



Alfred University

December 2022

Outside of the Classroom

A newsletter of faculty activities and accomplishments



D. Chase Angier, Professor of Dance, was commissioned to create a new solo dance work for collaborator Jennifer Salk at the University of Washington. Salk and Angier have collaborated on new pieces that have been performed in Europe and the United States. This was their first time working on a solo with Salk being the performer.

Professor Angier was a guest artist at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga where she was interviewed for a podcast focusing on the making of public art, and she taught a three-hour movement composition workshop to sculpture students.

University of Tennessee Chattanooga Sculpture Students + Faculty participating in D. Chase Angier's Movement for Sculptors Workshop

Mallory Szymanski, Assistant Professor of History, presented at two conferences recently. At the Western History Association Conference, she organized a panel on medicine in the American West and presented a paper entitled “Not His Own Boss: Nervous disease, family scandal, and the banking industry in Helena, MT, 1893-1895.”

She also presented a paper at the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association conference entitled “Engendering Trust Between Doctors and Patients in the Gilded Age: doctors as confessors in the fiction of S. Weir Mitchell.”

Szymanski published “How to Prepare for a Job Interview at a SLAC” which offers a guide for historians seeking teaching-intensive positions in higher ed.

This past November, **Heidi Jensen**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Music, chaired the panel “Envisioning Climate Justice Through Folk Music,” at the interdisciplinary conference, “Music, Sound, and Climate Justice Conversations 2022” (MSCJC). In addition to chairing the panel Dr. Jensen was on the organizational board and committee for the MSCJC conference which took place in New Orleans, LA. The MSCJC—supported by the Ecomusicology Review Journal—was a gathering of music and sound scholars who engage with complex questions surrounding the intersections of music and sound with environmental justice, and the climate crisis.

While in New Orleans, Dr. Jensen also participated in the 2022 Joint Conference of the American Musicological Society, Society for Ethnomusicology, and the Society for Music Theory. As the Co-Chair of the American Musicology Society Ecomusicology Study Group, Dr. Jensen presented a conversation on issues surrounding climate justice, as well as conducted the annual business meeting.



Jason Mullen, Adjunct Instructor of Music, presented his paper “Gifts in the Digital Economy: Sweetwater Sound and the K250 Sampling Network” at the 67th Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology in New Orleans, LA (November 9-13). Jason’s presentation traced a history of non-economic and gift-like exchanges that structured 1980s digital sampling communities for the Kurzweil K250—the first synthesizer able to convincingly replicate sounds of musical instruments. Ultimately the paper placed this non-market sonic exchange as a form of gift giving and musical belonging, while interrogating the complexities imposed by supply chain capitalism.

Halil Zaim, Assistant Professor of Management, co-published "The influence of Islamic leadership on work performance in service industry: an empirical analysis", *International Journal of Ethics and Systems*. This study aims to propose a practical, virtue-centric model of leadership based on Islamic principles. The structure of the Islamic leadership construct is validated through confirmatory factor analysis. Its relationship with performance and organizational commitment is examined and the mediating role of organizational commitment is assessed. Previous studies on Islamic leadership contain very few empirical models. This study proposes a valuable empirical model of Islamic leadership consisting of moral values, spirituality, ethics, and wisdom. As an empirical model, evidence plays a central role. Evidence of the partial mediating role of organizational commitment between Islamic leadership and job performance is also revealed by the study.

<https://doi.org/10.1108/IJOES-12-2021-0242>

Associate Professor of Performance Design & Technology, **Maureen Weiss**, was invited to interview scenic designer, Anna Fleischle, before the premiere of *2:22 A Ghost Story* at The Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles. The interview coincided with a book launch party for Maureen Weiss and Sibyl Wickersheimer’s book, *Scene Shift: US Set Designers in Conversation*, hosted by the University of Southern California School of Dramatic Arts.

Professor Weiss was also invited to speak with scenography students at the University of Illinois, Chicago. While in Chicago, she took part in a book launch symposium at Steppenwolf Theatre with Chicago-based designers whose work was showcased in Professor Weiss’ publication, *Scene Shift: US Set Designers in Publication*.



From left: Collette Pollard, Yvonne Miranda, Regina García, Linda Buchanan, Sibyl Wickersheimer, and Maureen Weiss at Steppenwolf Theatre

Junjun Ding, Assistant Professor Material Science & Engineering, delivered an invited 30-minute presentation virtually at the 2022 Materials Research Society (MRS) spring meeting (May 7-13 2022 Honolulu, Hawai’I and May 23-25 2022). The topic was “Material Extrusion 3D Printing of Polymer Matrix Composites for Energy Storage and Sensing Applications”.

Dr. Ding was also invited to give a presentation virtually at the 1st International Conference on Polymer Science and Engineering 2022 (Polymers-2022, OCT 17-21, 2022, hybrid Los Angeles, CA and virtual) on the “Tunable large-scale

compressive strain sensor based on carbon nanotube / polydimethylsiloxane". The presentations was recorded and Dr. Ding is happy to share it.

Dr. Ding's research article entitled "3D Printed Thick Reduced Graphene Oxide: Manganese Oxide/Carbon Nanotube Hybrid Electrode with Highly Ordered Microstructures for Supercapacitors" was published online (Nov 15, 2022) in the journal Advanced Materials Technologies. This article is authored by PhD student Ms. Yuqi Gao and Dr. Junjun Ding. This work reports high capacitance and good rate performance supercapacitors made of 3D printed thick electrodes.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/admt.202200263>

Gerar Edizel, Professor of Art History, delivered an invited lecture, "Cultural Appropriation in Art," on October 30, to Clay Cohorts, a hybrid online and in-person teaching and support organization for artists.

Edizel presented a two-and-a-half-hour lecture and discussion titled "Cultural Appropriation in Art" to help clarify aspects of the issue of appropriation to professional artists. Well publicized controversies and the related traffic on social media generated both worry and confusion over the issue. He addressed the concerns of artists, who consider the freedom of expression a value essential to their work. The presentation defined cultural appropriation--its types, range, value, and pitfalls--to help uphold the sense of freedom with which artists practice their art and better know how to approach intercultural matters of grave sensitivity susceptible to cause harm.

<https://www.alfred.edu/about/news/pressreleases/artsatalfred/2022/11/edizel.-professor-of-art-history-delivered-a-lecture-on-cultural-appropriation-in-art.cfm>
