administrator in the Williamsport (Pa.) Area School District for 25 years. A gifted musician, Carolyn studied piano at Bucknell and played throughout her life. She was a longtime member of the American Association of University Women and was honored by the League of Women Voters for 50 consecutive years of voting.

1948

**JOANN GOLIGHTLY
BROWN**

After the column below was submitted, the Brown family informed Bucknell that Class Reporter Joann Golightly Brown had passed away. She served as her class reporter for 72 years. We are including her last column here, in full, as we believe she would have wanted. An obituary for Joann can be found on P. 58).

Shortly before press time, Bucknell also learned that William Watkinson '45 passed away on May 25.

Crazy weather — when I wrote the previous column in January, it was 55°. As I wrote this one in mid-March, it was 32° and snowing. I'm glad to say that the Class of 1948 has responded to my plea for news.

HARVEY HUBER has been in sunny Florida for the past 33 years. He retired to Clearwater and is doing quite well. I received a wonderful message from the son of **WILLIAM T. WATKINSON JR. '45** about his father's time at Bucknell, his WWII service and his 100th birthday.

William was in the Class of 1945 but graduated with Class of '48, due to the war. His son writes, "Dad enlisted in the Navy in 1942, and became a test pilot and eventually a night fighter. After logging almost 1,000 hours as a test pilot, he was selected to be one of the few qualified fighter pilots to operate at night on the aircraft carrier

USS Yorktown. He had almost 70 combat missions from March 1945 through the end of the war. He was part of the air strike that sank the Japanese battleship Yamato, the largest battleship ever built. After the war, [William] re-entered Bucknell, got married, began his family and lived on a farm in Montandon, outside Lewisburg. While on the farm, he raised the Bucknell mascot Bucky Bison. He would transport the animal to home football games in the back of his car. He also was a proud brother of Phi Kappa Psi. After graduation, he became a pilot for Eastern Air Lines and was briefly recalled by the Navy to Pensacola (Fla.) Naval Air Station as a flight instructor. We moved to Flemington, N.J., in 1960 to a small farm, and he retired as a commercial pilot in 1982 at the mandatory age of 60. On Jan. 23, Dad celebrated his 100th birthday surrounded by friends and family."

Now that, my friends, is a hero. As for those Christmas cards and notes, stay tuned for the next issue. — J.G.B.

1949

**CAROLYN MELICK
DERR**
d2252@aol.com

1950

**HOLLY HINCHMAN
REIGNER '96**
hehreigner1@gmail.com

1951

FAITH BRADLEY KING
[faithbking@sbcglobal.
net](mailto:faithbking@sbcglobal.net)

Remember, if you are a friend or relative of a Class of '51 graduate, we would love to hear from you, too, about our class members or about yourself. — F.B.K.

1952

**CAROLYN KNIES
ERDLE**
liberty384@comcast.net

In some cases, no news is good news. The winter was just beginning out here in Colorado as tulips were blooming everywhere else. We were having a snowstorm every week. Lake Powell is the lowest it's ever been and generates power (for California mostly). So we hope that our snows fill up the Colorado River, which feeds the lake. I hope by the time you read this that Putin's war on Ukraine is over and that he has seen the error in his ways. I'm looking forward to hearing from you. — C.K.E.

1953

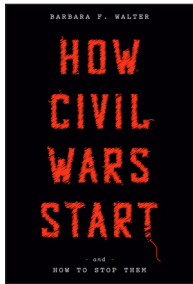
**CHRISTINE HILL
KILLOUGH**
chkillough@gmail.com

JOHN MANBECK
manbeckj7@yahoo.com

JACK WALDRON passed away on Christmas Day. Wife **ANNE KITE WALDRON '55**, to whom he was married for 65 years, predeceased him in

May 2020. One of his greatest adventures was moving the family to Hawaii, where they lived for five years beginning in 1963. Back in his hometown of West Chester, Pa., Jack owned John B. Waldron Insurance Agency. He was inducted into the Malvern Prep School Basketball Hall of Fame and played basketball for Bucknell, remaining a lifetime supporter of both schools. Jack was a renaissance man and a collector. He loved airplanes, cars and listening to ham radio operators. His most prized possession was his 1965 Ford Mustang. He loved to tell funny stories, which became the basis of his book, *Growing Up in West Chester*. Jack and his wife traveled the world and loved visiting their children. He is survived by five children, 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

PEGGY O'BRIEN RITTER, formerly of Lewisburg, died Dec. 30 in Gilbert, Ariz. In 1953 she married her Lewisburg High School sweetheart, **JIM RITTER**. He graduated from Penn State, and preceded her in death in 1989. Peggy raised her family in Ridgewood, N.J., where she worked as a teacher for four years. She enjoyed oil painting and international travel, particularly to England. Peggy was the third of four generations of Bucknellians: her uncle **JAMES A. CASE, CLASS OF 1917**; her mother, **MARTHA WARNER O'BRIEN '31**; and her son, **ROBERT '83**. Peggy is survived by three children, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



◀ Political science and German double-major Barbara F. Walter '86 explores potential internal conflict in the U.S.

A Nation on the Cusp?

by SHERRI KIMMEL

IF YOU'RE AN AVID WATCHER of *PBS Newshour*, your eyes may be drawn to the books behind Jonathan Capehart's right shoulder during his Friday-night political analysis with David Brooks. One scarlet title on a pitch-black background stands out. *How Civil Wars Start* by *New York Times*-bestselling author **Barbara F. Walter '86** debuted in January, conveniently close to the anniversary of the Jan. 6, 2021, assault on the U.S. Capitol.

That unprecedented event was one of several in the last six years that prompted Walter to turn her gaze toward the possibility of civil war in her own country after a three-decade career spent studying internal conflicts in Syria, Zimbabwe, Northern Ireland, Sri Lanka and other nations.

NOTICING WARNING SIGNS

Since 2017, the Rohr Professor of International Relations at the University of California, San Diego, has been part of the U.S. government's Political Instability Task Force, analyzing every country but the United States. "We knew what the warning signs were, we knew what countries did to try to avoid civil wars and what they did to make them more likely to break out," she says.

One red flag is a nation's transition to an anocracy — in between a democracy

and an autocracy. At the end of 2020, she says, the U.S. became a partial democracy for the first time since 1800. An anocracy, she writes, "can easily be pushed toward conflict through a combination of bad governance and increasingly undemocratic measures that further weaken its institutions."

CONCERNING FACTIONALISM

Another indicator is that "one of our two big political parties is what the task force would consider an ethnic and religious faction," she says. "The Republican party today is 90% white and predominantly evangelical Christian in a country that is multiethnic and multireligious."

Despite the warning signs, Walter believes there is still time "to turn this around. We simply have these underlying conditions that emerge in the lead-up to civil war, and once we understand what those risk factors are — like a weak democracy and an ethnic faction — then you hope leaders will emerge who are willing and able to reform that." What can individuals do to help? Says Walter, "Just vote."

How Civil Wars Start and How to Stop Them, Barbara F. Walter '86. (Crown New York, 2022)

ALUMNI BOOKS

Allison Karbonik Wiest '02

Roaming Riley: A Baltimore

Adventure (Salt Water Media, 2021)
Wiest's first book for young readers, *Roaming Riley: A Delmarva Adventure*, introduced Riley, an adventurous tabby cat who unexpectedly found himself in Ocean City, Md. This time Riley's owner takes him to Baltimore to stay with his dog and cat cousins and explore famous attractions around the city.

Richard Lobban '66

Historical Dictionary of Ancient Nubia (Rowman & Littlefield, 2021)

A professor emeritus of anthropology at Rhode Island College and adjunct professor of African security studies at the Naval War College, Lobban chronicles the civilization of ancient Nubia from its birth on the Nile River in the Paleolithic and Mesolithic stone ages through the Medieval Christian era in this newly expanded reference work.

Dr. Jill Garripoli Pedalino '99

You Are Abundant: A Children's Guide to Fulfillment Through the Power of Gratitude and Appreciation (self-published, 2022)

Pedalino, a pediatrician, aims to empower children to discover fulfillment in this illustrated book for young readers. At a time when children's mental health has been declared a national emergency by the American Academy of Pediatrics and others, Pedalino's book offers messages of gratitude, mindfulness and positive thinking.

FACULTY AND STAFF BOOKS

Muhammad Ali (chaplain for the Muslim community, editor)

Mantle of Mercy: Islamic Chaplaincy in North America, (Templeton Press, 2022)

Inspired by the need for authentic books on Islamic chaplaincy, this collection of essays explores the lessons and experiences of Muslim chaplains in North America who work in a variety of settings, including hospitals, schools, prisons and the military.

MARY ANN FAIRCHILD DILWORTH notified us that her husband, **ROBERT E. DILWORTH JR.**, passed away. Although Bob started out with us in the Class of '53, a tour with the Army delayed his graduation until '57. Bob began teaching at the Alexis I. du Pont Middle School in Wilmington, Del., and moved to the John Dickinson High School after 10 years. At Dickinson, he felt the school's large auditorium needed an organ to make it more useful, so he began searching for a theatre pipe organ. He found one in the basement of the Boyd Theater in Philadelphia and arranged for the school district to accept the donation. To manage the details of the organ and concerts, Bob created and led the Dickinson Theatre Organ Society for 50 years. In recognition of the success of his "pipe-dream," Bob was chosen for the Hall of Fame of the American Theatre Organ Society. His musical roots date back to Bucknell's Chapel Choir and Men's Glee Club (his late father, **ROBERT E. DILWORTH '27**, had also been in the Glee Club). Like so many in our class, he had reached his 90th birthday. He died Jan. 19 in Wilmington. He will be missed by his wife, two sons, a daughter and three grandchildren.

DORIS MCCRODDAN SOULE forwarded a letter from **WALT MCCONNELL'S** daughter Barbara: "Dad is in Queensbury, N.Y., in a memory-care facility, about a half hour from his former home in Bolton Landing. Since June 2021, he has been living at The Landing at Queensbury. He has his phone but is not great at

answering it. You have to 'catch him' at the right moment. He remembers his family and most of his longtime friends. It is the short-term memory that gives him difficulty. We had a nice birthday party for his 90th at my sister's lake house. He has adjusted to, or accepted, his new residence and seems to be content; he still has wine every night." Walt's address is The Landing at Queensbury, 27 Woodvale Rd., Apt. No. 2, Queensbury, NY 12804. — C.H.K. and J.M.

1954
BONNIE MACKIE
ASPINWALL
bmaspinwall@gmail.com

HERB WILCOX '50 wrote to tell me that **LEANNE FREAS TROUT '50** died of COVID-related causes. Over the years, Leanne and late husband **DAVID '50** sponsored many scholarship students. Leanne and Herb had been companions since 2008 after meeting at a Bucknell alumni lunch in Florida. Other Bucknellians in her family are her brother **ARTHUR FREAS '48**, daughter **DEE TROUT LEDGERWOOD '74** and her husband **BILL '74**, late daughter **LINDA TROUT MANSFIELD '75**, late father **A. GUY FREAS H'57, P'48, P'50** and grandchildren **DAVID '99, MARK '01** and **CARRIE '06**, along with nephew **DONALD '74**. — B.M.A.

1955
ELEANOR MACKIE
PIGMAN
empigman@gmail.com

I celebrated becoming a

first-time great-grandmother of Clarke Elia Torres-Mackie. The gift of COVID seclusion generated quiet days that gave me time to write and read. I became part of a writers group that has raised money for charity by publishing books of inspiring stories. The invasion of Ukraine recalled WWII and listening to the news that was so unlike today's 24/7 visual coverage. Will we ever learn to love one another? Tell me what you have been up to. — E.M.P

1956
JOSEPH EBERHART
jdocyardley@aol.com

I lost my beloved bride of 64 years Jan. 26 due to COVID. We were a dedicated team that supported one another in numerous charitable efforts over the years. We raised two great sons, and now have two grandsons and two great-grandsons. **CLAIRE HAMMOND EBERHART M'57** loved to teach and spent 25 years teaching mostly third grade. After that she found joy in tutoring and teaching English to a family of Bosnian immigrants. One of the students to whom she taught the solar system is a professor at Caltech, where he is considered a peer of Carl Sagan and Stephen Hawking. She was loved by everyone who came in contact with her.

VIOLET BAYER RIEGEL'S sister **ROBERTA BAYER SCHLACKS '58** sent a note relaying Vi's passing. She reported that soon after arriving at Bucknell, Vi met **CHARLES "BUD" RIEGEL '54** and

was smitten within the first moment of meeting him. They were married for 65 years. Together they visited every continent, including both poles. Vi's love of design and antiques led to volunteering at Delaware's Winterthur Museum where she created the annual Yuletide Tours.

Vi also volunteered at the Delaware Antique Show and the Wilmington Country Club. She helped to establish SODAT Delaware, an outpatient substance abuse agency. She is survived by her husband, two sons, one daughter, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. — J.E.

1957
CAROLYN "CALLIE" MEYER
meyerwrite@comcast.net

CAROL WANAMKER LENKER
caroldalelenker@gmail.com

Here's the question we posed to a random dozen or so classmates: How have your political views changed in the years since graduation?

