Dr. Lisa Frye's first connection to Kutztown University was in 1985 as a Secondary Math major. An engaging professor in one of her required courses drew Dr. Frye into computer science, and while she finished her undergraduate degree with the College of Education, she continued her schooling in computer science and has once again made a home at KU.

Along with her Bachelor’s degree in Secondary Education/Mathematics, Dr. Frye also has a Master’s and Bachelor’s in Computer Science from KU, as well as a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Lehigh University.

After earning her degrees, Dr. Frye spent several years in the technology industry gaining experience as an industrial software engineer, systems engineer, support analyst, server administrator, and network administrator. As it turned out, she could not stay away from Kutztown for long and she returned, this time as a staff member in the Office of Information Technology. The computer science faculty eventually lured her into their department and she started by teaching several courses as an adjunct professor. She easily made connections to students, made learning relevant to real world applications, and thoroughly enjoyed the classroom experience. In August 2001, she became a full-time computer science faculty member.

In her teaching, Dr. Frye introduces students to the complex world of computer science teaching introductory through graduate courses that include web programming, networks, security, and UNIX. She also became instrumental in developing the Information Technology track for the Computer Science degree, and in 2007 she was the recipient of the John P. Schellenberg Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

While working in Information Technology when the university initially connected to the internet, Dr. Frye became fascinated with the evolving network technology. Her primary area of research is network management and security and she has received grants for research in sensor networks and network management. In order to assist students in this growing field, she designed a network lab, which allows students to gain hands-on experience with current network technology.

Assisting students as they transition into college and then again as they prepare to enter the professional field is an aspect of her position that Dr. Frye feels is important in her role as an educator. Her professional career prior to her current faculty position allowed her to create contacts within the industry and she cultivates and uses these relationships to the benefit of her students. She incorporates guest speakers and project panelists into her curriculum to give her students tastes of what they can do after graduation.

Outside of her life at Kutztown, Dr. Frye has an active service record focusing on technology initiatives. She serves as a board member of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) and led the effort to begin an AITP student chapter at KU.

Dr. Frye enjoys sports in her free time, as well as boating, traveling, and camping. While she most often can be found working in her yard, Dr. Frye’s ultimate outdoor adventure is eating Maine lobster on the coast.
The Modern Language Department hosted its annual Language Resource Days on September 26 and 27. The program was designed to introduce students to the resources available to them in the LRC, and show them fun, interactive ways to learn languages. This year’s activities included an Amazing Language Race, a reverse scavenger hunt, and Language Feud.

Avid sculptor, painter, and photographer, Luis Beltran brought smiles and healing to the elderly residents at Spruce Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. A senior general studies major with a concentration in art, Luis started an internship at the center this past August, and has introduced artistic therapeutic exercises to the residents and staff at Spruce Manor. He initiated weekly activity sessions where residents created their own artwork through painting, sculpting, and other mediums. These sessions culminated on November 4 when Luis hosted an exhibit to showcase the work done by the residents.

Senior Katelyn Ciccozzi recently presented her latest astrophysics research at the American Astronomical Society’s “Giants of Eclipse” conference in Monterey, CA July 28 through August 2. Katelyn is a physics and math major, and all of her research was collected at the KU on-campus observatory under the guidance of Dr. Phillip Reed.

On October 24, the English Department sponsored a poetry reading by the winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, and the 2013 T.S. Eliot Prize, Sharon Olds. Olds read excerpts from her eight volumes of poetry to students and faculty, and was also available for a book signing after the event.

Physical science professors Edward Simpson and Kurt Friehauf worked with KU alumna Liz Heness and KU student Margariete Malenda with research on southern California’s Salton Sea. The team focused on the strange balls of fish flesh that litter the beaches of southern California. The project has earned attention from the national media, and the group presented their work at the Geological Society of America’s annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. (Pictured left to right: Kurt Friehauf, Liz Heness, Margariete Malenda, Edward Simpson.)

