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# Excellence at Work

An e-newsletter for faculty and staff scholarly achievements

Sept. 9, 2021

## HONORS

**Carol Lamb**, chair of the School of Computer Science, Information and Engineering Technology, received the 2021 James H. McGraw Award for outstanding contributions to engineering technology education. Established in 1950, the award is co-sponsored by McGraw-Hill Higher Education and the American Society for Engineering Education. Lamb holds bachelor's and master's degrees from YSU, a PhD in Engineering Management from Northcentral University and currently chairs ASSE's Engineering Technology Council.



**Tomi Ovaska**, Distinguished Professor of Economics, was conferred the title of Docent in Political Economy by the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. The honorary title is conferred for life to scholars with distinguished international reputations and after a rigorous research review and demonstration lecture. Ovaska came to YSU after four years as assistant professor of Economics at the University of Regina in Saskatchewan. He holds a master's in Political Science and a PhD in Economics from the University of Jyväskylä.

**Maria Fenty Denison**, program coordinator of Musical Theatre, was among 15 people selected to attend the 2021 USA Lessac Summer Intensive online training program, earning certification as a practitioner in Lessac Kinesensics to teach Bodyvoice for the Actor at YSU. Denison has been asked to serve on a newly formed research committee for the Lessac Training and Research Institute.

## GRANTS

**Alicia Prieto Langarica**, professor of Mathematics and Statistics, and a group of other YSU faculty received a National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduate Students grant for "The YSU Beginning Undergraduates'

Mathematical Research Preparation." YSU BUMP brings 12 undergraduate students to YSU each summer for three years to conduct research in mathematics and statistics. "We want to give students the opportunity to get involved in research early in their academic career," Prieto Langarica said. Advisors for the project are **Tom Wakefield**, **Alexis Byers**, **Thomas Madsen**, **Lucy Kerns** and **Paddy Taylor**, all faculty in Mathematics and Statistics. The program will be assessed by **Cryshanna Jackson Leftwich** from Politics and International Relations.



## PUBLICATIONS



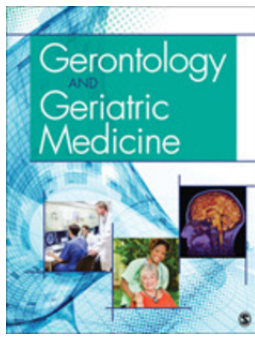
**Randall E. Goldberg**, associate professor and director of the Dana School of Music, is one of the editors of *Passion According to St. Luke (1783)*. The publication is part of the *Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach: The Complete Works*, a project of the Packard Humanities Institute, in cooperation with the Bach-Archiv Leipzig, the Sächsische Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Leipzig and Harvard University. Goldberg holds a PhD in Musicology from Indiana University, a master's in Guitar Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music and a bachelor's in Guitar Performance from the University of Texas, Austin.

## PRESENTATIONS



"Fans feel like any kind of attack on their team is an attack on their identity." That's one of the comments that **Adam Earnhardt**, professor of Communication, makes in a new episode of "The Dark Side of Football" series that aired on Vice TV in June. The episode, entitled "FANactics," features a handful of other experts, as well as several ex-NFL players. Earnhardt is included because of his research in sports fandom and sports-social media. **Watch.**

(Note: **Paul McFadden**, president of the YSU Foundation and former kicker with the Philadelphia Eagles, is also mentioned in the episode.)



**Daniel J. Van Dussen**, the DePizzo Endowed Chair of Gerontology, published the paper “Hospitalization in High Fracture Risk Older Adults with

Osteoporosis Using the Safe Functional Motion Test: A Longitudinal Analysis” in *Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine*.

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**Mari Alschuler**, associate professor of Social Work, wrote a chapter in the *The Routledge International Handbook of Social Work Supervision*. Alschuler’s chapter is titled, “Social work group supervision.” The book provides an overview of social work supervision internationally and presents an analytical review of social work supervision theory, practice and research. In addition, Alschuler was elected to the Board of Directors of the Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, representing Region 4. Alschuler also has been appointed to the Social Work Education Council on Conferences and Faculty Development.

