

# Albertus Magnus College

## Faculty Research

### Collaborative Projects That Invite Student Participation

**2012-2013**

Following are descriptions of faculty research interests and their contact information. If you would like to learn more about the research a faculty person is engaged in and what sort of role you would have in these research efforts as a research assistant, please contact the faculty member to arrange a meeting. Research assistantships can be done as a volunteer or as a research practicum or internship (in some departments, check with your advisor). Students and graduates of all programs (undergraduate and graduate) at Albertus Magnus College can participate. Research projects are conducted year round, check with the faculty person you might like to assist as to whether they are currently conducting any projects and the timing for such work. Faculty research descriptions are arranged in alphabetical order by department.

#### ART THERAPY

##### **Evie Lindemann – Art Therapy**

E-mail: elindemann@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-8552

Office: Aquinas Hall G12

Professor Lindemann is interested in art therapy based techniques that encourage creativity in student learning. She is also interested in research on the mandala and on the Mandala assessment research instrument (MARI).

##### **Rebecca Miller- Art Therapy**

E-mail: rbmiller@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-562-1590

Professor Miller's art therapy research interests include: art therapy with adolescents, including impact of art and creativity on youth resiliency and identity development; trauma-focused art therapy, including issues of secondary trauma, compassion fatigue, and the role of therapist response art; the open studio model of art therapy; impact of therapist pregnancy on clinical practice and other issues of therapist self-disclosure; and intersectionality of race, gender and cultural issues in art therapy practice and supervision.

#### EDUCATION

##### **James Patsalides - Management & Education**

E-mail: jpatsalides@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-672-6674

Office: Aquinas Hall 106

Prof. Patsalides' research is focused on the environment for teaching and learning creative problem solving. He investigates classroom application of methods to nurture innovation and creativity in students using mixed research methods including fundamental measurement using Rasch models (his new Climate4Creativity instrument is currently under development and being implemented in the Bridgeport, CT public school system this year), and, recently, has started exploring the use of collaborative auto-ethnography to address complex cultural dimensions within organizations. Major future research topics include, the relationships between school safety and anti-bullying efforts and the environment for teaching and learning creativity; efficacy of experiential learning methods in development of problem solving and innovation skills; and organizational culture in the management of public schools.

##### **Loel Tronsky- Cognitive Psychology & Education**

E-mail: ltronsky@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-8561

Office: Weldon Hall 203

Dr. Tronsky conducts research on math learning processes and working memory.

**Joan Venditto – Education**

E-mail: jvenditto@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-8087

Office: Weldon Hall 202

Dr. Venditto is interested in research that focuses on improving education. She views every teacher as a researcher whose goal in conducting research is effective classroom instruction. Both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, students are instructed to recognize good research, and to produce research of quality, as well as to use published educational research to improve their teaching. Teacher candidates and practicing teachers in the graduate program are encouraged to collect data from their teaching activities, and then to analyze their data with the purpose of teaching to each student's specific academic needs. This kind of research not only assures ongoing enthusiasm on the part of the teacher-researchers themselves, but also promotes their sharing results and their enthusiasm with other educators.

**ENGLISH (Literature and Creative Writing)**

**Paul Robichaud – English**

E-mail: probichaud@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-8556

Office: Aquinas Hall 234

Dr. Robichaud's current research interests include: modern poetry; modernism and national identity; Louis MacNeice; T.S. Eliot; Scottish literature.

**HISTORY & POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**Robert Imholt – History**

E-mail: rimholt@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-8548

Office: Aquinas Hall 204

Dr. Imholt's research is focused on creating a dual biography of Timothy Dwight and Joel Barlow. Timothy Dwight (1752-1817) was a poet, preacher, and president of Yale from 1795 until his death. He published two book length poems (*The Conquest of Canaan* and *Greenfield Hill*), four volumes of theology, four volumes of travels, and dozens of shorter works. Dwight was closely associated with the missionary and educational activities in the early republic and was a staunch defender of Connecticut's Standing Order. Joel Barlow (1754-1812) was a graduate of Yale who also published two book length poems (*The Vision of Columbus* and *The Columbiad*) as well as many shorter poems and numerous political tracts. From 1788 to 1805, Barlow was in Europe and served briefly as American representative to Algiers. He was a close friend of Thomas Paine, Mary Wollstonecraft, Thomas Jefferson, and Robert Fulton. He died in Poland in 1812 while serving as personal representative of President Madison to Napoleon.

