More donors step up to take advantage of unprecedented giving opportunity

DuBois Monument Gets a Makeover

Faculty Member Tapped by Japanese Space Agency
Individuals who have donated so far to the Open Doors Scholarship Program have made education possible for many students at Penn State DuBois who may otherwise not be able to cover their expenses. Read more about their generosity in this issue.

A Message from the Chancellor

Donors Open More Doors for Students
Benefit Celebration nets $10,000 for scholarships
Penn State DuBois celebrates Fall Commencement
Fall 2018 Penn State DuBois Graduates
Veterans Club Dedicates Memorial
John DuBois Monument Rededicated

Honors students take in history, culture in Italy
Engineering student’s research garners international attention

DuBois students donate holiday care packages to those in need
Students fill ‘Purses with Purpose’ for those in need
Penn State DuBois Stands Against Hate

Volleyball, cross country teams make nationals
National champion DuBois baseball team recognized at Beaver Stadium

Alumni Society Update with President Michael White

Brad Lashinsky to head DuBois Innovation Hub
Faculty member tapped for international study with Japanese Space Agency

Penn State DuBois Wildlife Technology student Jerimiah Irvin prepares to band a Northern Waterthrush during a bird banding demonstration for members of the Wildlife Leadership Academy (WLA).

Above: Leonard, Coleman and Blunt (LCB) the former lead singers of the Temptations, the Platters, and the Drifters headlined the Inaugural Penn State DuBois Benefit Celebration on October 6. Read more about this event on page 8.

College Place is produced by the Public Information office at Penn State DuBois and Penn State Multimedia & Print Center, University Park.

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Greetings from Penn State DuBois!

It has been an incredibly exciting year so far at Penn State DuBois, with a Fall semester full of appreciation, pride, and celebration. In this issue of College Place, we review the Fall 2018 semester and the many things we’ve accomplished together.

In October, we held our inaugural Benefit Celebration which was an enormous success! Our headline act, Leonard, Coleman and Blunt provided a memorable night of entertainment, performing classic songs from their former groups, The Temptations, The Platters, and The Drifters. The outpouring of support we received from our friends, colleagues, and donors in support of this event was humbling and heartening. This well-attended inaugural Benefit Celebration was enjoyed by one and all, and raised $10,000 toward student scholarships!

Speaking of scholarships, several new Open Doors Scholarships were processed and finalized in the last months. In our Spring 2018 issue of College Place, you’ll recall that we featured many donors who took advantage of this unprecedented 2:1 match offered by Penn State, and established scholarships through the Open Doors Program. The appeal of this program and its lasting impact spread even further, prompting nine additional donors to establish Open Doors Scholarships before the June 30, deadline. In this issue we recognize these additional donors with special highlights.

Looking ahead to the rest of this academic year and beyond, I’m excited to announce that a program director has been hired to lead our local Invent Penn State initiative. Bradley Lashinsky, former director of the Jefferson County Development Council, will work with students and faculty, along with community and local industry stakeholders, to advance innovative and entrepreneurial ventures that will foster the economic health of our region. You’ll learn more about Brad and about the reach of our Invent Penn State initiative in this issue.

Here’s to hoping you had a joyous holiday season and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2019! 😄

M. Scott McBride, Ph.D.
Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer
Robert E. Umbaugh Open Doors Scholarship totals nearly $1 Million in student support

An unprecedented gift to the Open Doors Scholarship Program at Penn State DuBois by Robert Umbaugh has generated $900,000 in scholarship funding for students. Taking advantage of the 2:1 match Penn State provided, Umbaugh pledged $300,000 to establish the Robert E. Umbaugh Open Doors Scholarship. With the University’s match, the endowed fund stands at $900,000.

“The gratitude we at Penn State DuBois feel for Robert Umbaugh’s generosity is beyond measure,” said Chancellor M. Scott McBride. “He has been a steadfast supporter of our campus for many years, creating an impact on the lives of generations of students, providing the support they need to achieve their educational and career goals. For that, we are incredibly grateful.”

Umbaugh and his wife, Joyce, established a scholarship at Penn State DuBois more than 20 years ago, and have continued to support campus students in a variety of ways. An annual lecture on campus is named in honor of the couple. The Umbaugh Lecture brings highly qualified speakers to the campus each year. He is also a past chair of the Penn State DuBois Capital Campaign Committee during the “Grand Destiny” campaign, and was the campus’ honorary chair for the “For the Future” campaign. Last year, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Penn State DuBois Alumni Society.

For 15 years, Umbaugh was information systems manager and vice president of Southern California Edison Company. Prior to that, he was vice president of Computer Usage Company, a software development firm.

Umbaugh retired as president of Mission Land Company, and has served as president of Carlisle Consulting Group.

As president and CEO of Mission Land Company of Brea, California, Umbaugh spent his career in development of residential, industrial, and office properties. He was also an adjunct professor of Information Science at Claremont Graduate School.

Umbaugh graduated cum laude from Penn State in 1963 with a bachelor of science degree in education. He attended graduate school at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey, and is a graduate of the University of Idaho’s management program. He has authored 14 books and has been featured in a variety of articles in industry publications including “Fortune”, Infosystems”, and more. He has lectured in Canada, Brazil, Japan, and Italy.

The last issue of College Place featured donors who established a dozen new Open Doors Scholarships, supporting students through an unprecedented matching opportunity provided by Penn State. Since then, the number of Open Doors Scholarships has nearly doubled, with even more donors stepping up to take advantage of the 2:1 match that was available until June 30, 2018.

The Open Doors program offered a 2:1 match to donors who made a minimum $30,000 pledge to establish a scholarship, payable over five years.

Studies have found that only 50 percent of students from low-income households graduate in six years. The Open Doors Scholarship Program is aimed at addressing such issues by funding scholarships for students enrolled in programs that will address the financial, academic, and personal challenges students face in graduating from Penn State. To date, the Open Doors Scholarship Program—between donor contributions and University matching funds—has generated more than $3 million for student scholarship endowments at Penn State DuBois.

In the following pages, we highlight the rest of our Open Doors Donors who established scholarships in the last few months.
Palumbo Charitable Trust Open Doors Scholarship generates nearly a half million dollars for students

The A.J. and Sigismunda Palumbo Charitable Trust has given $150,000 to establish an Open Doors Scholarship at Penn State DuBois. The University’s match of an additional $300,000, created a full $450,000 endowment.

A.J. Palumbo lived from 1906 until 2002, and amassed a fortune through hard work in the coal mining industry. Today, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, and youth organizations continue to benefit from his hard work through the A.J. and Sigismunda Palumbo Charitable Trust, named for A.J. and his wife.

Jim and Jean Cretti Open Doors Scholarship Established in Couple’s Memory

The Jim and Jean Cretti Open Doors Scholarship has been established at Penn State DuBois in honor of the late couple. The Crettis’ son, Jim Jr., pledged $30,000 to create the scholarship in his parents’ name, creating a $90,000 endowment. Jim Jr. is a Penn State alumni and an engineering manager at Northrop Grumman in the Airborne C4ISR Systems Division in Baltimore, Maryland.

“They are missed more with each passing year,” Jim Jr. said of his parents. “Helping others to pursue university studies with this scholarship honors two very special people while supporting families of the local community.”

