Ursinus takes pride in its faculty and the many accomplishments which both faculty and staff members achieve. This year, several professors have had works published, and they continue to take active roles in the academic interests of their students.

A CLOSER LOOK. Dr. Kathryn Goddard, Adjunct Professor of Biology, shows freshmen Joanne Sickery and Steve Renzi the inside of a nautilus shell. Photo: College Communications
HOLD THE CALLS. Economics department chair Dr. Heather O'Neil takes an important phone call during a busy day of work.  
Photo: Davor Photography

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE. Professors Clark, Neslen, Price, Hess, Coll, Jones, Doughty, DeCatur, and Lentz process in their academic regalia during the Ursinus Day Convocation in August.  
Photo: Lorli L. Engler
“This kind of job is impossible,” says President Richard P. Richter, “because of the high expectations.” The job of President is that of a fund-raiser, a representative of the college, a “magnet for teachers,” and a role model. As President of Ursinus, Richter must represent the college while maintaining compassion, having a sense of humor, and understanding the students as well as the professors. He must never feel not connected.

“I think of myself as a teacher,” says Richter, “whether or not I am in the classroom.” In fact, he worked in the classroom as an English teacher for over ten years before he became President of the College. He began his work at Ursinus in 1965 and has served in various capacities, including professor, Alumni Secretary, Assistant to the President, Vice President for Administrative Affairs, and, currently, President of the College.

Having attended Phoenixville High School and Ursinus College, Richter finds it a pleasure to be working only five miles from where he grew up. He received his B.A. in English from Ursinus in 1965, his M.A. in English from the University of Pennsylvania in 1967, and honorary doctorates from Ursinus College, Muhlenberg College, and Tohoku Gakuin University in Japan. President Richter has also had many magazine pieces published on life insurance, the gas industry, the Philadelphia scene, and higher education.

Richter’s favorite part about Ursinus is its mission statement. He believes strongly in the mission of the college and hopes that students will leave Ursinus after their four years of undergraduate studies with “lifelong intellectual curiosity.” According to Richter, the essence of the statement is a sense of ethical concern. He believes that Ursinus students should, above all, learn to be responsible citizens. He compares the Ursinus College community to that of a religious community and refers to “human values which hold us together.”

In the future, President Richter predicts that much of Ursinus will remain the same, especially its mission statement. “The direction will be the same,” he says, “that of giving the students an intense intellectual experience as possible.” But, because the world will be different, Ursinus will also have to change. Teaching methods are in rapid transformation, and technology is already having a significant effect on the campus. Richter also foresees a less homogeneous student body with a more varied mix of racial and ethnic groups.

“I see the growth of Collegeville resembling the town of Princeton: a component of a research and corporate community.” Along these lines, Richter comments, “Our business [as a college] is quality of life. It would be great just to see the continuance of the small liberal arts college, such as Ursinus.”

— Lori L. Engler
Richard P. Richter, M.A., LL.D.  
President of the College

John D. Pilgrim, Ph.D.  
V.P. of Finance

J. Houghton Kane, J.D.  
Dean of Student Life

Annette V. Lucas, Ph.D.  
Associate Dean

Peter F. Small, Ph.D.  
Assistant Dean
BERMAN MUSEUM: ROW 1: Lisa Tremper Barnes, Jane McLaughlin ROW 2: Nancy Fago.


STUDIO COTTAGE: ROW 1: Carla Rind, Kathy Grentzenberg ROW 2: Linda Korrenklewicz, Patricia Mancuso, Ellis Kurland.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: C. Joseph Mace, Ruth Sprague, Kim Lacy, Jan Lange, Michelle Quinlan, Sharon Meyers.

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE: Patricia Keebler, Mary Frances Waite, Ann M. Milligan, Suzanne Sparrow.


BUSINESS OFFICE: ROW 1: Mona Chylack, Christina Mahoney, Frank Silvani, Dottie Bowman, Lynn Johnson ROW 2: Sharon Knup, Joan Wlock, Betty Davidson, Erika March.
Although Dean Akin's statistics indicate a dedicated education and a leader, another side reflects his passion for baseball. With an almost equal number of articles published on baseball as on academic subjects, he is a true baseball fan. In keeping with his deep historian roots, Dean Akin admits his favorite team to be the Washington Senators, a team that closed in 1972.

