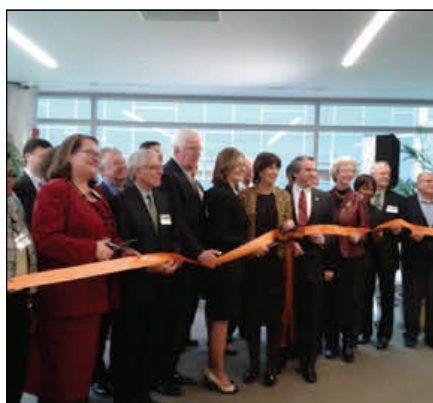


Grand Opening of the WPUNJ Science Complex

Inside:

Awards Ceremony	2
Graduation 2012	2
Faculty	3
Alumni Activities	4
Alumni Activities	5
Alumni Activities	6
Sports	6



President Waldron and dignitaries cut the ribbon opening the Science Complex at the Grand Opening on March 1, 2012



View of the new complex walking from the Student Center. The renovated Science Hall East is not seen.

Did you know?

- There are presently 691 Biology and Biotechnology majors at WPUNJ!
- Our faculty have almost 2 million dollars in active grants this academic year. This includes a new \$350,000 3 year grant obtained by Dr. Onaivi from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Drug Abuse.
- 32 Biology/Biotechnology undergraduates had paid internships again last summer. Most were funded by various grants in the department and university.

The 232,000-square-foot Science Complex is completed and was dedicated on March 1, 2012. The three-and-a-half-year, \$85 million project provides state-of-the-art facilities to support the academic programs housed in it. These programs include the hard sciences, mathematics, computer science, psychology, and anthropology. The complex includes Science West (new building; 3 floors; 65,000 gross sq ft; opened June 2010), Science East (renovated Science Hall; 5 floors; 165,000 gross sq ft; opened January 2012) and a new Greenhouse (2,332 gross sqft; opened March 2011). The complex was designed to encourage an interactive, hands-on learning environment and houses seventy seven research laboratories and thirty nine teaching labs, including a microscopy suite featuring a transmission electron microscope, a scanning electron microscope and a brand new confocal microscope. The 'Science on Display' theme includes timelines of the various disciplines in the lobby, photos of WPUNJ research being done, display cases, and research posters on walls in most hallways.

New Biology Faculty Member

The Biology Department has added a new faculty member, Dr. Emily Monroe. Dr. Monroe received a B.S. in Marine Science from the University of South Carolina and a Ph.D. in Molecular and Cellular Biology with a focus in marine biomedicine and environmental sciences from the Medical University of South Carolina. She did postdoctoral research at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and was a postdoctoral fellow in the San Diego NIH IRACDA program. Her research interests



include molecular biology and genomics of marine microorganisms particularly involving secondary metabolite biosynthesis. She is currently studying toxin-related genes in the Florida red tide dinoflagellate and the genomes of filamentous cyanobacteria that produce biomedically-relevant metabolites.



Awards Ceremony and Graduation 2012

Students receiving the B.S. Degree in Biology or Biotechnology in 2012:

Nathaniel Agosto	Andrew O'Brien
Vince Alalay	Maram Odatalla
AnneMarie Alberta	Babajide Oderinde
Alex Appleton	Abosede Odeymi
Elie Assia	Oluwatobi Ojelade
Robert Beck	Obinna Onyekwere
Alban Biba	Nicole Ooms
Samantha Breitenbach	Jessica Oscanoa
Evadney Browne	Henry Raab
Jennifer Canestrino	Apexa Rana
Gissel Cruz	Atit Ravel
Geleesa Daniels	Tomiko Rendon
Marilania DeJesus	Heidi Rogers
Courtney Dorber	John Sabat
Gabriel Enyaosa	Mohamed Salhi
Krystal Espinosa	Carla Sanders
Jennifer Fiorelli	KimAshley Sapanaro
Christopher Frangipane	John Scancarella
Krystal Frederick	Andrew Scimeca
Victoria Glanville	Adela Selimaj
Brandon Gonzalez	Joon Seo
Kiran Herapara	Adam Siegal
Gabriela Hrebikova	April Smith
Fawzia Ibrahim	Aguirre St. Vil
Jeanelle Javois	Jordan Storms
Karina Kuruville	MaryRoseAnn Sunga
Anamarie Lauren	Jun Takao
Paul Link	Jennifer Taylor
Michael Marcano	Minh Tran
Natasha McKenzie	Jeremy Trisolini
Ashley Miranda	Edgar Valdivia
Jonathan Modeen	Michael Weller
Vivin Mohan	Alan Yanza
Francesca Molina	Danielle Zeltner