According to their family, Jim and Jean Cretti built their lives around family and community. Jim was the son of immigrants from Riva, Italy, and the youngest of 12 children. Born in 1935, the year Penn State DuBois was founded, he lived in Brockport, Elk County his entire life. He was a machinist and master mold maker, and later a supervisor for Owens-Brockway for 43 years.

Jean grew up in the small, nearby mining town of Cramer. Her family remembers her as a loving and dedicated homemaker who helped her children thrive.

S&T Bank Open Doors Scholarship

With a $30,000 gift, members of leadership at S&T Bank have established an Open Doors Scholarship at Penn State DuBois.

S&T Bank was founded in 1902 as the Savings & Trust Company of Indiana, Pennsylvania, with a single location in Indiana. The bank now provides a full range of financial services to families and businesses at 61 locations throughout the region, while maintaining support for their communities in various ways. In 2017, 400 S&T employees contributed 3,100 hours of service volunteering in 23 foodbanks across their service area. Branches have participated in Relay for Life, fundraising for the United Way, and foodbank programs that provide food to children outside of school.

“We at S&T Bank believe soundly in giving back to the communities and the students in those communities, in which we serve,” said Daniel Baronick, senior vice president and commercial banker for S&T. “They have both provided us with so much in return. This is a way we can continue in our belief to pay it forward.”
Ian Kephart and Danielle Fahr Open Doors Scholarship Established

Pledging $30,000, husband and wife Ian Kephart and Danielle Fahr Kephart have established an Open Doors Scholarship at Penn State DuBois. Penn State has made a 2:1 matching contribution to their gift, creating a full $90,000 endowment under the Ian Kephart and Danielle Fahr Open Doors Scholarship. Both natives of Morrisdale, PA, Ian Kephart and Danielle Fahr Kephart both also began their college education at Penn State DuBois. Ian went on to obtain a degree in Petroleum and Natural Science.

DuBois Educational Foundation establishes Open Doors Scholarship

With a $70,000 gift, the DuBois Educational Foundation (DEF) has established the DuBois Educational Foundation Open Doors Scholarship at Penn State DuBois, creating a $210,000 endowment with Penn State’s 2:1 match. The DEF is the advisory board for Penn State DuBois and is made up of business and community leaders who are invested in offering the best in higher education to individuals in Central Pennsylvania. Established in 1944, the DEF has been instrumental in funding the construction of three campus buildings: the Patrick Swift Building, the Mary Smeal Building, and the DEF Workforce Development Building.

DuBois and Norma Brubaker Open Doors Scholarship established at Penn State DuBois

The family of former DuBois Educational Foundation board member, Forrest Brubaker, has established an Open Doors scholarship in his memory and in honor of his wife, Norma. The family has pledged $30,000 to establish the Forrest and Norma Brubaker Open Doors Scholarship.

Former chancellor Anita McDonald establishes Open Doors Scholarship

Former Penn State DuBois chancellor Anita McDonald has established The Anita D. McDonald Open Doors Scholarship at Penn State DuBois. McDonald pledged $30,000 earlier this year to create the scholarship. It was matched with $60,000 from Penn State, creating a $90,000 endowment.

McDonald served as chancellor at Penn State DuBois from 2003 until her retirement in December 2012. Under her leadership, the campus increased degree offerings, including a baccalaureate in engineering. During her time at the campus over $10 million was raised to support student scholarships and facility enhancements, and intercollegiate athletic programs were reestablished. McDonald and her husband Bob were major supporters of the campus. For example, shortly after her arrival in DuBois, they provided a $25,000 gift to support the construction of the DEF Building on the campus. In 2010 they established a Trustee Endowed scholarship in memory of her parents to support students with diverse backgrounds. She currently resides in Tucson, Arizona.

Before coming to Penn State DuBois McDonald served as dean of the Extended University, Summer Session, and Evening and Weekend Campus at the University of Arizona, in Tucson. She earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and a master’s degree in secondary mathematics from Wayne State University in Detroit, and a Ph.D. in education from St. Louis University. She took graduate courses in accounting at the University of Detroit and attended Harvard’s Management and Leadership Institute. She was an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow, served on the ACE Commission on Lifelong Learning, and served as chair of the Council of Fellows.
Richard W. Ogden Family Open Doors Scholarship

Penn State DuBois alumnus Richard Ogden, of Clearfield, has established the Richard W. Ogden Family Open Doors Scholarship. Making an initial contribution of $33,333, Penn State’s 2:1 match has brought the endowment to $100,000 endowment.

Ogden has been executive vice president and chief risk officer at Riverview Bank since October of 2017. He has been instrumental in Riverview’s support of Penn State DuBois as well, with the bank also establishing an Open Doors Scholarship earlier this year.

Ogden was previously executive vice president and chief financial officer and treasurer at CBT Bank, until CBT merged with Riverview in October of 2017, creating a $1.2 Billion asset community bank headquartered in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Riverview Bank and its operating divisions, CBT Bank, Citizens Neighborhood Bank, CBT Financial and Trust Management, and Riverview Wealth Management, operate 33 offices in twelve counties.

Beginning his career as an accountant with CBT in 1981, Ogden moved through the ranks becoming vice president of finance and comptroller in 1995, and continued to rise through various positions in the organization on the way to his current rank.

After graduating from Clearfield Area High School, Ogden began his higher education at Penn State DuBois in 1976, going on to earn his bachelor’s degree in Accounting at University Park in 1980.

Gas engineering at University Park in 1996. Danielle went on to earn her degree in Administration of Justice in 1999, and a law degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh in 2002.

Danielle said, “We are both first generation graduates, and we both benefited from the amazing generosity of Penn Staters who came before us and whom established scholarships. We are very excited to be able to pay it forward and potentially help others from rural communities achieve their educational goals, and broaden and diversify their experiences, knowledge, and perspective.”
Campaign Honor Roll
Pledges and gifts received July 1, 2016—December 1, 2018

$1 Million Plus
Robert E. ’63 and Joyce L. Umbaugh

$50,000 to $999,999
Anonymous (3)
Fairman Family Foundation
Glenn & Ruth Mengle Foundation
Mark A. ’81 and Betty McFadden
’79 Freemer
Ross A. Kester* ’69
Daniel B. ’69 and Donna S. Kohlhepp
Symmco Foundation

$10,000 to $49,999
Anonymous (1)
A.J. & S. Palumbo Charitable Trust
William G.* ’73 and Nancy L. Allenbaugh, IL
Christine M. Beretsel ’86
Brubaker Family
CNB Bank
James J. Cretty, Jr. ’85
DuBois Educational Foundation
Gasbarre Products Inc.
Robert G. ’71 and Janine Fennell Johnson
Anita D. McDonald*
Miller Fabrication Solutions
Edward S. ’74 and Della M. Nasuti
Richard W. Ogden ’80
David S. ’69 and Deborah M. Ross
S & T Bank
Swift Kennedy & Co.

