As the College of Fine and Applied Arts celebrates its 50-year anniversary in 2018, I want to commend our passionate and driven students, thank our generous alumni and supporters and recognize our dedicated faculty and staff. Without your commitment to the college and Appalachian State University, we wouldn’t be where we are today: leading the way in sustainability, creativity, communication, technology and design. I invite you to take a trip back in time, read a select few college highlights since our inception in 1968 and enjoy historical photos from the Belk Library archives.

In this review, you’ll learn more about how the college has continued to foster our mission through experiential learning, scholarship and teaching. Thank you for your sustained support.

Phyllis Kloda, Dean
College of Fine and Applied Arts

1968

The College of Fine and Applied Arts was established with the following departments: Art, Economics and Business, Health and Physical Education, Home Economics, Industrial Arts, Music and Speech.

1972

WASU-FM, the university's radio station, begins broadcasting under the direction of the Department of Speech.

1989

The Department of Theatre and Dance is added to the college.

1994

The Department of Theatre and Dance dedicates and opens Valborg Theatre.

1999

The New York Loft in Manhattan opens to Appalachian students. The loft rents for $30 a night for students, faculty and staff and $40 for alumni and guests.

2003

The Living Learning Academic Building, home to the current Department of Sustainable Development, is completed.

2011

Sustainable Development relocates its farm from Valle Crucis to Ashe County. The 365-acre property includes approximately 35 acres of pasture, 130 acres of woodlands, a large greenhouse and late-19th century barn.

2015

AppTV, the university's student-staffed television station, is launched by the Department of Communication.
GET TO KNOW FAA

This annual Year in Review magazine is brought to you by the Office of the Dean in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and provides a glimpse into the world of our faculty, students and alumni during the 2017–18 academic year. We hope you enjoy!

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2,200 copies of the College of Fine and Applied Arts Year in Review were printed by Mountaineer Printing at Appalachian State University at a cost of $4,378, or $1.99 per copy.
STUDENT PROFILE

104 Scholarships Awarded
48 Awards Received

9.9% Out-of-State Students
2,059 Declared Majors
3,366 Total Enrollment
14% Minority Students

Applied Design (427)
Art (719)
Communication (1,101)
Military Science & Leadership (51)
Sustainable Development (335)
Sustainable Technology (628)
Theatre & Dance (177)

181 Study Abroad Participants
7 Honors Graduates
459 Internships Completed
$3,142,914.43
Sponsored Research and Grant Dollars Received

58
Funded Projects

Contracts: $948,864.50
Grants: $1,976,150.93
Sponsored Research $217,899

83
Publications

104
Presentations

17
Faculty Awards

130
Artistic Performances & Exhibits

Faculty / Staff by the Numbers

180
Full-time Faculty and Staff

40
Professors

34
Associate Professors

38
Assistant Professors

41
Lecturer / Other

27
Staff
I hope for awareness + change for everyone.
SD FARM FEEDS LOCAL FAMILIES

During summer 2017, the Goodnight Family Department of Sustainable Development (SD) partnered with Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture, a local organization dedicated to strengthening Boone’s food system. Under the partnership, all excess food harvested at the department’s Teaching and Research Farm and in the campus gardens was collected and donated to families in need across the High Country.

The partnership resulted in approximately 300 pounds of fresh produce delivered to F.A.R.M. Cafe, Western Watauga Outreach, Hunger and Health Coalition, Louis E. Harrill Senior Center and Deerfield United Methodist Church, among many others. This summer, the department has continued the partnership to serve local families.

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate Stories Collaborative, formed in fall 2017 by approximately 30 college faculty and co-facilitated by Dr. Derek Davidson, assistant professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance, and Laura England, lecturer in the Department of Sustainable Development, is an initiative designed to grow the capacity of faculty and students to tell the stories of those who are affected by, and/or taking action to address, climate change.

The collaborative resulted in the Climate Stories Showcase in December, an event featuring more than 100 student works as storytelling instruments.

The collaborative also hosted the university’s first Climate Justice Month in April, which included guest lecturers and events shining a spotlight on lives and livelihoods disrupted by climate change with the goal of motivating participants to address climate justice issues.
The Mending Initiative aims to build an awareness about the importance of maintaining and taking care of clothing. Rather than throwing away clothing with rips or tears, the initiative teaches students and community members to repair clothing so it doesn’t end up in landfills.

