College Announcements

- Is an alumnus/a speaking in your class? Let the Office of Alumni Relations know, and we’ll provide the speaker with a thank you gift on behalf of the College and invite them to volunteer-exclusive thank you events. In addition, if you are interested in having an alumnus/a in a specific career field speak in your class or to a student club, the Office of Alumni Relations can assist in securing a speaker. For more information, please email alumni@washjeff.edu.

- Winter Tales is W&J’s annual 10-minute-play festival, which will premier eight new plays this February. This year, we present a line of dialogue that may inspire any playwrights who suffer from writer’s block. The line is “You can get arrested for that!” All students, faculty, alumni, and staff are invited to submit up to two 10-minute plays, which may be on any subject and may contain the line “You can get arrested for that!” Please limit the play to nine pages and the number of characters to four or fewer. Submit your 10-minute play to Professor T.S. Frank at sfrank@washjeff.edu. If it’s chosen for production, Mr. Frank will assign your play a director who will cast the show with students from the College. This year the winner of the best student-written 10-minute play will receive a $100 cash prize. Manuscripts should follow industry format in 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, with margins of 1 inch. The deadline for submissions is Dec. 31, 2016. Proper manuscript form looks like this:

  Father Eddie
  Joy Boy. tell the kids about our cool idea for a new play.
  Joy Boy
  Cool idea? That’s a crummy line of dialogue. Thanks for nuthin, Father Eddie.

  Father Eddie
  “You can get arrested for that!” Ha ha!
  Joy Boy
  I bet you heard that line a few times yourself huh.

  Father Eddie
  You bet I have, Joy Boy.

  (Father Eddie pinches Joy Boy’s cheek.)
  Joy Boy
  Oww! Wha’d ya do that for?

  Father Eddie
  I can’t really explain it, Joy Boy. Just like I can’t explain a lotta...

Scholarship

- Dr. Jason Kilgore, associate professor of biology, and his BIO 412 Forest Ecology students attended the Pennsylvania Botany Symposium at Penn State University on Nov. 18-19, 2016. Steven Munden ’17, Hannah Fortini ’17, Abigail Pristas ’17, and Shannon Boring ’17 presented their Capstone research as posters, with Steven taking Second Place (Honorable Mention) among all undergraduate poster presentations.

- Dr. Anu Shanmuganathan, associate professor of biology, attended the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) held in Tampa, Fl., from Nov. 9 -12. Dr. Shanmuganathan was selected to serve as one of the judges for the immunology section. ABRCMS is one of the largest, professional conferences for underrepresented minority students, military veterans, and persons with disabilities to pursue advanced training in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

- Dr. Jason Kilgore, associate professor of biology, gave an invited talk at Mercyhurst University, Erie, Pa., on Nov. 4, 2016, entitled “Where have all the ash trees gone? Influence of emerald ash borers on the diversity of forest ground flora.”

- David Kieran, assistant professor of history, presented a paper, “It’s the Military, Sweetheart. Army, Unit, Family. In That Order”: Military Families, Mental Health, and the Iraq War,” at the Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association, which was held in Denver, Colo., from Nov. 17-20.

Library Times

PAWS for a Study Break

Back by popular demand, PAWS for a Study Break will return on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Therapy dogs from the Pittsburgh chapter of Therapy Dogs International will be on hand to help students relax in anticipation of finals week. Past PAWS events have drawn more than 200 students to the Library, so please encourage your students to take advantage of the furry volunteers who come visit.

Extended Finals Hours

The Library will be open extended hours on Reading Days and the first few days of finals. Please check out the calendar on our home page for our exact hours Dec. 10-17.

- During the fall semester the library offered 49 instruction sessions for a total of almost 58½ hours of instruction time. We look forward to working with faculty during intersession and in the spring semester to continue to provide this service to our faculty & students. If you’d like to schedule an instruction session for your class or need more information on the types of instruction the library can provide visit our Information Literacy Instruction Page, http://libguides.washjeff.edu/facultysupport/instruction.

New Acquisitions

The following DVDs have replaced VHS copies the library owned:

- Annie Hall
- Beetlejuice
- The Birdcage
- Breakfast at Tiffany’s
- Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid

Spotlight on Community Engagement

We have a number of volunteer and giving opportunities this holiday season, so please feel free to share with other faculty, staff, or students or lend a helping hand yourself!

- Washington Symphony Orchestra will keep the holidays
stuff I do. Just remember: “Jesus loves you.”

Joy Boy

Man, I hope so.

- W&J is proud to be the official Washington County drop-off point for the 96.1 KISS Stuff-A-Bus toy collection for Marine Corps Toys for Tots. W&J is accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys now through Dec. 2 at 9 a.m. at the Rossin Campus Center. All of the toys collected will be distributed to local families in need this holiday season.

News

- Phi Sigma Biological Honor Society sponsored a nature hike in Washington Park on Friday, Nov. 4, 2016. This is the first activity of a new Biology Club that is forming. For more information, please contact Dr. Alice Lee, Phi Sigma Faculty Advisor, or Tina Lee, Phi Sigma President.

