



## Newsletter from the Office of the President Spring 2022

**Northern Pennsylvania Regional College** is a publicly funded higher education institution offering associate degrees, certificates, and workforce development training at affordable costs. We are incorporated as a 501(c)3 private, non-profit created under legislative authority with substantial funding from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. NPRC proudly serves students in Cameron, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, McKean, Potter, Warren, and Venango Counties.

### **Greetings from President Snelick:**

Greetings! Welcome to our Spring 2022 Newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading the updates and happenings at NPRC!

The focus of this newsletter is on our students. You won't find a more dedicated staff or faculty to students' success than NPRC! We believe in meeting students where they are and helping them along their education journey.

Whether it's a workforce development course to increase their skills on the job or an associate degree to start them on their career, we are here every step of the way to assist. Our Student Engagement Specialists stay in touch with our students on a regular basis to offer supports.

NPRC prides itself in the fact that our students work, live, study, and stay in our communities; this results in a stronger workforce and a healthier tax base. We hold ourselves to high quality standards, ensuring students are provided the best learning experience.

### **Open House Event**

On April 19 at 5:00 p.m., NPRC hosted an Open House in-person at five instructional locations and provided a remote option for individuals who were unable to make it in-person. In-person locations included NPRC Education and Training Center (Erie), Venango Technology Center (Oil City), Corry Higher Education Council (Corry), Community Education of Elk and Cameron Counties (St. Mary's), and the Potter County Education Council (Coudersport).

Prospective students and guests met NPRC's student services team and faculty at this interactive Open House and had the opportunity to experience our real-time instructional delivery model, hear about the College's history and mission, participate in a class demonstration with a faculty member, and learn about the important role a Student Engagement Specialist plays in their educational journey.

"College can be intimidating for anyone, let alone a full-time worker, single parent, or first-generation college student. At NPRC we work extremely hard to ensure that each of our students have the resources and support they need to be successful in and out of the classroom," shares Lauren Zickefoose, assistant director of community engagement. She continues, "This open house is the perfect opportunity for someone to explore a new opportunity

and hear first-hand how NPRC provided a second chance for one of our students.”

Future open house dates are July 19 and October 25. Times and locations to be determined.

### Student Spotlight



## Lily Morse



Lily began pursuing her business degree in 2019 and completed it in the fall of 2021. After completion, Clarion University accepted all of her earned credits as a transfer student. She is now pursuing her bachelor’s in business administration.

“NPRC has played a huge role in my successes. I graduated high school and did not have the means to go to college. A year later, I saw advertisements on Facebook for NPRC. I immediately reached out and scheduled classes. Fast forward two years, and I now have earned my associate degree in business administration. The flexibility offered by NPRC is the reason I was able to work full-time and go to school full-time. I worked all day and was able to attend classes at night. At most schools, you cannot take all necessary classes at night. Flexibility is just one of the many benefits NPRC has to offer to their students.

Another great thing about NPRC is the communication, dedication, and commitment of every single employee. At NPRC, you are not just a number. In fact, I felt like family to NPRC. My advisor reached out to me quite frequently to check on my progress and make sure I am doing well mentally and academically. At any point, day or night, I could also reach out to my advisor for guidance. My instructors were more than just instructors to me. They truly helped to guide me through the college experience and were always there to offer me life and career advice. My instructors and advisors played a huge role in my success at NPRC. I never felt like I did not have a person to contact when I was in need of assistance.

One of the biggest things that NPRC has done for me was getting all my credits transferred to continue with my education and earn a four-year degree. My advisor and the college staff never let me down through this process. We went through the process of sending numerous emails to Clarion and Edinboro and my advisor supported me and showed me how to advocate for myself. After lots of hard work to get my credits transferred, multiple colleges accepted every single credit. I ended up choosing Clarion to continue my education because of their fully online program, so I am still able to work full-time while completing my bachelor’s degree. I am completely on track and now in my junior year of college.”

Lily will be NPRC's student speaker at Commencement in May.



## Claudia Stutzman

**NORTHERN  
PENNSYLVANIA  
REGIONAL COLLEGE**

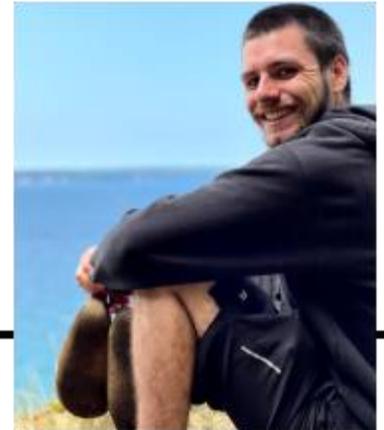
Claudia received her General Education Certificate in May of 2021 and used it to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse. Her successful completion of this credential provided her with a guaranteed seat in the Associate of Science in Nursing Program at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville.