Throughout the year, the initiative hosted several open mending workshops for campus and community members in addition to workshops for specific organizations on campus. Launched in fall 2017 by instructor Mary Ray and associate professor Dr. Nancy Oliver in the Department of Applied Design, along with senior lecturer Susan Poorman in the Department of Communication, the initiative is now an element of Applied Design’s Sustainability in the Apparel Industry course.
Ali Aita, a junior apparel design and merchandising major, hems a pair of pants at a Mending Initiative workshop. Photo by Chase Reynolds
Students in communication, sustainable development and applied design collaborated to harvest wood for, construct and document a design-build project completed by seniors in the spring 2018 furniture design capstone course.

The furniture design seniors, taught by professor Richard Prisco, utilized lumber harvested, cut and dried last season by students at the Department of Sustainable Development’s Teaching and Research Farm to influence and construct their designs, which were displayed at the May 2018 WantedDesign showcase in New York City.

Communication students enrolled in Multimedia Storytelling and Video courses with Dr. Kelly Davis and Dr. Lynette Holeman documented the entire process and produced videos showcasing each furniture design student’s process and the concept of sustainable design.
Over the summer of 2017, a group of 11 students traveled to Nicaragua as part of a course offered through the Department of Sustainable Technology and the Built Environment. The students spent four weeks building a microhydro system using water from a nearby spring to bring power to a kitchen on the Esparanza de Verde coffee farm in the rural Nicaraguan mountains.

The students built the microhydro using materials that were available in the remote location, including an alternator from a car engine and old car batteries. While there, the students also installed solar panels, built an insulated hot water tank and designed plans for a covered walkway.

"The most beneficial experience for me was learning to work with nothing, and to find solutions using the available equipment. Seeing how the farm workers work day-to-day without modern technology is mind-blowing."

— Senior Zach Howard, building sciences
Dancer Aniruddha Knight performs at Neighborhood Yoga as part of his November 2017 residency in Boone. Photo by Emily Daughridge
THE DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED DESIGN

The Department of Applied Design held the first-ever “Selfies with Santa” event in December, raising $300 for the High Country United Way. This student-led initiative was designed to lighten the mood during the stress of fall 2017 final exams.

Professor Donald Corey, who teaches in the department’s industrial design program, was selected by students to dress as Santa. He posed with various groups of students throughout the afternoon of Dec. 1, collecting donations for each photo.

The department then agreed to match the amount raised by students. Students and faculty hope this will become an annual holiday tradition, and are already thinking of ways to make a bigger impact in 2018.

INDIAN DANCERS ENGAGE CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

In November, the Department of Theatre and Dance hosted a weeklong residency by international artists Aniruddha Knight and Ensemble. Knight is a ninth-generation descendant in a family of dancers and musicians and the grandson of celebrated Indian dancer Balasaraswati. He represents the sole surviving example of a continuous family practice of music and dance once almost exclusively performed by a traditional matrilineal community.

Associate professor of dance studies Emily Daughtridge traveled to India to arrange the seven-day event and construct a series of interactive and informative sessions led by Knight and his ensemble while on campus.

STUDENTS RAISE MONEY FOR LOCAL UNITED WAY

Students, along with professor Donald Corey as Santa, present a check to High Country United Way Executive Director Gary Childers. Photo submitted

Musicians with the Aniruddha Knight and Ensemble perform on campus. Photo by Emily Daughtridge

Students, along with professor Donald Corey as Santa, present a check to High Country United Way Executive Director Gary Childers. Photo submitted

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AppTV, Appalachian State University's television station, has come to an agreement with the town of Boone to become its educational community channel. In this role, the station will provide programmatic additions to its schedule, including town council meetings, the town calendar, public service announcements and emergency alerts. As an educational community channel, AppTV will also receive funding from the North Carolina Department of Revenue (NCDOR).

Station General Manager Rob Gelber will complete paperwork with the NCDOR this summer to officially file for educational community channel status. Currently, there are 145 certified community channels across the state.

“I n April 2017, the college opened HOW Space, a collaborative downtown space fostering diverse programming, events and ideas. Located on Howard Street across from The Local, the converted garage now welcomes both campus and community programs. Over the last year, HOW Space has hosted more than 60 events, including art exhibitions and openings, student- and faculty-led initiatives, visiting artist meet-and-greets, receptions, children’s workshops and even a weekly swing dancing group.

“The goal is for HOW Space to be a place where different populations of people can intersect and do collaborative and interdisciplinary work — a place where students, faculty and the community can work together and ask who, what, when, where, why and how.”

