

September 2022 Delta College Fantastic Faculty

Delta Fantastic Faculty: Psychology Faculty

In August, **Instructor Spring Shafer**, **Associate Professor Maureen Donegan**, and **Professors Chris Curtis, Jeff Dykhuizen, Nancy Hartshorne, and Ralph Worthing** visited the Cummings Center for the History of Psychology at the University of Akron. The trip was a way to help the discipline faculty reconnect and engage in rich discussions about pedagogy. “Visiting the National Museum of Psychology,” Donegan shares, “helped us better understand how psychology can be an agent of positive social change but also how it has been used to stereotype and discriminate against marginalized groups in the past.”

Psychology Discipline Faculty were awarded an Endowed Teaching Chair for Reinventing Introduction to Psychology from a Diversity, Equity, Belongingness, and Inclusion Perspective with the goal to examine their teaching and grading practices so that students of all backgrounds will experience equal opportunity and a sense of belongingness in the Introduction to Psychology course at Delta College. Donegan explains, “We were prompted to engage in this work as a result of the CIBE at Delta College and American Psychological Association (APA) Introductory Psychology Initiative (IPI). The IPI revised the Student Learning Outcomes for Introductory Psychology to include a key theme which says, ‘psychology values diversity, promotes equity, and fosters inclusion in pursuit of a more just society.’ As a discipline, we are looking for ways to promote this value in our courses. Changes I am implementing this semester include revising my syllabus to promote a growth mindset and a sense of belonging. The overall goal of the project is to make Introduction to Psychology more equitable and inclusive for all students.”



Delta Fantastic Faculty: Nursing Faculty

The **Nursing Discipline Faculty** have been involved in a variety of trainings and certifications related to suicide awareness:

safeTALK – Participants develop suicide alertness and safety connection skills.

LivingWorks safeTALK – Provides participants in-depth skills to recognize signs of suicide, engage someone, and ensure a connection to safety.

ASIST – Participants learn how to prevent suicide by recognizing signs, providing a skilled intervention, and developing a safety plan to keep someone alive.



Over a year ago, Nursing Discipline Faculty started on a journey to train every nursing student on suicide alertness while they were taking a course focused on mental health. Each student received a certificate after completing the half-day program Suicide Alertness for Everyone (safeTALK). Over 150 students have been trained in the past year.

Additionally, all of the nursing faculty and nursing office professionals have been safeTALK Certified, and each now displays the organization's logo on/nearby their office doors. There is an additional logo sticker for those who have been ASIST trained.

Associate Professor of Nursing Meredith Bladecki was the first faculty certified to teach the course. This required two certifications: Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) and LivingWorks Training for Trainers (T4T). This past summer, **Associate Professor of Nursing Ann Dore**, **Associate Professor of Nursing Donna Militello**, and **Professor of Nursing Daisy McQuiston** completed the final steps of the certification. Delta College Nursing Discipline now has four instructors who can run the training, and they look forward to offering training sessions soon. "The more people trained, the safer our community becomes," McQuiston said.

Additionally, on August 7, **Delta College Nursing Faculty** formed a team to participate in the Barb Smith Suicide Resource & Response Network 2022 Walk for Hope...Depression and Suicide Awareness Event.



Delta Fantastic Faculty: Beth Heyart



Professor of Communication Beth Heyart will be directing Delta's fall play, *Treasure Island*, a joint venture with Bay City Players. Heyart states, "I am looking forward to this unique opportunity. Our adaptation of *Treasure Island* by Bryony Lavery features a female lead playing Jim Hawkins and emphasizes humor as the adventure unfolds." Presenting a show on two stages will have some unique challenges for Heyart. Elements of the set need to be built at each location and must match to ensure safety of the actors due to the choreographed fight scenes. Other aspects of the show, such as smaller set pieces, costumes, makeup, fight weapons, and props, will need to travel between the two locations for both rehearsals and performances.

Treasure Island auditions have already taken place and rehearsals have started. Heyart explains, "Our cast enjoyed the first reading of the script and has attended two stage combat workshops so far. We have a wonderful group of people that will grace our stages and others who are in the wings supporting our efforts." Ashley Higgins, a former Delta student and Delta Drama alum, will be the Student Director. Rita Gnida, Jessica McFarland, and Jim Stewart are Assistant Directors. Stage combat is led by SVSU Professor Tommy Wedge. Assistant Stage Manager is Freeland High School student Ava Avram. Producer is Judy Miller, a former Delta faculty member and administrator.

