

Jacket Days 2023



THE DEFIANCE COLLEGE
CHARTERED 1850



Monday, Jan 9 - Wednesday, Jan 11



Presented by The Institute
for Career Readiness and
Lifelong Learning

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Dear Students,

As you participate in Jacket Days by fully engaging with the activities and speakers planned to enhance your learning, my suggestion is that you pay attention to the internal messages that may occur. What is it that stirs your passion for your major? How might you explore that more? What is stimulating your excitement and might call you to action? What is one thing that you take away from each of the planned activities? Jacket Days are designed to help you Discover, Explore, Formulate, and Initiate the learning that occurs both inside and outside your classrooms.

Maybe you know what you want to do upon college graduation. Some do, but many do not. If not, then use this time and all of the opportunities at college to your advantage. Remember, one doesn't go to college and choose a major knowing exactly where that major will take them. One discovers a passion and a path. Along that path, one might encounter a fork in the road that could take them in an entirely new and unexpected direction. Whatever your path, Jacket Journey will help you develop and hone skills that you will use for a lifetime. Isn't it exciting to explore the possibilities?



Our backgrounds are all different. Our futures will be different too. Passion and hard work determine success as we each define it. Discover. Engage. Formulate. Initiate.

Together!

Richanne C. Mankey, Ed.D
President

Keynote Speaker: Gina Valentino



Gina is a native of Michigan and graduated from a small, liberal arts college. Gina spent most of her career in the creative, marketing, and database departments. In 2006, Gina founded Hemisphere Marketing, LLC, a catalog and direct mail agency located in Kansas City, Missouri. Her clients range from kitchen table start-ups to national brands you'd recognize.

Prior to Hemisphere Marketing, Gina served in key positions in circulation, marketing and creative areas. With specific P/L responsibilities at catalogers such as Road Runner Sports, Spiegel, Barrie Pace and Disney Direct, she learned the value of combining marketing, merchandising and creative to successfully grow a business. She has significant experience developing analyses for new catalog start-up ventures, conducting creative best practice workshops, and outlining circulation plans to maximize growth of a customer file. Gina has worked with a variety of clients such as Spanx, The Henry Ford Museum, Home Depot Direct, 4-H, Carter's-Osh-Kosh b'Gosh, Hickory Farms, TOMS shoes, and the VFW.

Gina enjoyed many years as a judge for the Annual Catalog Awards, contributed articles for industry publications, and has been a presenter at local and national conferences. She was on the Board of the Kansas City Direct Marketing Education Foundation, and served as an Instructional Coach for the Entrepreneurship Scholars Program at the University of Missouri, Henry W. Bloch School of Management.

Student Requirements

GEN 101	GEN 201	GEN 301
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kickoff Sessions • Keynote Speaker • Anton Horton Session • The Human Library • 1 Financial Literacy Session • 1 Academic Support Session • 1 Career Panel • 3 Sessions/Workshops • Graduate School Fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kickoff Sessions • Keynote Speaker • Anton Horton Session • DEI Session • 1 Financial Literacy Session • 1 Academic Support Session • 1 Career Panel • 3 Sessions/Workshops • Graduate School Fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kickoff Sessions • Keynote Speaker • Anton Horton Session • Etiquette Dinner • Mock Interview • Game of Life • 1 Session/Workshop • 1 Career Panel • Graduate School Fair



The Career Closet

If you need professional clothing for mock interviews & the etiquette dinner, please visit our Career Closet located in Dana Hall basement!

Monday: 10am- 12pm

Tuesday: 9am - 1pm

8am- 10am	Registration Opens	
9:30am- 10:10am	All GEN 101 Student Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Schomburg Auditorium 	
10:15am- 11:00am	All GEN 201 Student Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Schomburg Auditorium 	GEN 301 Students Meeting with Instructors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Assigned Classrooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ A: Dana 27 ◦ B: Dana 20 ◦ C, D, E: Dana 22 ◦ F: Dana 21 ◦ Z: Dana 24
11am-1pm	Break	
12pm	GEN 201-Z Lunch with Gina Valentino	
1:15pm- 1:30pm	Jacket Days Kickoff Pep Rally <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter: Dr. Jeremy Taylor, Dr. Agnes Caldwell, Dr. Richanne C. Mankey • Location: Schomburg Auditorium 	
1:30pm- 3:00pm	Keynote Speaker <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker: Gina Valentino • Location: Schomburg Auditorium 	
3:00pm- 4:00pm	Serrick Information Desk Open for Questions	
6:00pm- 7:30pm	Etiquette Dinner: GEN 301 - Sections A, B, C, Z <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn the proper way to eat in a formal manner at a business dinner. Please remember to dress professionally. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Theresa Johnson 	

Sessions	
8:45 AM	Daily Kickoff Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Schomburg Auditorium
9:00 AM	Financial Literacy: How Do You Read a Paycheck? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ever wonder why your gross pay is so much higher than your take-home pay? Learn why during this financial literacy session. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Lynnette Hibbard and Brooke Henry ◦ Assistant: Kevin Tong ◦ Location: Dana 27 Focus 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A walk through how to complete the Focus 2 assessment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Nicole Hoffman ◦ Location: Serrick 208 Gen 301: Mock Interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice your interviewing skills and learn what you can improve on. Be sure to dress professionally and bring your resume. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Interviewers: Dr. Clarissa Barnes, Amber Larson, Dr. Kathryn Phillips, and Dr. Marcia Rozevink ◦ Location: Hubbard Banquet Room

9:00
AM

Resume Workshop

- A hands-on workshop to help prepare your professional resume.
 - **Presenter:** Tracy Armey & Robyn Otey
 - **Location:** Schauffler 121

Teamwork: Recess

- Take a break from career exploration and discovery, to participate in team building activities.
 - **Presenter:** Kristy Helberg
 - **Assistant:** Britta Baker
 - **Location:** Academic Support Center

What is it Like to be a First-Year Teacher?

