

# INSIGHTS

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



November 2016  
Volume 28, Issue 3

## UMES ENGLISH GRAD MAKES HISTORY *Salisbury City Council Appoints First African American Male*

R. Hardy Rudasill, who earned a UMES English degree in 2006, is now the first African American male to serve on the [city council in Salisbury, Maryland](#). He was sworn in as the representative of the city's 5th District on October 24.



Mr. Rudasill

Photo by Jim Glovier

The opportunity arose when the sitting council member moved away from the area. Mr. Rudasill was one of three people who applied for the position.

His fellow council members described his appointment as historic.

"Now is an exciting time in Salisbury," he said. "And I'm excited to have the opportunity to serve my community."

Mr. Rudasill's interest in government may have been sparked during his senior year as an undergraduate when he served as an intern in the Capitol Hill office of Senator Paul Sarbanes.



Mr. Rudasill takes his oath of office, administered by Wicomico County Clerk of the Court Mark Bowen.

Following graduation, Mr. Rudasill earned a law degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana. He serves now as the [UMES Title IX Coordinator and Equity and Compliance Officer](#).

Mr. Rudasill's council duties are not his first experience in municipal government. He has served on [Salisbury's Building Board of Adjustments and Appeals](#) since 2014.

## A GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE

### *Students Attend Communications Job Fair at Howard University*

A group of UMES students interested in media careers traveled to Washington, D.C., on October 27 to attend the 2016 Communications Job and Internship Fair on the campus of Howard University.

The event is a daylong opportunity to interact with professionals from radio, television, public relations, advertising and marketing firms.

The morning featured panel discussions with industry-specific experts who offered advice on how to get a job in their particular field. Students spent the afternoon visiting more than 50 career fair booths talking to employers and graduate school representatives.



(L to R) Juwan Richardson, Crystal Matthews, Gianni Flowers, Camille Butler, Nadja Cox, Damisha Brown, Tatianna Carpenter, Melissa Witherspoon, Kyle Carter, Jayla Gilliam, Albany Montgomery, Tyra Oliver, Trey Robinson, Arianna Garnett, Marie Hassan and John Livengood

"It was a good experience," said Gianni Flowers, a senior English major. "I got a lot of feedback on my resume."

The trip was made possible through an English department endowment fund created by Bill Jones, a member of the class of 1978, and his wife, Willetta.



# CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

## *English Graduate Receives Prestigious Academic Affairs Appointment*

The Department of English and Modern Languages has a new best friend in the provost's office. Robin Hoffman, an English alumnus who graduated in 2004, is now the interim assistant vice president for academic affairs.

Mr. Hoffman will retain his duties as director of the university's [Center for Instructional Technology and Online Learning](#). He gains responsibility for academic innovation, faculty development and course redesign.

"I am honored to be asked by our provost to serve in this capacity," he said. "As a UMES graduate, I hope I bring a unique perspective to the job."

His new assignment means he will serve on the university's strategic planning committee and a campus committee tasked with academic transformation.



*Mr. Hoffman*

*Photo by Jim Glovier*

Mr. Hoffman is also co-chair of the UMES Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference to be held January 11.

He sees his expertise as the university's instructional technology expert as a key element in how he'll approach his new job.

"I want to help faculty fully embrace technology," he said.

# THREE CHEERS FOR EARL HOLLAND

## *Former Academic Team Captain Wins Big on Sports Jeopardy!*

Earl Holland, who captained the UMES academic team before he graduated with an English degree in 2005, is busy looking for a good tax attorney. That's because he's won at least \$20,000 on "[Sports Jeopardy!](#)"



The weekly series is produced by [Sony Pictures Television](#) for the streaming network [Crackle](#). It is hosted by current NBC

Sports and former ESPN personality [Dan Patrick](#).

As this newsletter was being prepared, Mr. Holland was the reigning champion, having won four

consecutive games as part of the show's third season.

An Eastern Shore native, Mr. Holland is a sports journalist at The News Journal newspaper in Wilmington, Delaware. After successfully completing an online tryout, he traveled to California in July to appear on the show.

He's been sworn to secrecy about the outcome of his participation, so it's entirely possible that his new tax attorney may have more than \$20,000 in winnings to protect. New episodes debut on the Crackle website each Wednesday.

## WORD PLAY: More Celebrity Anagrams

Rearrange each set of letters to spell the name of a current celebrity – someone you might see on stage or in a movie.

Example: oil jar buster      Answer: Julia Roberts

1. o green ecology
2. madman tot
3. my rice jar
4. nickname idol
5. serene wire photos

**Answers available on Page 3.**

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

# ON THE ROAD AGAIN

## English Faculty Make Conference Presentations

Despite the time constraints of teaching, grading, advising and the myriad other responsibilities of a college professor, members of the UMES English faculty still manage to pursue and present their own academic research.

Amy Hagenrater-Gooding and Dean Cooledge traveled to the Glassboro, New Jersey, campus of Rowan University for the 2016 convention of the

[Literature/Film Association](#) in October.