ANN HARRIS HUNNEWELL writes, "Because I have always worked for local governments, I am politically independent. In California it's called 'decline to state (DTS)'. At Bucknell I was closer to the middle, but I am definitely on the left side of DTS now. The more liberal candidates seem to see the same human truths I'm seeing." Ann moved into Housing and Urban Development-subsidized housing in Monrovia, Calif. "The residents span all demographics: age, national

origins, genders, education, politics and religions."

BARBARA STUTZMAN HAWLEY responds, "Having lived in conservative Pennsylvania most of my life, I was a moderate Republican. Increasingly the folks running for office were moving farther right; my views were not represented. When national politics took a drastic turn right with the rise of Trumpism, I jumped ship and switched parties. The Republicans remain in the majority in my area, but I am pushing for more liberal, pro-democracy candidates and voters."

MARGARET KELLY KRAFFT says, "Fred and I are both still very conservative politically, which I think was a result of Fred serving a year in Vietnam. We both felt we should never have been there, and it was definitely not worth the lives lost. So we are big Trump supporters." Peggy said she and Fred were fine, had avoided COVID (so far) and are still playing golf — but only nine holes.

PETE JORGENSEN replies, "Summers spent on road projects in National Parks and Forests in the Rockies got me to an engineering position in Wyoming. But when John Kennedy proposed the first Peace Corps placements for surveyors, I quit the federal job to work on road projects in Ecuador." Subsequent consulting trips to Central and South America "exposed me to U.S. involvement in other countries, much of it not appropriate. The Kent State shooting in 1970 caused me to go fully Democrat. When our family returned to Jackson, Wyo., I started an engineering firm and became active in

Wyoming politics. Being a super delegate for President Barack Obama – both conventions – was a political high point.” Pete has retired to Arizona – “another politically strange state.”

MARILYN EDGCUMBE GRANT says, “My first experience with politics was in Corning, N.Y., when the president of Corning Glass recruited me to work on a campaign to elect Nelson Rockefeller for governor. I met Nelson and his first wife at a luncheon. Months later, I flew to NYC on the Corning jet to a fundraiser. This time Nelson had a new, younger wife. So began my interest in the Republican Party; where the most I contributed was working at the polls. As a fiscal conservative, I am mainly interested in balancing budgets.”

I [CAROLYN] will add my two cents here: The last time I voted Republican was for Richard Nixon. Since then, life experience has pushed me ever leftward.

Now the sad news that **ROBERT STRACHAN '58** died Jan. 13. A Korean War vet, he graduated with a degree in chemistry and spent 34 years at Merck Sharp & Dohme as a research chemist. He met wife **PATRICIA WENK STRACHAN** at Bucknell, and the two spent the 61 years of their marriage traveling widely, occasionally showing up in Albuquerque, N.M., where I joined them for a lively dinner. – C.M. and C.W.L.

1958

ROBERTA BAYER SCHLACKS
schlacksr@aol.com

ALICE BREWEN

ACHESON moved again but is “still on San Juan Island, 90 minutes by ferry from the Washington state mainland. I love this place and the wonderful sense of community, which has been so important in these days of COVID. As the pandemic was in high stride, Ed Greub and I sadly moved from the home that we had created, designed and built. The good news is that after nine months of looking, we found a wonderful single-level home on flat land, closer to town. No more looking out the window and seeing my husband tumbling down the steep hill with the weed whacker merrily racing behind – and no more 15 steps to my office (too) many times a day.

“The best part? We designed a garden that requires no bending and no kneeling. Our wonderful community theatre gets better and better each year. Many of the productions meet the caliber of an off-Broadway show. We ‘import’ talented groups from Canada, the East Coast and even Argentina.”

I had sad news from **BOB STRACHAN'S** family of his passing. The following is an obituary with additions about his accomplishments.

Bob, 91, passed away at home Jan. 13 surrounded by his wife, daughter and granddaughter. He saw active duty in the Korean War and was honorably discharged, later

graduating from Bucknell with a chemistry degree. While at the University, Bob was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Cap and Dagger and the American Chemical Society.

Following graduation, he worked as a research chemist at Merck Sharp & Dohme for 34 years, where he was involved in developing several biopharmaceutical syntheses. Bob met wife **PATRICIA WENK STRACHAN '57** at Bucknell, and they were married for 61 years, traveling extensively across North America and Europe. He was a huge basketball fan and, after retirement, he and Pat had season tickets for Bucknell home games. Their presence behind the bench was interrupted only by the pandemic. Bob also served on the Alumni Association Board for several years, was a generous donor to the University that he loved, and established the George and Mary Strachan Scholarship. Bob was very proud that granddaughter **KATHRYN WILSTERMAN '14** earned her doctorate and is a professor at Colorado State.

He is survived by his wife, daughter **ELLEN STRACHAN WILSTERMAN '85** and two grandchildren, Kathryn '14 and Grant.

There is very sad news from your class reporter as well. My sister, **VIOLET BAYER RIEGEL '56**, passed away Feb. 11 from a stroke. She was 87 and is survived by husband **BUD RIEGEL '54**, her two sisters, **ROBERTA BAYER SCHLACKS** and Susan, three children and their spouses, eight grandchil-

dren and three great-grandchildren. I miss her terribly. – R.B.S.

1959

DENNIS KELLY writes, “This is a ‘brief’ note about what I’ve done over the past 63 years. I was a member of Sigma Chi at Bucknell, and then entered the computer business with Remington Rand Univac in Philadelphia. I married Betty Wagner in 1963, moved to NYC and had two children. My daughter, Gwen, became a physician and lives in Charlottesville, Va., and son Chris is disabled with bipolar disorder, living in Bradley Beach, N.J. Betty and I live in Bay Head, N.J., in a 101-year-old house about 100 yards from the beach. I became a marine surveyor and ran a yacht delivery business, retiring from both in 2021.

“In my yacht delivery business, we did 12 transatlantic deliveries, one transpacific delivery and three trips through the Panama Canal. I have been a member of the Bay Head Yacht Club since 1983 and have lunch there once a week with my Retired Old Men Eating Out (ROMEO) friends. Twice a week we play dominoes with about 20–25 people. In the winter months, I go to my rental house in Sea Pines Plantation on Hilton Head Island, S.C. I invite any of my classmates to come to Bay Head in the warmer months and to Hilton Head in the winter. We have more than enough rooms for visitors. I’m at 732-814-8485 or dkelly1935@gmail.com.”

If you are interested in being the Class of 1959 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@bucknell.edu.

1960

JACK EACHUS
deachus@bellsouth.net

LORI WASSERMANN writes, “I want to offer an update on six classmates who reside in the (very) greater Boston area, now or formerly: **ELIZABETH BRYAN GODRICK**, **NANCY DEAN NOWAK**, **SUSAN KOCH KESSLER**, **FAY CARRINGTON BARDEN**, **SANDRA HJORTSBERG PAPPAS** and myself. For many years we have enjoyed jaunts to museums and galleries all over New England. A number of years ago, we spent a weekend at Sue and Bob’s home in their mountain community in Hanover, N.H. Another time we traveled to western Massachusetts, visiting The Clark Institute and various colleges in the area. Subsequently, both the Kesslers and the Bardens moved to Keene, N.H., much closer to Massachusetts. Meanwhile, the Novaks, when they are not in South Africa visiting family or bicycling various places all over the map (Nancy never changes), live at Linden Ponds in Hingham, Mass. Elizabeth, having traveled almost everywhere in the world, moved from Boston to Texas for a short time and settled in Boulder, Colo., close to son Dan, also a college professor. I enjoy my complex life with its myriad of involvements

in Burlington, Mass., just north of Boston.

"Sandy, a trained artist, usually spearheaded our art outings, always educating us about the artists and what we were seeing. After her husband, George, died a few years ago, she moved to Lincoln, Mass.; subsequently, her daughter (also an artist) invited those who wanted any of Sandy's work to come and take whatever we wanted before Sandy's house was sold. (I am the proud owner of a number of lovely paintings which have taken over the most prominent wall spaces.)

"Five of us classmates meet monthly on Zoom where we enjoy discussions about the various things we continue to be involved and interested in (after updates on grandchildren and other family, of course). An interesting fact is that almost all of us were on Bucknell's very first educational trip to Europe, spending the summer visiting 13 countries with faculty. We weren't friends then and didn't become so until many years later. It started with Sandra, Elizabeth and me all ending up in Boston for graduate work and the rest, as you can see, is history. It is special to enjoy our Bucknell history and beginnings." — J.E.

1961

JAN POWERS

jpowers0135@earthlink.net

IRA BRINN wrote that after graduating from Bucknell, he earned a master's from Lehigh and a Ph.D. at the University of

Pittsburgh, both in physical chemistry. He was sure that made the late Professor Ben Willeford very happy.

Following a post-doc at Columbia University, Ira received an offer to teach in northern Brazil. Although he planned to stay for only a few years, he moved on instead to a position at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, from which he retired in 2005. While in Rio, he had the opportunity to have a visit from Willeford.

Ira writes, "The most positive part of my work was teaching some very smart kids who could lift their families out of poverty. In Brazil, the Federal University system has some of the best academic departments in the country."

He married a Brazilian woman, with whom he had three children, all of whom graduated from Brazilian universities with graduate degrees. Retiring in Brazil was their plan, but when all three of their children left Brazil for the U.S., it "sort of forced" Ira and his wife to follow, and they settled in southern Florida.

BOB SCOTT wrote to remind us that the Paul Taylor Dance Company is performing at the Weis Center Sept. 16. He is chair of the Paul Taylor Foundation Board of Advisers. Although he is unable to attend the performance, he says, "I am sure it will go well and would love to be there."

I hope to hear from more of you in the coming months. Be sure to let us know what you were up to in the years between graduating and becoming a senior citizen. — J.P.

"An interesting fact is that almost all of us were on Bucknell's very first educational trip to Europe, spending the summer visiting 13 countries with faculty."

LORI WASSERMANN '60

1962

STEVE SUGAR

stevesugar161@gmail.com

BOB JONES writes, "I have lived in the San Francisco Bay area since 1969. My career revolved around the insurance industry. My last position was as managing director of the northwest region for a global risk management and insurance brokerage firm. I was married to Diane for 57 years. I met her in Germany when she was teaching American military students. Both my boys and five grandkids live nearby — two of the grandkids played varsity basketball, so I was able to live vicariously through them.

"Due to chronic back issues, I gave up golf and turned to fly fishing, which has been a great outlet, along with woodworking and cooking. I keep in contact with **BEN JONES, JACK RUYAK** and **JIM WALKER '63.**"

CONNIE TRESSLER

M'65 writes, "I live in Herndon, Pa., about a half hour from Lewisburg. I returned to my hometown to help my parents. (My late father was Class of '40 and my late brother was Class of '63.) My daughter lives in the Allentown, Pa., area. I have two grandchildren. My granddaughter, a field hockey player, is completing her degree at Ithaca College.

"I worked as a psychologist in the Wilkes-Barre, Pa., area prior to moving back home. I am involved with a variety of groups, including as president of the local Bucknell alumni club; president of the Behavior Health/Individual Difference board, and member of the Opioid Coalition, Evangelical Community Hospital, Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village retirement community, Youth in Philanthropy and Gratz Bank Foundation, among others.

"I refurbished a stage

coach inn that my great-grandfather purchased in 1890 by adding a heating system rather than using the seven fireplaces. Also, the inn has indoor plumbing after drilling a well."

BILL SEIDEL writes, "We're back in Arizona. I spent an unplanned January and February back in Indiana. I went back for Christmas, then got stuck in the airline COVID fiasco in February. Stay well." — S.E.S.

1963

PENNY WEST SURITZ

pennysuritz@gmail.com

I am saddened to report the death of my husband, Michael J. Suritz, Jan. 4. We were married in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in 1970 and had a rich and rewarding life together. Happily, he saw the marriage of our son, Adam, to Meghan DeWitt, and had a lovely Christmas with all of us before his unexpected death. — P.W.S.

1964

BETH WEHRLE SMITH
bethdonsm@gmail.com

1965

LINDA HAIGH TOZIER
tozierl@verizon.net

I am very thankful to live in the U.S. and grateful for the many years that I have been your class reporter, sharing good news and sad news about our Bucknell friends. I am sorry to report that **DICK COLLITT** passed away Feb. 5. He lived in East Middlebury, Vt., with wife Sue. In 1978, after working in banking in Philadelphia, Dick and his family moved north where he and Sue established and ran the Ripton Country Store, a landmark and community hub for 45 years. Dick's passion was collecting items from WWII, including several vehicles. He always wanted to own a tank.

JIM ROWBOTHAM shared news about two events, both of which were held at the New York Athletic Club. He attended an informal focus group hosted by **KEN LANGONE '57**, during which four young Bucknell alumni shared opinions about academic freedom at our alma mater. **MIKE KORCHAK '18**, **KELLY MANNING '18**, **BOB MANNING '13** and **MIKE STEPHENS '18** are part of the Open Discourse Coalition, managed by **DAWN MELING TOGUCHI '06**. Ken and **SUSAN CRAWFORD '69** published an article about academic freedom in the Oct. 21 *Wall Street Journal*. Also in October, Jim hosted a

nonfiction book event featuring author **JIM MCCLOSKEY '64**, founder of Centurion Ministries, whose mission is to free wrongly convicted inmates. Jim's book is *When Truth Is All You Have*. Jim works in marketing communications and said he is fortunate to have Tony Fannin as a BeBranded creative partner. Jim stays in touch with several classmates, including **TOBY DECKER**, **BRUCE DOVE**, **JIM DUNN**, **JASON GRAY**, **ELISSA RICHARDS KARN**, **JACKIE HORNOR PLUMERZ**, **JOHN RINDLAUB**, **RICHARD "DUKE" SHELTON** and **DICK STEWART**.

