

RECOGNIZING

Defiance College Faculty and Staff



DR. MC HARPER, professor of English, has published a new book of poetry entitled *Some Gods Don't Need Saints*. The limited edition book from Finishing Line Press

is a 2015 New Women's Voices Chapbook Competition semifinalist.

Professor Harper organizes and reads poetry at the yearly SwampFire Retreat of artists and writers at 4 Corners Gallery in Angola, Ind., in collaboration with potter Steve Smith. Besides *Some Gods Don't Need Saints*, her poems have appeared in *The Comstock Review*, *Old Northwest Review*, *Cold Mountain Review*, *Pudding Magazine* and *MidAmerica*. Her poem "Muddy World" won the 2013 Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Prize of the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature.



DR. DOUG KANE, associate professor of biology, has just had two studies published in international research journals. "Ten+ years gone: Continued

degradation of offshore planktonic communities in U.S. waters of Lake Erie's western and central basins (2003–2013)" was published in the *Journal of Great Lakes Research*, with co-authors from The Ohio State University and Department of Fisheries and Oceans- Canada. The article can be found at <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0380133015001306>. "Feeding ecology of the invasive round goby, *Neogobius melanostomus* (Pallas, 1814), based on laboratory size preference and field diet in different habitats in the western basin of Lake Erie" is in press at *Aquatic Invasions* (<http://www.aquaticinvasions.net/2015/accepted.html>). Doug is a co-author, with other authors from Ohio State's F.T. Stone Laboratory and Indiana University.

Dr. Kane also recently finished his year as President of the International Association for Great Lakes Research at the *58th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research* in Burlington, Vermont and presented a talk titled "Ten Years Gone: Continued Degradation of Plankton Communities in Lakes Erie and Ontario" (<https://storify.com/IAGLR/iaglr-2015-contents>, <http://www.iaglr.org/iaglr2015/>) in May. Further, Doug presented "All In: Nutrients Exported from the Maumee River Watershed Drive Harmful Algal Blooms in Lake Erie" at the 2015 *Land to Lake* meeting held at Defiance College on June 11 (<http://landtolake.com/calendar-of-events/>). Dr. Kane was interviewed for a 13 ABC News Toledo segment titled "Mayflies are back: "They're a sign of a healthy Lake Erie" (<http://www.13abc.com/home/headlines/Mayflies-are-back-Theyre-a-sign-of-a-healthy-Lake-Erie-308575401.html>) broadcast on Friday June 19.



BRIDGET OLENIK, director of bands, performed recently with the Toledo Symphony. Bridget played a movement from a marimba concerto, featuring her

rare and beautiful five-octave marimba. Earlier this year, Olenik took part in the two-week Heartland Marimba Festival and Academy in Iowa. The summer festival showcased the many facets of the marimba, an instrument with deep roots in Africa and Central American cultures and performed with visceral displays of virtuosity on the worldwide modern concert stage.



STEVE SONDERGAARD, professor of criminal justice, has been named to the Board of Trustees of Mercy College of Ohio, Toledo. He joined the Defiance College

faculty in 1993 and was honored with the Distinguished Faculty Award in 2008. He is an alumnus of the University of Dayton, Pfeiffer College and Terra Technical College.



DR. TODD A. COMER, professor of English, presented two papers in the fall of 2015. Both papers are part of a larger project, a book on the Australian director Peter Weir (Bloomsbury Publishing). The first

presentation on "Peter Weir's *Master and Commander: The Far Side of Ecological Awareness*" was presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Popular Culture Association. The second on "Gender, Ecology, and the Enlightenment Project in Peter Weir's *Mosquito Coast*" was presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Modern Language Association.

In late November JSTOR *Daily* featured Dr. Comer's 2005 essay "Aggression, Ethics, and War in *The Big Lebowski*" and provided a free PDF of the article. The feature and PDF may be accessed online at <http://daily.jstor.org>.



KELLY REPKA, major gifts officer, has been named a certified fund raising executive (CFRE) by CFRE International. To receive the designation, Kelly met a series of standards and passed a

written exam. The certification is granted for a three-year period.