



# The Whetstone

The Whetstone: The Independent Student Newspaper



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The Independent Student Newspaper of Wesley College

April 2019

## NFL Falcons Player Returns to Campus to Complete Degree

By Brooke Retkowski; *The Whetstone*

Wesley College senior and Atlanta Falcons lineman Matt Gono said being in the NFL has been hard.

“Having to live by myself, balance learning a lot of new information, rookie duties, and getting a hard time from the older players is tough,” he said.

Some of those rookie duties include waking up early to write the depth chart, order and pick up breakfast, tell jokes at the offensive line

meetings, and buy the guys video games.

After his rookie season in the NFL playing for the Atlanta Falcons, Matt Gono is back on campus finishing his degree in Criminal Justice before returning to the field after graduation in May.

“Being back on campus is nice,” he said. “It’s not as much of an intense environment.”

Gono is one of three athletes from Wesley’s foot-

ball team who has gotten a chance to play in the NFL.

It is almost unheard of for Division 3 football players to continue their careers at the professional level. Joe Callahan, a quarterback and recent graduate, is with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, while Robinson, a 2008 graduate, was drafted by the Arizona Cardinals a decade ago but also played most recently in the Arena Football League for the Soul in Philadelphia.

“Being selected to play in the NFL felt great, but I understood I was about to

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Matthew Gono

## Students Look for Answers As Administrators Work To Shut Down Rumors About Wesley’s Financial Woes

By Brooke Retkowski; *The Whetstone*

Senior Deziyah Palmer is one of the many students on campus who have heard the rumors about Wesley College’s financial struggles over the past year.

“I feel as though administrators at Wesley do not realize how much potential

the college has to be a great school,” she said. “People have just allowed the school to go downhill.”

Starting last semester, rumors from alumni, staff and faculty and others in the community involved talk about Wesley College shutting down or being bought out

by a bigger institution such as the University of Delaware.

Both faculty and staff have told students the president and others told them during the past year that Wesley has been trying to get money from the state.

Any dealing with the University of Delaware, several pro-

fessors told students, is less about a partnership and more like a potential agreement to recruit the state school’s student applicants who do not get into UD.

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## Seniors Plan for After Graduation

Brielle Braxton-Young, *The Whetstone*

Malik Johnson, a business administration major who will be a part of Wesley's graduating class this coming May, said he is glad he chose business as his major.

"I have many career options," he said. "Ultimately, I would love to own my own business one day. Once I graduate, I plan on getting a job with the government in the business department and working my way up from there."

In 2010, one of every three students who entered Wesley finished in four years. Those were the good old days. Now, according to the College's Fact Book, only one of every five students graduates in four years.

Like Johnson, the thrill of graduation and being on time means something to students here at Wesley.

"I'm actually graduating on time," said Doris Tremble who started Wesley in 2015.

Tremble, an education major, said she wants to take some time off before returning to graduate school and becoming a teacher.

"I want to find a good paying job then go to graduate school," she said. "But, I'm still deciding where to apply

to."

Tremble's goal is to teach elementary school children.

"I used to want to come back to teach at Wesley, but by the time I get to where I want to be, who knows if the school will even be here anymore," she said.

Education major Destiny Williams said she chose her major because she wants to

money that's a plus."

Lankford says it was JA Biztown that motivated her to go in business when she entered college.

JA Biztown, is a part of Junior Achievement, an organization that educates students in about entrepreneurship, work readiness and financial literacy.

Only a few students are

**Ultimately, I would love to own my own business one day. Once I graduate, I plan on getting a job with the government in the business department and working my way up from there.**

**- Malik Johnson**

help younger students learn the subjects she loved.

"Knowledge helps in developing who you are as a person," she said.

Business major Kalea Lankford said she wants to open her own business after she earns her Bachelor's degree in May.

"I really like money and being able to give directions to others," she said. "Like being a manager but being able to manage yourself and your

selected to participate.

"I started in fourth grade where I was a part of JA Biztown," Lankford said. "Ever since then, it's stuck and I was hooked."

Psychology major Briana Artis changed her major from elementary education during her sophomore year and will still graduate in four years. She plans to go back home and be a role model to students after graduation.

"I'm going to move back to

Philadelphia, become a substitute teacher at my old high school and coach cheerleading or track," she said.