- Sit down with a veteran teacher to discuss what you should expect during your first year of teaching.
 - **Presenter:** Lynsey Slagle
 - **Assistant:** Sharon Wiemken
 - **Location:** Schauffler 106

What is it Like Working for a Non-Profit Agency?

- Ever wonder what it's like to work for a Non-Profit Organization? Join Abby Wolfrum to hear about her first-hand experience working at the United Way.
 - **Presenter:** Abby Wolfrum
 - **Assistant:** Lisa Crumit-Hancock
 - **Location:** Dana 22

10:00
AM

The Air National Guard

- Learn what the 180th FW is and the benefits to joining the Guard.
 - **Presenter:** TSgt Olivia Tusko
 - **Assistant:** Megan Warren
 - **Location:** Schomburg Auditorium

Financial Literacy: Building Credit

- Discuss how to build credit and to properly use a credit card.
 - **Presenter:** Amy McMaster
 - **Location:** Schauffler 129

Financial Literacy: How Do You Read a Paycheck?

- Ever wonder why your gross pay is so much higher than your take-home pay? Learn why during this financial literacy session.
 - **Presenter:** Lynnette Hibbard and Brooke Henry
 - **Location:** Dana 27

Gen 301: Mock Interviews

- Practice your interviewing skills and learn what you can improve on. Be sure to dress professionally and bring your resume.
 - **Interviewers:** Dr. Steve Bare, Mercedes Clay, Dr. Kathryn Phillips
 - **Location:** Hubbard Banquet Room

How Do You Land Your First Teaching Job?

- Nervous for your first teacher interview? Sit down with a veteran teacher to learn some tips and tricks to land the job.
 - **Presenter:** Ellen Taylor
 - **Assistant:** Stacy Adams
 - **Location:** Schauffler 106

Connecting Passion to Purpose: Climate Change

- Learn how two guys were able to take their passion for addressing climate change and turn it into a thriving business and career.
 - **Presenter:** Neil Sosebee and Derek Davy
 - **Assistant:** Alyssa Pitchford
 - **Location:** Schauffler 121

10:00
AM

Sleep and Stress Management

- Too stressed to sleep at night? Learn strategies to manage your stress.
 - **Presenter:** Kris Knight
 - **Assistant:** Dr. Amanda Gilbert
 - **Location:** Dana 22

11:00
AM

Digital Skills Needed in the Workplace

- Sit down with Joel to talk about digital skills many employers seek in a candidate.
 - **Presenter:** Joel Johnson
 - **Assistant:** Noel Barrera
 - **Location:** Schauffler 129

Financial Literacy: Making your \$ Go Far at the Grocery Store

- Short on cash? Discuss different strategies to budget your paycheck.
 - **Presenter:** Melissa Rupp
 - **Assistant:** Andy White
 - **Location:** Dana 27

Focus 2

- Walk through how to complete the Focus 2 assessment.
 - **Presenter:** Tracy Armev
 - **Location:** Serrick 208

Gen 301: Mock Interviews

- Practice your interviewing skills and learn what to improve on. Be sure to dress professionally and bring your resume.
 - **Assistants:** Dr. Clarissa Barnes, Amber Larson, Tina Mohring, and Dr. Marcia Rozevink
 - **Location:** Hubbard Banquet Room

How Do Collegiate Athletics Lead To Success?

- Derek Woodley talks about how being a college athlete teaches you skills to be successful in life.
 - **Presenter:** Derek Woodley
 - **Assistant:** Megan Warren
 - **Location:** Schomburg Auditorium

How Do You Land Your First Teaching Job?

- Nervous for your first school interview? Sit down with a veteran teacher to learn some tips and tricks to land the job.
 - **Presenter:** Ellen Taylor
 - **Assistant:** Stacy Adams
 - **Location:** Schauffler 106

Lunch

- Take a break from exploring career fields and grab a bite to eat.

12:00
PM

Lunch

- Take a break from exploring career fields and grab a bite to eat.

Academic Support: Time Management

- Time Management is an important skill during your undergraduate career, and in every day life. Come learn tips and tricks to mastering this skill.
 - **Presenter:** Lisa Crumit-Hancock
 - **Location:** Dana 22

Opportunities in Business

- Scott Armev and Dana Collins discuss a variety of careers available in the business field.
 - **Presenters:** Scott Armev and Dana Collins
 - **Assistant:** Sally Bissell
 - **Location:** Dana 27

Teamwork: Recess

- Take a break from career exploration and discovery, and participate in team building activities.
 - **Presenter:** Kristy Helberg
 - **Assistant:** Britta Baker
 - **Location:** Academic Support Center

Emotional Intelligence

- Discuss with Dr. Agnes Caldwell the importance of emotional intelligence and how this skill can help you in your future career.
 - **Presenter:** Dr. Agnes Caldwell
 - **Location:** Serrick 208

Financial Literacy: Making your \$ Go Far at the Grocery Store

- Short on cash? Discuss the different strategies to budget your paycheck.
 - **Presenter:** Melissa Rupp
 - **Assistant:** Tina Mohring
 - **Location:** Dana 27

Financial Literacy: Saving for Retirement

- Discuss why it is important to start saving early, and how much you should be putting into your retirement fund.
 - **Presenter:** Amy McMaster
 - **Assistant:** Emili Aselage
 - **Location:** Schauffler 129

Financial Literacy: What are Employment Benefits?