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**Kyosung Choo**, associate professor of Mechanical Engineering, and his students recently published four scholarly articles: “Energy Conservation Measures for a Research Data Center in an Academic Campus” in *Energies* with Khaled Alsharif and Aspen Glaspell; "Heat Transfer Characteristics of Submerged and Free Surface Air-assistant Water Jet

**Tim Francisco**, professor of English, led a seminar, "Public Shakespeare(s) in the Market," at the annual Shakespeare Association of America Conference. The association is the foremost organization for Shakespeare scholars. He also recently published "Whither Goest Thou, Public Shakespearean?" (with Sharon O'Dair), in the journal, *Shakespeare Survey*. It is the lead essay in the journal's special issue, "Shakespeare and Education." Meanwhile, Francisco has also joined the Board of Directors for Buckeye Flame, a non-profit media collective that "amplifies the voices of LGBTQ+ Ohioans... (and) chronicles the triumphs, struggles, and lived experiences" of LGBTQ+ people.

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**Cassie Nespor**, curator, University Archives and Melnick Medical Museum, was part of



a panel for a session titled "Collecting COVID" at the 2021 Society of American Archivists' Conference. The purpose of the panel was to show the diverse COVID-related collecting projects undertaken by various archives. Nespor discussed her work to document YSU’s response to the pandemic, including the COVID Experience Collection – stories written by students, faculty and staff. Stories can still be submitted [here](#). “My goal was to help other archivists in small institutions realize that not every COVID archives has to be done to the level of the NIH or Johns Hopkins,”

Impingement” in *Global Journal of Engineering Sciences* with Victoria Rouse; “Thermal Stress Simulation Model of Ti6AL4V-NITI Dissimilar Laser Welding Process,” in *ASME International Manufacturing Science and Engineering Conference* with Aspen Glaspell, Dr. Jae Joong Ryu; “Simulation of Metal Additive Manufacturing” in *International Conference on Fluid Flow, Heat and Mass Transfer* with J. Angel Diosdado De la Pena.

**Isam E. Amin** and **Alan M. Jacobs**, faculty in the Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geology and Environmental Sciences, recently published "Record length needed to predict suspended sediment load from stream discharge data using linear regression" in the *International Journal of Ecological Economics and Statistics*.

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**Paul Sracic**, professor of Political Science and International Relations, published the article “**Reauthorizing Trade Promotion Authority: The First Trade Test for the Biden Administration**” with the Hinrich Foundation, an Asia-based organization that works to advance global trade. Sracic also appeared on Korean radio discussing LG Chem and a recent U.S. Trade Commission ruling, and also recently published an opinion piece on CNN’s website headlined “**A big night for Clyburn**

she said. “You can make a meaningful collection with the assets you have without straining your time for all the other things you have to do.”



**Shelley Blundell**, assistant professor of Journalism and Communication, presented “**Much LaDue about Fracking: What watershed moments in the history of Akron’s water supply and fracking in the Mahoning Valley could predict for Geauga County’s LaDue Reservoir and its uncertain ‘fracking future.’**” The virtual presentation was hosted by Protect Geauga Parks. Blundell, who has written articles on Akron’s city water including “Water: From Crisis to Cleanliness – a history of Akron’s water system”, was joined by **Alyssa Lutker**, who earned a bachelor’s degree in Anthropology from YSU in 2020 with minors in Journalism and Biology.

Faculty in the Counseling program - **Emily Herman, Vicki Kress, Danielle Matos, Jake Protivnak, Staci Tessmer, Amy Williams and Emily Wollet** - presented research at the Spring 2021 American Counseling Association National Conference:



- “Strength-Based Remediation Conversations with Counseling Supervisees, presented by Protivnak and Kress.
- “Unrecognized Grief: Interventions Addressing the Losses of Students During a Pandemic,” presented by

and Trump.”



