The board of trustees of Widener University has announced the appointment of Dr. Julie Wollman as the tenth president of Widener. Wollman, who currently serves as the president of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, was selected unanimously by the board of trustees at a special meeting on Oct. 30.

Wollman will take office as president of Widener on Jan. 19, 2016. She will first appear before the university community on Friday, Nov. 20 at an 11 a.m. Town Hall meeting in Alumni Auditorium that will be broadcast to the law campuses.

“Julie Wollman brings tremendous expertise to Widener University, having more than 25 years of experience in higher education with a deep commitment to providing a liberal arts and professional education of the highest caliber,” said Gen. John Tilleli, chair of the board of trustees.

“Dr. Julie Wollman Named 10th President of Widener University

Wollman said she was attracted to Widener for its “distinctive blend” of academic excellence, civic engagement, experiential learning and applied leadership. “These values are important to me, and I am very excited about the great opportunity at Widener,” she said. “I look forward to serving the university and achieving great things in collaboration with the trustees, the university and local communities. I am eager to meet the students, faculty and staff on each of Widener’s four campuses.”

Wollman has served as president of Edinboro since 2012, where she introduced a campus-wide President’s Listening Initiative, an inclusive and successful process that resulted in an updated mission, values and strategic plan, focused on academic excellence, faculty and staff development and high impact learning practices for all undergraduate students. Wollman also established Porreco College, a highly successful satellite campus, offering associate degrees targeted to meet the needs of Erie’s urban population.

A Philadelphia native, Wollman says she is looking forward to coming home to the Philadelphia area. “The opportunity to lead Widener, which is one of the nation’s leading metropolitan universities, is particularly significant to me. I am looking forward to strengthening the manner in which Widener can serve the needs of the metropolitan area in meaningful and mutually rewarding ways.”

To learn more about Wollman, save the date for the Nov. 20 Town Hall and read the entire news release about her appointment.
The Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology recently honored its scholarship recipients, including the most recent Neubauer scholar, Alyson Goldstein.

The Neubauer scholarship is awarded annually to one exceptional and highly motivated incoming doctoral student of the Institute who wishes to enhance his or her academic experience through applied psychology by implementing a community-based project.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in chemistry at Bates College, Goldstein went on to teach science in high-need communities in Brooklyn, N.Y. While teaching, she also received a master's degree focused on adolescent education in chemistry.

Through her work as a teacher, she got involved in various opportunities of promoting restorative approaches to discipline and designing advisory curriculums to promote social and emotional learning for students.

She wanted to attend Widener to pursue the school psychology certificate offered through the PsyD Program. “The core competencies stressed by Widener for the school psychology certificate are aligned with those I want to put into practice, specifically focusing on interventions and positive behavior support programs for students and schools,” she said.

In her first year at Widener, Goldstein brings experience of successfully building positive rapport and working closely with children and families from various backgrounds. Her experience has provided her with success in carrying out more therapeutic, compared to punitive, consequences to inappropriate behavior as well as poor academic achievement.

Goldstein is excited to implement some of these programs in the Chester community, as she plans to focus her project around behavior management. She wants to continue developing her skills in establishing collaborative environments within schools.

“I am passionate about this work, and know that I can help schools in Chester continue to make great improvements with student success,” Goldstein said. “It is important to bring teachers together to facilitate discussions on how to most effectively tackle behavior management in classrooms by building collaborative and validating communities.”

Widener University is one of 15 campuses nationwide to receive a $10,000 research grant for the 2015-2017 grant period from the Bringing Theory to Practice Project (BTtoP) for the investigation and advancement of student well-being and learning outcomes.

With its grant, Widener will examine and strengthen its first-year common experience. An interdisciplinary team of researchers will study whether students’ understanding of the connection between personal well-being and civic purpose is affected by participation in a first-year program that features a common reading with related curricular and co-curricular activities and content focused on civic engagement and community.