$1,000 to $9,999 (continued)
John M. ’85 and Darlene S. Hopkins
James B. ’83 and Barbara Graeff
’85 Ingram
Johnson Motors Inc.
Stephen P. ’67 and Lorraine S. Johnson
KTH Architects
Joseph Austini and Patricia J. Kirk
M. Scott McBride*
James C. ’68 and Nancy L. Miller PA Wildlife Habitat Unlimited Inc.
PC Systems, Inc.
Penn State DuBois Alumni Society
Phoenix Sintered Metals, LLC
Frank Pici
Robert F. ’87 and Carolyn Keown ’88 Pinchot
Polish Citizens Club of DuBois, Inc.
J. David Quinn
Charles L. Reynolds
L. Timothy ’64 and Patricia L. Stine
Douglas H. ’83 and Pingjuan L.* ’91 Werner
Paul M. ’78 and Constance Winkler
Jean A. Wolf*

$100 to $499
Neyda M. Abreu
John M. and Beth L. Adduci
Advantage Sales Co., Inc.
W. Dan ’79 and Kay F. Barker
Douglas W. Bartley
Beatty Restaurant Enterprises, Inc.
Bedford Regional Urology, P.C.
Donald E. ’91 and Gina Klebacha ’93 Beimel
David W. Berry ’83
Boeing Company#
Kavin N. and Sherry A. Bond
Amy L. Brand
John J. ’99 and Jill Brennen
Sandra K. Brown
Michael D. and Louise Burke
Ward H. and Cynthia Butler
Terry and Rose M. Campbell
Sean and Amy Carmody
Joseph F. Caruso
Challenger Transport Inc.
Barry S. and Wendy Cohn
Chris M. Cole
Brad L. Collins
Community First Bank, NA
Cooper Tire & Auto
Michael E. Cori
Jean Dorothy Cottrell ’95
James D. and Ann Curtis
Loretta L. Cyphert
Dave Roman Excavating
Gordon A. and Eileen Deboer ’69 Davids
Thomas C. Davies
Robert ’88 and Julia A. ’80 Delia
Ross D. ’67 and Mary Ann Donahue
Daniel J. DiPietro
Dudurich Investment Associates
Amy L. Dub ’00
Rudolph F. and Geraldine L. Dzadony
Franklin A. ’94 and Shane S.
’94 Eisenhower
Elk County Tool & Die, Inc.
Robert O. ’80 and Marie Ellinger
Donald A. Fairman ’68
John E.* ’78 and Catherine E. ’76 Farr
George and Renetta D. Fatula
George M. and Amy R.* ’95 Fatula
Findlay’s Tall Timbers Distribution Center, Inc.
Alison B. Ford
JC Forestree
$100 to $499 (continued)
Samantha L. Frederick
James A. and Phyllis Galio
Thomas G. '75 and Lori J. Gasbarre
William R. '76 and Terry L. Gasbarre
Linda M. Gelnett '89
Georgino Industrial Supply, Inc.
GeoTech Engineering, Inc.
Scott A. and Betsy S. Gettig
Richard and Victoria Gonda
John and Marci Gorski
Jason S. and Elizabeth S. Gray
Gulvas Realty LLC
Fred J. '92 and Theresa M. '91 Gustafson
A. B.1 and Martha L. Hallstrom
Robert M. and Barbara Hanak
Hardware Specialties of State College Inc.
Karen A. Hasselman '83
O. Darrell and Lydia Baracloud
'50 Hayes
George A. '81 and Deborah R. '81 Heigel
Robert C. '75 and Joanne E. Henchbarger, III
Robert E. and Lisa G. Hess
John L. '69 and Ann L. Hetrick
Joel R. and GayLynn Holt
Lakyn D. Holt
Huey Brothers, Inc.
Joseph W. '70 and Anne Ferry* '67 Hummer
J. Clyde Enterprises
Jefferson Machine Company
Joe's Drive In
Lanny E. and Kim Johnson, II
Lanny E. and Rosemary P. Johnson
Suzanne L. Johnson
Joseph M. Lazor, LLC
Kennedy Signs
Kathy A. Kennedy
Robert J. Kennedy '87
Scott L. '90 and Carla Kephart
Arshad† and Helena '99 Khan
David M. and Angela L. Kozlowski
Merle L. and Anita L. Lansberry
Roger L. and Cathy R. Larson
Victor D. and Mary M. Lesky
Robert A. '63 and Carol A. Lindgren
George J. Lindt '54
Robert E. and Susan J. '88 Loeb
Russell L. and Marcella Jo '89 Lucas
John B. '83 and Shelly M. '00 Luchini
William A. '58 and Maryalyce R. Luper II
John Joseph and Joyce A. Martino
Mark Mastrangelo
James L. Matlack '84 and
Susan M. Pierce
James R. Matthews '08
Sandra L. McChesney* '95
Michelle McGarvey
William B. '61 and Karen A. McNeil
David A. Meredith '85

$100 to $499 (continued)
Garrett M. Miller '06
Robert J. '69 and Kathleen N. Mittermaier
Gregory M. Monaco '96
Timothy and Sally Morgan
Moyer's Garage
Nancy W. Mosner Diane Murray
Harvey and Genevieve C. Murray
Nasuti Consulting, LLC
Kenneth C.* and Cynthia Nellis
Esther Yale Nelson '61
D. Randall '98 and Marcia L.* '99 Newell
Eugene C. and Rebecca Newton
Earl and Polly Y. Nick
Nicklas & Son Enterprises, Inc.
Nittany Brokerage Services, Inc.
Gary L. and Anna Norris
Samuel and Ann M. Olson
Richard W. and Michele L. Orlowski
John R. '80 and Patsy Orosz
Penny J. Osburn
Joseph J. Panciera '71
Paris Cleaners, Inc.
Larry D. Pennington
Troy and Rebecca A. '97 Pennington
Shane S. '94 and Laura M. Pertz
Joel E. '78 and Cynthia Ann Peterson
Ray D. '62 and Mary J. Petthel, Jr.
Thomas C. Pettit
Roger J. '91 and Tara R. '85 Petrilli
Michael D. Pressel '77
Robert K. Provell
Istikram Qaderi
Arnold W. '80 and Karen M. Raymond
Jeffrey E. '79 and Evelyn A. Reeder
Stuart L. Rehr and Julia S. Evins
John T. Rogers '63
L. Michael and Donna Ross
James B. and Eileen L. Ryan
Carl E. and Georgia Saline
James F. and Brenda L. Scarantine
John R. and Bonny K. Scheitl
Steven Schnars
John C. '89 and Kristin D. '91 Schneider
Linda L. Schneider
Gary L. and Barb Schuckers
James C. and Kimberley M. Schultz
Scotty's Donuts
Hans T. Duncan and Marie A. Seaburn '07
Paul J. and Gail M. Sekula
Erik and Darla Semanek
Terry L. and Bonita J. Semanek
Bruce A. Shaw '87
Bryant and Melanie L. Shelton
Li Shen
Donald C. Shimmel
SinterFire, Inc.
Joseph and Elaine Sikora
Lori J. Skraba
Jeffrey S. '88 and Lisa Myers '89 Smith