Students receiving the M.S. Degree in Biology or Biotechnology in 2012:

Jared Balsky	Dosuek Kim
Fatima Zahra Bensabeur	Christopher Mak
David Fleischmann	Apeksha Rao
Stephanie Hafner	Rachel Salazar
Sachin Thakkar	Jacqueline Vega

Awards Ceremony 2012

On May 10, 2012 an Awards Ceremony was held for graduating seniors and students receiving awards.

The Outstanding Senior award recipient was Jennifer Fiorelli.

The Capstone Award (for highest achievement on the capstone exam) went to Alex Appleton.

The Undergraduate Research Award recipients were Jennifer Fiorelli and Obinna Onyekwere.

The C. Kent Warner award recipient was Obinna Onyekwere.

The C. Kent Warner Scholarship Recipients were Paige Appleton, Mohammad M. Ali, Sheftake Bakiu, Kristen De Wilde, and Heather Szendi.

The GS-LSAMP – MAPS Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement and for Community Service was awarded to Obinna Onyekwere.

The inductees into the Beta Beta Beta Biological Society - CHI RHO Chapter were Nelson Araujo, Ama D. Berko, Courtney Dorber, William J. Manzo, Nicholas Margo, Omar F. Mayorga, Andrew O'Brien, Obinna K. Onyekwere, Jennifer Parente, Jon L. Picariello, Jordan Storms, Sean E. Susini, and Alyx E. Weaver.

Graduation 2012

On May 22, 2012, William Paterson University's graduation ceremonies were held at the Izod Center in East Rutherford, NJ. Both undergraduate and graduate degrees were conferred at the ceremony.



Dr. Sebetich with some of the Biology graduates at Commencement in the Izod Center



Some of the Biotechnology graduates before Commencement

6th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium

Dr. Menon (with assistance from Dr. Slaymaker) organized our 6th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium that was held April 14, 2012. This year the event was held as a joint effort with the Eastern Colleges Science Conference (ECSC). It was attended by registrants from 14 institutions from 4 states. 115 students and 30 professors attended the meeting. It was a terrific experience for all who attended.



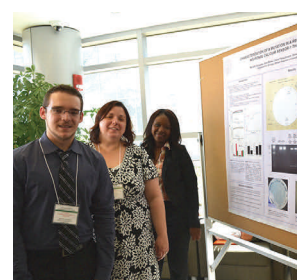
Biology Students Receive NSF/ISSBB Scholarships

25 Biology/Biotechnology majors received ISSBB Scholarships this year.

Top Row: Chima Amadi, Lorato Anderson, Paige Appleton, Nelson Araujo, Devon Atkinson
2nd Row: Alyssa Beres, Ama Berko, Veronica Cadavid, Erin Crehan, Roy Feliciano,
3rd Row: Steven Gross, Virginia Hislop, Neal Joshi, Joyce June, Faith Kalucki,
4th Row: William Manzo, Nicholas Margo, Omar Mayorga, Monique Obsharski, Adrian Plummer
5th Row: Christopher Satch, Emily Scully, Mansi Shah, Danielle Sommerville, Gabriella Tosto



Nelson Araujo explains his work on NJ Beachgrass strain physiology



Michael Gonzalez and Ama Berko presented the work they did on neurotransmission and autism with Dr. Weiss

Dr. Danielle Desroches coordinated the financial support for 31 summer interns in the department. She also participated in a 2 week program in 'Biomedical Explorations' for High School students. The summer 2011 program was so successful that this year the 1 week program became a 3 week long one. The CSI portion lasted a full week and she wrote a CSI Brochure for it.