Learn more by reading the entire news release about the grant.
Courtney Kelly, director of admissions, began her Widener career 10 years ago this fall.

“So much has happened to me since then,” she said. “There have been hard times and happy times, and I’ve always felt supported by my colleagues in the Office of Admissions and at the university through it all.”

Kelly notes that her father’s passing was a hard time that her colleagues helped her cope with, but that she also had many happy occasions to celebrate over the past decade, including her marriage to husband, Patrick; the birth of her sons Dylan, 6, and Lucas, 3; and the completion of her M.Ed. in 2009.

Prior to joining the staff at Widener, Kelly worked in admissions at West Chester and La Salle universities. She got her first taste of working in admissions, however, as a student at Susquehanna University. The communications major landed an internship in the office, which defined her career aspirations.

“I come from a family of educators,” she said. “I knew this field was a perfect opportunity to bring my communication skills and passion for education together.”

At Widener, Kelly was recently promoted from associate director to director. In this role, she continues to focus on transfer students in addition to the recruitment of traditional students and engage in campus event planning and communications.

“I am a strong advocate for our transfer students at Widener; they bring so much value to our campus,” Kelly said. “One of my goals is to increase that awareness on campus.”

Kelly truly enjoys working with the transfer student population.

“Sometimes it’s hard for students to find a good fit with a school,” she said. “It’s always rewarding when I can help them find their fit at Widener.”

Kelly handles the transfer credit evaluation to ensure certain courses match our requirements. She also manages relationships with a number of local community colleges to keep pipelines open to Widener. In the fall, she is often off campus recruiting and coordinating campus visits.

While Kelly enjoys her job at Widener, she says that the best part of her day is going home to be mom to her two boys. She says that they are big fans of attending Widener football games and visiting with Chester and Melrose. Lucas is technically a Widener “student” as he attends the Widener Child Development Center, and Dylan is an “alumnus” of the school.

The Arts & Sciences Diversity Committee recently welcomed Dr. Losang Rabgey, cofounder and executive director of Machik, a DC-based NGO focused on incubating social innovation for Tibet; and Chupal Sangpo, a pioneering HIV/AIDS awareness advocate from Tibet; to Widener’s Main Campus for the fall semester’s Faculty Diversity Forum. The forum focused on cross-cultural communication in the classroom and on campus.

The two Tibetan guests also delivered a lecture as part of a new Diversity and Leadership Series open to the campus community, which was sponsored by the Arts & Sciences Diversity Committee, Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, The Oskin Leadership Institute and the Office of Multi-Cultural Student Affairs. They focused on engagement and social innovation in Tibet today.

Additionally, they addressed 17 students in Dr. Gerry Bloemker’s Values Seminar on the topic of educating Tibetan women and girls, and about 40 students in Dr. Brett Alvaré’s Cultural Anthropology course and Dr. Yufeng Mao’s China’s Cultural Revolution course on governance, public health and environmental justice in Tibet.
Professor from Madrid visits Widener Law Commonwealth

While at Widener Law Commonwealth, she plans to do research about stock market issues, in particular in REPO agreements, an area of knowledge in which Dean Christian Johnson has recently published a book. Her plan also includes research as to how the American Stock Market could be a model to improve the European Capital Market Union (CMU). Currently, she has organized a group of individuals in Europe from different fields to analyze how a CMU may benefit the economy and make it stronger. Her hope is to also organize a similar team of individuals in America to exchange ideas and thoughts with the European counterpart of professionals.

Muñoz Pérez believes that a CMU would be beneficial for European markets, but there may be hesitancy to change how the market has been run historically. She emphasizes that in everything, balance is the key.

“I like to think of it like a tree. For a tree to live, you need the balance between the roots, the trunk and the leaves,” she said. “If the roots get to be too large, you can fall out of balance. Europe may be resistant to the change because they have such large roots in tradition.”

