Charles R. & Martha N. Fulton School of Liberal Arts

SUMMER 2024

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Salisbury UNIVERSITY

Make Tomorrow Yours

Wrapping Up

By Dr. Maarten Pereboom, Dean, Fulton School of Liberal Arts

A lot of hard work goes into finishing up courses and completing performances and other projects that mark the end of another academic year. That's a lot to celebrate, and I'm always grateful to Jen Cox and to all of you who contribute to this quarterly compilation of news stories and items that, over time, document that impressive collective effort.

Fulton School Dean Dr. Maarten Pereboom

We're now in the headlong rush to finals and commencement, but I hope you can all find some time in the middle of all this to reflect a bit and look forward to some time for relaxation and rejuvenation. You've earned it!

Over the past few years, we in the Fulton School have assumed greater responsibility for the University's cultural affairs programming, to the point where we now manage production of our cultural affairs publication, *Panorama*. Earlier this semester, Tara Gladden joined us to direct our cultural affairs program.

That said, it's a program that serves the campus and wider community in ways we are still growing to understand more fully. Aside from the enjoyment it provides, it builds community in every sense. As we developed a scenario analysis for a new performing arts center a few years ago, we were reminded of the research that shows a strong return on investment for dollars invested in the arts and other cultural programming.

There's also definitely a less tangible return on that investment, but one no less strongly *felt*. Take *Little Shop of Horrors*, for example. It drew big crowds, impressed everyone with our talent on- and back-stage and clearly demonstrated that the level of our academic programs and quality of our productions warrant investment in better facilities.

The semester always ends with a music festival that features our ensembles, historically the chorales, concert band, jazz ensemble and Salisbury Symphony Orchestra. As I write this, I know Bill Folger is working on an ambitious and impressive work with the campus and community chorales; Lee Knier is preparing his last concert band performance (*prior* to retirement, anyway …), which is always entertaining; Jerry Tabor is always trying new things with the jazz ensemble; and Jeff Schoyen has some of my favorite orchestral works on the program for SSO.

In the meantime, new ensembles have emerged featuring percussion and winds, and our graduating seniors will show us how much they've grown artistically during their time here –always a proud and bittersweet time for all of us who knew them when.

While I've focused on performance here, we have engaged across the disciplines to foster our students' development as individuals, as professionals and as citizens. Whether at our own student research conference or at other conferences, those students, too, have demonstrated the positive impact of their Salisbury University experience on their lives, and to that end we deeply value and celebrate the role so many of you have played as mentors.

As we look ahead to the fall and the launch of our new General Education program, we will ensure that every student who crosses the stage at commencement has had the opportunity to participate in high impact practices, such as undergraduate research. We collectively are making that happen.

Because we care, we've got a lot invested in these outcomes, including feelings. Those sometimes get hurt along the way, especially as we set high standards and goals for ourselves and others. To the extent that, under stress, we're not always at our best, I hope we can find space and grace for reflection and reconciliation where we may want to circle back to colleagues with whom we've clashed, even in pursuit of the same goals.

At the end of the day, and the year, we are a distinctive and special academic community that plays an invaluable role in the lives of our students and in the wellbeing of our community. Thanks for all you do to support this work. Have a great summer!

Fulton Students Shine Again with National Fellowships

By Kristen Walton

Once more, Fulton students are taking the lead as recipients of national fellowships.

SU students have applied for more than 50 fellowships this year – and even more have worked through the process. Every student who "hit submit" is a winner in our books! Most of these applicants are also Fulton majors or minors.

We are still awaiting some results, but most of our applicants for this year have recently learned of their results, so a full update will come in the fall.

This year, French (and biology) major **Naomi Perry** won our first-ever Fulbright to France. She will study and research in an astrobiology/astrochemistry lab next year at Paris-Sarclay University. She is also in the Clarke Honors College and is finishing up a study abroad in France. Her application was supported by Fulton faculty Arnaud Perret.

Madison Cuthbert, an environmental studies and international studies double major, with political science, European studies and French minors, who also is in the Clarke Honors College, won a Fulbright to go to Greece to study both the science and policies around microplastics in the water. Her application was supported by Fulton faculty Mike Lewis and Brittany Foutz.

Finally, **Ashlynn Burrows**, a communication and conflict analysis and dispute resolution major with a deaf studies minor, won a Fulbright to teach English next year in the Czech Republic. Her application was supported by Fulton faculty Brittany Foutz and Brian Polkinghorn.

Burrows was also SU's second-ever Rhodes finalist. Extra thanks go out to all who helped with her mock interviews and social last fall before she went to DC for a grueling two-day interview.

Fulton **SWEPT** the Fulbrights this year. Henson alum **Rebecca Pritt** serves as an alternate.

Danitza Verrano Roman (CADR) in Jaipur, India.

Overall, 12 students were named semifinalists this year, of which 10 had Fulton connections (major and/or minor!) Fulton students have also had strong success with other awards.

Psychology major and political science minor **Sean DeRepentigny** ('23) won a Critical Language Scholarship to study Indonesian in Malang this summer.

Lian Peach, a political science major with an economics minor, who is in the Clarke Honors College, is our first-ever winner of the CLS-Spark program and will learn Mandarin this summer.