- Hear from an HR professional about the different benefits offered by employers and what they mean.
 - **Presenter:** Martha Gebers
 - **Assistant:** Sharon Wiemken
 - **Location:** Schauffler 106

Gen 301: Mock Interviews

- Practice your interviewing skills and learn what to improve on. Be sure to dress professionally and bring your resume.
 - **Assistants:** Sally Bissell, Dr. Marcia Rozevink
 - **Location:** Hubbard Banquet Room

Test Anxiety and Stress Management

- Stress and anxiety can be overwhelming, learn tips to manage your stress to help you succeed.
 - **Presenter:** Kris Knight
 - **Location:** Dana 22

Teamwork: Recess

- Take a break from career exploration and discovery, and participate in team building activities.
 - **Presenter:** Kristy Helberg
 - **Location:** Academic Support Center

What is it Like to Work in a Lab?

- Learn from a current food scientist what it is like to work in a lab.
 - **Presenter:** Lois Baker
 - **Assistant:** Britta Baker
 - **Location:** Schauffler 121

Academic Support: Time Management

- Time Management is an important skill during your undergraduate career, and in every day life. Come learn tips and tricks to master this skill.
 - **Presenter:** Lisa Crumit-Hancock
 - **Location:** Dana 22

What's In Your Water?

- Learn about what is commonly found in water, and what can be done about it.
 - **Presenter:** Derek Davy & Neil Sosebee
 - **Assistant:** Emili Aselage
 - **Location:** Schauffler 121

Digital Skills Needed in the Workplace

- Sit down with Joel to talk about different digital skills many employers look for in a candidate.
 - **Presenter:** Joel Johnson
 - **Assistant:** Sharon Wiemken
 - **Location:** Schauffler 129

2:00
PM

Finding a Career in the Military

- Join Staff Sergeant Matthews to talk about different career paths the military offers.
 - **Presenter:** SSG Miguel Matthews
 - **Location:** Serrick 208

Financial Literacy: What are Employment Benefits?

- Hear from an HR professional about various benefits offered by employers and what they mean.
 - **Presenter:** Martha Gebers
 - **Assistant:** Stacy Adams
 - **Location:** Schauffler 106

Gen 301: Mock Interviews

- Practice your interviewing skills and learn what to improve on. Be sure to dress professionally and bring your resume.
 - **Assistants:** Lisa Marsalek, Dr. Linda Tucker Serniak
 - **Location:** Hubbard Banquet Hall

Pre-Health Meeting

- Meeting for all pre professional health track students.
 - **Presenter:** Dean Bridgette Winslow
 - **Location:** Schomburg Auditorium

Required for
First year
Pre-Health
Students

3:00
PM

Mandatory Session: Overcoming Obstacles to Become a Career Professional

- **Presenter:** Anton Horton
- **Location:** Schomburg Auditorium

Required
for all
students

6:00
PM

Dodge Ball Tournament

- Bring your team of 5 for a round-robin dodgeball tournament. Student, faculty and staff teams will battle it out for a variety of prizes!
- **Location:** McMaster Gym in the Weaner Center

Career Panels

9:00
AM

Advice from Graduating Seniors

- **Presenters:** Jarvis DeCoursey, Grant Johnson, Alivia Kruczkowski
- **Moderator:** Dr. Olivia Lozar
- **Location:** Buchman Boardroom

Entrepreneurship Panel

- **Presenters:** Katie Sloan and Adam Sloan
- **Moderator:** Dean Bridgette Winslow
- **Location:** Cultural Arts Center

Nursing Panel

- **Presenters:** Arica Castillo
- **Location:** Tenzer 204

10:30
AM

Exercise Science Panel

- **Presenters:** Bridget Gustwiler and Makayla McAvoy
- **Moderator:** Dr. Olivia Lozar
- **Location:** Cultural Arts Center

10:30 AM	<p>GEN 301: Game Of Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Facilitators: Lisa Crumit-Hancock and Sharon Wiemken • Location: Upstairs of the Library <p>Owning Your Own Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenters: Brianna Glass and Blair Howard • Moderator: Emili Aselage • Location: Buchman Boardroom
12:00 PM	<p>Lunch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a break from exploring career fields and grab a bite to eat
1:00 PM	<p>Education Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenters: Angie Belcher, Tim Pettaway • Location: Cultural Arts Center <p>FBI and Federal Law Enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenters: FBI Agents and Law Enforcement • Moderator: Dr. Steve Bare • Location: Buchman Boardroom <p>Gen 301: Game of Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Facilitators: Lisa Crumit-Hancock and Amber Larson • Location: Upstairs of the Library

Wednesday 1/11/2023



<h1>Sessions</h1>	
8:45 AM	<p>Daily Kickoff Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Schomburg Auditorium
9:00 AM	<p>Academic Support: Goal Setting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the different strategies to setting and achieving goals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Lisa Crumit-Hancock ◦ Location: Dana 27 <p>Academic Support: How to Be a Lifelong Learner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn the importance of being a lifelong learner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Tim Meyer ◦ Location: Schauffler 106 <p>Financial Literacy: How to File Taxes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn the how to properly file taxes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Shirley Sigg ◦ Assistant: Judy Lymanstall ◦ Location: Dana 22 <p>Focus 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk through how to complete the Focus 2 assessment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Robyn Otey ◦ Location: Serrick 208