Dr. Kendall Martin spent a few weeks last summer working with his collaborators in Oregon, and tromping around at the old-growth Douglas fir research site high in the Cascades. He presented this research at the Ecology Society meetings in Portland, OR. He took some time off to roam the beaches and dip in the hot springs with his family.

Dr. Jai Menon spent her sabbatical at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia teaching "Selected topics in Human Physiology" to Ph. D. candidates and advising them on their research. She says it was an enriching experience to give back to the Ethiopian Educational system where she spent a few years as a teenager, and was also a great trip in terms of bird-watching and visiting Coptic Christian churches north of Addis Ababa.

Dr. Emmanuel Onaivi has been awarded a 3-year, \$350,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Drug Abuse, to study CB2 cannabinoid receptors in the brain. His findings will provide insight into therapeutic drugs for pain, autoimmune, mental, and neurodegenerative disorders. Dr.



Onaivi was recently nominated Associate Editor of the Journal of Drug and Alcohol Research and is the newsletter editor of the international Drug Abuse Research Society.

Dr. Michael Peek gave a keynote address at the fall meeting of the Atlantic Estuarine Research Society in Chincoteague, VA. He spoke on results from a collaboration with Dr. Slaymaker on genetic diversity and growth performance of American Beachgrass from NJ dunes. They hope to provide assistance to the Hurricane Sandy devastated NJ dunes based on their research results.

Dr. David Slaymaker continued his work with Dr. Peek on genetic diversity in American Beachgrass. For R&R he traveled to Penang, Malaysia where he ate as many different kinds of durians as he could.

Dr. Carey Waldburger took students over Spring Break to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity again this year. He also won second place in University Pool Contest in April, 2012. and a 5K run in his age class this month.



Dr. Jamie Weiss was again Program Coordinator of the Paterson High School Students Summer Science Research Program, designed to encourage more urban stu-



dents to pursue college degrees in Math and Science. This program is funded by the Roche Foundation. Twelve Paterson high school students participated in this intense hands-on summer research program.



Professors **Benno, Risley and Peek** attend a University basketball game with President Waldron and an excited Elena Spagna.



Dr. Emmanuel Onaivi is seen here carrying the College of Science and Health banner during WPUNJ convocation for the freshman class of 2016.



Dr. Sebetich with other retired faculty—Dean DeYoung, Dr. Pardi, Dr. Wallace and Dr. Levine at a party for Dr. Sebetich in the Science Hall Atrium

Retirement of Mike Sebetich

Dr. Mike Sebetich retired last May, after 34 years with the Biology faculty. His research and teaching in the area of limnology have been a great strength to the department. He was instrumental in the acquisition of the Oldham Pond property from Bayer in 1998. This 26.5 acre facility is being utilized by both Biology and Environmental Science. He has published and presented extensively in his field. He worked with Dr. Richard Pardi from the Environment Science Department on an NJDEP Grant to perform an ecological study of Molly Ann Brook, Passaic County, NJ.

Last year, Dr. Sebetich was appointed by Governor Christie to membership on the NJ Highlands Council. Several parties were held in honor of Dr. Sebetich, both on and off campus.



Dr. Sebetich with friends and members of the faculty at a party in his honor at the Shepherd and the Knucklehead

Biology Department Alumni News

Page 4

1972

Linda C. Twining (BS 1972) got her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and teaches Biology at Truman State University in Missouri.

1980

Clinton Leinweber (1980 BA Biology) attended NJSOM medical school. His fellowship was at John Hopkins in radiation oncology. He has been at Lehigh Valley Hospital since 1991, now as Vice Chair in Radiation Oncology. He is medical director of Lehigh Valley Gamma Knife Center. He has accepted a position as Clinical Professor and Director in Radiation Oncology at Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University. He is married with 4 children, and says he misses the days at WP doing research with Dr. Werth.

