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## News from the School of Natural Science and Mathematics

Fall 2014

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### A Message from the Dean

This summer and fall are all about "firsts." We awarded five Summer Research Internship Program grants - the largest number ever - and had 14 other students working with faculty on research projects this summer. This fall we have students declaring a new major in health sciences and a new minor in cyber security. Our first cohort in the new master's program in Biotechnology and Management was initiated. Finally, we have a record number of students enrolled in General Chemistry and Introduction to Biology.



These are all indications that the programs in the School of Natural Science and Mathematics are growing. They are growing because the faculty are innovative and inspiring educators, because relevant and ground-breaking research is being conducted, and because students are caught up in the thrills of discovery throughout the curriculum. In the world of science, math and psychology, we are always looking forward - to the next question or the next discovery. As educators we must keep pace with the rapid advancements in our fields, in technology and in education. It is true what they say - if you're not moving forward, you're moving backwards.

- Jeff Simmons, Ph.D., Dean

## SNSM Goes Social!

Keep up to date with the School of Natural Science and Mathematics! Like our [Facebook page](#), and [follow us on Twitter!](#)



## Alum Chosen For Elite Nursing Program at Johns Hopkins



[Congratulations to Patricia Yam, C'14, who was chosen for the nurse residency program at Johns Hopkins University.](#) The program gives select nursing school students the opportunity to gain experience in specialized hospital units during their last semester of nursing school. Yam attends Johns Hopkins School of Nursing as part of the Mount's 3/2 nursing program.

## In Memoriam

### SNSM Mourns Passing of Dr. Nik Kierniesky

Former psychology professor Nicholas Kierniesky passed away October 16. Dr. Kierniesky served at the Mount from 1971 to 2006 - developing the psychology program and serving as department chair for 20 years. [Learn more about the incredible impact he made on the Mount.](#)



## Fostering Collaboration

### The Mount and Local Colleges Receive Grant

A grant from the National Science Foundation for new chemistry instruments will benefit not only the Mount, but also two other local institutions. Chris Bradley, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry, authored the grant with colleagues from Hood College and Frederick Community College - [allowing the three institutions to buy and share portable equipment, and creating a partnership that could become a model for faculty collaboration across the country.](#)



## Learning New Skills

### Math Professor Learns From Teaching Writing

Can teaching a class based on writing help a professor teach math? Melanie Butler, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics, says the answer is yes. In a recent article, [she outlined the reasons how teaching a Veritas Symposium class opened her eyes to new ways of teaching math.](#)



## Nominate an Alum!



Know an outstanding alum from the Mount's School of Natural Science and Mathematics? [Nominate them for the Dean's Circle of Excellence Alumni Hall of Fame!](#) Submissions will be accepted through Nov. 30.

### Summer of Science

#### Research Internships Provide Opportunities

The labs in the Coad Science Building were bustling this summer as students in the Summer Research Internship Program worked with faculty on independent research projects. The SNSM awarded a record number of grants this year thanks to our donors. [Meet our students and their faculty mentors.](#)



### Mentors Needed!

#### Share Your Expertise with Mount Students

Do you have advice for young up-and-comers in your field? Are you interested in helping School of Natural Science and Mathematics students as they wrestle with decisions about careers and graduate schools? Become a mentor in our new Career Mentor Network! [Learn more about this exciting program!](#)



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