$100 to $499 (continued)
Sorbera Family Chiropractic
Andrew F. and Sara M. Lane Sorbera
Southside Transfer Services LLC
Robert T. '94 and Ellen Spicher
St. Marys Insurance Agency, Inc.
Standard Pennant Company
Neda Stimpel
Supershine Carpet and Tile
Kenneth L. '70 and Wendy Swank
Keith A. and Anita M. Tressler
Stephen K. '10 and Lindsay L.
'10 Tressler
David R. and Sherri L. Verbeke
Mary C. Voller* '93
Mary E. Walker* '88
Ray S. Walker '35
W. Michael and Carolyne M. Walsh
Ben and Erin Wamboldt
Evelyn F. Wambuye*
John T. Wasdi '61
Timothy J. Watkins
Gregory E. and Cheryl A. Weaver
Jeffrey B. '75 and Linda J. Weaver
Thomas E. Weaver
Douglas W. '84 and Shari L. Welch
Kevin M. and Paulette Welch
Stephen T. and Carol A. Welch
Donna J. Welter
Michael S. '07 and Melinda J. White
Mary L. Withrow
Aaron P. and Carrie A. '02 Wood
Edward L. and Colleen A. Yeager
Terry W. Yearick '70
Lester L. and Joann G. Zartman
Zwick & Zwick

Memorial Gifts
Mark D. and Marion Bittner
In memory of William H. Keown
Pamela C. Chaney
In memory of Joseph Austin Kirk
DuBois Educational Foundation
In memory of William H. Shenkle
Robert G. and Janine Fennell
Johnson
In memory of Joseph Austin Kirk
Linda L. Schneider
In memory of Catherine Charlesen
Linda L. Schneider
In memory of Mark Matusky
Patricia A. Schools
In memory of Stanley Hartman
Tony St. Clair
In memory of Robert J. Menzie, Sr.

* Faculty, staff or retiree
† Deceased
# Company that matches employee gifts

To make a gift to Penn State DuBois, call Jean Wolf at (814) 372-3038 or go to dubois.psu.edu/Give-Now

If your name is not listed and you think it should be or if it is listed incorrectly, please contact the Penn State DuBois Development Office at 814-375-4775.
The Inaugural Penn State DuBois Benefit Celebration on October 6, at the DuBois Country Club was a success. With 50 percent of each ticket sale going to support student scholarships, the event raised $10,000 to help cover the cost of higher education for Penn State DuBois students. The event was made possible by Platinum Sponsor Reynolds Financial Advisors; Gold Sponsors, Dan and Donna Kohlhepp, Gleason, Cherry, and Cherry LLP, and the DuBois Educational Foundation; Silver Sponsor Gasbarre Products, Inc.; Bronze Sponsors KTH Architects, PC Systems, Inc., Penn State DuBois Alumni Society, and Mark and Better Freemer; and Patron Sponsors Eastern Sintered Alloys, Hallstrom Construction, Swift Kennedy and Company, Jason and Libby Gray, David and Deborah Ross, Fullington Trailways, Paris Companies, Joyce Fairman, Frank Pici, Paul and Connie Winkler, Pat Kirk and Rose Campbell.

This year’s event was headlined by Leonard, Coleman and Blunt (LCB) the former lead singers of the Temptations, the Platters, and the Drifters. The trio performed hits from all three of their former groups with a full, live backing band at the DuBois Country Club. The 200 guests in attendance also enjoyed a cocktail reception and dinner, in an elegant atmosphere decorated by volunteers Laura Gasbarre, Lori Gasbarre, Joyce Fairman, and JoAnn Zartman.

Members of the Penn State DuBois Alumni Society also held their annual Alumni Awards ceremony during the evening’s program. Christine Beretsel received the Outstanding Alumni Award, Ross Kester, the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Robert G. Johnson, the Distinguished Ambassador Award.

Plans are already underway for next year’s Penn State DuBois Benefit Celebration, to be held October 12, 2019. Headlining entertainment and other details to be announced.

Benefit Celebration nets $10,000 for scholarships

Leonard, Coleman and Blunt (LCB) the former lead singers of the Temptations, the Platters, and the Drifters headlined the Inaugural Penn State DuBois Benefit Celebration, bringing the sounds of classic Motown to 200 guests at the DuBois Country Club.
Fall 2018 graduates from Penn State DuBois made their official transition from students to alumni during Fall commencement Ceremonies held on December 13, in the campus gymnasium. Chancellor M. Scott McBride presided over the ceremony, with Professor of Chemistry Arshad Khan serving as faculty marshal. Assistant teaching professor and winner of the 2017-18 DuBois Educational Foundation (DEF) Educator of the Year Award, Barbara Reinard, offered the commencement address.

Reinard began teaching in the Penn State DuBois Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program in 1997 and became the PTA program coordinator in 1998. She is also a staff physical therapist at Indiana Regional Medical Center where she has worked since 1988.

Reinard earned a bachelor’s degree in Biology from Clarion University in 1985, and a bachelor’s in Physical Therapy from the University of Pittsburgh in 1988. She went on to complete her master’s in Adult and Community Education at Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1997. She recently earned a doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT) from Shenandoah University.

“Parents, friends, and family, thanks for providing support to the graduates. They couldn’t have done it without you. Graduates, congratulations on your accomplishment, this is a big deal. Your hard work and dedication have finally paid off and no one can take this away from you,” Reinard said during her address.

“In a few minutes you will be a college graduate and will be among the privileged in the world. According to a study by Harvard and the Asian Development Bank, only 6.7 percent of the world population has a college degree. The numbers are higher in the U.S. but still only 38 percent of the population has a college degree. With this privilege, comes responsibility, and an obligation to use your newfound knowledge to make the world a better place.”

Reinard went on to provide her own updated version of the 10 Commandments, urging graduates to strive for a life well-lived through service kindness, and making positive contributions to their communities.

“Give more than you take, help those less fortunate than you, give of your time, talent and money. Do random acts of kindness. Volunteer,” she said. “Plan for tomorrow, but live as if today is the only day that you have. We are not promised another day so, make the most of it.”

Associate Chief Academic Officer Mary Mino presented academic awards. Kelsey Johnson received the Associate Academic Achievement Award for maintaining the highest GPA among associate degree students. Kasie Fields received the Baccalaureate Academic Achievement Award for maintaining the highest GPA among baccalaureate degree students.
Fall 2018 Penn State DuBois Graduates

College of Earth and Mineral Sciences
Degree of Bachelor of Science
Earth Sciences
Joseph Knarr .............................................. Milroy, PA

University College
Degree of Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
John Prentice .............................................. Philipsburg, PA

Business
Chanice Britten ........................................... Brockway, PA
Tyler Garthwaite ......................................... DuBois, PA
Brandon Mancuso ..................................... Punxsutawney, PA
Chantel Tubbs ............................................ Grampian, PA

Human Development and Family Studies
Katie Fields (Cum Laude)................................. Brockway, PA
Jordan Rummel ........................................... Brockway, PA
Gabrielle Wolff .......................................... Ridgway, PA

Information Sciences and Technology
Joseph Barber ............................................. Brockway, PA
Dylan Clingan ............................................ Emporium, PA
Zachary Pomeroy (Cum Laude) .................. DuBois, PA

College of Agricultural Sciences
Degree of Associate in Science
Wildlife Technology
Zachary Garner ......................................... Saint Marys, PA
Lance Pennington ........................................ Punxsutawney, PA

College of Engineering
Degree of Associate in Engineering Technology
Mechanical Engineering Technology
Matthew Ballard ......................................... Force, PA
Shawn Burnside ........................................... Reynoldsville, PA