Psychology major Sharon Gross said she was surprised she finished in four years.

"It's hard to graduate in four years as a psychology major," she said. "I didn't think it would happen."

Gross will not attend graduate school directly after leaving Wesley.

"Before I get a job, I want to go into doing things in my hometown," she said. "Maybe working in an office or even a mental institution. I really want to put my degree to use."

Johnson plans on moving to Atlanta after graduation.

"I do plan on attending graduate school and it will most likely be not be Wesley but somewhere else," he said. "The reason I chose Wesley because the smaller classroom sizes allow for more personal attention."

## Meet the Staff

Interested in joining The Whetstone's Staff? We are always looking for new writers and photographers to help report campus news to the student body.

If you have any questions or comments, please email adviser, Victor Greto.

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## Falcons Player From P.1

experience a lot of hardships,” Gono said.

Chip Knapp, football’s head coach, said it is not a primary focus of the coaches to get players ready to play professionally.

“It is very uncommon for a player from a Division 3 program to play in the NFL or any other professional football,” he said. “We try to coach them up the best we can and give them all of the resources to make them the best player they can be. Sometimes you have a player that is uncommon and very talented and they will get that chance.”

Elizabeth Marchioni, professor of Law and Justice, said she didn’t think Gono would come back to finish his degree.

“At the end of the fall semester, I received an email from the Atlanta Falcons Player Affairs Coordinator, Brynlee Forik, about Matt taking classes in the spring,” she said. “The Falcons and the NFL strongly encourage players to complete their degrees and further their education.”

Marchioni said what Gono did next impressed both her and Forik.

“I explained to her that Matt only needed 15 credits to graduate, and she explained

to me that players usually take one or two classes a semester to finish their education over time,” she said. “She told me it is rare for a player to take this type of course load and speaks volumes as to who he is as an individual.”

Marchioni said Gono has a great work ethic.

“Matt is willing to take a full semester of credits even though it means flying back and forth between Delaware and Georgia to fulfill both his degree requirements and football responsibilities,” she said.

Gono played right tackle for Wesley for three years before switching to left tackle his senior year.

“In the NFL, they started me

off at right tackle,” he said. “But now I am practicing at any position on the offensive line. That way I am able to play any position in case someone gets hurt, I have to be able to replace them.”

Alum Jamar Baynard was teammates with Gono for three years.

“He is a very humble and hardworking player,” he said. “He was someone who did anything to help the team.”

Craig Pettit, Wolverine graduate assistant coach, played alongside Gono in 2015.

“He is a very disciplined player,” he said. “Now coaching him, you get to see things from a different perspective. Now I see him taking in what the coaches have to say and executing it on the field.”

Knapp said Gono was the perfect player.

“He did everything right,” he said. “He attended class, he never missed any team function, and worked as hard as he possibly could. He was a guy we could count on.”

Marchioni said Gono is an

to fall back on.”

Pettit said he is excited to see Gono back on campus as well.

“It is fantastic to see him back finishing his degree,” he said. “Education is important.”

Mangus, also a part-time Assistant Admissions Counselor at Wesley, said student-athletes like Gono are an asset to the college.

“Having players in the NFL makes Wesley look great for prospective students,” he said. “When I give tours, and tell them that we have two players in the NFL, their eyes light up. It captures their attention.”

Baynard said coming from a program that has players in the NFL is a great feeling.

**Matt is willing to take a full semester of credits even though it means flying back and forth between Delaware and Georgia to fulfill both his degree requirements and football responsibilities.**

**- Professor Marchioni**

excellent student.

“He is always polite and respectful to me and the others in the classroom,” she said.

Senior Austin Mangus said he likes that Gono is back.

“I believe that every student-athlete should get their degree from their institution,” he said. “It’s something good

“It shows great players come from our program,” he said. “It also shows Wesley is not just your ordinary Division 3 football program.”



## Students Look for Answers From P.1

“Institutions often have with each other an agreement where, say, one institution has more applications than they can fill and then another school is in the opposite situation,” Dr. Jack Barnhardt, a psychology professor and chair of the faculty’s Academic Affairs committee, said.

The other major rumor, that the school may be bought, is also not true, Dr. Angela D’Antonio, a psychology professor, said.

