

# SouthHills

School of Business & Technology

## SHINE Issue #19 - July 2019

### South Hills Info, News, & Events

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## Spring 2019 Commencement Ceremony



On Thursday, June 20, South Hills School of Business & Technology held their 49<sup>th</sup> annual commencement ceremony for the graduating class of June 2019 at The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center.

The President's Hall was filled with family and friends who came to commend their graduates as they cross the stage to receive their Specialized Associate Degrees. The now-alumni were students of the following programs:

- Administrative Medical Assistant (AMA)
  - Administrative Professional (AP)
- Business Administration—Accounting (BAA)
- Business Administration—Management & Marketing (BAMM)
  - Criminal Justice (CJ)
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS)
  - Health Information Technology (HIT)
  - Medical Assistant (MA)

Students of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Professional (DMP) and Diagnostic Medical Sonography Professional Plus (DPP) programs were awarded diplomas.

Special messages were delivered by keynote speaker and South Hills' former Director of Education, David Schaitkin, as well as graduate speakers, Catrina J. Stevens, Brandi J. Owens, and Rachel Ann Jones, who were chosen to represent their particular South Hills campus.



CBICC President & CEO, Vern Squier, along with CBICC Vice President, Economic Development, Jennifer Myers, attended the ceremony to recognize the first graduating class of students who obtained the CentreREADY "seal of approval."

[View Facebook Photo Album](#)

## South Hills Students Place at PBL National Leadership Conference



Jordan Causer, Jamey Shreckengast, Bryant Moses,  
Jenie Engle, Brandon Doerr

Members of South Hills' Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Club celebrate after a successful trip to the 2019 PBL National Leadership Conference held in San Antonio, TX.

After competing against some of the top qualifiers from across the country, South Hills students placed in the following categories:

- Administrative Professional student, Jenie Engle: First place in Help Desk
- Administrative Professional student, Jamey Shreckengast: Second Place in Administrative Technology
- Business Administration—  
Accounting student, Brandon Doerr: Tenth Place in Forensic Accounting



Award Winners Brandon Doerr, Jenie Engle, and  
Jamey Shreckengast

Other South Hills representatives at this years conference were, Business Administration - Management &





Newly Elected PA PBL President, Brandon Doerr.

Marketing students, Bryant Moses and Jordan Causer.

In addition to the multiple awards received, Brandon Doerr successfully campaigned and won election to the office of Pennsylvania State PBL President for the upcoming 2019-20 academic year.

## Vasta Receives Prestigious Alan D. Waggoner Scholarship Award

Joe Vasta was recently awarded the prestigious Alan D. Waggoner Student Scholarship Award by the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) Foundation. This honorary scholarship was established in 2001 and is given annual to a select group of sonography students from across the country who exhibit an outstanding passion for the discipline of echocardiography and demonstrate leadership abilities within that particular field of study.



Vasta, of Edison, New Jersey, remained on the Dean's List throughout his training at South Hills, and fulfilled his internship requirements at Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. He earned his diploma in the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Professional Plus (DPP) program at this year's Spring Commencement.

## Medical Assistant Students Tour PHN

First-year Medical Assistant students recently had the opportunity to tour the new Primary Health Network (PHN) location in Lewistown.

Patricia Davidson, the Outreach Specialist at PHN, toured the



students throughout the facility and discussed the clinic's goals for the community and the numerous medical offices coming to the location in the future.

## Alumni Spotlight - Dave Keller

Dave Keller graduated from the Information Technology (IT) program at our Altoona Campus in 2017. He is currently a Programmer Analyst 2 at The Pennsylvania State University, Financial Information Systems, Office of the Corporate Controller.

Read Dave's full story to see how his South Hills education helped him get to where he is today.



[Read Dave's Full Story](#)

## South Hills Students Complete Capstone Projects

Second-year students spend their final weeks in the classroom putting together capstone projects that reflect their academic experiences by using all of the skills and knowledge they've learned over the last two years.