Born in Alabama and educated in New York, Dr. William E. Akin received both his B.A. and M.A. in history from the University of Maryland and his Ph.D. in history from the University of Rochester. After spending several years in Canada in various head positions, Dr. Akin returned to the states in 1979 and became Dean of Ursinus College. With his background in history, Dean Akin concurrently is a history professor. He attained the position of Vice President for Academic Affairs in 1989. Dean Akin presently holds all three titles at Ursinus.

As Dean of the college, Dr. Akin portrays his job as one in "helping the faculty to deliver the best education possible to the students." Through workshops and activities, he wishes to "increase the faculty's improvement" and keep the professors abreast of current methods. Perhaps the greatest honor has been the installation of the Phi Beta Kappa chapter. Since his arrival at Ursinus, Dean Akin has witnessed a "demonstrable improvement in the college" and possesses great aspirations for the future. In the years to come, Dr. Akin hopes for an "increase in the number of graduates attending professional school, from one-third of the students to one-half by the end of the century." In accordance with today's growing world, Dean Akin states, "It would benefit college life if the student were more diversified, varied more in geographical locations and cultures." He advises the graduating class to "Think big," for they now possess the necessary skills.

"Baseball is life; it is reality. Everything else is detail."

- Liz Egoville

Administrative Staff
We all know Dean Lucas as that smiling charismatic woman with the slight German accent. But, there's more to her than you might think. Born in Swinemunde, Germany, Dean Lucas immigrated to the United States in 1959. With a B.A. from George Washington University, a Masters Degree from New York University, and a Ph.D. from Bryn Mawr University, Lucas entered Ursinus in the fall of 1967. Prior to becoming a dean, she taught French which she still teaches today.

Dean Lucas describes her role as a dean as “working with student areas that concern the students.” She is actively involved with the liberal studies seminar held here at Ursinus. In this, she works with the faculty members in creating a main theme for the seminar. The theme this year is “Unity and Diversity.” By coordinating the Freshman Advisor Program, in which members of the faculty volunteer to assist first-year students in adjusting to a new campus, Lucas is able to work with all of the first-year students. In addition to coordinating the Freshman Advisor Program, she also coordinates other campus events, such as Academic Convocation, Founders’ Day, and Commencement. Furthermore, Lucas also “serves on a lot of committees.” With all of these activities, Lucas still finds time to relax and enjoy reading, traveling, and volunteering.

Her favorite parts of Ursinus are the sense of community and the ability to communicate. She would still like the students to be more involved with learning, though. Looking back upon the years, Lucas’ most memorable part of Ursinus was the 1993 commencement program. It was the first outdoor commencement program since the mid-fifties, and it had rained. Looking towards the future, Lucas is making plans to retire, and perhaps to “find a better hobby.”

As a final informal farewell to the Ursinus Class of 1994, Dean Lucas would like to comment to the seniors, “Carpe Diem. Make the most out of what you have gotten out of your four years here at Ursinus.”

-- Jason Kline
Dean Peter F. Small was born and reared in Westbrook, Maine. He then attended a small liberal arts college in Tennessee by the name of Austin Peay. Dean Small received his B.S. in biology with an English minor. He received his Masters Degree in biology from East Tennessee University. Finally, Small received his Ph.D. in forest ecology from Miami University in Ohio.

Dean Small arrived at Ursinus College in the fall of 1972 as an assistant professor of biology. He began teaching genetics, general biology, evolution, and general botany. Later, Small began teaching ecology, non-majors general biology, non-vascular and vascular plants, and the senior seminar. Of his present position, Dean Small states, "I am a three-quarter time full professor and only a one-quarter time Associate Dean."

There are several things Dean Small does in his role as Dean. He oversees the first Howard Hughes grant, as well as doing the financial and annual reports. Dean Small is involved in putting together the different efforts on campus that deal with undergraduate research. Small also works with upperclassmen in academic difficulty.

In his spare time when he isn't teaching or pursuing his ecological research, Dean Small enjoys reading and collecting antiques. He enjoys various reading subjects, and he reads a number of mystery novels. In antiques, Small specializes in clocks and 18th- and 19th-century brass candlesticks and snuffers. Besides these, he also collects everything from furniture to toys.

In the future, Small would like to see more undergraduate research programs made available to all students. "I think that the next step for Ursinus should be a fully-funded undergraduate research program for all students and all majors." Small believes that independent research is of extreme value whether the student goes into the work force, graduate school, or professional school. He hopes to become involved in such a program before he retires.

-- Stephanie Fragati
JAMES HOUGHTON
Kane, Dean of Student Life, has been an integral part of Ursinus College for over twenty years.

