

INSIGHTS



DIVISION of ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
SCHOOL of THE ARTS AND PROFESSIONS
Department of English and Modern Languages

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DEPARTMENT CHAIR RETIRES

Jacqueline Brice-Finch Bids Farewell to UMES

Jacqueline Brice-Finch, chair of the Department of English and Modern Languages, has announced her retirement after a lifelong career in higher education. Under her leadership, the department has enhanced its telecommunications curriculum, expanded foreign language choices and dramatically increased its online course offerings.

Prior to her arrival at UMES, Dr. Brice-Finch served as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Coppin State University in Baltimore. She has also been the associate dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. An honors graduate of Howard University, she earned her M.A. in literature from Indiana University, Bloomington campus, and her Ph.D. degree in English language and literature from the University of Maryland.

An interim chair is expected to be announced before Dr. Brice-Finch's departure.

Effective January 1, 2016, I will be retiring from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. This past year I have experienced health challenges, and I am now focusing on quality of life issues.

During my five years at UMES, I have been blessed to work among some wonderful people—faculty, administrators, staff and students. The faculty members who nurture the intellectual curiosity of students through their innovative teaching methods. The administrators who enthusiastically embrace initiatives for the betterment of the university community. The staff whose work ethic is outstanding for every task.

The students who truly thirst for knowledge and strive for academic excellence. And all who give generously of their time in service to the institution.

As always, I continue to wish everyone at UMES the very best.



Dr. Brice-Finch

Photo by Jim Glovier

EGYPT: AN INSIDER'S PERSPECTIVE

Fulbright Scholar Delivers School of the Arts and Professions Lecture

Dalal ElGemei, the English department's [Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence](#) from [Al Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt](#), was the first featured speaker of the semester in the School of the Arts and Professions continuing lecture series.

Dr. ElGemei offered her unique insight on the political upheaval in



Dr. ElGemei discusses her homeland with faculty, staff and students.

Egypt following the dramatic protests mounted in Tahrir Square in 2011. Using photographs and describing personal experiences, she tied the activities that led to the ouster of [President Hosni Mubarak](#) to

vibrant expressions in public art and musical performances.

English faculty member Ron Webster was impressed by the presentation. "How lucky we are to learn more about such an important event from someone who lived through it," he said.

Ben Struss, an English Education major who attended the lecture, thanked his news writing instructor following the event for encouraging him to attend. "That was *really* interesting," he said.

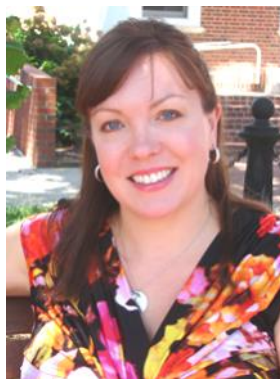
OUTSTANDING TEACHER RECOGNIZED

English Faculty Member Selected to Represent UMES

President Juliette Bell has nominated English faculty member Amy Hagenrater-Gooding for the highest award offered by the Maryland Board of Regents for excellence in teaching.

The Board of Regents' Award is given each year to recognize exemplary faculty throughout the University System of Maryland. Seventeen winners are chosen from among the eleven campuses of the USM--four each in four categories: teaching; scholarship, research, and creativity; mentorship; and public service. One award is offered in the special category of innovation.

Although there were multiple, highly



Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding

qualified and accomplished UMES candidates who submitted dossiers for the 2016 award, Dr. Bell could only select one per category to advance as a finalist. This year, UMES has forwarded names in three categories: Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding for Excellence in Teaching; Dr. Paulinus Chigbu of the Department of Natural Sciences for Excellence in Mentoring; and Dr. Gurdeep

Hura of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science for Excellence in Research/Scholarship/Creativity.

Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding was selected for the teaching category based on her record of procuring grants for innovative

programs, the success of these programs in preparing students for diverse careers, and the campus-wide implementation of programs she initiated in the Department of English and Modern Languages.

“As I reflect on the teaching successes I have had during my time at UMES, I am proud of collaborating with other departments and with the University community as a whole,” Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding said. “I’m also pleased to see how my encouragement has spawned initiative among the students I’ve had the pleasure to teach.”

Another member of the English faculty, Cynthia Cravens, served as chair of the Institutional Faculty Nominations Committee.

Winners will be announced next semester.

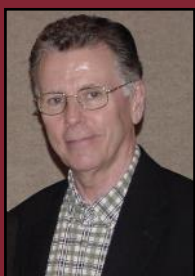
AN AMERICAN IN PARIS

Former Department Chair Recounts the Chaos of a City Under Attack

By Richard Keenan

Editor's Note:

Professor Emeritus Richard Keenan retired as chair of the UMES English Department in 2007 after nearly 35 years of service. He and his wife recently made an extended visit to Paris. Their stay coincided with the terrorist attack that claimed more than 120 lives. What follows is his description of those events.



