**Faculty Spotlight:**

Dr. Maya Aloni participated in an interview with CELT for their podcast. She is an Associate Professor in the Psychology Department at WCSU, and she earned her Ph.D. in Social-Personality Psychology from the University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, and her bachelor’s degrees in Psychology and Philosophy from the University of Toledo. Her research interests center on close romantic relationships and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. In the area of close relationships, she studies how people form impressions of and stereotype romantic partners with dietary restrictions. Her pedagogical research has focused on teaching strategies for improving the quality of discussions both within the classroom and in online discussion boards. In this podcast, she will be offering tips for improving online discussion boards based on her recently published literature review.

To listen to the CELT podcast, please follow the link: [https://www.dropbox.com/s/tolpvtjj7bqgym/Aloni.CELT.wav?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/tolpvtjj7bqgym/Aloni.CELT.wav?dl=0). Special thanks to Peter Puccio and Scott Volpe for recording this podcast.

Dr. Stephen “Mitch” Wagener participated in an interview with CELT. CELT’s goal is to celebrate and learn from some of WCSU’s dedicated teachers and scholars.

Dr. Wagener’s advice to new teachers was:

- “Find the way to relate to the issues of the world of today that will be of concern going forward.”
- “Teach with your head in your heart.”
- “Believe in the potential of your students.”

Dr. Wagener senses “this generation [millennials and GenZ], despite the criticism from us old folks, have more going for them than what we give them credit for.”

To read the full interview, visit the link: [https://celtwcsu.wordpress.com/](https://celtwcsu.wordpress.com/). Special thanks to John Bonanni & Ronald Samu for conducting the interview.
In celebration of National Mole Day (10/23), the Western Connecticut Section of the American Chemical Society hosted the 11th annual Chemistry Bowl at Western Connecticut State University. Six students (Left to right – Jordan Polvere, Michael A. Kelly, Henry Vallee-Ayala, Hannah Sexton, Alejandro Garcia and Tim Meksvanh) from WCSU beat the Sacred Heart University Team to defend their title and take home this year's trophy, a mole stuffed animal that will be housed at WCSU until next year's competition. This marks the 4th year in a row that WCSU has won the competition. This is a chemistry trivia style competition that covers topics from all disciplines.

Ruth Quattro, a Communication Major with a minor in Community Health, and Erika Sabovik, a Contract Major, attended and presented alongside Dr. Jessica Eckstein at the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) in Fort Worth, Texas. Both students coauthored research papers with Dr. Eckstein and prepared posters to present at the NCFR conference.

History major Lauren Kerton will receive the NASPA Region 1's "Catch a Rising Star" award on November 19th at the NASPA Conference in Providence, Rhode Island. The award honors a student who has demonstrated "academic achievement, exceeded the expectations of their respective leadership positions, and shown an interest in the field of student affairs."

Mayor Mark Boughton was host of the COM 394 class, Saturday Night Live type production. The half hour sketch comedy show, with musical guest Lake Ave. Extension, was broadcast to the 15 towns served by Spectrum TV on October 21 and Comcast in Danbury, Ridgefield and Bethel on Oct. 21 and the 3 following Monday nights.