9:00
AM

Motivation to Being Your Best

- Long-time football coach discusses tips and strategies to succeed in college.
 - **Presenter:** Tory Strock
 - **Assistant:** Andy White
 - **Location:** Schomburg Auditorium

Overcoming Adversity

- Discuss the importance of overcoming overwhelming odds to become successful.
 - **Presenter:** Kurt Beach
 - **Assistant:** Mercedes Clay
 - **Location:** Schauffler 121

10:00
AM

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- **Presenter:** Dr. Lisa Beringer
- **Location:** Schomburg Auditorium



Financial Literacy: Building Credit

- Discuss how to build credit and how to properly use a credit card.
 - **Presenter:** Amy McMaster
 - **Location:** Schauffler 129

Financial Literacy: Making your \$ Go Far at the Grocery Store

- Short on cash? Discuss the different strategies to budget your paycheck.
 - **Presenter:** Melissa Rupp
 - **Assistant:** Stacy Adams
 - **Location:** Dana 22

Focus 2

- Walk through how to complete the Focus 2 assessment.
 - **Presenter:** Nicole Hoffman
 - **Location:** Serrick 208

How to Start a Small Business

- Learn what it takes to start your own small business.
 - **Presenter:** Lisa Becher
 - **Assistant:** Judy Lymanstall
 - **Location:** Schauffler 121

Military to Civilian Careers

- Learn about how to take your military experience and turn it into a civilian career.
 - **Presenter:** Jack Lawson
 - **Assistant:** Dr. Olivia Lozar
 - **Location:** Dana 27

Resume Workshop

- A hands-on workshop to help prepare your professional resume.
 - **Presenter:** Tracy Armev and Robyn Otey
 - **Location:** Schauffler 106

11:00
AM

Academic Support: Goal Setting

- Discuss the different strategies to setting and achieving goals.
 - **Presenter:** Lisa Crumit-Hancock
 - **Location:** Dana 27

Academic: How to Be a Lifelong Learner

- Learn the importance of learning throughout your lifetime.
 - **Presenter:** Tim Meyer
 - **Location:** Schauffler 106

11:00 AM	<p>Digital Skills Needed in the Workplace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit down with Joel to talk about various digital skills many employers look for in a candidate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Joel Johnson ◦ Assistant: Emili Aselage ◦ Location: Schauffler 129 <p>Filling Your Heart With Art - A Second Career in Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovering a career in art is more about what it feels like, as opposed to what it should look like. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: Kelly Fait ◦ Assistant: Stacy Adams ◦ Location: Art Gallery <p>Soldier to Student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss what it takes to be a student and soldier. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Presenter: SSG Miguel Matthews ◦ Assistant: Kevin Tong ◦ Location: Schauffler 121
12:00 PM	<p>Lunch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a break from exploring career fields and grab a bite to eat.
1:00 PM	<p>The Human Library</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assistant: Dr. Lisa Berringer ◦ Location: Schomburg Auditorium <p>Grad School Fair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Time: 1-4pm ◦ Location: George Smart Center <div style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> Required for First year Students </div>

Career Panels

9:00 AM	<p>Environmental Science Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenters: Derek Davy and Neil Sosebee • Moderator: Emili Aselage • Location: Cultural Arts Center <p>Gen 301: Game of Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistants: Dr. Clarissa Barnes, Sharon Wiemken • Location: Upstairs of the Library <p>Social Work Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenters: Nikki Arnold-Wood, Roberta Mack, Tiffany Goings • Location: Buchman Boardroom <p>Medical School Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Tina Mohring • Location: Tenzer 204
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10:30
AM

Police/ Criminal Justice Panel

- **Presenters:** Jake Arnold and Dave Mack
- **Moderator:** Britta Baker
- **Location:** Buchman Board Room

Public Health Career Panel

- **Presenters:** Jamie Gerken and Nathan Hoffer
- **Location:** Cultural Arts Center

12:00
PM

Lunch

- Take a break from exploring career fields and grab a bite to eat.

1:00
PM

Grad School Fair

- Time: 1-4pm
- Location: George Smart Center

6:00
PM

Etiquette Dinner: GEN301 - Sections D, E, F

- Learn the proper way to eat at a business dinner. Please remember to dress professionally.
 - **Presenter:** Theresa Johnson



JACKET JOURNEY

Grad School Fair

George Smart Center
1pm - 4pm

****Mandatory for all GEN 301 students****

Alma College

Ashland University

Ball State University

Bowling Green State
University

Chatham University

Defiance College

Geneva College

John Carroll University

**Manchester University Fort
Wayne**

Mount Saint Joseph
University

Ohio Northern University-Pettit College of Law

Olivet College

Saint Mary's College

**The University of Toledo
College of Law Admissions**

Tiffin University

Trine University

University of Indianapolis

University of Mount Union

University of Pittsburgh
School of Education

Waynesburg University

Wilmington University

Presenter Bios



Scott Arney - Scott received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Business and Organizational Leadership from Defiance College. Following twenty-six years in the field of Human Resources and Operational Management, Scott currently serves as Vice President of Human Resources & Operations for Pro-Pak Industries in Maumee, Ohio. Scott is responsible for developing the overall direction of operations. He has earned and maintained the designations of Professional in Human Resources and Certified Professional in Human Resources.



