

# College of Health and Human Services

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The College of Health and Human Services at IUP has over 3,000 students enrolled in eight departments, nine centers, and two interdisciplinary programs.

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IUP Nursing graduate (2019) Hunter Prosper spreads kindness, garnering a following of 2.5 million on [TikTok](https://www.tiktok.com/@hunterprosper).



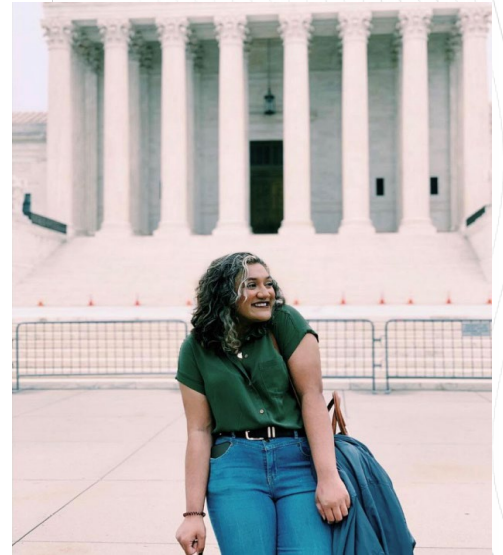


## Criminology Graduate Student at the Helm of Student Organization Tackling Issues of Racism

Nabiha Islam, a master's degree student in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, is the creator and president of IUP Students Against Racism (IUPSAR). IUPSAR is a student organization whose goal is to combat and shed light on racism within the IUP community and the Indiana community-at-large. According to Nabiha, the organization focuses on educating students about racism, the importance of diversity and inclusion, and how to overcome unconscious bias. Nabiha notes that the group also provides a "safe space" for students to share their personal experiences with racism, bias, and exclusionary practices.

IUPSAR is a new organization for the IUP community with the Fall semester being the first full semester of operation for the group, which has approximately 15 student members. Any student with a minimum 2.0 GPA may join the organization. IUPSAR, both independently and in collaboration with other campus groups, hosts diversity events, community-building activities, fundraisers, and experiential learning experiences throughout the year.

Nabiha received her bachelor's degree in Criminology from IUP in 2018 and is currently enrolled in the on-campus MA Program in Criminology. She is slated to graduate the program in August and plans to pursue a law degree.



## Food Photography Workshop

In October, the [Student Association of Nutrition and Dietetics \(SAND\)](#), the student organization of the [Department of Food and Nutrition](#), along with members of IUP's Student Photography Association (SPA), co-hosted a Food Photography Workshop in Ackerman's food lab. In attendance from SAND were former IUP Academy of Culinary Arts graduates that provided guidance on how to creatively plate avocado toast. Student members of the photography club taught attendees how to consider angles and create shadows to add dimension in photographs. One tip was to use an additional light held above the plate to change the placement of the shadows. Alexa, an SPA member, explained, "To get the perfect lighting to show off our creations, we improvised by using the flashlight from another phone to shine additional light on the food. It's a simple and effective way to make sure your food and plate are properly lit to show off every aspect of the dish without the need for any fancy or expensive equipment." This experience gave the students a chance to interact with others outside of their departments and share valuable information in a low-stress environment, not to mention eat the delicious avocado toast they created. The results of the workshop speak for themselves!





# HRER Students Surprise Disney-Goers

In November, students in the ELR 681 Seminar course on Disney Leadership Studies traveled to Walt Disney World resort to participate in leadership opportunities. The experience was packed full of professionally rewarding activities and encounters.

*Top photo:* The IUP students were fortunate to spend time with Ahmed and Bushra Alotaibi as they discussed and compared American culture, religion, work laws, and traditions to those in Saudi Arabia.

*Middle photos:* Dr. David Piper, Chairperson of the Department, and Dr. Sylvia Gaiko, Dean of the College, along with the rest of the IUP group randomly surprised children celebrating birthdays. They gifted them with IUP merchandise and persuaded nearly everyone within ear shot to sing “Happy Birthday”.

*Bottom photo:* Katie Zibert, a 2012 ELR Graduate who supervises the Casting and Recruitment Department at Disney, joined the IUP students to describe her career path and journey to her leadership role with Disney.