University College
Degree of Associate in Science
Information Sciences and Technology
Ty Kephart ................................................. Philipsburg, PA
Christopher Lang (Cum Laude) .................. DuBois, PA

Occupational Therapy
Katarina Allison ........................................... Pottersdale, PA
Marlee Chutko (Summa Cum Laude) ............. Philipsburg, PA
Kaitlin Greis (Cum Laude) ......................... Rimersburg, PA
Ashlea Heitzenrater .................................. Punxsutawney, PA
Kelsey Johnson (Summa Cum Laude) ........... Brookville, PA
Cheyenne Kephart ....................................... Houtzdale, PA
Abby Lewis (Magna Cum Laude) ................... Kingston, PA
Elizabeth Rankin (Cum Laude) ..................... Punxsutawney, PA
Carly Shaffer .............................................. Wilcox, PA
Keara Shrefler ............................................ Kersey, PA
Janelle Wallace (Cum Laude) ...................... Clearfield, PA
A new monument memorializing all students, past, present, and future, who serve or have served in the armed forces was dedicated on Veterans Day 2018. Members of the Penn State DuBois Veterans Club developed the idea for the memorial, and held fundraising events, such as drives, and 5K Run/Walk events to raise the funds for the creation and installation of the monument.

“We were at the Harrisburg campus and they had a beautiful memorial for veterans on their campus. We brought that idea back to our campus to memorialize our veterans, past, present, and future,” said Veterans Club member Ken Larson, of Reynoldsville. “This shows that our campus is military friendly, and that Penn State is military friendly.”

The granite, keystone shaped stone features the seals of all five branches of the U.S. military, as well as an inscription memorializing student veterans of the campus. Club members employed R.D. Brown Memorial of Punxsutawney to create the monument, which stands four feet high, and three feet wide. It has been placed in Schoch plaza, a central open space on campus.
The monument to John DuBois, founder of the town of DuBois, underwent a renovation and rejuvenation last summer and fall. Work included a professional cleaning, the removal of vegetation surrounding it, and the installation of new solar lighting, which increases the visibility of the monument at night from much of the city. A new concrete sidewalk was installed around the site, and new wrought iron fencing has replaced the former chain-link fence.

Situated above the Penn State DuBois campus on what is referred to as Monument Hill, the granite statue marks the grave site of John DuBois and is topped by a figure of a woman said to represent hope. High atop the hill, it overlooks the city and the land his estate once occupied. DuBois made his fortune in the lumber industry, and owned and operated a large sawmill that was once located across today’s route 255 from the campus. He died in 1886, and according to legend, is buried at this site alongside his horse. The DuBois family donated the estate property to Penn State in 1937.

A light-up ceremony held on November 1, gave members of the community the chance to come out and see the monument illuminated for the first time.
A group of four Penn State DuBois honors students had the opportunity of a lifetime at the end of the last academic year, as they traveled to Italy to learn about the country’s history and culture. The campus honors program offers an international trip each year, affording students the chance to expand their education on a global level.

Students Abbi Smith, Julia Test, Tyler Garthwaite, and Julie Shimmel were led by husband and wife team Garrett and Keely Roen on this trip. Garrett is the campus registrar, and Keely a senior instructor in the Wildlife Technology program. With both employed at the campus, they had a unique opportunity to travel and connect with students as they explored a new country.

“It was a great way for me to connect to our students,” Garrett said. “In my job, I deal with students, but only for a few minutes at a time. Here, I got to take students from rural Pennsylvania to another country to see things they’ve never experienced.”

Keely added, “I got to know students from other majors outside of the one I teach in, which was great. And I’m so glad we could give them this experience. I went to France when I was 19, and it was life-changing for me. I hope this experience is the same for these students.”

Seizing every opportunity to learn about Italy’s traditions and history, the group took in daily tours of famous landmarks, as well as lesser-known locales that were off the beaten path. They saw the Vatican, the Roman Catacombs, Pompeii and Mount Vesuvius, Tuscany, the Colosseum, and much more.
“It was a really immersive trip,” Keely said. “We ate at local restaurants, interacted with local people, used public transportation, and did a lot of walking in cities, getting really close to the culture.”

“This trip to Italy was an incredible experience,” said student Abbie Smith. “Getting to see and experience the cultural differences was great. Seeing the archeological sights on the television and the Internet does not do them justice. Seeing them was an experience I don’t think I’ll ever forget.”

Other highlights of the trip included food tours, where the group got to experience the literal taste of Italian cultures. They found that food in Italy is rooted strongly in the traditions of various cultures, with different ethnic groups bringing their own traditions and influences to the country’s cuisine.

“Italy as we know it has only existed for just over 100 years,” Keely said. “The indigenous cultures that had been absorbed by the Roman Empire are still very apparent and they still have their individual traditions.” She continued, “But eating at a modern restaurant while sitting next to a building that’s 700 years old is pretty amazing.”

Walking tours of cities and various sights gave the students an opportunity to plunge deeply into their surroundings, too.

“Going to Italy was an amazing experience that I will never forget. I loved being immersed in the Italian culture and walking the same cobblestone streets that millions have done before me,” student Tyler Garthwaite said. “Everything from the Roman cuisine, ancient buildings, and historic artwork in the Vatican Museums amazed me. On this trip, we met people from all over the world and shared our experiences with them regarding college life, working, and our everyday life in general. It was interesting to hear the differences between our lifestyles. This was my first international trip and I am so thankful that Penn State DuBois gave me this incredible opportunity to travel internationally.”

Digging more deeply into the culture, the group learned from tour guides and locals about the history of Italy, the basis of religions, and the dark past of some of Rome’s inhabitants.

“We learned about the oppression of Jews for three centuries, and the oppression of Christians from 200 A.D. on,” Keely noted. She explained that Jewish citizens in Rome in the early A.D. period were confined to an area still known as the Jewish Ghetto.

“It was a walled off area of just a few city blocks, and they weren’t allowed to leave that area,” Garrett added.

Keely recalled, “We also learned how early Christians worshiped. They would visit each other’s homes and just talk with each other about how to be a better person and how to be more like Jesus.”

Throughout the trip, students toured the Capuchin Crypt, constructed by monks centuries ago from bones of 3,700 friars. They hiked the countryside, visited ruins and once lost cities, and learned first-hand life lessons. While visiting the Vatican and viewing countless artifacts from throughout history, the group also attended the papal blessing.

Student Julia Test said, “Italy was the trip of the lifetime, getting to see a wonder of the world, buildings from BC times and early AD, the artwork of artists we learned about from young ages, the home of my religion. Getting to see the Pope was the highlight of my trip! Every aspect of this trip was phenomenal. We were able to hike a volcano then visit an entire town it covered centuries ago, still in incredible shape. Penn State DuBois gave us a trip of a lifetime and crossed off my bucket list trip! I can’t wait to go back, I fell in love with Italy and am already planning a trip to return.”

This trip was funded, in part, by the Penn State DuBois Honors Program, the participating students’ and chaperones’ contributions, and the student activity fee. Garrett said, “The campus administration and the chancellor were incredibly generous and truly helped the students. We wouldn’t have been able to do all the historic and cultural activities we did without the support of the campus.”