JOHN HARKAVY '64 received his law degree from the University of California—Berkeley, then fulfilled his ROTC requirement by serving two years as brigade staff officer and battery commander in the Midwestern Nike High Altitude Missile Command. While there, he met and married Lynne, his wife of 53 years. They have lived in Orinda, Calif., since 1972. John still practices law, focusing on mergers and acquisitions. For many years, John and **LARRY KASH '64** organized annual spring two-week Kappa Sigma reunions. This year John rented a condo in Hutchinson Island, Fla., near Larry's home and planned to spend time with **MIKE ANDREWS '64** and **SYLVESTER FERGUSON '64**. Reunion attendees have included **JEFF BAHLIS '64**, **ED BOWER '64**, **BERT BULLINGTON '64**, **CURT DEVEREUX**, **BUD DAVIS '64**, **MACK DAY '64**, **M'64**, **HANK MATTHY '64**, **JIM HICKS '64**, **GEORGE WEBER**,

JOHN ZIMMERMAN '64 and **DOUG MACDONALD '64**. John makes the effort to stay in touch with lifelong friends because he cares about them.

BOB GATSKI emailed me spring courses offered by the Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning (BILL) taught by **MARY SIEMINSKI**. I called Mary to find out more about BILL and the course she was teaching. BILL offers six-week classes twice a year, in late spring and late fall. The majority of the courses are offered in-person and most are taught by retired Bucknell professors. Courses are offered in many subjects, including architecture, art, literature, science and American foreign policy. I encourage you to Google "Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning" or call 570-522-0105. Mary's course topic was Exploring the Mystery of Julia C. Collins, using Collins' book *The Curse of Caste; or The Slave Bride*. In 1865 her book was serialized in the *African Methodist Episcopal Christian Recorder*, a Williamsport, Pa., publication. This book intrigued me, in part, because I lived in Williamsport from 1974 to 1981. Mary and her family moved to Williamsport in 1997 from New England, where she had earned a bachelor's from Simmons College and a master's from Boston University, both in library science. Mary was employed by several libraries in New England. When she moved to Williamsport, she worked as a librarian at Pennsylvania College of Technology. Each year, Mary joins her college roommate, **MARGARET**

CREASER BLACKBURN, to vacation on Cape Cod, Mass.

Bucknellians, stay in touch with classmates, and please share your experiences with me.
— L.H.T.

1966

JACKIE PEARSON WEIDENFELLER
theweids@verizon.net

Following notice of **BRUCE HEMMINGS'** death, **TOBY DECKER '65** writes to share this story: "On my first day home from Vietnam, I walked to the beach in my hometown, Sea Girt, N.J. The first person I saw was Bruce, walking along the boardwalk. We made eye contact, but he had the strangest look on his face. He said, 'Are you Toby? If you are, I'm looking at a ghost.' He had heard I was killed in Vietnam, and he couldn't believe he was seeing me. I didn't think much about it, but a month later two other friends confirmed Bucknell's [killed in action] report. I never wrote to Bucknell, but according to the 50th Reunion Class of '65 directory, I'm still deceased. I do, though, receive donation requests." Toby is very much alive, still working in management consulting and living with wife Judy in Walpole, Mass. He vacations in Naples, Fla., in the winters and attended an alumni event there.

Note: Bucknell's alumni records do reflect that Mr. Decker is alive. Due to a printing error, however, a photo of Mr. Decker was printed next to the name of a deceased classmate with the same last name

in the Class of 1965 Reunion yearbook, published in 2015. Bucknell sincerely regrets the error.

After two years without it, the Bucknell alumni dinner was held again at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club, and many from our era were there. In addition to Toby, **FLOSSIE GRABER WATT** and friend Bob, **KAREN ABEL JONES '64**, **MICHAEL '64** and **CAROLYN MORTON MOORE '65**, **NORMAN '63** and **MARY LOU ROPPEL GARRITY '64**, Karen and **SHELDON "BUZ" JONES '64**, **BOB POLINER '64**, **BILL WEIDENFELLER '65** and **CHUCK WEIDENFELLER '64** and I were all '60s grads who shared in the delightful evening.

A surprise snail mail letter arrived from **TODD JENNER** where he said he enjoyed the class column. When I called him, he mentioned having gathered after our 50th Reunion (which he did not attend) with fellow Phi Psi brothers **BRUCE KAPP**; his freshman roommate; and **DALE CARLETON** for their own mini-reunion. **LINDA WENTWORTH KAPP** joined in as well. Todd mentioned that his grandfather was a 1910 graduate who had enjoyed reading his Bucknell Class Notes as well.

Chuck and I joined in a southwest Florida FIJI alumni boat cruise that went from Captiva to Cabbage Key for a nice lunch event at the historic Cabbage Key Inn. Imagine our surprise when, just one day later, we learned that we had been there at the exact same time as **DICK PACE** and **JEFF TRAUB** — but missed seeing them. Dick stays through the winter season

at Boca Grande doing all sorts of boating and fishing, and he'd met up with Jeff, who, with wife Denise, was renting a place in North Captiva.

A Bucknell 360° webinar featured a very interesting and enlightening conversation with current President John Bravman and former President Gary Sojka. If you missed it, you should look it up on Bucknell's website (bucknell.edu/360). Both men spoke with dedication, passion and pride of their times at the vanguard of Bucknell, talking of their friendship and shared goals as well as of the differences in their times at the helm. Through the dark days of the pandemic, President Bravman was extremely proud of Bucknell's ability to have students actually be on campus interacting, surviving and thriving. President Sojka spoke of being proud of his place as a link in the chain of Bucknell's history and his joy in being both a president and a professor at Bucknell. Both men are very impressive individuals, and we as Bucknellians are so fortunate to have had them guiding us. They said that we are the best advertisements for our school just by the ways in which we are living our lives. They implored us to share our "time, talent and treasure" to help in making the University an even better place.

As we age and the news becomes more about our failing health and/or world problems, try to embrace the good moments and be grateful for the family, friends and attitude that keeps our glasses half full. Reach out

to a friend – or to our Class Notes column. Many thanks to all of you who have shared your news and enhanced my days.
– J.P.W.

1967 PRESTON HADLEY '68 phh3@comcast.net

MARGO ANDERSON writes, "I retired after many years of teaching as a faculty member in history at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. I planned with my spouse, Steve, also a retired historian, to travel, enjoy ourselves, continue some of our history work and dote on grandchildren. The world did not cooperate. Steve was already battling pulmonary fibrosis (pretty successfully initially), but by 2020, the condition got the better of him. We curtailed our lives to deal with that. COVID hit; the world locked down. Steve died in the early months of COVID. We couldn't do a memorial service until 18 months later. In 2021, a COVID vaccine year, it looked for a while like the federal government was starting to function again. It did, sort of, but the ups and downs of the pandemic and the dysfunctional politics of the country meant that 'normal' was still quite a long way off. I'm still looking forward to doting on my grandchildren, traveling, keeping in touch with friends and family, and my history work."
– P.H.

1968 GEORGE VINCE gvince@madriver.com

There was a bit of internet hubbub when one of our departed brothers' Theta Chi mug showed up on eBay. With it came a lot of discussion about things like who was "Skull" (the nickname on the mug) and who still had their mug and what might it fetch on eBay. Those showing their mugs included **JIM REESE '69**, **PETE D'ORSI '69** and myself. Others involved in the exchange were **CURT TREDENNICK '69**, **LARRY CARLSON '69**, **BOB "TUZ" MARTUZA '69** (the instigator), **DAN LUPFER '69**, **BOB ROVEGNO**, **JOHN BUCK**

'70, **DAVID COLLANDER '72**, **GARY SPARKS '70**, **GEORGE BRODE '69**, **ROGER HEINEMANN '69**, **MIKE "SHABBY" BRENNAN '69**, **KATHY BARR LATTERNER '70** and **JIM "SEABEAR" VARGA '69**, a veritable Who's Who from the Theta Chi Hall of Fame. We found out the mug belonged to the late **DENNIS JEFFRIES '69**, a.k.a., Skull.
No, it's not too early to start thinking about our 55th Reunion. Given the lag between submitting Class Notes and their publication, I thought it appropriate to start looking at June 2023. Even though we, as emeritus alumni, are invited each year to Reunion, the five-year

benchmark seems to have a special significance. Please let me know if you plan on attending.

I did chase after **BOB BRUSH** and **BOB BARTUNEK** and was lucky enough to find them at the same place and at the same time. Bart is winding down from his busy law practice; and Brush has been retired from Hallmark for several years. I am expecting to see Brush in Vermont when he comes to visit his brother and family who live just up the road. Both said that they look forward to attending our 55th.

Louise and I met Judy Edward and Bob Rovegno last week for an early dinner oceanside in Flagler Beach, Fla. – a good time was had by all.

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PROFILE

ENJOY THE RIDE

Richard Humphrey '74 delivers an experience like no other

by KATIE WILLIARD

All the world's a stage, especially when you're viewing it from a 49-passenger bus with 40 video screens, surround sound, floor-to-ceiling glass and sideways stadium seating.

"The street's the stage as we move – that's the paradigm," explains **Richard Humphrey '74**. Humphrey produces *The Ride*, an immersive tour that combines the art of performance with the grandiosity and glamour of the New York City streets. The 4.2-mile route through Midtown and Times Square includes stops at Columbus Circle, the Chrysler Building, Grand Central Terminal and Bryant Park.

Humphrey's influence over the top attraction rerouted its direction and catapulted the level of performance – enough to attract over a million riders before COVID-19 closed down Broadway.

"I needed to do something to refresh the brand," he says, "So I originated a show in a pop-up black box theatre called *Eyes on New York*, and I wrote it as a metaphor for the city's reopening." When the reviews came in, they piqued new interest, and *The Ride* was soon back up and running.

Since reopening, *The Ride* has been named "a phenomenon" by *The New York Times* and "the hottest way to see New York" by the *TODAY Show*. "The fact that we're mobile – we take you to the city and you can actually see it all, wrapped up and exposed and wonderful," Humphrey says.

After studying art & art history at Bucknell, Humphrey achieved career success in a field that takes tenacity, trust and daring. Consistently reinventing his pursuit of a beautiful life, he has held the



Photo: Carol Rosegg

"I like to think of myself as a content creator across the spectrums," says Richard Humphrey '74.

titles of director, gallery owner, digital art creator, sound algorithm developer and producer – not only of *The Ride*, but notably of Sam Shepard's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Buried Child*, among others.

In reflection of his ever-evolving professional interest, he says, "Any time I've gotten bored with something, I've asked, 'What do I have to bring to something else?' And, 'What is my network?' Professionally, I've always had a toolbox to fall back on.

"And if it weren't for Bucknell, I would not have had this enchanted life."

Once or twice a month, I Zoom into a group meeting that includes Tuz and Seabear. A lively and often deep discussion of personal and world events always ensues.

I'm certain that these are noteworthy times for our classmates and their families. Please reach out to share. Your classmates are interested in hearing from you. – G.V.

1969
PETER E. D'ORSI
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1970
LYDIA HALLER DODD
lydiadodd@yahoo.com

1971
LOU KISSLING
L_KISSLING@msn.com

Our class lost **BILL GIBSON '72**, a five-year engineering student who entered school with the Class of '71 and who told me that he always identified with this class of incoming freshmen. His passing was reported by his company, Merrill Lynch, which stated, "Bill Gibson passed away peacefully at

home Jan. 5 after a courageous battle with cancer. After 28 years with Merrill, Bill will be remembered for his professionalism, dedication and service."

Some may remember that Bill had an update in the Summer 2021 Class Notes. I thought then that the update was one of the best I'd ever received. He talked about how "plastics" in *The Graduate* may have influenced his 23 years in the plastics industry, while *Wall Street* led him to switching to Merrill Lynch as a wealth management adviser. "I suppose the next movie to influence me will be *The Bucket List*," Bill wrote.

He enjoyed scuba diving, skiing and sailing, and was married to Lorri Besch for nearly four decades. Bill and the late **JOHN TISCORNIA** got together for dinner about every four months. He concluded those 2021 notes: "Looking back on my Bucknell years, I realize how great they were; I'm very appreciative to have gone there for five years and to have been with such a great group of people as the Class of '71." – L.K.

1972
ANNE SMITH BENBOW
anne@benbow.net

No news from our class, so I'm assuming all are busy preparing to update classmates at our 50th Reunion, which will have happened by the time you read this. Your Reunion Committee worked hard with outreach, hoping to encourage a big turnout, so I hope to have a lot to report in the next issue. – A.S.B.