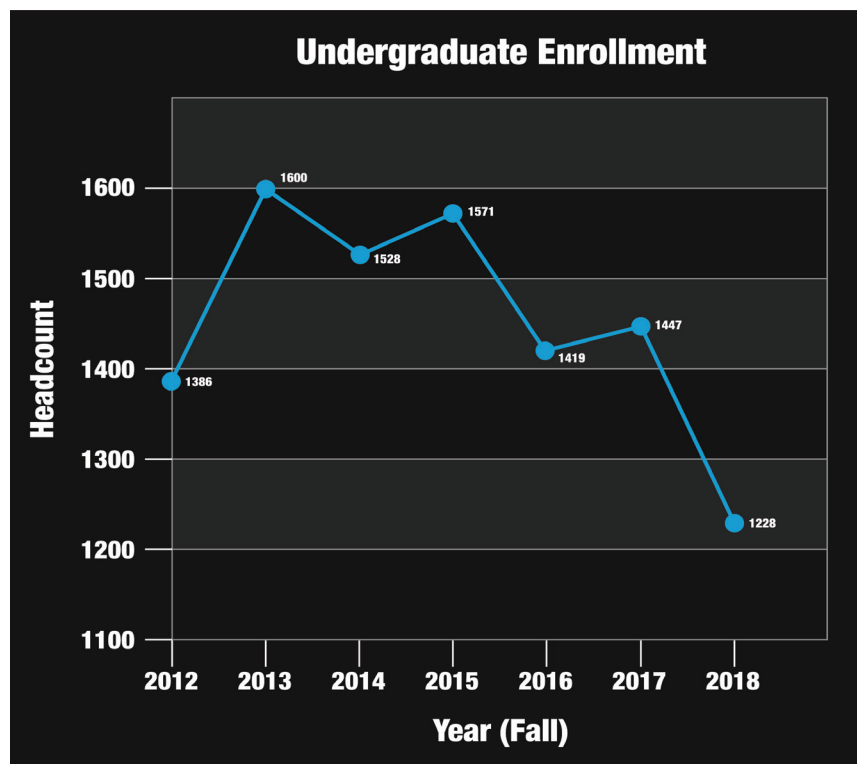
D’Antonio said even she heard from alumni and others in the community as early as last semester that the school would be sold.

“Dover is a small community and Delaware is a small state,” she said. “So anything like this that gets talked about is sort of out there and you don’t know the details so you make assumptions about it.”

President Robert Clark has sent out emails to faculty and staff to dismiss rumors that the college is being sold to UD or is closing.

“To be clear, there is no plan, or talk of anyone buying Wesley out, nor are there plans to close,” he wrote on March 27.

Although Clark has said more than once the sources of the rumors were from only



a few people, members of faculty, staff and students said they’ve heard rumors from many people in the community, at the school, from alumni and other students on social media, and even at the University of Delaware.

Rumors always easily spread around a small campus, Dr. Mika Shipley said.

“If Wesley were to close, there is a process that has to be followed through by our accreditors (Middle States Higher Education Commission) that would take many years beyond students’ tenure here,” she said. “We are an accredited institution with programs with their own certifications/accreditation. Also,

the Methodist Church, which believes highly in learning, owns all of the land and buildings that you and I occupy.”

### Closed Dorms

Regardless of rumors, sophomore Kelly Palmer said, the closing of two of the college’s dorms bothered her.

“I am just a little confused as to why they told us there would be nobody living in Gooding or Williams Hall this year because of the renova-

**We only know what we can see – we don’t get to look behind the curtain and see the full scope of the situation.**

**- Evan Le’Mon**

tions,” she said. “But I have not really seen anyone doing anything with the halls this whole year.”

Although students have been told the halls were closed because of renovation, faculty and staff have told students they were closed because of enrollment shortages, which dipped below 1,000 this semester.

In a story about Gooding and Williams hall last semester, The Whetstone reported that President Clark was deciding whether to rent out at least one of the unused dorms to Delaware State University. He decided not to after asking for feedback.

Chief Financial Officer Belinda Burke, who chose not to speak to reporters about the College’s current financial situation, told the paper last year that the school was not going to sell Gooding Hall.

Junior Sydney Brokenborough said she thinks that Wesley’s financial status is quite evident through the dorm situation.