Keely added, “That support is what enabled us to have such an enriching experience.”

“This was my first international trip and I am so thankful that Penn State DuBois gave me this incredible opportunity to travel internationally. This trip gave me the inspiration that I needed to leave my comfort zone and experience life outside of what I was used to.”
Instructor in Engineering
Stephen Feldbauer, seated, and student Kyle Bear examine powder metal samples using the scanning electronic microscope in the Penn State DuBois engineering labs.

LEARNING

Engineering student’s research garners international attention

For the second time during his student career in the Penn State DuBois Engineering program, Kyle Bear has had a research article published in a top industry magazine. Having heard of Bear’s research in powder metal production processes, editors from “Thermal Processing”, reached out to Bear and asked if he could pen an article for them with updates on his progress. His initial article appeared in the American Welding Society’s “Welding Journal” in May of 2017.

The latest article, “Filler metal control in sinter brazing”, details Bear’s research into improving bonds through sinter brazing, a process similar to welding that connects powder metal pieces together to form working parts. The powder metal industry provides parts for everything from cars, to home appliances, for companies around the globe. He is researching this process with his instructor in the Penn State DuBois engineering program, Stephen Feldbauer, who coauthored the article along with lab technician Glen Rishel and applications engineer Brian Smith.

Bear and Feldbauer experimented with, and discovered ways in which to increase the strength of these bonds between the powder metal pieces by controlling the flow of the metal at the bonding location during the brazing process. Their discovery results in parts that are more dependable and longer lasting, as well as more affordable, helping to expand the competitiveness of the powder metal industry.

“Our goal is controlling how the metal flows while you form the braze,” Feldbauer explained. “That allows us to change the composition of the filler metals and reduce the cost of the filler metal itself. Metals used for this have a substantial amount of nickel in them. Right now there are only one or two chemistries of filler metals like this that work, but if we can open this up and change the chemistry of metals without nickel to bond parts, it will significantly lower the cost, and lower the cost of the part overall.”

Feldbauer said that once perfected, this may result in a 10 to 15 percent savings in filler metal materials costs in powder metal production. That, he said, is what is getting their research international attention.

“Everyone is interested in knocking down costs,” Bear added. “We’re taking it further each time we try something new. It’s good to know what works and what doesn’t, but it’s a long process.”

Feldbauer also works as the director of Research and Development at Abbott Furnace in St. Marys, PA, which brings him a unique perspective as both a working professional, as well as an educator. He said, “We have been able to leverage my position in the industry by knowing what problems need to be solved. We take advantage of that in this engineering program to train the next generation of leaders in this industry who can solve these problems.”

Kyle Bear is a U.S. Army veteran, originally from Chelsea, Michigan, who sought out the Penn State DuBois engineering program in order to launch a second career after his service in the armed forces. Entering his senior year in the fall, he never dreamed he’d get international attention within the powder metal industry before he even graduates.

“It’s still strange to me that a lot of people are reading these articles,” Bear said, crediting Feldbauer as a mentor. “I wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for him.”

Feldbauer responded saying, “There’s nothing more rewarding than seeing your students grow and become recognized in the industry.”

Instructor in Engineering
Stephen Feldbauer, seated, and student Kyle Bear examine powder metal samples using the scanning electronic microscope in the Penn State DuBois engineering labs.
DuBois students donate holiday care packages to those in need

This holiday season, students in the Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) Club at Penn State DuBois continued their tradition of helping local individuals in need. Club members purchased items and assembled holiday care packages. They delivered those packages to area shelters that serve people who have been displaced from their homes, or who are victims of domestic violence.

Items in the packages included nonperishable food; personal hygiene products such as soap, shampoo, and toothpaste; paper products; cleaning supplies; blankets; and more. The packages were given to residents at Crossroads in Punxsutawney, a domestic abuse shelter; Haven House, in DuBois, a temporary housing facility for people who have been displaced; and the Pentz Run adolescent housing facility in DuBois.

“I feel this project is important to complete every year because there are individuals right in our own hometowns who don’t have the things that we take for granted every day under our own roofs,” said HDFS Club President Laura Ruane. “I feel it’s important that they can take care of their basic needs.”

To help those organizations provide their clients with everyday services, the students sought donations of household items to make up the care packages, and hosted fundraising drives in order to purchase additional items.

Students who are in the HDFS Club and enrolled in the HDFS program are studying to enter careers in social work, as counselors for addiction treatment, and in behavioral health and probation. In their careers, they likely will be involved with organizations such as the ones impacted through this project. Faculty members said that, in this way, the project also enhances the students’ education.

... this project is important to complete every year because there are individuals right in our own hometowns who don’t have the things that we take for granted...”
Students in two distinct classes at Penn State DuBois have teamed up to help others in need with a special service project. “Purses with a Purpose” is aimed at helping women who are homeless or in need, by providing purses and bags for their use, as well as a variety of hygiene and comfort items included in the purses. Those items include lotion, tissues, lip balm, candy, gum, and more. Purses and other care items were donated by members of the community, as well as campus faculty, staff, and students.

For the Occupational Therapy Global Day of Service in October, Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) students have completed the “Purses with a Purpose” project in their Management and Ethics course by creating the unique care packages. They’ll hand those items off to students in the course, Civic and Community Engagement, that is a required class for students participating in the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) service trip. This coming year for ASB, 20 students will travel to Washington DC to volunteer at various shelters, public kitchens, and charitable organizations. While in DC, they’ll distribute the purses to women who are homeless.

“This cross collaboration between two courses is a powerful way for students to work together to alleviate some of the symptoms of homelessness,” said Marly Doty, instructor in Human Development and Family Studies who organizes the ASB trips each year. “Students will deliver these during our outreach runs to shelters and parks in DC. They really make an impact on the people who receive them.”

Doty said they hope to launch a similar drive collecting hygiene items and backpacks or drawstring bags in the spring to be distributed to men who are homeless.

In addition to helping others, the faculty members behind these efforts use service projects to add real-world perspective to their students’ education.

Amy Fatula, lecturer in the OTA program, said, “Course-related service at any level allows for application and better understanding of classroom concepts. This OT Global Day of Service project provides an experience for Penn State DuBois OTA students to connect with others on campus and with those in need in Washington, D.C. The Purses with a Purpose project allowed the students to be more aware of the injustices facing people that are homeless. Students were asked to identify occupations that are impacted by having or not having a purse. As future OT practitioners, they identified that a person’s ability to complete self-care, hygiene, money management, personal device care, and health maintenance can be affected by not having a purse or its contents.”

OTA student Jada Palmer said, “This was a great project to make us more aware of what people are facing outside of what we see every day.”

Spring break at Penn State is scheduled for March 3, through March 9, 2019, when students will make delivering the bags part of their overall service mission in Washington DC. According to the Department of Human Services, a 2017 study revealed there were 7,473 people who were experiencing homelessness in the District of Columbia, 897 of whom were unsheltered, 5,363 were in an emergency shelter, and 1,213 were in a transitional housing program.
The Penn State DuBois community rallied against hate in all forms on Wednesday, November 7, with the Standing Against Hate Rally. Students peacefully demonstrated on campus, and along Route 255 in front of campus, carrying signs that expressed ideals of peace and tolerance.

