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.

January 2015

Academic Success

Last year, 100 percent (23) of UWG’s pre-law students and alumni who applied to law school were accepted. Forty-seven law schools accepted at least one UWG applicant. Dr. Thomas Hunter, associate professor of political science and advisor of the UWG Pre-Law Society, noted that top schools included George Washington University, Tulane University, University of Alabama, University of Georgia, Wake Forest University, and Washington & Lee University.

The Center for Business and Economic Research received a $10,000 grant from the John and Mary Franklin Foundation. This is the sixth consecutive year that the John and Mary Franklin Foundation has supported the CBER. The Center for Business and Economic Research is a part of the economics department in the Richards College of Business.

The Center for Economic Education has been selected for a $25,000 grant from the SunTrust Foundation to launch a series of financial literacy workshops. The Center for Economic Education is a part of the economics department in the Richards College of Business.

Dean of the Richards College of Business Dr. Faye McIntyre was quoted in a national U.S. News and World Report story on the college’s BBA-MBA Program on November 25, 2014. The story discussed how many schools and students are having success with a Bachelor of Business Administration to Master of Business Administration program.
The College of Education held the first annual Dag Folger Critical Topics in Education Speaker Series event and dinner featuring Alan November, author of “Who Owns the Learning? Preparing Students for Success in the Digital Age.” He addressed the use of technology in the classroom to enhance the learning experience. The event was held at the University of West Georgia’s Townsend Center for the Performing Arts. UCM provided live, streaming coverage of the event.

Enrollment at the University of West Georgia is up 2.3 percent for the Fall 2014 semester, which is a record for UWG. Enrollment for the university increased from 11,929 to 12,206 from Fall 2013.

For Fall 2014, new graduate student enrollment topped all comprehensive universities: University of West Georgia, 609; Kennesaw State University, 602; Georgia Southern University, 589; Valdosta State University, 545. Seventy-four percent of all graduate enrollment at UWG is in the College of Education.

Dr. Adriana D’Alba, an assistant professor in the College of Education who teaches graduate courses in the Department of Educational Technology and Foundations, was selected to participate in the 2014 National Science Foundation/Association for Educational Communications and Technology Early Career Symposium. The Symposium took place November 4 and 5 in Jacksonville, Florida.

Dr. Tugce Kurtis, assistant professor, Department of Psychology, was the keynote speaker for the European Union Cost Research Action 2014 meeting addressing “Social psychological dynamics of historical representations in the enlarged European Union.” She presented a lecture with the title “Collective Memory and National Identity: A Cultural Psychology Analysis” at the University of Kent in Canterbury, U.K. in December 2014.

The Waring Laboratory has received a grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation to build a traveling museum exhibit showcasing the collection from the Long Swamp site, a Mississippian period (A.D. 1000-600) site in northwest Georgia. Public History graduate students and Department of Anthropology undergraduate students will take part in designing and building the exhibit. Once completed in the Spring of 2015, the exhibit will travel to Native American communities in Oklahoma and throughout the Southeast.

Dr. Mary Bishop, assistant professor of nursing, was recently selected as a fellow in the 2015 National League for Nursing’s (NLN) LEAD Program. LEAD is part of the NLN Leadership Institute of the Center for Transformational Leadership. She also spoke on curriculum and competencies at the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Summit sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in December 2014.
Student Success

UWG Wolves football standout Alex Macaulay was honored in December 2014 for his excellence on the field and in the classroom. Macaulay was named a first team member of 2014 Capital One Academic All-America® Division II football team as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

The run to the national semifinals put West Georgia football back on the map, and the final American Football Coaches Association poll ranked the Wolves sixth in the nation.

Undergraduate Alex Clark’s paper, entitled “The Philosophic Nature Will Eventually Belong to the Practicing Jain Layman,” was accepted to be presented at the 14th Annual Steven Humphrey Student Philosophy Colloquium at the University of Louisville, which took place on Friday, November 14, 2014.

For the second time in a row, economics students have won first place in the Rockonomix National Contest. Viewers were asked to vote for their favorite video. Rockonomix is a music video contest between universities across the country including the University of West Georgia, University of Arizona, Northern Kentucky University, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse, University of Tennessee-Martin, Florida Atlantic University, and California Polytechnic State University.

Over $26,000 in scholarships was awarded to students for academic achievement, for faculty-directed research projects, and for paper prizes for anthropological writing in Summer 2014 and Fall 2014 in the anthropology department.

Tanner Health System School of Nursing student Kaneshia Newell was recently elected as the Nominations and Election Committee West director of the Georgia Association of Nursing Students. A large number of UWG nursing students are actively involved in this statewide organization.

Operational Success

UWG received one of the three 2014 Environmental Excellence Awards for Keep Carroll Beautiful. UWG President Kyle Marrero and Sustainability Council member Dr. Hannes Gerhardt accepted the award at the Burson Center on Tuesday, December 2, 2014.

The College of Education opened the renovated advisor office space on the main floor of the Education Center in November.
**Partnership Success**

The **Just Listening project** that brings veterans and community together for monthly gatherings devoted to deep listening and the presence to explore healing the wounds of war, began its second year in the summer of 2014. Over the past year, more than 60 veterans from conflicts ranging from WWII to Iraq, as well as active-duty service members, family and community have been part of Just Listening. Led by UWG Psychology faculty and alumni, Just Listening is a collaboration among the psychology department, College of Social Sciences, and Veteran’s Heart Georgia.

The Richards College of Business was featured in the winter edition of **CEO Magazine** in an article entitled, “Getting to know the Georgia WebMBA.” **Brian Henderson**, director of Enterprise Technical Services in ITS, co-presented with the Tanner CIO at the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce Business Success Luncheon on “Cyber Security and Your Business.” He was featured in a story in the Times-Georgian on November 12, 2014.

The **College of Education** hosted local community high school science teachers at a live online NASA session on November 20, 2014. The National Climate Assessment, released in May, summarized the impacts of climate change on the United States, and this session explored the document with Dr. Fred Lipschultz from USGCRP (United States Global Change Research Project). The session provided resources so that educators can bring these challenges into classroom lessons, engage students in data collection and analysis, and share visualizations and citizen science projects.

Dean Dianne Hoff and three College of Education faculty members traveled to Finland to attend and present at the **International Etmu Days Conference in Equalities in Diverse Societies** on October 23 and 24, 2014. The conference was designed to identify problems and remedies of increasing inequalities from a social scientific and humanities perspective.

Share your own story and tell us your own Point of Pride, for more information visit [www.westga.edu/ucm/1792.php](http://www.westga.edu/ucm/1792.php).