Morning performances at Delta College on November 2 & 3 will be for K-12 school groups. The remaining performances, November 4 & 5 at 7:30pm and November 6 at 3pm, will be at Bay City Players, 1214 Columbus Avenue. The show is appropriate for ages eight and up. Performances will contain mild language, flashing lights, fog, and staged pirate fight scenes depicting mild violence and actors portraying death. Tickets are available by visiting www.baycityplayers.org or by contacting the Bay City Players box office Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at (989) 893-5555. Ticket prices are Students: \$11, Adults: \$21. Questions about the show can be sent to bethheyart@delta.edu

TREASURE ISLAND (LAVERY) is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Delta Fantastic Faculty: Diane Wisniewski



Starting her eighth year at Delta College teaching anatomy & physiology, **Instructor Diane Wisniewski** recently completed certification from the University of Michigan in the musculoskeletal, integumentary, urinary, reproductive, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, and endocrine systems. "To complete the certification," Wisniewski says, "I participated as a student in four different courses which took a deep dive into the different body systems." Her commitment to professional development will enhance the learning experience for students in her classrooms. Wisniewski explains, "My students will go on to be health professionals, such as nurses, surgical technologists, dental hygienists, etc. The classes and certification I completed allowed me to participate just as students would. This gave me more insight not only into what they experience but different ways to approach teaching. I think it's always important to keep in mind that what we are teaching to students is new to them. It's easy to forget that since the topics are so familiar to us."

Delta Fantastic Faculty: Michael Glowacki



Over the summer, **Associate Professor of Art Michael Glowacki** worked on creating branding for the non-profit “Freedom Circle.” The organization was formed by a group of attorneys who support reproductive rights in the state of Tennessee. Glowacki also created two designs for non-profit organizations for their fundraising efforts, one for Planned Parenthood (<https://www.bonfire.com/equality-for-women-4/>) and the other for CARE – Ukraine Crisis Fund (<https://www.bonfire.com/peace-for-ukraine-5/>).

This fall, Glowacki’s design students will submit works for a design to be placed on a new Delta College Public Safety Police Vehicle. The Art and Design Program also received funding for an annual visiting artist program to support a visiting artist on campus for an exhibition, lecture/workshop, and the college will purchase one piece from that artist to become a part of the Delta College Art Collection. This effort will support local artists and our students. Glowacki offers “special thanks to the Delta College Art Collection Committee: Pamela Clark, Julie Dorsey, Andrew Rieder, J.D. Garn, Wendy Harness, Kay Schuler. This would not be happening without President Gavin’s support.”

Delta Fantastic Faculty: Chey Davis



Recently separated **Professor of English Chey Davis** has transitioned into a new career in Clinical Social Work / Therapist, having earned her MSW in addition to her MA. Davis has opened the private practice [Sagacity Counseling](#). Her listing in Psychology Today describes her approach: “I look forward to supporting other Black women, children, and other folks on the margins (LGBTQIA, disability, neurodivergence) as they work to navigate American society. I'm delighted to offer mental health care that speaks to concerns of marginalization, racism, sexism, and navigating late capitalism. I

want to support folks who are told they don't matter, their work isn't important, and that they are their own problems. We will work together to dismantle the baked in -isms that are so harmful to our mental health. I am here to support you through depression and anxiety, suicidality, and life transitions, writ large.” We congratulate Davis on this new venture.

Delta Fantastic Faculty: Lula Woodard



After eight years of service, **English Instructor Lula Woodard** is taking a new role in Community Services and Prevention in Mental Health / Substance Use Disorder teaching with Women of Colors, an organization Woodard has been a part of since 1999. In 2014 Woodard began at Delta College as a reading specialist and was a strong supporter of developmental education as an approach to creating equity for all students. She provided a mentoring and learner-centered approach to working with hundreds of reading and writing students over the years. (An accurate count may well put that number just over one thousand students.) Woodard also recently contributed to the book, [The Mother You Know](#), in which five African American women share stories of their mothers and their own experiences with motherhood. Woodard was acknowledged by her colleagues in 2016 with the English Division Teacher of the Year and in 2022 with the Lynn Heatley Award for distinguished service for adjunct faculty. Woodard’s presence will be missed at Delta College, but we are fortunate to have her continue her incredible work in our Great Lakes Bay community.

Delta Fantastic Faculty: Jeff Vande Zande and Andrew Rieder

Professor of English Jeff Vande Zande's latest novel, *Rules of Order*, has been published by [Montag Press](#). The book features the painting *Mine* by Professor of Art Andrew Rieder. *Rules of Order* tells the story of Harvey Crowe, a community activist, who lives in what could be the last remaining high-rise building in a wrecked city. Cracks in the ground-floor apartments are appearing exponentially. The building's structural strength can't possibly hold the load it bears. Crowe works to inform tenants on the upper floors that the weight of their possessions could bring the entire building down. Working with the Anti-Collapse Trust, Crowe encounters obstacles to his message, including indifferent tenants, his self-doubt, hostile security guards, and a co-op board headed by the corrupt Chairman Burke. Even as Crowe makes meaningful alliances with other influential tenants, they are working against a ticking clock. With time running out, Crowe and his militant colleague, Dagmar, carry out a desperate plan to save what might be the city's last habitable space. Perhaps influenced by his time at Delta, Vande Zande's book features a number of boardroom scenes that are driven by Robert's Rules of Order – hence the title.