“We don’t even have enough students to house, not one, but two freshman dorms this year,” she said.

Senior Lexus Harrison said she was prepared for the decline of students this year.

“I realized that once Gooding and Williams hall was shut down,” she said. “I feel

## Students Look for Answers From P.3

like the school could have done more to prevent it from happening.”

Alumnus Evan Le'Mon said he also had heard the college is having financial issues.

“The writing’s on the wall from what happened with Williams and Gooding, among other things,” he said. “But we only know what we can see – we don’t get to look behind the curtain and see the full scope of the situation.”

### Behind The Curtain

Looking behind the curtain often is about how faculty, staff and students perceive Wesley College.

Dr. Brantley Craig said morale has been shaky for a long time.

“Although it has been this way for the last five years, this year has been the most noticeable,” he said. “No one likes uncertainty, which can lead to a drop in morale.”

Craig said there is a lot of worry and stress this year compared to previous years.

“This is mostly related to finances,” he said. “We are down in enrollment and many want to know what the future of the college is like. People are wondering what can and is being done about it, and are frustrated with the lack of communication.”

Dr. James Wilson said it’s also about the fact that faculty and staff have not received raises in at least four years, and that health and retirement benefits have been cut.

“The main concerns of the faculty are the financial,” he said. “Lack of pay adjustments, cuts to benefits like health care and retirement, positions removed, programs discontinued. It’s been getting worse the last several years.”

Members of the top administration told reporters repeatedly the rumors of the closing

Jeffrey Gibson, vice president for Academic Affairs and the provost, also said students should not worry about the rumors.

“In an effort to dispel these rumors, President Clark addressed the faculty and sent a message out via email to confirm that there is no plan for Wesley to be ‘bought out’ by the University of Delaware, nor is there any plan to close the College,” he said. “I hope that this information will allay the students’ concerns so they can better focus upon

former Black Student Union member, said the school’s problems have been around for a while.

“The lack of students, events, and overall decrease in the quality of the school is what is hurting Wesley so bad,” she said.

Junior Sidney Kilgore said she believes a lot of Wesley’s problems stem from low enrollment.

“Think about how many available rooms there are in Roe Hall alone, people dropping out, more people transferring out, and poor recruiting,” she said. “They should develop a better way of recruiting non-student-athletes.”

### It’s Been Worse

Dr. Kathleen Jacobs, who has been at Wesley College for more than three decades, said she does not believe Wesley will close.

“In the 1980s, the college was in worse condition than it is today,” she said. “Dorms were virtually empty. But those of us who believed in the college stayed and worked together to help it bounce back. To buy into the gossip is not good morale for the students, college, or community at large.”

Christopher Dearth, vice president of enrollment management, said the school has seen a decline in attendance

**We are down in enrollment and many want to know what the future of the college is like. People are wondering what can and is being done about it, and are frustrated with the lack of communication.**

**- Dr. Brantley Craig**

of the school are false.

“With respect to rumors of the college closing, these are just as you stated, rumors,” Laura Mayse, director of development and alumni relations, said.

Mayse, however, is one of the only employees left in her department after the recent departures of the vice president of institutional advancement, William Pritchard, and Jessica Cook, who updated the website. It was Pritchard’s job to raise money for the school.

their studies and have a strong finish to the academic year.”

Many alumni said they have heard the rumors and were not surprised.

Alumna Qhynasha Elliot said Wesley pride has been declining since her freshman year six years ago.

“Back in 2013, the school had events to offer the students,” she said. “Students even had more control over their events hosted at the school.”

Alumna Nicole Rondo, a

## Students Look for Answers From P.4

but said he was looking forward to receiving more this upcoming fall.

“Admissions has refreshed our recruitment material, so we are doing more mailing and calls to students to try to generate more of an interest,” he said. “Part of the enrollment decline was large graduating classes combined with some students who could not afford us financially.”

Dearth said that his office has tweaked the old scholarship model and financial aid packaging to help more students to afford Wesley College this fall.

“The positive number for incoming students are above last year, so we are very confident of that,” he said.

Wilson also said Wesley has been in this situation several times before.

“Ten years ago retention was even worse than it is now,” he said. “It’s almost like a cycle when it comes to class sizes, quality of students, sort of like the stock market. This is just a recession that we have a reason to believe will eventually swing up.”

