

HORIZONS: A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF

SUMMER 2021

DELAWARE VALLEY UNIVERSITY

125

YEARS

OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING



“When I think about the great leaders who have shaped our institution from our founding as the National Farm School to the university we are today, I think they would be smiling at how we followed the science, worked together to solve our challenges...”

Dear DelVal Community,

I am excited to share this issue of Horizons magazine as we launch our celebration of the 125th anniversary of DelVal. I had the pleasure and privilege of being here for our 100th anniversary as well. The progress we have made in the past 25 years has been remarkable, and that is due to our most valuable resource – all of you: our students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of this institution.

We have just completed an incredibly successful year at DelVal despite the challenges of the global pandemic. The fact that we remained open and able to deliver over 75% of our classes in person is a testament to our teamwork, resilience and determination. What I have also seen is kindness under extremely difficult circumstances, and for this I thank our entire community. You can read more about this past year on campus, and about DelVal alumni who are contributing to success in fighting COVID-19, in this issue.

The Experience360 student profiles you will read are real-life examples of our signature program at DelVal. They illustrate that E360 is not about any one thing. It's really about the way our faculty and staff interact with our students every day, making every encounter, every moment, an experiential moment that helps shape our students not only on their career paths, but as individuals and global citizens.

When I think about the great leaders who have shaped our institution from our founding as the National Farm School to the university we are today, I think they would be smiling at how we followed the science, worked together to solve our challenges, and learned from the global pandemic. I know there are great things to come in the next 25 years.

Dr. Benjamin Rusiloski
Interim President



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125
YEARS
DELAWARE
VALLEY
UNIVERSITY

The Story of Delaware Valley University

- 1896 The National Farm School
- 1946 The National Farm School and Junior College
- 1948 National Agricultural College
- 1960 Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture
- 1989 Delaware Valley College
- 2015 Delaware Valley University

Delaware Valley University's History: The Story of Vision, Determination and Life-Changing Education

By Kathy James Howell

The seeds of Delaware Valley University were sown in the heart of a young man who traveled to America alone in 1872, at the age of 14. Joseph Krauskopf, a Jewish boy from Ostrowo, Prussia (now part of Poland), was sent on the journey by his parents, who believed he would have opportunities for a better life in America. Could they have imagined the number of lives their son would impact over the next 125 years?

The things important to him early in his life were the foundation of what would become the National Farm School in 1896. Krauskopf's love of the natural world was born as he worked in the woods of Prussia for his father's lumber business. Poverty made him see the need to give people the opportunity to develop the skills to earn a living. His mother instilled a deep pride in his Jewish roots and a passion for social justice.

His embrace of multiple faiths grew from his years in Fall River, Massachusetts, where he attended a Unitarian Church as he worked, studied, and learned about American culture. The increasingly desperate urban poverty and corruption he saw as more immigrants arrived fueled his desire to help them leave the cities and make a living in the countryside.

Reading editorials and articles in American Israelite, Krauskopf was heavily influenced by Dr. Isaac Mayer Wise, a leader in the progressive movement and considered the founder of reform Judaism in the U.S. Dr. Wise encouraged Krauskopf to join the first class of his new seminary, Hebrew Union College, in Cincinnati. He would be one of four in its first graduating class in 1883.

Joseph Krauskopf was a man of passion and influence. He was active in the reform movement and chaired the Platform Committee at the Pittsburgh Conference in 1885. He

was just 27 years old. The reform principles that resulted from this conference remained unchanged until 1937.

Young Rabbi Krauskopf first led a congregation at B'nai Jehuda in Kansas City, Missouri. In 1887 he was recruited to lead the congregation at Keneseth Israel in Philadelphia, following the well-known and respected Rabbi Dr. David Einhorn and Rabbi Dr. Samuel Hirsch.

"He had many of the components that characterized him as a mature man and a great leader at an early age. I don't think he had a radical shift at any point in his life. He simply became more and more himself as time and opportunity went on," shared Dr. Lance Sussman, senior rabbi at Keneseth Israel, in a recent interview.

"He had many of the components that characterized him as a mature man and a great leader at an early age."

-Rabbi Lance Sussman



“He founded the National Farm School as an opportunity to take immigrants, people who had come from the land and were now in these inner cities in very squalid conditions, and provide an opportunity for them to build the skills to better themselves.”

-Joseph “Chip” Krauskopf,
great-grandson of
Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf

A Dream Takes Root

Rabbi Krauskopf’s reform ideas did not go uncriticized by Orthodox congregations in Philadelphia and elsewhere. Nonetheless, his rejection of strict orthodox practices and openness to other religions attracted a large following as more and more people attended his sermons on Broad Street.

On hearing news of the pogroms and worsening living conditions for Jews in Russia, Rabbi Krauskopf traveled there. “I had a glimpse of the famine-stricken and pestilential district in 1894,” he said, “and the memory of it has ever since rested upon me like a nightmare.” (1)

During this visit, Rabbi Krauskopf met with Count Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, and discussed the possibility of convincing the Czar to give land to poor Jews so they could stay and make a living farming. Tolstoy felt this would not happen in the country’s current state and encouraged Krauskopf to set his sights elsewhere.

“You have freedom in the United States and the most fertile soil on the

face of the earth,” he told the young man. “Why have you allowed your large cities to become congested with foreigners? ... Repair the wrong while yet you may; relieve your congestion by colonization. Start farm schools all over your land..” (2)

Rabbi Sussman shared details of this trip to Russia: “After leaving Tolstoy’s presence, Krauskopf continued to travel through Ukraine and went down to the new port city of Odessa where there already was a Jewish agricultural school. It was kind of a cradle of the Kibbutz movement in Israel. He was able to gather quite a bit of information about what was going on in the world of Jewish agricultural education.”

As soon as he returned from Russia, Rabbi Krauskopf began planning a farm school.

“He was not trying to create an academic institution purely for the interest in learning, but to take the learning and combine it with practice, to provide an avenue for people who needed a means of support,” shared Rabbi Krauskopf’s great-grandson, Joseph “Chip” Krauskopf. “It was the desire not just to teach for teaching’s

sake, but to teach in a way that could help people to not only better their own conditions, but also that of their friends, neighbors and society at large.”

Rabbi Krauskopf set about looking for land near Philadelphia, and in 1895 put together an unofficial board of trustees. He was determined to make this dream a reality, and despite setbacks and challenges, he succeeded.

Rabbi Krauskopf raised money among his supporters, gave lectures to raise funds, and ultimately contributed \$3,500 of his own money—one-third of the sum needed—to purchase 122 acres in Bucks County, PA, The Watson estate, on January 10, 1896.



The National Farm School is Born

The charter for the National Farm School was signed on April 10, 1896, and Rabbi Krauskopf assigned the deed to the school. He and 14 friends, most members of Congregation Keneseth Israel (K.I., as it is known), worked tirelessly to raise the money needed to launch the school with the purpose of “...the training of youth into becoming scientific and practical agriculturalists.” (3)

A number of influential and successful businessmen were early supporters, signing the charter and comprising the first board of trustees. They included retailers Benjamin Gimbel and Samuel Lit, attorney Adolph Eichholz and other influential Philadelphians.

Rabbi Krauskopf became the school's first president and fundraiser. The first building, later known as Pioneer Hall, was completed in 1897, and the first class of students, several from a Jewish orphanage in New Orleans, enrolled that fall. There were two faculty members. While many of the first students were Jewish, the school was non-sectarian and open to all. Students were required to have at least a year of high school in order to enroll, and the goal was to develop youths who would be competent farmers and farm managers.

NATIONAL FARM SCHOOL	
George W. Ibaugh	
Wilmington Delaware	
Date	15 April 11 months
Age	18
Nativity	Delaware Wilmington
Kind of School left	Public School
Time since	June 1897
Proposed Course	
Proposed Business	

“The philosophy of the school included applied education; courses coordinating theory with practice; the development of character, tolerance, and the ability to think; and the acceptance of faculty, staff members, and students without regard to race, national origin, creed, or handicap.”

-Dr. Joshua Feldstein, “*Evolution of a Unique Institution*”



Krauskopf's dream had become a reality. Sixteen young men had been given the opportunity to learn both the science and practice of agriculture, so they could support themselves and improve their opportunities for a good life. The first class included George W. Ibaugh from Wilmington, Morris Libowitz from Philadelphia, Solomon Pizer and Harry Rich, from the Jewish Orphanage in New Orleans, Israel Tannenbaum from the Hebrew Orphan Home in Philadelphia, Harry Winberg from a Jewish foster home in Philadelphia,

Samuel Kolinsky and nine other young men. The seven listed here graduated in 1901, five left the program and four others graduated in 1902. All were given free tuition, room and board, and all worked on campus six days a week.



Early Growth and Success

The first class of seven young men graduated on June 26, 1901, with the student body then numbering 27. The commencement speaker was James Wilson, secretary of Agriculture for three presidents. General W. W. H. Davis, founder of the Bucks County Historical Society, attended the ceremony and took notes, including "...Large attendance at the dedication service – a train of 8 cars – from Phila. Location a fine one on an elevation with a southern exposure. Objective: the training of capable lads for practical and scientific careers and fitting them for superintendents of agricultural colonies to be organized from among the unemployed or debilitated poor of the overcrowded cities." (4)

Within 20 years, an additional 357 acres had been donated to the school, and 12 structures had been built, including Eisner Hall, the Ida Block Memorial Chapel, Rose Krauskopf Memorial Greenhouse, a dairy, and Morris Lasker Memorial Hall. Rabbi Krauskopf ran the school in the early years as he continued to scrape and literally plead for money to keep it afloat. He was, in the words of Rabbi Lance Sussman, "...indomitable." He simply would not let the school fail.

End of an Era

In 1921, the school celebrated its Silver Jubilee. A Carnation Greenhouse was presented by Rabbi Krauskopf and Mrs. Krauskopf in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary. But 1921 also marked the start of a serious decline in the rabbi's health. He had largely recovered from a hemorrhage of the eyes in 1912, though he did slow his

schedule a bit after that illness. By 1921, he suffered from high blood pressure and a slow deterioration in overall health.

On April 12, 1923, he watched as Pioneer Hall, the first building on campus, was destroyed by fire. In his last writing, which was read at spring exercises on June 3 of that year, he shared the emotional pain he experienced watching the first building of the National Farm School burn and discussed his ill health. He wrote of his deep appreciation for the gift of \$80,000 that would be used to replace Pioneer Hall with a new building, the Rosetta M. Ulman Memorial Dormitory.

"May this prove to be one of the most successful days in the history of the Farm School," he said. "May the institution grow from strength to strength, and the lives of the students we have under our care be the best compensation for all our efforts and compromises." (5)

Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf died just nine days later, on June 12, 1923.



A New Period of Growth

After Krauskopf's death, the board named Harry B. Hirsh to lead the institution. He was followed over the next 21 years by Herbert D. Allman, Dr. Harold B. Allen and Dr. Louis Nusbaum. In Dr. Joshua Feldstein's book, "Evolution of a Unique Institution," he notes "... Dr. Krauskopf's successors and other supporters brought a number of his aspirations for the school to fruition, including increased acreage, new facilities, and better academic and applied programs." (6)

The Joseph Krauskopf Memorial Library was dedicated in 1924, and the three-story Horticulture building and Nathan Straus Dairy plant were completed within the next few years. Eisner Hall and Penn Hall were remodeled as dormitories to meet the housing needs of more students. The Herbert D. Allman Building served to house administration and farm mechanics, and additional garages were built.