REUNION

1973

**SUSAN LATIMER
CURLETT**
slcurlett@aol.com

If you are on Facebook and so inclined, please consider joining the Bucknell Class of '73 group. **NEIL HENDERSHOT, KARL FRITZ, MIMI MCCLOSKEY DOW M'78** and **DAVE STACY** are the group's administrators. Members of the classes of '72 and '74 are welcome to join, as well. — S.L.C.

1974

NORBERT W. CHURCH JR.
churchandchurch@yahoo.com

1975

**NANCY QUAY
BRADLEY**
nancy.bradley6@gmail.com

Sunny Florida in the winter provided an opportunity to reconnect with several of my Bucknell friends.

On New Year's Day, I bicycled the Legacy Trail from Sarasota to Casey Key with my dear friend **NANCY EVANS ARMSTRONG** and our fitness enthusiast husbands.

Shortly thereafter, I received an email from **ANN SCHIMMEL** letting me know when she would be returning from Colorado to the Sunshine State. As we made plans to meet for lunch, I got a double bonus: a chance to see

CAROLYN COURTRIGHT WIERDA at the same time.

On a picture-perfect day, the three of us met on the patio of Dry Dock Waterfront Grill in Longboat Key to dine, reminisce and ask our server to take photographs of us and the pelicans. The afternoon would have been complete if **JOANN PATRICK-EZZEL** had been free to join us, but I would catch up with her later.

After 34 years in public education (a field Carolyn truly enjoyed) including her last years as a superintendent in Bay City, Mich., and then 10 years in higher education at Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan, she retired. Her husband of 44 years passed away in February 2021 after many health issues. Ultimately, he died of COVID. Both of her children are educators: a daughter at Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio, and her son, a high school physics teacher in Saginaw, Mich. Her four granddaughters keep her quite busy and so proud.

Carolyn lives in Westerville, Ohio, and enjoys summers on Torch Lake in northern Michigan. She says, "Winter 2022 has been a Bucknell reunion while enjoying a three-month stay in Sarasota, Fla." She spent time with **DONNA CANDE PHELAN**, Nancy Evans Armstrong, **KAREN GOLDSTROM BENNETT** and **SHARON LITCHFIELD SPENCER**, as well as Ann and me.

I look forward to hearing from other classmates soon. — N.Q.B.

1976

**GAIL WATERBURY
FERRI**
waterburyferri@gmail.com

MARY LOU KUPFER
maryloukpf6@gmail.com

1977

SUSAN HUNSICKER
Belsiemarie@gmail.com

BRIAN KNAPP
cbknapp@charter.net

As I [**SUSAN**] begin as one of your class reporters, here's a quick update: I retired in 2020 after working in the research library of chemical company Arkema for 30 years, the last eight as department manager. I'm enjoying my many volunteer activities, including the annual Philadelphia Flower Show, local professional golf tournaments, tours of historic houses and office work at my church, as well as assisting my still-independent 96-year-old mother **DORIS JENKINS HUNSICKER '46**. I take art classes, both virtual and in person, play golf as much as possible and knit all the time. I'm excited to hear what you all have to say.

From **BRIAN**: Thank you to Susan for allowing me to tag team with you as class reporter. Since graduating from the Duke master of health administration program with retiring class reporter **ELIZABETH LEMPERT SODERHOLM**, I have lived in Minneapolis and am approaching 43 years with M Health Fairview, currently as vice president of operations at Ridges

Hospital. The COVID-19 pandemic has been the experience of a lifetime in health care. I am thankful to have contributed, including vaccination of over 35,000 health care workers and patients during the first half of 2021. My wife, Carla, retired as a maternal fetal medicine ultrasonographer in December. We travel to see sons Kyle in Colorado Springs, Colo., and Kevin in Sioux Falls, S.D., and daughter Kristin and husband Mike in Lebanon, N.H. I enjoy biking, riding the Peloton, snowshoeing out the back door in winter and volunteering annually at the Boston Triathlon. I look forward to hearing from you and a good 45th Reunion turnout.

NORMA BROWN

HUTCHESON received the 34th annual Charlotte E. Ray Award from the Greater Washington Area Chapter (GWAC), Women Lawyers Division, National Bar Association. The award recognizes an outstanding African American woman from the local bar. A past president of GWAC, Norma retired in 2016 from the Postal Service law department after 36 years of federal service. She serves as the chairperson for the Washington, D.C., Board of Ethics and Government Accountability.

Since retiring in 2017, **JOHN** and **KAREN DIEGIDIO YEIGH** have fixed their house, and traveled and hiked with kids and friends. John published *Win the Youth Sports Game*, which narrates how ordinary kids can progress, survive and thrive on a youth-sports journey (WinTheSportsGame.com).

Over the past year,

classmates **JULIE BERNETT MERRILL, JIM OLIVER, CURT LINDERMAN, CHUCK** and **RUTH PEDERSEN FAMULA, DAVID ALLWINE, MIKE** and **CHARLENE KARA GOLUB** and Brian have reconnected via Zoom. **TOM TRUAX '78** and **MICHAEL PISACANE '78** have also joined.

Julie retired as executive director from The S.P.A.R.K.S. Foundation after more than 20 years in the nonprofit community in Lancaster, Pa. In addition to traveling to visit her daughter **AMANDA BEITTEL '08**, son Mike and her sweet grandchildren, Julie enjoys hiking, biking, volunteering for multiple organizations, learning Italian and reading. She recalled working for the physical plant with John during the summer of 1976 as part of her work-study plan and being paired with him to paint dorm room after dorm room. Julie and another female student were the first two women ever on the paint crew. — S.L.H. and B.A.K.



REUNION

1978

**KATHY MCDONALD
ADELBERGER**
tedkathy@comcast.net

1979

ALAN SCHRIGER
altam@netvision.net.il

After an emotional appeal for more news and a threat to devote the next column

WE LOVE OUR BUCKNELL PARENTS AND FAMILIES!



FAMILY WEEKEND SEPT. 16–18, 2022

EXPLORE your student's home away from home, connect with fellow parents and families, and enjoy a gorgeous fall weekend on campus.

We hope you plan to join us! Watch for registration to be announced via email this summer.



bucknell.edu/FamilyWeekend

to lengthy news about my grandchildren, my email box received notes from several of you. **BILL SHOEMAKER** caught me up on several decades. While he and I both were history majors, Bill did not go into a history-related career. He first looked for work in radio because WVBU had been a large part of his life. Instead, he took a job with a multinational oil company, figuring it would be temporary. It ended up being his only career. Bill worked 42 years in the marine transportation industry, managing and operating petroleum tank ships and barges. Bill is proud to say that under his guidance there were no oil spills or disasters. He is active in a number of nonprofits, among them organizations supporting women's education, and was chair of the board of The Baldwin School in Bryn Mawr, Pa. Bill is also an elected official. He is

married to his high school sweetheart, and they have two children.

DAVE STODDARD sent me a nice update. His daughter, Amy, gave birth in Kenya, where she and her husband work as missionaries. Dave and wife Marj traveled to Kenya to see their new grandson, Zion. Dave was a member of the Bucknell Jazz and Rock Ensemble and noted that the group had a reunion. Unfortunately, he couldn't attend, but he did receive a photo and a recording from the reunion. Dave was one of the first people I met our freshmen year, and we became and remain good friends. We got to spend some special time together at our 40th Reunion, and I hope to attend the 45th in 2024. Who else is coming?

BILL DUNN and wife Denise sold their house last year and downsized to a condo in Farmington, Conn. One of his joys is

no longer having to shovel the steps and driveway, and instead watching the maintenance crew do the work. He has been known to bang on his window and yell, "Hey, you missed a spot." Bill has not retired and, contrary to persistent rumors, is not retiring in the immediate future. He turned 65 March 13. That means most of us will do the same this year.

I would love to hear from all of you; what changes are happening in your life this year? If everyone responds, I could send the longest column in history. What are you waiting for? – A.S.

1980

DEBORAH L. HENNEL
dhennel@aol.com

New endeavors are happening for **THOM JAYNE**, who has formed a new band called Whorled. The trio includes a variety

of instruments – guitar, fiddle, accordion, didgeridoo, mandolin, tin whistle and others – playing world-music styles that range from Irish to blue-grass to Latin and lots in between (whorledband.com).

I reconnected with **JIM CARSON**, who lives near Charlotte, N.C. His job as a consultant and patent agent keeps him happily busy, but his real passions are comedy, improv, acting and film writing/directing. You can find him in his creative element at the Charlotte Comedy Theater.

Other news from classmates has been in group reminiscences about the Country Cupboard closing and all the great memories there. Likewise, the death of Meatloaf brought back stories of our favorite hits and lots of singing into bottles. Most poignant have been stories in connection with events in Eastern Europe and the Jan Plan trips to the region

that some of us were lucky enough to experience. I hope the worldwide geopolitical situation will be better by the time this issue reaches us.

Don't forget to be in touch. Those of you who are retired might have more time to write – or not. Be well, enjoy time with those who mean the most, and I hope to hear about those new life chapters. – D.L.H.

1981

CAROL CHRISTIE ROSNER
ccrosner@aol.com

I am writing this column on the second anniversary of the COVID shutdown and marveling at the resilience of so many who had to give up so much. Some of you paid the ultimate price of this horrific pandemic with the loss of loved ones. Many had careers, events and lives interrupted. But

most soldiered through it and can celebrate some of the silver linings that came from the experience (more time with family, fewer obligations, etc.). My own little family had several big events postponed, one canceled and travel affected. We also gained a renewed commitment to each other and others, and we tend to appreciate those things we are able to do more than we did before.

You will be reading this column after our rescheduled 40th Reunion. As a member of our ad hoc Reunion planning committee, I enjoyed renewing old friendships and strengthening some new ones. I have heard from some classmates in the past couple of months whom I've not heard from in a long time.

BILL FRANK was prompted to write after receiving an email about Reunion. He wanted help in finding some old friends he lost touch with: **LEE FRAZEE, PETER JAGEL** and **FRANK "BRITT" CLAYTON**. Bill lives with wife Karen in the small town of Harmony, Pa., about 35 miles north of

Pittsburgh. They have two sons: the oldest works at UPMC in Pittsburgh and attends grad school at Carnegie Mellon, and the younger one is an engineer for Samsung and lives in Austin, Texas. Bill is general manager for two small businesses in the CECO Environmental network. His work has taken him around the world, but retirement is on the horizon.

I was looking forward to seeing many of you in June. — C.C.R.

1982
BECKY GOODWIN KANGOS
rgkang@aol.com

I love hearing from people who have not contributed much to our column over the years, and this issue, I heard from two more classmates.

GEOFF GALLO became an income partner at his CPA firm in early 2021. At the end of 2021, he and four other partners bought the firm from the founder, and have since acquired two additional firms, making them the ninth

largest CPA firm in Central Florida. He wrote that this wasn't something he'd ever thought he'd be doing at this stage of his career. He's very proud of wife Annmarie and his three children, John-Clement, 20, Francesca, 23, and William, 25. William is off on his own, and the other two are working and going to school. His youngest has written and published two superhero books, *The Shadowverse* and *The Shadowverse: Vengeance*. Unfortunately, Geoff will not be at our 40th Reunion, but he has regular contact with some of the guys from Sigma Chi through a text group started about six years ago that includes Geoff, **SAL BAGLIO, DOUG COLLETT, PETE BLACK, STEVE TRESER '83, WILLIAM "BRANDT" NAKO, JEFF BEANE, JOHN-HENRY NYKAMP** and **JOHN HAYFORD**. Some days, out of the blue, Geoff's phone explodes with text conversations and photos from the guys that are hilarious.

TINA SHEIP WASILEWSKI, JOSE-PHINE "ABBY" DUNLAP

QUINN, HETTIE ALBO BACKES, GINGER HUTCHINSON POHLMAN M'84 and **KAREN FREED** had a long overdue girls' weekend and celebrated their 60th birthdays. They gathered at Tina's house in Charlotte, Vt., in October. They walked in the woods of Kingsland Bay State Park and hiked up Mount Philo where the fall foliage was beautiful. They also enjoyed wine tasting at Charlotte Village Winery and Shelburne Vineyard. Tina said the most fun of all was hanging out at the house and talking late into the night. (Isn't that always the best part of getting together with other Bucknell friends?)

As you read this, Reunion Weekend is already past. I hope I saw many of you there. If you have any good stories from Reunion or from life in general, drop me a line. — B.G.K

↓
REUNION

1983
TRACEY TRUSK EICK
teick@bellsouth.net

I am so sad to report that **PAUL WINDERS** died Jan. 14. Paul, who had his bachelor's in electrical engineering, married **INDIRA BOSE WINDERS** in 1985. According to his obituary: "Paul began his engineering career at Singer-Kearfott in New Jersey and earned a master's in electrical engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology in 1986. Later that year, Paul and Indira moved to Germantown, Md., where he continued his career in the telecommunications industry at Booz Allen Hamilton and then InnoVoice. Nine years and four children later, they moved to Leesburg, Va., to be closer to Paul's startup company, NewVoice Inc. Two years later, the company was acquired by Music Telecom and the family relocated to Easton,

“Be well, enjoy time with those who mean the most, and I hope to hear about those new life chapters.”