1981

Oleg Kostin (BA (Env.Sci) 1981/ MA 1987) is production manager at NJ American Water's Raritan Millstone Water Treatment Plant. He oversees production and distribution of 140 million gallons of water to more than 1 million people every day. He received the prestigious Harold V. Florence, Jr. Award from American Water Works Assoc., NJ section. This award is bestowed annually for excellence, initiative and resourcefulness in the operation of a public water supply system.

1987

John Schaffer (BS 1987/ MA 1989) works for Tetra Tech Environmental as a Principal Ecologist/Project Manager, and has been there over 20 years.

1991

Carol Ann (Boyko) Schaffer (BS 1991/ MA 1998) has been at Roche for 21 years! She is a Project Data Manager overseeing Virology, Inflammation and Cardiovascular Metabolism areas in the Pharmaceutical Research and Early Development division for early phase clinical trials - a new area for her, as she had worked in late phase clinical for the previous 10 years.

1992

Scott Hofsess (BS 1992) is Director of Clinical Research at Novartis Pharmaceuticals. He spoke to our students at Career Day in March.

Charlotte Zhuang (MS BT 1992) is the Development Project and Program Direc-

tor at Roche R&D Center (China) Ltd. She was just appointed Senior Project Manager in Early Development in Roche's Shanghai, China location.

1993

Daniel Verina (BS 1993) received a BS in Nursing in 2004, an MSN in 2009 and is now hematology/oncology Nurse Practitioner at NYU Langone Medical Center and is an adjunct for Advanced Pathophysiology at WPUNJ!

1995

Michael DePalma (Bio 1995) has spent over 15 years in technology, especially in the pharm field. He is the Executive Vice President of Innovation for a company called M3 Health and spoke at Career Day

1996

Geralyn Ponzio (BS 1996) is an MD practicing Internal Medicine in Newton, NJ.

1997

Bruce Sodowich (MS BT 1997) is a Scientist at Zeus Scientific, Inc.

1998

Heather Rustigian-Romsos (MA 1998) is a landscape ecologist/GIS for Conservation Biology Institute in Corvallis, Oregon. She has been predicting effects of land management and landscape change on vertebrates with spatially explicit habitat, population, and connectivity models. She has over 15 years experience in ecological GIS analysis and modeling. Her recent work is on the conservation of fishers, martens, and other carnivores in the Sierra Nevada.

2000

Free Hess (BS Psych 2000) is a pediatric emergency room physician at Jacobi Medical Center.

2001

Robin Roberts (BS 2001) moved back to NJ following a training injury during military service in the Navy in San Diego, CA. He went back to work at Novartis in the interim as Clinical Trial Head in the Primary Care franchise leading a study for the hypertension drug Aliskiren. The study uses Intravascular Ultrasound to detect regression of cardiovascular plaques. He hopes to return to special operations and San Diego in the coming year following his

recovery. He has fond memories of 2AM sessions in the TEM lab.

2002

Dennis Daly (BS EnvSci 2002/ MS Bio 2007) is now a regular member of the adjunct faculty, teaching for us every semester and expanding his repertoire. He's done lectures and labs for BIO 1300, BIO 1140, BIO 1200. Dennis worked with Dr. Vail on tick research as a graduate student.

2006

Tiffany Greco (BS BT 2006) has now received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and is a currently a postdoctoral fellow at UCLA in the Department of Neurosurgery. Her interests focus on understanding cellular metabolism and neuroendocrine disorders following traumatic brain injury.

Bob Hopkins (MS 2006) is teaching at WPUNJ every summer and almost every semester, living in Pennsylvania and teaching online. He's done BIO 1300 and BIO 3450 Conservation Biology. Bob worked with Dr. Vail on tick research as a graduate student.