Dearth said that the target goal for this fall is to recruit more than 400 freshmen.

“Deposit-wise, for the fall, we are right around 100 students so far,” he said. “April and May are the busiest deposit months. It is really important if our current students see groups of prospective students that they engage with them about their positive experiences.”

### Students Remain Officially In The Dark

Students have yet to be addressed directly about what’s happening.

Dr. D’Antonio said this is often done out of fear.

“I think (the lack of information) comes from the perception of, if we start telling people things, then word is going to spread and it may ruin these deals,” she said. “But a lot of times the opposite becomes true: If you don’t say anything, then people are left to make up their own explanations for what is going on.”

Dr. Barnhardt also said students are not told so they won’t become alarmed, but said students can’t help but notice changes on campus.

“Students look around, they realize two dorms are closed, some staff is not here anymore, and, plus, they hear things around the community from parents or alumni,” he said.

Dr. D’Antonio said faculty and staff are also have questions.

“Faculty and staff are also

living every day with unknowns,” she said, “knowing that we have lower enrollment and we have needs for repair and things like that, so people have questions.”

That’s not the way a liberal arts college should work, she said.

“We encourage questions and thinking. There are some things that may not be able to be shared while some agreement is being reached. But there needs to be far more transparency than there has been.”

*Brielle Braxton-Young, Rahim Harris, Lydia LaSure, Kai Lee II and Dylan Morris contributed to this report.*

## Wesley Recruitment Based On Geography

By Rahim Harris, Kai Lee II and Lydia LaSure, *The Whetstone*

Freshman Hanna Giaccone chose Wesley College because it was close to her home in Ventnor, N.J.

“When choosing a school, I knew I wanted to be close to my two little sisters,” she said. “Wesley College stood out to me because it was only a 2-hour drive from my home in Ventnor.”

Like Giaccone, many other students come to Wesley because of how close it is to home.

Wesley College’s recruitment strategy consists in part of getting students who want to be close to home to attend the school.

Delaware is surrounded by New Jersey, Maryland and Pennsylvania, which also are the top three states students come from who attend Wesley.

Wesley isn’t the only school that has such a strategy.

How far one lives from college plays a major role in a student’s decision to attend, according to a study by the American Council on Education.

Associate Director of Admissions Christopher Jester said that is Wesley’s strategy.

“The ideal regions we focus on for potential students is the MidAtlantic area, because most students do not want to attend a school that is far away from home,” he said. “Wesley is a comfortable distance for students being that Delaware is close to those states.”

After geography, the next thing checked is potential students’ academic standing.

“We review recommendation letters, transcripts and the participation of extra-curricular activities,” he said. “Once the student is accepted, we give them a package of how much scholarship money they can

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## Wesley Recruitment From P.6

get.”

The geographical location of a potential student also is a factor used by Wesley athletic department.

“We watch people play first and study them for a long time,” Tracey Short, director of athletics and field hockey coach, said. “We travel to summer league games, club games, and recreational games.”

Short favors players from the mid-Atlantic region because that also happens to be where the top field hockey players are.

“Close proximity to the homes of these athletes is a major advantage Wesley has over the other schools that recruit them,” she said. “I use that to my best ability.”

Football coach Chip Knapp said football recruitment is intense.

“For football coaches it’s very competitive, competing with other coaches for students,” he said.

“We get the names of players, study their film and we discuss among coaches,” he said. “Then we go to the high schools and visit in the area spreading more awareness about our program as well as the College.”

Football is the most successful sports program of the

school, earning playoff berths for the past 10 years and winning the ECAC Bowl this past season.

“Once a student shows interest, we apply full pressure to get them to attend Wesley,” he said. “We show them that once you’re a Wolverine you’re family.”

Knapp and his staff of coaches tend to focus on certain areas where there are high schools with winning traditions.

“Every player cannot go to a big time D1 school, so I tell them about the Wesley experience, which is a small campus but with a family atmosphere and winning tradition,” he said.



Nick Glover

Kai Lee II

Football’s yearly goal for recruitment is 125 students.

Freshman David Pierre, from Carteret, N.J., was recruited thanks in part to the film of his high school play he provided to the school. He

also wanted to go to a small school close to home.

