Points of Pride

At the University of West Georgia, we are in the business of transforming lives and we are focused on success. With so many advancements at UWG, our campus is constantly brimming with excitement. Through the Points of Pride we celebrate these achievements and examine our success through the four major Strategic Imperatives of our Strategic Plan – Student Success, Academic Success, Partnership Success and Operational Success. Congratulations to all those who have strived for excellence and have achieved it.

May-July 2016

Student Success

Tori Williams, a foreign language major, taught conversational English to engineering students at the Instituto Tecnologico Superior Progreso on the Yucatan Peninsula for three weeks this summer. Through this experience she was able to practice her Spanish skills and apply her training at UWG as a foreign language instructor.

Foreign language major Meghan Chandler completed a one-month internship at the Résidence Vinci in Tours, France, where she put her French skills to practical use by working at the reception desk and assisting a variety of international clients. She is the first to complete the new internship program in Tours, and this experience will be vital to her linguistic and intercultural training as she prepares to become a French teacher.

Academic Success

Economics Lecturer Kim Holder has been selected to receive this year’s Rising Star Award at the fall meeting of the National Council on Economic Education. This award is sponsored by the National Association of Economic Educators (NAEE), and membership includes Centers for Economic Education, state-level Councils on Economic Education, the national council, and Federal Reserve partners.
Associate Professor of Spanish **Dr. Julia Farmer** published her first monograph, "Imperial Tapestries," with Bucknell University Press. "Imperial Tapestries" represents a transnational approach to questions of monarchical power and literary form in early modern Europe.

**Dr. Betsy Dahms**, assistant professor of Spanish, delivered the keynote lecture for the Franklin College Intercultural Honor's Experience symposium entitled "(Un)Dressing Gender: Embodiment and Aesthetics."

**Dr. Rosemary Kellison**, assistant professor of philosophy and religion, is the recipient of a fellowship at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. She will be a resident fellow for the Fall 2016 semester in this highly competitive and prestigious fellowship.

Richards College of Business faculty **Dr. Bruce Bird** and **Michael Hopper** collaborated on an article titled "IRS Guidance Regarding the Taxability of Certain Discharges of Federal Student Loan Debt," which has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Taxation.

Spanish faculty members **Eli Solis** and **Dr. Betsy Dahms** attended the Center for Renewal & Wholeness in Higher Education Facilitator's Retreat in Comfort, Texas. This retreat supports the work they are doing in their pedagogy reading group and lays the groundwork for the faculty retreat they are organizing for October.

### Partnership Success

The Georgia Secretary of State is utilizing the UWG Best of the West Student Poll Worker program as a best management practice/model to implement at universities and counties across the state. **Dr. Steve Goodson, Dr. Sal Peralta, Brenda McCrary**, and **SGA President Ethan Stiles** worked with the Elections Office to organize efforts on campus.

**Todd Anduze**, director of the Small Business Development Center, received the Flewelen Award for Consulting Excellence at the annual SBDC Awards Banquet last week. This places Todd in the top 10% of SBDC consultants statewide as he was one of six out of approximately 55 consultants who received this award.
Operational Success

The Atlanta Business Chronicle published its “Who’s Who in Education” for 2016 and three local educators were included. Steve Daniel, president of West Georgia Technical College; Dr. Kyle Marrero, president of University of West Georgia; and Dr. Faye McIntyre, dean of the Richards College of Business at UWG, were part of the top 100 leaders in the education field in Georgia.

The University of West Georgia earned high-rankings on BestColleges.com’s most recent standings, landing No. 4 among the Best Online Colleges in Georgia and No. 11 among the Best Four-Year Colleges in Georgia.

The University of West Georgia’s economic impact on the region rose to $518 million, an increase of 13.8 percent from 2014 to 2015.

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies awarded University Police with National Accreditation from CALEA. The UWG Police is one of only three college and university police departments in the state of Georgia to receive this recognition and one of 73 nationally. Of all police agencies in the United States, only 650 have been awarded CALEA accreditation.

The Small Business Development Center office has been recognized by Georgia Trend Magazine as a 2016 Best Place to Work in Georgia. Todd Anduze, Rick Sigman, and Jane Smith helped make this accomplishment possible.

An article by Zippia.com has included UWG among the 10 Best Colleges for economics majors in Georgia. The data analyzed included career results, economic emphasis, and school performance.

Share your own story and tell us your own Point of Pride. For more information visit www.westga.edu/ucm/1792.php.