Tracy Arney - Tracy graduated from Defiance College with a degree in Student Affairs and Leadership Studies. She is starting her 21st year of employment at Defiance College, where she is part of the Institute for Career Readiness and Lifelong Learning. Tracy is responsible for career counseling, internship and job search advising, resume and cover letter critiques, and planning various events and workshops on campus.



Jake Arnold - Jake graduated with his Bachelor of Business Administration in 2014, and Master of Business Administration in 2016, both from Defiance College. While at DC, Jake was a member of the track and field team, as well as a Resident Assistant. After leaving Defiance College, Jake worked as a Probation Officer in Defiance, Ohio. He currently works as a Parole Officer with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections.



Nikki Arnold-Wood - Nikki earned her bachelor's degree in social work from Defiance College. She later attended Indiana Wesleyan University, where she received her Master of Arts in Psychology. Nikki has worked as a SUD Group Counselor and Case Manager for the Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio. In 2019, Nikki moved on to pursue an opportunity as Service Coordinator for the Wood County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Here she was responsible for helping individuals and their families plan and establish outcomes, needs, and service options. Currently, Nikki works at the Women's Guild of the Filling Memorial Home of Mercy as a Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professional.



Lois Baker - Lois Baker currently works for Balchem as a Senior Scientist, where she has worked for over four years. In her role, she is responsible for developing formulas for single-serve beverages and overseeing their scaleup from benchtop to pilot plant to production. Before Balchem, Lois worked in Minnesota for a whey protein ingredient manufacturer for 20 years. There, she developed formulas and consumer recipes to support the company's retail product line.



Kurt Beach - Kurt Beach graduated from Ball State University with a double major in athletic training and exercise science and wellness. After college, he gained experience working as a GA with the women's gymnastics team at North Carolina State University. Beach has worked in rehabilitation clinics, industrial ergonomics training, and as a Medical Assistant for patients undergoing orthopedic surgery. He has been featured in the National Athletic Trainers Board of Certification. Beach also published his own book in 2021 entitled "Searching for Every Step: Finding Purpose in Living with Spinal Muscular Atrophy".



Lisa Becher - Lisa earned her bachelor's degree from Defiance College, where she studied marketing and management. From there she went on to get her master's degree from the University of Toledo. Lisa has worked as the Vice President of Beilharz Consulting where she was in charge of payroll, taxes, accounting, bookkeeping, and marketing. She later became an Adjunct Marketing Professor at Defiance College. Currently, Lisa is the Owner of Putt-Putt Golf & Games in Defiance, OH. Besides owning this business, she works as a Consultant for the Ohio Small Business Development Center and as a Business Faculty member at Northwest State Community College.



Angie Belcher - Angie holds a Bachelor of Education from Bowling Green State University. She went on to obtain her Master of Education from the University of Toledo. Angie also holds a doctorate from the University of Findlay. She has over 11 years of experience working in administration. Previously, she worked as the Director of Student Services at Pike-Delta-York Schools. With her experience behind her, Angie took the position of Superintendent at Fayette Schools in August 2019.



Agnes Caldwell - Dr. Agnes Caldwell currently serves as the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Defiance College. In her role, she oversees all aspects of academic operations at the college. A sociologist by trade, she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Toledo and Ph.D. from Wayne State University.



Arica Castillo - Arica graduated with her Associate of Science in Nursing from Northwest State Community College, followed by a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Defiance College. She has worked as a nurse on an oncology and stroke floor. She has experience working on a progressive care floor taking care of patients with illnesses such as COVID-19 and other acute illnesses. She currently works as a nurse at a local urgent care and as a home health nurse.



Dana Collins - In 2011, Dana obtained her bachelor's degree from Defiance College. Her major concentration was on building brand image, awareness, and loyalty through integrated marketing communications. Dana has worked for Poggemeyer Design Group as a Client Relations Representative, Marketing Communications Specialist, and Community Development Specialist. From there she went on to work as the Chief Operation Officer at Dental Excellence in Napoleon, Ohio where she develops strategies that help to drive the growth of the company's patient-centric practices.



Lisa Crumit-Hancock - As the Assistant Dean of Student Success, Lisa's primary responsibilities involve leading library and informational resources, supervising academic retention efforts with a focus on at-risk and first-generation students, and many more. Professionally, Lisa's research and interests involve student motivation theory, metacognition, Dweck's Mindset Theory, writing center theory and practice, and student intervention strategies for college success. Lisa has been at Defiance College since 2004, first as an adjunct faculty member, then in 2011 as a full-time staff member in Academic Affairs. Before working at Defiance College, she taught at Northwest State Community College for seventeen years. Lisa earned her bachelor's degree from Defiance College and her master's degree from Bowling Green State University.



Derek Davy - Derek is the Chief Executive Officer of Econse Water, a water treatment company based in Canada. There he leads the marketing and sales efforts, as well as the overall direction of the company. Derek works directly with customers to identify their specific needs and various water quality trends that would directly impact them. He has over fifteen years of experience with international business development and technical sales for global manufacturing. Derek has become an advocate for cleantech solutions and water sustainability, which led him to help found the company Econse.



