

# BACKSPLASH

The Official Newsletter of the Bucknell Women's Rowing Program

www.bucknellbison.com



## NOTES FROM COACH Stephen Kish '92

group of novice women and off we will go!

As for what's new... Many of you know that we began dedicating our fall semester to the art of sculling in 2007. After almost a decade of the single, we have transitioned to the double (two-person) sculling shell, which many consider the most difficult boat category to master. Last fall was our first year with the new hulls and we experimented with the full menu of options, rowing them

as sculling boats (two oars per person) and as sweep boats (one oar per person). This fall, we will return to focusing 100% of the fall semester on the art of sculling and we couldn't be more excited for all this entails.

Also new this year will be the relocation of our December training trip to Florida. While most teams only take one winter trip, typically during the early days of January before classes resume, we tried something new last year and took a December

trip (immediately following exams) in addition to a January trip. To keep things affordable, both were held in Virginia, but the cold weather made things challenging. This year, the women are excited that our December trip will be in a warmer climate.

Last but not least, we are looking forward to our alumni events and alumni rowing opportunities at the Head of the Schuylkill in Philadelphia, and here on the Susquehanna River in conjunction with our Senior Day and end-of-year banquet. The dates are highlighted on the next page. Please mark your calendars and let us know if we can expect you.



Sincerely,  
Stephen Kish '92

It's hard to believe it has been 21 years since I returned to Bucknell as head coach of the program. I thought I would be an absolute expert by now, but what I find is that I am always learning something new about supporting, guiding and leading the young ambitious women on our team. It is an exciting position to be in and I am grateful every day for the opportunity and the support that our program finds in our parent, alumni and university community.

The most exciting thing that is going on with the program right now is that we have a very hungry group of returning women and 19 eager recruits. Of course, we will welcome a large

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## Save the Date!

Upcoming Alumni Events

**Head of the Schuylkill Alumni Gathering and Racing** – 4:00pm, Saturday, October 28th on the banks of the Schuylkill River.

RSVP to [burowing@bucknell.edu](mailto:burowing@bucknell.edu) if you have any interest in racing an eight in the alumni category, or if you think you can make it to simply meet up with the coaches, team and other alumni at the tent.

**Alumni Row and BBQ** – 10:00 am, Saturday, April 28th at the Bucknell Boathouse, enjoy a short row on the beautiful Susquehanna, followed by a gathering at Skeeter's BBQ just across the street.

Later that night, all are welcome to attend the team banquet as well as our race and Senior Day event early on Sunday morning.

## Our Mission

*To engage, challenge and push every individual student-athlete with the goal of growing their inner confidence and strength of character through humble hard work in pursuit of athletic excellence in a team environment.*

## Mascioli Interns with NBA *A Student-Athlete Summer Internship Experience*



Allison Mascioli, Class of 2018 interned at the NBA's Manhattan office.

This summer I've had the unique opportunity to intern for the NBA in their Manhattan office. It's a ten-week program where you are fully immersed into the sports industry and you get to be exposed to all areas of the company. I'm one of 50 undergraduate interns and

I'm specifically working in the Marketing Department for their Market Research and Analytics group. In addition to the work that I get to do for my department, I have a business case that I work on in a team of seven other interns where we're purposely assigned to a case that is outside all of our comfort

zones and expertise. My team is working with the security department to understand the feasibility of implementing facial recognition technology into the NBA's 29 arenas.

In addition to our day-to-day work, we get to be involved in other NBA events that happen over the summer. For example,

*continued on page 3*



### Catching up with Page Kannor '09

**Since graduating from Bucknell, where has your career path taken you?** That question would be better phrased as "where HASN'T your career path taken you?" I'm not much of a typical career person-- I graduated with a major in Animal Behavior and a minor in Neuropsychology in 2009, and since then I've worked mostly seasonal wildlife and wilderness jobs in places like Hawaii, California, Colorado, Oregon, and Idaho. I even came back to Bucknell as an assistant coach for a season-- before heading back west to hike the Pacific Crest Trail. I've back to Bucknell as an assistant coach for a season-- before heading back west to hike the Pacific Crest Trail. I've done everything from working as a certified personal trainer to working with flying squirrels. Right now I live in Moab, Utah and work for the Department of Natural Resources in fire mitigation and prevention.

