



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
INITIATIVE

# UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT Sussex County | April 2022

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

### Delaware Sea Grant Researchers Remove Derelict Crab Pots

Starting in January of 2020 and continuing each winter since, Delaware Sea Grant (DESG) Marine Advisory Service specialist Kate Fleming has partnered with School of Marine Science and Policy (SMSP) Professor Art Trembanis and his students to find, study and remove crab pots that have been lost or abandoned in the Delaware Inland Bays. Together with volunteers from the University and the community, they have removed 286 crab pots, reducing the wasteful capture of aquatic animals no one was harvesting and clearing navigational hazards for boaters.

Trembanis' student record the location of pots they discover with sonar and volunteers led by Fleming later using that data to return and pull up the pots, often heavy and filled with sediment. Fleming has also worked closely with the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays and the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife – Wildlife Section, which has helped to process recovered pots, some of which can be reused for education. They will be deploying and checking pots marked with floats labeled “UD-Research” throughout June and July. There will also be workshops over the summer for volunteers to help refurbish crab pots and for the public to bring in their own pots to be checked for needed upgrades.

Learn more at [deseagrant.org/derelict-crab-pots](https://deseagrant.org/derelict-crab-pots).



Grant staff collecting crab pots.

## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The University of Delaware Principal Preparation Program managed by the Delaware Academy for School Leadership is an 18-month alternative route program in the State of Delaware that provides the necessary requirements for assistant principal/principal certification. Each program component supports student development of five core competencies which align with the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL) and the National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) standards.

The program is offered in a hybrid format and available to qualified candidates in Sussex, as well as Kent and New Castle Counties. The program is a partnership with the Delaware Department of Education, Delaware school districts and the University of Delaware. Educators who are accepted into the program must have a minimum of five years of teaching experience, a masters degree and evidence of school leadership.

Instructors are experienced Delaware school leaders. Each student is supported by a leadership coach throughout the program. When the educator is hired by a district or charter school, they continue to receive coaching support for one year. DASL will welcome their 8th cohort in August 2022. School districts in DE's three counties provide opportunities for students to complete internship experiences with a mentoring principal. Students also receive DOE credentialing for teacher evaluation and must pass the Praxis exam as established by the DEDOE.

Learn more at: <https://www.dasl.udel.edu/principal-preparation-program/>

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

### Providing Farm Business Management Expertise to Delaware Farmers

For farm families in Delmarva, a new ally has arrived. University of Delaware Cooperative Extension has hired Nate Bruce as a farm business management specialist. Nate Bruce's new role serves agriculture at a challenging time.

Working out of the UD Carvel Research and Education Center in Georgetown, Bruce is connecting with farmers who grow agronomic crops, produce or raise animals. The new hire is excited to counsel farmers throughout the state and the region with their business decisions during challenging economic times. His skillset is yet another example of Extension's mission to offer University knowledge, research and resources to the people of Delaware.

"This position adds farm business management expertise to our UD team, which broadens our capability to provide the agricultural community with timely information, education, assistance and research," said Cory Whaley, an extension agent in agronomic and vegetable crop production and the Sussex County extension director.

Nate Bruce serves as statewide farm business management specialist, a new position for Delaware Cooperative Extension. In his experience, Bruce said, most farm-family business knowledge is passed through generations. He sees his formal expertise in business management and planning as a complement. A top priority for Bruce is improving farmers' knowledge on marketing their products and incorporating value-added products. Cost accounting is also high on his list.

Read more at:

<https://www.udel.edu/udaily/2022/april/farm-business-management-specialist-nate-bruce/>

Delaware farmers can reach Nate Bruce at [nsbruce@udel.edu](mailto:nsbruce@udel.edu) or 302-362-7619



Nate Bruce meeting with Delaware farmer.

## EVENT SPOTLIGHT

### Teach Children to Save Day April 25th – 29th

The Lerner College of Business and Economics' Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship (CEEE) works to prepare K-12 educators and students in economics, personal finance and entrepreneurship by providing dynamic, effective and standards-based professional learning, resources and programs.

Teach Children to Save Day, produced each April during National Financial Literacy Month and in partnership with the Delaware Bankers Association, introduces the important ethic of saving early and often to third and fourth grade students. With the help of over one hundred bank volunteer, guest presenters visit nearly 300 classrooms each year to deliver an important 45-minute lesson, visiting schools in all three of Delaware's counties and reaching approximately 7,000 thousand students annually.

Teacher Karen Fredricks, said after a recent year's visit. "This program provides the students with the opportunity to really understand the value of saving money for the things they want most. They follow the character in the book as he makes silly mistakes until learning the critical lesson about saving. I appreciate that I can reference the lesson in my class discussions for the remainder of the year."



Students participate in Teach Children to Save Day.