Lewistown Business Administration-  
Management & Marketing students Maryssa Weader, Jordan Bennett, Shania Teenie, and Lexi Wagner presenting their business plan, Sweet Treats Bakery.



Administrative Professional students' capstone projects reflect on event planning. This year the students hosted an appreciation tea party for South Hills' faculty and staff that they planned from start to finish.



Graphic Arts student, Alex Stauffer, presenting her print portfolio to South Hills' GA faculty and program advisory committee.



Engineering Technology student, Daniel Vandrew, designed a mini satellite for space research called a CubeSat for his mechanical engineering capstone project.

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## Graphic Arts Students Complete Creative Packaging Design Project



Second-year Graphic Arts (GA) students at South Hills School of Business & Technology's Main Campus in State College presented their creative packaging projects.

This annual project focuses on designing craft beer packaging, and challenging the students' ability to drive a concept to its most creative result. The students are tasked with designing a beer label & a six-pack package, and creating a cohesive brand that appeals to a select audience.





[View All Designs](#)

## Staff Spotlight - Dave Andrus

Dave Andrus has been an Admissions Representative at our Main Campus in State College for nearly a decade. Get to know him a little better in the third installment of our new Faculty/Staff Spotlight series that SHINEs a spotlight on the people who devote their lives to Teaching People, Changing Lives.



[Learn More About Dave](#)

## Drone Racers Prepare for First Drone Race Event



South Hills has affiliated with Central PA Quad Racers (CPQR) to bring drone racing to State College.

On Saturday, May 11, drone racers gathered at State College Assembly of God for the first drone racing practice session. This session prepared the racers for the first sanctioned race on May 25.

## South Hills' Lewistown Campus Hosts Geisinger Guest Speaker



First-year Medical Assistant students from our Lewistown campus recently had the opportunity to hear from a local dietitian regarding the current and upcoming dietary guidelines for Americans.

Brenda Yohn, Dietitian, from Geisinger FHA Center for Weight Management & Nutrition in Lewistown, went over the

importance of portion sizes and demonstrated some very realistic samples, and also discussed common dieting trends.

## Alumni Spotlight - Katie Dotterer-Pyle

Katie Dotterer-Pyle graduated from the Business Administration - Management & Marketing program at our State College Campus in 2006.

She is the Owner/Operator at Cow Comfort Inn Dairy and Cow Comfort Inn Creamery, and created an online Spanish course to help farm owners and industry professionals better communicate. Read on to see how her South Hills education helped her start her many business ventures.



[Read Katie's Story](#)

## South Hills Holds 8th Annual DMS Symposium





Now in its eighth year, South Hills' Sonographers Symposium has grown to attract attendees from all across the Northeast. The symposium has featured renowned speakers from Johns Hopkins, Thomas Jefferson, and Penn State Universities. This year's keynote speaker was nationally known lecturer and author, Dr. Frederick Kremkau of Wake Forest University.

In addition to featuring distinguished speakers, the Symposium also creates an opportunity for South Hills graduates, now experts in their designated fields, to present an academic lecture or hands-on demonstration to a large audience. This year's conference featured presentations from four South Hills graduates, as well two current South Hills DMS students.

The Symposium's "Technical Showcase" features major manufacturers from the ultrasound community to demonstrate some of their newest technologies and concepts. This year, representatives from Siemens, Philips, GE Healthcare, Lantheus Medical Imaging®, and Unetixs Vascular, Inc. were in attendance.

## South Hills Hosts Guest Speaker from Service Paws

First- and second-year Medical Assistant (MA) students of South Hills School of Business & Technology recently had the opportunity to hear from a representative of Service Paws of Central PA (SPCP).

Established in 2011, SPCP is a non-profit organization that has been helping individuals financially obtain a service animal and/or assists with unexpected veterinary costs for those with a service animal.



Chairperson of SPCP, Joseph Fagnani, explained to the students the many reasons for service animals, how to identify them, the training processes, cost, and the "dos and don'ts" when it comes to service animals.

