

Faculty ^{with} Interesting Side Jobs

Dr. Vincenzo Antignani, a faculty member in the biology department who is originally from Italy, said he got the idea of giving coffee lectures from his friend John Nolan, a faculty member in the art department. Antignani said four years ago, Nolan showed him some slides on coffee and told him about a class on roasting and brewing coffee he had attended while traveling in Italy, but Antignani said back then he was not interested at all. "I let it [the idea] brew for four years until last May," Antignani said. When he remembered, Antignani said he and Nolan embarked on a summer-long experiment. He said they tried out different coffee beans and used different methods and machines to roast them in a quest to obtain the best coffee results. Antignani said they started only two months ago.



Antignani said one of the reasons he does coffee lecturing is to help people find what they want in coffee. He said it is a starting point for people to know what they like and knowing what they want is the end point. But often they do not know how to arrive from one point to another. "The class is about helping people construct that path," Antignani said. According to Antignani, people who attend his classes range from coffee haters to coffee lovers and from people who know next to nothing about coffee to connoisseurs. He said he does two classes a month, on Friday evenings, at Le Petit Croissant, in downtown Greenville, where attendees get to try three different kinds of coffee beans from around the world, aside from enjoying a truffle from the bakery. Because of the demand for more classes, Antignani has recently started lecturing once a month in Leopard Forest in Travelers Rest on Saturday mornings.



Laurilyn Hall, who teaches interior design classes, said she started her side business Thrive Interiors because she felt the need to practice what she was teaching. Hall said because she is educating people, she has to stay current herself by putting her skills to practice, and that way she said she adds value to the interior design program. "I'm happy when I'm in the field," Hall said.

According to Hall, having her own business was never on her radar, until she got to a point in 2016 when she realized she wanted to do more interior design-related activities. Hall said this moment came after finishing her terminal degree. According to Hall, the favorite part of her job is the people. Hall said she loves to create living spaces where people can be encouraged to reach their full potential, which entails an impact on the productivity level in an office setting for example. Hall said good interior design has an impact on a person's work and health.

"We're not here just to exist, but God's model for creation is that He creates an environment where we can thrive and reach our potential," Hall said. According to her, she got the idea for the name of her business, Thrive, from this statement. Hall said having good interior design does not mean one is materialistic. "It's about living well," Hall said. According to her, she spends around 40 hours a week doing interior design work. Although working 80 hours a week may seem ridiculous to many, Hall said her interior design job does not feel like a second job to her because she is passionate about it. "My work feels pretty holistic," Hall said.



Master baker during the early hours of the morning and assistant art professor during the day, Mr. Lewis Carl of the art faculty leads a professional double life of sorts, baking muffins and scones before sunrise to later teach students disciplines like basic drawing and fashion design on campus. For Carl, baking at the Swamp Rabbit Café & Grocery started out as a summer job. Carl said leaving the mission field to become an art professor made him feel isolated, and he said he realized his baking job got him more involved with the Greenville community. "As Christians we're called to be ambassadors," Carl said. He also stressed the importance of reaching out to people outside our Christian circles.

Carl said he got started cooking and baking after he moved into his first apartment. Carl also said some of his specialties are tiramisu, red velvet and carrot cake, and dishes like risotto and saltimbocca. Carl said he already had a passion for cooking and baking. "It [the baking job] was a good fit," Carl said. According to him, he generally works six hours a week during the school year, but his hours can increase to around 30 per week during the summer. According to Carl, his baking job has equipped him with a greater ability to relate to the younger demographic that populates both the Swamp Rabbit Café and BJU campus. "I'm able to bring experiences I have out there and bring them into the classroom," Carl said. "It all builds with a greater sense of understanding and purpose as I relate to the students," Carl said.

In addition to his baking, Carl displayed his work for the first time at this year's Indie Craft Parade. "[That] was my very first time ever doing something like this," Carl said. "I was a newbie." The artist was quite the hit, selling many of his signature cardboard-canvas landscapes. Carl said he used to sell his work in local galleries before moving to Italy as a missionary. Since his return to Greenville three years ago, Carl has been slowly working his way back into the art community. Art and Light Gallery in the Village of West Greenville now features and sells his works.



Mr. John Nolan said his side job is giving downtown Greenville tours. According to Nolan, observing a group of people quizzically looking at buildings in downtown was his epiphany moment. He said he realized there was a dearth of Greenville tours, and he thought about how he would enjoy to do those tours himself.

Twelve years ago, after researching and creating a tentative business plan, Nolan said he approached the mayor to share his newly developed proposal, and the rest is history. "Maybe my favorite part of my job is creating great, memorable experiences for people," Nolan said. Apart from doing historical tours, Nolan said he does culinary ones, as Greenville is a well-known regional foodie destination. According to Nolan, he dedicates around 20 hours a week to his tours. "It's very much history-based, and half of my classes are [art] history," Nolan said about how his two jobs complement each other.



Dr. Nathan Crockett of the ministry faculty owns a dog-breeding family business called Crockett Doodles. He said it specializes in poodle mixes, like labradoodles, golden doodles and others. "We have people from all over the nation who come to get a dog from us," Crockett said. "We are one of the premier breeders of doodles in the nation."

He said he enjoys the business, especially because it provides the funding for his ongoing enterprise of gifting students with various kinds of Bibles. In fact, Crockett said he always provides a Crockett Doodles bookmark in each Bible he gives away. He said he tells his accountant the bookmarks have a marketing purpose, but aside from that, it lets students know where the funding came from. Crockett also said the profit from his business enables pastors and their families to go on much-needed vacation trips.