“My time at Northern Pennsylvania Regional College has been a great experience even through the Covid-19 Pandemic. Never did I imagine doing a year of college in my own home and still be able to be on the Dean’s List and be extremely proud.

I am 39 years of age, and it has taken me this long to attempt College. I have to say that starting College at this age was hard. Everyone at NPRC has made it easy for me to understand what it means to be studious. You can feel the care that is given to you through the staff at NPRC. The instructors are always willing to help and they will always answer the questions that we have. This College is a great way to get started on your new path through life. There are so many options to pick from if you are undecided.”



## Noah Held



Noah began his journey in higher education in 2019 at Daytona State College in Florida. After a year in Florida, he returned to Pennsylvania and enrolled at Edinboro. After some difficulty with a change in major, COVID’s shift to remote learning, and personal conflicts, he failed out of Edinboro and was encouraged to attend NPRC in order to improve his GPA and return back to Edinboro to complete his degree.

“While attending NPRC, I am enrolled in 16 credits and working toward a degree in business administration. This switch is already positively benefitting me as a student. I have been keeping up with classes; shifting out of bad habits that may hinder my success; and as someone who is diagnosed with anxiety and ADHD, it sometimes gets hard to effectively communicate and NPRC continues to provide opportunities to not only challenge myself, but to help me grow as a student, and more importantly, a person. NPRC was my second chance. My second chance to help me build myself better, and I feel like my future is already better than what it was before NPRC.”

## 2022 Commencement



NPRC's second Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at the Dam Inn in Wilcox, PA. Thirteen graduates will be recognized.

International award-winning author, educator, artist, and advocate John Schlimm has been selected as NPRC's 2022 Commencement speaker. A native of St. Marys, PA, John's literary career spans twenty-five years. His work in the classroom and across the country as a Harvard-trained educator, artist, and advocate has also allowed him to engage with audiences of all ages about inspirational/motivational topics, mental health, animals, Gen-Z and The Imagination Generation, his participatory and interactive artwork,

cooking/entertaining, and public relations.

John's service and contributions to our region and communities across the country are grounded in kindness, love, and hope. He shares, "Every step of my career has been about using the gifts I've been given in this life to connect with people here at home and beyond. We are all teachers and students in ever-reversing roles, and so while I try to help folks to discover and embrace the beauty and potential of their gifts and their imperfections, they do the same for me. I believe in meeting people where they are and helping them to rise from there, while joining them for the amazing journey."

Learn more about John and his global contributions here - <https://regionalcollegepa.org/international-award-winning-author-and-artist-john-schlimm-selected-as-nprcs-2022-commencement-speaker/>.

### **From the Division of Academic and Student Affairs:**

#### **Accreditation Update**

NPRC's Accreditation Liaison Officer, Mindy Saunders, President Snelick, and Administrative Assistant, Joanna Elletson, continue to virtually meet with the College's MSCHE Vice President liaison. These meetings currently occur monthly to assist NPRC's team in its continued preparations for its impending site visit from the Commission. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and travel restrictions, the timing of the College's peer review visit is unknown. Additionally, various personnel continue to attend various virtual trainings offered by the Commission. In the upcoming month, NPRC staff members are scheduled to attend virtual training sessions such as "Identifying and Organizing Evidence for the Inventory" and From Assessment to Planning and Resource Allocation." To date, NPRC awaits feedback from submission of the College's September 2021 ARR – Update 1.

#### **Student Services Team Update**

The Community Engagement Specialists (CES) spent the winter and early spring months speaking at or scheduling-forward speaking engagements with a variety of municipalities. The team saw varying interest in both academic and workforce development offerings. The CES team continues follow-up with individual student leads in our student information system (SIS) and from marketing sources such as the chatbot and website inquiries. March/April activities will focus on tying-out municipality presentations and shifting to spring activities, including delivering summer/fall class schedules to instructional locations; conducting mock interviews; participating in career readiness fairs at high schools; coordinating library tours and visits; and scheduling spring/summer community events and speaking engagements with additional service organizations.