The school property grew significantly during this time. Abraham Erlanger donated over 240 acres, known as Farm Nos. 6 and 7, between 1923 and 1925. The Alumni Association donated Alumni House with 26 acres, and Alumni Lane was dedicated to departed alumni.

In 1932, the school opened a roadside market on Route 202 to teach students marketing and sales skills. Unfortunately, the Market was too successful, and came to be viewed by Doylestown grocery retailers as unfair competition since it sold produce and fruit at prices well below market rates. Growing political pressure caused the Market to close in 1953, and the property was repurposed as a diagnostic poultry facility.

The War Years

Heading into World War II, the School consisted of about 180 students and 30 faculty and staff members. There were two courses of study, plant science and animal science. A highly motivated team of faculty, students, and staff worked year-round and put in long hours. With no endowment, the institution would not have survived without the absolute dedication of this team. They delivered the academic and practical courses, completed all farm work, and did everything else needed to keep the institution running.

The positive growth of the '20s and '30s came to an end with the war. It was difficult to enroll new students over 18 because most had joined the armed forces. Enrollment went from 180 to a low of 43 in 1946. While the G.I. bill stimulated a small postwar bump in enrollment, it was clear that the current operating model was not sustainable. The Farm School needed an educational format that did not depend on students, faculty and staff working nearly around the clock for long periods of time.

In 1945, the board formed a Planning Committee to determine the future of the institution. Dr. Nusbaum had

retired, and Dr. James Work became President in 1946. After much debate it was decided that the National Farm School would become the National Farm School and Junior College. Students would need a high school diploma or equivalency, and faculty would need at least a bachelor's degree. This change to a junior college did not last long. Just two years later the institution became a four-year college known as the National Agricultural College. The leadership team believed this was the best solution for long-term viability.

The Work Years

Dr. Work embarked on essentially rebuilding the institution by recruiting new faculty, upgrading facilities and re-purposing spaces for new curricula. Money was scarce, and Dr. Work was determined to make the changes needed to succeed as a four-year degree-granting institution. That institution is still here today, and many believe Dr. Work's efforts made a huge contribution to its post-war recovery.

By 1950, enrollments were at an all-time high of 256. Physical improvements to the school over the prior five years totaled just over \$250,000.



Students were required to have an in-person interview in order to be accepted to the school at this time.

New activities engaged students, including the Glee Club in 1948 and A-Day in 1949. The College entered the Philadelphia Flower Show for the first time in 1950 and has participated every year since.

Nearly half of the student body attended with support from the G.I. Bill of Rights. Athletics expanded, and the National Agricultural College continued to be strong in several sports.

Accreditation

The Korean War in the early 1950's impacted enrollments. In addition, a new problem arose: accreditation. The first graduates of the National Agricultural College received bachelor of science degrees, but quickly found that graduate schools would not recognize them because the College was not accredited. Some federal agencies were reluctant to extend grants and loans to a school



with no accreditation. Fortunately, many graduates from this time were able to attend graduate school due to the personal efforts of the faculty, who lobbied for admission on their behalf.

Middle States accreditation became the top priority of the institution. An initial self-study was submitted in 1950, but the Middle States inspection committee did not feel the College was qualified to be accredited. One deficiency noted was the lack of facilities. It took several more studies, and the success of many College alumni, to finally achieve accreditation in June of 1962. By this time, the institution was known as Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture due to the expansion of its science programs.

Building Boom

In the 12 years that Dr. Work and school leadership worked toward accreditation, several new programs of study were added and there was significant building on campus. The Bachelor of Science in Food Industry was added in 1950, followed by biology and chemistry degrees in 1958.

This significant period of building under Dr. Work's leadership continued through the '60s and '70s with ten new buildings and additional improvements to the campus. The final decade of his administration saw the start of Evening College for part-time students (1963), the addition of a business administration curriculum, and expansion of student activities. The decade also saw the addition of sports teams for men and, at the end of Dr. Work's tenure, for women as well.

Post-Accreditation Building Projects

- 1963 James Work Hall
- 1966 Morris H. Goldman Hall
- 1966 J. Bunford Samuel Hall
- 1967 David Levin Dining Hall
- 1970 Samuel Cooke and Harry Shapiro wings are added to Krauskopf Library
- 1970 Berkowitz Hall
- 1971 James Work Gymnasium
- 1972 Baruch M. Feldman Agriculture Building
- 1974 Greenhouse Laboratory Complex

Women Join the College of Science and Agriculture

Following a growing national trend of all male schools, the College admitted women in the 1960s.

In 1971 there were 30 freshmen and 11 sophomores. Women's athletics teams were added in 1975, and by 1977 the number of female students had grown to over 350.

Today, there are approximately 1,100 undergraduate women at DelVal comprising 60 percent of the undergraduate student population.

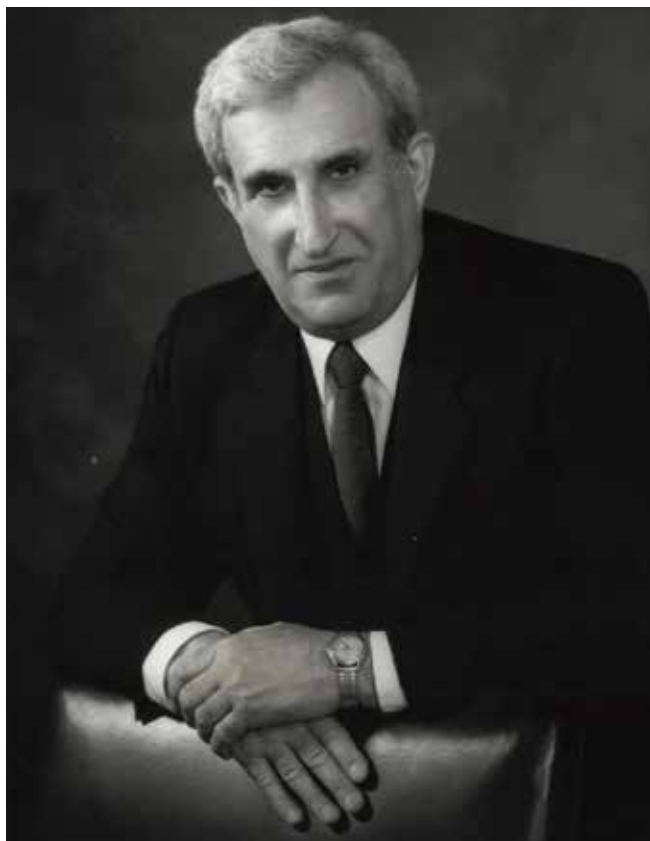
Dr. Joshua Feldstein Leads the Institution

Dr. Joshua Feldstein '42, '52 arrived at the National Farm School on March 31, 1939, at the age of 17. Similar to Rabbi Krauskopf's story, Dr. Feldstein's parents sent him to America from Lithuania to be educated and have the opportunity for freedom and a better life. At the time, Hitler had annexed Austria and the Third Reich was on the move.

A friend of Dr. Feldstein's father, Edward M. Chase, was on the Board of Directors of the National Farm School and agreed to pay his tuition. Chase felt the school would be a good place for Dr. Feldstein to learn about America and to learn English. The plan had been that he would transfer to M.I.T. in year two, but that never happened due to Chase's untimely death. This was to the benefit of the Farm School, as Dr. Feldstein would ultimately lead the institution three times during his life.

Dr. Feldstein would tell the story of being awakened before dawn his first morning, after days of arduous travel, to milk cows at the dairy. He quickly learned that all students at the National Farm School did "chores" six days a week to support facility operations. He learned English quickly with the help of some German speaking students, and was very successful at the school.

Upon graduating in 1942, Dr. Feldstein stayed at the College to pursue post-baccalaureate studies in farm machinery and served in a number of positions through the years. He became an assistant in agricultural engineering, and superintendent of the horticulture department, later the horticulture division. During this time, he was also raising his young family and completing his Ph.D. from Rutgers. He became associate dean and chairman of the division of plant science in 1967.



▲ Dr. Joshua Feldstein '42, '52, an alumnus who went on to become president and one of the most seminal and beloved figures in its history, passed away on June 19, 2018 at the age of 97. His remarkable association with DelVal lasted nearly 80 years.

“Dr. Josh Feldstein was a legend at Delaware Valley University...Dr. Feldstein, like our founder Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf, was an immigrant to this country, arriving here with nothing other than hope and willingness to work hard. Both Dr. Feldstein and Rabbi Krauskopf thrived on the opportunities they found in America.”

-Majid Alsayegh, Chair of Delaware Valley University's Board of Trustees

In 1973, Dr. Work promoted Dr. Feldstein to dean of the College. Dr. Work retired as President the same year, but continued to guide the institution as chancellor. The Board and search committee spent 18 months looking for the next president. After recovering from a heart attack, Dr. Feldstein was named president for an initial three-year term in July 1975. He would lead the institution three separate times before his final retirement in 1997.

Dr. Feldstein was committed to improving and expanding facilities, improving student counseling services and reinvigorating what he called the “Aggie spirit.” After Dr. Work passed away in 1977, Dr. Feldstein led the effort to support and fund the James Work Memorial Stadium. The facility, considered state-of-the-art in its day, was dedicated at Homecoming 1978.



▲ Ground-breaking for the Student Center. L to R, Dr. Arthur Wolf, Vice President for Planning and Financial Affairs; Jean H. Work, Vice President and Assistant to the President; Dr. Joshua Feldstein, President; Ronal E. Vaughn, Architect.



▲ Students lead dairy cattle across Route 202 to the new facility.

There were considerable improvements to facilities during Dr. Feldstein’s first term as president, including additions to the existing greenhouse laboratory complex and agricultural machinery building. He also led development of The Kenneth W. and Helen H. Gemmill Center for Animal Husbandry, the purchase of the valuable Burpee property adjacent to the school, and a multi-year effort to raise funds for and construct the student center.

New academic programs were introduced during Dr. Feldstein’s presidency, including Bachelor of Science tracks in Agribusiness and Computer Information Systems and management and an associate degree in equine science.

Dr. Feldstein worked with his leadership team to manage a downward trend in enrollments in the early to mid-1980s. Many agriculture schools across the country were experiencing these declines, and Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture expanded the night program and added majors and concentrations to address these enrollment deficits. The Center for Learning in Retirement was established in 1986.

The sale of property during the final years of Feldstein’s tenure supported the construction of the new Dairy Science Center on South campus. While Feldstein had retired as president, he was still quite engaged with the College. He joined students on February 23, 1989, as they escorted the dairy cattle from the old dairy across route 202 to the new facility. “For me the day was full of nostalgia,” Feldstein recalled. “After all, at 4:15 a.m. on my first day at the school – April 1, 1939 – I found myself marching down to the Erlanger Dairy, where I received my first chore assignment.” (7)

The new dairy was one of several projects Feldstein started before he announced his retirement in 1986 and retired a year later. He and his wife, Miriam, lived on campus after his retirement and he continued to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Academic Expansion and a Challenge to Independence

Dr. Feldstein was succeeded by William H. Rorer III, who had been executive vice president of the Rorer Group, owners of Rorer Pharmaceutical.

