

In Memoriam



C. Ralph Verno, 91, originally from Pittsburgh, passed away on May 13, 2020. Ralph served in the Navy during World War II and was honorably discharged in 1948 with the WW II Victory Medal. Ralph earned a BA from the University of Pittsburgh in 1952, a BA and an MDiv from Westminster Theological Seminary in 1955, and an MS Ed from University of Pennsylvania in 1965. During his lifetime, Ralph was a teacher, academic administrator and a supply minister to many churches, who connected with his students and congregants in exceptional ways. He began his career at West Chester University in 1966, teaching mathematics for 31 years, serving leadership roles in the Faculty Senate and AAUP, and earning the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Teaching Fellow Award. His favorite subjects were probability, statistics, and logic, and he wrote teaching manuals in these areas as well as an Introduction to Computers.



Patricia "Tricia" Louise Gysling passed away on July 18, 2020. Born in Baltimore, MD, on June 5, 1937, she earned degrees in mathematics from Pennsylvania State University and University of Michigan at a time when women were not encouraged to study mathematics. She spent her career motivating young minds in the field of mathematics as a teacher at Brandywine Springs Junior High School and Glasgow High School in Delaware. She was awarded Delaware Teacher of the Year in 1989 and attended a reception at the White House. Professor Gysling taught at the University of Delaware and Delaware Technical Community College before joining the faculty of West Chester University in 1998. While at West Chester, Professor Gysling used her expertise as a classroom teacher to prepare future elementary and middle school teachers. It brought her great joy to hear from her students after graduation.



West Chester University
Department of Mathematics
34th Annual Awards

2020



Program

Dear Award Recipients, Family, Faculty, and Friends,

Clearly, the current COVID-19 pandemic has turned our world upside down. The University pivoted to remote instruction in Spring 2020 and we have been teaching remotely ever since. Unfortunately, since Spring 2021 will also be remote, we are unable to hold an in-person Awards Ceremony as we had hoped.

Despite having to cancel the Ceremony, the Department wants to recognize the academic achievement of our students, so we are awarding scholarships, mailing award certificates to recipients, and distributing this Awards Program. I am pleased to report that the Department is awarding \$36,500 in scholarship money this year, which is a record.

We look forward to the time when we can gather together and celebrate our students' achievements. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy.

November 3, 2020

Peter L. Glidden, Ph.D.
Mathematics Department
Professor and Chair

Grosshans Hirsch Applied Mathematics Endowment (2016)

Dr. Michael Hirsch graduated in 1996 with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and Computer Science. He later attained a Masters in Applied Mathematics from the University of Delaware and a Doctor of Philosophy in Operations Research from the University of Florida. Dr. Hirsch credits Dr. Frank Grosshans, an accomplished West Chester University faculty member and mathematician, for introducing him to the government defense field, where he has spent over 20 years developing solutions for both defense and commercial problems. Today, Michael is the owner and President of ISEA TEK (Industrial & Systems Engineering Analysis Technologies). This scholarship recognizes a mathematics major who demonstrates potential and excellence in several core mathematics courses.

Katherine Smith Math Endowment (2016)

Katherine Smith graduated from West Chester University in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education. Katherine's father, Richard, and mother, Patricia who is a 1977 West Chester University alumna, established this scholarship in honor of their daughter. This scholarship recognizes a student majoring in mathematics who demonstrates high academic achievement in the view of mathematics faculty.

M.S. Applied Statistics Fund (2016)

Established following the generous contribution of alumna. April Taylor M '11, this fund offers support for programming, speakers, or events that enhance the experience of students and alumni of the Applied Statistics Graduate Program.

James L'heureux Scholarship (2017)

Dr. James L'heureux joined the faculty of West Chester State College in 1969. In 1974, Professors L'heureux, Branton, Morgan, and Verno raised \$112 from selling books, which marked the beginning of the Mathematics Scholarship Fund. Under the leadership of Dr. L'heureux, this fund grew to over \$100,000 by his retirement in 2000 and today it has a balance of well over \$750,000. In addition to the Mathematics Scholarship Fund, Dr. L'heureux also encouraged friends of the Department to establish other scholarship funds for our students. The L'heureux Endowment was established by colleagues of Dr. L'heureux in recognition of and gratitude for all he has done for the Department and our students.

History of Mathematics Funds Continued

Frank E. Milliman Endowed Scholarship (2008)

For 48 years Professor Frank Milliman taught, mentored, and advised thousands of West Chester University students. Among his former students, one can easily find university professors, professional mathematicians, actuaries, and literally hundreds of current secondary school mathematics teachers who constantly tell us how they strive to teach mathematics, to assess student achievement (with high standards), and to be available for students the way Professor Milliman was for them. Professor Milliman's name will always be synonymous with the Department of Mathematics.

Mary Pinder Nunan '43 Endowed Scholarship (2015)

When Mary Pinder was a junior at West Chester State Teachers College, she won a mathematics award for excellence. This event, in the spring of 1942, had a great impact on Mary and she always knew that one day she would create her own scholarship for West Chester mathematics majors. In the spring of her senior year, her dean asked her if she would be willing to substitute teach math at Pierre S. du Pont High School in Delaware. Mary accepted the position and took the bus from outside (Old) Main Hall to Delaware every day to teach. In May, Mary attended her West Chester graduation and returned to du Pont Monday, as its school year did not end until mid-June. She graduated with the highest honors and three majors: mathematics, English, and social studies.

Actuarial Science Award Fund (2016)

Established by the Department of Mathematics, the purpose of this fund is twofold: (1) to reimburse, either partially or fully, those West Chester students who have passed one of the actuarial examinations offered by the Society of Actuaries, Casualty Actuarial Society, or other certifying organization; and (2) to recognize excellence in actuarial science.

Class of 1963 Scholarship for Promising Mathematics Education Majors (2016)

Jim Rubillo credits Albert E. Filano and Frank E. Milliman for recognizing and supporting students who demonstrated promise in mathematics education. After graduating in 1963, Jim embarked on a 47-year career in public education. He remained active within several mathematics professional associations at the state and national levels and provided teacher professional development programs in 50 states and across Canada. Most recently, Jim served as the Executive Director of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) for eight years. Jim received the Ross Taylor/Glenn Gilbert National Leadership Award of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics, and the NCTM Lifetime Achievement Award for Distinguished Service to Mathematics Education. Jim also received the University's Distinguished Alumni Award and an honorary Doctor of Science degree. This scholarship awards a math education senior who demonstrates leadership and excellence in mathematics education courses.

James L'heureux Scholarship

Awarded to: Tyler J. Clark
Mitchell P. Henderson

Class of 1943 Mathematics Scholarship

Awarded to: Hannah R. McGovern

Dr. and Mrs. Albert E. Filano Mathematics Scholarship

Renewed for: Mitchell P. Henderson
Kaitlyn C. Cannon
Bill Timmann
Awarded to: Evan Parker

Class of 1963 Scholarship for Promising Mathematics Education Majors

Awarded to: Angela M. Xavios

Grosshans Hirsch Applied Mathematics Scholarship

Awarded to: Shauna Frank

Frank E. Milliman Scholarship

Awarded to: Julia R. Edwards

Dr. Michael P. Montemuro Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to: Stephen Byrnes

Mary Pinder Nunan '43 Scholarship

Awarded to: Michael V. Anzaldo