International studies (and public health) major **Miranda Surrett** (also Clarke Honors College) just learned she won the Boren Scholarship to study Swahili in Tanzania this summer. International studies major and sociology minor **Jacob Cudmore-Maupai** learned he is an alternate for the Boren to study Mayan in Guatemala. **Danitza Verrano Roman** was able to extend her Boren Scholarship through this spring, so she remains in Jaipur until May studying Hindi.

Finally, honors student **Logan Lankford**, who has minors in philosophy and health humanities (as well as being a health science major), won our first-ever Fulbright Summer UK and will go to St. Andrews Scotland this summer to study Scottish history (the best!).

Remember, we have many opportunities for fellowships for students – from first years who can apply for the Fulbright Summer-UK, the Boren, the Critical Language Scholarship, the Gilman Scholarship and others to graduate students and alums, who are still eligible to apply for the Fulbright, Rhodes, Gates Cambridge and a variety of other scholarships.

Thank you all for your support of our amazing students, particularly those of you who helped on a variety of interview committees, wrote recommendations and supported them through these processes. We could not do what we do at the Salisbury National Competitive Fellowships Office without your support of both the office and our Fulton students.

Thanks also to our new Assistant Director Viktoria Basham from the Clarke Honors College (specialty in Eastern European folklore), who came in to help our office this fall (and won her own Fulbright to Bulgaria for next year!), and to Associate Director Sally Perret.

Ashlynn Burrows (COMM & CADR).

Naomi Perry (FREN & BIOL).

Madison Cuthbert (ENVR & International Studies).

Habermeyer Wins Fulbright to Poland

By Dr. Ryan Habermeyer

I come from a long line of yarn-spinners. My great-great grandfather was a Lutheran minister who preached exaggerated versions of the Gospels from the pulpit; my grandfather worked with NASA and terrified me with stories about UFOs as a kid; and my father passed down all his imaginary fears about Bigfoot.

I got folklore in my blood.

Not to be forgotten is my great-grandfather, who fought in World War I with a commando infantry unit. Shortly before he died in the 1970s, my father recorded an oral history with him, which included some of his surreal experiences on the battlefield.

That's where I come in. I'll spend six months in Poland in 2025 researching material for a semi-biographical novel about my great-grandfather's wartime exploits. It's an experimental narrative, part essay and part fiction, focusing on the objects and souvenirs my great-grandfather collected during the war – some of them factual, others invented; some historical, others folkloric. It's like a scrapbook of speculative genealogy.

I chose Poland in part because there's a rich tradition there of avant-garde, experimental literature that has long influenced my writing: from Jan Potacki and Bruno Schulz to recent Nobel laureate Olga Tokarczuk. As I told the Fulbright commission: I'm a German by genealogy but a Pole in artistic spirit.

One thing that really excites me is, as a material companion to the project, I'll be working with local Polish artists to curate a mini-museum exhibit of found objects and folk art collected, fabricated and scavenged from antique shops and junkyards across Poland and beyond.

When I'm not researching and writing, I'll be teaching a course on Facts, Fictions and Folklores: Post-Truth in Transnational Literatures at the University of Gdańsk. It's a revised version of a grad seminar I taught a few years ago at SU that dovetails nicely with the research project.

The class will explore the ways in which literature plays a role in shaping public perception and understanding of truth and fact. I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to do all this exciting work.

Faculty Retirement Reflection: Melany Trenary

Twenty-five-plus years have passed full of life events that evoke so many memories.

Starting part-time in 1996 and beginning full-time two years later, I was initially hired to teach Instructional Communication to education majors when communication was still with theatre. I quickly learned to facilitate micro-lessons, which could vary in topic from a child's game to a physics problem, which I warned them I might not understand!

The Communication Department has evolved from those early days, and I have adapted along with it. My highlights were first and foremost some very precious people I met during my journey while at Salisbury and the support they gave, and two service-learning opportunities I was able to coordinate for my students.

I engaged hundreds of students throughout roughly 10 years as a mentor in the Wicomico Mentor Project. Students were paired in the early days and visited their mentees once a week for a semester commitment. The lives touched on the part of the mentees AND mentors are among my most cherished memories as a lecturer.

Secondly, over the first two COVID years, my students were matched with pen pals in other countries (Hong Kong and Colombia) through a program initiated by Dr. Lori DeWitt (my mentor). Students were stunned at the similarities they had with students across oceans and began to understand their different lives through the lens of a new friend.

These two experiences were remarkable for me. As a teacher, seeing students gain life experience that will translate into a better understanding of others and their world is awe-inspiring. I remember the times when it happened to me, and I have never been the same.

In retirement, my plans are simple. I will visit my growing family, play with grandkids, serve here and there and explore new places with my husband and pup.

"Give your hands to serve, and your hearts to love." - Mother Teresa

Sending love and hugs to all!