President Rorer focused on improving the College's academic programs. Programs and departments were renamed to better reflect their contents and increase interest among prospective students. A second associate degree, Supervision, Administration and Management, was introduced. Equine science was now offered as a bachelor's degree. A bachelor of arts in English was added to broaden the appeal of the College.

Recognizing the increasing growth of graduate programs in the market, DelVal made an agreement with LaSalle University to offer the LaSalle MBA on DelVal's campus in Doylestown in the late 1980s. This program was replaced by DelVal's own MBA in 2004.

In 1990, a task force was established to consider the future of the College with a goal of increasing both day and evening student enrollment. The task force reported that a significant investment in facilities would be necessary to support this growth plan and recommended that the institution consider merging with a larger academic institution. This became a protracted debate among constituencies at the College.

"There was a fierce battle on the board between those in favor of a merger and those who wanted to remain independent," shared Jonathan Mandell, Secretary of the Board of Trustees whose father

and grandfather also served as trustees of DelVal. "It took a lot of politicking to keep things moving in (an independent) direction. It was a definite crossroads in the history of the institution."

A Substantial Gift Reinvigorates the Institution

George West, a professor in DeVal's Business Administration Department, became the ninth president of DelVal in 1991. Under West's leadership, the College took a new approach to admissions with enhanced marketing and the addition of academic scholarships. He streamlined operations to reduce overhead and improve the institution's finances.

DelVal received an extremely large gift in 1992 when Edythe Roth donated 163 acres in Montgomery County to the College. She also gave \$200,000 to endow the Roth Living Farm Museum, along with a \$50,000 lead gift to restore the house on the property.

Today, the Roth Center for Sustainable Agriculture serves as a living laboratory for students. The space is utilized to demonstrate the three tenets of sustainability: long-term profitability, good stewardship of environmental resources, and a high quality of life for the farmer and the community.



▲ Students participate in hands-on learning at the Roth Center for Sustainable Agriculture.

Centennial

While the College saw fiscal improvement under Dr. West, his term was short-lived, as was that of his successor, Dr. William George. In both cases Dr. Feldstein stepped in at the Board's request to run the institution during the ensuing presidential searches.

The College prepared to celebrate its Centennial in 1996 under Dr. Feldstein's leadership. Continued improvements were underway on campus at Segal Hall, the Admissions Center, Levin Dining Hall, Alumni House and the SEPTA train station.

Centennial activities included an expanded Founder's Day in April 1996 with Frank Perdue and his son, Dr. James Perdue, given honorary doctorates of science, a groundbreaking ceremony for the addition to the James Work Gymnasium, speaker events, a parade, and a dinner dance at the Student Center.

Continuity of Leadership

In 1997, Dr. Thomas C. Leamer became president of Delaware Valley College and led the institution for 10 years. Dr. Leamer brought the consistent leadership to DelVal that was needed at the time. Many important initiatives came to fruition with the completion of the Samuel P. Mandell Science building addition, funding for the Arthur Poley Greenhouse Complex and the first graduate program, a Master of Science in Educational Leadership. Improvements were made to campus housing, athletic facilities and technology.

He "was exactly the president DelVal needed," said Patricia Hilton, 2007 chair-elect of the College's Board of Trustees. "He was an "exceptional leader, a determined visionary and a true friend to us all."



DelVal Becomes a University

By 2014, with master's programs in place and the successful doctoral program in educational leadership established, the institution was in a position to gain university status. After an intense effort by DelVal President Dr. Joseph Brosnan, Delaware Valley College received approval to become a university in December 2014. DelVal officially changed its name to Delaware Valley University and revealed its new logo in April 2015.

Dr. Brosnan launched the "Realizing the Vision" fundraising campaign. Included in the campaign was a gift from the Warwick Foundation, which was the largest gift in DelVal's history (see page 18). The funding helped support the construction of the Life Sciences Building and investment in graduate programs.

Learning with Practice Comes of Age

Current Interim President Dr. Benjamin E. Rusiloski, who was a dean at the time, led a transformative initiative in 2012 that considered what expanding on "science with practice" could do for DelVal's students. He led the development and implementation of DelVal's signature Experience360 Program which has become the hallmark of a DelVal education.

The program was designed based on employer needs and feedback to prepare students for success as young professionals. The Experience360 Program, which provides students with real-world experiences starting in year one, was named the 2019 Outstanding Experiential Learning Program by the National Society for Experiential Education (NSEE). Career outcomes for DelVal graduates have improved each of the last five years since the first class completed the full four-year E360 program in 2016. The class of 2019 had a 94.4% success rate.

Dr. Maria Gallo: DelVal's First Female President

In 2016, the Board of Trustees announced that Dr. Maria Gallo would become the 13th president of DelVal. Her first order of business was to engage all DelVal constituencies in a strategic planning process that resulted in the University's current strategic plan, "Grow Into Your Future: DREAM. DESIGN. DO." The vision of the plan is: "to be the leader in experiential education, empowering all learners to transform the world."

During her tenure, Dr. Gallo oversaw the important expansion of graduate offerings including a new suite of programs in healthcare that will provide opportunities for significant program growth and the expansion of community partnerships. She made access and equity campus-wide priorities with the establishment of the President's Commission on Diversity and Inclusion and the Division of Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence.

Dr. Gallo successfully led the campus community through the global pandemic. While many universities were forced to close campus in fall of 2020 to control the spread of COVID-19, DelVal remained open for the 2020-21 year with CDC, state and local safety protocols being carefully followed.

New Beginnings

Dr. Gallo is leaving DelVal and will become chancellor of the University of Wisconsin - River Falls. The University wishes Dr. Gallo all the best for continued success.

Dr. Benjamin E. Rusiloski, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty, is serving as interim president and a presidential search is underway.



The story of DelVal is one of vision, determination, generosity and humanity. Rabbi Krauskopf had a clear vision of what he believed would address the growing poverty of immigrants in America's large cities. Science with practice was a novel idea at the time, and it would take many years before academia caught up with his vision for what is now commonly referred to as experiential education. For DelVal, this vision has evolved into Experience360 – the award-winning program that prepares today's students for success upon graduation in a highly competitive world.

The determination that our founder brought to make this vision a reality has been documented by many. And it is the leadership and determination of those who followed him that has allowed this story to continue for 125 years. Through two World Wars, the Great Depression, and the myriad of challenges that this institution has faced over time, including the current global pandemic, DelVal's leaders have persevered and built on one success after another to build the unique institution that DelVal is today.

DelVal would not exist if not for the generosity of friends of Rabbi Krauskopf, and the many donors over the years, who gave their hard-earned money to support this vision. DelVal

continues to exist today because of this generosity – and it is needed now just as it was 125 years ago.

Finally, woven into this story is an unbroken thread of humanity: the humanity given to Krauskopf when he arrived alone in this country at the age of 17, the humanity he had for all people living in poverty or oppressed in any way, the humanity Dr. Feldstein brought to this institution, the humanity that our faculty and staff show our students every day, and the humanity we have shown each other as we navigate the Covid-19 pandemic together, as a community.

Coming Up in Horizons: The history of DelVal will continue in future issues of the magazine with a look at faculty and academics over the past 125 years, music and performing arts, and the history and exciting return of A-Day to campus.

Footnotes:

- (1) *Apostle of Reason*, William W. Blood, page 67
- (2) *Apostle of Reason*, William W. Blood, page 71
- (3) *National Farm School Charter*, 1896
- (4) *Apostle of Reason*, William W. Blood, page 94
- (5) *Evolution of a Unique Institution*, Joshua Feldstein, page 279
- (6) *Evolution of a Unique Institution*, Joshua Feldstein, page 34
- (7) *Evolution of a Unique Institution*, Joshua Feldstein, page 137

Information for this article was sourced from Apostle of Reason by William W. Blood (1973), Evolution of a Unique Institution by Dr. Joshua Feldstein (2000), the archives at Delaware Valley University, and interviews with current and prior faculty, staff and administration.

The Aggie Story: The History of Athletics at Delaware Valley University

The history of athletics at Delaware Valley University can be traced back to 1898 when the student body of the National Farm School organized the athletic association and formed two teams, baseball and football. Students started the programs, organized the teams, managed the operations and created schedules, and of course, participated in practices and games. The team captains also served as coaches.

The next 123 years saw the expansion of teams, women's athletics, and many winning seasons for Aggies. At this time, the DelVal Athletic department has crowned a total of 153 All-Americans, 45 academic All-Americans, 46 conference players of the year, 14 national champions, and 32 conference champions. The student-athletes continue to epitomize the values of Division III that equally emphasizes both academic and athletic careers.



▲ **Samuel B. Samuels, class of 1921**
First athletic director, compiled a combined 268-97-16 mark over three sports and 20 years at the National Farm School. He later became business manager for the School.



▲ **Janice (Kirk) Eisenmann '87**
The first woman inducted into the DelVal Athletics Hall of Fame, field hockey and basketball.



▲ **Tariq Thomas '18**
One of the most decorated athletes in DelVal history was Thomas with seven different All-American accolades including five top-3 finishes at the National Championships.

Full article online:

The Aggie Story: The History of Athletics at Delaware Valley University

By Chris Elliott, Director of Sports Information

delval.edu/Aggiestory



▲ *National Farm School's first mascot: a bulldog*



▲ *Caesar through the years*



Celebrating 125 Years of Giving: Honoring Two Women Who Invested in Delaware Valley University's Future

The generosity of individuals and families has helped Delaware Valley University grow over the past 125 years. DelVal would not be the special place it is today without the help of countless donors who answered the call for support. This support allows DelVal to continue to deliver an exceptional education that combines knowledge and practical experience.

Betsy Gemmill

Elizabeth “Betsy” Gemmill provided the largest single donation the University has ever received through a gift from The Warwick Foundation, which was established by her late parents. The gift, valued at \$30 million, included the 398-acre Gemmill Farm, which now serves as a living laboratory for DelVal’s students.

Betsy’s parents, Kenneth and Helen Gemmill, loved DelVal and it was through them that Betsy became connected to the school. Her mother was a historian and her father was an attorney who had a long history of service to DelVal. Kenneth Gemmill chaired DelVal’s Board of Trustees.

Betsy went on to follow in his footsteps and served on DelVal’s Board from 2011 to 2020. As a Trustee, she served on the Compensation Committee and the Development and Alumni Affairs Committee. She also chaired the Presidential Search Committee from 2015 to 2016, which helped hire Dr. Maria Gallo, DelVal’s 13th president.

Upon her departure from the Board, she was named an Emerita Trustee. Betsy also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from DelVal in 2011.

Betsy had an extensive career that involved law, business and higher education. She has held a number of leadership positions. Gemmill served as vice president of university relations at Drexel University and as a vice president at Tasty Baking Company. She also worked in senior management positions at Mellon Bank (Girard Bank).

“DelVal would not be the school it is today if not for Betsy Gemmill, her family and The Warwick

Foundation,” said Interim DelVal President Dr. Benjamin Rusiloski. “Her philanthropy helped DelVal achieve university status and she has been a leading supporter of strategic initiatives and the strategic plan at DelVal. We hope that Betsy’s example inspires many to give generously to DelVal. As part of our 125th Anniversary, donors can help us celebrate this milestone and the progress DelVal has made by giving to the 125th Anniversary Scholarship Fund.”



