

INSIGHTS



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DREAMS COME TRUE

Spring '16 Semester Marks a New Era for Telecommunications Students

It's official.

Starting in mid-February, nearly all of the English department's telecommunication classes moved to their new home in the university's Engineering and Aviation Science Complex.

"I've had a standing joke with my students for at least the last 10 years; after they hit it big, they have to come back and build the Marilyn Buerkle Memorial TV Studio," said Marilyn Buerkle, a former broadcast journalist who joined the faculty in 2002. "Now they don't have to worry about that. This is truly a state of the art television and radio teaching facility."

Faculty and staff spent the month of

January in lengthy training sessions to become comfortable with the sophisticated equipment and multiple studios.

In addition to classroom instruction for the English department's telecommunications program, public speaking classes are also being held in the facility, and it is the new headquarters of the university's two student media organizations, [Discover UMES](#) and [Hawk Radio](#).



ON THE ROAD

Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence Shares Her Experience

Dalal ElGemei, the Egyptian professor who won a prestigious Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence award to teach Arabic this year at UMES, is helping our community better understand her homeland and her religion.

In early February, she was invited to appear on a local radio interview program hosted by UMES history professor Kathryn Barrett-Gaines. The show airs on [WCEM AM](#) in Cambridge, Maryland.

"It was an opportunity to learn about everyday life in Egypt: grocery stores and real estate agencies in the shadow of the pyramids," Dr. Barrett-Gaines said.



(L to R) Dr. ElGemei, Sunrise Rotary President Amy Luppens and Dr. Ernest Boger
Photo by Christina Gordy

Dr. ElGemei also was invited to address the [Sunrise Rotary Club](#) in Salisbury, Maryland on February 17. She talked about the rights of women within the Islamic faith.

"I was really impressed with ... the sophisticated attendees," she said. She was particularly pleased when an audience member told her after her remarks, from now on, he'll have to think twice about what the media has to say about Islam.

"This sums up the message of the whole presentation," she said.

The [Fulbright](#) program that brought Dr. ElGemei to UMES is sponsored by the U.S. government. It's designed to increase mutual understanding between Americans and the people of other countries.

WORD PLAY: More Political Speak

The Language of Debate

There are many words that we do not expect presidents, politicians or presidential candidates to use. February's *Insights* explored the word usage of Donald Trump ("braggadocious") and Governor Chris Christie ("toot").

Fill in the blank in the sentences below with a word that comes out of slang and was used in a Republican presidential debate.

1. Kentucky Senator Rand Paul used this word when he said, "Why are we always the world's _____ that we have to go over there and fight their wars for them?"
2. Florida Senator Marco Rubio used this word to describe Russian President Vladimir Putin, referring to him as a " _____ in Moscow."
3. Presidential candidate Ben Carson used this word in an interesting way during the debate: "We're talking about global jihadists who actually want to destroy us. They are an _____ threat to our nation."

Answers and Origin:

Patsies

The word patsy is from slang that dates back to the 19th century when it was used to refer to a pushover or someone who is easily pushed around.

Gangster

The word gangster carries some slangy connotations and was first coined in 1896 when it appeared in a Columbus, Ohio newspaper. The derivation is rather simple: the noun "gang" with the ending "ster," which is a Germanic ending for making a noun form (i.e. spinster, barrister). Thus, a gangster is "one associated with a gang."

Existential

This word is often associated with philosophical pursuits, such as questions of being or of acting in the world. However, that's not how Dr. Carson used it; he is being much more direct when he says that ISIS is a threat to the very existence, the very lives, of Americans.

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

ENGLISH EDUCATION UPDATE

Interns Integrate STEM Lessons into English Instruction

By Barbara Seabrook

Kutresa Ward has completed her high school teaching internship with 9th grade students and Mentor Teacher Lauren Draheim at Snow Hill High School in Worcester County, Maryland. Ms. Ward's middle school internship will take her to another local county—either Wicomico or Somerset.

The teaching internship consists of two placements in two different counties – one at a middle school and the other at a high school. The dual experience provides the teaching intern an opportunity to see the differences between not only the counties, but also the grade levels of students. That helps the interns to be selective in their interviews for teaching positions after graduation.

The B.A. in English Education meets the requirements for graduates to be eligible for professional certification as an English/Language Arts teacher for grades 7-12.

Teaching interns are required to teach one STEM lesson, which is observed by their university supervisor and Jamie Lewis, the placement coordinator in the UMES Education department.

The STEM lesson plan developed by English education teaching interns provides evidence of integration of multiple disciplines into the English curriculum with an emphasis on problem-solving and scientific method.

The problem-solving activities are directly related to the novels and short stories being read and discussed as part of

the English/Language Arts curriculum standards. Teacher candidates learn how to develop and teach STEM lessons during the Methods of Teaching course (EDCI 425).

STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering and math education. The focus is on these areas together not only because the skills and knowledge in each discipline are essential for student success, but also because these fields are deeply intertwined in the real world and in how students learn most effectively. STEM is an interdisciplinary and applied approach that is coupled with hands-on, problem-based learning.

The United States has developed as a global leader, in large part, through the genius and hard work of its scientists, engineers and innovators.

WELCOME BACK, ACHU!

Achu Mba, Class of 2014, was an intern at [C-SPAN](#), a D.C. based cable network during his senior year. He parlayed that experience into a fulltime job, and at the UMES Career Fair last month, he returned to campus as a C-SPAN recruiter. In addition to his work in television, Mr. Mba is completing a master's degree in cyber security.