## Chef Erin Reed Wins Chef of the Year Award



The ACFGC Chef of the Year Award pays tribute to an active culinarian whose knowledge, skills, expertise, guidance, and direction have enhanced the image of the professional chef and who, by example, has given leadership and direction to culinarians seeking a career in the culinary profession.

Academy of Culinary Arts faculty member Chef Erin Reed was awarded the 2021 *Chef of the Year Award* by the [Groundhog Chapter of the American Culinary Federation](#).



The award was presented by last year's recipient Chef Andrew Nutter and ACF Groundhog Chapter President, Chef John Kapusta. Congratulations to Chef Reed on this very deserving award!

## Team From Psychology Publishes Study

IUP Clinical Psychology program graduate Adrie Henry recently published an article in the journal *Violence Against Women* entitled, "Reflecting the times? Reexamining the effect of alcohol intoxication on perceptions of campus sexual assault."

Along with Dr. Anthony Perillo and Dr. Jen Perillo (IUP Psychology Department) and Dr. Cristina Reitz-Krueger (Warren Wilson College), Adrie led an examination of the effect of victim and perpetrator alcohol intoxication on perceptions of campus sexual assault while a Clinical Psychology Psy.D. student at IUP. After reading a short story that varied the amount of alcohol used by a victim and her assailant, participants shared their perceptions about each party's level of responsibility and blame for what occurred. In contrast with past research, people were less likely to blame the victim and more likely to perceive the event as sexual assault when the victim was highly intoxicated. The authors discuss the findings in light of the current social climate, including the #MeToo movement. The study was completed with the help of 14 additional students from IUP's undergraduate and graduate psychology programs.

## Nursing Faculty Present at Nursing Conference

Dr. Michele Gerwick and Dr. Pamela O'Harra presented a podium presentation at the Sigma Theta Tau 46th Biennial Convention held in Indianapolis in November. The presentation was titled *Using a Mobile Device Application to Track Hand Washing Compliance: A Nursing Students' QI Project*.

## Welcome Isabella Josephine Perillo

Drs. Jennifer and Anthony Perillo welcomed a new member into their family, Isabella Josephine Perillo, on September 25. Jennifer is an Associate Professor and Undergraduate Practicum Coordinator for the Department of Psychology, and Anthony is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology and serves as the Assistant Director of Clinical Training for the Clinical Psychology PsyD program. Congratulations to the Perillos on the arrival of their beautiful daughter!



## School Psychology Programs Celebrate National School Psychology Awareness Week

[National School Psychology Awareness Week](#) is celebrated yearly in November by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and school psychologists everywhere. This year, the theme was Let's get in GEAR (Grow—Engage—Advocate—Rise). NASP asserts that “just as we continue to grow and develop as people and with our skills, sometimes with support from others, we can develop resilience beyond stressful circumstances. School psychologists are particularly skilled at assisting students and staff in growing and working together while shifting into different gears to meet the demands of school and life.” The student organization for the [school psychology](#) programs, [School Psychology Association Network](#) (SPAN), participated in a Friendsgiving event during National School Psychology Awareness Week to grow, engage, advocate, and rise. During this Friendsgiving event, SPAN members invited other students, who were not SPAN members, to join for the purpose of increasing networking opportunities and getting “in gear” to support one another, especially during the busy season of the semester as finals week approaches. Friendsgiving allowed members and nonmembers of SPAN, who were unfamiliar with each other, to come together to make new friendships and connections to increase support during stressful times.

SPAN is also conducting clothing and materials drives in conjunction with National School Psychology Awareness Week. The clothes collected at Stouffer and Uhler Halls will be brought to the Diversion and Acute Stabilization Program (DAS), and household items will support the Alice Paul House, both located in Indiana, PA. Each drive deadline is December 10.

Finally, SPAN plans to participate in Indiana's Toys for Tots campaign as well as provide monetary donations to the Evergreen After School Club and Grace Kids After School Program prior to winter break. SPAN's efforts increase knowledge and understanding of the profession of school psychology and IUP's programs, as well as support the local community. Thank you SPAN for getting into GEAR and supporting the region by growing, engaging, advocating, and rising to the challenges in our world!

## Are Educators Ready to Apply Trauma Informed Practice?

[Dr. Timothy Runge](#), in collaboration with colleagues at Bloomsburg University, completed a comprehensive survey regarding educators' preparedness to recognize and respond to students impacted by trauma or distress.