“My football coach went to Wesley, so he pulled some strings and made a few calls and here I am,” he said.

Senior Nick Glover attended Dover High School.

“They told me they saw my football highlights and they mentioned I would be a good fit in their program,” he said. “Coach Drass came to my high school at Dover High to recruit me personally. They offered me \$11,000 for my academic scholarship.”

In some cases, students make recruiting easy for the school by expressing interest and staying in touch with the admissions office and the coaches.

“I was recruited to play softball for Wesley,” junior Brooke Retkowski said. “I reached out to Coach Greep after receiving a call from Wesley’s Admissions office because I was on their interest list for my academics.”

Greep came out to see Retkowski play, she said.

“Then I came to the softball camp here in November of 2015 where I officially committed to come and play after camp was over.”

The admissions office provides an “interest list” to Wesley’s academic departments and some of the Chairs help recruit.



Brooke Retkowski

Lydia LaSure

“Admissions sometimes gives us a list of students who meet the academic requirements of the college and we make sure we have someone representing us at Open House to show students what were all about,” Charlisa Edelin, Chair of Law and Justice Studies, said.

During February’s Open House, more than 50 families attended.

“Open house in the spring is pivotal in the recruitment process because it’s the first and last impression we have to make on the students and their families,” Jester said.



## Wesley's Business Honor Society Inducts New Members



The Business Honor Society induction ceremony: March 31

Students from left to right:  
Nichole Naprstek, Devin Filliben,  
Lily Engel, Ryan Devine,  
Marqus Brown, Johnna Bradley.

Not pictured: Kelsey Fitzpatrick.

## Founders Day 2019

### Aramark Scholarship

Anthony Anastasi,  
Breanna Federico,  
Katherine King, and  
Gianna Pierce

### Ashbrook Scholarship

Cambria Luschen

### Professor Robert W. Bailey Scholarship

Samuel Mace

### Elizabeth and Stan Barber Scholarship

Tyler Lingenfelder

### Joseph and Mary Bellmeyer Memorial Scholarship

Sadie Sanclemente

### Bonini-Harrington Award

Alena Brown

### The Robyn J. Boswell Memorial Scholarship

Raevyn Reader

### Dr. and Mrs. Henry George Budd II Scholarship

Teaghen Vogelsang

### i.g. Burton Scholarship

Christian Rodriguez

### Mona Lynn Casey Environmental Science Scholarship

Savanah Love

### William T. and Hazel R. Cloud Memorial Scholarship

Megan Otteni

### Delaware BioScience Scholarship

Victoir Cahoon

### Dr. Presley Spruance Downs Memorial Scholarship

Alexis Jones

### Reynolds duPont Scholarship

Na'Shae Cusic, Sarah Fryer,  
Althea Mignone,  
Thomas Suarez, and  
Logan Wilson