To find out more information about SPCP, or how to donate visit:  
<https://www.servicepawsofcentralpa.org/>

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## South Hills Students Tour Corvette America



South Hills Instructor - Harry Greedy, Advertising & Marketing Supervisor of Corvette America – Susie Canon, Noah Brackbill, Frank Jost, Emily Slater, Shania Teenie, Jordan Bennett, Brooke Hosler, Lexi Wagner, Madalyn Cisney, Paula Hoffman, Mackenzie Wagner, Danika Hassett, and Haley Kipp

First and second-year Business Administration - Management & Marketing (BAMM) students had the opportunity to tour Corvette America of Reedsville, PA.

Susie Canon, Advertising & Marketing Supervisor of Corvette America, took the students throughout the facility and showed them the different offices, the warehouse and the manufacturing plant. During the tour, she explained the processes of catalog sales, warehousing, "pick, pack & ship" operations, as well as artisan manufacturing.

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## Faculty Spotlight - Mark Gentzel



We've been SHINE-ing a spotlight on the incredible people behind-the-scenes at our school with our Faculty/Staff Spotlight series.

The fifth installment will reveal more about Mark Gentzel, General Education Instructor at our Main Campus in State College.

In it, he shares a number of his favorites – and drops a clue about his secret identity.

[Learn More About Mark](#)



## Barton Receives Anne Jones Scholarship Award

Hayley Barton, Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) student, was awarded the Anne Jones Scholarship by the Society for Vascular Ultrasound (SVU).

First awarded in 2006, the Anne Jones Scholarship honors contributions made to SVU and the vascular technology profession by Anne Jones, RN, BSN RVT RDMS FSVU. This award was established to provide educational scholarships for students in CAAHEP accredited vascular ultrasound schools, and to offer qualified students with funds toward their education, and encourages the to pursue careers in the vascular ultrasound field.



Hayley fulfilled her internship requirements at Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital in Sayre, PA and graduated from the DMS program at this year's Spring Commencement.

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## South Hills' Spring Picnic



Students, faculty and staff at all three campus locations gathered together for the annual spring picnic. Everyone was able to enjoy delicious food, and partake in some friendly competition in volleyball and corn hole.

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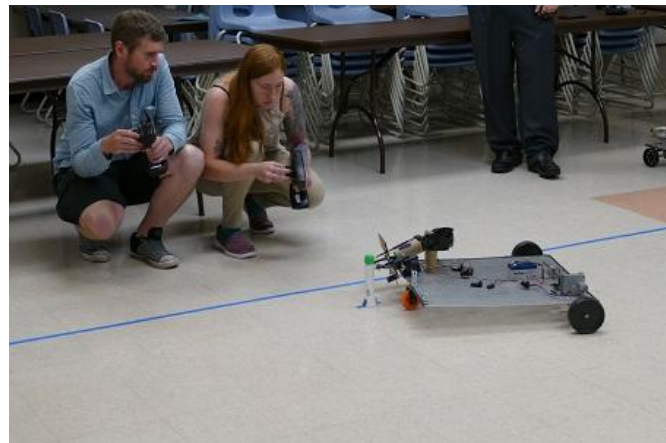
## ET Students Design Robots

Engineering Technology (ET) students are given complex design and assembly projects for numerous courses. In their Mechanical Design course, they are tasked with designing and building robotic vehicles. Design choices are made regarding the type of drive system,



placement of wheels, steering system, and retrieval method.

The vehicles are radio-controlled with servo steering (power steering) and have a servo-controlled gripper with tilt. The teams then run their vehicles through an obstacle course with several different challenges, one of which is to use the vehicle's gripper to retrieve a ball and return with it to the finish line.



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## South Hills Graduates New Class of Droneologists



L to R: Daisy Musser, Collin Musser, Alex Sikorski, Benny Housley, Jonah Diaz, Nate Whetzel, Ryan Jones, AJ Corson, Technical Assistant – Liam Jones, Technical Assistant – Jack Erickson, and Drone Instructor, Chris Avvampato

[View Facebook Photo Album](#)

South Hills School of Business & Technology recently graduated a new class of certified “Droneologists” from the [Discover Drones for Teens Summer Camp](#). This 20-hour program is designed for students in grades 7-12 who are interested in learning how to fly drones the proper way.