A group of students organized the event, purposefully unaffiliated with any clubs or organizations, with the intentions of keeping the demonstration free of any type of political influence. They were inspired by the events of October 27, 2018, where eleven people died, and six were injured during the shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

“We are not here to promote a political agenda, or support any one side, but to gather as a united front against all hatred and evil, and to show that Penn State is a safe haven for all of those who have ever felt judged or oppressed,” said student Danielle VanSteenberg, a student who helped to organize the rally. She addressed the crowd before leading the march through campus. “Today, we are gathering against hate, and will publicly demonstrate this by marching through campus to 255, to demonstrate our unity and to show that hate has no home here.”

Students, faculty, and staff participating said they were grateful for the encouragement of passing drivers, who honked their horns and gestured signs of support.

The Washington Post cited a report by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University at San Bernardino that states hate crimes in the nation’s 10 largest cities increased by 12 percent last year.
Volleyball, cross country teams make nationals

Volleyball
The Penn State DuBois volleyball and cross-country teams had a very successful fall as they both earned spots at the United State Collegiate (USCAA) National Championship events in their perspective sports. Both competed in Virginia Beach, Virginia, over this past week.

The volleyball team had two tough matches to start out pool play in the national tournament, and both matches were against the two teams that eventually went on to play each other in the USCAA National Tournament Championship Game. Although the Lady Lions lost both matches it was the first year in campus history that the volleyball team was able to earn their right to play in the national tournament.

Cross Country
The DuBois Cross Country team had four runners, and were able to pull out some good time results. Rebecca Maine was the lone female runner to qualify, and she came in 32nd overall with a time of 27:42.83.

Jeremy Fischer, Jeremy Troup and Bailey Thrush were the men’s competitors, and they finished respectively: 30:26.70, 33:16.63 and 35:00.76.
The Penn State DuBois baseball team, champions of the 2018 USCAA Small College World Series, was recognized for its success during the All-University Day football game at Beaver Stadium on Sept. 15. The team was honored in the second quarter of the game against Kent State.

DuBois won the Small College World Series on May 17 at Showers Field in DuBois, where the team also hosted the tournament. DuBois now holds the distinction of being only the second team in any sport in the Penn State University Athletic Conference (PSUAC) to bring home a USCAA national championship. The first was the 2015 Penn State Beaver women’s basketball team.

The baseball program at Penn State DuBois was resurrected in 2015, having been eliminated from campus athletic program offerings due to budget reasons in the 1990s. In just three short years, the team has made two appearances in the USCAA championship, claiming the title this year.

The Penn State DuBois Nittany Lions ended their winning regular season 31-11, and claimed a 17-1 conference record in the PSUAC. The team went 4-1 in the Small College World Series.
Alumni Society Update with President Michael White

Let's Go STATE!

Autumn brings crisp air, colorful leaves, and another year full of Penn State Alumni activities.

Welcome students, alumni, and friends of Penn State to the DuBois Alumni Society update. What a fantastic Fall…a beautiful time of year here in north central Pennsylvania. As a resident of this area for more than half of my life and having traveled to many other beautiful and exciting places, I must admit there is just no place like Pennsylvania! Our local Alumni Society celebrates the change in seasons with a bustling activity schedule!

ALUMNI AWARDS

A cornerstone event for the Alumni each Fall is the annual Awards and Recognition banquet. This year the chancellor’s vision of a benefit dinner – complete with an intimate live performance from LCB - elevated our awards presentation to a new level. It was a fitting venue to highlight what our alumni and friends of Penn State DuBois have done to demonstrate leadership in their professions and citizenship in their communities. It was also a time to stimulate greater activity and identity between prominent alumni and the campus community, faculty, students, and administration.

This year’s recipients again showcase the exceptional men and women that come from the DuBois area and this great university:

- Christine Beretsel, ’86 Accounting, is our Outstanding Alumni, having attended DuBois and University Park campuses. She is recently retired from the pharmaceutical firm Merck and she has been very involved in the DuBois campus as well as serving on the Greater Penn State Campaign Committee.
- Ross Kester, ’69 Engineering & ’74 Education, is our Lifetime Achievement Alumni, having served as engineer and consultant before joining the DuBois campus faculty from which he retired in 2007. He has established two campus scholarship endowments for former colleagues.
- Robert Johnson, ’71 Marketing, is our Distinguished Ambassador, and he is the president and general manager of Johnson Motors and Johnson Subaru in DuBois. Robert is an enthusiastic supporter of Penn State DuBois and currently serves on the Greater Penn State Campaign Committee.

Please help us congratulate these fine examples of the Penn State community and personally thank them for their service to the public the next time you see them.

What does the Alumni Association provide you? A world-wide network connection to 173,000 active members, access to Alumni Career Services, Alumni Library On-Line, personal PSU email with unlimited storage, and discounts on Kaplan Test Prep, PSU travel & merchandise and home-auto-renters-life insurances. The Alumni Association also provides a deeper connection to your education foundation – a place where most of us have matured and developed a sense of direction that has defined our very lives.

I hope you will join us in celebrating the lives we live today because of the experiences we received from our time at Penn State University. We welcome your input and your support of our initiatives and encourage you to contact us today. I hope you are inspired to work with us and see some of the remarkable alumni activities we are planning in the next few months that highlight accomplishments at Penn State University. We welcome your input and your support of our initiatives and encourage you to contact us today. You can reach the Alumni Relations Officer at 814-375-4775, or see our webpage at: dubois.psu.edu/alumni

For the Future,

Michael White ’07 BUS Society President
Brad Lashinsky has been named program director for the entrepreneurship and innovation hub that is part of the Invent Penn State initiative at Penn State DuBois.

Brad Lashinsky has been appointed as the program director for the entrepreneurship and innovation hub that is part of the Invent Penn State initiative at Penn State DuBois. Also serving as lecturer in Business, he officially began his new duties on January 1.

Invent Penn State was launched as a state-wide initiative, with the University awarding seed grants to help fund the establishment of innovation hubs and entrepreneurship centers within communities. The effort is designed to bolster entrepreneurship and economic development in communities surrounding Penn State campuses across the Commonwealth, with Penn State DuBois becoming one of 21 hubs for innovation across the state.

Plans for the Penn State DuBois innovation hub include a focus on manufacturing industries that already have a strong foothold in the area’s economy, which are poised for growth. Working together with industry partners, Invent Penn State aims to help companies within these industries innovate new technologies and processes, expand their business opportunities, and create growth and increased job opportunities in the area workforce. To realize these goals, Lashinsky will collaborate with businesses, economic development and workforce development organizations, local governments, and entrepreneurs.

Plans are in place to base the Invent Penn State efforts within a new, off-campus facility known as the LaunchBox. The North Central PA LaunchBox and Innovation Collaborative is a partnership focused on supporting manufacturing competitiveness and workforce needs, growing and attracting talented entrepreneurs and innovators, and creating new high-knowledge, high-technology businesses for the region. Penn State DuBois will facilitate partnerships with and between businesses, education, industry, and economic and community development stakeholders to form a functional ecosystem for providing facilities and programming for industrial research and development, P-20 STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) educational and professional programming, business and community development, and workforce training and development for regional industries.