**What skills that you learned as a student-athlete at Bucknell have helped you become successful today?** Timeliness, accountability, and the ability to respond well to adversity are the imperative building blocks of a successful crew, and our coaches knew that and built our entire athletic program around it. Does Coach Kish still use the phrase "Early is on time, on time is late, and late is unacceptable"? Ten plus years later, and those words still pop into my head more frequently than seems reasonable. In my four years rowing, I was so terrified of the consequences of being late that there was not a single practice or meeting where I wasn't at least five (but more like 10) minutes early. Not one. In general, I learned to be accountable for my actions as part of a team and to quickly change course when things didn't go as planned (and they often didn't), and those lessons have stuck with me to this day.

**What are some of your fondest memories of your time wearing the Orange and Blue?** Rowing at Bucknell completely defined and shaped my college experience, so most of my fondest memories at school did take place while wearing Bison Orange and Blue (or at least sweatpants). Some of my happiest times were simply at practice, on the water, early in the morning, when it felt like all nine of us women in the boat were breathing the same breaths and moving in perfect synchrony. Then there was the blur of races we rowed at-- like the time our boat came this close to beating one of the best teams in the country, or the particularly exhilarating and elated feeling of competing in the Patriot League championship each year. I also often reminisce about our spring and winter training trips to Elberton, Georgia, where the air was fresh and sweet and life was simple and we put on silly and hilarious cabin songs or dances for each other at the end of the week. One particular memory that sticks out in my head was our team pushing the team's big diesel truck for three miles from the boat ramp in Elberton back to the cabins-- we took turns propelling it from behind and sang the whole way back. I think it just embodies the very idea of what being on that team felt like: a lot of hard work, doing ridiculous stuff that no one else did or would want to do, and having a blast doing it.

**What advice would you give to the current athletes in the program?** I'm not exaggerating when I say everything about my years with BU Women's Rowing was special (it's easy for me to say, of course, now that I'm far removed from all the actual hard work!) The friendships and the exhausting early-morning two-or-three-a-day practices and the sunrises over the Susquehanna and the laughing fits with the team at the caf, all shaped who I was in college and who I still am today. I know this errs on the side of cheesy, but taking advantage of those friendships and those opportunities for growth is so key. I think being part of something so pure and vital and strong has spoiled me; I have spent all my time since graduating looking for another outlet to replace the mettle and feeling of camaraderie and teamwork I had with my team at Bucknell. My advice would be to keep those friendships and connections alive, and to always continue looking for places to be part of a strong and diverse team.

**Why do you feel it is important to give back to Bucknell Women's Rowing?** Without rowing, I don't know where I'd be. It has impacted my teammates and me profoundly, and I can't imagine experiencing Bucknell without it. Regardless of how long someone chooses to be a part of this team-- whether it's for one month or four years-- giving back allows each team member to grow and learn and have the opportunity of a lifetime. Frankly, I don't know what could be better than that. ■



## A Summer in Salt Water

Anna Natassja Scheitler, Class of 2021,  
Rower and Real-life Mermaid



To most, mermaids are the subject of myth and legend but for the past year and a half it has become my reality. This summer I have continued my work as a mermaid at the Downtown Denver Aquarium. It is not as easy as it may seem. I free dive 25ft in 74 degree salt water tanks that are impossible to see in, with no weights, no underwater air supply or goggles,

all while wearing a 45lb tail and holding my breath for up to a minute and a half. In the tanks, I swim with barracudas, nurse sharks, stingrays, eels, white tipped sharks, black tipped sharks, yellow-tail snappers, guitar sharks, and even a 400lb grouper along with many other fish. This experience has taught me more than just to keep the oceans clean and protect wildlife but it has also given me a new-found sense of confidence and provides an excellent workout. Every day I have the opportunity to meet new and excited faces; believing in myself and allowing the fantasy to perpetuate and grow. ■

## Mascioli *continued from page 2*

the highlight of my summer so far was working at the NBA draft at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn. I've never been to any league's draft before and it's definitely a night I will remember. At the event itself, I was in charge of fan engagement before the night began and then once the night started, I got to go inside and watch the draft live. Another great component of the internship is meeting and hearing from different executives and public faces of the league, including a speaker series with Adam Silver (NBA Commissioner), Lisa Borders (WNBA President), and Malcolm Turner (G-League President). All of whom have shared with us their life stories and professional journeys, which are extremely motivational. In addition to these executives, we get to have lunches with players, like CJ McCollum, or even random run-ins on the elevator with Dikembe Mutombo.