Jarvis DeCoursey - Jarvis is a senior at Defiance College, majoring in accounting. On campus Jarvis is a Resident Assistant, a member of the Campus Activities Board, and a member of Black Action Student Association. Outside of campus activities and classes Jarvis enjoys listening to music, working out and catching up on sleep. He is originally from Gainesville, Florida.



Kelly Fait - Kelly is a Columbus, Ohio native, now located in Chula Vista, California. She is first and foremost an oil painter, alongside a career as a licensed mental health therapist, where she integrates art-making into her therapy sessions. Kelly has a heart for working with children and adolescents and finds that art is often the key to healing and authentic self-expression for this population. Kelly enjoys combining bold, grungy colors, sharp angles and lines, and soft light in her paintings. She works from a home-based studio and hopes to one day open a community space for healing, where art-making and therapy collide.



Martha Gebers - Martha is an alumnus of The Ohio State University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. Martha is active in the Fulton County Economic Development Group's Workforce Team and a founding member of the Northwest Ohio Manufacturing Alliance. Martha assists with the Career Advisory Board at Four County Career Center, Advanced Manufacturing Consortium as well as Adult Education Aspire Advisory Committee.



Jamie Gerken - Jamie received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from The Ohio State University and a master's in public health through the Northwest Ohio Consortium for Public Health, which offered the degree as a joint effort through University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University. Jamie has worked for Defiance County General Health District for 20 years. She started at the Defiance Health Department as a Public Health Nurse. She later occupied the Public Health Planning and Promotion Coordinator role before being appointed Health Commissioner in 2017. In 2020 Jamie was awarded the Defiance Area Chamber of Commerce Quality of Life Award.



Tiffany Goings - Tiffany graduated from Defiance College in 2004 with a Bachelor of Criminal Justice degree. She then went on to obtain her master's degree in public administration, as well as a master's degree in psychology from Kaplan University. After graduating, Tiffany began working for Paulding County Dept. of Job & Family Services (now known as Defiance-Paulding Consolidated JFS) in 2005 in the Children Services Unit as an Investigator. During her time in the Children Services Unit, she held the titles and duties of lead worker and supervisor of the foster-adoption unit. In, 2018, Tiffany left the CPS unit and moved to the Ohio Means Jobs Unit. Currently, she is the Workforce Supervisor for Ohio Means Jobs Defiance & Paulding Counties.



Bridget Gustwiler - Bridget began her career working at Morristown Memorial Hospital, a level one trauma center in Morristown, New Jersey. Here she worked as an Acute Care Physical Therapist. After two years there, she moved home to Defiance and worked as a Physical Therapist at Promedica Defiance Regional Hospital for the past twenty years. At Promedica Defiance Regional Hospital, Bridget serves as the Site Coordinator for Clinical Education, and works with students for job shadowing, observation, and clinical experience and internships. For the past five years, she has specialized in the area of pelvic floor physical therapy. Most recently she has accepted a position as a Teaching Assistant with Herman & Wallace Pelvic Rehabilitation Institute.



Kristy Helberg - Kristy is the Program Specialist of 4-H Camp Palmer with a knack for communication and youth development. From working at WNDH radio station to working with youth at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Okolona, fostering and building relationships through effective communication has always been important to Kristy. Outdoor education and team building are two of Kristy's passion areas at 4-H Camp Palmer. Kristy is a graduate of Bowling Green State University and enjoys music, especially the Avett Brothers.



Brooke Henry - Brooke holds a bachelor's degree in marketing from the University of Dayton. Out of college, Brooke started in management for a retail store and then moved into management at a bank where she was able to be a part of the hiring team. This led her into the HR and Recruitment field. Premier Bank gave her the opportunity to explore more areas of HR, particularly Payroll and Benefits, which are both areas that she now manages for the company. She has worked at Premier Bank since 2008, where she specializes in payroll and employee benefits.

Lynnette Hibbard - Lynnette works as a Payroll Administrator at Premier Bank in Morenci, MI. Lynnette received her associate's degree in accounting from the University of Northwestern Ohio. Lynnette has 21 years of experience working as an HR and Payroll Specialist at F&M.



Nathan Hoffer - In 2017 Nathan graduated from Northwest State Community College with his associate's degree in nursing. From there he completed his bachelor's degree in nursing at Defiance College. Nathan started his medical career as a Nursing Aid in the emergency department at Mercy in Defiance, while simultaneously going to nursing school. After graduating, he became an RN on a medical surgical floor at Promedica Defiance Regional. Hoffer went on to work as a home health nurse before taking a job as a public health nurse.



Nicole Hoffman - Nicole graduated from Northern Michigan University in 2014 with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and International Studies. She furthered her education at Siena Heights University, graduating with a Master of Arts in Higher Educational Leadership in 2021. Prior to returning to school for her master's degree, Nicole lived and worked in Uruguay and Peru, South America. While there, Nicole taught online English classes. Upon returning to the U.S., she became the Financial Literacy Education Coordinator at Defiance College. Most recently, Nicole accepted a position as Director of Service Learning and Study Abroad for the McMaster School for Advancing Humanity at Defiance College.



Anton Horton - Anton Horton is currently the School Director of University Prep Schools in Detroit, Michigan. His journey has not always been an easy one, but through hard work, strength in faith, and love of family, he has persevered. Anton's undergraduate degree is from Adrian College, where he majored in Exercise Science. He was a Presidential Scholar, founding member and President of Brothers in Action, a member of the Presidential Advisory Council, and a member of the basketball team. After graduation, he joined the Army National Guard and obtained his Master of Education from Wayne State University.