Sociology major Annemarie Daughtry was recently accepted into the American Sociological Association’s Honor Program, and this past August attended their annual meeting in New York City. Annemarie was one of 40 undergraduate students from across the U.S. to be accepted into the program. She was given the opportunity to present a research paper, as well as participate in honors-based conference events.
Students of higher education fight a daily battle against the word “average.” Employers don’t want average, they want the best, they want to choose the applicant that has stood out of the crowd and proven that they are the most qualified, that they want it the most. The competitive nature of the professional world has pushed students to go beyond classes and clubs and to reach for greater opportunities. Kutztown students are no exception to this. Each semester, students studying within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences choose to enrich their KU experience by participating in internships, co-ops, and research projects. This past year, Kutztown has proudly supported four individuals completing research assignments as part of Research Experiences for Undergraduates, a program sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Each student applied for and was accepted to separate programs within their areas of study designed to “promote the progress of science.”

Senior Dea Musa’s love for geology started with her love for the outdoors. An avid rock climber, Dea became fascinated with the structures that she climbed. She began asking herself questions like, “How did this rock get here?” She became inspired by her hobby and challenged herself to find the answers to these questions. Today, Dea has less than two semesters left of her undergraduate degree, has tacked on two minors to her Geology major—chemistry and physics—and has taken her education out of the classroom and into the real world.

This past summer, Dea was accepted to participate in a one month research project with the Summer Applied Geophysics Experience (SAGE) program in Santa Fe, New Mexico. During that month, she learned different methods within geophysics, and actively applied them to the land. Dea specifically worked at the Rio Grande Rift analyzing the underground structure of the land, determining where fault lines lay, and areas of hydro-thermal activity. She focused on the Pueblo culture of the area, and was privileged with the opportunity to do hands-on work at an archaeological site of a now underground Pueblo village. Her contribution was a piece of a greater puzzle that SAGE is working to solve. When the project is completed, Dea’s work will be combined with that of other students and professionals to create a large scale evaluation of the land.

Biochemistry major Blaine Connor performed his research experience at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland as an intern in their neuroscience lab. Blaine’s responsibilities included using cutting edge technology to do hands-on research on what will eventually be a published report. The project that he was working on researched a protein responsible for memory and cognition. The research team was using mice to ultimately add insight into how light is responsible for certain neurological functions. It was Blaine’s task to acquire tissue samples from the mice and perform dissections.

Blaine describes his experience as “an opportunity to experience how it is to be a professional in the field of biochemistry.” He was put under the same pressure as the professional scientists that were working on the project. He was expected to meet deadlines and follow protocol, and as a result feels he is more prepared to pursue a career after his impending graduation in May.

Brian Kilpatrick is not intimidated by the unknown. In fact, he thrives within the world of the unexplained, and it was the mysteries of the universe that inspired him to study physics. He was drawn to the subject by a strong desire to “understand the things that mankind does not currently understand.” It is Brian’s goal to first, learn and discover what he can in order to enhance his own comprehension of the fundamental laws that mankind has only a loose understanding of, and finally, to spread his knowledge and contribute to the rest of the world’s understanding.

During the summer of 2013, Brian worked with Cornell University’s Laboratory for Accelerator Based Science and Education in developing a prototype partial accelerator. The focus of the research was to produce accelerating cavities using super conducting radio frequency (SRF) technology. Brian was tasked with evaluating how to minimize production errors during the assembly of these SRF cavities. His work made it possible for the team of scientists to meet stringent tolerances for the final product.

Brian’s time at Kutztown is quickly coming to a close, but he feels that this experience has opened his eyes to the challenges and opportunities that the field presents, and is ready for his December graduation.

Anthony Mims traveled to Middle Tennessee State University for his nine week research experience at the Stones River Battlefield in the cedar glades. The goal of the project was to determine if variation in soil depth influences the richness of plant species in the central Tennessee area. Anthony’s responsibilities included collecting and recording soil depth measurements of the different cedar glades within Stones River Battlefield. He then input the data into ArcMap, a geospatial processing system, to make a topographic map of the area.

