



Alfred University

November 2022

Outside of the Classroom

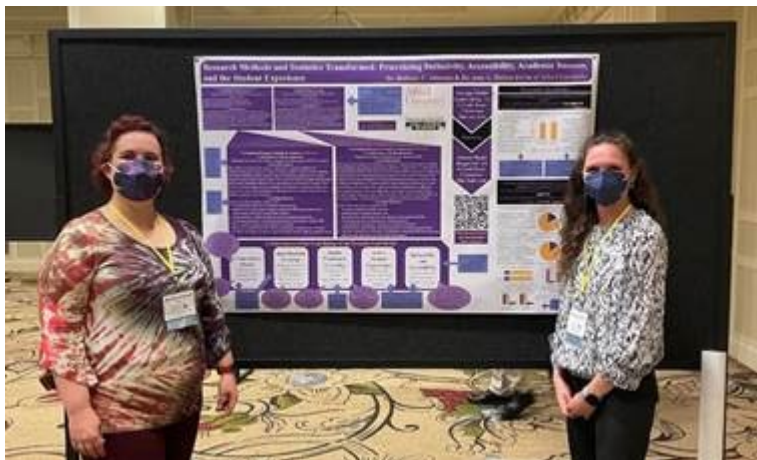
A newsletter of faculty activities and accomplishments

On Friday, October 7,th Alfred University Inamori School of Engineering along with Canaseraga Central School hosted their second Girl Powered Workshop. **Dr. Alexis Clare** and **Dr. Doris Möncke**, both professors in Glass Science, spoke to the students about Glass Engineering Science. They explored Prince Rupert's Drop, and how it shatters and bends. They also examined how glass can glow under certain lights. Several AU undergrad and graduate students, who are also members of Women in Society (SWE), helped with engineering stations that engaged attendees in hands-on fun engineering activities. AU students talked about Women in Engineering and why they wanted to be engineers.



Geoff Lippa, Assistant Professor of Biology, attended the Rochester Academy of Science, Scientific Paper Session/Conference on October 29,th where he presented a poster titled "Probing stability in adenosine deaminase using site-directed mutagenesis: the design and implementation of a CURE exploring biochemical and medical implications." Geoff presented his pedagogy research focused on the development and implementation of a new course-based undergraduate research experience (CURE) for his upper-level course in Biochemistry. The CURE connects the medical condition known as severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) and protein engineering as a means of

optimizing therapeutic usage. The 12-week CURE has students utilize bioinformatics, open-source protein visualization tools, and wet lab techniques to identify and evaluate the stability effects of an enzyme single residue mutation of the student's choice.



Dr. Beth Johnson and Dr. Amy Button-Ervin, Associate Professors of Psychology, presented a poster describing their research regarding the reorganization and structure of the new psychology statistics and methods sequence at the Society for Teaching of Psychology Conference in Pittsburgh, PA. Their work was well received by esteemed colleagues and peers in the field who praised the focus on equitable and inclusive practices, as well as the

blending of constructs throughout the courses. Amy Button-Ervin also presented a poster on her course, Professional Preparation in Psychology, during the virtual week of the conference while Beth Johnson presented a workshop with Dr. Leslie Martinez (University of the Incarnate Word, in San Antonio, TX) on how to revise assignment instructions to improve student performance. Beth and Leslie integrated principles of behavior modification, cognition, and motivation to challenge teachers to re-examine their assignments for hidden barriers to student learning. Each recommendation was framed around common implicit beliefs about teaching and learning, and tailored to prioritize universal design and equity and inclusion.

On November 1st Alfred University Center for Advanced Ceramic Technology Executive Director, **John Simmins** spoke at the 83rd Annual Conference on Glass Problems in Columbus, OH.



Marwa Soliman, Assistant Professor Accountancy, had her paper "*Corporate Social Responsibility Orientation and Textual Features of Financial Disclosures*" accepted for publication in the *International Review of Financial Analysis (IRFA)*. The paper is her doctoral thesis chapters and is co-authored with her dissertation supervisor, Professor Walid Ben Amar.

Consistent with the notion that managers in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) conscious firms adhere to high ethical standards, this study shows that firms with high CSR orientation provide more readable disclosures and use a less ambiguous tone in their annual reports. The study also finds that CSR can serve as a substitute for other corporate governance mechanisms to ensure that firms provide transparent disclosure and reduces information asymmetry in the financial market.

Marwa also presented 2 papers at the 2022 Joint Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast Regions -AAA conference (program in the link below): “The Bright Side of Career Concern: CEO Tenure and Narrative Disclosure Complexity” and “Does Political Uncertainty Obfuscate Narrative Disclosure?”

Saturday, October 22,nd Angus Powers, Professor of Glass, took a group of students the glass Olympics in Kent Ohio. Hosted by Davin Ebanks at the Kent State University Glass Department. The Glass Olympics started here at Alfred University in 2006 in collaboration with Cleveland Institute of Art. has become an annual event and has had as many as 12 schools in attendance. It is a really exciting opportunity for students to meet other folks studying in glass and to begin building their professional network. The students from Alfred did an amazing job and showed up in a frenzy of love and energy!!! They took third place in the game out of eight teams and our glass trophy was chosen first!!!!



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Andrew Kless, Assistant Professor of History, presented the paper “Foals, Farmsteads, and Forests: Ecological Encounters in First World War Russian Poland” at the 4th International Congress of Polish History in Kraków, Poland on October 20th.

