

INSIGHTS

Department of English and Modern Languages
SCHOOL of EDUCATION, SOCIAL SCIENCES, AND THE ARTS
DIVISION of ACADEMIC AFFAIRS


U M E S
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TEACHING & LEARNING CONFERENCE

Educators Gather on UMES Campus to Share Innovative Ideas

Faculty members in the Department of English and Modern Languages joined more than one hundred other college professors from around the region at the second annual [UMES Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference](#) last month.

They shared ideas about what works in the college classroom at pre-conference workshops on Thursday, January 11 and at the conference itself on the following day.

English and Modern Languages was well represented; there were 14 members of the department in attendance. Department Chair Dean Cooledge and faculty members Bill Cecil, Amy Hagenrater-Gooding, Bonni Miller, Terry Smith and Gabriela Vlahovici-Jones made presentations on a variety of topics including the use of technology in

the classroom, strategies to improve student writing skills, how to make the assessment process a positive experience and the implementation of a “flipped” classroom.



Photos by Bill Brophy, Marilyn Buerkle and Leon Lewis

MARKING MILESTONES

English Faculty are Recognized at Service Awards Ceremony

President Juliette Bell presented service awards to 100 UMES faculty and staff members at a formal ceremony late last year in the Henson Center Ballroom.

The honorees included three English faculty



*(L to R) Dr. Smith, Ms. Buerkle and Ms. Vlahovici-Jones
Photo by Jim Glover*

members. Terry Smith and Gabriela Vlahovici-Jones celebrated 10 years at UMES; Marilyn Buerkle marked 15 years in a UMES classroom.

The program also acknowledged the

passing of longtime English faculty member David Johnson who lost his battle with cancer in September.

This year the longest serving faculty members were Math Professor Edward Chapin and Kinesiology Instructor Kirkland Hall; both were recognized for 40 years of service to the institution. President Bell received her first UMES service award. She was one of 35 honorees celebrating five years of service.

HAWKS FOR LIFE

English Alumni Return to Offer Advice

December brought two unique opportunities to UMES students interested in careers in broadcast journalism. They had the chance to get candid advice from people who care about them—people who earned their English degrees at UMES and have a wealth of experience in the field.

Bill Jones, Class of 1978, discussed his decades-long career as a producer for [CBS News](#) with the department's Basic News Writing and Reporting class on December 1.



Mr. Jones talks to students enrolled in Basic News Writing

The following week, Justin Stewart, who graduated in 2010, traveled to campus to discuss his job as a member of the morning news team at [WTTG, FOX5](#) in Washington, D.C.

Both were displaying their Hawk Pride, choosing to dress for their appearances in maroon and gray.



Mr. Stewart (center) poses with students who attended his discussion of jobs in the television industry.

LEAVING THE NEST

English graduate Ashley Collier has a new job in the Public Relations and Marketing Department at [Anne Arundel Community College](#). She began her new responsibilities in January.



Ms. Collier

Photo by Jim Glover

Ms. Collier earned her UMES English degree in 2009, and she easily made the transition from student to staff. She became a valued member of the UMES public relations and marketing team, most recently specializing in social media.

We wish her well, but we will miss her!

HANDS-ON TRAINING

Liz Ranger, who graduated *summa cum laude* in December of 2015 with a double major in English and history, is getting practical experience while a student at the [Duquesne University School of Law](#) in Pittsburgh.



Ms. Ranger

Ms. Ranger is currently interning in the office of Judge Kevin Sasinowski. She has also been accepted as an intern beginning in May in the city's [Department of Law](#), which acts as legal council to the mayor, city council and certain city departments.

Ms. Ranger will earn her law degree next year.

MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Lachelle Harrison, Class of 2006. She was named the Convention Services Manager of the Year during the recent [Event Services Professional Association Annual Conference](#) in Nashville, Tennessee.

Ms. Harrison works for [Events DC](#), the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia. She has managed job fairs, policy conferences, the Annual Legislative Conference of the Congressional Black Caucus and presidential inaugural balls.

In addition to her Bachelor of Arts in English from UMES, Ms. Harrison earned a [Master's in public administration](#) from the University of the District of Columbia and a [certificate in event management](#) from George Washington University's School of Business.

COMMUNITY THEATER

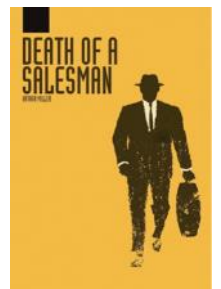
Matthew Bogdan, a former adjunct composition instructor, has retired from teaching but is still active in local theater.

He's directing the current production of "[Death of a Salesman](#)" by Arthur Miller for the [Community Players of Salisbury](#).