Mr. Mba and his fellow C-SPAN recruiter Angela Seldon

RESEARCH TO BE DISCUSSED

Spanish language instructor Daniela Raducanu will travel to Lexington, Kentucky next month to present a paper at [KFLC The Languages, Literatures and Cultures Conference](#) held annually at the University of Kentucky. Founded in 1948, event organizers describe it as one of the country's longest-running literary, linguistics, pedagogy and technology conferences.



Dr. Raducanu

Dr. Raducanu's paper is titled "Re-imagining the Philippines in the travelogues of Vicente Blasco Ibáñez and Victor Balaguer."

INSTANT REPLAY

Hawk Radio Alumni Hold Reunion Broadcast

When Lawrence "L.J." Banton and Kyla Bibbins met as UMES freshmen in 2009, they formed an enduring friendship. They both earned English degrees, and they served as co-hosts on Hawk Radio.

Fast forward to 2016.

Ms. Bibbins is a radio host on [WZEB Power 101.7](#) in southern Delaware. Mr. Banton is a board operator for [XM Radio](#) in New York City.

In recognition of the UMES homecoming celebration, Mr. Banton joined Ms. Bibbins at her station as a guest host for a reunion broadcast.

"L.J. and I both started our radio careers at UMES, so I thought it would be cool to dedicate a show to the fact that college is important and can be a tool to help you reach your goals, while letting the

listeners know that I am a proud Hawk," Ms. Bibbins said. "I understand that a lot of young people listen to me each day, and I just wanted to let them know that I am educated, and that if it wasn't for college, I wouldn't be this radio host that they see meeting celebrities and attending exclusive events."



Ms. Bibbins and Mr. Banton

Photo by Lawrence Banton

GENERAL EDUCATION

English department faculty members Carole Champagne and Terry Smith were part of a UMES group who attended the University System of Maryland's (USM) symposium on general education requirements February 26 at Towson University. They met with colleagues from across the system.

"The symposium presented recently completed general education revisions from College Park and the University of Baltimore," Dr. Champagne said. "We also discussed the General Education component of Middle States reaccreditation because most USM campuses are going through the process this semester."

The event was organized by the [USM Center for Academic Innovation](#).

MAKE YOUR OWN ART

A Moroccan American artist will hold a hands-on workshop, "Geometric Art of the Arab World," in the Student Services Center, Room 2149, at 11 a.m. on March 31.



[Ouafae Taame](#) holds degrees in fine art and architecture and is described as a visual artist, a 2D and 3D graphic designer, and a digital print maker. She also has 12 years of experience as an artist for video games.

Ms. Taame's workshop is hosted by the [UMES Foreign Language Instructional Center](#), a Title III funded project of the Department of English and Modern Languages.

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CREATING HIP-HOP BUZZ

Kayla Calloway, who earned her UMES English degree in 2005, has released a second edition of her book "The Essential Guide to Hip-Hop Publicity."



Ms. Calloway

Photo from [kaylacalloway.com](http://www.kaylacalloway.com)

It's designed to assist artists who want to promote their work but may not be able to afford a publicist. The book is available at www.hiphoppublicity.com.

STUDY ABROAD DECISIONS

Professor Carole Champagne served on the national selection panel for the [Critical Languages Scholarship](#) in Washington, D.C. on February 8. The group was evaluating candidates for a fully funded summer overseas language and cultural immersion program for American undergraduate and graduate students.



Dr. Champagne

Dr. Champagne is also a certifying advisor for the [Gilman Scholarship](#), another federally funded study abroad program.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Congratulations are in order for Sandra Joseph, a member of the Class of 2012. She has a new job.



Ms. Joseph

Ms. Joseph has accepted a position at [Viacom](#), a global communications conglomerate.

The company's portfolio includes more than 20 familiar cable networks and Paramount Pictures, America's oldest film studio. Ms. Joseph will work as an advertising associate for MTV and VH1.

Photo provided by Ms. Joseph

MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR WILDLIFE

Professor by Day—Gardener by Evening and Weekends

By Barbara Seabrook

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

Photo by Robin Hoffman



After living on my sailboat for five years, I became a landlubber again so I would have a place to take care of my mother, who loved beautiful gardens. I bought a home on two acres near Deal Island and began to change the backyard of mud and rocks into a cottage garden. Spending many hours each evening after work and every weekend, I planted a variety of native perennials and added two frog ponds, a labyrinth of walking trails and numerous bird houses.

Nine years later, my "labor of love" is not only a beautiful garden and a place of serenity, but also a sanctuary for birds, butterflies, frogs and other wildlife. Providing essential elements needed by all wildlife – natural food sources, clean water, cover and places to raise young—my garden was recently recognized as a

Certified Wildlife Habitat by the [National Wildlife Federation \(NWF\)](#), America's largest wildlife conservation and education organization.

This certification makes my garden a part of the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge, a national effort to restore critical habitat for pollinators. NWF's Garden for Wildlife program encourages responsible gardening that helps pollinators and other wildlife thrive. It encourages planting native species like milkweed and discouraging chemical pesticide use.

With nearly 200,000 locations and growing, NWF's Certified Wildlife Habitats and Community Wildlife Habitats recognize individuals, schools, groups, and whole communities committed to providing habitat for wildlife, including pollinators.

My mother enjoyed watching this garden grow for many years before she passed away at age 90, and this garden has been an immense source of pleasure, creativity and exercise for me.

If you are inspired to protect wildlife for

our children's future, visit www.nwf.org/habitat for more information on gardening for wildlife.

I truly agree with Audrey Hepburn who once said, "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."



Before and after photos by Barbara Seabrook

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