“My vision for the LaunchBox is the creation of a collaborative environment in which education is working in conjunction with our region’s economic resource partners to foster entrepreneurship and innovation,” Lashinsky said. “Through this effort, the partnership would contribute towards creating a healthy, sustainable economy where the region is viewed by all as a great place to live, work and play.”

Penn State DuBois chancellor M. Scott McBride said of Lashinsky’s appointment, “We are delighted that Brad has joined us to further develop the entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem on our campus and for our community and region. With his success as a collaborative leader in economic development, he has the talent and skills to build our new LaunchBox and Innovation Collaborative program.”

Lashinsky comes to Penn State DuBois from the Jefferson County Development Council (JCDC), where he has served as director since January of 2012. The JCDC specializes in financial lending, commercial real estate, project development, grant administration, and business incubator systems. In 2015, JCDC was selected as the Non-Profit Business of the Year by the Brookville Area Chamber of Commerce for the work completed on various community and economic development projects in the area. Most recently in 2017, it was selected for the Economic Development Partner of Year Award through the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association (PEDA), for rehabilitation of a previously blighted hotel property along Interstate 80. Additionally, JCDC developed and currently facilitates the Jefferson County Resource Partnership, which is a collection of professionals who comprise the economic development delivery system in the county and who focus on aiding businesses in all stages of business development and growth.

Lashinsky holds a bachelor’s degree in Sociology/Criminology from Colorado State University-Pueblo and a master’s degree in Community and Economic Development from Penn State. He serves on several boards throughout Jefferson County and the surrounding region, including the North Central PA Regional Planning and Development Commission, Workforce Solutions of North Central PA, the Jefferson County Planning Commission, and the JeffTech Advisory Board. He resides near Reynoldsville with his wife, Holli, and two daughters, Laken and Kendall.
Faculty member tapped for international study with Japanese Space Agency

Penn State DuBois’ Associate Professor of Mathematics and Geoscience Neyda Abreu has earned the opportunity of a lifetime. She has been invited to join an international research team with the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to analyze material collected from asteroids during space missions. Abreu described the opportunity saying, “I have just been given the chance to touch a thread in the fabric of the universe.”

Abreu will serve as a deputy subleader for the fine-grained Mineralogy-Petrology Team with JAXA that will analyze samples from Asteroid Ryugu. This will be only the second time a space mission has returned samples from an asteroid; the first was also accomplished by JAXA. The missions send unmanned spacecraft to the surface of asteroids, using robotics to dock on the asteroids’ surface and collect samples.

“We hope not only for groundbreaking feats in space exploration, but also to unveil important secrets of the formation of the solar system,” Abreu said. “We have tantalizing hints of the importance of this type of asteroid from meteorites that come from similar asteroids. Studies of these meteorites have shown that these materials played important roles in the formation of planets and on the origins of life.”

Abreu explained that asteroidal research has three distinct goals. To better understand the formation of planets and the solar system; to potentially unlock valuable resources from the celestial objects; and to learn how to predict and prevent any potential asteroid collisions with Earth. “We will study how the asteroids form, what they’re made of, how many layers of material are present, and more. Abreu will conduct much of her work at the Material Research Institute at University Park.

“There is a wealth of potential outcomes. From a purely scientific standpoint, we can better understand how planets form, how they evolve,” Abreu explained. “There are not living organisms on the asteroids, but all the ingredients for life are there. Because we are finding organic molecules, we can learn more about how living organisms come together.”

The second goal of exploring resource availability may come as a surprise to most. Abreu explained that asteroids can be rich in resources like platinum group elements and other metals. These are nonrenewable resources on Earth, used in electronic devices such as computers and cell phones.

“We will explore valuable mineral resources that will become progressively harder to get from sites on Earth. If we can figure out how to do this in an economic manner, it would give us more of these resources for use in technology. Ones where we are straining the terrestrial budget.”

The third and most heroic goal of this work, Abreu explains, could quite possibly save the world. She said, “Asteroids are also a threat to living systems on Earth. Previous collisions created mass extinctions. So, the more we figure out their make-up, the more we can figure out how to get them out of the way.”

Abreu’s work with JAXA will be long-term. Each space mission to harvest material takes several years. The next samples will not reach Earth until 2021. This continued work, however, is something Abreu sees as an enormous honor.

“I feel hugely grateful and immensely humbled. I’m thankful to those who selected me and all of the team members who made it possible,” she said. “When you are involved in these missions, it becomes your life’s work. So, the Hayabusa2 team at JAXA is letting me into a big piece of their lives.”

Abreu expanded on the scale of this opportunity, saying, “Working with something when you are the first person to look at it is a scientist’s dream come true. Seeing something no one else has seen before fills that need for exploration that we all have. We all have that desire to see what’s beyond the horizon, beyond what’s known. I think on that level, it just connects us all. And the way we see the solar system can fundamentally change from what we find doing this work. Is there anything more exciting?”

Abreu’s past accomplishments drew the attention of JAXA, prompting her to join the team. She has conducted extensive research into meteorites and their relationship to asteroids, including a six-week expedition in Antarctica to collect meteorite samples there that had fallen to Earth, earning her the National Science Foundation Antarctica Service Medal in 2011. Abreu holds degrees in Astronomy and Physics, and a Ph.D. in Earth and Planetary Sciences and has served as NASA principal investigator. Her research interests include understanding early solar system chemistry through the observation of primitive meteorites. Abreu recently published a book on meteorites and asteroids available at https://www.elsevier.com/books/primitive-meteorites-and-asteroids/abreu/978-0-12-813325-5

She began teaching at Penn State DuBois in 2007.
Penn State DuBois Alumni Society invites you to re-connect...

There are 13,127 Penn State DuBois Alumni.
8,059 live in the Greater DuBois Tri-county Area.

Have you re-connected?
Whether you are a Penn Stater from DuBois or another campus you are invited to re-connect to Penn State through the Penn State DuBois Alumni Society.

There are several events planned throughout the year, and most of them are free!
Please check out our calendar of events and plan to attend one this year.
The Board of Directors look forward to connecting with you!

Other ways to connect!
Facebook: www.facebook.com/duboisalumni
Alumni eNews: to subscribe to this electronic newsletter, email duboisalumni@psu.edu with subject heading: Alumni eNews.

Re-connect!

Help us keep in touch with you by updating your information

Name: ___________________________________________ Alumni ID: _______________________________________
Graduation Year: ______________________ Degree: _____________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________________________ State: ___________ Zip: _______________________
Home/Cell Phone: ___________________________ Email: __________________________
Employer: ___________________________________________ Job Title: ________________________________
Business Address: ________________________________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________________________ State: ___________ Zip: _______________________

_____ Yes, sign me up for the Alumni eNews

Please return this form to: Alumni Relations Office, Penn State DuBois, 1 College Place, DuBois, PA 15801
Penn State DuBois Wildlife Technology student Jerimiah Irvin prepares to band a Northern Waterthrush during a bird banding demonstration for members of the Wildlife Leadership Academy (WLA). Members of the WLA visited campus in September and spent the day exploring their educational opportunities in the Penn State DuBois Wildlife Technology Program. WLA’s mission is to engage high school age youth to become conservation ambassadors that will ensure a sustained wildlife, fisheries, and natural resource legacy for future generations.