— HOW Space director and Department of Art assistant chair IlaSahai Prouty
Cadets in the Department of Military Science and Leadership brought home several awards in the 2018 Mountain Man Memorial March in April. The male military full marathon team, composed of cadets Jack Simpson, Jacob Best, Jeremy Tuggle, Ryan Malmgren and Edgar Dominguez, finished in first place for the fifth consecutive year and set a new course record. The male military half marathon team, composed of cadets Sam Boyles, Garrett Sandy, Matt Hodges, Ben Pritchett and Jesse Durham, finished in second place.

Cadets Troy Jones, Chris Ruch and Chandler Case finished the individual military half marathon in fifth, sixth and seventh place, while cadets James Gehret and Connor Dickey finished fourth and sixth in the individual military full marathon. Gus Coffey, who competed in the individual civilian half marathon, finished third. For the second year in a row, the Mountaineer Battalion was the only program to field an all-female military full marathon team (cadets Heidi Robinson, Taylor Guiles, Lynne Cox, Patricia Parks and Lydia Pearson).

Lt. Col. Christopher Kleman, Department of Military Science and Leadership chairperson, also placed in the event, coming in second in the military individual half marathon.
STUDENTS BUILD TINY HOME FOR LIFE VILLAGE

Under the guidance of lecturer Chris Schoonover and senior lecturer Ray Sinclair, 12 students in the Department of Sustainable Technology and the Built Environment spent five weeks building the first tiny house for Life Village, a permanent residential community for adults with disabilities that is currently in development in Boone.

This project provided students the opportunity to build a fully integrated structure from the ground up and to see how all of the framing, mechanical and electrical components tie together in a completely finished building.

"My favorite aspect of the class was the learning process. We were given so much freedom on this project, it was really up to us to come together as a team and share our knowledge with each other in order to complete the tiny house with the least amount of help from our professors as possible."

— Senior Brooke Trice, building sciences

Charlie Shepherd, a senior building science major, works on framing for the tiny house. Photo by Chase Reynolds

PRESENTED APRIL 13–15 AT THE SCHAEFER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, THE SHOW DREW AUDIENCES FROM ACROSS THE STATE AND GAVE BOTH STUDENTS AND FACULTY THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE A WIDE RANGE OF TALENT.

“SWEENEY TODD’ IS MORE THAN JUST A FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT. IT ASKS THE AUDIENCE TO PARTICIPATE, THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU’RE WATCHING AND WHAT YOU WILL DO ABOUT YOUR OWN CIRCUMSTANCES GOING FORWARD.”

— SENIOR MACKENZIE SMITH, THEATRE ARTS
Budding sports reporters across campus have more options to help them prepare for life after graduation. Dr. Gregory Perreault, associate professor in the Department of Communication, now offers an interdisciplinary sports reporting course. This unique journalism class, Reporting for Sports Media, holds monthly press conferences with the Athletics Department and feeds stories and video content to the “The A Game,” a weekly sports show produced on the university’s student-run AppTV.

Reporting for Sports Media gives students multiple levels of experience within the journalism field. Enrolled students learn how to pitch stories, interview athletes and coaches, conduct press conferences, take photos and write on a weekly deadline. Perreault plans to offer the course each spring for interested students in the department.
COLLABORATION COURSE CHALLENGES STUDENTS

The college places a heavy emphasis on teaching students to be “doers” as well as thinkers. Associate professor Richard Elaver, who teaches in the Department of Applied Design, wanted to expand this philosophy beyond the college by connecting people, resources and technology across campus. This spring, Elaver, along with several faculty in various fields, debuted the interdisciplinary “Thinkering” course to teach students skills needed to solve real-world problems using cutting-edge technology and systems.

Enrolled students specialized in 3-D printing, 3-D woodcutting, 2-D vector cutting or design software such as Adobe Illustrator and InDesign.

The five other faculty teaching the course are Frankie Flood, associate professor in the Department of Art; Taekyeom Lee, assistant professor in the Department of Art; Dr. Jeff Church and Dr. Derek Eggers, instructional technology consultants; and Emerging Technologies Librarian Hannah Pope.

Associate professor Richard Elaver works with students in Thinkering. Photo by Chase Reynolds
The Goodnight Family Department of Sustainable Development has partnered with Appalachian’s Food Services to provide local food from its Teaching and Research Farm to campus dining halls and markets. Weekly deliveries of local meat and eggs began in January and will continue a few times per week.

Assistant Farm Manager Todd Rudicill was instrumental in advancing the partnership with Food Services Director Pam Cline. Rudicill plans to provide 400 pounds of sausage per semester along with hundreds of eggs and a variety of herbs and produce.