While Anthony’s research was a great contribution to the study being done by MTSU, he has found himself more attracted to the teaching aspect of science. His goals for after his graduation in May include securing a position as a middle school science teacher and settling down with his long-time girlfriend.
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind
William Kamkwamba inspires freshmen students

Five-hundred new freshmen gathered to hear the author of the freshmen reading, The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, by William Kamkwamba. The new students listened while William shared the story of how he grew up in Malawi, Africa, built his own windmill, and overcame impossible odds to pursue education. William is currently a senior at Dartmouth University and after graduating, he plans to return to his home in Malawi and use his education to improve his village and community.

Dr. Anita Meehan

Celebrating 26 years at Kutztown, Dr. Anita Meehan, Professor and Chair of the Psychology Department, joined KU’s CLAS family in 1986. Specializing in Developmental Psychology, especially Piaget’s theory of cognitive development and gender differences in cognitive abilities, she earned her B.A. in Psychology from Wilkes College (now Wilkes University) and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Temple University. After teaching for two years at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, and as one half of a dual-career marriage, Dr. Meehan made the move to Kutztown to join her husband who taught Biology at Delaware Valley College in Doylestown. This meant that both husband and wife had jobs in the same part of Pennsylvania, and she was able to continue with her first love of teaching.

Over her 30+ years in academics, Dr. Meehan has taught a variety of courses including General Psychology, Child/Adolescent/Life Span Psychology, Experimental Psychology, Statistics, History and Systems, and Senior Seminar.

Along with General Psychology, Experimental Psychology has been one of her favorite courses as it allows her to combine her passion for teaching with the excitement of research. In the course, students learn the basics of research methodology and carry out a pilot project of interest. Dr. Meehan’s greatest pride is seeing her students succeed, and she has seen more than 50 Experimental Psychology students who have expanded their pilot research into independent studies. Some of these projects have led to publications, all of them have led to conference presentations, and one led to a now KU alumna winning first place in the nation as the recipient of the National Psi Chi Honor Society’s J.P. Guilford Undergraduate Research Award.

In addition to teaching and research, Dr. Meehan has taken on administrative roles. In 1991 she was named Acting Assistant Dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She held this position for three semesters while the college searched for and hired a new Dean. In May 1999, she took over as Chair of Psychology, a large department where she presently supervises 19 faculty and 700+ majors. She is currently in her fifth term as chair and says it is time for the department to elect someone else. She will step down at the end of this academic year.

Throughout her lifetime Dr. Meehan has been active in sports: softball, basketball, volleyball, racquetball, tennis, and most recently, a combination of badminton and paddle ball called pickleball. She also advises the KU Fencing Club though she has little fencing experience. In addition to university committees she spends time on Boyertown Area YMCA committees in her position as Vice-Chair of their Board of Directors. She and her husband enjoy traveling. In particular they like to visit museums, historical sites, nature sites, and laid-back places like the Florida Keys.
Since his graduation from Kutztown’s Criminal Justice Department in December 2012, Officer Kyle Reeser has molded his life to the service of others and his community. Currently employed by the New Holland Police Department, Officer Reeser has made the most of his post-graduation life and quickly adapted as a professional within the criminal justice field.

Officer Reeser’s first foray into the professional world was at Best Buy in their Loss Prevention Department. “I didn’t enjoy that very much, because my hands were tied when it came to catching criminals.” This position served as an eye opener to the restrictions within certain criminal justice fields, and motivated him to explore further. During this same time period, he was also working part time at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Bern Township. This gave him his first introduction to report writing and also dealing with “unruly subjects.”

After that summer of firsts, Officer Reeser began actively pursuing his goal of becoming a police officer, and started at the Reading Police Academy during the summer of 2012. During his time at the academy he was tested both physically and academically. The academy is a rigorous 20-week program designed to equip its cadets with the skills and knowledge required of newly hired police officers. Officer Reeser excelled here, scoring within the top 5% on each test. Following his completion of the program, he had interviews in Bucks, Montgomery, and Lancaster County for the position of police officer.