Kate Littlefield

Kate Littlefield has been a leading supporter of horticultural education and initiatives at Delaware Valley University. Her investments in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture have modernized the University's facilities, enhanced the faculty, and provided new opportunities for students to pursue their passions. She has made leadership gifts to areas including: The DelVal Fund; the Emergency Financial Aid Fund; Spark Bowl; the Strategic Initiatives Fund; and graduate programs.

Littlefield has been a member of DelVal's Board of Trustees since 2015. She became involved with DelVal after being introduced to the University by another Board member, Jerry Fritz '88. As a board member, Littlefield has devoted her time to enhancing the University's academic experience. She brought both experience as a member of several boards, and a deep knowledge of the plant science industry, to the position.

"Kate came on to the Board during a year of transition," said Majid Alsayegh, chair of the Board of Trustees. "She was a quick study. She became very focused on issues we were facing. She helped us realize that we needed to work on our governance and she helped us establish new bylaws that were the best practice for universities. That was a huge gift that she brought to DelVal early on."

Littlefield believes in the power of experiential education and has helped the University enhance the academic experience for students. Her investments have allowed students to get an even better level of education at DelVal.



"Her leadership and her philanthropy have helped DelVal go to the next level," said Fritz. "The students now, and 20 and 30 years from now, are going to benefit."

In addition to her strategic thinking and moving the board forward in governance, Littlefield has been extremely generous in supporting key initiatives at the University. Her contributions have positioned DelVal up to be a leader in plant science education. Littlefield funded the University's first endowed professorship, which allowed DelVal to hire Dr. Carla Garzon, a new faculty member who brought a great deal of plant science knowledge and experience to the department. Dr. Garzon's position will enhance research opportunities for students and the University, allowing the scientists and students at DelVal to explore new research and ideas in plant science.

In addition to helping to grow the plant science faculty, Littlefield is helping to modernize the University's learning spaces. One of the most exciting facilities projects she's helped make possible is the renovation of the greenhouses.

"The upgrades that Kate is funding are going to allow us to have one of the best facilities across the U.S. for plant science," said Dr. Broc Sandelin, dean of the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences.

"As we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of DelVal, we honor two amazing women who helped move the school forward through transformational giving."

*-Keith Richardson,
Vice President for
External Affairs*

Preserving Our Past: The Corn God to Be Restored

The Corn God, a beautiful statue with an enigmatic smile, has been hidden away in campus storage for decades, waiting to be restored.

This year, thanks to generous donations, the Corn God is being repaired. After the repairs are complete, the statue will once again stand proudly on campus. The statue is going to be installed in an indoor location to help preserve it.

The Corn God was dedicated in 1971 and stood across from the library for many years. During the 1987 A-Day Weekend, the statue was damaged and the head went missing.

The Friends of the Library, the 2020 Student Government Board, and the family of John Long are supporting the costs of restoring the statue. Long is the grandson of Leon Berkowitz, for whom a DelVal dormitory is named. Berkowitz served on the Board of Trustees for 25 years. The Corn God statue was given to DelVal in 1969 to honor Berkowitz's years of service to the school.

“The Corn God was a tribute to our school’s agricultural history.”

*-Peter Kupersmith,
Delaware Valley University
Librarian*

Philadelphia sculptor Margaret Wasserman Levy, a prominent local artist, created the sculpture, a Mayan corn god. She chose to sculpt a corn god because of DelVal’s strong history in agriculture. She also gifted pieces to Drexel University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the City of Philadelphia.

The Corn God was a part of campus memories and traditions for students in the ’70s and ’80s. Students would often put a cap and gown on the statue as a Commencement tradition.

Librarian Peter Kupersmith has worked for years to see the piece of art restored.

“The Corn God is a magnificent artwork and a piece of our history,” said Kupersmith. “The Corn God was a tribute to our school’s agricultural history. Students referred to the statue as the Corn Goddess, though it is a male deity. The artist gave the statue a slender, graceful, and elongated figure, which made it seem androgynous.”



Colleen O'Donnell, who teaches art classes at DelVal, is the artist who was selected to restore the Corn God. She specializes in sculpture.

“When I showed her the statue, Colleen was struck immediately by its beauty and story,” said Kupersmith.

The artist is planning to complete the restoration in 2021. The installation of the restored statue will be part of DelVal’s 125th anniversary celebration.

Share Your Memories of the Corn God

Do you have memories of the Corn God from your time on campus? Email us at horizons@delval.edu.



Students Capture Delaware Valley University's History Through Personal Interviews

Professors and students from across disciplines team up on an oral history project

by Laura Perry '20, media and communication

Several professors and a group of students are working on an oral history project of Delaware Valley University for the school's 125th anniversary. Dr. Craig Stutman, associate professor of history and public policy, and Doug McCambridge, professor of media studies, are combining their resources to give their students a unique chance for hands-on learning.

Students from the history and public policy programs are interviewing alumni and important members of the DelVal community, while media students are filming and editing the footage. The goal of this project is to create a video showcase of these interviews to help capture the University's history.

"It will be a shared responsibility from both sets of students," said Dr. Stutman. "They will be learning both disciplines at the same time in a way. There are going to be media and communication components of this in terms of the outward public history aspect of it and then, there's also the pure history part of the project. They are learning in real time. These students will be able to flesh out stories about DelVal. The project benefits our students, it benefits us, and it benefits the DelVal community."

Through this project, students will be learning about interview techniques, video editing and research skills while building experience in curating exhibits. These interviews will also allow students to gain important relationships with members of the DelVal community. Students are excited at the prospect of being a part of this project and having the opportunity to gain these skills in the field.

"I feel honored to be a part of this great project," said Youssef Ait Boulahri '22, a social studies education major. "For me to be able to speak with former Aggies and compare our current student lives to theirs is truly eye-opening. I'm excited to gain insight on how much times have changed within a relatively short period of time."

While this project is launching with the celebration of DelVal's 125th anniversary, Dr. Stutman hopes it will be a project that is worked on for years to come. He plans to have new students each year to interview more friends of the university so that this becomes a source of information in the future.

The work these professors and students are doing will provide the DelVal community with a place to learn about the past of the University for years to come. By taking students

from both disciplines and allowing them to learn and work together, this project exhibits what DelVal is all about, hands-on learning and real-world experience in every student's field of study.

"For me to be able to speak with former Aggies and compare our current student lives to theirs is truly eye-opening."

-Youssef Ait Boulahri '22



▲ From left: Dr. Craig Stutman, John Senick '21, public history, Dr. James Diamond '61

Fall 2020 Semester a Success Despite COVID-19

DelVal offered 75% in-person instruction for students during the fall 2020 semester thanks to the collaborative efforts of many members of the DelVal community.

Delaware Valley University was able to offer primarily on-campus instruction with opportunities for experiential learning in the fall 2020 semester despite the pandemic. The University overcame many obstacles to have a successful semester and give students the best possible experience.

“I am filled with gratitude for all of you. We have faced a global pandemic together as one learning community,” DelVal President Dr. Maria Gallo wrote in an update to campus in November 2020.

When schools across the nation attempted to return to campus, many did not make it more than a few days before having to send students home. DelVal was able to succeed at providing on-campus instruction because of student cooperation, hard work and collaboration with key groups and experts.

To make sure the University could keep students and faculty healthy, Dr. Gallo assembled the President’s Re-opening Task Force which created

an extensive, written strategy and protocols for safely providing on-campus learning opportunities. The “Keeping Aggies Healthy” campaign was launched on campus with extensive signage, videos, and social media reminders for everyone to follow the safety protocols.

A nimble COVID-19 Response Team (CRT), comprised of leaders from the health center, student life, faculty, operations, marketing communications and operations, met regularly to monitor trends on campus and make recommendations for changes in protocol to the president’s cabinet as needed. Three members of the CRT met daily, seven days a week, to review suspected cases of the virus, execute contact tracing, and work with the Department of Health.

DelVal students were a key part of the success through their daily choices such as wearing face masks, completing daily health screenings and social distancing.

Faculty members continued to provide courses with individual attention and experiential learning. They also adapted to new ways of teaching and delivering information. Staff adjusted their daily routines, responsibilities, and processes to make sure that the University could continue to serve students.

Experiential learning continued as students found new ways to gain



experience in their chosen fields. Students completed remote work for organizations and companies, continued to participate in research, and competed in virtual events like the first virtual Dairy Challenge.

“Every unit on campus has changed the way it operates in order to provide a safe campus environment,” said Dr. Gallo. “The Health Center and Campus Life have assumed significant new responsibilities to manage this crisis. Thank you to our operations, custodial staff, public safety, human resources, development and alumni affairs, finance, admission and financial aid, marketing and communications, athletics and so many others for your flexibility and essential support this semester.”

The University updated the opening plan for Spring 2021 based on what was learned in the fall. There were very low levels of infection through the end of the spring semester and the community was very happy to be able to come together to celebrate Commencement for the first time in two years. Well done Aggies!



Doylestown Health and Delaware Valley University Strengthen Ties

When the pandemic hit, Delaware Valley University and Doylestown Health, which are within walking distance of each other, already had a strong relationship. DelVal and Doylestown Health have some shared values and strategic goals as well as similar histories. This relationship has helped both partners to better serve the Bucks County community during challenging times.

Growing Graduate Programming in Healthcare

DelVal and Doylestown Health formalized a partnership to develop new graduate programs in healthcare with a signing of a memorandum of understanding in July 2019. The first program to come of this partnership, a new master's in Healthcare Administration, allows students to learn from course instructors who are current executives and leaders from a variety of specialized backgrounds in the healthcare industry. By collaborating with Doylestown Health on the program, DelVal is going to be able to prepare healthcare administrators with the kinds of skills and experiences that are in demand in the industry.

"Doylestown Health is pleased to partner with Delaware Valley University on this exciting initiative," said Doylestown Health President and CEO Jim Brexler at the signing. "As we approach our centennial anniversary at Doylestown Health, we are uniquely positioned to add value to the University's healthcare programming, and to pass on our experience leading a nationally-recognized independent health system. We look forward to helping shape the future leaders of healthcare in our community and beyond."

Two additional graduate programs, Physician Assistant Studies, and Speech Language Pathology, will launch in fall 2022. These programs will also be taught in conjunction with Doylestown Health.

Collaborating During the Pandemic

In addition to partnering on academic programs, community collaboration and partnership became more important than ever during the pandemic. Doylestown Health was one of several organizations, including the CDC and Bucks County Department of Health, that worked closely with University leadership to bring science and best practices into the campus reopening plan.

Housing Doylestown Health Staff

In the months following the start of the pandemic, DelVal provided housing for healthcare workers from Doylestown Health to lend support during the COVID-19 crisis. The organizations are in close proximity, which made this a natural solution to an emergent need.

Staff who temporarily resided at the University did so for the safety of family or household members at home. None of the Doylestown Health staff members staying at the residence halls were symptomatic or had tested positive for COVID-19. They did not interact with the small number of essential DelVal employees or students who were on campus at the time. DelVal, like other universities, closed residence halls and delivered all courses via remote learning for the balance of the spring and summer 2020 semesters.

"We are pleased to be able to support our local health workers who are on the front lines of this terrible battle by providing a safe place for them to stay," said Dr. Gallo. "We have enjoyed a strong relationship with Doylestown Health and appreciate our role as a community partner for the Greater Bucks County area. We cannot thank these health professionals enough for all they are doing for our community during the pandemic."

