

INSIGHTS



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

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COMMUNICATIONS JOB FAIR

English Majors Travel to Howard University

A trip to the 2014 Howard University Communications Job & Internship Fair, sponsored by the Department of English and Modern Languages, provided a group of UMES students with valuable career advice.



(L) NBC White House Correspondent Kristen Welker participates in "Landing a Job in TV."

In a panel discussion titled "Your Public Relations Agency Career: How to Maximize Your Opportunities," Donna Renella from the Council of PR Firms told participants "there will be challenges," but she and her fellow panelists encouraged their audience to be ambitious and to keep in contact with professionals they meet. Students were also urged to establish a presence on

(Front Row, L to R) John Livengood, Kelsey Tate, DaMisha Brown, Cierra Lewis, LaKeisha Hill, Erica Jones, Kristen Rice and Darius Pugh (Back Row, L to R) Aundrea Townsend, Dathen Dawkins, David Jones, Danielle Jackson, Dellan Sellers, Jasmin Sellers, Nafy Makalou and DaVante Johnson

LinkedIn, a business-oriented social networking service.

At a separate panel focused on journalism, Ken Strickland, Washington Bureau Chief for NBC News, reminded participants,



More than 40 employers, from a broad range of communication careers, manned booths at the job fair.

"Your first responsibility to yourself and to your parents is to find a job."

Following the panel discussions, students from HBCUs around the region started the job search process, meeting with recruiters from dozens of companies.

SHARING A POSITIVE MESSAGE

English Grad Launches Media Venture

There was a familiar face among the recruiters at this year's communications job fair at Howard University.

Brittany Peterson, who earned an English degree at UMES in 2011 and went on to complete a master's program in communications at Morgan State University last year, has launched a media company called HBCU LIVE.

She describes the venture in a marketing brochure as "a stimulating, student-



Ms. Peterson at her UMES graduation

centered platform that elevates HBCUs nationally and brings their impact, depth of accomplishments, and talent to a much larger audience of potential supporters."

Ms. Peterson met with potential interns at the career fair.

She hopes HBCU LIVE will create a broader awareness of the good things that are happening on historically black campuses around the country.



Ms. Peterson (R) explains the mission of HBCU LIVE to potential interns at the Howard job fair.

I'VE BEEN THINKING



By Liz Ranger

Editor's Note:

Ms. Ranger is a junior pursuing a double major in English and history. A member of the UMES Honors Program, she is originally from Baltimore, Maryland, but lives now in Greenbackville on Virginia's Eastern Shore.



In the midst of the [Ray Rice scandal](#), I found myself wondering how many people knew the history behind the [Baltimore Ravens](#), a history that I grew up with, being from Baltimore and a fan.

The Baltimore football team used to be called the Colts; yes, it's the team that is now the Indianapolis Colts. In 1984, the team left Baltimore in the middle of the night without announcing the intention to leave.

Baltimore is a very proud city, and despite being without a football team, the band and cheerleaders continued to meet for more than a decade as if there were a team.

In 1996, the Cleveland Browns were allowed to relocate to Baltimore as a new franchise, leaving the Ohio team's history and name behind, and causing [yet another controversy](#). The players remained the same, but the team needed to decide on a new name and mascot. The initial choice was, of course, the Colts, but the Indianapolis team refused to part with the name.

Studies were done, leading to these options: Ravens, Americans, Marauders, Mustangs, or Railers. The final decision was given to the fans who were able to vote via a newspaper poll. They overwhelmingly voted for the Ravens.

The reason for the raven as a mascot is tied closely to the work of [Edgar Allan Poe](#) in "The Raven." "The Raven" was one of Edgar Allan Poe's most famous publications, and Baltimore is Poe's final resting place; he is buried downtown near

the [Lexington Market](#).

This is just one example of how many different topics—in this case, English, history, and sports—so often intersect. "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe, Baltimore City history, and The Ravens sports team are all important links in the full picture.

If you haven't read it, here is your chance to read "[The Raven](#)" and find out why so many people chose its namesake to represent their city.