Grant Johnson - Grant is a senior at Defiance College, majoring in Molecular Biology and minoring in Chemistry. Grant is very involved on the Defiance campus, serving as an orientation leader, McMaster School Scholar for Panama, member of the men's basketball team and much more.



Joel Johnson - Joel recently graduated from Bluffton University with a bachelor's degree in social work and is a Licensed Social Worker. He has spent a number of years working with Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission's summer food program, both as a site supervisor and AmeriCorps VISTA. In October 2022, Joel began his role as Digital Navigator for NOCAC's Financial Opportunity Center.



Kris Knight - Kris graduated from Tiffin University with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and police science. He went on to receive his master's degree in vocational rehabilitation counseling from Bowling Green State University. Kris worked as a therapist for Ackerman-Spain Counseling before his career at Defiance College. In 2013, Kris began his career at DC as an adjunct professor, and after 2 years of teaching, he took the position as a mental health counselor.



Alivia Kruczkowski - Alivia is a senior at Defiance College, majoring in exercise science with a minor in psychology and autism studies. Defiance has allowed her to take advantage of so many opportunities both on and off campus. On campus she is on the softball team, a peer interventionist for the affinity program, president of RallyCap sports, a three year McMaster Scholar, a member of service leaders, and the student worker for the Institute for Career Readiness and Lifelong Learning. Outside of campus Alivia works at the Defiance Promedica Regional Hospital in Kaitlyn's Cottage and volunteers at numerous community events. After graduating from DC, she will be attending the University of Toledo to obtain her doctorate in occupational therapy.



Jack Lawson - Jack is an U.S Army Veteran and graduate of Defiance College. Jack was on active service in the U.S. Army between the years of 1983 to 1996. During this time he held the titles of Sergeant and Tank Commander. Jack holds both a bachelor's and master's degree from Defiance College. After his college and military career, Jack worked as a Firefighter and EMT for the Defiance Fire Department. After a 25 year career at the Fire Department, Jack returned to Defiance College as the Veteran, Transfer and Adult Student Support Coordinator for 5 years.



Dave Mack - Chief Mack attended Defiance College, where he majored in Criminal Justice. He graduated in 1995 with his bachelor's degree. After graduation, Dave was hired by the Napoleon Police Department in February 1996. While at the Napoleon Police Department, Dave has worked as an Evidence Room Technician, a Field Training Officer, and a Tactical Team Member. In 2000 Dave was assigned as a Foremost Crimes Detective. After this position, he was promoted to Lieutenant in 2004. As Lieutenant he has been a Tactical Team Leader, Detectives Supervisor, Dispatcher, and a Public Records Supervisor. Eventually Chief Mack was appointed as the Administrative Lieutenant for the department, before being promoted to Chief in 2017. Outside of the police department, Mack coached high school football for 17 years and has been an instructor for the police academy since 1999.



Roberta Mack - Roberta is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Social Work. She went on to receive her Master of Science in Social Work at the University of Toledo. Roberta currently works as the Clinical Services Executive Director at The Center for Child and Family Advocacy, where she provides supervision to the clinical staff. In the years leading to her becoming the Executive Director at CCFA, she worked as an independent social worker, serving individuals and families. Roberta is responsible for conducting educational presentations to area school students regarding safe dating and diversion programming for juveniles exhibiting sexual behavior problems.

Miguel Matthews - Staff Sergeant Matthews recently graduated from the American Military University with an associate's degree in General Studies. While in school, he realized he needed help pursuing his dream of becoming an animator, and is now in the process of using his GI bill to further his education. Currently he is attending Full Sail University studying Computer Science. SSG Matthews joined the Army in February of 2010. Since then he has been deployed for one combat tour and 2 non-combat. He has been stationed overseas in Honduras, Korea, Germany and the Island of Crete. SSG Matthews is trained in skills such as air assault and heavy vehicle operation. SSG Matthews currently works as a 92F Petroleum Supply Specialist, as well as a 79R Recruiter for the Army.



Makayla McAvoy - Makayla graduated from Defiance College in 2016 with her Bachelors of Science in Athletic Training. She was a four-year softball player. After graduating, Makayla spent two years at California State University-Chico as a Graduate Assistant. Since then, she has worked as a Community Sports and Therapy Athletic Trainer. She returned to Defiance College in 2020 to work as the Assistant Softball Coach before accepting the position as Assistant Athletic Trainer. Makayla recently accepted a position as an Athletic Trainer with Nationwide Children's Hospital.



Amy McMaster - Amy is a Licensed Social Worker who graduated with a bachelor's degree from Defiance College. She has spent her career working to make the community a better place, including 15 years with Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission. She served 2 years as a Head Start Family Service Advocate, and the last 13 years helping families create budgets, improve their credit, reduce debt, purchase homes, vehicles, access post secondary education and achieve financial wellness goals. She does this in an effort to support NOCAC's mission to develop, coordinate and implement programs to alleviate poverty. Certified in financial coaching and motivational interviewing, Amy values all people as creative, resourceful, and whole.

Tim Meyer - With more than 15 years of experience in engineering and industrial management, Tim Meyer has built a career and personal life around principles of industriousness and lifelong learning. Tim began his career at the entry level of manufacturing and through both formal and informal continued learning, has built a successful career. The speed of change in all industries and businesses is at a pace never seen before. Tim will help make sense of the "what, why, and how" regarding continued learning and development to establish a competitive advantage and fulfilling career.