Within a few months of applying, Officer Reeser heard back from both East Lampeter and New Holland Police Departments in Lancaster County. Chief Don Bowers of the NHPD offered him the position, and on May 13, 2013 Kyle Reeser was placed in his own squad car and officially became Officer Kyle Reeser. “I already love what I do; this has been what I’ve been working so hard to achieve.”

Along with serving and protecting the community of New Holland, Kyle is also an experienced volunteer firefighter in the Kenhorst area, and is in the midst of serving a six year commitment in the National Guard. “It was a long, tedious journey to find a job, but I made it. My classes at Kutztown, experiences in college and in the Guard helped me get a job in law enforcement.”

Junior Emily Snyder has been busy working her way through a major in geology with dual minors in chemistry and biology, but her intense course load has not interfered with her love of research. Emily’s time at Kutztown has proven her aptitude for the sciences, but it is the time she spends outside of class that proves her dedication.

Q: What interested you most about geology and why did you choose to turn it into your major?

A: I like how diverse geology is; it allows you to go into anything. You could go into environmental work, you could work in petroleum, you could work in a mine, you could be in a national park, there are so many options. I also like how you can incorporate all of the sciences into one. You could study physics, chemistry, biology, and combine that with geology. I love all of the sciences, as you can tell with my minors, so geology seemed like the right choice.

Q: What is the most interesting way that you have applied your knowledge gained at KU?

A: I am currently doing a research project at a cemetery where not all of the burial sites are marked with head stones. I am using ground penetrating radar to process data and find hyperbolas that indicate that something is in the ground. The owners of the cemetery need to know where they can dig new burial sites, so I am surveying their land so that they can better understand where bodies are and where it is safe to dig.

Q: What are some of the rewarding experiences you have had as you’ve grown in your academic years?

A: I went to a field camp in Hawaii to plot lava flows and seismic activity on the island. We also looked at things like the possibility of different parts of the island breaking off and sinking into the water. It was a lot of work, but it was also a lot of fun.

Q: What have you enjoyed most about your time at Kutztown?

A: Definitely the professors. Dr. Sherrod has been a big help; it was through her that I was able to work on this cemetery project. All of the geology professors, however, have influenced me at some point. I can tell that they’re excited when they’re teaching, and that makes me excited.

Q: What are your plans after graduation?

A: I still have two more years at Kutztown, but I’m considering graduate school. My dream job would be to work in a national park, but as long as I’m having fun, I think I’ll be happy.
Kutztown’s geography honor society, Gamma Theta Upsilon has been recognized for its “superior scholarship of students, service to geography and service to others” by being awarded the Honors Chapter Award for 2013.

The Kutztown University Electronic Media department swept the Arts, Entertainment, and Public Affairs category of this year’s Regional Emmy Awards. KU had four pieces nominated and was presented with an award for their documentary on Eastern State Penitentiary on Saturday, September 7, 2013. Department chair Helen Beiber accepted the award and students Ryan Hedrick, Andrew Donahue, and Shawn Petcaugh were also honored.

Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society hosted a family science night for the children of Kutztown professors and staff. Kids aged 5-13 enjoyed a fun and educational night where they participated in multiple scientific experiments, created their own lava lamps, and made a rubbery, gluey concoction called flubber. Students Argenis Williams (left) and Erin Sarosky (right) were two of the students that helped with the event.

KU’s Modern Language department teamed up with local high school German students on July 1 at the annual Kutztown Folk Festival. In the spirit of the festival, students spoke in the Pennsylvania German dialect and educated their audience on the language and culture. KU alumna and current teacher at Conrad Weiser High School, Ashley Snyder, is pictured with Mr. Patrick Donmoyer. Dr. Lynn M. Kutch, Department of Modern Language Studies, and Dr. Bill Donner, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, collaborated on the project.

Sarah Detweiler, a senior criminal justice major, has recently been selected to participate at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 2014 national conference that will take place in February 2014. She will present her paper entitled, “Ethics in Criminal Justice: Issues of Prosecutorial Misconduct,” and discuss Utilitarian and Deontology theories to explain misconduct in plea bargaining, conviction, and evidentiary proceedings.