DEBORAH L. HENNEL '80

Pa., where they lived until his passing. In later years, Paul moved away from engineering and into sales and marketing positions.

"Paul was a proud supporter of his children's academic and sporting endeavors and a lifelong fan of the Detroit Lions and University of Michigan football teams. He was involved in Boy Scouts as a leader, accompanying his three sons to summer camp and assisting them with their Eagle Scout projects. He enjoyed working on home improvement and renovation projects for his own houses as well as helping family and friends. He was always up for a challenge, be it word or number puzzles, helping his children with their math or physics homework, or

finishing their video games before they did. He is remembered as having an easygoing, sociable nature and a great sense of humor."

He is survived by his ex-wife, Indira, and their four children, including **DEVON '09** and **ROSS '11**. For those wishing to make a contribution in Paul's memory, please consider the Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (theaftd.org). – T.T.E.

1984
ALLISON ABOUCHAR CROSS
14380th@gmail.com

VALERIE PATRICK lives on Lake Champlain in northern Vermont with husband Todd Przybycien,

whom she met in graduate school at Caltech. Her book, *When Bad Teams Happen to Good People: Your Complete Repair Guide for Successful Teamwork*, was published last year. She wrote it primarily for her son, his friends and her nieces and nephews who are just starting out in their careers. The concept came about as she realized so many books about teamwork read like a recipe, naming the key ingredients for a perfect team. As she puts it, "Sadly, most people have many more bad team experiences than good ones because good teamwork is hard. I have found that getting to the point where you can be adaptable and be effective at adapting in teamwork

takes a foundation of knowledge and experience." Her book is designed to provide this foundation so people can be better at teamwork and make a bigger impact faster. Valerie has participated in several of Bucknell's online networking events and received positive responses. She also created a YouTube series called *The Team Cast* by Fulcrum Connection. – A.A.C.

1985
CAROL RHEAM TEVIS
rheamtev@ptd.net

CHRISTIAN MACEDONIA and his family moved to a farmette in Lancaster, Pa., in 2014, after almost 20

years in Bethesda, Md. He had retired after 27 years in the Army and was working for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) as a program manager when they decided to move "to the country." After two years of working at a large hospital system in Lancaster, he decided to strike out on his own and opened a private perinatology practice, Lancaster Maternal Fetal Medicine. Last summer, he opened a second location in order to improve access to care for women in the city of Lancaster, especially those in underserved communities, after seeing time and again how women struggling with addiction or those on medical assistance were being

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turned away from other practices. Wife **JANE GUZI MACEDONIA '86** quit her job as a teacher after a rough pandemic year and is the practice's social media and community outreach coordinator. They love to have visitors, so if anyone is in the area, please look them up.

KEVIN BLACKWELL retired after more than 31 years at the U.S. Sentencing Commission. He spent the last 20-plus years as a senior research associate and published works in such areas as racial disparity in federal sentencing, child pornography offenses and recidivism. He spent most of his time as the commission's primary researcher on such policy areas as immigration, child sex offenses and violent offenses, and also worked on sentencing policy for drug offenses. His plan is to be a substitute teacher in the Baltimore area a few days a week to keep busy. He also plans on doing a lot of traveling, going to museums and spending tons of time on the Delaware shore, where he often sees **JOHN DOEHLER '87** and his wife, Sue. Kevin is continuing his involvement with Bucknell. During his time at the commission, he gave lectures on his work. He serves on the board for the Bucknell Institute for Public Policy, which gets him on campus at least once a year, and also comes to campus for a few basketball games each season. Kevin had plans to get together for the 36th Annual Poker Weekend with fraternity brothers **MICHAEL BAYLES, FREDERICK LIND, ROGER DEACON,**

ANDY MONTGOMERY and **PETER BINGAMAN '86**. This year's event, a weekend filled with golfing, bowling and countless hours of poker, was scheduled for Atlanta, including time with **GENE STONE '88**. I hope one of you will send us an update about the weekend.

I regret to inform you that **HECTOR WONG** died Jan. 23. At the time of his passing, he was vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and a leader in critical care medicine research (tinyurl.com/3twn3b9z). Our thoughts and prayers go out to Hector's wife, Sue, and their four children, as well as his other family members and friends.

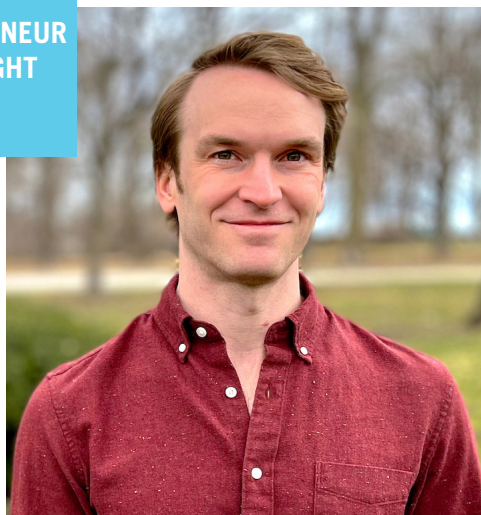
I ran into **BRIAN DEWITT** — my town is his hometown. He happily introduced me to his fiancée, Dawn Coffey. They will be married in September.

As for me, I was fortunate enough to take a trip to London in February with the Berutti crew (**VICTOR** and **BARBARA GOODALE BERUTTI '87** and **JIMMY '17**). **ROB TYRRELL '84** joined us. We enjoyed seeing the sites, including a Hidden Pub Tour. We had dinner with my Pi Beta Phi big sister, **SUE HARTZELL LOWE '84**. She has lived in England for over 25 years. It was a great trip.

Thanks for all the news. Please keep the updates coming. — C.R.T.

ENTREPRENEUR SPOTLIGHT

Photo: Melissa Siskind



Matt Kandler '10's Happyfeed encourages a simple, daily habit to improve mental health.

A HAPPIER FEED

by **KATIE WILLIARD**

Like most entrepreneurs, **Matt Kandler '10** didn't succeed on his first try — and his failure led to his success.

Inspired by robotics research under Professor Keith Buffinton, mechanical engineering, Kandler headed to Stanford after graduation, where he initially intended to continue his work in robotics. But the buzz of the tech boom shifted the mechanical engineering major's focus to design, and he eventually found himself on the well-worn path to "ideas that every young startup hopeful has that never work."

As he grappled with failure and defined his next steps, he leaned on a research-backed practice grounded in positive psychology: gratitude journaling, the habit of recording and reflecting on things that one is grateful for on a regular basis.

His efforts to preserve his peace of mind in the face of adversity led to an idea: a new approach to journaling, social sharing and mental health.

Enter Happyfeed.

Part journaling app, part social platform, Happyfeed is Kandler's intentional vision to provide an outlet "to break from the negativity in mainstream social channels."

Negative impacts of social media are showing up in mental health research. Comparison, cancel culture and cyberbullying have transformed online experiences, forcing the need for robust mental health support in high schools, on college campuses and even in the workplace.

Apps are commonly used to build awareness and mindfulness. On some platforms, "you're basically watching TV," Kandler says. "It tells you that you're getting healthier, and maybe that's good for you. But maybe it's just time to go for a walk." In other instances, apps encourage daily mood tracking, "but if you're clinically depressed, telling yourself how and why you feel bad every day — that reinforcement is going to make you feel worse."

"I wanted to take our existing social media habits and turn them into something that's research-backed and actually good for you," says Kandler.

Users who download the app are greeted with positivity from every angle. Inspiring prompts, easy sharing and intuitive functionality make Happyfeed a simple habit to pick up.

"And journaling is at the core of it," Kandler says. "It's a positive, daily practice that you can do by yourself or share with friends, and it's scientifically proven to make you a happier person."



"IT'S A POSITIVE, DAILY PRACTICE THAT YOU CAN DO BY YOURSELF — OR SHARE WITH FRIENDS."

ILLUMINATING HISTORY

Greg Crumbly '80's art brings Black leaders to light

by KATIE WILLIARD

Through his detailed, historical portrait work, artist **Greg Crumbly '80** digs for truth. He has curated his most significant pieces into a book he describes as “a timeline of Black historical figures.” For the art & art history major, it's the culmination of his experience at Bucknell coupled with decades of brush strokes and curiosity-fueled research – the preserving of legacies from which others can learn.

Black Heroes Throughout History tells the stories of Nzinga, St. Maurice, Vicente Guerrero, Yasuke and other oft-untold Black leaders. The book brings to light “quirks of history,” and serves as evidence of Crumbly's abilities as a painter, storyteller and scholar.

His pursuit of historical truth was sparked in his childhood by the encyclopedias his grandparents bought him from the Cooks Coffee truck in Erie, Pa. – one letter volume each weekend until he had collected the full set.

“They challenged me to read those encyclopedias,” Crumbly remembers. But the history his sharecropping grandfather lived didn't match what he read in those books. As he compared recorded “facts” to his grandfather's experience, the divide became clear. “From that, I learned how to dig,” he says. “That's what my book is all about: putting history right and learning the truth.”

“What kind of a world would we have if we taught history starting from the truth? It's the fountain of youth,” he says. “If you drink it, you'll always be alive in some way. People will tell the stories you've told.”



Photo: David J. Crumbly

Greg Crumbly '80's painting “African Lions” features Shaka Zulu of Southern Africa, Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya and Nelson Mandela.

In addition to creating historical paintings, the Army National Guard veteran frequently donates artworks in honor and memory of military service members. He also paints notable current celebrities as well as superstar athletes.

He hopes his work inspires others to dig into history, explore untold stories and challenge what they're taught. To not settle into accepting facts as they've been recorded, but to do the hard work of cracking the surface to reveal the depth and layers of each historical event we witness.

“It's never just black and white – like books make us think it should be,” says Crumbly. “There is always another layer to the truth. It's our job to find it.”

1986

JOAN DAUGHEN
CADIGAN

jcadigan@mac.com

1987

LAUREN SLAVIN
WROBEL

laurenwr@optimum.net

DAN JONES writes, “I loved reading about **ANDY LOVE M'89** (from my freshman dorm) and his now-wife **PAM [GIBSON LOVE '88]** in the magazine.” [Winter 2022, Class Notes]

In Dan's brief update, he wrote that he has lived in south Orange County, Calif., for 21 years, and he and wife Jacqui planned to

celebrate their 30th anniversary in April with a trip to Napa Valley. Dan has worked in the grocery business since 1989 and joined a Hispanic retailer in 2021. “After traveling 200,000-plus miles per year, it is great to put away the luggage and be at home.”

The couple, who have three children, are “progressing toward empty-nest status. Whenever we walk along the beaches of Laguna or Dana Point, I wear Bucknell shirts or hats. Every month or two, I get stopped by an alum and enjoy a quick conversation about our experiences. Thirty-five years out of school does not seem possible.” – L.S.W.



REUNION

1988

STACIE VELISARIS DE
LA PARRA

svdelaparra@yahoo.com

I traveled to Bucknell for my February birthday and had a fun breakfast with former roommate **KATHLEEN HEALEY HOGAN**, who was in town for the 2022 Patriot League Indoor Track & Field Championships. Her son, Ryan, is on the Army team (he placed in the 200-meter event). We met at Gram's and had much fun reminiscing.

I don't want to wish

away time, but I was really looking forward to the Class of 2022 Commencement ceremony May 22. For now, **JACK '22** was celebrating spring break in the Bahamas with 68 close friends.

Guest columnist **STEVE “MEL” BLOUNT** reported he was checking in from daughter **CAROLINE '22'S** senior-year spring break week. “Two years ago, the infamous ‘come back and clean out your room, school is going virtual’ email was released during daughter **SAMANTHA '20'S** senior spring break.

“Our family will participate in a truly unique weekend in Bucknell's history in May: a double-graduation weekend with Class of 2020 on Saturday and 2022 on the

traditional Sunday. After that, we will be counting down the days until fourth daughter **KATHRYN '26'S** drop-off day in Lewisburg.”

Mel said his 2022 has been quieter (so far) than 2021, but “a couple of the Bucknell connections were really cool random events.”

He and **KAREN BAILEY BLOUNT** went to Deer Valley Resort in Park City, Utah, for a long ski weekend in early February, “our first trip away together, just the two of us, in over 20 years.” On the flight home, he was next to **TOM HOWLAND '91**.

In late February, Mel drove to Ocean City, N.J., for a bon voyage dinner for **ROB “BUZZ” CANESTRA-RI**, who was heading back

to Seattle to lead the Secret Service Northwest Division after a dozen years on the presidential detail. "I guarantee many of you have seen Buzz on TV and didn't even know it was him standing next to presidents Obama, Trump or Biden." **HARRY BUELL** hosted this special get-together that also included **BRIAN MULHALL '89** and **JIM MARSHALL**. Post-dinner, they called **GREG SCHIANO** for a quick hello.

The following morning, Mel went to Lehigh to watch Cornell vs. Lehigh men's lacrosse. **LESLIE NORTHRUP LONG '87'S** Michael plays for Cornell. (Karen is Michael's godmother.)