**Ross Edwards - Political Science and Philosophy**

E-mail: redwards1@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-1289

Office: Aquinas Hall 203

My research interests include contemporary theories of democracy and citizenship, hermeneutics, phenomenology, and the ways in which one makes sense of the contours of our citizenship by examining how the effects of large scale political and social developments influence our self-identity. I am currently engaged in two research projects, the first is one that uses the literary and film theme of the 'haunted house' to highlight and theorize historical and enduring injustice within contemporary American democracy and how they continue to exert an influence over contemporary politics and society. My second project involves a rereading of the last section of *Capital* by Karl Marx, in which he theorizes the idea of 'primitive accumulation' as the historical genesis of capitalism. What interests me here is that in addition to the

economic process of the accumulation of capital, Marx offers us an analysis of the actual creation of a capitalist worker, detailing political practices and laws that produce the very subjects that capitalism requires. I want to engage with this reading in order to draw out and analyze how the requirements of capitalism are internalized and made part of the human 'lived experience'?

## **HUMANITIES**

### **Garrett Dell- Technology & Humanities**

E-mail: gdell@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-0253

Office: Rosary Hall, 29

Prof. Dell's current research project is on the appearance of technology in the poetry of Robert Pinsky. He is interested in the social impact of technology and technological ambivalence. Dell's other areas of interest include philosophical perspectives on technological change, technological determinism, and the appearance of technology in works of art, especially literature.

## **HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Siobhan O. Evarts - Psychology & Human Services**

E-mail: soevarts@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-672-6675

Office: Aquinas Hall 116

Dr. Evarts' research focuses on Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy (CBT), anger experience and expression, and the psychotherapeutic treatment of Axis I pathology (such as anxiety and depression).

## **MANAGEMENT**

### **James Patsalides - Management & Education**

E-mail: jpatsalides@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-672-6674

Office: Aquinas Hall 106

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## **PHILOSOPHY**

### **Ross Edwards - Political Science and Philosophy**

E-mail: redwards1@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-1289

Office: Aquinas Hall 203

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economic process of the accumulation of capital, Marx offers us an analysis of the actual creation of a capitalist worker, detailing political practices and laws that produce the very subjects that capitalism requires. I want to engage with this reading in order to draw out and analyze how the requirements of capitalism are internalized and made part of the human 'lived experience'?

## **PSYCHOLOGY**

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E-mail: soevarts@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-672-6675

Office: Aquinas Hall 116

Dr. Evarts' research focuses on Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy (CBT), anger experience and expression, and the psychotherapeutic treatment of Axis I pathology (such as anxiety and depression).

### **Howard Fero – Organizational Psychology**

E-mail: hfero@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-4424

Office: Aquinas Hall 306

Dr. Fero's research focuses on leadership. He investigates motivation in the workplace and the conditions which foster those motivations. Furthermore, he is interested in how the interrelatedness of the leader and the follower leads to individual and organizational successes and failures.

### **Stephen Joy- Clinical Psychology**

E-mail: joy@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-8555

Office: Aquinas Hall 230

Dr. Joy conducts research on creativity and neuropsychology.

### **Hilda Speicher – Social Psychology**

E-mail: hspeicher@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-8548

Office: Aquinas Hall 210

Dr. Speicher studies the psychology of intimacy and interpersonal relations in a number of ongoing studies, including studies seeking to validate the questionnaire "Speicher Trait Intimacy Capability and Intimacy Motivation" (STICIM) which measure individual differences in approaches to intimacy across a variety of relationship types (e.g., romantic, friendship, familial). Topics include: a) attachment, b) attitudes toward and experiences of single (never married) adults, c) verbal and nonverbal communication in relationships, d) social cognition & intimacy, e) cultural influences on intimacy, etc. A secondary field of interest is the assessment of psychological well-being and self-esteem employing art therapy measures (e.g., the Projective Plant Drawing Assessment; PPDA).

### **Loel Tronsky- Cognitive Psychology & Education**

E-mail: ltronsky@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-773-8561

Office: Weldon Hall 203

Dr. Tronsky conducts research on math learning processes and working memory.

## **SCIENCES & MATH**

### **Patty Compagnone-Post – Biology**

E-mail: pcpost@albertus.edu

Phone: 203-401-4682

Office: Tagliatela Academic Center 203

Dr. Post studies how chemical modification of DNA packaged within the cell nucleus (chromatin) affects gene activity. A recent international collaboration with another research lab involved understanding the process of repairing damaged DNA. Research can be

conducted on campus, or in some cases as a collaborative effort off campus at area institutions.

## **SOCIOLOGY**

### **Karen Kendrick – Sociology**

E-mail: [kkendrick@albertus.edu](mailto:kkendrick@albertus.edu)

Phone: 203-773-8556

Office: Aquinas Hall 308

Dr. Kendrick is in the early phases of a new project on the experiences of mothering among African American women college students. She will be conducting qualitative in-depth interviews about experiences negotiating the contemporary American family “time bind” while struggling to create a more secure position in the post-recession economy. The research will contribute to a growing body of literature exploring how race, class, and gender inequalities shape the work that women do as mothers in a globalized society. It also hopes to expand on the literature on African American women’s mothering by focusing on the role of mothers’ educational experiences and role modeling.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **Garrett Dell- Technology & Humanities**

E-mail: [gdell@albertus.edu](mailto:gdell@albertus.edu)

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