School of Business & Design Students Receive Honors College Awards

School of Business & Design students and faculty were recognized for their outstanding efforts and contributions at the Honors College Awards Program on Thursday, November 19th.

Robbin Buller, Assistant Professor of Art, received the Honors College Faculty Award. This award “recognizes a faculty member for exceptional dedication to Honors College students through teaching, advising, and mentoring.”

The Honors College presented Certificates of Appreciation to two School of Business and Design students, Alexis Riddick (Business Administration) and Alyssia Parker (Studio Art), for their service and leadership as Service Project Chair and The Brown Lady Editorial Board, respectively. Alexis was also recognized for the Student in Service Award, which “recognizes an Honors College member who has demonstrated exceptional motivation, innovation, and involvement in service to the university and wider community.” Additionally, both Alexis and Alyssia received the Outstanding Honors College Senior Award.

The following School of Business and Design students were also recognized for their outstanding achievements:

**Outstanding Honors College Sophomore Award**
Haleigh Reid (Business Administration)

**Outstanding Honors College Junior Award**
Shaine Olmstead (Business Administration)

**Outstanding Honors College Senior Award**
Tristan Council (Business Administration)
Chris Hernandez (Business Administration)
Alyssia Parker (Studio Art)
Alexis Riddick (Business Administration)
Michaela Worthington (Business Administration)
Jason Fowler Joins School of Business & Design

The School of Business & Design is excited to welcome Jason Fowler. Jason officially begins his position as Assistant Professor in Graphic Design in January but has already started developing spring courses and making plans for the Graphic Design program for Spring 2021.

Jason first realized his passion for design when working summers in Virginia Beach at his uncle’s sign company. “I fell in love with the process and using the programs,” Jason explains, “It’s an artistic career but it is also a technical career, and it lit a fire under me.” When Jason returned in the fall to Christopher Newport University for his senior year, he switched his major from English to Studio Art with a Graphic Design Concentration.

His fervor for design led him to continue his education, later earning a Master of Fine Arts in Graphic Design from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. After graduation, he began working as a Graphic Designer at Lumber Liquidators, where he edited and produced copy for marketing materials, including consumer catalogs, web graphics, and national billboards. In this position, Jason had the opportunity to brand the historic Yankee Stadium when he worked on a team that designed 30 x 80 foot banners to hang across the side panels of the stadium.

After Lumber Liquidators, Jason became the Senior Graphic Designer at Architectural Graphics, Inc. In this position, he was the lead graphic designer over a staff of five in-house graphic designers. One of his most memorable and exciting tasks was when he was involved in the nationwide rebranding of Starbucks. The rebranding effort included updating the logo, new signage, and improving the drive-through experience.

Since April 2015, Jason has worked as the Marketing Art Director for The Glass Baron, Inc., a company that offers pressed and blown glass products. Jason’s responsibilities in this role included the coordination of all marketing design and production with production staff in the US and China and serving as the Creative Lead for all marketing collateral produced by the Glass Baron, Inc.

Although his original teaching career took a different path, Jason says he feels as if his career has “come full circle.” He feels fortunate to teach in the career that he loves and inspire his students to achieve their goals. Jason has taught Graphic Design courses at both Old Dominion University and Coastal Carolina University. He describes his classes as “lively and full of ideas” and a place to foster creativity and growth. “Classrooms do not have to be boring or lacking in excitement,” he says. Jason’s energetic attitude and enthusiasm for the subject will undoubtedly transfer to the students, as they will enjoy learning and developing their skills in the collaborative environment he creates.

When he is not working, Jason enjoys traveling with his wife, Delia, and his six children: Isaiah (10), Matthew (8), Liliana (6), Christopher (4), Jason (4) and Rubi (1). He and his wife are also expecting, so he is looking forward to adding another member to the family. He also enjoys sports, especially basketball and football, and has coached soccer in his community. In addition, he loves video games and is a self-proclaimed “tech nerd”. He and his wife are also active in their church, Community Church is Chesapeake, VA.