Then, Mel trekked to Stony Brook University on Long Island, N.Y., for women's lacrosse: Dartmouth vs. Stony Brook. "I have two buddies with sophomore daughters on the Dartmouth squad, one a New Canaan High

School buddy and the other **BOB "BUSH" NESSELBUSH '86**. When I was at the game, this young woman decked in Dartmouth garb jumped in front of me and said 'Mel!' It was **KRISTINA HAAS DESMOND '91**, whom I hadn't seen in nearly 20 years. She is also a New Canaan grad as well as Bucknell, so a double connection for me. Her daughter is a Dartmouth freshman (and starting), so I look forward to several more tailgates with Kristina (and Bush) over these next couple years."

Finally, Mel went to the Big East Tournament to see **JAY WRIGHT '83'S** Villanova squad win three tight games in a row to take the title. — S.V.P.

1989
RENEE LEAVITT BARLOW
reneebarlow999@gmail.com

1990
LAURA MICHALEC OLSZEWSKI
laura.michalec@gmail.com

1991
JENNIFER COCKCROFT ROTH
jroth2007@gmail.com

LISA BLAZURE shares, "Our 30th Reunion has motivated me to submit an update about some of the 4th Harris ladies. We had a group trip planned for April 2020 that was canceled due to COVID. But the upside of the pandemic is that we've been connecting with Zoom calls every three weeks for the last 16 months. We're still hopeful for another trip, but until that happens, our regular calls sustain our friendship after all these years.

"I live in Woolrich, Pa., with my two kids but am

mostly an empty nester these days. I am the Pennsylvania soil health coordinator and work with farmers to adopt regenerative agricultural practices. **JENNIFER PAPA KANAAN** lives with her husband and four kids in Avon, Conn. She is a physician working for UConn Health and has four board certifications.

MADDY CASAGRANDE ZAPANTIS lives in Syosset, N.Y., with her husband and four kids. She has owned and run a successful dental practice in Manhasset, N.Y., for 23 years and taught at Northwell Health. **PAULA SCHOONOVER GOUSE** and her husband live in Hinsdale, Mont. Paula is a wildlife management specialist at the Fort Peck Field Station of the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge. **ERIC** and **KAREN MILLER BORCH** live in Fort Collins, Colo., with their twins, who are off to Gonzaga University in the fall. Karen works part time for a local school district, and Eric is a computer engineer for Cray. **BRIAN '92** and **CAROLINE SHANTZ HENESEY** live in Lansdale, Pa., with their two kids, including **KATE '22**. Caroline is a senior director in Pfizer's oncology worldwide regulatory strategy group. Brian is the owner of OverAchieve Sports and Speed and has developed several patented weight-training devices. **RICH** and **CATHLEEN SHANTZ MILLS** live in Ashburn, Va., with their two kids. Cath is an OB/GYN with Capital Women's Care and serves as the OB/GYN department chair at Inova Loudoun Hospital. Rich is a computer engineer

working for the Coveros consulting company. **JON '92** and **MARCIA WAAGE MCBURNEY** live in Martinsville, N.J., with their three kids. She works for the family business, Waage Electric, and Jon is a project manager and engineer for Leidos."

I look forward to hearing from you for our next update. — J.C.R.

1992
LISA BLOCKUS BROWN
lisa.blockus.brown@gmail.com

LINDA MASSA SAFFLE
lindaoncapecod@gmail.com



1993
CHRIS ZACHARDA
chris.zacharda@gmail.com

1994
SARAH A. SMITH
ssmith4321@yahoo.com

GERRY GORDON writes, "After six years as general counsel and chief compliance officer at residential mortgage lender Norwich Commercial Group, I've moved on to a new adventure as senior corporate counsel in the corporate legal department at Mohegan Gaming & Entertainment, where I will work on legal matters for the company's casinos and resorts in the

"Every month or two, I get stopped by an alum and enjoy a quick conversation about our experiences. Thirty-five years out of school does not seem possible."

DAN JONES '87

PROFILE

TO THE SOUND OF THE BEAT

Richard Simpson '07 combines music and ministry with muscle

by **KATIE WILLIARD**

Music motivates. From kids warming up on rec league gym floors to professional athletes playing for thousands, the music at a sporting event is often as electrifying as the action.

Richard Simpson '07 and his business partners own that experience. At his gym – Get Fit, in Havre de Grace, Md. – Simpson and his team provide traditional fitness and boxing training, boot camps and kids programs. Now they're adding something fresh and new: curated experiences that combine fitness, ministry and Simpson's original music. Part performance, part workout, they present discipline and infectious positivity to audiences of all ages.

If you'd have asked him during his time at Bucknell – studying sociology and playing football – Simpson wouldn't have predicted a career in music. Recruited as a wide receiver, he chose Bucknell because he wanted both academic and athletic achievement.

"I knew I would be held accountable," Simpson says. "Bucknell prepared me to be disciplined ... that translates to everything I do. My professors – Tracy [Elizabeth] Durden, Carl Milofsky – embodied that discipline, and they believed in our ability to make a positive impact."

Simpson always knew he wanted a career in service to others, but the path wasn't always clear. His music, though, was constant. He penned his first song while in high school and remembers sitting in the back of the Sigfried Weis Music Building soaking in performances. "And I never stopped writing," he says.

He describes his sound as gritty and relevant and his lyrics as family friendly and empowering. "I want my family to be able to listen to what I create, and to be proud to tell others about my music," Simpson says.



Photo: Cara Hinton

"Anybody who made it has had that one person who really believed in them," Richard Simpson '07 shares. "That's what we like to instill. We believe in you."

Simpson's efforts are gaining momentum. He and his team played a show in a local housing community, train the high school football team, and are partnering with the Scars Foundation – a nonprofit focused on raising mental health awareness and spearheaded by Havre de Grace native Sully Erna of the rock band Godsmack.

He has also made intentional efforts to engage his community in the creation of his second album, partnering with local producers and other artists. "I love that it's growing organically in the community where I grew up," he says. "It's starting to bleed into each corner and make an impact for good."

U.S., Canada and South Korea. My wife, Valerie, and I sent our son off to college (Kelley School of Business at Indiana University) this past August and are adjusting to life with just our daughter in the house."

NED VIANDS received two sales awards from Corning at Corning Optical Communications' (COC's) annual Global Kickoff in January. He was named to the President's Sales Club for the third consecutive year and COC President's Sales Club for the second time. When not selling for Corning, Ned devotes his time to family, fitness, kickboxing and volunteer-

ing at church and for the National Alliance on Mental Illness. He would love to connect with other alumni and can be reached at sviands@hotmail.com.

Thanks for the updates and happy summer.
– S.A.S.

**1995
JENNIFER BLOB
BONER**
jenboner@gmail.com

**1996
BRIAN TIMMS**
bibliomane74@gmail.com

**1997
SARA BLOOM BRUCE**
sarabloombruce@gmail.com

**1999
STACEY MACKES**
stacey.mackes@gmail.com

**2000
ANN BONNER
O'BRIEN**
bonner6@yahoo.com

↓
REUNION

**1998
HEATHER MURPHY
LOUDON**
heather_loudon@yahoo.com

I hope you are all doing well. We have made a few trips to campus with our boys – exciting to see the changes. They enjoyed exploring town and seeing the buildings. I know many of you have been very busy with work and life in general. Please reach out if you have anything you'd like to share with the class.
– S.M.

**2001
HEATHER POLLARD
ADRIAN**
hdpollard@aol.com

**2002
MELISSA PAULEY**
map007@bucknell.edu

↓
REUNION

2003

**PAIGE NICOLE
WIEDERSPIEL
BASKWILL**

pnjacobson@gmail.com

2004

**JENNIFER BUNCH
WEBLER**

jen.webler@gmail.com

2005

**NIKKI HOLLISTER
OLSZYK**

nikkiolszyk@gmail.com

2006

JULIA SARGEAUNT

julia.sargeaunt@gmail.com

LINDA SANDERS reports, "My husband, Lt. Col. Mario Soto, and I had baby girl Susana Rose Soto Feb. 6." – J.S.

2007

JENNA CAMANN

jenna.camann@gmail.com

jcamann@alum.bucknell.edu

LISA AMES married Joey Zach in a small backyard ceremony March 21, 2021, and celebrated again with friends and family July 25, 2021. Lisa and Joey reside in their new home in Fair Lawn, N.J. – J.C.

↓
REUNION

2008

**LINDSAY CARTER
ALLEN**

lindsayallen410@gmail.com

KAT MORGAN and husband James Jozkowski had their first baby, Edward John, Jan. 24. They live on Long Island, N.Y., close to their families, and were looking forward to beach days with baby Eddie this summer. Kat is a partner in the labor and employment practice at Holm & O'Hara in Manhattan.

AMANDA RIFKIN CHANDLER and husband Dan had Charlotte Adalyn March 1. She joins brother Owen, 6, and sister Ella, 4, and they are enjoying life as a family of five.

MATT and MELISSA RAVELY D'AGOSTINO and son Benjamin announced the arrival of Phoebe Amelia March 23, 2021. – L.C.A.

2009

NIKKI SEAMAN ISELIN

Nseaman006@gmail.com

COLE '10 and **LAUREN GRAM CIABURRI** had son Miles Gibson in October. Miles joins sister Charlotte, 2. They live in San Antonio, and are always happy to connect with other Bucknellians in the area.

ALEXANDRA HULME KEANE and husband Ryan welcomed third son Rhys March 1. He joins brothers Connor, 3, and Liam, 1. Have a wonderful summer. – N.S.I.

PROFILE



Photo: Eleanor Hagen '19

Working with Caroline Abramo '94, Margaret Ekblom '17 is achieving her goal to care for others and the Earth.

SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

Margaret Ekblom '17 prioritizes people and planet in her corporate career

by **BROOKE THAMES**

Go searching for the secret to succeeding in sales, and you'll likely find strategies for identifying the customer, mastering the sales pipeline and closing the deal. Ask **Margaret Ekblom '17**, and she'll tell you the key to success in any business is care – not only for one's work but also for the people who make it possible.

"A lot of the profitable businesses I studied at Bucknell cared about their employees, customers and work-life balance," says Ekblom, a managing for sustainability major. "Care was not only important in helping a business flourish but also in keeping it going."

Ekblom wasted no time putting that lesson into action in her own career, which includes a stint with the popular eco-friendly retailer Rothys. The sustainable fashion brand produces a line of washable shoes and handbags from recycled single-use plastics. As a sales analyst, Ekblom helped open the company's first physical store in 2020 and devised strategies to keep customers and employees safe through the pandemic, such as private in-store appointments and curbside shopping.

These tactics "prioritized everyone's safety and comfort," says Ekblom, who also led regular meditations to help colleagues slow down and find clarity in the chaos. "I think the backbone of any company is putting the people first," she says.

Since last spring, her goal to care for others and the Earth has gained greater traction. Ekblom is integral to the marketing effort at Pana LCE Investments, a private-equity firm founded by **Caroline Abramo '94** that invests in companies driving the global transition to carbon neutrality.

"I wanted to know, what are the companies that are investing in zero-waste businesses like Rothys? Who's at the forefront of changing the world for the better?" Ekblom says. "After working in the corporate-sustainability space on the ground level, getting insight into where that fuel is coming from is the next exciting step for me."

2010

JENNIFER HIRSCH MANN
jenniferlirsch@gmail.com

DAVID ISELIN
dtiselin@gmail.com

We were excited to hear that our classmates are getting married, expanding their families and taking on new professional opportunities.

LUKE TRAFTON and fiancée Katy postponed their wedding from May 2021 to May 2022 due to COVID. They were looking forward to finally tying the knot.

LAUREN RYBACKI MOONEY married husband John in June 2020, and they had daughter Harper in September 2021. They live in Pittsburgh, where Lauren is a transplant nurse coordinator at their local children's hospital.

ALEXANDER "REED" KATZ and wife Caroline had twin boys Graham August and Oliver David Feb. 26. **ABBY ATKINSON CHINAULT** and husband Bryce welcomed their second child, Jude, Feb. 8. Big sister Lucy was thrilled. **ALLY ROBERTSON KENNY** and her husband had son William Joseph Kenny in November.

CHRISTINE REILLY CECOT moved from New York to Miami Beach, Fla., with husband Rob. They were expecting their first child, a daughter, in July.

DANIELLE COOPER is an assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at the Center for the Treatment and Study of Anxiety in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

YUE "AMY" LUO resides in San Francisco with her fiancé. They purchased a home in the city two years ago and will be getting married this summer. Amy continues her decade-long career in health care advertising and offered internship opportunities to Bucknellians this summer. In her spare time, she paints and plays tennis.

JEN BUTLER lives in San Francisco and started a new role on the People Team at Apple.

It has been great hearing from so many classmates over the past few months. We hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy. — J.H.M. and D.I.

2011

LINDSAY MACHEN
lindsay.machen@gmail.com

2012

SONALI BASAK
sb051@bucknell.edu



REUNION

2013

MASHA ZHDANOVA
mz008@bucknell.edu

I am thrilled to be reporting on things you are working on, milestones and reflections on the past year's events. You may have noticed our column has been empty lately — let's fill it up with your updates. As for me, I'm still living in Morris Plains, N.J., and working at

Reckitt. In August last year, I started a new role overseeing global quality for our business-to-business division. As always, I look forward to your notes.

GABY ANDRIC and **AKMAL DANIYAROV '12, M'14** had daughter Anabella Oct. 21.