Dr. Paul Meozzi, (2006) received his Pharm.D. and is now a Medical information manager of oncology at Bristol-Myers Squibb in NJ. He recently gave a lecture on infectious diseases to Dr. Onaivi's Pharmacology class. He is shown above with Dr. Onaivi.



Steve Straub (BS 2006) is currently a student in the MS Biology program at WPUNJ.

Brianne Villano (MS BT 2006) is a Research Associate, Editor, and Production Assistant in the Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina area.

2007

Nancy Abdallat (BS BT 2007/ MS BT 2011) is Senior Molecular Technologist at Paradigm Diagnostic Informatics, Little Falls, NJ.

Dante Descalzi (MS BT 2007) is in the Ph.D. program at UMDNJ in the Department of Molecular Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Japheth Mwangangi (BS CHEM/BIO minor 2007) graduated from University of Maryland School of Pharmacy with his PharmD degree.

2008

Jennifer Cagiao (BS 2008) graduated from UMDNJ's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program in Newark in May 2011. She is currently employed as a physical therapist at Helen Hayes Hospital in West Haverstraw, NY on their spinal cord unit.

Stephany Caraballo (BS 2008) is studying towards a Master of Urban Planning at Texas A&M University and is an Intern at the Texas Coastal Watershed Program.

Stephanie Chapelliquen (BS BT 2008) decided to go back to school after 5 years in the pharmaceutical industry. She's now a second-year doctoral graduate student at Stony Brook University in the Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology program.

Juan Claros-Sorto (BS 2008) has graduated from Meharry Medical College. He matched for general surgery at The University of Oklahoma. He has plans of becoming a general surgeon hoping to specialize in pediatric surgery within the next 7 years.



Dimitrios Doris (MS 2008) attended the University of Bridgeport College of Chiropractic graduating in 2012 with his Doctorate Degree in Chiropractic. He acquired his New Jersey Chiropractic license and practices in Rutherford, NJ.

Kerriann Dorans Palmieri (BS 2008) married another alumni of WPUNJ (Matthew Palmieri, BFA 2008) in 2011 in Princeton. She teaches science to 6th & 7th graders in Wayne at George Washington Middle School, and started an annual Science Fair and Science Club there. She started her masters for Educational Leadership in February.



2009

Christopher Berghout (BS 2009) is pursuing a master's degree in Pure and Applied Mathematics at Montclair State University. He is also an adjunct for the WPUNJ Math department, teaching Basic Algebra and College Algebra. He also continues his role as master tutor at the WPUNJ Academic Support Center, providing support in many courses in Mathematics.

Carl Gothmann (BS BT 2009) is the Quality Assurance Supervisor at Aspen Foods in Chicago, Illinois.

Jennifer Johnson (BS 2009) is in the Ph.D. program at Brown University concentrating in Functional and Computational Genomics.

Meher Patel (MS 2009) is in the third year of her Ph.D at UMDNJ now and is investigating immune exhaustion in pDC during HIV infection.

Chad Socha (BS 2009) is currently employed at Eberline Analytical Corporation, an environmental lab in eastern PA, and starting a Master's in Applied Statistics with a focus on Biostatistics at West Chester University.

2010

Leigh Alzapiedi (BS BT 2010/MS 2012) just celebrated the birth of his second son. Carter joins his big brother Cameron.

Greg Hinks (BS 2010) was chosen to join the NJ Department of Environmental Protection at the Nacote Creek Research Station in Port Republic, NJ as a biologist trainee in fisheries biology.

2011

Michael Appleton (BS 2011) is attending the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Below he is seen in the white coat ceremony, helping his classmate with his coat.



Tara Ashley (BS 2011) is in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at UMDNJ.

Tara Halpern (BS 2011) is in an MS program UMDNJ, where she is the UMDNJ MAPS President Region IX. She will graduate in 2013. She was accepted into the Stony Brook University Physician Assistant Program starting this June.