Another thing Muñoz Pérez will examine while at Widener Law Commonwealth is the structure of higher education in America.

“I’m very excited to be here and have the chance to interact with students and professors to learn how the American (education) system works,” she said. “Because it is a smaller campus, it is a perfect opportunity to get in touch and to be involved.”

Career Services Pilots Intimate Networking Event

The Career Services Office recently piloted a Wide-Net event, a new format for networking. The first Wide-Net focused on creating an intimate evening for students in the Humanities Division with successful alumni of their programs. Held at the Media, Pa., home of Janet Long, career liaison to the College of Arts and Sciences, the event encouraged informal conversation to help current students learn about different career paths taken by the humanities alumni in attendance.

“As an English major, I don’t have a set career goal like nursing and engineering students do,” said junior Emma Irving. “Talking to the alumni made me realize that even if it took time, they all found something they loved. I realized that if I love what I’m doing—and I do—things will work out. I feel better knowing this.”

Career Services worked with Dr. Sarah Roth, associate dean of the Humanities Division, and each of the chairs of the humanities majors to recruit student participants. These same faculty members also helped suggest alumni participants.

“We had an enthusiastic group of young, successful alumni who are working in a variety of jobs, including medical publishing and engineering consultation,” said Long. “They are all using the skills they acquired at Widener: communication, critical thinking and reasoning.”

Long said that Career Services looks to host similar Wide-Net events once a semester, possibly targeting different populations within the College of Arts and Sciences. She and her colleagues are currently evaluating the first Wide-Net, but their initial reaction is that the evening was a success. It helped allay some of the fears of current students about finding a job after graduation and helped them establish meaningful connections with alumni in the workforce.

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Faculty Fellow Corner: Preparing a Successful Grant and Award Application

By Dr. Angie Corbo, associate professor of communication studies and Faculty Fellow

Widener faculty continually distinguish themselves as outstanding educators, researchers, leaders and community advocates. It is inspiring to work among such a talented and dedicated group of individuals who are transforming lives and producing cutting-edge research. Widener has a long-standing tradition of recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of our faculty through the five institutional awards. The Civic Engagement, Fitz Dixon Innovation in Teaching, Outstanding Research, and most recently, the Distinguished Professor and Institutional Leadership awards are presented annually. Applications are reviewed by the Faculty Council Faculty Grants and Awards (FGA) Committee and by an external panel; these two groups make recommendations to the provost upon careful review of each candidate’s dossier.

Faculty striving toward excellence in professional development may apply for Faculty Development* and Provost grants. All full-time faculty are eligible to apply for the former, while tenured and tenure-track faculty are eligible to apply for the latter. Such internal funds are intended to support faculty research, teaching innovation or other professional endeavors.

The FGA committee and the Provost’s Office have identified successful strategies demonstrated in past grant and award applications. A workshop on how to develop a successful application will be offered to all faculty on Thursday, Dec. 10 at 3:30 p.m. in the University Center, Room A. Light refreshments will be served.

The FGA Committee, Faculty Fellows, award winners and the Teaching, Learning and Assessment Office will be available to coach faculty through the process. The workshop is timely as Provost Grants and Faculty Award deadlines are in January 2016.

The session panel will include:

- **Dr. Scott Van Bramer**, Distinguished University Professor and Fitz Dixon Teaching & Innovation Award winner
- **Dr. Anne Krouse**, Outstanding Research Award winner
- **Dr. Beatriz Urraca**, Faculty Grants and Awards Committee Chair
- **Dr. Hal Shorey**, Faculty Fellow and Former Faculty Grants & Awards Committee Representative
- **Dr. Brigette Valesey**, Assistant Provost for Teaching, Learning and Assessment

If you have questions about the workshop or would like the panelists to address specific issues, please contact amcorbo@widener.edu in advance.

* Faculty should consult with their dean about this award criteria.