We were in Chartres for the day, returning to Paris about 7:30 p.m. This was Friday, the evening of the shooting. About 9:30, we remarked to each other that sirens in the streets were almost constant and had been wailing non stop for 20 minutes or more. We turned on the TV and discovered the horror that was going on about a mile away in the 11th arrondissement section of Paris.

We followed the reports on different

channels until about 2 a.m. Sleep was all but impossible. The sirens of ambulances and police cars racing to and from the multiple scenes of carnage continued well into the early hours of Saturday morning.

On the following day (Saturday) a national state of emergency was declared, and everyone was requested to stay indoors except for emergencies. Businesses, museums, metro lines, etc., were all closed.

Paris, a bustling and energetic metropolis, was eerily quiet and visibly subdued for the rest of the weekend.

On Sunday we went to mass at Notre Dame Cathedral, and that is usually crowded to the extreme with tourists, sightseers and street vendors everywhere. Not so this Sunday. The square in front of the Cathedral was reduced to about a tenth of the crowd usually present. All of the city's churches were closed to tourists and sightseers. Only those attending services were admitted, and they were carefully screened.

As we walked back to our apartment in the Bastille district, police and military presence was quite apparent. Uniformed personnel strolled the streets, in groups of three, carrying submachine guns, carefully looking about, alert for any contingency. It was all



Photo by Marion Keenan

unnerving and yet ... oddly comforting to those of us who had no idea what might happen next.

Paris, the famed city of light, is not a happy city at present. The inhabitants are bravely coping, but they are apprehensive and guarded. Still, their courage and resolve in the face of this tragedy is truly admirable.

DISCOVER THE WORLD

Earn a Critical Language Scholarship and Study Abroad

By Carole Champagne

Editor's Note:

Dr. Champagne is an associate professor who teaches Spanish in the classroom and online.



“El que habla dos lenguas vale por dos” is a centuries-old Mexican proverb that is relevant today. The person who speaks two languages is worth two people and can do twice as much as his or her monolingual counterpart.

Knowing a second language is essential in order to participate in an increasingly bilingual society and the multilingual global marketplace.

According to the recent [Open Doors report issued by the Institute of International Education](#), only 1.6% of United States undergraduate students studied abroad in 2014. The top two destinations for American students are the United Kingdom, where all courses

are taught in English, and Italy, where most courses are taught in English. Spain and France rank third and fourth. All Spanish and French institutions with which I am familiar teach academic courses in Spanish and French.

The United States Department of State recognizes the importance of studying foreign languages. It supports the [Critical Language Scholarship](#), administered by American Councils for International Education, in order to promote languages deemed essential for participation in the global community.

The fully-funded summer language immersion program takes place in the countries in which the languages are spoken. Undergraduate and graduate students study Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, Swahili, Japanese, Korean, Urdu, Russian and other critically needed languages for six to eight weeks. Students live with families and explore their countries during their language and cultural immersions.

Jessica Zanikos, from [American Councils for International Education](#), visited UMES

recently and spoke to three Spanish classes. I invited her to return to campus because she inspired several students to apply for the scholarship during her October 2014 visit. Ms. Zanikos inspired several of my Spanish 202 students to apply for the scholarship this year. She also met with two other language instructors, Daniela Raducanu and Dalal ElGemei.



Ms. Zanikos discusses the Critical Language Scholarship program with Spanish language students at UMES.

Photo by Carole Champagne

Students who wish to travel to China, Japan or Russia must already have studied those languages for two years, and Arabic immersions require one year of prior study, but Swahili, Urdu and other languages do not require any prior knowledge.

Education abroad and language immersion provide a monolingual student with the competitive edge to achieve professional objectives because he or she will “vale por dos.”

WORD PLAY: Word Plexers

Here's another round of word plexers to develop problem solving skills and stimulate critical thinking. What word or phrase is represented in each item below?

Example: weLIEight

Answer: Lie in wait

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. eeeeeeeeeeC | 2. dribble
dribble | 3. Y Y Guy Guy |
| 4. Lang4uage | 5. gone let gone
gone by gone | 6. big big
ignore ignore |

Answers on Page 6.

Word Play, provided by Dr. Barbara Seabrook, is an Insights monthly feature which explores the creative use of language.

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PUBLISHED EDITORIALS

Again this semester, students enrolled in the senior capstone course, ENGL 490, have the opportunity to be published in [The Daily Times](#) in nearby Salisbury.



Mr. Ballard

Jordan Ballard and Tarcha Parker are the most recent English majors whose essays have been published on the paper's opinion page.



Ms. Parker

Mr. Ballard discussed the value of higher education; Ms. Parker talked about ethnic labeling.