Born in Brooklyn, New York and raised in Pottsville, Pennsylvania, Kane did his undergraduate work at Houghton College. While there, he majored in History, and minored in Spanish, Economics, and Political Science. He then moved on to The University of Pennsylvania where he achieved his Masters in Political Science. Then, after serving in the army for two years as a military police officer, he attended Temple Law School, where he graduated in 1975. Dean Kane began teaching at Ursinus on a part-time basis in 1971, and started full-time in 1975 after concluding his studies at Temple.

Kane considers his role as Dean "to design programs outside of the classroom that will maximize what students learn through those experiences." When asked about long-term goals of the school, he said he would like to see the endowment of the college increased significantly. His hopes for the near future are "to see the system of pledging revised," and to see the students "take more advantage of educational and entertainment opportunities in Philadelphia," rather than limiting themselves to what happens on campus.

Kane says that after he finishes his work during the day at Ursinus, and spends some quality time with his family, he is left with very little time for any hobbies. He does, however, have another very important aspect to his life; his relationship with Jesus Christ. Kane says, "I have given my life over to Jesus Christ, and my goal is to let him control my life." He works a lot on that relationship through reading The Bible and through prayer. According to Kane, "That's what makes me tick."

-- Mark Leiser
Faculty and Staff
ABSENTES

Gretchen Ambach, English
Thomas Apple, English
Bruce Arrigo, Anthropology/Sociology
Nancy Bates, English
Irene Benitez, Communication Arts
Adele P. Boyd, Exercise and Sports Science
Kathy A. Caruso, Psychology
Verna Cavey, Anthropology/Sociology
Pamela Chlad, Exercise and Sports Science
Hugh Clark, History
Richard Coleta, Education
Michael J. Corrigan, Modern Languages
Carolyn Dahl, Exercise and Sports Science
Dorothy H. Daves, Education
S. Ross Doughty, History
Lori Engstrom, Exercise and Sports Science
Paula Flicker, Mathematics
Thomas E. Gallagher, Anthropology/Sociology
Marcia Stein Goldberg, Communication Arts
Steven Grabania, Chemistry
Thomas N. Grant, Education
Yvonne Gros, Exercise and Sports Science
C. Dallett Hemphill, History
Nancy M. Hughes, Communication Arts
Bernadette M. Janis, Education
R. Walton Johnson, Education
Benita Lutcher, Modern Languages
Jorge E. Millan, Physics
Donna S. Monheit, English
Peggy Joy Nixon, Education
Peter F. Perreten, English
Leslie A. Roes, History
Derk Visscher, History
Tina Wailgum, Exercise and Sports Science
Thomas R. Walters, Chemistry
Thomas Whelan, Communication Arts
Theodore A. Xaras, Fine Arts

Jean A. Scholz, Ph.D.
Biology

James M. Sidie, Ph.D.
Biology

Paul Stern, Ph.D.
Politics

Keith Strunk, M.F.A.
Communication Arts

Martha Takats, Ph.D.
Physics
For Deborah O. Nolan, Director of Residence Life and Associate Dean of Student Life, Ursinus is an ideal place for a career.

Nolan was raised on the Jersey shore in Tom's River, New Jersey. Following her graduation from Tom's River High School North, Nolan went to Muskingum College, which is in many ways like Ursinus: a small, liberal arts school. The degree Nolan earned, a B.A. in Music Education, reflected one of her lifetime passions - the piano.

After having been a Resident Assistant, Nolan became a Resident Director for her senior year at Muskingum with six Resident Assistants working under her. In the busy three years following, Nolan taught music reading, piano, and ear training, and acted as accompanist at Muskingum while serving as Area Coordinator. Although opting away from a music career, Nolan still sometimes plays at her church and often can be found at her six-foot grand piano.

After receiving her M.A. in Educational Administration from Ohio State, Nolan decided to come to Ursinus, because she liked the atmosphere and the location near to her husband. When Nolan arrived on campus seven years ago, she was the only full-time staff member in Residence Life, living in the apartment in Beardwood/Paisley/Stauffer.

Her busy schedule included working on all aspects of Residence Life, from maintenance to Resident Assistant training. Because even trying to get to know the students was a chore, Nolan has expanded the staff, hiring Area Coordinators and providing a more efficient system.

Nolan believes that one of the positive improvements for this year has been the resurgence of the Resident Hall Association in BPS and Brodbeck/Wilkinson/Curtis, providing students with a voice for change in the physical as well as social atmosphere of the residence halls.

Nolan had some advice for Ursinus students: "Make the most of your four years - a short but intense time. Work hard, and play hard."

-- Ian Rhile