JACQUIE BACHAND lives in Washington, D.C., and works as a social science analyst for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Her research focuses on issues at the intersection of housing and health.

BRIDGET BOZEL CRUMP had her first child, Catherine "Kitty" Grace, May 28, 2021. Kitty is the love of Bridget and husband Phillip's life. Bridget also started a new job in February as senior development engineer for Kymanox, a life sciences consulting company.

Keith Clark reported his son **TRAVIS CLARK** and **ZOEY GOLDNICK** wed June 19, 2021, in Brooklyn, N.Y.

MATT DRANZIK was sadly let go from his previous employer. He was on the job hunt and had a couple interviews on the horizon. He hoped by next time he'll have some fun news to share.

BRITTANY ECHARD and **JONNY HITTMAN** married last September in Quogue, N.Y.

JULIA GIORDANO married Michael Jahns Aug. 14 at the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool in Chicago's Lincoln Park.

RYAN GUTOWSKI reported that on Feb. 9, daughter Breelyn Rae turned 1.

JUSTIN HICKS, a neuroscience major, women's & gender studies minor and a member of the

track and field team, spent two years with Teach for America in his home state of Delaware after graduation. Then, he transitioned to the Lovett School in Atlanta, where he taught science and coached track and field for seven years. Prior to departing the Lovett School, he represented the nation's teachers in an appearance on the *TODAY Show*.

Justin works at Tower Hill School, his alma mater in Wilmington, Del., where he is the head track and field coach and assistant dean of social justice and recruitment.

He got married in Cape Town, South Africa, March 2. Justin and wife Lyndall DeKlerk Hicks were super excited to have Bucknell alumni, including **JASON BROWN**, join them on the special day as well as participate in the wedding party.

HARRY RUDO and wife Rachel had daughter Shira in January. The baby has already been decked out in orange and blue to cheer on the Bison basketball team on TV.

SHANNON SCOTT and **MICHAEL KEHRLI** had their first baby, Wren, June 5, 2021. The couple have been living in Manhattan since graduation.

ERICA WHITE was happy to report that she and her fiancé purchased a house on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., where Erica works for Cummins on their government relations team, focusing on the transit and defense product portfolio. — M.Z.

2014

LIZ WALKER
ecw012@gmail.com

SHERIDAN GATES married Colin Montemarano in Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 28 after postponing their nuptials for a year due to COVID. They are happily settled in Nashville, and last year, Sheridan launched a business that mentors and empowers female artists called New Roots (wearenewroots.com).

OLIVIA SEECOF will complete her fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital in NYC in July and then start as an attending physician at NYU Langone Health. She will be doing outpatient supportive oncology and inpatient palliative care consults. — L.W.

2015

COLIN HASSELL
cmh027@bucknell.edu

2016

REBECCA MOORE
rebecca.moore016@gmail.com

2017

AVID KHORRAMIAN
avidkhorramian@gmail.com



REUNION

2018

ANNA MILLAR
aemillar3@gmail.com

REUNION WEEKEND

ALUMNI CELEBRATED a long-awaited Reunion Weekend in June — the first in-person Reunion gathering since 2019. Campus tours and Bucknell 360° sessions provided updates on University life while the Alumni Golf Tournament, kayak and hiking trips, the All Class Lunch and Festival, and the Weekend Grand Finale gave alumni the opportunity to connect, reminisce and revel in Bucknell pride.

This year's honored classes included those ending in 2 and 7, emeritus classes and 50-year celebrants from the Classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972. Four alumni were honored by the Bucknell University Alumni Association: **Connie Tressler '62, M'65, P'90**, Loyalty to Bucknell Award; **Kenneth W. Freeman '72**, Outstanding Achievement in a Chosen Profession; **Channell Wilkins '82**, Service to Humanity Award; and **Lisa H. Tostanoski '12**, Young Alumni Award.



Photos: April Bartholomew

2019

HALEY MULLEN
hem005@bucknell.edu

2020

CHANDLER HOULDIN
cwh021@bucknell.edu

CHRISTOPHER "DREW" HOPKINS joined The Lighting Practice's (TLP's) Philadelphia office as a lighting designer I in 2021. Before being hired by TLP, he was a freelance theatrical lighting designer. Since joining the company, Drew's project experience has grown to include health care, academia and places of worship.

2021

MACKENZIE GROSS
mackenziealexandra-gross@gmail.com

As we pass the one year mark since graduation, I've asked a couple members of our class to reflect on their time on campus and where they are now.

CAYLA KOCH, whose bachelor's is in psychology, writes that at Bucknell, "I created lifelong friendships through my academics and athletics. I am thankful for my time as a student-athlete, as it's given me the necessary skill set to excel and grow in the workplace. Since graduation, I moved to NYC and began my career at Meet, a global life-sciences recruitment agency. In my position in talent acquisition, I hire professionals starting their career within recruitment/sales. Our recruiters strive to help people find jobs across an industry so

critical in improving public health outcomes and quality of life."

COLETTE "COCO" SACHS and **LILY SHORNEY '22** presented their undergraduate research, which was accepted by the Eastern Psychological Association. Their study focused on the initial pandemic quarantine, March–August 2020. "We wanted to evaluate how this quarantine affected mental health and how different quarantine environments produced different outcomes for students. We looked at factors such as psychological safety, trust, anxiety and loneliness. Interestingly, we found that the number of people within households did not affect the level of loneliness or anxiety. Another interesting finding was that 'trust in father' predicted anxiety levels significantly while 'trust in mother' did not. We hypothesize that this might be due to the fact that within more 'traditional' family systems, fathers who were working outside of the house returned home for the first time during this period."

Outside of her research, Coco has been expanding her music career, releasing her first single in February as Coco Sachs. "I have always written music (and was in Two Past Midnight at Bucknell) and wanted to record it but didn't have the means until moving to NYC. I plan to release more this year." Congratulations to all our musicians, artists and performers – we can't wait to see what you create next.

I looked forward to seeing the many classmates attending the graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2020 and the

Class of 2022 this May. As a cohort we are coming together to celebrate our peers as well as seize the opportunity for a reunion of our own. We look forward to seeing everyone in just a few short months for Homecoming where we'll continue to celebrate our lifelong bonds. Until then, 'ray Bucknell! – M.G.

2022

JASMINE MINHAS
jasminekminhas2022@gmail.com

Hi everyone. My name is **JASMINE MINHAS** and I am a recent graduate with a triple major in history, political science and French. While at Bucknell, I was involved in a plethora of activities that focused on diversity, equity and inclusion activism on campus. I'm looking forward to continuing to connect with you as your class reporter. Please send me any updates about your lives, careers, connections with other Bucknellians and anything else you'd like to share with your classmates. – J.M.

IN MEMORIAM

Remember your friends, family, classmates and others by posting a comment on our online Book of Remembrance. Go to bucknell.edu/bmagazine.

1945

PHILIP DIETZ P'80, March 1, Vero Beach, Fla.

BERNICE WAAGE SMITH, March 1, West Chester, Pa.

BILL WATKINSON, May 25, Flemington, N.J.

1946

JO-ANN FARQUHAR RIEPEN, Nov. 5, Cherry Hill, N.J.

BETTY BERNHARDT RIZZOLO, June 29, 2021, Durham, N.C.

MARY MARLEY WEST M'49, March 17, Williamsport, Pa.

1947

MARGE GEILS BANCEL, Jan. 19, Danbury, Conn.

1949

HARRY BIRCHARD, Dec. 16, Downingtown, Pa.

JOHN BOVE' M'52, March 3, Ridgewood, N.J.

JERROLD FEIGENBAUM, Jan. 11, West Orange, N.J.

JOANN GOLIGHTLY BROWN, May 24, Summit, N.J.

MARVIN WEINSTEIN, Feb. 13, 2021, Stamford, Conn.

BARBARA HORNER WIGINGTON, Jan. 24, Claysville, Pa.

1950

NORENE ADAMS CARL G'07, Feb. 6, Raleigh, N.C.

SAM MILLER, Jan. 17, Lake Hauto, Pa.

BERNIE SHUCKTIS, Feb. 3, Cincinnati

1951

DON BROWN P'75, March 2, Swampscott, Mass.

DICK HAMMER, March 14, Charlotte, N.C.

JOHN SHOENER P'82, Jan. 26, Sewickley, Pa.

1952

ELDRED "SKIP" REMSON, Feb. 6, Chambersburg, Pa.

BARBARA BAIRD SWIFT, Dec. 28, Grand Forks, N.D.

JACK TRESS, Jan. 14, Albany, Ore.

1953

DONALD DEWEES, March 7, Greenville, Del.

KARL ROHRBACH M'55, P'77, Jan. 17, Cornwall, Pa.

1954

ELAINE PARCELLS FRYER, Feb. 14, Erie, Pa.

CAROLE ITJEN HALLER P'79, P'82, Feb. 10, Gaithersburg, Md.

JACKIE JOLLY ILG, Jan. 12, West Hartford, Conn.

HOWARD MACAULEY P'82, Jan. 18, Bloomsburg, Pa.

DICK LEMMON, Feb. 26, 2018, Meridian, Idaho

MARCIA BALL WEATHERSTONE, Jan. 18, New Providence, N.J.

LEONARD ZIMMERMAN P'82, Jan. 13, Altoona, Pa.

1955

ROBERT DONAHOE, Dec. 6, 2019, New York City

JIM MACKENZIE, April 1, 2021, Southampton, N.J.

1956

JOYCE NEEB BILLET-DEAUX, Jan. 22, Sewickley, Pa.

CLAIRE HAMMOND EBERHART M'57, Jan. 26, Yardley, Pa.

NANCY BECHTEL GRIERSON, April 2, 2021, Palm Coast, Fla.

MARIAN "SUE" CORNELLY HOLDREN, Jan. 28, Phillipsburg, Pa.

ROY IRVING P'80, P'86, Feb. 18, Topsham, Maine

LYDIA TIEMANN LYNN, Feb. 3, Big Flats, N.Y.

DONALD MACAW, May 3, 2020, Orlando, Fla.

JUDY LOCKE MCLENDON P'86, March 12, Bay Head, N.J.

VIOLET BAYER RIEGEL, Feb. 11, Wilmington, Del.



JOANN GOLIGHTLY BROWN '48, P'79, P'82, G'21

"Who's got the pep? Who's going to rate? What's the best class? '48!"

That energetic epigraph begins the first Class Reports column authored by **Joann Golightly Brown '48**, published in the March 1950 issue of *The Bucknell Alumnus*, a forerunner to this publication. For the next 72 years, readers of this magazine would encounter that

same boundless energy, upbeat irreverence and, above all, unwavering passion for Bucknell between the margins of the Class of 1948 column.

"Do you remember trudging through the snow to get to an early morning class like World Lit?" she asked readers in her Spring 2022 column. "Do students still 'trudge' like we did to an 8 a.m. class, or do they just Zoom in? Oh well, I digress ..."

With deep regret, the staff of *Bucknell Magazine* reports that Brown's last column is printed on P. 39 of this issue. She died on May 24 in Summit, N.J.

In addition to her tireless service as a class reporter, Brown attended every Reunion from her graduation until very recent years and regularly served on her class Reunion committee. At the 2018 Reunion, she received the Loyalty to Bucknell Award from the Bucknell Alumni Association.

She was also a regular attendee of the University's annual Scholarship Day celebration. Brown helped establish a scholarship at Bucknell in honor of her late sister, **Eleanor Golightly McChesney '46**, to support students pursuing majors in the physical and biological sciences. In 2011, Brown's name was added to the scholarship.

Following her graduation, Brown worked for the Newark, N.J., office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, where she met her husband, **Jim P'79, P'82, G'21**. She retired from the FBI in 1957, and with Jim established the James A. Brown Agency, an insurance agency in Roselle Park, N.J., where she was involved in every aspect of management other than sales.

Brown continued to work as the office's manager and bookkeeper for a further 58 years, until the business was sold in 2017. Slowing down was not her nature.

Brown is survived by her children, **Jeff Brown '79** and **Jill Brown Waters '82**, as well as grandchildren, including **Jenny Waters '21**.

1957

ROBERT DILWORTH, Jan. 19, Wilmington, Del.

HOWARD LOGAN, Aug. 2, Sun Lakes, Ariz.

PATRICIA YORK WELDON, Feb. 11, Hockessin, Del.

1958

STANLEY "PETE" CLOW, Jan. 7, Wilmington, N.C.

BILL HUMMEL, Dec. 27, Jenkintown, Pa.

BOB STRACHAN P'85, G'14, Jan. 13, Kennett Square, Pa.

JULIE KELLY TURNBULL, March 4, Washington, N.J.

DICK WHITE, Feb. 23, Ogden, Utah

1960

ANTHONY HALEY, Feb. 13, Golden, Colo.

PHYLLIS KRAUS HOSTETTER, Aug. 12, 2020, Williamsburg, Va.

MARY ANN BANNING OPPERMAN, Jan. 25, Princeton, N.J.

CHARLES WIENER, Jan. 20, Bronx, N.Y.

1961

MAXIMILLIAN COSCHIG-NANO, Feb. 1, Port Orange, Fla.

