

News from the School of Allied Health Sciences

Dr. Ben Valasquez

Dr. Ben Velasquez, DA, LAT, ATC, department chair of the Department of Athletic Training in the School of Allied Health presented “Crisis Management for Athletic Trainers and Athletic Training Students,” at the state meeting of the Tennessee Athletic Trainers Society, held in Nashville January 13. The topic discussed how to recognize post-traumatic stress issues and critical issues of depression and anxiety in this health care profession. The talk also shared what an individual could do when faced with a crisis.



News from the Caylor School of Nursing

Professor and Director of Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Concentration, Dr. Lisa Pullen along with Assistant Professor of Nursing and Assistant Director of Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration, Dr. Jennifer Savage recently authored an article for the *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing*. The article, “Risk factors leading to increased rehospitalization rates among adolescents admitted to an acute care child and adolescent psychiatric hospital” was included in Issue 2, May 2017, Volume 30.

McCarthy, L., Pullen, L., Savage, J. & Cayce, J. (2017). Risk factors leading to increased rehospitalization rates among adolescents admitted to an acute care child and adolescent psychiatric hospital. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing*, 30, 105 - 111.

*Journal of Child and Adolescent
Psychiatric Nursing*

News from Student Support Services



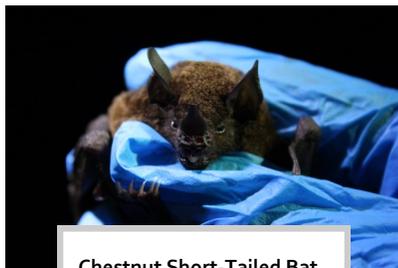
Mission of Hope scholarship recipients, Rebecca Smith and Allison Avera, along with Student Support Services Director, Lila Combs, donated boxes of canned food collected from SSS students during the fall semester to the Mission of Hope’s holiday food drive. LMU is a proud supporter of Mission of Hope and all they do for the surrounding area.

Dr. LaRoy Brandt

Bats, Tapirs, Ocelots, Oh My!

In May 2017, Assistant Professor of Biology-Conservation Biology, Dr. LaRoy Brandt traveled to Costa Rica with three LMU students, Justine Jusack, Maggie Singleton, and Victoria Long to conduct mammal biodiversity surveys at the La Suerte Biological Field Station. Over a three-week period, they conducted bat surveys using mist nets and placed trail cameras throughout the field station's rain forest habitat. The trail cameras were left in place until December 27. The results from the bat surveys help support the hypothesis that the ratio of fruit-eating bats are more prevalent in more open habitats (*e.g.*, forests in early stages of succession) with nectar-feeding and insect-eating bats dominating the bat communities in more closed habitats (*e.g.*, older, unfragmented forests in later stages of succession). With bat populations declining in many places around the globe, this is important information that can be used to make better land management decisions for bat conservation.

The trail camera results were just as exciting in that numerous Baird's tapirs and an ocelot were captured on trail cameras along with other smaller mammals. Capturing a reclusive feline predator is great news by itself as it represents a component of a healthy ecosystem. However, the Baird's tapir is something of considerable importance as this species is a globally endangered species with the total number of individuals estimated to be a little more than 3,000. Due to loss of habitat and localized hunting, Baird's tapir numbers are continuing to decline. Our finding adds a new formal record of the Baird's tapir in an area where it was thought to be extirpated. As a result of this finding, we are able to add to the continued tapir conservation efforts throughout Latin America and it has already fostered additional collaborations in tapir research. Dr. Brandt's research was funded by an LMU Mini-Grant.



Chestnut Short-Tailed Bat



Weighing the bat



Baird's Tapir

Research collaboration between Dr. LaRoy Brandt & Dr. Stan Kunigelis provides undergraduates an opportunity to work with the electron microscope.

Dr. LaRoy Brandt and Dr. Stan Kunigelis, director of the Center of Imaging and Analysis and professor of physiology, have begun a collaboration to combine ecological field work on biodiversity with the electron microscopes. This work focuses on the microscopic tardigrades, commonly known as water bears or moss piglets. Undergraduate student, Hope Johnson, is the first of our students to participate in this opportunity. She will be looking at identifying species of tardigrades from the Cedars Natural Area Preserve near Jonesville, VA. We have been able to get a few electron microscopy images of tardigrades this past fall, which Hope presented at the Tennessee Academy of Science Conference. Currently, the tardigrade research group has expanded to include undergraduate students Safaa Abid and Kayla Howard with some additional new dimensions being added to the research agenda.



Electron Microscope Tardigrade



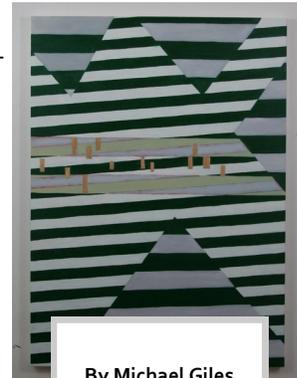
Assistant Professor of Biology-Conservation Biology, Dr. Barbara Shock recently coauthored a paper titled, "Gene expression differs in susceptible and resistant amphibians exposed to *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*." The paper was accepted for publication in *Royal Society Open Science* January, 2018.

News from the Paul V. Hamilton School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Lutterman, Giles, Rivers and Debrot

LMU is currently being well represented at The Arts & Culture Alliance in Knoxville, TN. The National Juried Exhibition at the Emporium Center includes 47 fine art works, with accepted entries from Assistant Professor of Visual Art, Mr. Michael Giles, Assistant Professor of Visual Art and Program Director, Mr. Brandon Lutterman and senior art major Ms. Hannah Rivers. LMU claimed three of the four presented awards at the exhibition, which runs through February 23rd.