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Creative Juices Flow at FUSE 2015

By Kelsey Styles, ’17, communication studies and creative writing

Last week, Widener hosted the FUSE conference for undergraduate student editors. On Nov. 5 and 6, students from 19 schools around the country gathered in the University Center Webb Room to discuss the literary journals at their respective colleges. There were representatives from schools as close as Drexel University in Philadelphia, to as far as the University of California, Los Angeles campus.

Widener students both attended and helped run the conference. Thursday’s Open Mic event was hosted by Taylor Brown, ’17, and Kimberlee Roberts, ’17. Sierra Offutt, ’16, vice president of operations for FUSE, helped Widener’s Dr. Michael Cocchiarale, FUSE 2015 coordinator, with much of the setup and planning.

Students also participated in panels. Offutt joined Taylor Blum, ’18, and me on a panel about using social media to advertise and promote brands. We each discussed how our organizations — **The Blue Route**, Widener Ink and **The Blue&Gold**, respectively—utilize social media.

Notable non-student speakers included Lisa Funderburg, a local author; Nic Esposito, the founder of a Philadelphia printing press; and Carla Spataro, a publisher and editorial director for **Philadelphia Stories**. We benefitted from hearing the stories of individuals working in the business to supplement the many ideas we got from our peers.

On Friday night, Widener English professors Dr. Daniel Robinson and Dr. Mark Graybill teamed up with drummer Bob Falgie in KLC1 as the band Smart Barker to help attendees relax after two days of learning and networking. On Saturday morning, students visited the Brandywine River Museum. Next year, FUSE will be held at Bowling State Green University in Ohio.
Students Participate in Poverty Simulation

Forty-seven million Americans, 15.5 million of whom are children under the age of 18, live in poverty every day. It is difficult for people to understand the situations that families living in poverty experience—the decisions they have to make, and the fears and frustrations they feel. To help our students better understand the poverty situation impacting society, the Office of Civic Engagement and the School of Nursing partnered to host a Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) in partnership with the Center for Simulation on Nov. 2.

Students were invited to walk a mile in the shoes of those facing poverty. During the simulation, participants took on various roles within low-income families. Each family had the stressful task of providing basic necessities and shelter on a limited budget during the course of four 15-minute “weeks.” The students interacted with human service agencies, grocers, pawnbrokers, bill collectors, job interviewers, police officers and others.

“Although play money is used, it is not a game,” said Gretchen Mielke, assistant dean for civic engagement. “It is a simulation that enables participants to look at poverty from a variety of angles and then to recognize and discuss the potential for change within their local communities.”

Beatrice Frempong, a senior psychology major, was one of the student organizers of the event. Her motivation for getting involved was to try and give her fellow students front-row seats to poverty.

“I hope students left the event motivated to volunteer their time to help those less fortunate, especially during the holiday season,” said Frempong.

The simulation was made available by the Missouri Association for Community Action.

Delaware State Bar Association Honors Law Professor

Harrington Conner has directed the Delaware Civil Law Clinic since 1996, and she joined the full-time faculty in 2004. More than 350 law students have enrolled in the Delaware Civil Law Clinic during her near two decades of leadership. The clinic was created in 1984 in support of the school's mission to provide practical legal experience to law students through civic engagement in Delaware. Its primary focus is the representation of domestic violence survivors.

“I am honored to be named a recipient of this award,” Harrington Conner said. “It has been my pleasure to work with so many wonderful law students over the years, who are now successful members of the Delaware bar. I feel very fortunate that I’ve had the opportunity to be a part of their professional growth.”

Harrington Conner has earned her law degree at Delaware Law School in 1992 and became one of the first attorneys in Delaware to represent survivors of domestic violence seeking civil protection from abuse. She became managing attorney of Delaware Volunteer Legal Services in 1996, where she served until joining the law school faculty. In addition to her teaching and clinic leadership roles, she also serves as co-director of the school's Family Health Law & Policy Institute.