As part of the partnership, Rudicill will take vegetable scraps from the dining halls back to the farm for composting to reduce waste on campus. Rudicill and Cline are also exploring a joint venture to place an additional greenhouse at the farm solely to grow produce for Food Services.
Garments created by apparel design and merchandising students Sarah Bischoff and Samantha Young were featured in the North Carolina Museum of Art’s Ebony Fashion Fair opening runway show on Oct. 28. For 50 years, the fair has featured African-American models on the runway in haute couture.

Bischoff, a May 2018 graduate from Cary, North Carolina, won second runner-up for her design “Red Rocks at Sunset.” She created the color-shifting dupioni silk minidress using techniques she learned while studying in Paris during spring 2017. Young, a rising senior from Hickory, North Carolina, designed “Paris City Lights,” a knee-length cocktail dress with see-through mesh, matte jersey and panels of sequins. After their runway debut, the two garments were on display at Crabtree Valley Mall in Raleigh, North Carolina, through November.
DANIELLE IRIS AWARDED WINDGATE FELLOWSHIP

Studio art major Dani Iris was awarded a $15,000 Windgate Fellowship, one of the most prestigious national honors for graduating art students. The fellowship is awarded annually to 10 students nationwide by the Center for Craft in Asheville, North Carolina, and Iris is the first student from Appalachian to receive this award. She plans to use her award to purchase a quilting machine and quilting frame to help her create and experiment on her own, in addition to attending a two-week course at Penland School of Crafts.

"Dani is exactly the kind of emerging artist who deserves this award. She is incredibly hard working and makes thoughtful, thought-provoking work that is both technically proficient and conceptually mature. I can’t wait to see how her career takes off with this kind of incredible start straight out of school."

— Jeana Klein, associate professor
The Department of Theatre and Dance sponsors three study away trips to New York City each year: a musical theatre trip, a theatre senior trip and a dance senior trip. During these weeklong trips, students stay at the university’s New York Loft in midtown Manhattan, attend Broadway performances, tour backstage areas at Radio City Music Hall, the Lincoln Center and other uniquely New York venues, meet with cast members and Appalachian alumni working in the field and even get audition tips from casting directors and producers.

“It was an amazing opportunity. We were able to network with agents, casting directors and meet with people who have done this. They talked to us about what we want to do and what we should be doing right now to do what they’re doing in the field.”

— Junior Roy Dale Cox, theatre arts
Dr. Ok-Youn Yu, professor and interim assistant chair in the department of Sustainable Technology and the Built Environment, has successfully piloted a root zone heating system at two area farms. His NEXUS project, which studies sustainable methods to improve the food-growing capacity of local farmers, was able to reduce the energy used by the greenhouse on Springhouse Farm in Vilas, North Carolina, by more than 50 percent from January to April.

"NEXUS is about community involvement. In addition to educating our students as to what’s possible with root zone heating, anaerobic digestion, biochar and more, our goal is to engage with more local farmers about their needs and provide resources that improve their crop production."

— Dr. Ok-Youn Yu, professor and interim assistant chair

The root zone heat distribution system works by using energy produced from a biochar kiln and solar collector to heat water, which is then pumped through small tubes installed underneath the benches where crops are planted. Photo by Dr. Ok-Youn Yu
Students hike into Rancho Mastatal to begin working on the solar installation during spring break 2018. Photo by Brent Summerville
While many students spend their spring break at the beach, a group of nine students in the Department of Sustainable Technology and the Built Environment traveled to a rural area in Costa Rica, Rancho Mastatal, to study solar energy and build electrical systems. Led by practitioner-in-residence Brent Summerville and assistant professor Dr. Jeremy Ferrell, the group attended a hands-on workshop, Solar Electricity for the Developing World. They then built and installed electrical boxes for four local families. The systems provide LED lights and phone charging for locations that didn’t have access to electricity. The group also brought and installed clean-burning rocket stoves for each family to enable efficient home cooking.

“This trip was a great educational opportunity for our students. Each day involved traveling to the site via cattle truck, hiking down to the remote, off-grid destination, installing and commissioning the system, and hiking back out.”

— Brent Summerville, practitioner-in-residence

EXPLORING CUBAN CULTURE THROUGH DANCE

Emily Daughtridge, associate professor of dance studies, co-led a study abroad experience to Cuba with Dr. Joe Gonzalez, associate professor in the Department of Gender, Cultural and Global Studies. The trip, “Ritmo y Arroz: Cuba Through Dance and Food,” offered participants the chance to experience Cuban music, dance and food off the beaten path. Her course, “Rhythm and Revolution,” explored the culture of Cuba through dance, including social dance forms such as salsa, Afro-Cuban ritual dance, concert forms of ballet and modern dance. Daughtridge plans to offer the trip again during summer 2019.
Each summer, Dr. Nina-Jo Moore, professor in the Department of Communication, takes a group of students to the University of Gdańsk in Poland for an immersive experience in intercultural communication. While there, students learn communication theories and concepts, and then apply these theories through activities and events.