Overall one of my favorite elements of working at the NBA is its team focused atmosphere where everyone is friendly and supportive, but at the same time pushing each other to help the league achieve greatness. It doesn't matter what your job title is, everyone treats one another with equality and respect. Having this opportunity has really showed me that if you love what you do for a career, it doesn't even feel like a job at all. When you can say that you truly care about a company and are fully invested in its success, it makes all the difference. Now that I've had a glimpse of this environment for ten weeks, it's my goal in life to achieve this feeling whenever approaching any professional career path. ■

## Summer Research Leads to an Invitation to Denver *Helena Yoest, Class of 2019*

This summer I have been doing research with Professor Tom Solomon in the physics department, examining how a fluid flow affects the motion of self-propelled particles (bacteria). Our experiments will affirm or negate the existence of invisible barriers that bacteria cannot swim across. By utilizing microscopic channels, we are able to create a microfluidic hyperbolic fluid flow that the bacteria are subject to. We pump fluid into a cross channel, and by examining the microscopic intersection, we can study the effects of the resulting fluid flow on the motion of bacteria. In this

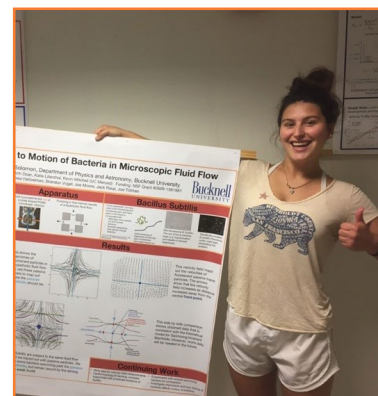
experiment, we analyze the differences in behavior of passive tracer particles and the active bacteria. In theory, the bacteria should be able to swim across the passive boundaries that we see with particles. However, we theorize that there are boundaries that the bacteria cannot swim across, even with independent tumbling motions. We propose the existence of both strong and weak Swimming Invariant Manifolds (SwIM.)

This experiment utilizes theory that can be used to predict the spreading of algae blooms, to optimize navigation of ships, and to better understand the motion of

any other self-propelling object in a fluid flow. While a lot of work has been done to understand the run and tumble behavior of bacteria, the idea of finding invisible "barriers" that block the motion of swimming organisms in a flow has not yet been tested experimentally by anyone.

As a result of our work this summer, my lab partner and I have been selected to present our individual research at the 70th annual meeting of the APS Physics Division of Fluid Dynamics in Denver this November. This is one of the largest gatherings of the fluid dynamics research community in the world.

It has definitely been a challeng-



ing, yet educational summer and I am continually thankful for the Bucknell Department of Physics and Astronomy for the exciting opportunity! ■

## Mikaela Thomas, Class of 2020

*Interns at the District Office of U.S. Representative Mike Coffman, Colorado*

Working as an intern in the district office of Congressman Mike Coffman requires a lot more than ordering coffee and copying papers. As an International Relations major with minors in Latin American Studies and Arabic, this opportunity is a unique and highly coveted one, especially so early in my college career. The office

I work in is small, so I am able to interact directly with constituents who require casework done on their behalf, and with the Congressman himself as he comes home to Colorado every weekend. I go to many events and meetings in the community and write many congratulatory letters for the noteworthy achievements of constituents. I have learned a great deal about how

the federal government interacts with local leaders, companies, and grassroots projects.

The most exciting part of the daily work of my internship are the opportunities I have to interact with and assist the international communities in our district, like the Ethiopian, Eritrean, and Venezuelan enclaves. Learning about the issues within these countries and

how the American communities are working with Congress to remedy the instability is what I am truly passionate about. These opportunities are invaluable and will open many doors for a future career in politics and foreign policy, and they gave me first hand insight into the human side of international politics. ■



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## Fall Racing Schedule & Family/ Alumni Events



**Sept 23, 2017** \_\_\_\_\_

Family Weekend Gathering - 11:00 a.m., Location TBD

**Oct 28, 2017** \_\_\_\_\_

Head of the Schuylkill Regatta - 12:00 p.m., Philadelphia PA  
Family & Alumni Gathering at the Bucknell Tent

*RSVP to [burowing@bucknell.edu](mailto:burowing@bucknell.edu) to race in an Alumni Eight*

**Nov 11, 2017** \_\_\_\_\_

Philadelphia Frostbite Regatta - 12:00 p.m., West Windsor, NJ  
Family & Alumni Gathering at the Bucknell Tent



### WOMEN'S ROWING CONTACT INFORMATION

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