“Dana is a role model for our students,” Delaware Law School Dean Rod Smolla said. “She teaches them how to use the law to improve victims' lives and how to treat clients from all backgrounds with dignity, respect and the highest levels of professionalism. It is rewarding to see her positive influence recognized this way. We congratulate her.”
Noteworthy

Dr. Anne Krouse, professor of nursing and associate provost of learning spaces and strategic initiatives, presented “Implementing a Computer-Based Testing Program? What You Need to Know to be Successful” at the National League for Nursing Summit in Las Vegas in September.

Palmer Lockard, professor at Widener Law Commonwealth, published the article “A Good Start” in Pennsylvania Lawyer magazine. The article highlights the success of the incubator program and the mission of the program, which is to help new lawyers learn the basics of running a successful practice.

Dr. Amy Luckowski, clinical director for the School of Nursing, wrote an article titled “Care of the Patient with Vision Loss,” for Nursing 2015, a practice journal.

Juliet Moringiello, professor at Widener Law Commonwealth, presented at the Dentons conference in New York City in the Municipal Restructuring and Reform program.

Dr. Brigitte Valeyse, assistant provost for teaching, learning and assessment, presented the session with faculty developers from across the United States, “What Faculty Developers Do: Reflecting on Knowledge, Skills and Experience” at the Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education Conference, held Nov. 4–8 in San Francisco.

Dr. Neva White, an adjunct professor in the School of Nursing, was named the Distinguished Certified Diabetes Educator recipient at the American Diabetes Association’s 75th anniversary celebration in October.

A Photo Finish

At the annual Super Dwight 5K, organized by Dr. Dwight DeWerth-Pallmeyer, pictured center, to raise money for the Mother and Baby Care Program at CityTeam, senior education major Alison Alkins, left, captured first place for the women, and communication studies sophomore Anthony Jackson, right, captured first place for the men. The run raised more than $500 for CityTeam.

Spotlight on Sports: Men’s Cross Country Earns Third Straight Conference Title

Junior Ernie Pitone of Springfield, Pa., earned his second consecutive Middle Atlantic Conference individual title, as the Widener men’s cross country team recorded its third straight conference crown on Saturday, Nov. 7. Pitone earned the victory in the 8,000 meter race with a time of 25:34.93. The junior is only the fourth runner in program history to earn multiple individual titles in consecutive years.

Macharia Yout was the last Widener athlete to win consecutive titles, as he won four straight from 2003–2006.

William McDermott of Lansdowne, Pa., followed Pitone with a second-place finish in the championship meet. The junior finished the race with a time of 26:08.18, just over 33 seconds behind Pitone.

Pitone and McDermott are joined on the All-MAC First Team by Stephen Fortin of Goffstown, N.H. The senior recorded a time of 26:57.68 for a 10th-place finish at the MAC Championships.

The top five for Widener were rounded out by seniors William Updegrove of Bethlehem, Pa., and Michael Bilotta of Springfield, Pa. Updegrove finished 11th and Bilotta 16th.

Junior Leonard Harmon of Charlton, Mass., earned All-MAC Second Team honors with an 18th-place finish.

Head coach Vince Touey was named the Middle Atlantic Conference “Coach of the Year” as he led the Pride to their sixth team title in program history. After winning the event, Pitone was named the Middle Atlantic Conference “Runner of the Year.”
Two-Week Peek
A Look at the Next Two Weeks in Widener Events

Wednesday, Nov. 11
11 a.m.–12 p.m. Veterans Day Ceremony; Old Main front lawn, Veterans Memorial
12 p.m. Advice and a Slice Cover Letter; Career Lounge
12:30–1:30 p.m. IP Current Events Talk featuring Dean Rod Smolla on the Redskins trademark appeal; Delaware Law School, Main Law Building, student lounge

Thursday, Nov. 12
9 a.m.–12 p.m. SBDC Government Marketing Seminar; Widener SBDC
9 p.m. Lone Brick Theatre presents adaptation of “Letters to My Younger Self;” KLC1