"DelVal's generosity extends beyond the needs of our staff to the entire community," said Brexler. "All of our workers are essential in this pandemic. The prospect of a safe place to stay to protect some of our staff and their families is a great relief to everyone concerned."

DelVal and Doylestown Health will continue to work together on a variety of initiatives, including expanding graduate programming to meet the needs of the healthcare industry.

"We're fortunate to be a part of a community that has really come together during the pandemic," said Dr. Gallo. "The types of community partnerships that we are seeing grow during COVID-19 benefit the partners, but also strengthen Bucks County as a whole."



▲ Dr. Gallo and Jim Brexler sign memorandum of understanding



Delaware Valley University Alumni Help Fight COVID-19

In difficult times, many people remember the advice of Fred Rogers to “look for the helpers.” Rogers, an iconic children’s TV host, famously said:

“When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’”

When COVID-19 hit, caring helpers emerged from the Delaware Valley University alumni community. From testing to treatment, Aggies were there using their DelVal degrees to make a difference.

Dr. Wisotzkey said, “DelVal opened my eyes to the world of biology and molecular biology.”

“The nature of a DelVal education was perfect for me because the professors were good and you could interact with them one-on-one,” said Dr. Wisotzkey. “When I got to graduate school, I already knew what I needed to know to be prepared.”

After DelVal, he went on to earn his Ph.D. in molecular biology. He also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in molecular oncology at the Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

His laboratory announced in March 2020 that it had, “developed a highly sensitive and specific assay for the SARS-CoV-2 virus that is the cause of the COVID-19 respiratory infection.”

“It was all hands on deck,” said Dr. Wisotzkey. “As soon as the first sequence came out from China, we started designing and developing our test. We had to make sure it was accurate and sensitive. The timeline from concept to going live was about two months.”

The test has been used by physicians from a wide variety of areas in the U.S. according to Dr. Wisotzkey.

Providing fast, accurate results and giving physicians as much information as possible were the main goals of the project.

“The faster the clinicians have the result, the faster they can understand what they’re dealing with and guide people on the behaviors they need to change to slow the spread,” said Dr. Wisotzkey. “Many times, it is not COVID-19. That can be very important to know to direct the best course of treatment.”

Dr. Wisotzkey said he’s proud of how his team came together to help.

“The most rewarding part is that we’re part of the solution,” said Dr. Wisotzkey. “The other rewarding part is the challenge of developing



“The most rewarding part is that we’re part of the solution.”

-Dr. Jeffrey Wisotzkey '82

Dr. Jeffrey Wisotzkey '82 Works on COVID-19 Tests

Dr. Jeffrey Wisotzkey '82 used his DelVal biology degree to contribute to the fight against COVID-19. In spring 2020, he was the chief scientific officer and laboratory director at Diatherix, a company in Huntsville, Alabama, that worked on testing technology for COVID-19.

technology for use in the lab. Having the team develop this as quickly as we did is one of the most rewarding things I have been a part of.”

Dr. Wisotzkey was recruited in August 2020 for a new position as the chief scientific officer and laboratory director at Phase 2. Phase 2 is an acute and chronic respiratory and wound care laboratory in Nashville, Tennessee.

Claire Donahue '15 Serves as an ICU Nurse

At Jefferson Health, Claire Donahue '15 is working on the front lines of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. As a registered nurse in the neurological ICU, she cares for people who have suffered from strokes, brain hemorrhages, aneurysm ruptures, brain tumors, and, lately, COVID-19.

“It has been a humbling experience,” said Donahue. “These patients didn’t ask to get this disease. They never in their wildest dreams thought they would be admitted to the ICU during a pandemic.”

The work is resource-intensive and draining at times, but Donahue has been staying positive.

“I have taken care of quite a few patients with COVID-19,” said Donahue. “As a nurse, you’re there to keep your patients safe and to give them the best chance at survival. At the end of my shift, I leave feeling like I’ve made a difference.”

During her time as an animal science major at DelVal, Donahue volunteered at Doylestown Hospital. It was that volunteer experience that sparked her interest in nursing. After DelVal, she decided to pursue a nursing degree at Jefferson.

“I was able to get all of the prerequisite classes I needed for nursing school at DelVal,” said Donahue. “I have two bachelor’s degrees and I went to Thomas

Jefferson University for one additional year.”

She said her professors at DelVal helped to solidify her interests in science and medicine.

“I had wonderful professors,” said Donahue. “Dr. Ponnock’s anatomy and physiology lessons spearheaded my interest in the human body, especially the anatomy class because we were learning with human cadavers. I also did research with Dr. Keler for the Student Research course where I came into the lab, grew fungi under different variables, and reported on it. Student Research was the turning point for knowing I wanted to study science. I was proud of the work I did in that course.”

People have been supporting healthcare workers in a variety of ways that Donahue has found inspiring.

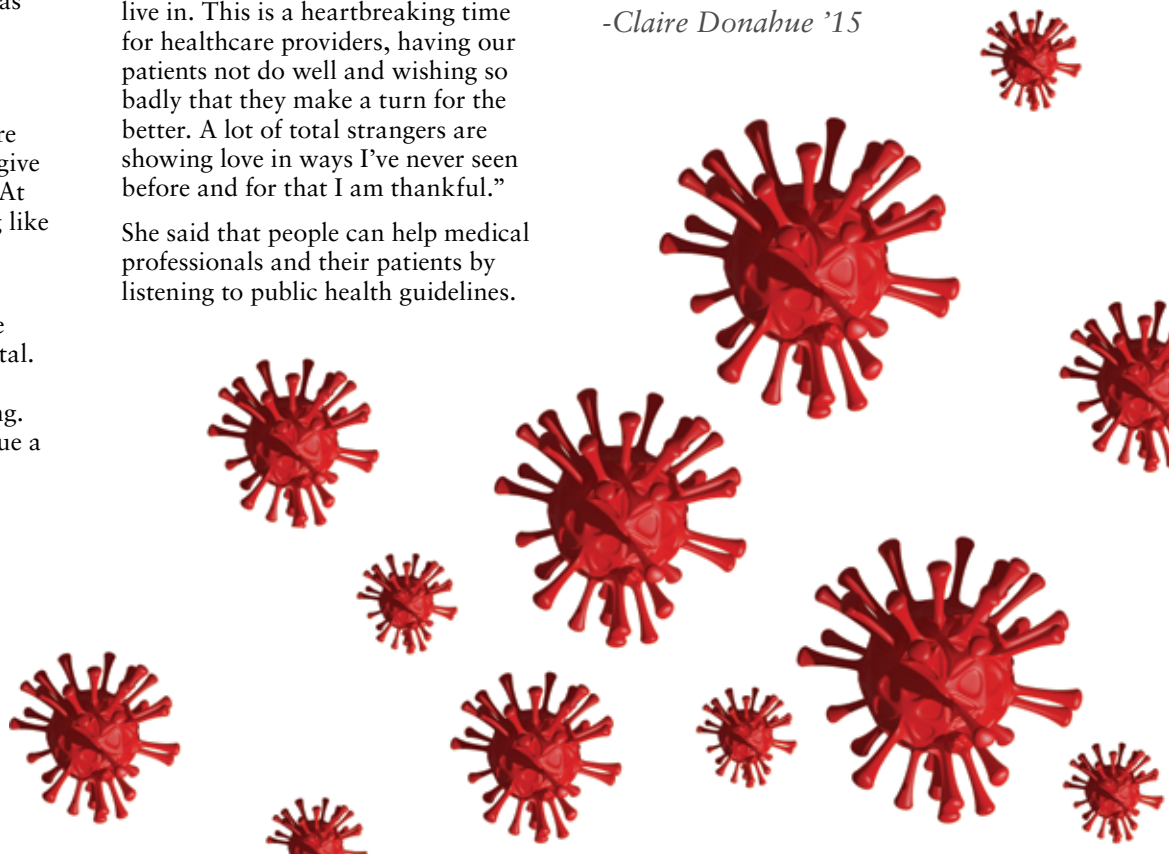
“People are showing support (for healthcare workers) with mask and food donations, and children are writing cards to our patients because their families are not permitted in the hospital during the pandemic,” said Donahue. “We’re grateful to feel supported by the communities we live in. This is a heartbreaking time for healthcare providers, having our patients not do well and wishing so badly that they make a turn for the better. A lot of total strangers are showing love in ways I’ve never seen before and for that I am thankful.”

She said that people can help medical professionals and their patients by listening to public health guidelines.



“I was able to get all of the prerequisite classes I needed for nursing school at DelVal.”

-Claire Donahue '15





“Gaining experience in my field allowed me to test drive different parts of the industry and I was surprised with how much I liked certain areas.”

-Laura Perry '20

Laura Perry '20 Gains Real-World Experience Working with Marketing and Communications

Laura Perry '20, a media and communication major, completed an internship with the Delaware Valley University marketing and communications department for one of her Experience360 Program activities. As a fall 2020 intern, she practiced her skills while making a valuable contribution to the University.

“The E360 Program and this internship really allowed me to find exactly what I want to pursue a career in,” said Perry. “Gaining experience in my field allowed me to test drive different parts of the industry and I was surprised with how much I liked certain areas.”

Perry gained experience applying her skills in writing to a variety of areas. She worked on projects such as drafting press releases, creating event flyers, editing web copy and links, planning social media content, and writing for news. One of her articles

about a new course at DelVal was published in Lancaster Farming in February 2021.

Perry also worked with faculty member Reg Hoyt to produce promotional materials for the One Health Seminar Series during the fall 2020 semester. She also helped highlight the University's stories through writing assignments and assisted the team during the launch of the new website. Her final assignment was an alumni magazine article about a student oral history project, which is part of the 125th celebration. Her story appears on page 21 of this issue as part of the 125th Anniversary section.

Perry is currently a marketing coordinator at the Center for Responsive Schools.

Darian Poles '21 Gains Experience in Agriculture

Darian Poles '21, an agribusiness major, gained a variety of valuable experiences in agriculture through Delaware Valley University.

Poles knew DelVal was the school for him after he visited campus.

"I thrive in small school environments," said Poles. "I grew up in a small town in Virginia and have been around farms all my life."

Poles, whose grandfather had a 300-acre farm, has always been interested in working with beef cattle. He soon found that DelVal would get him working with animals right away.

"When I got to DelVal, I couldn't sleep all night before my first day," said Poles. "After my first shift working on the farms, I called my dad and said, 'this is what I want to do.'"