HONOR SOCIETY

The UMES chapter of [Sigma Tau Delta](#), the international English honor society, will welcome three new members at an official induction ceremony held during the department's student symposium on December 3.



Seniors Colleen Hendrickson and Danielle Jackson and sophomore Lance Morris meet the organization's rigorous academic standards and have earned the requisite number of English credits.

This is the first time the ceremony has been scheduled during the symposium. The shift from an evening to a daytime event is designed to enable more of the campus community to attend.

CAMPUS MEDIA

For students interested in radio or television careers, there are two campus organizations which offer hands-on experience. Both will hold interest meetings this month to recruit members for the spring semester.



[Discover UMES](#), a student video crew, will meet prospective members at 11 a.m. on December 8 in Room 1103 of the Performing Arts Center. [Hawk Radio](#), a student-managed Internet radio station, will hold its meeting on December 10 at 11 a.m. in Wilson Hall, Room 2113.

EDUCATION MAJORS ON TRACK

English Education Students Preparing for Graduation

By Barbara Seabrook

Editor's Note:

Dr. Seabrook is coordinator of the department's English Education program.

Photo by Robin Hoffman



Congratulations to senior Kutresa Ward, who has earned passing scores on both PRAXIS II tests, which is a UMES requirement for enrollment in the teaching internship to be completed during the last semester of the senior year.

Ms. Ward, a resident of Pocomoke City, will complete the middle school and high school teaching internships (EDCI 480/490) and the senior seminar (EDCI 400) during the spring semester in order to graduate in May 2016.

The current [PRAXIS II tests](#) required by the State of Maryland are Test #5039 English Language Arts: Content and

Analysis and Test #5624 Principles of Learning and Teaching Grades 7-12.

December Grads Face Final Hurdle

After completing the first internship placement with Mentor Teacher David Edwards at Washington High School, Caroline Black, a graduate student in the [Master of Arts in Teaching](#) program, is now completing her second internship placement with Renee Larimore at Somerset Intermediate School.

Keshawn Taylor, also a graduate student in the M.A.T. program, will complete his teaching internship at Mace's Lane Middle School in Cambridge, Maryland.

Denise Johnson, another M.A.T. student, is completing her second placement with Mentor Teacher Cindy Lloyd at Somerset Intermediate School.

Detia Hilliard, an undergraduate English education major, has begun her middle school placement in Grade 8 with Mentor Teacher Christina Jones at Washington High School.

The teaching internship for both the UMES undergraduate and graduate programs includes a middle school placement and a high school placement in what are known as PDSs (Professional Development Schools). Graduates of both of these programs are eligible for the [Maryland Standard Professional Teaching Certificate](#) for English/Language Arts Grades 7-12.

Shaving Heads to Fight Cancer

On December 2, English graduate Corey Haynes will join her Peace Corps colleagues, other Nicaraguans, and a group of students from [Hope Bilingual Academy](#) in shaving their heads as a fundraiser for childhood cancer research. So far \$3,598 of their \$5000 goal has been raised. You can help by making [an online donation](#).

Ms. Haynes, Class of 2013, is completing her second year as a Peace Corps volunteer in Managua, Nicaragua, in Central America.

LEARNING ARABIC?

HERE'S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PRACTICE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS. HAVE LUNCH WITH A NATIVE SPEAKER! VISIT INFORMALLY



Dr. ElGemei

WITH OUR EGYPTIAN FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR (EXCEPT JANUARY) AT 11 a.m. IN THE OASIS ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE STUDENT SERVICES CENTER.

“LAB RATS” PREMIERE

A group of UMES English majors and several faculty members traveled to Salisbury on November 19 to see the world premiere of a [Brown Box Theater](#) production, “Lab Rats.” A discussion with the director, actors and playwright followed the performance.



UMES students and faculty following the production

DON'T MISS THIS EVENT!

PULITZER PRIZE WINNING SYNDICATED COLUMNIST LEONARD PITTS JR. VISITS UMES AS PART OF THE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND PROFESSIONS CONTINUING LECTURE SERIES.



Mr. Pitts

JOIN US MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, AT 4 P.M. IN ROOM 2040 OF HAZEL HALL. MR. PITTS WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE AUDIENCE BY HIS DAUGHTER, SENIOR ENGLISH MAJOR ONJEL PITTS.

ALMOST THERE!

Training Has Begun in New Building

Telecommunications faculty, staff and some students got their first look at the state-of-the-art audio and video equipment they will use when the program moves into its new home on the third floor of what administrators are calling the Engineering and Aviation Science Complex.

Don't let the name fool you. In addition to the traditional STEM disciplines, the Department of English and Modern Languages has a presence in the new facility as well.

The building includes a spacious television studio and control room; two radio studios; multiple video and audio edit suites; a graphics lab; the new headquarters of the student media organizations, Hawk Radio and Discover UMES; and the requisite faculty and staff offices for telecommunications personnel.