Welcome to the Chowan family, Jason!
The School of Business & Design Welcomes Dr. Doug Lange to the Organizational Leadership Program

The School of Business and Design is excited to introduce Dr. Doug Lange, professor for OL 501, Leadership: Theories, Practices, and Context. Doug earned a Master of Business Administration from Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, and his Doctor of Business Administration in Leadership from Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA. He is currently the Vice President of Business Affairs at Florence-Darlington Technical College in Florence, SC.

Doug’s goal in teaching is to condense a lifetime of leadership experience into a graduate course. He explains, “Students can expect to be engaged and challenged, as this course has been designed to be one of self-reflection and self-discovery.” He continues, “Students are going to learn theory, internalize information, and evaluate theory as we go through the course, especially how the theory influences their own leadership style. Students will emerge with a better understanding of themselves and others, and they will be better prepared to step into greater leadership roles within their organizations.”

Doug’s experience and his military and civilian background is a great example of taking on greater leadership roles throughout his own career. He was commissioned in the Army as an engineering officer and spent ten years in active duty and another 17 as a reservist. He rose to the rank of Colonel, serving in the Gulf War (1990), Kosovo (1999-2000), and Afghanistan (2002-2003).

When asked about his greatest leadership accomplishment, Doug speaks of his time as a Deputy Commander of a multi-national joint task force in Afghanistan. He explains, “My proudest accomplishment is taking about 250 people from their normal lives, spending months in intensive training getting them ready, taking them to Afghanistan for a year, and bringing them all safely home to their families. They not only got the job done, but they got it done in a much more competent and confident fashion than they thought was possible.”

Doug has served as Vice-President of Business Affairs at three colleges: Stephens College in Columbia, MO, the University of Pikeville in Pikeville, KY, and Florence-Darlington Technical College (current). As a member of the college leadership team, he frequently communicates with the board of trustees, business leaders, and local and state legislators. He has extensive experience in planning and operations, providing leadership and financial analysis in the development of institutional strategic plans. As an example, he provided strategic planning and analysis to expand the Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine and to establish the College of Optometry, both at the University of Pikeville.

Doug has taught graduate courses in accounting and finance and regularly conducts leadership training for corporate clients. He notes that new graduate students are often apprehensive about beginning an academic program, and offers some comfort, “This course, and this program, is designed to teach students one step at a time. Students are going to learn about leadership and themselves, and then assemble that into a more cohesive strategy for how they want to lead people.”

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Chowan Business Department Welcomes Dannemiller to Visiting Executive Program

By Grace Arredondo, University Relations

On Tuesday, November 3, 2020, the Chowan Business Department welcomed Katie Dannemiller, Vice President of Baseball Operations with the Greensboro Grasshoppers, as she virtually addressed students as part of the Visiting Executive Program. In her lecture, Dannemiller delivered her personal narrative of how she became a happy, successful businesswoman, pausing at significant moments to give powerful advice to the students in attendance.

Dannemiller began her discussion by acknowledging a curious connection between herself and Professor Patsy Taylor, Chowan’s Associate Professor of Marketing and event organizer. Professor Taylor’s son-in-law, Stephen Johnson, is the Director of Promotions and Community Relations for the Greensboro Grasshoppers. Dannemiller has known Stephen since he was a child as his father, North Johnson, was one of her most beloved mentors. Who could have guessed that decades later, both Stephen and Dannemiller would find prosperous, fulfilling lives working together for the same organization, as Dannemiller mentors him.

Throughout her lecture, Dannemiller interjected her own story to share valuable nuggets of wisdom she had gleaned throughout her arduous career. She encouraged her audience that they do not have to study sports in college to work for a sports organization. They should instead focus on honing their communication skills and marketing strategies. These abilities prove to be the most lucrative for an employee and the company because, at the end of the day, the most valuable employees generate the most revenue for the company. Dannemiller cautioned, though, that more money does not equal happiness. Early in her career, Dannemiller moved from her home in Akron, Ohio to New Britain, Connecticut pursuing a high-paying job opportunity. Despite her incredible salary, Dannemiller greatly disliked her job and quit, moving back home with the knowledge that no amount of money could buy her happiness. She used this anecdote to illustrate that money is not everything in a job. Happiness in one’s work reinforces passion, a key ingredient to being a successful employee.