According to Moore, by the end of their time in Poland, the students have learned to function in a culture that is not their own while being surrounded by a language is not their native tongue.

“I think probably the biggest take away for them is that Poland is not a place students would ordinarily gravitate towards. It is not Italy or France or England. But I have never returned with a student who would not like to return one day. I think the experience opens their eyes to the fact that all cultures are worthy of attention and being visited.”

—Dr. Nina-Jo Moore, professor
Students traveling with Dr. Nina-Jo Moore visit Wilanow Palace in Warsaw, Poland. Photo by Nina Jo-Moore
For the third summer in a row, Dr. Shanshan Lou, assistant professor in the Department of Communication, has offered two courses in China: International Advertising and Experiential Culture Learning in China. Her students spend three weeks learning how culture influences advertising while immersing themselves in history and visiting some of China’s most historic sites.

“I believe that the discussions with people we’ve met on this trip, including university students, professors and entrepreneurs, along with sites they have visited — the Great Wall of China, the magnificent West Lake in Hangzhou, and the skyscrapers in Shanghai — will stick in their memory forever.”

— Dr. Shanshan Lou, assistant professor
CATCHING UP

Jim Kershaw ‘10 is living the dream. An industrial design graduate with a concentration in product design, Kershaw has worked his way from tool design to outdoor gear design, with a stopover fabricating sporting equipment. Now a lead product designer for The Orvis Co., he spends his days designing fly fishing gear, including waders, boots and jackets. As an avid outdoorsman, he said that he’s grateful to work in a field where he uses the products that he creates.

He also excels in his field. Last summer, he was honored for his designs at the world’s largest fishing tradeshow, where he won best in show for men’s boots, women’s waders and women’s jackets.

“I’m active in the sport, and my team is passionate and knowledgeable. It all boils down to listening to the consumer and identifying their needs. We’re constantly trying to make our gear better and thinking about how it will work outside of a controlled environment, which is something I learned at App State.”

— Alumnus Jim Kershaw ‘10

Electronic media and broadcasting graduate Chris Kroeger ‘10 has made a name for himself in the radio world. After hosting the afternoon sports talk show on WFNZ for the past four years, he has been named the voice of the Charlotte Hornets. Kroeger is one of the youngest NBA radio play-by-play announcers, and looks forward to connecting with fans not only on the radio, but across the Hornets digital platforms as well. He credits his time hosting a sports talk show on WASU for fostering his love of radio and the one-on-one communication the medium still provides.

“My new role hasn’t sunk in yet — it’s surreal. As a huge Hornets fan, I grew up listening to the Steve Martin (the original voice of the Hornets), and I have his voice attached to every memory of the team. Having that connection to the city, the audience and fan base, and knowing kids will grow up listening to me — it’s crazy.”

— Alumnus Chris Kroeger ‘10
Zach Sprau ‘11 ‘17 is putting his appropriate technology degree to good use as the solar energy program manager for Samaritan’s Purse in Puerto Rico. He’s currently on a two-year contract to continue the organization’s relief efforts after the devastating effects of Hurricane Maria in September 2017. While there, Zach and his team plan to install 100 off-grid photovoltaic solar systems designed around refrigeration, lighting and device charging. According to Sprau, his time with the Department of Sustainable Technology and the Built Environment taught him the true meaning of appropriate technology.

“Implementing technologies that are appropriate to the need, culture and context can be quite a challenge. The technology is there, but getting it into the hands of those that need it most in the way that serves them best is what we are trying to do here in Puerto Rico.”

— Alumnus Zach Sprau ‘11 ‘17

Photos submitted by Zach Sprau
COLLEGE SUPPORT

Through your generous support, the college and its departments provided more than 100 scholarships in the 2017–18 academic year.

"I've been able to travel to new places, meet new people, create a business and experience amazing things with my scholarship. I am set to graduate early in December of 2018 thanks to the support of friends, family and the donors."

— Junior Maleek Loyd, communication

"My scholarship allowed me to take on a smaller workload at my restaurant job and allowed me to focus on why I am really here — to be a student — and I am so thankful for that.”

— Emma Morris ’18, applied design

Learn more about how you can support the college at faa.appstate.edu/giving.

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