A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF GRADUATE AND ADVANCING EDUCATION

In this edition, we highlight some exceptional students, faculty and alumni. Other features include information on the School of Education MAT program, information on our summer sessions, and important dates.

On behalf of the Office of Graduate and Advancing Education, we wish you the best for the rest of the semester and a wonderful summer!

Susan Hydro

Director, Office of Graduate and Advancing Education
Anthony Elia is currently in TCNJ’s Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program, with a specialization in Deaf and Hard of Hearing. As a lifelong learner with a passion for teaching, he is actively involved both on and off campus within the New Jersey Preservice Education Association and Exceptional Children and Affiliations. As a takeaway from the program, Anthony hopes to continue advocating for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students, while pursuing his passion.

On what aspired him to enroll in the graduate program:
“When I think of what inspired me to enroll in the graduate program at TCNJ, I would say it was the desire to learn more about how to be the best teacher I can be for my students. I am a lifelong learner with a strong passion for teaching, and I want to do whatever it takes to best prepare myself for the field. My biggest takeaway is definitely the value in having conversations with people such as my colleagues and professors. I have learned so much from them over the years regarding different perspectives and have gained many ideas for my future classroom. I am truly thankful for my Deaf Ed cohort and professors that have shared this journey with me.”

On what motivated him to pursue the Deaf and Hard of Hearing specialization:
“Teaching has been a passion of mine since second grade. It was not until high school that I wanted to be a teacher for students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. I was diagnosed profoundly Deaf at age three. From then, I wore hearing aids and later a cochlear implant. I attended a hearing-impaired program from grades K-5 in a public school. Being able to work with students who are on the same path I took, most going through the same things I did, and being able to provide them with resources that have helped me, brings me so much joy.”

On his involvement in education:
“Outside of school, I am involved in the New Jersey Preservice Education Association, through which I have served in different executive board positions in the last few years. Currently, I am a Relations Chairperson for the organization and sit on the Exceptional Children and Affiliations committees. I also serve on the national level with the National Education Association as Preservice Director for the NEA American Indian/Alaskan Native Caucus. I was previously an NEA Preservice representative on the NEA Resolutions Committee, which works with education policy.”

On his plans for the future:
“My plan is to become an elementary education teacher for deaf or hard of hearing students with the hopes of one day becoming an administrator. I would also like to obtain my doctorate in Educational Leadership. Later on, I would love to be a politician or work with the State Board of Education.”
Kristen D. Krause, MPH, is an adjunct professor within TCNJ’s Master of Public Health program. Currently pursuing her doctoral degree, her research concentration examines resilience as it relates to biological, psychological, and social health states among older gay HIV+ men. She looks forward to continuing this work and addressing LGBTQ health disparities throughout New Jersey in the future. Most recently, she received the Dr. Ronald Altman award for outstanding research from the New Jersey Public Health Association. I had a chance to sit down with Kristen to find out more.

You recently were awarded the Dr. Ronald Altman Student/Resident Award for outstanding work in a health-related course of study. Could you please expand on your study and what this means for Public Health?

“My primary course of study examines how resilience is manifested in older people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). People aged 50 and older will soon make up a majority of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States and they face myriad social, physical, and mental health stressors not only related to living with HIV/AIDS, but also the aging process in general, and the long-term impact of being on antiretroviral treatment. Examining if and how resilience may act as a buffer against some of these stressors can lead to more tailored programs and interventions and thus can have a huge impact on the quality of life for older PLWHA.”

Based on your study, what have been some key findings in your research?

“I am still in the early stages of analyses, but so far we know that having higher levels of general resilience and HIV-related resilience is significantly associated with having lower levels of depression, PTSD, and experiencing loneliness. I am excited to dive in more deeply to these findings throughout the course of writing my dissertation!”

What advice do you have for current graduates?

“There are so many different ways to make an impact within the field of public health! From policy to program implementation to research, figure out what makes you the happiest and take a leap of faith that you can truly make a difference. It will not always be easy but remember that public health issues are everywhere and there will always be a lot to tackle!”
News & Accomplishments

Highlights and accomplishments of alumni.

Geoff Baker
graduate of the School of Education with a
Masters degree in Secondary Education and a
teacher in Bangkok, Thailand

Founded Grin Green International, a
student centered social enterprise
organization with the goal of eradicating
plastics in Thailand.