A.J. Sumell, professor of Economics, published the article “A cultural comparison of mindfulness and student performance:

Evidence from students in five countries” in the *International Review of Economics Education*. The study examines the relationship between mindfulness, defined as the ability to focus on the present moment, and student performance among university students in China, Finland, Germany, South Africa and the United States. The analysis shows that a positive association between mindfulness levels and student performance exists, but the relationships vary significantly across countries. The results suggest that finding ways to improve mindfulness can lead to a more focused and productive environment, no matter the classroom or country.

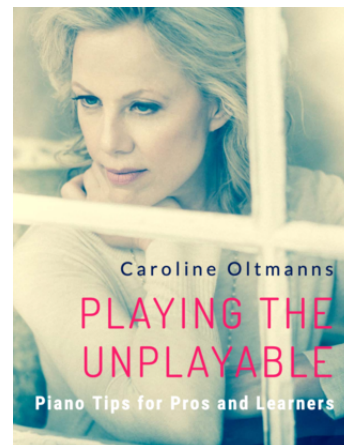
- Protivnak, Herman and Matos. “Down-and-Out: Addressing Unrecognized Grief with Injured College Student-Athletes,” presented by Tessmer, Protivnak and Wollet.
- “Counselor Advocacy: Tools and Tips for Busy Counselors,” presented by Kress.
- “Self-Care and Wellness for Counseling Graduate Students,” presented by Williams.

Meena Venkataraman and Mari Alschuler, associate professors of Social Work, presented a workshop on “Ideas from

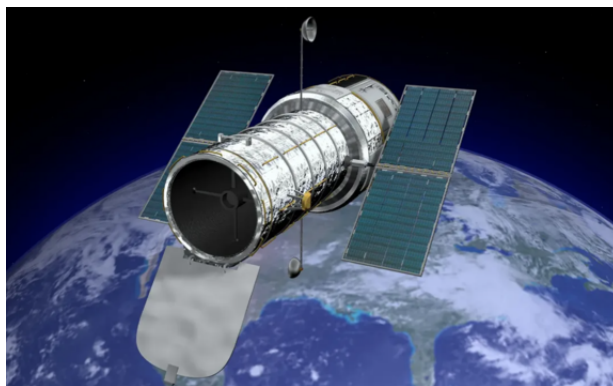


Buddhism and Hinduism to Counter Divisions and Discords in Today’s Society” at the annual conference of the Society for Spirituality and Social Work.

**Caroline Oltmanns**, professor of Piano, published *Playing the Unplayable*, an e-book titled after her blog post about tackling Liszt’s arrangement of Schubert’s Erlkönig. “It is a collection of bite size chapters about being a pianist, about practicing, concerts and performing,” she says. Included are tips for recording, structuring time, keeping focused and what to wear onstage, “a question not many performers talk about,” she said. Oltmanns will also serve as Conference Artist at the 2021 Indiana Music Teachers Association Conference at Indiana University South Bend Sept. 24 and 25.



**Patrick Durrell**, professor of Astronomy, is a co-investigator on a pair of proposals for obtaining data from the Hubble Space Telescope (pictured): “Probing the Origins of BST1047+1156, the Most Diffuse Star Forming Galaxy”; and “Globular cluster systems of ultra-diffuse galaxies in low-density environments.” Durrell is also co-author of a research paper recently accepted for publication in the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society* titled “Structure and morphology of the MATLAS dwarf galaxies and their central nuclei.”



**Cicilia Yudha**, associate professor of Piano, and **Allan Mosher**, professor of Voice, performed Franz Schubert’s *Die Winterreise*, *The Winter’s Journey* as part of the Muse Series sponsored by the Dana School of Music and the McDonough Museum of Art. Mosher, who joined the YSU faculty in 1992 and has performed widely, including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Yudha has given performances, presentations and master classes across the United States, Europe and Southeast Asia, and is a recipient of the Steinway Top Teacher Award. **Watch, listen, enjoy!**

For more stories on the activities of YSU faculty and staff, visit:

[Faculty Success](#)

[Faculty Experts](#)

[Excellence at Work archive](#)

***Excellence at Work***, published by the YSU Office of Marketing and Communications, recognizes and celebrates the scholarly work and honors of the faculty and staff of Youngstown State University. To submit items for inclusion, complete the **online form**.

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