

Alumni Showcase: Kelby Church & John Kushner

Waynesburg University graduates a handful of students each year. This is where you can find information on some of them.

Kelby Church, DPT graduated from Waynesburg College in 2005. He earned his doctorate degree in physical therapy from West Virginia University in 2008. He was born and raised in Waynesburg, Pa., where he graduated from Waynesburg High School in 2001. Kelby currently resides in Morgantown, W.Va., with his wife of a year and a half, Jennifer. Kelby enjoys working out in his free time. Shortly after Kelby graduated From WVU in 2008, he was hired by HealthWorks Rehab and Fitness as a staff physical therapist, as well as Mon General Hospital as a PRN physical therapist. Kelby's duties at Health Works are to direct patient care, support staff supervision, and to serve as a clinical instructor for undergraduate athletic training students, graduate athletic training students, and physical therapy students. When asked if he had any advice to offer

current athletic training students at Waynesburg University, he replied, "Survey your options. Determine what you want to do after graduation and decide the best avenue for you to achieve your goals." While at Waynesburg College, Kelby learned two of the most important lessons any medical practitioner can master – time management and the ability to improvise. Kelby states that, "as an athletic training student, one has the opportunity to become close to their classmates, much more so than most other majors. Additionally, as a football player at Waynesburg, the same applies to one's teammates. No one memory sticks out greater than another, but when I reflect on my time at Waynesburg, the relationships I had with my classmates and teammates is what I miss and value."

John Kushner, PT, ATC, COMT graduated from Waynesburg College in 1999. John earned his master's of physical therapy at Chatham College in 2001. He grew up in Greensboro, Pa., and graduated from Mapletown High School in 1995. Some of John's favor-

ite hobbies are golfing, watching sports, playing basketball, working out, and playing with his three-year-old niece, Mia. John began working for NovaCare in Waynesburg as the center manager immediately after graduating from Chatham. He has been there ever since. At NovaCare, he is in charge of evaluation and treatment of neuromusculoskeletal injuries. He is also in charge of staffing and budgetary responsibilities. Additionally, John serves as a clinical instructor for Waynesburg University athletic training students, as well as other local university PT and PTA students. John would like to offer advice to current athletic training students by saying, "Take the knowledge you have gained at Waynesburg and use it to progress your professional development and propel you into a career you will enjoy." John's best learning experience while at Waynesburg College was the first time he was able to feel an ACL tear by using his assessment skills. His favorite memory was going to spring training with the baseball team his senior year.

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Seniors, Tarah Kemerer, Jesse Gonzalez, Stephanie Pierpont, Elisha Jones, Brittney Brown, L'lee Zimmerman, and Katie Stauffer

Senior Spotlight

The Waynesburg University Athletic Training department is graduating seven seniors this year.

- Brittney Brown is a graduate of Bethel Park High School in Bethel Park, Pa. Brittney is a three-year starter for the Women's Varsity Soccer Team and was named to the Dean's List. After graduating from Waynesburg, Brittney would like to attend graduate school for athletic training or immediately begin working. Her favorite memory was when her ACI created an emergency simulation during her sophomore year. This left her with an understanding of the vast responsibility that is placed upon athletic trainers.
- Jesse Gonzalez graduated from Brentwood High School in Pittsburgh, Pa. Jesse is a four-year member of the Waynesburg University Baseball Team, and received the Baseball Newcomer's Award his freshman year. Jesse would like to find a job upon graduation and pursue a degree in physical therapy. His most memorable moment was when his ACI overslept, and he was able to take on the extra responsibility at practice that day.
- Elisha Jones graduated from Eisenhower High School in Russell, Pa. She is team captain of the Women's Varsity Basketball team, a member of the Women's Varsity Track Team, the Leadership Program, and Athletic Training Student Association (ATSA). Elisha plans on attending the University of Pittsburgh for her doctorate in physical therapy. Elisha is a two-time NCAA All-American in Track & Field and a four-time PAC All-Conference selection in Women's Basketball. She is also a member of Kappa Psi Epsilon Academic Fraternity, received the Waynesburg University Academic Award, and has been named to the Dean's List. Elisha's favorite memories have involved various emergency situations that would prove to be some of her greatest learning experiences.
- Tarah Kemerer graduated from Hempfield High School in Greensburg, Pa. Tarah is a member of ATSA and will attend California University of Pennsylvania for graduate school. Her favorite athletic training experience was when a middle school wrestler dislocated his elbow, and he had to be splinted and sent to the emergency room.
- Stephanie Pierpont graduated from Canon-McMillan High School in Canonsburg, Pa. Her hometown is Orlando, Fla. Stephanie plans to attend graduate school after her time at Waynesburg and become a physician's assistant. Stephanie is a member of ATSA and is a tutor. Her favorite memories stem from 6 a.m. soccer practices when she was able to listen to all of Ken Alberta's stories from his college life.
- Katie Stauffer is a graduate of Williamston High School in Williamston, Mich. After graduation, Katie plans to either go to graduate school for athletic training or nutrition, or take an internship. On campus, Katie is involved in Waynesburg Outdoor Experience, Colleges against Cancer, ATSA, and Perspectives Bible Study. Katie earned the honor of Breakout Student of the Year in 2010, as well as making the Dean's List. Her favorite memory here at Waynesburg was the massage lab in Ken Alberta's modalities class.
- L'lee Zimmerman graduated from Beaver Local High School in Lisbon, Ohio. She is president of the ATSA and is part of the Leadership Program. After graduation, L'lee plans to attend graduate school at Marietta College for their physician's assisting program. L'lee has received the Waynesburg University Academic Award, was named Waynesburg AT Freshman of the Year in 2008, is a member of Drus Women's Honorary Society and Kappa Psi Epsilon Academic Fraternity. L'lee also has been named to the Dean's List and won a prestigious National Athletic Training Association Scholarship Award in 2010. Her favorite memory here at Waynesburg has been the chance to meet all her classmates who would eventually become some of her best friends.