With over twenty minutes of the presentation dedicated to answering students’ questions, Katie Dannemiller and her empowering story clearly connected with the next generation of businesswomen and men. Despite COVID-19’s necessary limitations on how we network and fellowship, the Business Department’s Visiting Executive Program continues to find safe, effective avenues to inspire Chowan’s emerging leaders.
Graphic Communications Virtual Alumni Talk

By Grace Arredondo, University Relations

On Tuesday, November 10, 2020, Assistant Professor of Graphic Communications, Jennifer Newton, accompanied by Dr. Michelle Surerus, Professor of Graphic Communications, as she hosted the virtual GC Alumni Talk. At the event, fourteen Graphic Communications alumni shared their experiences since graduating from the University and discussed the importance of participating in internships before employment. The experience was not only nostalgic for the alumni speakers but useful for the student audience as they witnessed the rich diversity of opportunity within their field of study.

The following list contains the names and graduated class of each alum present for the discussion:

- William Metcalfe ('05)
- Anna Parker Eure ('10)
- DJ Nichols ('13)
- Lauren Baker ('14)
- Vanessa Council ('14)
- Malcolm Roberson ('14)
- Macaulay Chilaka ('15)
- Lee Duncan ('16)
- Sarah Ervin ('16)
- Shelby Barlowe ('18)
- David Cross ('19)
- Aleeza Walker ('19)
- Keeana White ('19)
- Kendall Butler ('20)

Most of the lecture’s audience were the fourteen current Chowan University students, most Graphic Communications or Design majors. Many students responded afterward with honest, heartfelt reflections toward the experience, noting that they appreciated the alumni’s candor and advice.

Sophomore Graphic Design major, Telly Hawkins, commented, “[He] liked how [the alumni] talked about not giving up on your vision for what you want to do.” He especially connected with a remark by 2020 graduate, Kendall Butler. Kendall recently began a career as a CAD Designer for Packrite LLC in High Point, NC. He affirmed that the first step is the hardest part of the process and pushing through this difficulty is key to arriving where you want to be. In her final remarks, event host, Ms. Jennifer Newton commented that “having recent graduates, [who] students recognized, share their work and internship experiences was a great opportunity for students to learn about possibilities for their future.”
Phi Beta Lambda Recognitions at Fall Conference

Ahmeika Jones, a junior business administration major with a concentration in management, was recognized as one of three $1000 NCPBL Professional Division Scholarship recipients at the annual NCPBL fall conference. Ahmeika joined Chowan’s PBL chapter in the fall of her freshman year and has been an active member since that time. She is currently serving as treasurer of the chapter. Congratulations, Ahmeika!

Chowan’s chapter also received two awards, including second place recognitions for the NC Eastern Region Chapter Membership Award and the NC Eastern Region Professional Division Membership Award. Congratulations, PBL!

Business majors or students enrolled in a business class are eligible for membership. To learn more about how to get involved with Chowan’s PBL chapter, contact Patsy Taylor, Chapter Adviser at taylop@chowan.edu.
Send us your best shot!

The Communication Arts Department has announced the details for the annual student photography competition. The show will be held on the Arts@CU webpage (www.artsatcu.com) and on the Communication Arts Facebook page in February 2021. The competition is open to all Chowan students. Any photos taken since January 1, 2020 are eligible for entry. The deadline to submit entries is January 29, 2021. The show will go live on February 5, 2021. There will be a virtual awards ceremony on February 12, 2021 to recognize various award winners. First, second and third place winners will receive cash prizes. This year’s competition will also include a Viewer’s Choice award, given to the photograph with the most likes on Facebook. Keep an eye out for emails including official rules and participation details. Email Ms. Jen Newton at grovej2@chowan.edu with any questions.

Deadline to enter:

January 29, 2021

2019 Winners

First Place
Sarah Hull

Second Place
Kyra Cauthen

Third Place
Hailey Hudson
The 51st Annual Student Art & Design Exhibition

The Department of Communication Arts is proud to announce the 51st Annual Student Art and Design Exhibition, offered online this year. Cash awards will be given for Best in Show ($150.00), 2nd Place ($75.00), 3rd Place ($50.00), and Honorable Mention ($25.00). Entries of traditional media such as drawings, paintings, or ceramics are to be digitally photographed and entered as jpeg images. Digital photography and graphic design work can also be entered as jpeg images. Entries must follow the entry requirements listed on the exhibition prospectus that has been emailed to students.