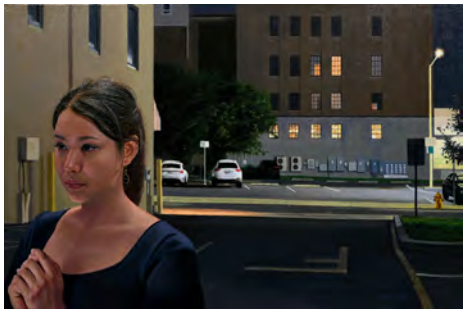
Melany Trenary

Departmental Reports

ART

Maggie Delaney (alum, B.F.A., painting) and **Marley Massey** (alum, B.F.A., painting) are exhibiting their work at the Ocean City Art League in an exhibition, titled "Earth Studies," which explores the environment around us: land and ocean, flora and fauna and the cycles of the sun. This exhibit highlights the beauty of nature and the importance of protecting our planet Earth. The works include painting, embroidery, printmaking, wood-burning, rock pigment and wild raw clay. They both finished their M.F.A. from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

David and **Tara Gladden** screened their animation, *Swamp Creatures*, at the 2024 West Virginia Mountaineer Short Film Festival in Morgantown, WV, from April 18-21. *Swamp Creatures* is a tragi-comic political stop motion animation where the kitchen becomes the stage for insurrection as the magnets on the refrigerator come to life and battle for the very soul of America.



A Thousand Plateaus - Salvation | 2024 | Oil on canvas | 24x36 in.

Jinchul Kim is curating the Korean American Artists Association group exhibition "Exploring Identity Through Diversity" at the SU Art Galleries | Downtown from June 21 to August 2. HMAA (Han-Mee Artists Association) is an organization founded in 1975 with Korean American artists who immigrated to the Greater Washington, DC, metropolitan area. Artist members work to pass on their cultural heritage to the next generation, enrich their community with cultural diversity and endorse the awareness of Korean American artists' work. Kim has been serving as one of the board of directors.

Nicholas Matthews, a student in **Allison Seth's** Graphic Design III course, was announced as a winner of the 2024 GDUSA Package Design Awards for his branding and packaging design work for Dart Medicinals. His design stood out among 2,400 entries, placing him in the top 10% for his creative and professional approach.

Sally Molenda received an award at the Adkins Arboretum Yarnstorming 2024 event for her gum tree installation. Molenda's crocheted installation featured a typographic sign, hand-crafted fiber-art and three-dimensional gumdrops, showcasing a blend of creativity and skill. The exhibition took place from February 29 through April 6.

Lola Panco (B.F.A., painting), finishing her M.F.A. from Arizona State University this year, was invited to show her recent work at Marc Straus Gallery at the Art Expo Chicago and later in New York City.

Jen Pepper won a Louie Award in the "Custom Designed Wedding Invitation Category." Officially known as the International Greeting Card Awards Competition, The Louie Award recognizes the most outstanding greeting cards, invitations and announcements in the U.S. each year. Pepper's work stood out among the over 1,200 entries submitted from 228 different designers and companies.

COMMUNICATION

Vinita Agarwal has a publication, titled "Whole Person Healthcare as Social and Environmental Justice: New Research Directions Toward a Paradigmatic Integration of an Ecological Whole Systems Medicine Framework," in the journal *Frontiers in Communication*, addressing the special topic "Insights in Health Communication: 2022-2024." Agarwal's student teams from Health Engagement and Advocacy (COMM 452) presented three posters of their collaborative partnership this semester with Wicomico County Board of Health at the March Healthcare Summit on access. The posters address STI and HIV/AIDS challenges in disadvantaged communities (housing insecure populations, Hispanic/LatinX populations and individuals who are clients of drug rehabilitation clinics).

Jennifer Cox and **Casey Stratton** attended the CCBC 9th Annual Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning Conference in Baltimore April 18-19. The conference aimed at strengthening attendee's inclusive teaching skills and trained them in new strategies to encourage belonging. They were joined by colleagues **Vanice Antrum** (Multicultural Student Services), **Derya Kulavuz-Onal** (English) Yuki Okubo (psychology) and **Thea Williamson** (literacy studies).

Chrys Egan received the Maryland Top 100 Women award for the second time (originally earned in 2019) from the *Daily Record*.

ENGLISH

Carolyne King attended the Watson Conference in March 2024, where she co-facilitated a three-day workshop with the goal of creating an open-access website to support graduate student reading practices. *The Graduate Reading Exchange*, which she will co-edit with Lizzie Hutton, Michelle Sprouse and Emily Suh, will be published this summer

April Logan attended the Modern Language Association conference in January, where she presented her paper, "Black South Joy in Charles Chesnutt's *The Wife of His Youth*," on Charles W. Chesnutt's experimentation with satire. In addition, Logan coordinated two panels for the Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists biennial conference in April, one on Williams Wells Brown and another on Black writing networks. For the latter, Logan also presented her paper, "Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents*, and Black Elite Readers," which reconstructed the community of free interracial women in Philadelphia who supported and presented challenges to Harriet Jacobs's publication of her slave autobiography.

Beth Towle's chapter (co-written with Elizabeth Chavin Geib at Slippery Rock University), "Who Mentors the Mentors?: How Writing Center Pedagogy, Labor, and Administrator Status Impact Methodologies," was published in the collection *Mentorship/Methodology: Reflections, Praxis, Futures* from Utah State University Press. The chapter describes how writing center research methodologies have been impacted by shifts in mentorship models and director labor, as well as looking toward the future of writing center research based

in decolonizing and community-engaged practices.