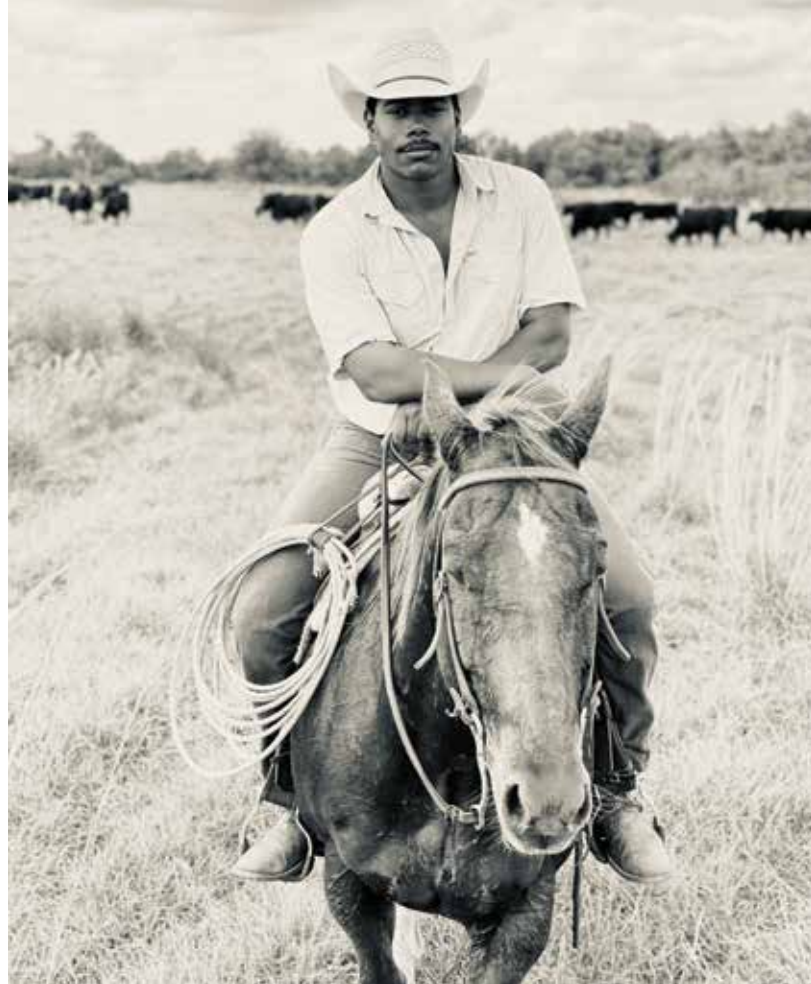
On campus, he made connections that helped him find internships and experiences in his field.

"A lot of the teachers have helped me," said Poles. "They respect my drive and passion, so they help me find opportunities. Dr. (Sarah) Dohle and Dean Sandelin helped me find opportunities in the cattle industry."

Through the Experience360 Program, Poles interned with a cattle ranch in Florida for a semester. He moved cattle every day on horseback, took care of horses, cared for the cattle, and even gave injections as an intern.

He said the Experience360 Program helped him get more out of the internship.

"The Experience360 Program gets you to reflect on what you're doing



▲ Darian Poles '21 plans to pursue a career working with beef cattle. Through the Experience360 Program, he spent a semester working on a cattle ranch. Photo: Darian Poles

and think about what you're doing and what you're learning," said Poles.

Poles is passionate about promoting diversity and inclusion in agriculture.

Through Dr. Dohle, a DelVal faculty member, Poles was invited to join a virtual meeting with Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding. Poles discussed his efforts to promote diversity and inclusion in agriculture with Secretary Redding. He then went on to work with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture by sharing his story in a social media campaign.

At DelVal, Poles helped start a new student organization, a MANNRs chapter, on campus. MANNRs promotes academic and professional opportunities for minorities in agriculture, natural resources and the sciences.

"I think people need to be more aware of the career options in agriculture," said Poles. "A lot of it is getting people aware of the situation

"The E360 Program gets you to reflect on what you're doing and think about what you're doing and what you're learning."

-Darian Poles '21

and getting people into the industry. In the North, you don't see a lot of diversity in agriculture. I want to show people that it doesn't matter who you are. Don't stop pursuing a career in agriculture just because you don't look like everybody else."

After DelVal, Poles plans to earn a master's in ranch management. First, he wants to go out West and work on cattle ranches and gain more experience.

"I want to manage some cattle ranches and eventually buy my own," said Poles.

Commencement Ceremonies Held In Person for the Classes of 2020 and 2021

The University announced the first Young Alumni Trustee and awarded Seamus McGraw an honorary doctorate.

Five separate Commencement ceremonies were held on the football field the weekend of May 15 and 16 with COVID-19 protocols in place. There were separate ceremonies for each school for the Class of 2021 on Saturday, and the Class of 2020 enjoyed their long-awaited celebration on Sunday. Dr. Maria Gallo was thanked for her many contributions to the University over the past five years.

Joseph “Chip” Krauskopf, great-grandson of DelVal’s founder, Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf, and vice chairperson of the Board of Trustees, announced the first Young Alumni Trustee. Chloe Sees ’20, a secondary education major, will join the Board this fall to bring a fresh perspective to the group.

Seamus McGraw, an author and activist, told the graduates, “I trust you.” He acknowledged the challenging times they faced while completing their degrees. Then, McGraw told each graduating class that he believed in their ability to use their experiences at DelVal to improve the world.

“I believe in you,” said McGraw. “I’ve been making trips to this remarkable university for about a decade now and I have always found this place inspiring. I love what it was founded to be, and I love what it has become. More importantly, I love what you and the other scholars and leaders it has produced have become.”



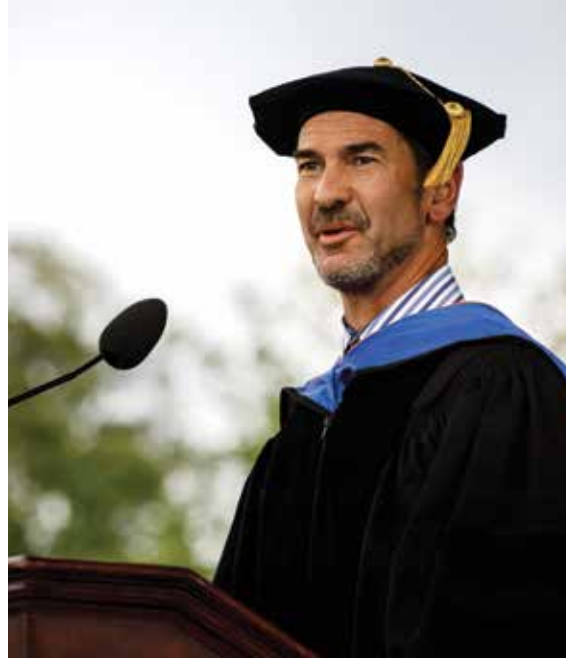
▲ From left: Commencement Speaker Seamus McGraw; Board Vice Chairperson Joseph “Chip” Krauskopf, Former DelVal President Dr. Maria Gallo, Board Chairperson Majid Alsayegh and Interim President Dr. Benjamin E. Rusiloski.



▲ Chloe Sees '20, Secondary Education, Young Alumni Trustee



COMMENCEMENT



Delaware Valley University Welcomes New Head Coaches for Basketball and Baseball

The new coaches for men's basketball and baseball will bring valuable experience to Aggies Athletics and enhance the experience for student-athletes. Meet the new Coaches:



▲ Muhamadou Kaba, Head Men's Basketball Coach

Muhamadou Kaba, Head Men's Basketball Coach

Muhamadou Kaba joined DelVal after a four-year stint as assistant men's basketball coach at Division II East Stroudsburg University (ESU). Kaba earned his bachelor's in mathematics and a master's in exercise science from ESU.

He will aim to get DelVal back to the MAC Freedom playoffs and continue a standard of winning.

"I'm fortunate to be joining such a unified athletic department and a community that is unwavering in their support," said Kaba. "There is a tremendous amount of potential here and I am excited about how far this program can go."

Kaba was named to the 2017-18 Under Armour National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) "30-Under-30" list in the spring of 2018, a nationally renowned list that recognizes rising young coaches in men's college basketball. In addition to coaching, Kaba was the program's recruiting coordinator, academic liaison, and travel coordinator. He also served on the diversity and inclusion committee.



▲ Kyle Lindsay, Head Baseball Coach

Kyle Lindsay, Head Baseball Coach

Kyle Lindsay was named the first full-time head baseball coach in program history after a national search. Lindsay was previously an assistant baseball coach at Arcadia University.

He will look to translate his success in the MAC Freedom as a student-athlete, where he shined as a four-time all-league player for the Misericordia Cougars, to his coaching career.

He served Misericordia as a graduate assistant for three seasons where he coached two All-Americans, two MAC Freedom Pitchers of the Year, one MAC Freedom Player of the Year and 21 All-MAC Freedom selections while leading recruiting efforts.

"I know that we have a solid core of returning players for the upcoming year who are hungry to make a name for themselves and a talented incoming freshman class who will look to make an impact for us right away," said Lindsay. "This group has a bright future ahead of them."



Delaware Valley University Athletics During COVID-19

Delaware Valley University Athletics responded to COVID-19 by swiftly adapting and working together.

By Chris Elliott, Director of Sports Information

It was the first week of September 2020 when athletics teams were able to start working out in a limited capacity. DelVal's spring and fall teams each lost their 2020 campaigns, a full season of competition. The winter sports finished their '19-'20 regular seasons just before the pause, and played a condensed schedule for their 2021 campaigns.

Women's basketball ended the drought of sports on campus with a home game against Arcadia on Feb. 11. Despite a setback in the opener, the Aggies closed the regular season with four straight wins and earned second place and a spot in the MAC Freedom championship game where they faced one of the top teams in the region, DeSales. They gave the Bulldogs a battle in the first half, but ultimately settled for runner-up. Emily Kutskel was named the Defensive Player of the Year in the league and first-year Haley Keenan also earned all-league honors.

Men's basketball was poised for a bounce-back season, but many players opted out, leaving a limited and rather unfamiliar roster. Despite those challenges, the squad finished the year strong with wins in four of the final five games of the year to salvage a .500 record and placed two players on the all-conference team.

Men's wrestling began a new era with a new full-time head coach and managed a thrilling win in its home-opener against Messiah. Two wrestlers were mentioned in regional rankings. On the women's side, a pair of Aggies faced off in an exhibition match marking the first-ever women's wrestling event in DelVal history.

As spring approached, a priority for the MAC and DelVal Athletics administration was to do whatever it took to make sure the spring teams did not lose a second consecutive season. With stringent testing protocols and diligent efforts from athletes, coaches, and staff, the Aggies pulled off a successful and safe spring. Men's and women's lacrosse completed 12 game schedules, baseball and softball played 30 and 25 games, respectively, while track and field and golf competed in numerous tournaments including the MAC Championships. Robby Meredith highlighted the golf season with a top-10 finish at MACs.

Getting through the seasons safely was the biggest goal, and together, the department and DelVal's student-athletes accomplished that. As a bonus, 10 Aggies earned all-conference accolades and 140 students represented the University on the MAC Academic Honor Roll.





Dr. Joseph Krauskopf, Delaware Valley University's founder, was born in 1858 in Ostrowo, Prussia. He developed a love of spending time in nature, where he polished his mental energy and endurance.

These qualities helped him work incredibly, create greatly, and achieve dreams. He exemplified piety, reverence, and a desire for study, which were the characteristics of his mother. At the tender age of 14, he came to America, and obtained a position with a tea merchant in Massachusetts. In 1883, he received his B.A. from University of Cincinnati, and was ordained a Rabbi in the first class of students to graduate from the Hebrew Union College.

In 1894, he traveled to Russia, where he met Leo Tolstoy. After that visit, in 1896, Dr. Krauskopf founded the National Farm School with the purpose of "the training of youth into becoming scientific and practical agriculturists." He breathed life into the institution and the hard work was evident. For the past 125 years, the combination of classroom learning married with hands-on experiences, known as "science with practice," has remained as the driving principle of that learning community, which has grown and evolved into Delaware Valley University.