All Chowan University students are eligible to submit work to the exhibition. Upperclassmen art majors are expected to submit work; freshmen are strongly encouraged to submit work. This is a juried show, where all submitted entries will be judged for acceptance into the exhibition. The deadline for entries is Friday, February 19. Following the jurying process, students will be notified if their submissions are accepted for the exhibition on Friday, February 26. On Friday, March 5, the winners of the cash awards will be announced at the Virtual Awards and the exhibition will be on display at the Arts@CU website and on the Communication Arts Facebook page. To obtain a copy of the exhibition prospectus, or, if you have any questions regarding the show, contact Rob Buller, buller@chowan.edu.

Deadline to enter: February 19, 2021
Social Media Marketing Class Welcomes Guest Speakers

Students in Patsy Taylor’s Social Media Marketing class had an opportunity to interact with two guest speakers on Zoom during the semester. Stephen Johnson, Director of Promotions and Community Relations with the Greensboro Grasshoppers baseball organization, spoke to the class on October 17. He talked about what his job entails and specifically how he uses social media to promote the Grasshoppers organization. On November 11, Kim Bailey, Assistant Vice President for Advancement and Director of University Relations, shared insight about the role of social media in Chowan University’s promotional mix. Both presentations were informative and provided an excellent opportunity for students to hear how social media is used as a major promotional tool for organizations.

The School of Business & Design Welcomes Dr. Doug Lange to the Organizational Leadership Program continued

He offers a challenge to students, “I would challenge people to dare to volunteer and to participate in what is going on. Sometimes the reward is something you never expected.”

This advice helped him when he lived across from the palace in Afghanistan in downtown Kabul. Doug explains, “When the king [Mohammed Zahr Shah] came out of exile in 2002, he was about 87 years old and his health wasn’t great. I let my medics go across the street a few times a week and check on him, which was something that we were not required to do. When we were leaving the country, we asked if we could stop by and say goodbye. He agreed, and we spent four hours that evening with the king and his brother-in-law and listened to his stories about his experiences and interactions with America from Eisenhower to Nixon. These four hours were the direct result of volunteering. We dared to go out there and engage someone and gained a priceless experience.”

Doug resides with his wife, Lisa, and two Labrador retrievers. He has three sons, four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. He notes that even though his family is spread out across the country, they still manage to stay close with each other. In his free time, Doug enjoys target shooting, reading (especially leadership research), and teaching.

Welcome to the Chowan family, Doug!

The Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership will begin on January 20, 2021.
Business Student of the Month

November
Julieta Lecce

The November Student of the Month from the Department of Business is Julieta Lecce, a senior Business Administration major with a concentration in Accounting and minors in Management and Economics. Julieta came to Chowan from Argentina so she could pursue her dreams of attending college and playing tennis. She quickly found her place and began making her mark at Chowan.

Julieta is a dedicated, hard-working student athlete. She is a stellar student, earning a spot on the President’s List each semester. Throughout her studies at Chowan, her hard work has won her many academic accolades, including her induction into Sigma Beta Delta and Alpha Chi. At the Awards Convocation last spring, she was recognized as the Drs. Vaughn and Miles Outstanding Student of Business Award as the top junior in the School of Business.

Not only is Julieta a standout in class, she is also a leader on the tennis court. She has served as the team captain for the past two years, allowing her an opportunity to apply the leadership and management skills she has studied in classes. She credits tennis for teaching her time management skills and forcing her to mature and handle all the demands faced by a student athlete. It has also provided her with some of her favorite memories of her time at Chowan.

If she is not in class or on the court, you will likely find Julieta in the library. She is not just there to study, she serves as one of the library’s student workers, assisting staff with tasks and helping students locate resources and books. For her helpfulness and work record, she earned recognition from the library as the Spring 2020 Student Worker of the Semester.

After her graduation in May, she plans to work toward her CPA license and gain experience as an accountant here in the United States before returning home to Argentina. She loves to travel, however, and would like to try living in another country. Her experience and growth while at Chowan has shown her there is much to learn from leaving your comfort zone and adapting to the challenges a new culture presents.

