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.

December 2017

Student Success

The Richards College of Business (RCOB) Team India finished third in this year’s International Economics Convention in Mumbai, India. In five of the last six years, RCOB has finished in the top three.

Maria Constanza “Cony” Garrido Sierralta, a philosophy student in the College of Arts and Humanities, attended the Philosophy in an Inclusive Key Summer Institute. Founded in 2006, the institute seeks to increase diversity among philosophy majors. Approximately 20 students are selected throughout the U.S. and Canada to attend the 10-day experience.

UWG College of Education (COE) alumnus and Coweta County Schools Superintendent Dr. Steve Barker was named the 2018 Georgia Superintendent of the Year by the Georgia School Superintendents Association. He and fellow UWG alumna Samantha Fuhrey were two of the four finalists for the award. He will represent the state and compete for the national honor in February.

A record team of 18 undergraduate chemistry students from the College of Science and Mathematics presented research findings at the Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Charlotte, N.C.

Randy Evans, a College of Social Sciences (COSS) alumnus, has been nominated to serve as the U.S. ambassador to Luxembourg by President Donald Trump. The 1980 alum has built a career in the nation’s capital as an attorney and adviser to top Washington politicians.
Academic Success

Randy Blackmon, eCore senior enrollment manager, completed his doctor of education (Ed.D) degree with the University of Georgia. Blackmon’s dissertation focused on the effects of online dual enrollment in Georgia as an equitable alternative to face-to-face learning, specifically for students in rural areas.

COE’s early childhood education program recently received the Distinguished Program in Teacher Education Award from the Georgia Association of Teacher Educators.

RCOB professors James Murphy, Cheryl Brown and Deb Webb’s article, “A Comparison of Three Psychometric Values Measures for Modeling Ecologically Conscious Consumption Behavior,” has been accepted for publication in Theoretical Economic Letters.

Yeme Thomas made history at UWG’s fall commencement ceremony as the first graduate with a bachelor’s degree in organizational leadership. Housed in COSS, the new degree is delivered fully online through a partnership with University System of Georgia’s (USG) eMajor program in collaboration with other USG schools.

RCOB professors Erich Bergiel, Tom Gainey and Blaise Bergiel, along with RCOB student, Kristofer Kelleher, received the Best Paper Award at the Academy of Business Research Conference for their paper titled, “The Mediating Effects of Conflict and Conflict Asymmetry on Shared Mental Models and Performance Outcomes.”


Jody Bryan, MSN, MPH, RN, a clinical assistant professor in the UWG Tanner Health System School of Nursing, was featured in her alumni newsletter at the University of Wyoming.
Partnership Success

Robin Custard, instructor in RCOB, was named the 2017 Woman of the Year by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce Women’s Business Alliance.

Kim Holder, Center for Economic Education director in RCOB, and Lindsey Robinson, Fusion Center manager in COE, collaborated with Central High School teachers during their I-See-Math Competition, which encouraged students to upload photos or video to social media demonstrating where they saw math in the real world.

Operational Success

Dr. Jon Anderson has been named provost and vice president for academic affairs for Middle Georgia State University. Anderson served as associate dean of RCOB, associate vice president and deputy provost, as well as UWG’s accreditation liaison. During his time at UWG, Anderson has remained committed to his students and his research agenda, most recently receiving the annual teaching award from students in the Georgia WebMBA program.

Kasey Hannah, academic advisor in RCOB, is the first-ever Advisor of the Semester. The purpose of this award is to recognize from the student perspective the work advisors do each semester.

Michael Sinkey, associate professor in RCOB, was interviewed by WalletHub for a feature on sports cities.

UWG’s University Communications and Marketing Web Team received a Gold Award at the recent Education Digital Marketing Awards for the UWG website update/revolution. The awards recognize the best educational websites, digital content, electronic communications, mobile media and social media programs and projects in the nation.

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