The Alumni Association grew out of the need for athletic field improvements. Samuel Samuels and Samuel Rudley sent blueprint plans to active members of the Association, urging them to organize chapters and collect sufficient funds to create the field. Their endeavors were successful and the field became a reality. From there, the Association grew in interest and achievement. James Work commanded the school and added new academic programs, and as president of the Association,

provided many contributions before transitioning to the Board of Trustees.

The University stands proud of its alumni today. The alumni demonstrate DelVal's promise and work with enthusiasm to their help their alma mater. The careers of the over 17,000 graduates demonstrate that the value of a DelVal education and "science with practice" endures. David Platt, class of 1923, president of the New York Alumni Chapter, believed his duties were to repay the institution that provided him the training that led to a successful career.

"The National Farm School is to me my alma mater, the place rich in memory where I relive my glorious youth; where firm relationships were founded and a new vista was opened through communion with nature...I cannot explain this vital, intangible force, this mingled feeling of the Farm School boy and the man of the world," Platt once stated.

It is my hope as our alma mater commences its 125th anniversary, that we cherish the journey our institution provided us with, feel a sense of closeness mingled with pride and get involved with heart and sincerity. I urge all of us to become engulfed into the "go-gettiveness" that is unexplainable and allows our University to "Dream, Design, Do!"

Sincerely,

Melissa Roseman

Melissa Roseman '08, '10 (MBA),
Alumni Association President

alumni@delval.edu



A New Scholarship Honors the Legacy of a Family Dairy Farm

Steven Alger '77 is giving back to Delaware Valley University through a new scholarship. The Algerdale Farm Sustainable Agriculture Annual Scholarship is named for the family farm where Alger was raised. The scholarship supports agriculture students with financial need. It is designed to help prepare future farmers with a strong understanding of sustainable agriculture.

Alger grew up on a dairy farm outside of Hershey, Pennsylvania. He was drawn to DelVal because of the strong academic programs in agriculture.

"I looked at agricultural programs that could prepare me to possibly come back and farm," said Alger. "I liked DelVal's small school feel and very hands-on education."

To help pay his way through college, he served as a resident assistant. He also played baseball for DelVal as a student and was involved in student government.

Alger devoted most of his time to his classes.

"I got to know the faculty and worked on research with faculty," said Alger.

After graduating, he worked on business planning for the family farm.

"We had a milking barn that was built in the 1820s," said Alger. "At that time, the dairy business was doing quite well. I sat down with my father and created a business plan and we opened up a new dairy facility."

Soon after they opened the new facility, subsidies were cut for dairy.

"It was about 30 percent of our income," said Alger. "That's hard to replace when you're a small business."

They sold the farm after his father retired and Alger took a job in financial services.

"I got into the financial services industry by answering an ad in the paper, which led to a career with one of the largest insurers in the United States," said Alger, who worked as an employee benefits consultant for 34 years.

The company he worked for was based in Iowa.

"I had good grades, which got me an interview," said Alger. "When I met with their management, I found out that they all came from farms in Iowa. They understood that farmers work hard."

Alger said DelVal prepared him with a practical education that provided flexibility. He learned skills at DelVal that he found he could apply to a variety of careers.

"I appreciate that DelVal has focused on degrees that lead to jobs," said Alger. "DelVal still has a high number of students getting jobs after graduation because of that focus on practical education."

Alger was pleased to find out how many options there are to give back at DelVal.

"When you say 'scholarship' you typically think of large commitments of assets," said Alger. "I was surprised to learn that DelVal provides opportunities to fund a scholarship over time, or to set up a smaller scholarship. I have tried to support DelVal every year. As I

went into retirement, I wanted to do something to support the school and carry on the legacy of the farm that taught me so much."

Alger is interested in helping to prepare the next generation of farmers to use sustainable practices.

"We also put in the language that it would help students seek sustainable aspects of food production," said Alger. "That doesn't necessarily mean that they have to be going into organic farming. There are a variety of practical ways that farmers can still be good stewards of the environment. We have to increase food production. It's very important that farmers become better and better at producing food in sustainable ways."

Alger said he would encourage alumni to look into creating scholarships.

"To do a scholarship, you don't have to commit a lot of money," said Alger. "The fact that we were able to do something to promote the legacy of my family farm and help DelVal students is very rewarding."



Dr. William Edmunds '68 Starts a Food Science Scholarship at Delaware Valley University

Dr. William (Bill) Edmunds '68 used his Delaware Valley University food science degree to have a successful career in the food industry. Now, he's looking to help DelVal students pursue careers in his field. The Edmunds Family Foundation, recently established by Dr. Edmunds and managed by him and several of his family members, has created an endowed scholarship. The scholarship will go to one student per year. The recipient must be in good academic standing and pursuing a degree in food science at DelVal.

Dr. Edmunds went into the food industry because of his father's advice. His father once told him, "If you're going to get a job, get one in the food industry because people will always need to eat."

"My father was in the food industry and was not a college graduate, but he was determined to get me into college," said Dr. Edmunds. "One of our family friends was the postmaster in Spring Mount, Pennsylvania, where we had a post office box. He happened to be an uncle of Oskar Larsson (Class of 1952). Mr. Larsson was the registrar at DelVal at the time. I applied to DVC and had the opportunity to interview with Mr. Larsson. Happily, I was accepted."

At DelVal, Dr. Edmunds got involved in campus life and got to know his professors.

He was a member of the Food Industry (FI) Club, Delta Tau Alpha, and the yearbook staff. He served as secretary and president of the FI Club, editor of the newspaper, and secretary of the class.

As a student, he also gained experience by working at Woodside Manor, a small resort hotel in Schwenksville, Pennsylvania, and in the lab at Tasty Baking Company, where both his grandfather and his father worked, the latter for more than 40 years. He said the variety of experiences he had at DelVal helped his development as a food industry professional.

"I'm glad I went to a smaller school," said Dr. Edmunds. "It gave me the chance to be involved. Our professors knew who we were and took an interest in us. My decision to go to graduate school was very much driven by a professor, John Barnes, in the food science department."

Dr. Edmunds attended the University of Georgia for graduate school, where he was awarded a fellowship. During graduate school, he was drafted into the Army.

"I signed up for an extra year so I could choose a military occupational skill related to food and went to school to be an Army cook," said Dr. Edmunds. "With eight months still remaining to serve, there was a major reduction-in-force towards the end of the Vietnam War. I was able to return to grad school five months earlier than originally anticipated. UGA had held my fellowship for me and now I also qualified for the GI Bill."

Dr. Edmunds earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in food science from the University of Georgia. During his time at UGA, Dr. Edmunds was very active in the Food Science Club and the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT). He served as Chair of the Student Division of IFT, which eventually became the student association.



Upon completing his graduate studies, Dr. Edmunds worked for Bestfoods (formerly CPC International), a prominent, global food company. He started as a product developer and food scientist before moving into management positions. He also obtained his MBA from Rutgers which he did as a part-time student while working at Bestfoods. Soon after Unilever acquired Bestfoods, he took early retirement. He then owned and operated an HVAC supply house with his brother-in-law for five years before fully retiring.

Dr. Edmunds said the skills he gained at DelVal helped him throughout his life.

"DelVal gave me management skills and the ability to organize things," said Dr. Edmunds. "Those skills helped me at the University of Georgia and during my career. My Army experience, on top of that, gave me a well-rounded view of management in an organization. DelVal gave me all kinds of opportunities."

Dr. Edmunds is happy to be making those types of opportunities possible for future DelVal students.

"It's about giving back," said Dr. Edmunds. "I certainly got a lot out of DelVal, and I want to give something back, particularly in the major I graduated from. A scholarship was the best way to direct the money to provide real concrete value to individuals who are interested in this field. I think you ask yourself, 'How can I contribute and how can I make an impact?' To me, a scholarship seems the ideal way to do both."

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1960s



Jerry Mulnick '61 submitted this photo of the 2018 Homecoming. *From left: Jerry Mulnick '61, Aaron Schneider '61, Joe Fitzpatrick '61, Gary Fuess '61 and Jim Diamond '61, joined by their favorite mascot.*



William (Liam) Mitchell '67 recently played an escaped Bosnian war criminal in a short film, "Greetings From Sarajevo." Depending on the response, the film may be developed into a longer piece. Mitchell has acted in many projects, including "Sunset," "The Depths," "Show Me a Hero," "Wide Awake," and "The Salesman." He has also appeared in "Law and Order" and other shows that can be seen on Amazon Prime, Netflix and Vimeo. He is currently keeping

himself busy through playwrighting and virtual auditions, which he enjoys being able to do from home.



CDR Robert Eugene Felton '68 MSC, USN (Ret.) attended his 55th Pennsbury High School Class of 1964 reunion with his wife Patricia Marie Felton. Felton was the 1968 Captain of the DelVal wrestling team.

1970s



DelVal alumni and classmates **Frank McDonough '70** (Kathleen) and **Phil Reitano '70** (Mary) and their wives spent two weeks touring Eastern Europe in early August 2019. They enjoyed the trip and time together catching up on their years at DelVal and their careers.



Joe Stryjewski '73 and his wife, Joan, visited Poland in September 2019. On their trip, they arrived in Warsaw and traveled to Toruń, Gdańsk, Kraków, the Chocholowska Valley and the mountain resort town of Zakopane. They said the weather, countryside and cities are beautiful in September. They also had the opportunity to visit the Jagiellonian University in Kraków and also met with staff at Laski Society for Blind Children in Laski, Poland on some of their many excursions. They traveled primarily by van and train to see the country up close. A remarkable trip!



Daniel DaCunha '74 and **Joanne DaCunha '86** celebrated their 50th anniversary on May 25 at the Blue Shamrock Golf Club in Palmerton, Pennsylvania. Joining them were Joe Stryjewski '73 and his wife, Joan, along with many other guests.

CLASS NOTES

Stanton Graeff '75 retired in March 2019 after 44 years in financial cost analysis, working for several companies during his career. Most recently he worked for Lear Corporation at their plant located in Pine Grove, Pennsylvania.

Les Coumbe '79 retired from TruGreen in November 2017 after 34 years. He is currently working part-time for Oasis Illusions making artificial palm trees. He will be celebrating his 45th wedding anniversary and has one grandchild.

1980s



Ralph Jay Herge '81 has received his master's degree in Vocational Education from Temple University in Philadelphia along with his PA Vocational 1 and 2 certificates in construction maintenance education. Ralph is currently employed at SCI Chester as a vocational instructor where he teaches carpentry, safety, first aid/CPR, and OSHA to staff and reentrants.

Gary Westlake '85, of Westlake Tree Farms LLC in Chester County, Pennsylvania, was selected by former Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue to serve on the USDA's Christmas Tree Research & Promotion Board in December 2018. Westlake said he was honored to be appointed to represent the Eastern United States Christmas tree growers on the Board. He is a third generation Christmas tree grower and nurseryman. He farms in three townships (North Coventry, Warwick

W. Matthew Dougherty '96 was honored at a virtual reception in November 2020 in recognition of his service to the University. Dougherty recently completed his term serving on the University's Board of Trustees. Dougherty plans to continue his involvement and service to his alma mater.

"I am proud of the accomplishments our institution has made during this time, despite remarkable and, at times, seemingly insurmountable challenges and, while I know significant headwinds remain, I have every confidence that the Board and our institution will not only meet and overcome these obstacles, but will find itself a finer, healthier, and stronger institution on the other side.