John Wenke was invited by Roosevelt University (Chicago) to deliver the Montesquieu Forum Lecture on the intersection of literature, politics and philosophy. Wenke presented "Melville's Makeover: The Climactic Case of *The Confidence-Man*" on March 20. The lecture tells the story of how Herman Melville twice remade himself as a fiction writer and did so in distinct opposition to the terms that characterized his most recent success. Each successive marketplace failure prompted an aesthetic makeover that culminated with the publication of a literary masterwork. Additionally, Wenke recently concluded a one-year term as president of The Melville Society.

Isabel Quintana Wulf presented her essay "Indigenous Literature and Survivance: 'It's Turtles All the Way Down,'" in April at the 38th Annual MELUS Conference in Dallas, TX. It was part of the panel she organized for the conference, titled "The Way of Looking at Texts: Resistance, Recovery, and Survivance."

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Laura Villalobos and **Jill Caviglia-Harris** contributed to a meta paper that combines 110 reproductions/replications of articles published in leading economics and political science journals. The paper uncovers a high rate of fully computationally reproducible results (over 85%), coding errors for about 25% of studies and robustness reproducibility of about 70%. The scale of this ongoing project has the potential to change research norms and researchers' behavior through the adoption of more rigorous methodologies and deterring questionable research practices. This is joint work with over 350 coauthors. The thread is out on ***X*** here.

HISTORY

Dean Kotlowski participated in a symposium on "Celebrating Women's Impact" hosted by the Richard Nixon Library and Foundation in Yorba Linda, CA, in March. His panel considered Nixon administration programs and legislation for women. In April, he presented his paper, "George S. McGovern and American Indian Self-Determination: The Uncertain Advocate," at the annual meeting of British Association for American Studies, which in 2024 convened in an all-online format. It is available on ***YouTube*** here.

Shruti Patel presented "Material Terms: Devotion, History, and the Svāmināŕāyana Museum" in April at the American Council for Southern Asian Art (ACSAA) at the University of Michigan on the panel, "Devotional Visualities: Looking at Bhakti as Materialized Memory." The paper outlined how religious materiality and practices of memorialization were used to argue about the history of South Asia and also to appeal to global, secular audiences.

MODERN LANGUAGES & INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Ricardo Vazquez Diaz presented his research paper, "Sonifying the Revolution. Earcons, Sonic Imaginaries, and Aural Politics in Three Texts About the Cuban Revolution," at the American Comparative Literature Association's 2024 annual meeting in Montreal, March 14-17. The paper explored the differences and similarities in the sonic imaginary of two novels and a film focused on the Cuban Revolution and, specifically, the role of silence in that imaginary.

MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE

Jan Schreibman presented a concurrent session at the Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association in April with members of the AMTA Ethics Board. She is also preparing to play with the Indiana Wind Symphony for their final season performance in May at the Palladium in Carmel, IN.

Eric Shuster, center, with the LSU percussion studio.

Eric Shuster gave a master class to the LSU percussion studio in March. The UMBC and SU percussion ensembles joined forces once again for a Friday Drums concert, hosted by SU in April. The SU Percussion Ensemble presented their spring concert with the theme "Asia and the World" in mid-April. The program included a newly commissioned work by composer Brian J. Bell and Shuster's arrangement of two movements from Balinese Ceremonial Music, transcribed by Colin McPhee.

John Wesley Wright and the American Spiritual Ensemble completed the fifth and final leg of this year's winter tour the first week of April. The final leg was their inaugural visit to New England. It included appearances on Boston Public Radio; concert collaborations and/or lectures at Emmanuel Episcopal in downtown Boston, Berklee College of Music, the Capitol Center in Concord, NH, St. John's Episcopal in Portsmouth, NH, and Assumption University; and headlining the New Hampshire Music Teachers Association's Spring Conference, where Wright taught and led call-and-response activities using African American ring shouts and work songs.

American Spiritual Ensemble at Berklee College of Music.

Wright Studio students who won NATS on the district level in the fall competed at the Mid-Atlantic NATS Regional Student Auditions both in-person in Greenville, SC, at Furman (Classical) and online (Musical Theatre and Commercial Music). In the category of Commercial Music, **Sophia Merbaum** and **Keily Wolff** took first and third, respectively.

PSYCHOLOGY

Suzanne Osman and her student **Colleen McCann** presented their research project, titled "Predicting Rape Victim Empathy Among Lesbian, Bisexual, Asexual and Heterosexual College Women," at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association in March. Findings highlight the importance of examining sexual minority groups separately. With student alum **Tieryn Gingerich Heishman**, Osman presented their research project, titled "Sexual Perpetration Experience and Tactic Severity Predicting (During/Post) Rape Perpetrator Empathy," at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association in March. Findings support tactic severity rankings found in past research, rape definitions and the stereotypical rape script, as well as point to the need for a closer look at scale item content.