JOHN YOUNG, Oct. 21, 2020, Centennial, Colo.

1962

DENNIS WRYNN P'91, Nov. 22, Kure Beach, N.C.

1963

PHILIP DAVIDSON, Feb. 10, Hilton Head Island, S.C.

JIM MINGES, March 11, Canandaigua, N.Y.

1964

LYNNE WATSON DONALDSON P'85, G'16, G'19, G'21, March 4, East Greenwich, R.I.

VALERIE CIMMINO FARAH, March 20, 2020, Yonkers, N.Y.

STEVE ZANARINI, May 24, 2021, Buzzards Bay, Mass.

1965

DICK COLLITT, Feb. 5, East Middlebury, Vt.

STEVE LAXTON, Jan. 25, Swarthmore, Pa.

DICK LAYMAN P'98, March 18, West Chester, Pa.

TED PIERCE, Nov. 25, Williamsburg, Va.

1968

DOROTHY ZEBROWSKI GOODMAN M'72, Jan. 20, Kulpmont, Pa.

GEORGE HODGE, Oct. 12, Houston, Texas

1970

STEVEN BRINEN P'94, Jan. 23, 2021, Palm Springs, Calif.

BYRON STUMP, Oct. 3, West Friendship, Md.

1971

FREDERICK BOETTKE, Feb. 26, Point Pleasant, N.J.

1972

WILLIAM GIBSON, Jan. 5, Bernardsville, N.J.

1973

MELINDA BALLING MCCORMICK, March 4, Wyndmoor, Pa.

1974

ROBIN WESTON BECK, Feb. 8, Altoona, Pa.

1984

GEOFF CHENWORTH, March 14, Schnecksville, Pa.

1985

HECTOR WONG, Jan. 23, Cincinnati, Ohio

1988

JOANNE BONIFANTI SILBERMANN, March 10, Lorton, Va.

ERIC TIFFANY, Feb. 18, West Hartford, Conn.

1990

STEPHANIE DUNN HANEY, Jan. 7, Bloomsburg, Pa.

1994

GLORIA ORREN P'82, P'85, P'87, P'89, Jan. 21, Mifflinburg, Pa.

1995

GARY PEATROSS, Jan. 25, Monongahela, Pa.

2000

HEATHER SUTTON, March 1, Bronx, N.Y.

2017

CHRIS SERFASS, Jan. 29, Raleigh, N.C.

MASTER'S

WILLIAM ERBY M'57, Dec. 2, Oak Creek, Wisc.

CARSON HOLMAN M'67, P'80, G'24, Jan. 24, New Bloomfield, Pa.

RYAN JONES M'00, Jan. 11, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

MICHAEL MARKS M'68, Feb. 13, Apopka, Fla.

LOU SANTANGELO M'54, P'81, Feb. 14, Hershey, Pa.

CLAUDIA COOPER THRUSH M'94, Jan. 17, Bloomsburg, Pa.

FACULTY AND STAFF

CHIA-CHING CHANG P'87, P'92, March 3, Lewisburg, Pa.

PHYLLIS CONRAD, Jan. 13, Northumberland, Pa.

ROSE MARIE SCHLUTER, Feb. 13, Lewisburg, Pa.

FRIENDS

MICHAEL COUGHLIN P'25, Feb. 9, Ridgefield, Conn.

DEBORAH SCREEN P'24, Jan. 13, Alexandria, Va.

MICHAEL SURITZ, Jan. 4, Arlington, Va.

LIDIA VITALE P'22, Sept. 22, Delaware Township, N.J.

DO

PAGES OF HISTORY

Explore the annual Reunion edition of *The Bucknellian*, written entirely by alumni.

➞ bit.ly/ReunionBucknellian2022

STAY INFORMED!

Update your contact information so we can reach you with the latest Bucknell news and events.

➞ go.bucknell.edu/records

CROWDSOURCED

WHAT'S ONE LESSON FROM BUCKNELL YOU STILL USE EVERY DAY?

HOW TO THINK ABOUT THE MOLECULAR INTERACTIONS IN SEPARATION SCIENCE!

Mike Shifflet M'96
(Staff scientist at Johnson & Johnson Consumer Health Care)

From MGMT101: Prioritize effectiveness, efficiency and community in management – has to be all three!

Jenna DeLuca '13

Surround yourself with experts professionally, and with empathic friends personally.

Deb Lonzer '86

Exclusive Access

Reconnect with classmates through BucknellConnect, the private online alumni community and directory.

➞ bucknellconnect.com

ANSWER THIS:

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE ANIMAL ENCOUNTER ON CAMPUS?

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK TO SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER

➞ facebook.com/bucknellu

That there are incredibly talented people in this world, and if you want to succeed, you better work very hard.

Harry Mathias '84

THIS ISN'T A LESSON, PER SE, BUT I MET MY HUSBAND AT BUCKNELL AND WE'RE STILL MARRIED AFTER 33 YEARS, SO THERE'S THAT.

Katherine King Cosimano '84

**CAPTION
CONTEST**

Compose a clever
caption. The five best
sent by Aug. 1 win a
cool Bucknell T-shirt.



Photo: Special Collections/University Archives

SUBMIT YOURS: BMAGAZINE@BUCKNELL.EDU • [FACEBOOK.COM/BUCKNELLU](https://www.facebook.com/BUCKNELLU)



New Campus Views

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UNIVERSITY CALENDAR.

MAKE A DONATION OF \$25 OR MORE
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2023 CALENDAR.

➞ give.bucknell.edu/calendar



RIDE THE RAILS

This summer, Lewisburg is wrapping up a project to extend the Buffalo Valley Rail Trail to the doorstep of campus. You can pick up the walking and biking trail (which ends in Mifflinburg) on Sixth Street, just behind Vedder Hall.



CATCH A CONCERT

The Weis Center for the Performing Arts will announce its 2022-23 season schedule in August. Explore the music and dance performances on tap and plan an entertainment-filled evening or weekend on campus.

➞ bucknell.edu/WeisCenter

LEAVING THEIR MARK

SHORTLY BEFORE COMMENCEMENT, the Class of 2022 announced its tribute to the institution: a modern pergola that members of the class hope will serve as an outdoor study and gathering space for future generations of Bucknellians.

The structure and surrounding landscaping will be situated near the quad between Academic East and Academic West. Intended as a place of reflection, tranquility and connection, the pergola will feature a plaque reading “In celebration of LGBTQ+ Bucknellians past, present and future” as a mark of solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community.

Class of 2022 President Amelia Schmall says, “Through our tribute, we want all Bucknell students to always know how valued they are, and that they have a place here on campus.”

Maddy Mallory, Class of 2022 vice president, adds, “We want this to be a place that students see and know they are celebrated – especially by our class.”



Officers of the Class of 2022 celebrate their finalized pergola plans with President John Bravman.

Witty Winners

Here are our favorite caption submissions from the last issue:

“Huh, I can never tell the difference between the fish and the creamed peas.”

Janel Leymeister '86

“I don’t know how I’m going to study for my biochem final if I can’t even stay awake for this delicious food!”

Barbara Farrell '79

“Looks like JJ Newberry on Market Street had a great sale on white socks.”

Ken Rankin '84

“THE MEAL AFTER CAFSGIVING IS ALWAYS A MAJOR LETDOWN.”

Carly Rovner '20

“When the person in front of you takes the last chicken parm.”

Kendall Robertson '23

Robertson also identified the subjects of the photo as her grandmother, **Margery Nye Kerr '59, G'23** (left), and grandmother’s roommate, **Ann Hardy Sharp '59, P'90, G'21**.

➔ Submit your caption for the retro photo on P. 61 to bmagazine@bucknell.edu or facebook.com/bucknellu by Aug. 1.

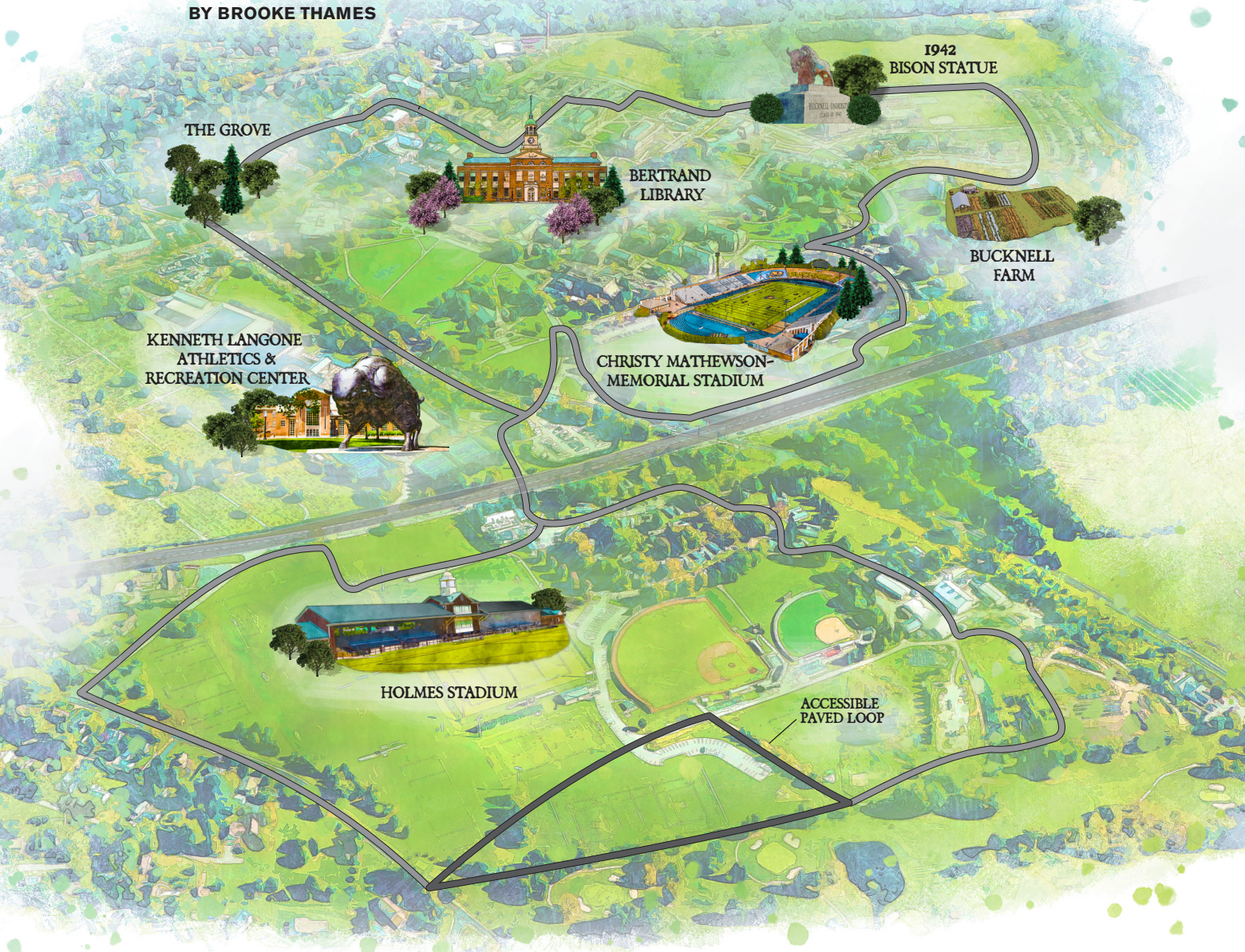


Traverse a New Trail



A decades-long plan to carve a new walking path around Bucknell's campus comes to fruition this fall

BY BROOKE THAMES



PROFESSOR CLAIRE CAMPBELL, history, used to be known as “the lady with the stroller,” struggling as she wheeled her toddler son from their home across Bucknell’s grassy lawns to a childcare center in Lewisburg.

“Foot transportation has long been a concern in certain areas of the University, whether it’s sports teams running near Route 15 or staff members walking to work from nearby neighborhoods,” Campbell says. “The walkability and safety of this campus is a high priority for students, faculty and staff.”

This fall, Bucknell will premiere a new, 4-mile multiuse path, including a paved, wheelchair-accessible section, along the perimeter of its grounds. The path will connect the main campus to the athletics fields across Route 15.

It’s a project that’s been decades in the making, with proposals for an expansive pedway tracing back to the mid-1980s. Those plans progressed when Campbell joined Technology Desk Manager Bud Hiller and Technology Support Specialist

Jamie Piperberg on a campus sustainability working group focused on ecological restoration, public health and outdoor immersion. The team used Google Maps to chart a rough course and then walked it themselves to further refine the trail’s loops and turns.

In addition to enhancing transportation and safety, the path will also provide opportunities for environmental repair and connecting with nature.

“Part of this initiative is about raising our awareness of the natural landscape around us and

the ways Bucknell is contributing to sustainability,” Hiller says. “So there’s the option to add features like pollinator gardens to enhance the path even further.”

Other possible additions include signage with information about sustainability features on campus – such as the Bucknell Farm or tree restoration along the Miller Run creek – as well as outdoor class spaces.

“The great thing is that this can be a living project,” Piperberg says. “It can develop and grow far into the future.”



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Members of the Class of 2022 snap a memory on campus at Senior Sunset.

photograph by EMILY PAINE