Robyn Otey - Robyn graduated from Defiance College in 2022 with a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Molecular Biology and minoring in Chemistry. Since graduating, Robyn has worked in the Institute for Career Readiness and Lifelong Learning at Defiance College as an Office Coordinator. Most recently she has accepted the role of Career Coach at Defiance College.



Tim Pettaway - Tim currently works at Toledo Public Schools as a high school Marketing-Entrepreneurship teacher and DECA advisor. Before TPS, Tim worked as a Grant Project Manager for the University of Toledo, and an Operations Manager for the U.S Department of Commerce. Tim received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Tiffin University.



Melissa Rupp - Melissa is the Educator of Family and Consumer Sciences at The Ohio State University Extension Office. Before working at the OSU Extension, Melissa served as Grant Developer for Northwest State Community College, as well as being the Family and Children First Director in Williams County. Melissa holds a bachelor's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences from Goshen College, along with a Master of Education from Defiance College.



Shirley E. Sigg - Shirley received her bachelor's degree in Accounting and master's degree in Business Administration from Defiance College. She has over 40 years of experience as an accounting professional, working in fields such as non-profit, governmental, medical, and many others. Shirley is currently the Chief Financial Officer for Heer Excavating in Archbold, Ohio and is a senior partner in Sigg/Boysel Accounting and Tax Services in Archbold, Ohio.



Lynsey Slagle - Lynsey attended Huntington University, where she studied Education, focusing on Elementary Pre K - 6th Grade. She then went on to obtain a master's degree in Classroom Technology from Bowling Green State University, she is also a licensed intervention specialist for grades K-12. Lynsey has held teaching positions at St Joseph Catholic School, Butler Elementary, Edgerton, and Bryan City Schools. She now serves as an eighth grade language arts intervention teacher at Bryan.



Adam and Katie Sloan - Adam and Katie are the owners and operators of A&K Sloan, LLC. Adam grew up in a franchise restaurant, and worked his way from a cashier to the owner of five restaurants. When Katie and Adam married, she was working as a hospital nurse. Once the business began to grow, she moved to the Human Resource side of the franchise. Owning and operating a franchise can be fun and exciting, but requires an immense and intense work ethic.



Neil Sosebee - Neil is the Chief Technology Officer at Econse Water, a water purification company based out of Canada. At Econse, he is responsible for the operational components of the business. Neil has over 15 years of experience developing and implementing innovative water and wastewater technologies. He has spent extensive time in the field, working to better understand customer needs and developing specific practical solutions. Neil focuses in areas relating to chemistry, biology, field operations, programming and system design. Prior to Econse, he was the head of Sunstone Water Group (North American Operations), and worked with Chardon Labs.



Tory Stroock - Tory is a 1993 graduate of Liberty Center High School and a 1997 graduate of Bluffton University. Tory's educational career began as a Health/Phys. Ed. teacher at Patrick Henry High School, as well as serving as the Head Baseball Coach & Assistant Football Coach. After three years at Patrick Henry, he accepted a teaching position at Lima Central Catholic High School, where he also served as Head Football Coach. He then moved on to Leipsic High School, where he worked as a Health/PE teacher and Head Football Coach. After a seven year stint at Leipsic, Tory accepted a teaching/coaching job at Napoleon High School. Tory recently retired at Head Football Coach after 14 seasons, but is still teaching Health/Phys. Ed. at Napoleon High School.

TSgt Olivia Tusko - Technical Sergeant Tusko has been a member of the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard since 2015. Shortly after her initial training, she became full-time at the 180th. TSgt Tusko began her military career as a Non-Destructive Inspector (NDI) in the Maintenance Squadron. Within her NDI career, TSgt Tusko deployed overseas twice (Estonia and Afghanistan), and went on numerous Temporary Duty Yonders to include Florida and Utah. Recently, TSgt Tusko was selected as the newest recruiter for the 180th Fighter Wing, joining the Force Support Squadron.



Ellen Taylor - Ellen has been an elementary teacher for over 20 years. She has extensive experience working in Title I schools in Texas, Arkansas, and Ohio. She holds a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University and a master's degree from Defiance College. She lives in Defiance with her husband, Jeremy, and two children, Olivia and Tyler.



Abby Wolfrum - Abby's passion has always been to help people. Initially, her interests were in the medical field. She spent two years working in a hospital, then eventually found herself back at DC to pursue her master's while working in Admissions and Financial Aid. After nearly a decade in higher education, she entered the business world as a Director of Finance. Those three years gave her experience managing and operating all fiscal matters. While life has taken her down a different path than she ever could have imagined, today she finds herself serving in a role that helps advocate for the community and for people in need. Abby feels that, although her career path might not seem linear in nature, all of her experiences, coupled with the desire to work with the community, have been a tremendous asset in her position as Executive Director of the United Way of Defiance County.



Derek Woodley - Derek is in his 4th year as Athletic Director and 16th year as Head Baseball Coach at Defiance College. He has over 25 years of experience as both an administrator and a coach at the collegiate level. During his time at DC, he has been named Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Coach of the Year twice (2013 and 2019). Coach Woodley frequently uses the phrase "win the day," which is now used across campus. This phrase is based on the concept of developing small wins throughout the day, because the only thing a person can control is their attitude.



JACKET JOURNEY

A yellow arrow pointing upwards and to the right, positioned at the end of the word 'JOURNEY'.