There's an 8 p.m. performance on February 2 and a 2 p.m. matinee on February 3 in Guerrieri Hall at [Wor-Wic Community College](#).



Mr. Bogdan
Photo by David Allen



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PARTIR DU BON PIED À PARIS

“Get Off on the Right Foot in Paris”

By Carole Champagne

Editor’s Note: Dr. Champagne, who teaches Spanish and speaks multiple other languages, spent a portion of her holiday break revisiting Paris.



Photo by Jim Glover

Ten days à pied (on foot) in wind-driven winter rain did not detract from the delight of discovering treasures hidden in plain sight. While I visited Paris on weekends while studying in Dijon and working in Zurich, I had not returned in more than a decade.

January is the best time to explore the city, a living organism at work and play. Few tourists impede the daily commute to work and school.

Finding myself alone in narrow passageways leading to courtyards or squares connecting to other passageways, I browsed antique shops and used book stores.

I discovered Rimbaud’s “Le Bateau Ivre” on an alley wall, near the site where he created the poem at the age of seventeen. A week earlier, several portraits by Fantin-

Latour revived Rimbaud and his contemporaries. The teen genius rested at ease among Verlaine, Baudelaire, and other elder literati. While I had read his lush poetry myself as a teen, these serendipitous discoveries revived the enfant terrible after many decades of slumber.

The spirited statue of Montaigne winked as I walked past without rubbing his shoe, polished by multitudes of Sorbonne students hoping to fare well on their exams.

Another statue outside Saint-Germain des Prés fascinated me. An elderly French lady explained that the subject was Bernard Palissy, an inventor who had designed fanciful ceramics of zoomorphic figures. He extended a plate of a frog kissing a snake on a fish. The creatures seemed poised to leap from the plate. Earlier, in the unadorned medieval chapel behind Palissy, devoid of zoomorphic artifice, I was observed only by fading frescoes.

While I revisited an overwhelming abundance of masterpieces by Michelangelo, Da Vinci, Rembrandt, Van Gogh, Monet, et al., little gems hidden in plain sight waited for discovery through serendipity à pied.



Photos provided by Dr. Champagne

FRONT PAGE NEWS

R. Hardy Rudasill, Class of 2006, is the first African American male to serve on the city council in Salisbury, Maryland, so it was his photo the local newspaper chose to illustrate the news that people of color now outnumber white residents in that community. Mr. Rudasill appeared on the front page above the headline “Salisbury’s Big Shift” on January 14.



WORD PLAY: VALENTINE’S DAY ANAGRAMS



Rearrange each group of letters to spell words associated with Valentine’s Day (Answers on Page 4).

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. ITARMCON | 6. SLOWFER |
| 2. WORAR | 7. AETD |
| 3. PDUIC | 8. THECOOLAC |
| 4. REHTA | 9. SISK |
| 5. CYNDA | 10. PEMO |

Word Play, provided each month by Dr. Barbara Seabrook, explores the creative use of language.

ANTHOLOGY PUBLISHED

The Milton Workshop, a writer's group created by composition instructor Dianne Pearce, held a recent reading of selections from its newly published anthology, "Solstice."



The event was held at the Suburban Farmhouse in Milton, Delaware, on December 15.

The book includes nine original short stories and a series of poetry selections inspired by the winter solstice. It's the second publication released by the group. Its debut anthology, "Halloween Party 2017," included a collection of horror stories written by workshop members.



Milton authors read "Solstice" selections

Photo by David Yurkovich

INTEREST MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Discover UMES
Tuesday, Feb. 6, 11 a.m.
EASC 3140

Hawk Radio
Thursday, Feb. 8, 11 a.m.
EASC 1069



SMILE!

December was filled with occasions to celebrate, including the holiday social for English majors, a luncheon for faculty members held at the home of honors program director Michael Lane and the winter commencement ceremony.

Photos by Marilyn Buerkle, Amy Hagenrater-Gooding and Michael Lane

WELCOME TO THE WORLD!

Naemah (Kitchens) Mosgrove, Class of 2011, and her husband Ryan are the proud parents of a baby girl.

Their daughter, Emery Elsie Mae Mosgrove, arrived at 4:30 a.m. on January 7. Her mother describes her as "perfect, beautiful and fat." She weighed in at 7 pounds, 14 ounces.



Emery and her dad

Photo by Naemah Mosgrove

WORD PLAY ANSWERS:

1. ROMANTIC
2. ARROW
3. CUPID
4. HEART
5. CANDY
6. FLOWERS
7. DATE
8. CHOCOLATE
9. KISS
10. POEM

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 Sandy Johnston. 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.