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.

Student Success

UWG alumna Jessica Ainsworth was named the 2015 National Assistant Principal of the Year. Jessica currently serves as the assistant principal of Lithia Springs High School in Douglas County.

The UWG debate team of Hakeem Muhammad, senior, and Khalid Sharif, junior, had a tremendous start of the season at the national circuit opener at Georgia State University where they defeated University of Georgia, Dartmouth, Northwestern, Wake Forest, and University of Kentucky. Hakeem was recognized as the eighth place individual speaker, while Khalid was 20th out of 266 competitors.

UWG student Cherie Jade Grant represented the university’s chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest collegiate honor society, as the vice president at this year’s Student Leadership Summit. Cherie was one of only 65 student vice presidents chosen nationwide to attend the two-day summit, held in Salt Lake City, Utah.
Academic Success

Tanner Health System School of Nursing faculty Jamie Parker presented two posters at the 2015 Southeast Region Annual Wound, Ostomy, Continence Nurses Society Conference (WOCN). She was awarded first place for her presentation on the creation of homemade ostomy molds and models for use in teaching staff and patients. Jamie was also named the Southeast region WOCN Nurse of the Year and received the Southeast region WOCN scholarship.

The Department of Sociology launched its online bachelor of science degree in Sociology. Students enrolled in the program can complete all coursework 100 percent online, while learning about the very fabric of social relations through courses in inequality, aging, gender, deviance, globalization, social psychology, race and ethnicity, the environment, the media, and more.

UWG lecturer Bridgette Stewart received a Health Coach Certification from the American Council on Exercise. The American Council on Exercise has the only health coaching certification accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.

College of Education faculty member Dr. Bob Morris was elected into the honorary Eleanor Roosevelt Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education. This chapter was established to honor significant and long-term contributors of service to the society who exemplify its ideals and excellence in the field of education. Membership in the Eleanor Roosevelt Chapter is a lifetime honor and limited to 100 living members.

UWG instructors Chrissy Knoll, Dorris Morris, and Cole Stratton took their Personal Wellness and Leisure Activities (PWLA) 1600 living-learning communities to North Georgia’s Woodland Camp for junior, middle, and high school age students.

Partnership Success

UWG and Piedmont Newnan Hospital signed an agreement to extend membership to the Piedmont Newnan Fitness Center for the students, faculty, and staff of UWG Newnan free of charge.

Dr. Minna Rollins, Richards College of Business associate professor of marketing, is now the associate editor for the Journal of Business and Industrial Marketing. The journal publishes research on new ideas concerning business-to-business marketing, serving as a valuable source for academics, directors, and executives of marketing.

The College of Education dean’s office hosted 400 students from Bremen Middle School and Oak Mountain Academy Middle School for a NASA science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) event. NASA educational specialist Dr. Lester Morales conducted an engineering experiment in one of the two sessions. Rachel Power, with NASA Digital Learning Network, conducted an experiment during the second session, streaming live from Cape Canaveral.
**Operational Success**

The second annual **Presidential Scholarship Gala** raised over $75,000 for need-based and gap scholarships for UWG students, an increase of $20,000 from last year’s gala proceeds.

**Dr. Mark Kunkel**, department of psychology, and **Dr. Kathie Barrett**, department of political science, have been awarded textbook transformation grants from Affordable Learning Georgia, a USG initiative that promotes student success by providing affordable textbook alternatives. Dr. Kunkel’s project will replace a costly psychology textbook with a free textbook from OpenStax. Dr. Barrett’s project will focus on creating no-cost materials for students that will replace her American government textbook. The potential cost savings for students per semester for these two projects is $89,000.

The **AHR Fund Trustees** have approved a one-time grant to UWG specifically to support the Haralson County Comprehensive Community Clinic’s clinical supervisor salary of $28,800 in 2016.

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).