Best work, "Dino Tea" by Brandon Lutterman
Juror's Citation, "Her hermetism was expansive and cordial" by Michael Giles
Juror's Citation, "Untitled" by Hannah Rivers



By Michael Giles

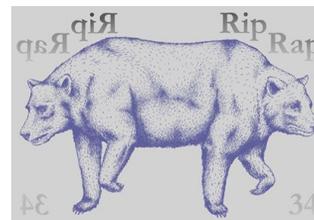


By Brandon Lutterman



By Hannah Rivers

Associate Professor of English, Dr. Jacques Debrot recently had the story, "Nirvana" accepted for publication by *The RipRap Literary Journal*. The journal is published by the University of California, Long Beach.



News from DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. Patricia Stubenberg

Director of Continuing Medical Education and Preceptor Development, Dr. Patricia Stubenberg will be presenting at *Educating Leaders 2018*, the joint American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine and Association of Osteopathic Directors and Medical Educators Annual Conference in April, 2018 held in Washington, DC. Stubenberg will present, "Lessons Learned in Community-Based Osteopathic Didactic Education for Clinical Adjunct Faculty." The presentation is based on the outcomes from a grant project on OMM/OMT faculty development for third and fourth year clinical adjunct faculty (preceptors). Project objectives were to determine change in OPP knowledge and comfort levels in allowing third and fourth year medical students to utilize OMT within preceptors' practice setting. Participant outcomes include the opportunity to discuss distance learning and faculty development and challenges to its approach.

Recent Submissions and Awards

Submissions and Awards:

- Dr. Patricia Stubenberg submitted a grant to the American Osteopathic Association to help fund a Continuing Medical Education program in 2018.
- Ms. Sara Senter submitted an application to the Appalachian College Association for a Professional Development Opportunity Grant.
- Dr. Gilbert Patterson submitted a proposal to the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.
- Four LMU students submitted applications to the Appalachian College Association for the Colonel Lee B. Ledford Scholarship.

Tanner Denton, a sophomore from Bristol, TN submitted, "Using EDS to Determine the Micronutrient Composition of Elk (*Cervus Canadensis*) Forage in Southeast Kentucky."

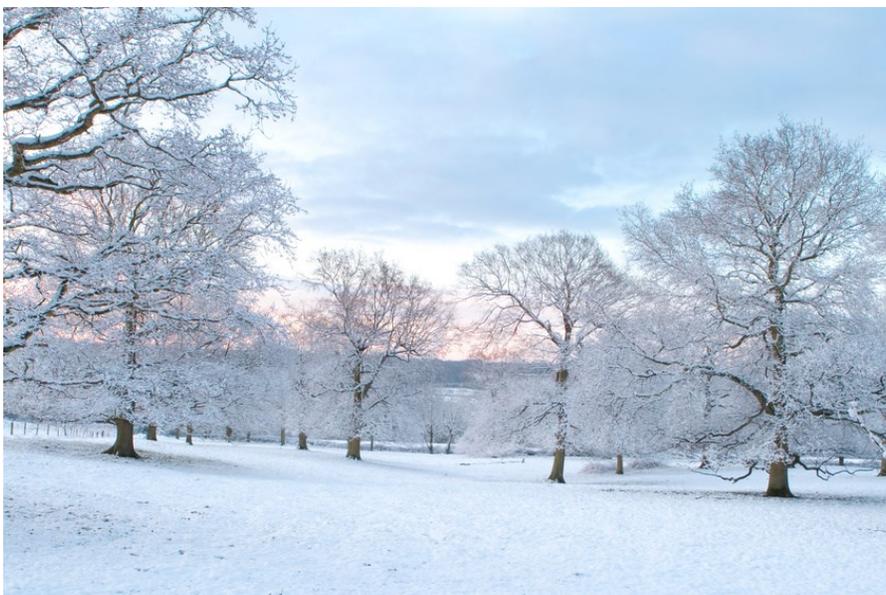
Kayla Howard, a sophomore from Benham, KY submitted, "Determining the Presence of Heavy Metals in Several Seagrass and Tardigrade Species"

Kiersten Dunaway, a junior from Barbourville, KY submitted, "Serpentine Diversity on Pine Mountain, Kentucky."

Elizabeth Maggard, a junior from Dryden, VA submitted "Identification of Hard Ticks (Ixodidae) in the Cumberland Gap Region of Appalachia and the Molecular Prevalence of Associated Tick-Transmitted Pathogens."

Briza Wolfe, a freshman from Oak Ridge, TN submitted "An analysis of some of Frida Kahlo's paintings and how they relate to her personal life and inspire my own artistic expressions of suffering and healing."

Tanner, Kayla and Kiersten are working under mentor Dr. LaRoy Brandt and Elizabeth is working under mentor Dr. Barbara Shock. Briza is working under mentors Dr. Mahdia Ben-Salem Churchwell and Mr. Michael Giles.



CONGRATULATIONS!

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Reminder from the LMU Institutional Review Board

Please remember that all research proposals and projects involving human subjects, must have IRB approval ***prior*** to the presentation of any information gathered during the course of the research.

Under federal policy, the IRB cannot grant retroactive IRB approval.

All applications for external funding must first begin by contacting the ORGSP.

If your grant award, application, presentation, or publication has not been mentioned in this edition, please forward your information to us using the contact information listed above. Thank you!