As for words of wisdom for underclassmen, she says “don’t hesitate to speak up, raise your voice, and be you.” She encourages all students to participate in class, show their skills, and work to improve themselves and Chowan.

Congratulations to Julieta for her selection as November’s Student of the Month! We are so proud of you and look forward to seeing where your future leads you!
Communication Arts Student of the Month

November
Chris Whaley

The Department of Communication Arts is proud to recognize Christopher Whaley as our Student of the Month for November. Hailing from Morganton, North Carolina, Chris came to Chowan University in the fall of 2019 after he earned his Associate of Arts degree from Western Piedmont Community College. He had heard outstanding recommendations about the Graphic Communications and Graphic Design programs at CU and decided that this was where he would continue his academic career in pursuit of his Bachelor of Science in Graphic Design degree.

Chris has excelled in his academic achievements from the start at Chowan University and has made the President’s List every semester. Chris’s artistic talents were recognized last year in the 50th Annual Student Art and Design Exhibition, where he received an Honorable Mention award for his scratchboard entry, “Dinky”. He has also been actively involved in campus clubs and organizations including the photography club. In the spring semester of 2020 he was inducted into Kappa Pi, the International Art Honor Society, where he currently serves as Secretary. This semester Chris became a member of Alpha Chi Honor Society.

Chris is currently working as an intern for Kim Bailey, the Director of University Relations and Communications. He applies his design skills and artistic talents to the many projects he works on, including a digital calendar, a pamphlet, and also as a photographer. One thing that Chris has found in his work as an intern is that he really enjoys designing graphics for CU social media applications.

Chris’s favorite classes at Chowan have been in graphic design, the most memorable to him being Typography with Professor Rudaina. When asked about any advice he would give to students on their way up, he said, “Listen to your professors and trust their judgement. Don’t be afraid to ask them questions because they are most willing to help you.” Chris is currently doing research on graphic design graduate programs to continue his education after he graduates in May 2021.
Alexis Riddick, a senior from Hampton, Virginia is the December 2020 Student of the Month. Alexis is majoring in business administration with a concentration in accounting and a minor in both economics and management. She is on track to graduate in May 2021.

“Busy” is a word that could best be used to describe Alexis. She is involved in multiple activities on campus and manages to juggle them all while maintaining an excellent grade point average. An honor student, she is a member of Alpha Chi, Alpha Lambda Delta, and Sigma Beta Delta. In September 2020, she was recognized as one of less than 20 students nationally to receive a Sigma Beta Delta Fellowship Scholarship Award.

In addition to her memberships in multiple honor societies, Alexis is a member of Phi Beta Lambda, Rotaract, and the Honors College. She currently serves as PBL’s SGA Representative, Rotaract’s Treasurer, and is a member of the Honors College Executive Board Committee. She is also the SGA Senior Class President, works as a Peer Mentor, a Resident Director, and tutor. It is no surprise that she was recognized in both Fall of 2019 and Fall 2020 as one of the 30 recipients of Chowan’s Outstanding Student Award.

Alexis notes that she chose to attend Chowan because it was close to home and she liked the small family-like environment. When asked what she has enjoyed most about her Chowan experience, she said “being a part of the School of Business & Design and the people.”

Alexis plans to pursue her master’s degree in Accounting from Old Dominion University and sit for the CPA exam. Her goal is to start her own nonprofit organization and possibly pursue teaching accounting. A little-known fact about her is that she had no intention of going to college, but circumstances changed, and she noted that everything happens for a reason.

When asked what advice she would give to current students, she said, “With God, hard work, and dedication, all things are possible.” She then added, “Get comfortable being uncomfortable. Only when you are uncomfortable are you experiencing growth.”

The School of Business and Design and Chowan University is glad Alexis decided to “get comfortable being uncomfortable.” Best of luck to you, Alexis, as you pursue your goals. Congratulations on your selection as the December 2020 Student of the Month.
Communication Arts Student of the Month

December
Regina Hall

Graphic Communications will be graduating one of its own this December. Regina Hall has completed all requirements for graduation as of December 2020. Being a non-traditional student, Regina has balanced children, marriage, and other obligations as she has completed her course work and internship. This was no easy task, but Regina stayed committed to achieving her goal of being the first to graduate in her family and becoming a mentor and inspiration to her children.

