

## STUDENTS PRESENT RESEARCH AT

### PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Five Wilson students presented the results of their research and two were recognized with research grants at the 93rd Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science, held March 31 to April 2 at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Seniors Gaser Ahmed and Anna Harutyunyan were awarded a PAS Outstanding Research Grant for their research projects. Senior Vanessa Lybarger and juniors Ahmed Alshahrani and Tracy Dile also presented research at the PAS meeting, which was the award competition's sixth year.

Ahmed, who is majoring in biology and chemistry, presented his research project, *Analysis of the Effects of Gluten Proteins and Low-Gliadin Wheat Products on Celiac Disease in NOD-DQ8 Mice*. This study was performed to determine the effects of gluten, gliadin, glutenin and low-gliadin products on the progression of celiac disease, an autoimmune disorder triggered by the ingestion of a wheat gluten protein called gliadin. The research was also done to determine whether there is a maximum amount that is safe to consume in a mouse model prone to developing the disease. Results of the study will provide further information about the immunotoxicity of gliadin and glutenin, and the safety of consumption of low-gliadin products, which may set the stage for application in humans. Ahmed was assisted in his project by biology professors Dana Harriger and Brad Engle.

Harutyunyan, who is majoring in biology and chemistry, presented a research project called *Synthesis and Effects of Fe-AZT and Pd-AZT on Viability of Human Hepatocytes and Hepatocellular Carcinoma Cells*. Hepatocellular carcinoma, the most common type of liver cancer, is the fifth-most common cancer and third-most common cause of cancer mortality around the world. It is difficult to treat due to early metastasis and progression. Harutyunyan's study investigates the potential toxicity of an iron derivative of the AIDS drug AZT (Fe-AZT) in a cell culture model by analyzing cell viability. Results could provide evidence for using this compound as an anticancer treatment for liver cancer. She was assisted in her project by Harriger and Professor of Chemistry Deborah Austin.

Students shared the results of their research during Wilson's annual Student Research Day on April 28. —CM



PHOTO BY KENDRA TIDD

## WILSON ATHLETICS EXHIBIT OPENS AT HANKEY CENTER

Wilson's Hankey Center recently opened a new exhibit showcasing the evolution of college athletics, chronicling the history of Wilson sports from the earliest, basketball, to perhaps the most unusual, synchronized swimming.

The exhibit features several noted female sports figures who have taught and competed at the College. Early 1900s tennis champion Mary K. Browne gave special lessons to the most talented players. Wilson lacrosse coach Kathleen A. Heinze took the 1975 U.S. women's touring team to an undefeated title against Great Britain with the help of players Constance Burgess Lanzl '72 and Sandra Walker '74. Constance Appleby, credited with bringing field hockey to the United States from England, introduced the sport to Wilson, where it is still played today.

Vintage gym uniforms, varsity letter sweaters and athletic equipment donated by Wilson Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Lori Frey are also on display.

The exhibit runs until next June and is free to the public. Viewing hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For an appointment, call 717-264-4141, ext. 3279, or email amy.ensley@wilson.edu. —Meagan Miller '18

## GOODWIN PROVIDES GIFT FOR NEW CONOCOCHIEGUE BRIDGE

A \$1.5 million gift from Thérèse Murray Goodwin '49 will enable the College to replace and widen the existing single-lane bridge over the Conococheague Creek, opening the door to expansion of the western section of campus. Goodwin, described by campus officials as one of Wilson's "visionary donors," has made a number of important gifts, including a \$1.1 million lead gift that laid the foundation for the College's successful *Reimagining the John Stewart Memorial Library* project.

The bridge connects the equestrian complex, Fulton Farm and the Kris' Meadow athletic fields to the main part of campus. The planned replacement bridge would have two lanes and a pedestrian walkway, according to Brian Ecker, vice president for finance and administration. Design studies for the replacement bridge got underway this summer. Construction is expected to begin sometime in 2018. —CDB