**NPRC Enrollment Information by Term**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Headcount</b>	<b>Degree-Seekers</b>	<b>Non-Degree-Seekers</b>	<b>Total Number of Courses</b>	<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>Number of Instructional Locations</b>
2014 Fall	40	14	26	84	216	10
2015 Spring	33	19	14	72	216	10
2015 Summer	26	14	12	48	144	9
2015 Fall	38	18	20	76	219	10
2016 Spring	36	17	19	79	237	10
2016 Summer	42	13	29	62	186	10
2016 Fall	46	22	24	106	292	9
2017 Spring	44	20	22	86	258	10
2017 Summer	78	15	63	132	396	14
2017 Fall	44	22	22	79	224	11
2018 Spring	29	16	13	55	165	9
2018 Summer	87	14	73	115	345	14
2018 Fall	67	26	41	145	392	14
2019 Spring	78	35	43	170	510	17
2019 Summer	116	32	84	190	570	17
2019 Fall	89	51	38	240	652	18
<b>Gannon/NPRC Total:</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>1,739</b>	<b>5,022</b>	
2020 Spring	59	48	11	154	449	15
2020 Summer	40	37	3	74	214	15
2020 Fall	70	64	6	226	617	Remote
2021 Spring	88	82	6	279	791	Remote
2021 Summer	44	42	2	64	187	Remote
2021 Fall	76	58	18	189	539	11
2022 Spring	62	47	15	156	444	16
<b>NPRC Total:</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>3,241</b>	
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>1,332</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>2,881</b>	<b>8,263</b>	

Gannon-NPRC Partnership ended after the Fall 2019 term.

Disclaimer: Data from Fall of 2014 to Fall of 2019 is based on Gannon-supplied reports.

From the Department of Workforce Development:

<b>NPRC Workforce Development Enrollment by Class Type</b>			
<b>Term</b>	<b>Class Type</b>	<b>Number of Classes</b>	<b>Number of Enrollments</b>
<b>2018 Summer</b>	On-Demand	2	35
<b>2018 Fall</b>	Specialized	1	13
	On-Demand	2	16
<b>2019 Spring</b>	On-Demand	1	5
	Specialized	2	25
	Customized	2	50
<b>2019 Summer</b>	Specialized	1	12
<b>2019 Fall</b>	On-Demand	3	15
	Customized	1	8
<b>2020 Spring</b>	On-Demand	2	22
	Specialized	4	8
<b>2020 Summer</b>	On-Demand	4	67
	Specialized	4	11
<b>2020 Fall</b>	On-Demand	4	36
	Specialized	3	5
<b>2021 Spring</b>	On-Demand	9	83
	Specialized	3	14
<b>2021 Summer</b>	Specialized	2	6
<b>2021 Fall</b>	On-Demand	4	28
	Specialized	2	8
	Customized	3	47
<b>2022 Spring*</b>	On-Demand	5	40
	Specialized	1	2
<b>Totals</b>		<b>65</b>	<b>556</b>

\*Data as of February 14, 2022

For a comprehensive list of workforce classes, please visit our website at

<https://regionalcollegepa.org/workforce-catalog/>.

## Board of Trustee Highlight – Dr. Kimberly Rees



Dr. Rees joined NPRC's Board of Trustees in January 2022.

### **Professional Experience**

- Superintendent, Austin Area School District

### **Education**

- Ed.D. in Education Leadership, California University of PA  
- Letter of Eligibility, Edinboro University  
- K-12 Principal Certification, Edinboro University  
- Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Gannon University

### **Volunteer and Community Service**

- Former Board Member, Educational Consortium of the Upper Allegheny (ECUA)

More information - <https://regionalcollegepa.org/nprc-appoints-two-new-trustees-to-begin-2022/>

## Employee Spotlight – David Wilson



NPRC recently added Dave Wilson, Instructor of Criminal Justice to their academic team. Dave joins NPRC as an Oil City native with a long history of law enforcement in the region.

In 2002, Dave was admitted to the Mercyhurst College Police Academy. Upon graduation, he went on to begin his career in law enforcement at the Venango County Sheriff's Office and then served as a public safety officer for Clarion University. While he was serving Clarion University, he completed his associate degree in criminal justice and his bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration.

During that time, Dave also joined the Forest County Sheriff's Office where he served as a Patrol Deputy and as Detective for the District Attorney's Drug Task Force. He later completed his master's degree in Criminal Justice Homeland Security and Counterterrorism at Southern New Hampshire University. Currently, Dave is a Police Officer with UPMC police and a part-time patrol officer with Sugarcreek Borough

Police, where he is also under the guidance of the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Drug Task Force.

Dave has taught as an adjunct instructor for Clarion University, as well as NPRC. In his spare time, he likes to help his wife at a flower shop that they own. He shared that one of the neatest experiences he's had was at an internship he completed at Dolphins Plus in Key Largo, Florida.