Timothy in collaboration with Dr. Timothy Knoster and Ms. Danielle Empson (McDowell Institute at Bloomsburg University of PA) completed their comprehensive survey of almost 5,000 Pennsylvania educators regarding their preparedness to recognize and respond to students impacted by trauma or distress, including trauma or distress related to COVID-19. Results indicated that less than half of educators felt prepared to recognize signs of trauma in their students. Further, only one in four educators felt prepared to implement trauma-informed practices. On a positive note, the overwhelming majority of educators believe that professional development in trauma-informed practices is needed.



## Local Community Group Supports Friendsgiving

When the Punxsutawney Activities Group, a student organization at IUP Punxsutawney, wanted to host a Friendsgiving, the idea of making a Thanksgiving dinner for all the students was more than they could handle alone. Luckily, the Welcome Wagon stepped in!

The Punxsutawney Welcome Wagon, a volunteer community organization created to help welcome students to Punxsutawney, sponsors events each year to help students feel a part of the Punxsutawney Community.

At the beginning of the semester, the Welcome Wagon group hosted a Meet & Greet where local businesses came to campus for students to learn about services they offer. Nearly 30 businesses and organizations in Punxsutawney participated in the Meet & Greet, and each group offered information and a “freebie” to the students. Afterwards, Mary Jude Troupe, the leader of the Welcome Wagon, suggested hosting a meal for students since the cafeteria on campus closed.



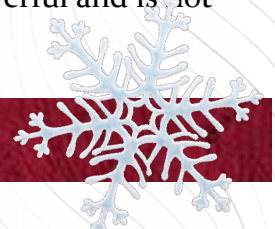
The Punxsutawney Activities Group began planning for the fall semester, and a Friendsgiving was suggested. Students knew they could host such an event but needed to find options when it came to preparing food because of their apartment-sized ovens and lack of cooking space. When the Welcome Wagon suggested hosting a meal, the idea of a Thanksgiving meal saved the day!

The resulting Friendsgiving was held Thursday, November 18, in the cafeteria area of the Punxsutawney campus. Close to 60 students attended and were treated to a meal of turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green bean casserole, sweet potatoes, cranberry salad, green salad, and lots of dessert! Students also enjoyed fun activities and made a turkey bookmark.

The students from the Punxsutawney Activities Group couldn't thank the Welcome Wagon Group enough for making their Friendsgiving idea a reality! The feeling was mutual, as the Welcome Wagon is already collecting ideas for the next meal they can prepare for the IUP students!

## Psychology Professors Publish “Hot Tubbing” Research

Drs. Jen and Anthony Perillo recently published their research on bias among experts asked to team up with an opposing expert during court evaluations. Their article, “Testing the waters: An investigation of the impact of hot tubbing on experts from referral through testimony,” was published in the journal *Law and Human Behavior*. Along with collaborators at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Jen and Anthony examined the practice of concurrent expert testimony, nicknamed hot tubbing, which involves expert witnesses from opposing sides in a case discussing the case prior to trial and outlining their areas of agreement and disagreement about the case. They recruited forensic clinicians and advanced clinical doctoral students as mock experts in an insanity defense case and compared the attitudes, reports, and testimonies of experts who testified according to traditional adversarial procedures against those who used the concurrent procedure. Results showed “hot tubbing” experts showed similar levels of adversarial allegiance— unconscious bias for their retaining party—to experts who testified under traditional procedures, suggesting hot tubbing may not be an effective reform for expert bias. Currently practiced in some international courts, “hot tubbing” has been proposed as a possible way to reduce expert bias for the side that hires them. Jen’s and Anthony’s study, the first to empirically examine hot tubbing, suggests expert bias remains powerful and is not actually reduced by hot tubbing.





# Coat Collection

After the first snowflakes arrived in November, Dr. David Piper, Chairperson of the Department of Employment Relations and Health Services Administration, noticed a number of students, primarily those from warmer climates, did not have suitable winter outerwear. The College's Service Committee immediately spearheaded a coat drive and were quickly rewarded with an amazing response from the college faculty and staff. When word of the coat distribution went out, committee members were equally amazed at how quickly the coats disappeared! The coat drive deadline was extended, and thanks to the generosity of HHS faculty and staff, students will be able to comfortably navigate the campus this winter.