Liana Kabrel (BS 2011) began her career in the field on animal care and training as a part time animal keeper at Bergen County Zoo in



Paramus, NJ. In 2010, she completed a 7 month long internship in animal training at Miami Seaquarium, working with seals, sea lions and dolphins. Shortly after graduation, she landed her first full time job as a full time Wild Animal Keeper position at the Wildlife Conservation Society's Bronx Zoo in New York City where she is able to follow her passion for animal care and training while participating in the conservation of wild animals and wild places.

Neda Kassai (BS 2011) was accepted into two pharmacy schools, FDU Medco School of pharmacy & Rutgers School of Pharmacy. She has decided to attend Rutgers and started this fall.

Kayode Oluyemi (MS BT 2011) works as a Biotechnician at the West Point, PA plant site of Merck & Co. Inc. in a division that manufactures RotaTeq Vaccine. The vaccine works to immunize children against Rotavirus, the causative organism of diarrhea and vomiting. He says he really found his Cell Culture and Virology courses helpful.

Carla Sanders (BS 2011) is currently deployed to Afghanistan with a military police unit stationed in Teaneck, NJ. Before leaving, she worked as a medical case manager assistant for the NJ Army National Guard Medical Management Unit. When she returns she plans to get a master's degree in conservation.



Aarti Tailor (BS 2011) had a new baby boy on 11/30/2011 (see photo above).

Dan Zaayenga (BS 2011) is in a Master's program at UMDNJ. He is applying for medical schools this fall.

2012

Courtney Dorber (BS 2012) was accepted into the Physician's Assistant program at the New York Institute of Technology.

Jennifer Fiorelli (BS BT 2012) worked a non-biology job for the summer and volunteered in Professor Lee's lab for a few hours a week. She is now attending the UMDNJ PhD program in Biomedical Science.

Ashley Miranda (BS 2012) is going to graduate school at Rutgers to pursue a Masters in Library Science and then plans to obtain a Master's degree in Biology.

Alumni News, continued

Vivin Mohan (BS 2012) was accepted into the University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ (UMDNJ) MS program in Clinical Trial Sciences. This is an advanced program on the complexities of clinical trial design and execution which trains students to develop, conduct and monitor clinical trials that help determine whether pharmaceuticals and medical devices are safe and effective.

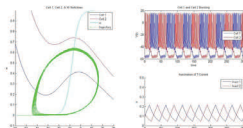
Andrew O'Brien (BS 2012) recently moved up to Hyannis, Cape Cod where he spent the summer working on a commercial fishing boat. He currently has a job in the Chemistry lab at Integrated Analytical Laboratories. He will be applying for graduate schools in Zoology or Marine Science this year.

Apeksha Rao (MS 2012) is working at Columbia University in the Neurology Department as a laboratory technician.

Tomiko Rendon (BS 2012) is currently a Research Assistant in an Immunology laboratory at Rockefeller University.

Heidi Rogers (BS 2012) is currently an ER scribe at Hackensack University Medical center and is applying to medical school.

Jordan Storms (BS 2012) is attending the NJIT/Rutger's computational neuroscience track in biology. He sent us a sample of a project he did for his class in Computational and Analytical Neuroscience. He said Dr. Vail's Math Science course made his class much easier.



Donate to WPUNJ online at:
<http://www.wpunj.edu/giving/>



Alumni Marilyn Kitchell (MS 2009), Mike DePalma (1995), Steve Straub (BS 2006), and Scott Hofsess (BS 1992) spoke to our students at Career Day on March 29, 2012.

You Haven't Been Mentioned In An Alumni Newsletter Yet?

Email Dr. Gardner at: gardnere@wpunj.edu and let us know what you're doing!

Include your name, your year of graduation, and any personal and/or professional information you would like us to print. We'd love to hear from you! You can also visit us on Facebook at BioWilliamPaterson. This newsletter and old newsletters can be viewed on the alumni link on our website at www.wpunj.edu/biology/

2012 Biology Department Faculty/Student Softball Game



The Sixth Annual Biology Department Student Faculty Softball Game was held on 5/11/2012. This year, the students trounced the faculty with a final score that won't be reported here. A good time was had by all.