Over 100 high school students traveled with their families on October 19 to attend the semiannual Science, Technology, and Math Open House. The prospective students were able to talk with faculty and current students while exploring the different departments within the CLAS. Each department presented a table to display student work and educate the high school students about the academic opportunities available to them at Kutztown.
For senior Professional Writing student AJ Simmons, Kutztown has become a family tradition. After his graduation in May, AJ will become the third member of his immediate family to join the long line of KU alumni. Before he is handed his diploma, however, AJ plans on making the best of his final year as a Golden Bear.

After an uninspiring year at Shippensburg as a history major, AJ began looking at other options. He had always loved to write, and was quickly attracted by Kutztown’s professional writing Program. As one of the only schools within the PASSHE system to incorporate a program designed specifically for writers, Kutztown became the obvious choice. The picturesque campus and central location cemented the deal.

AJ quickly became involved with the professional writing program and the university in general. He is currently a member of Phi Sigma Pi, and the Public Relations Club, the Head Copy Editor of Shoofly Literary Magazine, and was recently elected as the Editor and Chief of the university newspaper, The Keystone.

His experience with The Keystone started during his second semester at KU and since then, he has climbed his way up the editorial ladder. Not coincidently, AJ’s accession to Editor and Chief also coincides with big changes for The Keystone. The goal of the paper is not only to provide informative services for the KU community, it is also to enrich the experiences of its student workers and mimic a big brand newspaper as much as possible. Since it has existed, the 80 year old paper has been printed and distributed across campus on a weekly basis.

As society becomes more dependent on technology, however, newspapers and magazines have been making the transition from print to web. Along with his editorial duties which include managing a staff and ensuring articles are being written, AJ has also served a key role in pushing his newspaper to these real-world standards. Starting this semester, The Keystone can now be viewed in its entirety at thekeystonenews.com every week, and print editions are distributed every three weeks. These are monumental changes, and AJ plans to keep pushing until The Keystone is as professional and successful as possible.

While AJ has spent the last three years building his credibility within the world of journalism, he would turn down a job at The New York Times if it meant that he could have his dream job as a rock star. This talented writer boasts of another skill just as impressive; he plays six instruments, more than enough to be his own band. With rock star gigs being few and far between however, AJ would be happy with finding a position either in public relations or journalism. Either way, you can expect to see this dedicated, hardworking senior’s name somewhere (either as a byline or an album cover) in the near future.

Congratulations to our faculty

 Granted Tenure 2013-2014

Joleen Greenwood, Anthro/Soc
Angelika Antoni, Biology
Gregory Setliff, Biology
Randy Kaplan, Computer Science
Dale Parson, Computer Science
Yong Zhang, Computer Science
AnnMarie Cordner, Criminal Justice
Gary Cordner, Criminal Justice
Jonathan Kremser, Criminal Justice
Cara Cotellese, Electronic Media
Anne DeLong, English
Lynn Kutch, Modern Languages
Carolina Muctezuma, Modern Languages
Kunal Das, Physical Sciences
Jason Lanter, Psychology
Edward Hanna, Social Work

Congratulations to our Retirees

Joan Davis
Joseph Chuk
Matthew Nesvisky
Heather Thomas
Elaine Reed
Ilene Prokup
Edward Vitz

2013/2014 Faculty Promotions

 Associate Professor

Joleen Greenwood, Anthro/Soc
Angelika Antoni, Biology
Gregory Setliff, Biology
Dale Parson, Computer Science
Yong Zhang, Computer Science
Anne DeLong, English
Amy Lynch-Biniek, English
Perry Lee, Mathematics
Lynn Kutch, Modern Languages
Jason Lanter, Psychology

Professor

Curt Herr, English
Andrew Arnold, History
Kunal Das, Physical Sciences
Sharon Lyter, Social Work
The spring 2013 edition of The Collage was designed and written by Amber Himes’14, professional writing major, under the supervision of the CLAS Dean’s Office.