Nearly five full weeks of training sessions

on the new equipment are underway. Staff and faculty are meeting with vendor representatives for demonstrations of the sophisticated systems. Those sessions are being recorded.



(Left) Staff members Jim Glovier and Leon Lewis learn to use EditShare, a digital archiving and collaboration system.

(Below) Hawk Radio managers Aliyah Hyman, Candynce Newbill and Jonathan Moore get their first look at Zeta, the software system that will enable the automated operation of the student radio station.

Photos provided by [Diversified Systems](#)

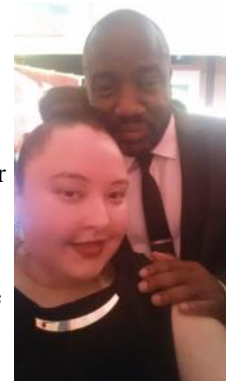


MAKING CONNECTIONS

Each year, a group of competitively selected UMES students are invited to attend the [annual leadership institute](#) presented by the [Thurgood Marshall College Fund](#). The organization describes the event as the “single best recruitment and networking opportunity for employers to meet and hire some of the best and brightest students from the HBCU community.”

Senior English Major Tahja Cropper was chosen to attend the conference in both 2014 and 2015. “The leadership institute gets better each year,” she said.

This year's event was held November 13-17, in Washington, D.C., and featured leadership training, a career fair, networking opportunities and a formal gala attended by corporate executives and Hollywood stars.



Ms. Cropper grabs a selfie with actor [Malik Yoba](#)

POEM TO BE PUBLISHED

A poem written by faculty member Melissa Moore will appear in the next issue of “[CEAMAGazine](#),” a publication of the [The College English Association–Middle Atlantic Group](#). The magazine is co-edited by another member of the UMES English faculty, Terry Smith.



Ms. Moore

Photo provided by Ms. Moore

Ms. Moore submitted “For My Father.” Her work prompted the magazine’s other co-editor, David Kaloustian of Bowie State University, to send his compliments along with the notice of publication. “Let me tell you how much I love your poem,” he said.

FESTIVAL OF SHORTS

The short documentary film created by public speaking instructor Will Rose as a tribute to New York’s Brooklyn Bridge has been accepted for inclusion in another online film festival.



Mr. Rose

“My Bridge” will be part of the [Directors Circle Festival of Shorts](#).

As reported in earlier issues of “Insights,” the film also has been screened at the Capital City Black Film Festival in Austin, Texas, and at the People’s Film Festival in Harlem.

WHAT TO SAY, WHEN

Students enrolled in Basic News Writing and Reporting (TELC 241) got a lesson in crisis communication from UMES’s Executive Vice President Kim Dumpson.



Ms. Dumpson

Photo by Jim Glovier

Ms. Dumpson visited the class—just before President Bell’s recent town hall meeting—to discuss the challenges of providing institutional transparency.

When there are troublesome issues to discuss, Ms. Dumpson said the university works to provide accurate information in a timely fashion but welcomes feedback from the campus community. “There’s always room for improvement,” she said.

LITERACY RESEARCH

Faculty member Courtney Harned will be heading to Washington, D.C. in April.



Ms. Harned

Photo by Jim Glovier

Research on rural literacy she conducted as part of her current doctoral studies will be presented at the [American Education Research Association’s Annual Conference](#). She’ll join several of her doctoral colleagues to discuss “Constructing Literacy Capital in Rural Contexts: A Discourse Analysis of Teachers’ Language.” The organization received more than 13,000 presentation submissions for this year’s conference.

HUMANITIES NETWORK?

Faculty member Dean Cooledge represented UMES at a recent workshop organized by the [National Humanities Alliance Foundation](#).



Dr. Cooledge

Photo by Ben Cooledge

The group hopes to establish a Lower Eastern Shore Humanities Network. It envisions a website that would provide information about, and access to, local humanities initiatives. The goal is to find ways organizations in different sectors—universities, libraries, museums, social service agencies, historical societies—can pool their resources to achieve greater public impact and foster greater local support for the humanities.

DON’T FORGET:

The English department’s Student Symposium will be held Thursday, December 3, in Wilson Hall. Presentations begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue through early afternoon. See you there!

WORD PLAY ANSWERS FROM PAGE THREE:

1. Tennessee
2. Double dribble
3. Wise guys
4. Foreign language
5. Let bygones be bygones
6. Too big to ignore

Insights is published monthly during the academic year. It is written and edited, except as noted, by communications instructor Marilyn Buerkle. Copy is proofread by composition instructor Ronald Webster. Photos are by Marilyn Buerkle, except as noted. If you have information you would like to appear in this publication, contact our editor at 410-651-8349 or email her at mlbuerkle@umes.edu.