HR News

- We are pleased to announce our plan designs have been improved to include virtual medicine. This new feature uses technology to allow patients to communicate with a doctor through live video. The doctor can see patients and assess patient symptoms as well as obtain patient records and medical history from electronic medical records. While virtual medicine is not a complete replacement for face-to-face healthcare, it is a great supplement to and, even a substitute for, some traditional non-emergency medical care. This service will be available at a lower copay than a regular doctor visit under each health plan. The copay will be $10 per video visit.

- Congratulations to the following employees on achieving a milestone anniversary with the College in December!
  - Diane Day, Education, Dec. 1—15 Years
  - Mike Grzesiak, Advancement, Dec. 4—10 Years
  - Brittany Strelnik, Admission, Dec. 7—1 Year

- The Greater Washington County Food Bank Produce to People food distribution is in need of volunteers Monday, December 12 from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Washington County Fairgrounds. Produce to People is the Food Bank’s large-scale produce distribution program. Volunteers are needed to assist with anything from passing out the produce, to acting as runners and support. Volunteers can sign up for the full experience or for shorter shifts. Transportation is provided, and a shuttle leaves campus on the hour each hour and returns to campus on the half hour. To register email volunteer@washjef.edu or check out the W&J Weekly.

- Child & Youth Services is in need of volunteers to help wrap presents for local youth at the Washington County Fairgrounds Monday, Dec. 12 – Friday, Dec. 16 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Rachel Thomas at (724) 250-6556 or email at thomasra@co.washington.pa.us. This is a great project for groups! CoCo’s Christmas takes place at the LeMoyne Center each year.

Library Calendar

- Wednesday, Dec. 7: Library on Location, The Commons. 11 am to 1 pm.
- Saturday, Dec. 10: PAWS for a Study Break, Walker Room, Library lower level, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.
From the Sustainability Committee

- Reusable Food Containers Help reduce the use of disposable products. Last academic year W&J consumed approximately 238,000 Styrofoam “to go” containers and paper boats, which were used for only minutes before heading to the landfill. The Sustainability Committee and Parkhurst are proud to offer faculty and staff the opportunity to use reusable “To Go” containers. Request a container from Justin Dandoy via e-mail at jdandoy@washjeff.edu. He will send you a container via campus mail. How it works: Take the container to the cashier at G&Ts or the Commons. You hand the container to the cashier, she/he will then hand you a clean container in which to place your food. You enjoy your delicious food outside or in your office and then rinse out the container. Next time you head to G&Ts or the Commons for food, simply bring your used container with you. Place your order with the cashier, hand him/her your used container, and the cashier will hand you a clean container in which to place your food. Please note: you have to give a container to the cashier in order to get a clean one for your food. Therefore, you must always bring your used container with you when you go to eat. To get your first container or if you have any questions, please e-mail Justin Dandoy.

- Join the Sustainability Committee for our last meeting of the semester Friday, Dec. 9 at 3:30 p.m. All faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend and get involved with our sustainability initiatives on campus. Our meetings take place on the 3rd Floor of Rossin in the Student Government Meeting Room. We hope to see you there!

- CoCo’s Christmas provides free gifts and food to over 1,000 kids and families who might otherwise have little or nothing at Christmas. Volunteers are needed to help set up the “store” on Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Volunteers are needed on the day of the event, Friday, Dec. 16 from 2–6 p.m. to help hand out hot chocolate, manage the line, hold craft activities for the kids, and more. Interested volunteers should email volunteer@washjeff.edu. Donations of new or lightly used toys, books, games, clothing for all ages, and anything else you would like to donate also are being accepted for the event. Please bring your donations by the Hub and place your donations in the back corner of the Hub Alley in the marked off area.

- Students and Cathy Petchel, assistant professor of psychology, will be traveling to Athens and serving underserved populations. They will work with and support Refugees and migrants seeking asylum and residing in camps outside of Athens through Caritas Hellas and rescued sea turtles rehabilitating within Archelon. In support of their endeavors, the group has reached out to each site and asked what would be their “wish list” of needs. These items have been earmarked as hats and gloves (one size if they have this), socks (different sizes for children, teenagers, young adults), underwear for children, teenagers (various sizes), underwear for women (full brief- not bikini), preschool supplies, books (Small children’s picture books - animals, numbers, etc.), art supplies (crayons, markers, colored pencils, water color paints and brushes), and wiffle balls. Please donate items in specifically marked bins located in: The Commons, Outside G&T’s, Dieter-Porter First Floor, and Old Main.

- The Salvation Army of Washington, Pa., serving Washington and the Meadowlands, is in need of bell ringers for to help them meet their “kettle goal” for the holiday season. Kettles are out from Monday to Saturday, with Thursday through Saturday as the most important days. The kettle cans go out by 9-10 a.m. and the Salvation Army starts picking up kettles at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Felicia Stanko at Felica.Stanko@USE.SalvationArmy.Org.
Did you miss the Office of Communications Stuff-A-Bus Toys for Tots drive? Don't fret! You can still donate at any one of the Holiday Light Up Night events during the week of Dec. 5! Drop off your unwrapped Toy, and we will make your donation to the Washington County Toys for Tots.