Mark Walter and his students **Xavier Jones** and **Tyler Hummer** presented their research project, titled "Attitudes Toward Climate Change: Do Proposed Solutions Moderate Attitudes?," at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association in March with the support of Fulton Faculty Grant. **Olivia Hawkins** and **Benjamin Davis**, co-authored students, could not attend the conference. The findings indicate attitudes toward global climate change are dependent on a function of nationalism and the type of climate change solutions that participants were provided.

Fulton International Internships – Galway!

By Jessica Davis

I am interning in Galway, Ireland, and for my internship, I have been working at Sli Eile, a center run by Ability West.

Ability West provides day and night services through different centers to care for disabled persons of all ages and levels of disabilities. I work specifically at a day center called Sli Eile. There we work with autistic adults who also have other mental, physical and emotional disabilities.

Staff at Sli Eile work one-on-one with the service users to facilitate the user's participation in day-to-day tasks. These tasks can include social interactions, art, physical activities, cleaning and cooking. The goal of the center is to provide a safe environment for the service users to grow physically, mentally and emotionally, as well as participate in day-to-day life.

I have experienced a multitude during my internship with Sli Eile. I have seen different combinations of physical, social and emotional disabilities and how they affect an individual's day-to-day life, as well as how one-on-one care can assist in improving a person's quality of life.

I have seen how the emotions and attitudes held by the staff around the service users can affect the service user's own emotional state and attitude throughout the day. I have also

seen patience and compassion from the staff toward the service users and each other and how important that is in any situation.

Galway has provided me with many cultural and social experiences from day one. The kindness I have experienced from the Irish people surprised me from the moment I arrived at the airport.

Coming to Galway also has provided me with many social opportunities. I have made international friends who have showed me the differences between our cultures; the way we speak, the foods we eat and even our approaches to activities.

I have also seen a little of how people in Ireland view Americans. I have always known that there are many different cultures, but I do not think I understood what that meant until I was able to experience it for myself.

The most impactful experience for me has been working with the service users at Sli Eile. The ability to help someone with disabilities do something that they normally wouldn't be able to do and see how much they enjoy it is rewarding.

I have become attached to the service users I have worked with. Even when I am not working one-on-one with them, I find I am keeping an eye on them to make sure everything is okay. Working at Sli Eile has forced me to reassess what is truly important in my life and what is just "white noise."

With my time left in Ireland, I would like to continue experiencing the cultural differences between Ireland and Salisbury. There are so many historical sites, such as castles and cliffs, that I can't wait to explore.

Contact Dr. Jennifer Cox to learn more about international internships with the Fulton School. Learn more at ***SU Global Experiences***.

SU Students Get an Inside Look at Washington

For one week in early January, 11 Salisbury University students, representing communication, political science, English, history and interdisciplinary studies, participated in The Washington Center's Inside Washington Program under the direction of Dr. Joshua Bolton (COMM).

Students spent the week in the nation's capital hearing from guest speakers related to the inner workings of the U.S. The students spent each morning listening to those deeply entrenched in the day-to-day operations of either the government, advocacy or media.

The talks were followed by a discussion of what we learned and how it related to the students' areas of interests.

Each afternoon consisted of a site visit to an office related to some facet of DC life. For many SU students, the site visit with Ian Krager, who is Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi's press secretary, was a highlight.

Next year's program will revolve around the presidential inauguration and includes attending some of the events that will take place on January 20. Learn more at ***SU TWC***.

SU's Japanese Program Is on the Rise

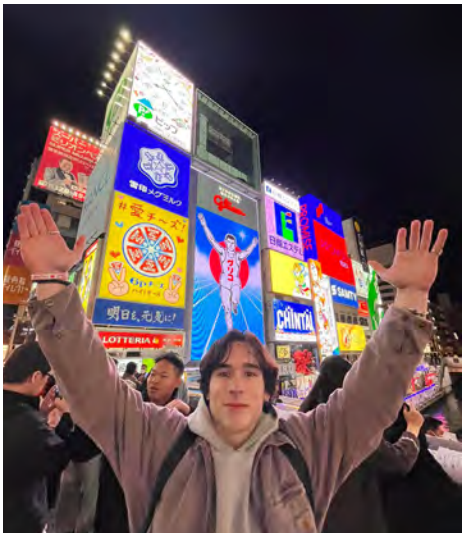
By Sean Cooper

Did you know that Salisbury University has had a Japanese language program since 2013? Students and faculty alike are often surprised to learn that not only is Japanese offered at SU, but that the program is in high demand!

The interest in Japanese language and culture continues to grow on campus, and as the founder of SU's Japanese program, I have worked to bring a part of East Asia to the Eastern Shore. This semester, progress is being made in exciting ways.

Since its conception, more than 200 students have taken Japanese courses at SU. I have had students from every school across campus enter my classroom, including a former assistant vice president for enrollment management.

Through the dual enrollment program, I welcomed four high schoolers into my class last fall. According to the Modern Language Association, Japanese is the fourth most popular language studied at U.S. institutions of higher learning.



SU student Reece Barry studied in Japan in the fall.

SU Professor Sean Cooper and Japanese Ambassador Yamada.

After taking Japanese, some students consider studying abroad with our exchange partner Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU) in Tokyo. Reece Berry (International Studies, '25) spent the fall 2023 semester at AGU learning about Japanese language and culture. I am working to secure additional experiences, including short-term study abroad.