"Named after a mythical bird in a famous poem, the new NFL team in Baltimore became the Ravens "evermore" team on Friday, March 29, 1996."

– The Baltimore Raven's website

"I've Been Thinking" is a monthly column written by members of UMES's Psi Mu chapter of [Sigma Tau Delta](#), the international English honor society. Throughout the academic year, the column will explore a variety of topics of interest to the campus community.

OUT AND ABOUT

Hawk Radio Organizes Multiple Campus Events

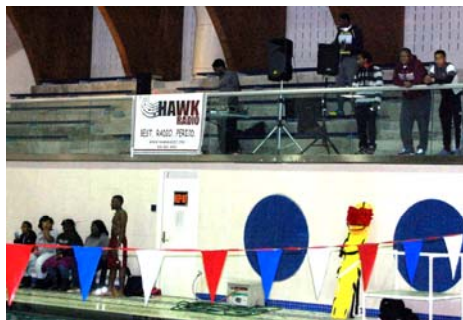
[Hawk Radio](#), the student-managed Internet radio station supervised by the English department, maintained a high profile on campus during the month of October.

The organization invited [Shay Star](#), a former local radio host and current social media personality, to UMES to discuss her career. Several dozen students gathered in the library auditorium to hear her discuss the importance of brand identity, focused marketing and teamwork.

October marked Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the group held a bake sale in the rotunda of the Student Services Center to benefit the [American Cancer Society](#). According to the latest data available, breast cancer is the second most common cancer diagnosed worldwide, and many members of Hawk Radio have a friend or family member who has been touched by

the disease.

At the end of the month, it was strictly fun on the Hawk Radio agenda. Members hosted a pool party in the Hytche Athletic Center.



Hawk Radio members provide entertainment at a pool party in the Hytche Athletic Center. Pool party and bake sale photos by Leon Lewis

Ms. Star (R) offers advice to students who seek media careers.



John Livengood and Tarcha Parker (Seated L to R) selling homemade baked goods in the Student Services Center.

WORD PLAY: Pig Latin

Pig Latin has nothing to do with pigs or Latin! Actually, its origin is unknown. Young Thomas Jefferson wrote letters to his friends using Pig Latin. In 1895, the magazine, Atlantic Monthly, also mentioned Pig Latin: "They all spoke a queer jargon which they themselves had invented. It was something like the well-known 'Pig Latin' that all sorts of children like to play with."

Even though no one is certain about how or where Pig Latin began, there are many examples of it in popular culture. In the 1933 film "Gold Diggers," Ginger Rogers sings a verse of "We're in the Money" in Pig Latin. The song "Rap Game" by D12 and 50 Cent includes lyrics in Pig Latin on the soundtrack for the 2002 movie "8 Mile." Pig Latin is even mentioned in the autobiographical novel "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" by author Maya Angelou.

Using Pig Latin as a form of jargon conceals the meaning of the words from other people who are not familiar with the rules. It is a constructed language game in which words in English are altered according to the following set of rules:

For Words that Begin with Consonant Sounds:

1. Move the initial consonant or consonant cluster to the end of the word. Then add "ay" or (some people just add the "a").
Example: happy = appyhay

For Words that Begin with Vowel Sounds:

1. For words that begin with vowel sounds or a silent letter, add "way" (or "wa") to the end of the word. Example: egg = eggway or ggwa
2. Some people follow an alternate rule with words that begin with vowel sounds; move only the first letter to the end of the word. Then add "way" at the end of the word. Example: egg = ggeway
3. Some people who speak Pig Latin follow yet another alternate rule that applies to words that begin with vowels; only the first letter is moved to the end of the word, then the letter "i" is added to the end of the word. Example: egg = ggei

Using the rules outlined above, translate the following Pig Latin words into standard English:

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. celotoi | 2. ndei | 3. uckday | 4. ppleaway |
| 5. nderui | 6. ppleai | 7. eightway | 8. oveglay |

Answers on Page 5.