Nomer Adona
graduate of the School of Education with a
Masters degree in Secondary Education and current educator at
Saigon South International School

Currently working on a series of
portraits of inspiring individuals
using a ballpoint pen as his medium.

Portrait of individual by Nomer Adona
TCNJ’s Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT program) is specifically designed for students who hold a bachelor’s degree in a non-education field and are seeking a career change into teaching. Ranked by *US News* as a top public college, TCNJ’s School of Education is a great platform to begin your graduate career as a lifelong educator. With program options in Early Childhood, Elementary, and Special Education, course offerings prepare students for a rigorous and rewarding career as a future educator. The programs each consist of a core of courses that all degree candidates will complete, plus various specialization courses to meet state certification requirements in a particular discipline.

Off-Site Graduate Programs

Interested in studying abroad?

TCNJ’s Off-Site Graduate Programs (OSGP) offers current prospective teachers and school administrators overseas a range of integrated and focused opportunities for certification and professional development. Designed to tackle complex educational issues in unique international settings, courses are offered in both classroom and online formats.

For more information, please visit https://offsitegrad.tcnj.edu/.
Many schools and departments offer a variety of courses during summer and winter sessions. These courses are offered in various formats:

**Blended learning (BL):** a combination of online and in-class learning; gives students the opportunity to have face-to-face time with their professors and fellow classmates, but also allows them more flexibility to take the courses at their own pace.

**Online (OL):** courses taken completely online for students who may be unable to travel to campus or who are looking for a more convenient option.

**On-campus (P):** courses for students who prefer to complete courses in a traditional setting and format with full face-to-face time with professors.

**Travel:** courses allow for face-to-face classes, while simultaneously broadening geographical horizons and earning credit.

*Dates for blended and online courses may vary and may cross session dates. Check PAWS for the most up-to-date information.*

**Questions? Connect with us!**

- TCNJSummer
- tcnjgradadvancing
- TCNJ Summer

For more information, visit [summer.tcnj.edu](http://summer.tcnj.edu) and [winter.tcnj.edu](http://winter.tcnj.edu). TCNJ, also, offers pre-college programs for high school students. See [precollege.tcnj.edu](http://precollege.tcnj.edu).
National Acclaim and Awards

U.S News ranks TCNJ #1 for 2019

The College of New Jersey once again is the top public college in U.S. News and World Report’s list of Regional Universities (North).

Money’s Best Colleges For Your Money 2018

Money magazine’s college ranking considers quality, affordability and outcomes. Among 727 colleges and universities, Money ranks TCNJ 35th in the nation and 23rd among all public colleges and universities. It is the top public institution in New Jersey.

Looking Forward

School of Business MBA Program

Coming Fall 2019

The program consists of a three track option:

~Data Analytics

~Strategy, Innovation, and Leadership

~Finance (Coming Fall 2020)

Classes will be offered in a T-Style hybrid format that can be completed in two years and includes business practitioner involvement.

Year 1: Students complete a seven course sequence in chosen specialization
Year 2: Students complete seven core courses to learn how to navigate broad executive decisions

The final deadline to apply for Fall 2019 matriculation is August 1, 2019.
For complete program information and updates on curriculum, tuition, and requirements, please visit mba.tcnj.edu or contact mba@tcnj.edu.
Important Dates

Last day Spring classes (Graduate) Tuesday, 5/17

Spring Commencement Thursday, 5/23 - Friday, 5/24

Summer Term Tuesday, 5/28 - Thursday, 8/22*

Summer Session I classes begin Tuesday, 5/28

Summer Session I classes end Friday, 6/14

Summer Session II classes begin Monday, 6/17

July 4th observed-No classes Thursday, 7/4

Summer Session II classes end Thursday, 7/18

Summer Session III classes begin Monday, 7/22

Summer Session III classes end Thursday, 8/22

Summer degree conferral date Monday, 8/26

*Blended and online courses can vary. Please check PAWS for current information.
For full calendar visit:
https://tcnj.edu/academics/academic-calendars/academic-calendar-2018-2019/

Interested in Continuing and Professional Education?
For more information, visit cpe.tcnj.edu or contact George Hefelle, hefelleg@tcnj.edu

Contact us with questions, comments, or concerns!
Office of Graduate and Advancing Education
graduate@tcnj.edu

Compiled and edited by Molly O. Henderson, Graduate Assistant