Working with instructor Chris Avvampato, and technical assistants, Jack Erickson and Liam Jones, the students had the opportunity to use flight simulator software, construct and fly a drone, and learn what it means to be a responsible drone pilot.

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## BASICS/Rotary Career Fair

Information Technology Instructors  
Jeff Joiner and Guido Santella, both

from our Altoona Campus, were among the presenters at the annual BASICS/Rotary Career Fair held at the Blair County Convention Center in April. Event organizers, The Blair County Chamber of Commerce's BASICS (Businesses and Schools Investing in Cooperative Solutions) Committee and the Blair County Rotary International Clubs welcomed more than 1,200 eighth graders from several local school districts to explore opportunities in nearly 80 different career categories.

The goal of the BASICS/Rotary Career Fair is to expose area students to many of the career opportunities in fields available to them in the community. Jeff and Guido were on hand to give the students a glimpse into the world of computer programming and networking.



## South Hills Thanks Local Employers for Hosting Student Interns



Each Specialized Associate Degree program at South Hills School of Business & Technology requires students to complete a 12-week internship (24 weeks for Diagnostic Medical Sonography/DMS students) upon completion of their program.

With graduation just around the corner, students invited their internship supervisors to a luncheon held in their honor at Mountain View Country



Club in Boalsburg. This annual event is South Hills' way of saying thank you to the dedicated internship sites that continue to take our students, and provide them with real-world working experience in their respective fields.

As part of the luncheon, Jennifer Lemmon, Health Information Technology intern, spoke about her experiences throughout her time at South Hills; as well as the experience she has had at her internship thus far, and gave many thanks to the South Hills faculty and staff.

## Blind Taste Test - Marketing Lesson

As part of a marketing lesson, first-year Business Administration – Management & Marketing (BAMM) and Information Technology (IT) students took part in a blind taste test activity. This lesson focused on consumer behaviors, and how people are drawn to specific brands.



During the taste test, each of the students were blindfolded, and had to sample six different sodas to see if they could correctly guess what they were drinking. After the experiment was over, the influence brands have on consumers was apparent as many were not able to identify the difference between the all of the sodas.



## Sonography Students Raise Money for West Penn Burn Summer Camp



Each year, Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) students at South Hills volunteer their time and effort to bring awareness and support to a chosen charity. This year, they chose the West Penn Burn Summer Camp.

Since 1986, the idea behind the West Penn Burn Summer Camp is to assist pediatric

burn patients, ages 7-17, in gaining the confidence to return to everyday activities. The camp allows the children to have a fun, carefree week while being surrounded by friendship and support of other children who share



similar experiences.

The DMS students held multiple fundraisers and raffles throughout the year, and successfully raised \$1,500 that will help the West Penn Burn Center continue to provide fun, friends, and support to even more campers in the future.

## Medical Assistant Students Tour Mutter's Museum

Medical Assistant students from the Lewistown campus recently took an academic field trip to The Mutter Museum in Philadelphia with their advisor, Laina DeCriscio.

The Mutter Museum is full of medical history, and displays an array of anatomical specimens, models, and medical instruments in a 19<sup>th</sup> century setting. The goal of the museum is to assist individuals in understanding the human body, and getting a better glimpse into the history of diagnosis and treatment of disease.



## Upcoming Events



### Summer Music Picnic Series

Join us for the 30th annual Summer Music Picnic Series. There are 12 amazing local acts booked for every Sunday in June, July, & August.

Bring the whole family (and a picnic supper) to our State College Main Campus for an outdoor dinner and a show!

[View Full Line-up](#)

### Drone Events

[Drone Flying for Fun](#)  
07/13/19

[Discover Drones: For Teens](#)

07/15/19

[FAA Part 107 Drone  
Commercial Pilot Test Prep](#)

08/13/19

View All Upcoming Drone  
Events



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