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.

March 2018

Student Success

Kristopher Kelleher, a Richards College of Business (RCOB) graduate student, recently attended the Academy of Business Research Conference and was awarded the “Best Paper Award” for his paper titled, “The Mediating Effects of Conflict Asymmetry on Shared Mental Models (SMMs) and Performance Outcomes.” This experience was presented to Kelleher as a result of his research independent study conducted with Dr. Erich Bergiel, professor in the RCOB.

Nadiya Rosen, a COE student, submitted an essay to the American Counseling Association (ACA) Tomorrow’s Counselor Essay Competition and was selected as one of five runners-up from across the nation. As part of the award, she will be attending the ACA conference in Atlanta in April.
Liz Cosper, a COE graduate student was selected as the 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year for Centralhatchee and Ephesus Elementary Schools. Ms. Cosper is currently working toward her education specialist degree in instructional technology.

### Academic Success

Shaneé Murrain, assistant professor and university archivist at Ingram Library, was elected to serve on the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) Board of Directors.

Shelley Rodgers, associate professor and senior cataloguer at Ingram Library, has been appointed to the nominating committee of the Music Library Association (MLA).

Dr. Jessica Bucholz, associate professor of special education in the College of Education (COE), has received an additional $49,992 for her TEPSID grant. Dr. Bucholz’s project, WOLVES (World of Opportunities for Learning, Employment, and Socializing) is an exclusive post-secondary education program for students who are 18 years old or older and have intellectual or developmental disabilities. The two-year program focuses on developing academic, social, and personal skills that lead to employment.

The COE’s master’s degree in teaching program was ranked 12th for 2018 Best Online Colleges for Value from SR Education Group. Also, the master’s in teaching program was ranked ninth in 2018 Most Affordable Online Colleges for a master’s in teaching.

The COE’s master’s degree in education program was ranked 13th for 2018 Most Affordable Online Colleges by SR Education Group. Also, the master’s in education program was ranked 20th for 2018 Best Online Colleges.

Christi Johnson, COE alumna, was selected as the 2018-2019 Henry County Media Specialist of the Year. Johnson was recommended by the committee for her innovative approach to creating a learning experiences tailored to the needs of the students.
Dr. Gregory Payne, professor and associate dean in the College of Science and Mathematics, recently was awarded grants of nearly $60,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Georgia Cotton Commission and Cotton Incorporated to deliver data important for regional agriculture, while providing crucial, hands-on learning opportunities for UWG undergraduate students.

Jasmine Williams, College of Arts and Humanities alumna, received the Southern Graphics Council (SGC) International Undergraduate Fellowship Grant, which will allow the printmaking graduate to attend the SGC International Conference in Las Vegas this April. Williams also recently held an exhibition for 5/Fifths at PaperWorkers Local, a nonprofit artists’ cooperative in Birmingham, Ala.

Partnership Success

The Richards College of Business (RCOB) MBA program was recently named a top-tier MBA program by CEO Magazine. Also, the Georgia WebMBA program, which is comprised of six Georgia universities, including UWG, was also ranked in the top 40 online MBA programs.

Aleah Brock, clinical instructor of communication sciences and disorders in the COE, supervised four speech-language graduate students and administered more than 170 hearing screenings for first graders at Central Elementary School in Carrollton, Ga.

Best College Reviews recently ranked UWG’s COE as sixth-best for Online Education Degrees. The COE was chosen for the variety and excellence of its online education degree offerings.

The Sport Management Program and UWG Career Services’ collaboration for the Pre-Internship Seminar was selected as the 2017-18 NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) Excellence Award - Silver Award Winner for the Athletics, Recreation, Physical Fitness and Non-Varsity Sports. Dr. Markesha Henderson, assistant professor for the COE, and Lauren Johnson, associate director of career development in the Department of Career Services, were recognized at the 2018 NASPA conference.
Operational Success

UWG recently was named one of the Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs in 2018. This marks the fifth consecutive year UWG received the recognition from the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) and “Diverse: Issues in Higher Education” magazine. UWG is one of only two universities nationwide to receive this honor in all five years it has been presented.

The Department of Sociology in the College of Social Sciences recently was ranked in the Most Affordable Online Colleges for Sociology for 2018 by SR Education Group. The ranking represents online schools across the nation that are making an effort to provide economical options for students. UWG made the ranking at sixth for bachelor's degrees in sociology.

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