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

YOU'RE INVITED

Blending the music of their Egyptian and Palestinian roots, the Foty family brings Arabic fusion to campus on Friday, November 14 at 7 p.m. in the Ella Fitzgerald Performing Arts Center. The concert will feature traditional



Photo provided by Tammy Gharbi

instruments and vocals as well as the debke, a dance that has been performed throughout the Middle East for centuries. The event is sponsored by the English department's Foreign Language Instructional Center. Admission is free and open to the public.

STUDYING SHAKESPEARE

The students enrolled in ENGL 317, taught by Dean Cooledge, aren't just studying Shakespeare from a book. They had the unique opportunity to attend two live performances this semester.

Dr. Cooledge and his students saw "Macbeth" at the historic Teackle Mansion in Princess Anne, presented by the Brown Box Theater Company of Boston. The show was one of a series of outdoor performances the group presented in several local towns including Snow Hill, Pocomoke and Salisbury.

The class also traveled to Salisbury University to see a production of "King Lear." When Dr. Cooledge learned that S.U. would present the play, he rearranged his syllabus so that the class could read and discuss the work in advance of the performance.



(L to R) Patrick Lieb, Colleen Hendrickson, Leslie Hendrickson, Aundrea Townsend, Zoe Sonnier, Dean Cooledge and Nick Cooper outside the Teackle Mansion

Photo provided by Dr. Cooledge

CELEBRATING THE WRITTEN WORD

Faculty Member Attends Major Book Events

By Carole Champagne

Editor's Note: Dr. Champagne is an associate professor in the Department of English and Modern Languages who teaches Spanish online and in the classroom.

The [National Book Festival](#), my favorite annual event, was held in August at the Washington Convention Center. Several literary giants spoke about their oeuvre, including [E. L. Doctorow](#) and [Doris Kearns Goodwin](#). I joked with [Poet Laureate Billy Collins](#) about his skits on *Prairie Home Companion* while he sat in front of me before [his reading](#).

[Paul Auster](#) impressed me more than E. L. Doctorow, who received another major literary award at the festival. [Auster's discussion about language](#) with Amy Stolls, translator of Robert Bolaño's masterpiece, "2666," demonstrated his genius as a translator of French literature

as well as author, screenwriter and film director.

The [Baltimore Book Festival](#) was held the next month at the Inner Harbor. Strolling from tent to tent, I was impressed by the diversity of authors and genres. The Graphic Novels tent offered artistic as well as international publications. My daughter, an intern with Wicomico Public Libraries, worked in the Maryland Libraries tent with directors of library systems.



(L to R) Calvert County Library Director Carrie Plymire, Eastern Shore Regional Library Administrator John Venditta and, representing the Wicomico County Library, Arielle Champagne at the Baltimore Book Festival

Photo by Carole Champagne

And, finally, the Maryland Humanities Council and the Wicomico Public Library joined me in welcoming [Reyna Grande](#) to WorWic Community College recently.

The [One Maryland One Book](#) author discussed her memoir "The Distance Between Us." The audience enthusiastically contributed to the ensuing discussion. Students demonstrated insights into transnational identities and immigration policies as

Professor Grande demonstrated her expertise as a speaker as well as creative writing professor. We continued sharing our love of reading during an animated book signing and reception.

GETTING STARTED

Recent English Education Graduate Begins His Teaching Career

By Barbara Seabrook

Editor's Note: Dr. Seabrook is an associate professor in the Department of English and Modern Languages and coordinator of the department's English Education program.

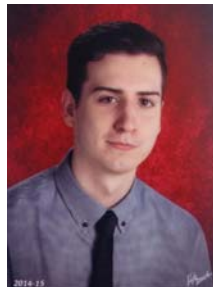
Tyler Thornes, a native of Sanford, Virginia, graduated magna cum laude in May. A member of the UMES Honors Program, he received his B.A. in English Education and began his teaching career in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools as a seventh grade English teacher at [Great Neck Middle School](#) this fall.

Mr. Thornes is enthusiastic about his progress. "I am really enjoying my first teaching position. Being in a school with such a high reputation means that the teachers and teams make sure you have everything necessary," he said. "The

seventh graders have a very high energy level, so they keep me on my toes; however, they are excited about learning and truly a joy to teach."