Students can also encounter Japanese international students here on campus. Salisbury University hosts AGU short-term exchange students, students from the Kanda Institute of Foreign Languages and Aomori University for our summer ELI program. These partnerships have allowed our students to meet and make friendships with Japanese students without leaving campus.

This semester, we are excited to take our next steps to advance SU-Japan relations. SU has partnered with the Japan Study Abroad Foundation (JSAF) this spring to bring many more Japanese students to campus, starting this fall.

This agreement was completed with the support of President Lyn Lepre and Governor Wes Moore, who will participate in a formal signing ceremony later this year.

In March, I was honored to attend the Japan-Maryland Night event at the residence of the Ambassador of Japan. Both President Lepre and I were able to speak to Ambassador Yamada, who voiced his support for the initiative and the embassy's focus on increasing Japanese language education in the State of Maryland.

Since starting the Japanese program, I have enjoyed fostering students' interests in Japanese culture into marketable skills that make them more favorable candidates for many jobs. Japanese culture has been a large part of the American childhood experience for decades, and learning Japanese language allows students to incorporate this experience into their adult lives.

Our partnership with JSAF and other institutions will allow SU to create more opportunities for student involvement in Japanese and Japan-related activities and will add to SU's role as an institution of global learning.

Cooper and SU President Lyn Lepre at the reception.

Spring Musical Offers ASL Performance

The SU Theatre Program's afternoon performance of *Little Shop of Horrors* at Holloway Hall on March 16 included American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation, provided by First Chair Interpreted Productions, LLC, Washington DC's leading provider of performing arts sign language interpreters.

"This partnership indicates a desire for the Theatre Program to increase accessibility, inclusivity and further the presence of artistic appreciation on the Eastern Shore," said Blake Harris, artistic director of the Bobbi Biron Theatre Program. "We are excited to continue this initiative for all of our theatre productions moving forward."

We were able to engage 30 participants from the hard of hearing community and local organizations, such as Deaf Independent Living Associates and Delaware Deaf Senior Citizens.

Special thanks to the President's Office for their assistance and guidance in helping us offer ASL as part of our performances.

Stock, Pope Win Regents' Faculty Awards

Two Fulton professors received the state's highest honor – the University System of Maryland Board of Regents' Faculty Award for Excellence.

Dr. Timothy Stock, professor of philosophy and chair of the Philosophy Department, received the award for Excellence in Teaching. **Dr. Alexander (Sandy) Pope**, PACE director and associate professor of secondary and physical education, was honored for Excellence in Public Service.

Dr. Hong Yao, professor of economics, also earned the award for Excellence in Mentoring.

"To have faculty honored in three out of the five award categories is truly an accomplishment that speaks not only to the commitment of the winners to the SU community, but to the well-roundedness of Salisbury's faculty as a whole," SU President Carolyn Ringer Lepre said. "Once again, the USM Board of Regents has confirmed what we've long known: Our faculty are among Maryland's best."

Dr. Timothy Stock

Dr. Timothy Stock – Excellence in Teaching

Stock was nominated not only for his work in the classroom, but for his support of programs that connect SU philosophy students and faculty with members of the greater community.

These efforts include a program that, for years, has facilitated philosophical book discussions between students and people incarcerated at nearby Eastern Correctional Institution (ECI) and a regional Ethics Bowl program also recently expanded to include ECI. As chair, he also has supported the work of Dr. Cristina Cammarano, who created the Young Thinkers Club at Wicomico Public Libraries, as well as a Philosophy in Schools program, each of which helps engage younger children in age-appropriate philosophical discussions.

Additional efforts in which Stock has been involved include the Re-Envisioning Ethics Access and Community Humanities (REACH) program, supported by $181,000 in funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Through REACH, he, Dr. Michèle Schlehofer, professor of psychology, and Dr. Jennifer Nyland, associate professor of biological sciences, are working to establish a Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility on campus, with a goal of connecting SU students and faculty with community groups to tackle problems and projects with significant ethical dimensions.

Beyond his work with students, faculty and community members, Stock also is a nationally known scholar of European philosophy, with a record of peer-reviewed scholarship that most recently includes two articles currently under review and a book project in that field; a recent co-authored article on ethics pedagogy in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and a second on community ethics as a practice area for philosophers; and a graphic novel in the process of being illustrated, with interest in publication expressed from a major academic press.

"During his years of teaching at Salisbury University, Dr. Stock has demonstrated time and again his commitment to serving his students in every regard," Lepre said. "Through creative courses that combine philosophy with graphic novels, to chairing the Department of Philosophy, the lens in which he approaches education and teaching is powerful and recognized by many."

"Tim Stock both champions and masters many of the initiatives that contribute to SU's overall excellence as a public-facing and public-serving regional comprehensive university," said Dr. Maarten Pereboom, Fulton School dean. "At the heart of his many contributions lies a profound, and profoundly creative, commitment to student learning and success."

Dr. Alexander Pope – Excellence in Public Service

Pope was nominated for his accomplishments in public education and expanding and enhancing SU's Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement (PACE), for which he has served as director for the past nine years.