### First State Orthopaedics Scholarship

Alexus Hebert



**EDiS Scholarship**

Jessica Behornar

**Ellucian Scholarship**

Dakota Carter,  
Cindy Guevara,  
Mariayna Lovelace, and  
Anne Villalobos

**Gregory J. Flor  
Memorial Scholarship**

Kyla Beverly-Bass

**Dr. Lucille C.  
Gambardella  
Scholarship for  
Excellence in  
Psychiatric Nursing and  
Leadership**

Taylor Thompson

**James “Newt” Gardels  
Nursing Scholarship**

Molly Dromgoole

**Andrew Joseph Geyer  
Scholarship**

Cowan Cummings

**Russell Grier  
Scholarship**

Osama Mahmoud

**Norman M. and Eleanor  
H. Gross Scholarship**

Destiny Chandler,  
N’dea Hardy,  
Haley Manchester, and  
Carolyn Mosomi

**The Legacy Scholarship**

Anas Mahmoud



Molly Dromgoole is awarded the James  
“Newt” Gardels Nursing Scholarship

Rahim Harris

**Millie Steele Hansen  
Heart of Nursing  
Scholarship**

Sharee Halstead

**William Randolph  
Hearst Scholarship**

Carolyn Donohue

**Highmark Delaware  
Scholarship**

Sidney Kilgore

**Ruth W. Holt Nursing  
Scholarship**

Brittany Yeo

**Martin W. Jensen  
Memorial Scholarship**

Sharee Halstead

**Samuel R. Johnson  
Scholarship**

Brooke Retkowski

**C. Delaware and Marian  
D. Lightcap Memorial  
Scholarship**

Corey Mitchell

**Roland O. Jones  
Scholarship**

Markland Bailey

**William H. and Laura  
Griffin Lurty Memorial  
Scholarship**

Kalayah Weldin

**Jack L. Marine  
Scholarship**

Shae McKim

**George P. McLaughlin  
Jr. Memorial  
Scholarship**

Anthony DiLolle, Julianna  
Neel, Ezekiel Patterson,  
Joseph Plez ,  
Whitney  
Summerall, and  
Sabrina Sumner

**Becker Morgan  
Scholarship**

Khadijah Bland

**Harry Palmer Memorial  
Scholarship**

Bridget Wood

**Mr. and Mrs. Richard C.  
McMullen Scholarship**

Victoria Albanese

**William F. Milbury  
Memorial Scholarship**

Cassandra Miller

**John Montgomery  
Scholarship**

Danielle Holsinger

**Moor Music Award**

Dylan Bottomley

**National Management  
Resources Corporation  
Scholarship**

Emily Caldarelli

**Theodore A. H. O’Brien  
Scholarship**

Amanda Deputy and  
Katelynn Fry

**Meredith and Robert  
Parker Honor  
Scholarship**

Kimberly Powell-Maull

**John Pelzer Award**

Cheyenne Graden

**Richard Paul Pepper  
Memorial Scholarship**

Aundrea Ayers

**President’s Scholarship  
for Community  
Leadership**

Mariayna Lovelace

**Sharon D. Roberts  
Remsburg Memorial  
Scholarship**  
Precious Miles

**The Thomas and Emma  
Roe Scholarship**  
Jordan Dean

**Rogin-Knipe  
Scholarship**  
Hope Aiken

**Matthew C. Sellitto  
Memorial Scholarship**  
Jenny Cedeno and  
Emily Magness

**William W. and Olive T.  
Sharp Scholarship**  
Joanna Vecchio

**Elsie Dennis Thomas  
and Essell Park Thomas  
Scholarship**  
Christopher Lobley

**Chrissy Tolomeo  
Memorial Award**  
Lauren Berry and  
Kasandra Martin

**Frank Vasfailo III  
Memorial Scholarship**  
Molly Dromgoole

**Dr. Howard B. Warren  
Scholarship:**  
Matthew Sheats

**Lewis A. Wells  
Memorial Scholarship**  
Rachel Piper

**John Brooke Atkins  
Alumni Scholarship**  
Wesley White

**Scott D. Miller  
Leadership Award**  
Davynn Roberts

**Mildred B. Spencer  
Memorial Scholarship**  
Megan Delawder and  
Elizabeth Manlove

**Whiting-Turner  
Contracting Company  
Scholarship**  
Caitlynn Shacklock

## *Faculty Promotions*

### **Promotion to Full Professor**

Cynthia Newton, Ph.D.

### **Promotion to Associate Professor**

Mary Jenson, Ph.D.

Albee Mendoza, Ph.D.

Tamala Paxton, D.N.P.

Soeun You, Ph.D.

### **Tenure**

Darla Davidson, M.S.N.

Varleisha Gibbs, Ph.D.

Stephanie Holyfield,  
Ph.D.

Denise Rivera, Ed.D.

Stephanie Stotts, Ph.D.



Precious Miles is awarded the Sharon D. Roberts Remsburg Memorial Scholarship

Rahim Harris

# *Academic Department Awards*

## **Accounting**

American Studies

## **Biology**

Biological Chemistry

## **Business Administration**

Education K-6 and Special Education

## **English**

Environmental Science

## **Exercise Science**

History

## **International Studies**

Law and Justice Studies

## **Liberal Studies**

Master of Arts in Teaching

## **Mathematics**

Multimedia Communication

## **Music**

Nursing Undergraduate Program

## **Graduate Nursing Program**

Occupational Therapy

## **Philosophy and Religion**

Physical Education K-12

## **Political Science**

Pre Professional Occupational Therapy

## **Pre Professional Physical Therapy**

Psychology

## **Sport Management**

## **James Griffith**

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