Friday, Nov. 13
1 p.m. Academic Success Program on charting as an alternative to outlining; Delaware Law School, Polishook 203
4–5 p.m. Poetic Bridges: A Boundaries and Bridges Event; Walnut Street Pedestrian Bridge
7 p.m. Widener Dance Company Fall Recital; Alumni Auditorium

Saturday, Nov. 14
1 p.m. Widener Dance Company Fall Recital; Alumni Auditorium
7 p.m. Widener Dance Company Fall Recital; Alumni Auditorium

Sunday, Nov. 15
International Week Begins
2–3 p.m. Lone Brick Theatre presents “Getting Out;” KLC1
2 p.m. International Opera; Alumni Auditorium
8–9 p.m. Lone Brick Theatre presents “Getting Out;” KLC1

Monday, Nov. 16
5:15 p.m. French Film & Conversation: “Diaboliques;” KLC1
6–7 p.m. Stargazing; Widener Observatory

Tuesday, Nov. 17
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Hospitality Lunch Series; Marriott Dining Room
3:30 p.m. Advice and a Slice: Resumes; Kapelski, 399A
5 p.m. Chinese Cinema Night; Founders Hall, 109
9–10 p.m. Lone Brick Theatre presents “Getting Out;” KLC1

Wednesday, Nov. 18
11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. “Lawyers in the Executive Branch” lunch program; Dauphin County Bar Association (Register)
12 p.m. Global Pride Partners Information Session, University Center, Room F
12 p.m. Co-op Orientation; University Center Webb Room
4 p.m. Healthcare Career Panel; University Center, Room A
4:30 p.m. Italian Food Night; Freedom Hall, Lobby
5:30–7 p.m. “Evening at the Capitol” networking event; Main Rotunda, Pennsylvania State Capitol (Register)
6 p.m. Italian Cinema Night; Freedom Hall, 122

Thursday, Nov. 19
5:30 p.m. International Speaker: Queen Quet; Founders Hall, 109
7–9 p.m. State Street Reading Series; Media Arts Center Gallery
9–10 p.m. Lone Brick Theatre presents “Getting Out;” KLC1

Friday, Nov. 20
8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. “How Will the Game Change…Taxes in a New Congress;” Delaware Law School, Ruby R. Vale Moot Courtroom
11 a.m.–1 p.m. “We’re All Widener” Multicultural Fair, University Center Atrium
11 a.m. Town Hall with Dr. Julie Wollman, tenth president of Widener University; Alumni Auditorium and video conferenced to the Delaware Campus, 126 and the Harrisburg Campus, 180

Saturday, Nov. 21
8:30 a.m. Mock LSAT; Delaware Law School
8:30 a.m. Mock LSAT; Commonwealth Law School (Register)

Sunday, Nov. 22
8–9 p.m. Lone Brick Theatre presents “Getting Out;” KLC1

Monday, Nov. 23
4 p.m. Advice and a Slice: Interviews; Career Lounge
6–7 p.m. Stargazing; Widener Observatory

Celebrate International Education Week at Widener
International Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This year, International Student Services celebrates the diversity on campus with more than 30 events, including films, international coffee and tea and restaurant visits. Festivities begin Sunday, Nov. 15. The week culminates with the “We’re All Widener” Multicultural Fair in the University Center Atrium on Friday, Nov. 20. Enjoy performances and food samplings from around the world.

Other highlights include the Italian Food Night in Freedom Hall on Wednesday, Nov. 18 and a “histo-musical” on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m. in Founders Hall, 109 by Queen Quet of the Gullah/Geechee Nation.

For questions, contact International Student Services at 610–499–4499 or iss@mail.widener.edu. Be sure to use #widenerIEW and #IEW2015 when talking about the events on social media.

Check out the complete schedule to plan your week.