He has formed a close relationship with Parkside High School in Salisbury, where he serves as campus liaison and member of the Career and Technical Education Advisory Board. That role focuses on supporting the Teacher Academy of Maryland program.

Through his conversations with school administration, Pope arranged to supervise a first-year history education student to complete Work Study hours at Parkside. The student began in a government classroom where one of Pope's senior students was a long-term substitute. The partnership fulfilled White House's National Partnership for Student Success Higher Education Coalition challenge for universities to dedicate federal Work Study funds to support K-12 education.

Beyond teacher preparation, Pope is a key figure in civic education across the state, including collaborations with middle school teachers Julia Berg and Sarah Mason writing curriculum about contentious topics and organizing a collective of Holocaust educators through the Maryland Holocaust Educators Network.

Pope's efforts at PACE have included the transition of the Center for Civic Reflection from Valparaiso University, IN, to SU in 2019 via a USM Wilson H. Elkins Professorship Award, providing unique opportunities such as a yearlong seminar series examining local issues within the broader framework of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, also facilitated by Pope.

"When Dr. Pope was asked to lead PACE in 2015, it was his goal to bring greater enthusiasm for civic engagement on campus and beyond. In the years that followed, PACE has certainly exceeded those expectations," said Lepre, making special note of the organization's 2023 Excellence in Innovation "We the People" Award from the American Democracy Project, recognizing PACE as a potential model for other institutions.

In addition, he helmed SU's successful efforts for SU to be recognized with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Elective Community Engagement Classification.

"Dr. Pope is a highly esteemed colleague who is valued across all areas of his work," said Dr. Laurie Henry, dean of SU's Seidel School of Education. "As an academic dean, I have the privilege of working with many exceptional faculty members. Yet, there are those who rise above the others in a way in which they are admired and should be commended. Dr. Pope is one of these individuals."

Dr. Alexander (Sandy) Pope

SU's Model United Nations 2024 Trip to the NYC National MUN Conference

By Geremy Mercado, Club President & SU Model UN Head Delegate

The lead-up to the Model United Nations conference in New York City was not only busy logistically, but also full of anxious anticipation.

Ten out of 12 of us had never been to a collegiate-level Model UN conference, much less the national one. As someone who has been to the national conference only once before, I knew that the class and club meetings could only provide a fraction of the true experience.

Certainly, our class sessions devoted to position paper writing were helpful, and the club meetings where we practiced implementing policy proposals through resolutions provided a sense of what to expect. All this considered, the opening ceremony in a room of at least 2,000 people after a long day of commuting painted a daunting picture for the rest of the week.

What was to be in store for us in the day-long committee sessions full of diplomatic negotiation and international policymaking? Was I going to be able to wake up early in the morning to attend my committee session at 8 a.m. after the previous night's committee had ended at 10:30 p.m.?

All I could assure the rest of our delegation was one thing: You have what you need, so get out there.

Sure enough, we got out there. Each of us pushed the interests of our assigned country, Guyana, and made sure our respective resolution papers represented the broader concerns of the developing world.

From strengthening emergency preparedness and response to nuclear emergencies to emphasizing the relationship between disarmament and development to even resolving the current crisis in Sudan, our delegation managed to hold our ground.

The negotiation process that took place in our different committees is a long and grueling one – the conference is a week-long for a reason. Making sure our draft resolutions had sufficient support from the entire committee was crucial and reflected the work done within the actual United Nations.

As a diplomat of a given member state of the United Nations, you do not represent your individual interests. Instead, you represent your entire nation and its long-term priorities, be it combatting climate change or protecting national sovereignty.

The process of keeping all these priorities in mind within hundred-member UN committees can be challenging. What is most exciting, however, is that as you work toward building common goals, you get to meet new people and share experiences in a setting like no other, leaving you with new friendships with other college students from all over the world.

Therein lies what the conference really is about – the connections we build now. In these rooms and committees sit several hundreds of young people who are likely to go on and become leaders in the real world. Model United Nations ultimately seeks to provide a sort of global education – in other words, a pathway to becoming more aware of the planet we inhabit and the events that occur on it at every given moment.

It is this generation of young people who will be the leaders of tomorrow and perhaps even the diplomats building the same common agenda we spent a week developing in a simulation.

I'm certain that for myself and for many others engaged in Model United Nations, the conference is not simply a field trip, but a foretelling of what is in store for us in the future. Perhaps that same anxious anticipation applies to that.

Wolff Sculpture Headed for Unity Square

"All Together," a 9-foot-tall bronze sculpture by **Bill Wolff**, which includes the life-cast hands of 218 community members from the greater Salisbury area, is permanently installed in Unity Square, the new park in Downtown Salisbury.

A ribbon cutting for the park and sculpture was held during 3rd Friday on April 19. Groups from SU, local government and business, line workers from the Perdue plant, hospital employees and surgeons from Tidal Health, clients from the lower Shore Enterprises, senior participants in the MAC program, teachers and employees from the Wicomico County school district, a number of individuals with "unique" stories and individuals who volunteered as part of an open call are represented in the sculpture.