His colleagues are very supportive. "Working in a school that realizes that organized instruction is the best way to combat classroom misbehavior is amazing," Mr. Thornes said. "I am constantly receiving tips and advice from other teachers about keeping a fast pace in my classroom and not allowing students to manipulate time."

All UMES teacher education majors understand that some of the most



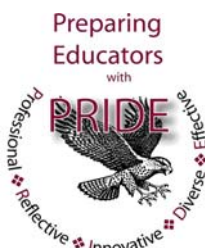
Faculty photo of Mr. Thornes from the Great Neck Middle School yearbook

Photo by Lifetouch Portrait Studio

valuable learning occurs during the teaching internship and the first actual teaching position. Mr. Thornes confirmed this realization.

"I've learned so much in these last two months for which the textbooks and theories can't really prepare you," he said. "What I learned at UMES that was most useful was about documentation of student progress, laws regarding public schools, assessing student learning, and of course developing lesson plans and instructional activities that meet the needs of all students and help them attain optimal academic achievement."

He is grateful for that preparation. "The support of the excellent faculty, administrators, and staff at UMES, especially that of Dr. Karen Verbeke, Mrs. Evelyn Jones, Dr. Patricia Goslee, Mrs. Aundra Roberts, Dr. Mary Agnew and Dr. Barbara Seabrook, gave me the experience I needed to be a successful professional."



WRITING CONFERENCE

Faculty Members Hear From the Experts

Two composition instructors from the UMES English Department traveled to College Park recently to attend the [2014 Maryland Conference on Academic and Professional Writing](#).

The event, held October 10 and 11, brought national and international writing studies scholars to the University of Maryland to share their expertise.

Gabriela Vlahovici-Jones and Sandra Johnston, who regularly teach basic composition and technical writing courses at UMES, attended the conference.

Sessions were designed to examine critical issues in theory, research and best practices in writing instruction. Conference presenters focused on current research results to examine the range and

effectiveness of writing instruction across all campus disciplines.

Ms. Johnston is currently completing her doctoral degree in composition and second language learning. She was impressed with the caliber of scholars at the conference. "I recognized at least seven speakers as people I had read for my doctoral classes, so it was exciting to hear them in person," she said.



Ms. Vlahovici-Jones



Ms. Johnston

SYMPOSIUM UPDATE

Planning continues for the Student Symposium in English and Modern Languages to be held December 4 on the UMES campus.

The program provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to create and deliver an academic presentation. One of the sessions will focus on the [Just One Book](#) program inaugurated on the UMES campus this year.

The deadline for submissions is November 3. Ten faculty members will each review the proposals that fall in their area of expertise including, among other topics, creative writing, foreign languages, literature, telecommunications, and public speaking. Students will be notified if their proposals are accepted by November 17.

Student presenters will earn a giftcard redeemable at the campus bookstore.

FALL THEATER

Insights goes to press just as the UMES Drama Society presents "[A Raisin in the Sun](#)" by Lorraine Hansberry.

The first show was October 29; your last chance to see the production is Saturday, November 1. The shows begin each evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.



(L to R) Courtney Milligan and Orret Cush during rehearsal

Photo by Jim Glover

Spring 2015 Pre-Registration

Monday, November 10: Seniors and Athletes Only

Tuesday, November 11: Juniors and Seniors Only

Wednesday, November 12: Freshmen Only

November 13-21: All Students



CONGRATULATIONS!

Wedding bells are ringing this year in the Department of English and Modern Languages. Professor Melissa Green married Jon Moore at the end of last semester, and adjunct composition instructor Matt Bogdan married Bonnie Nay on the beach in Ocean City this semester. Best wishes to both sets of newlyweds.

WORD PLAY ANSWERS FROM PAGE THREE:

1. ocelot (Rule 4)
2. end (Rule 4)
3. duck (Rule 1)
4. apple (Rule 3)
5. under (Rule 4)
6. apple (Rule 4)
7. eight (Rule 2)
8. glove (Rule 1)

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.