It is my hope that the Board and Delaware Valley University continue to operate on a foundation of core values and with a cornerstone of unwavering integrity, inspired by our past and with a resolve and ambition of continuing to realize the vision of our founders, Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf & Dr. James Work," said Dougherty.

and Honey Brook), managing 300 acres. He is also a past president of the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers' Association, a Pennsylvania Certified Horticulturalist [Emeritus Member] and currently serves by appointment of the Chester County Commissioners on their Agricultural Development Council. Gary and Diann have been married for 36 years, have four adult sons and three grandchildren.

1990s



Dr. Matt Iager '93 recently joined the Holstein Foundation's Board of Trustees. As a member of the Board, Dr. Iager will help oversee the Holstein Foundation's youth and young adult education and leadership development programs.

David DeFrance '95 was appointed to the New Jersey State Board of Agriculture in 2019.

CFRE International has named **Heidi Rixman '96** as a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE). Rixman, director of development for Lutheran Services Carolinas, joins over 7,200 professionals around the world who hold the CFRE designation.

Tom Kepping '97 has been promoted by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Motor Carrier Enforcement and Investigation Division to Northeastern regional supervisor. His duties are to supervise the Public Utility Commission's motor carrier enforcement officers who are assigned to the Northeastern regional office in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

2000s

Dr. Robin M. Goldblum '01 was honored with the Best of Bucks Award for Best Veterinarian in 2019.

Doug Copestick '02, a DelVal criminal justice alumnus, was appointed by Plymouth Meeting Township Police to lieutenant.



Dr. Candice Klingerman '04 was promoted to associate professor of biological and allied health at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. She credits much of her success to the education that she received at Delaware Valley University. As an undergraduate student, she received training in laboratory research and was employed as a teaching assistant. After DelVal, she worked as a research technician at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She then went on to attend the University of Delaware for her M.S. in Animal Science (2007) and Lehigh University for a Ph.D. in Integrative Biology (2011). Her post-doctoral research assessed the metabolic side effects of antipsychotic medications and hydrogen sulfide poisoning, both at Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Dr. Klingerman's current research is focused on determining how diseases of energy dysregulation, like obesity, affect reproduction in females.



In December 2019, **Brandon McVaugh '04**, a business administration alumnus, was appointed to president of Laboratory Testing, Inc., an accredited independent, materials testing and metrology laboratory in Hatfield, Pennsylvania.

2010s

In summer 2019, **Cari Camizzi '12** studied desert and marine landscapes through ecological and social field methods in Baja. Cari, a wild mammal keeper at Wildlife Conservation Society / Bronx Zoo, lives in Tenaflly, New Jersey, and is a graduate student in Miami University's Global Field Program.

During summer 2019, **Nicole Taieb '13** participated in Miami University's Earth Expeditions global field course in Baja. She studied desert and marine landscapes through ecological and social field methods in Baja. Taieb, a zookeeper at Staten Island Zoo, lives in Morganville, New Jersey, and is a graduate student in Miami University's Global Field Program.

2020s

Meg Clawson '20 (M.A.), has already been putting her DelVal master's degree in counseling psychology to good use in the Bucks County community. As a counselor at Airmid Wellness in Warminster, Pennsylvania, Clawson specializes in working with children providing play and sand tray therapy. Play therapy is an evidence-based treatment modality for children who struggle with anxiety, who have experienced trauma.

When Clawson learned of a local childcare center that experienced a natural disaster, she put together a proposal to bring play therapy to the children who were impacted.

She crafted a group for trauma-informed play therapy and offered to bring it to the childcare center's new facility. The proposal was accepted and Clawson has been providing support to the students impacted by this natural disaster since October 2020.

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Weddings and Engagements



Alicia (Hoke) Feliciano '11 married Julio Feliciano on Oct. 10, 2020, which was also her 32nd birthday. The couple currently lives in Berks County, Pennsylvania, where they are searching for their first home.



Weddings and Engagements (continued)



Elizabeth Fleming '14 married Tyler Covert on Sept. 14, 2019, in Allensville, Pennsylvania. The ceremony was at a local church and the reception was held at the bride's family farm. Fleming is a veterinary assistant at Big Valley Animal Hospital in Reedsville, Pennsylvania.

Births and Adoptions



Eric Orr '05 and his wife, Amber, had their first child, Eric III, in March 2020.



Estella Smith '06 and Jonathan Smith had a healthy baby girl, Zoey, on Sept. 14, 2019. *Pictured: Zoey when she was born. Zoey visiting her grandparents' farm, where she saw a brand-new baby calf.*

Alicia (Hoke) Feliciano '11 had a daughter, Elena Mae Feliciano, on March 26, 2020 at Reading Hospital.

In Memoriam

Herbert S. Akers, Jr. '51
Kirk C. Alexy '81
Albert D. Appel '45
Manfred "Fred" R. Armbruster '62
Walter F. Auch, Jr. '41
Duane E. Bair '57
The Venerable Richard E. Bakley '66
Dan G. Bender '77
Dr. Richard I. Benstead '57
Dr. Thomas "Tom" M. Benteen '68
Dr. Philip "Jeff" J. Berger '65
Dr. Robert "Bob" Berthold, Jr.
Professor Emeritus of Biology and Former Cross Country and Track and Field Head Coach
Joseph P. Bittman '60
Raymond "Ray" L. Blew, Jr. '52
Dr. David Blumenfield '50
LeRoy E. Bolding '59
Carl M. Bornfreund '54
Marvin Brand '62
Stanley "Stan" O. Brass '72
Howard "Bill" W. Brebeck '72
Don M. Breiner '66
Bruce Breitweiser '72
James P. Bucciarelli '73
Warren E. Buckman, Jr. '59
Dr. Eleanore "Kim" A. Cassel '75

Shari A. (Kindig) Catanzaro '84
Albert A. Cavallo '57
Donald P. Christian '50
A. William "Bill" Dietze '73
Charles "Milt" M. Eder '43
John "Jack" H. Fenner '55
Kathleen "Kate" M. Feron '89
Daniel P. Figore, Jr. '72
Peter A. Fiotti '77
Steve F. Fisher '66
Brian E. Fleisher '87
Mario C. Galanti '87
Charles L. Gembe '66
Jeffrey B. Gibson '77
Richard L. Gold '67
Jack Greenberg '50
Raymond "Wayne" W. Groff, Sr. '57
Walter A. Gross '62
Michael A. Guidiciopietro '78
David A. Haldaman '63
Gary A. Hall '82
Rev. Dr. Gene E. Handwerk '66
Robert "Bob" J. Happ '70
Thomas "Tom" R. Hawk '65
Howard C. Henderson, III '70
Thomas W. Herr '60
John A. Holm, Jr. '61
Herbert "Lenny" L. Holmquist, III '81
Robert "Bob" J. Hudoka '85

Angela E. (Trasatti) Jacobs, MBA '10
Joseph "Joe" P. Joyce '60
Jean Work Kenneally
Emeritus Trustee and Former DelVal Administrator
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John "Pete" W. Keyser '67
Robert "Bob" A. Kubat '81
Frank "Frankie" J. La Rosa '52
Edward "Ed" J. Lacher '77
Edwin "Ed" Lawrence
Professor Emeritus of English
Phillip B. Le, M.S. '05
Joseph "Joe" W. Lech '96
Andrew D. Looney '21
Charles "Charlie" D. Luberger '84
Dr. Reed E. Macarty '76
Joseph "Joe" A. Malitsky '76
Henry E. McCarter '66
Robert "Bob" F. Metzler '82
Barry G. Miller '63
Wilbur G. Miller '58
Herbert "Herb" M. Millstone '53
Austin J. Moore '67
Robert A. Moore '76
Michael J. Morrone '11
Clarence "Glenn" G. Myers '66
Gary M. Nefferdorf '92
Anthony "Pete" P. Nicas '59
Edward "Ed" A. Nieznay '53
Robert "Bob" J. Noble '55

Eugene "Gene" Novak '58
Kaitlyn O'Hara '17
Thomas "Tom" J. Oswald '64
Jared J. Pattinson '13
Paul J. Pettinato '73
Harry V. Pine, Jr. '74
Robert C. Pinkerton '68
Ben E. Pittman, Jr. '55
Robert "Bob" P. Polinsky '73
Joseph "Joe" Predpelski '68
Dr. Oscar K. Reiss '40
Sol I. Resnick '50
Donald "Don" C. Richardson '56
Thomas "Tom" R. Roeschen, Jr. '77
Diane E. (Binder) Rohach '87, MBA '11
James A. Rothschild '63
Charles "Chuck" E. Rynd, Jr. '68
Raymond "Ray" J. Samulis '73
Richard "Dick" L. Schadt '58
Ralph D. Schreiber '75
John "Jack" P. Schueller '67
Richard "Dick" W. Scott '65
Gina P. (Erdelsky) Semler '81
John S. Shirey, Jr. '77
James A. Sickler '58
Charles J. Smith, Jr. '72
Richard "Rick" S. Smith '72
Ronald H. Smith '65
Richard "Rich" P. Sowierski '52

James M. Sterner '69
Edward "Ed" R. Stickel, Jr. '60
Christopher "Chris" B. Straup '97
Henry K. Strawn, Jr. '53
Caitlin E. (Farley) Thomas '09
Michael A. Trazzera, Jr. '68
John W. Trexler '73
Tara M. Trongone, M.S. '13
Nancy L. (Gallo) Tucker '81
Russell J. Underwood '73
Robert D. Van Horn '75
Timothy "Tim" L. Varacallo '79
Bruce L. Vibbert '73
Michael S. Vibostak '73
Robert "Bob" E. Wagner '64
Steve P. Wagner '94
Deborah "Debbie" A. Waldinger '10
M. Chris Whitman '94
Shani A. (Gilbert) Williams '09
Dr. Philip "Phil" A. Winkie '58
Dr. Heman "Harry" J. Witmer '65
Dr. Wendy S. Wood '83
Richard "Dick" A. Woolsey '57
James "Jim" C. Yard
Coordinator of the Learning Center
Clifford J. Young '72
Donald "Don" H. Yowell '76
Robert A. Zeek, Jr. '67

Give to the 125th Anniversary Scholarship Fund

DelVal was founded on the principle that no student would be turned away because of inability to pay for their education. Today, 99% of our students receive some level of financial aid. As we launch our 125th Anniversary Celebration, please consider a gift to the DelVal 125th Anniversary Scholarship Fund.



Zuzanna Pankowska '21

Zuzanna graduated with a degree in Business, and will complete her MBA in 2022 through DelVal's 4 + 1 program.

"There are no words that can express my gratitude. I believe that your generosity towards me, as well as other students who receive scholarships, will transform into helping more students through our hands."

Jordan Farlow '23

Jordan is a Business Management major who presented a business plan for his start-up company, Guard Gear, at DelVal's Spark Bowl.

"I would like to personally thank you for helping students continue to work toward a college degree. We are all extremely thankful to you for helping us turn our dreams into realities."



Tiara Dwight '20

Tiara graduated with a double major, Biology and Secondary Education, and spent a year student teaching biology at her former high school.

"I make the effort to be involved and give back as much as I can to my DelVal community. To me, that is what the Aggie Spirit is, and I am an Aggie to my very core."

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