The work, cast entirely at the new 3D Arts Building and sponsored by the Greater Salisbury Committee, was two years in the making.

Community Conversation Hours Are a Success!

By Dr. Sally Perret, MDFL

Last summer, a representative from the Wicomico Public Library reached out to the chair of the Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies (MDFL) Department to see if we might be interested in offering Spanish classes to children. I responded, "What a great idea! Let's do it!"

And so was born one of the coolest projects in which I have ever had the privilege to participate: SU Community Conversation Hours.

In all, SU faculty and students have initiated three separate language learning programs since last fall: Spanish for Kids, English for Adults and Spanish for Adults.

With the guidance of Dr. Arnaud Perret (MDFL) and the help of several bilingual volunteers from across campus – Emma (Houlie) Houle, Kelly Martinez, Nancy Trejo-Herrera and Vicky Vazquez – the Spanish for Kids class became one of the library's most requested programs. Children from all backgrounds between ages 5-14 showed up every Thursday to learn Spanish with us.

For 10 weeks, around 27 different kids participated. This semester, the program has been completely run by interns Sonia (Noelia) Arce and Vicky Vazquez, with the help of new volunteers Felipe Astorga, Monica Bailey, Yeidy (Nicole) Fortier, Andrea Gerber, Aiden Ensor, Camila Esquivel-Goelkel, John (Jack) Kleinknecht, Maylin Linton and Kailee Nichols,

One parent told us: "My daughter just loves coming. Suddenly, she wants to speak in Spanish every day."

With the help of student volunteers Ashlynn Burrows (conflict analysis and dispute resolution and recent Fulbright ETA recipient for the Czech Republic,) Emily Gutierrez (Spanish secondary education) and Ximena Pedraza-Acosta (Spanish), we were able to offer two levels for the English for Adults class.

Burrows and Gutierrez ran the intermediate level in a separate room, offering participants a chance to use their English in informal

conversations, and the rest of us worked with true beginners.

With the help of Dr. Susan Mahoney of the Dudley-Eshbach Center for International Education, the class for beginners included a variety of material for volunteers to use with participants. This semester, Dr. Mahoney has taken the lead as the curriculum coordinator of the program and Dr. Perret has organized the volunteers. In all, 10 SU students have participated this semester, allowing us to offer smaller groups with more individual attention.

Finally, though there have been conversation hours in Spanish for years, Spanish faculty decided to open the conversation hours to the public at Hoppers (1400 S. Salisbury Blvd.) starting last fall. Not only has it been rewarding to see community members participate, but it has also been nice to see students, faculty and even the Fulton dean take advantage of the opportunity to use Spanish in an informal way.

This semester, the conversation hours are co-run by Spanish faculty and our wonderful student worker Sonia (Noelia) Arce.

Most recently, organizers worked with Melissa Thomas and Karen Silverstrim from Instructional Design & Delivery to begin to develop SU Succeed courses, with the idea that each generation of volunteers, professors and interns can continue to make resources and activities available to those who want to learn Spanish or English. We know that being bilingual is magical and opens doors to new perspectives and worlds.

A YEAR IN REVIEW

with the Department of Music, Theatre & Dance

Percussion Ensemble

SU Dance Company

Chris English Duo

Little Shop of Horrors

Salisbury Pops

SU Dance Company

Musical Theatre Workshop

Dr Faustus

Jazz Ensemble

6 Strings, 7 Positions & 88 Keys & Friends

Giving Day by the Numbers

- The Fulton School had the most donors of SU's schools and colleges, earning it a $500 award to support the Fulton School Scholarship Fund
- More than $68,000 from 254 donors was raised for Fulton School Programs and Scholarships – including matching gifts
- Matching gifts were fulfilled for several Fulton areas, including Political Science; Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies; Philosophy; Dr. Lori DeWitt Memorial Scholarship; Music, Theatre and Dance; the PACE Endowment; History; and the REACH Initiative
- A $500 match for Fulton faculty and staff was fulfilled by Dr. Chrys Egan, associate dean
- Donors also unlocked a $1,000 challenge gift from Dr. Maarten Pereboom, dean

Thanks to *The Exchange* representatives who contributed to this issue:

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Art Galleries	Elizabeth Kauffman
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Environmental Studies	Laura Villalobos
History	Dean Kotlowski
Interdisciplinary Studies	Elizabeth Ragan
Modern Languages & Intercultural Studies	Ethel Barja
Music	John Wesley Wright
National Fellowships Advisor	Kristen Walton
PACE	Sandy Pope
Philosophy	Jenna Habermeyer
Political Science	Adam Hoffman
Psychology	Kyoung-Rae Jung
Public Humanities	Emin Lelic'
Sociology	Ryan Sporer
Theatre and Dance	Shawn Stone
Staff	Cyndi Funkhouser & Chrys Egan
Editor	Jennifer Cox

Celebrating the Liberal Arts

Dean Maarten Pereboom cordially invites you to a reception given in appreciation of all Fulton School faculty and staff members.

Where: Fulton Hall Lawn (rain location: Holloway Hall Great Hall & Social Room)

When: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 3-5 p.m.

salisbury.edu/fulton

The Exchange is published twice a semester.

Salisbury UNIVERSITY