Regina transferred to Chowan in the Fall of 2018 after previously completing courses in digital design, 2-dimensional design, Excel, and computer applications and has not looked back. She has built on her interests in design and computers and will add another degree to her list of accomplishments when she graduates from Chowan University this December.

Regina has always been excited about the courses in Graphic Communications. The hands-on aspect of GC classes is appealing to students who like to be involved with the technical and creative aspects of solving problems as they relate to disseminating information in printed or digital form. It also helps to know that there is a job waiting for GC students after graduation if they are willing to move and put in the work.

Regina knows that she has chosen the right career path, especially after completing an internship that contributed to her skill and knowledge base in the printing and publishing industry. She knows and extolls the importance of an internship that not only teaches new skills and builds on existing knowledge, but also goes a long way toward opening employment doors after graduation and builds a professional network.

The Graphic Communication faculty wish Ms. Regina Hall the best of luck as she begins her career in the field of graphic communications in the printing and publishing industry. Congratulations!
Chowan Celebrates Elevated Learning Experience within the Graphic Communications Program

By: Grace Arredondo, University Relations

Chowan University’s Graphic Communications program announces the recent acquisition of a new Xerox Iridesse 120 Production Press. This top-tier machine has several exciting features and has more capabilities than the program’s current digital press. The new press can print a larger sheet, metallic gold, silver, white, and clear coatings. It can print 120 8.5x11 sheets per minute, making the Xerox Iridesse 120 a much faster and more efficient machine. Students will benefit tremendously from this equipment upgrade as they will be learning on a state-of-the-art digital press and thus graduating from Chowan University with exposure and proficiency with the latest technology in their field. The faculty and staff also benefit from this investment as their teaching capabilities are maximized to their full potential.

As Chowan is a central part of Murfreesboro and Hertford County, printing services will soon extend to the surrounding community to facilitate the needs of our neighbors, reaping the rewards of our success as a growing community together. Acquiring the Xerox Iridesse 120 Production Press to elevate the learning experience at Chowan University further demonstrates Chowan’s commitment to providing the very best for its students, faculty, and staff.

Lauren Rodil, (Class of 2009), Assistant Director of Printing Production with the Xerox Iridesse 120
Fellows Seminar Students Print Flash Drives

By: Grace Arredondo, University Relations

On Friday, November 20, 2020, students from Chowan University’s Fellows Seminar printed their own USB drives in the Horner Production Lab. This project was created after Dr. Mitchell Henke, Associate Professor of Graphic Communications, and Dr. Michelle Surerus, Professor of Graphic Communications, wanted to design an experience that would bring their seminar classes together. Their goal was to build a sense of community within the Fellows program, which has contributed to the boost in University retention levels.

Using the Fellows logo, Dr. Henke began the printing process by creating a file to be used on the Fujifilm Acuity flatbed inkjet press. He then assisted students as they set up a fixture to hold the USB drives during the printing process. The importance of this innovative, hands-on assignment cannot be overstated as COVID-19 has made collaborative projects rare and complicated to conduct. Students, particularly in a kinesthetic field of study, thrive in active, educational environments.
Internship Spotlight: Nicholas Russell

Nicholas Russell, senior graphic communications major, is working to complete his internship this year with University Graphic Services (UGS), Chowan University’s production department.

Nick has worked to create various signage projects for the Horner computer labs, as well as other design/layout projects with Lauren Rodil, Assistant Director of Printing Production. Nick has also gained additional experience on various equipment to include the Kongsberg cutting table and Acuity flatbed inkjet printer.

Throughout his internship, Nick has also had the opportunity to assist on the small offset duplicator, the Heidelberg PM46, with Charles Futrell, Director of Printing Production. He also had opportunities to work on the folder and other finishing equipment. These experiences allowed Nick to expand his overall experience beyond digital output processes and gain first-hand knowledge of the traditional printing and finishing processes.

All Graphic Communications majors are required to complete an internship as part of their degree requirements.

Important Dates to Remember:

Residential Students Move In
Saturday, January 16 - Monday, January 18, 2021

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 18, 2021

Students check-in and meet with advisors on Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Classes Begin at 8 am on Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Sunset at Lake Vann by GC major, Mauquann Squire