As part of a panel discussing BBC



*Drs. Hagenrater-Gooding and Cooledge at Rowan University*

*Photo submitted by Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding*

adaptations of literature, Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding delivered a presentation titled “Men Suck, or How [John Logan](#) Re-Writes the Traditional Gothic Tale to Feed Women.”

Dr. Cooledge chaired a session on film adaptations of classic literature. His presentation focused on filmmaker [Woody Allen](#). It was titled “Third Time’s a Charm: Allen’s perpetual engagement with Crime and Punishment.”

Faculty members Carole Champagne and Sandy Johnston both are scheduled to make academic presentations in November.

Ms. Johnston will attend the [Maryland TESOL's 36th Annual Fall Conference](#) on November 12 at Howard Community College in Columbia, Maryland. The

theme of that event is “Celebrating and Motivating Teachers.” Ms. Johnston’s presentation is titled “Motivating Change in Response to Internationalization.”

In celebration of [International Education Week](#), November 14-18, Dr. Champagne has been invited to present undergraduate and graduate international education study and internship abroad opportunities at an event on the UMES campus. The agenda is still being formalized.



*Ms. Johnston*



*Dr. Champagne*

*Photos by Jim Glovier*

# ROTTEN APPLE

## Don't Miss the Fall Theater Production

November 2 marks the UMES presentation of a play written by a former UMES English major. “Rotten Apple” is what’s described as a family drama. It is the creation of Barry Battle, a Prince Georges County, Maryland, native, who arrived on the UMES campus as a transfer student in 2009.

The production also marks the return of English faculty emeritus Della Dameron-Johnson who retired from full-time teaching in 2013. She’s back to direct “Rotten Apple” with help from another former UMES English major, Tahja Cropper, who serves as assistant director.

The play will be staged in the

Fitzgerald Performing Arts Center November 2-6. Mr. Battle is expected to attend one of the performances. Admission is free to students with a valid ID.



*Set construction photo (above) by T.H. Baughman. Dress rehearsal photo (left) by Tahja Cropper.*



## WORD PLAY ANSWERS FROM PAGE TWO:

1. George Clooney
2. Matt Damon
3. Jim Carey
4. Nicole Kidman
5. Reese Witherspoon

## DON'T FORGET!

Proposals for the English department’s student symposium must be emailed to [Dr. Amy Hagenrater-Gooding](#) by November 18. Sessions, scheduled for December 1 in Wilson Hall, will be divided by topics, including creative writing, literature, oral communication, professional communication, and language and communication.

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# RECRUITMENT 101

## Faculty Meet With Area High School Students

Interim Department Chair Dean Coolegge was joined by faculty members Marilyn Buerkle, Cynthia Cravens and Simeon Shoge at the university's [15th annual Tri-County College Fair](#) recently.

The event was held in the Hytche Athletic Center on October 20. Dr. Cravens took the initiative to enhance the department's booth with a Halloween theme, displaying both literature and films from horror and science fiction genres.

The students may have been lured by Halloween candy, but they stayed to

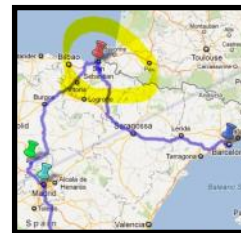


discuss the career options available to students who earn a bachelor's degree in English.

The faculty encouraged the high school students who attended to make the UMES Department of English and Modern Languages their first choice as they consider where they'll attend college.

# CHECKING ON PROGRAMS

Language professor Carole Champagne has been scouting out locations for UMES students to study in the Basque Region of the western Pyrenees, a picturesque area that straddles the border between France and Spain on the Atlantic coast.



"I was invited by [Deusto University](#) administrators to visit their highly ranked international programs, including the International Business School, where most courses are taught in English and certified by international accrediting agencies. I also visited [the university in San Sebastián](#)," she said. "I met several very happy American students at both campuses."

# ENGLISH EDUCATION UPDATE

## Changes in Internship Designations to Meet State Requirements

By Barbara Seabrook

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

*Photo by Robin Hoffman*



Congratulations to Jenna Crockett, an English education major who is now officially a teacher candidate. Ms. Crockett, a Parksley, Virginia native, has completed all the requirements for official acceptance into the [UMES Teacher Education Program](#).

Teacher candidates will find some changes in the university's internship process beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year.

The fall of the senior year will be regarded as Internship I and the spring of the senior year will be Internship II.

This change will be implemented based on the requirement of the [Maryland State Department of Education](#) that education majors complete 100 consecutive days of internship in a Professional Development School (PDS) setting.

During the fall of the senior year, teacher candidates will complete 20 days (65 hours of field experience) in conjunction with the following courses: EDCI 311 Comprehensive Assessment (10 field experience hours), EDCI 410 Teaching of Reading in Content Areas II (15 field experience hours), EDCI 425 Curriculum & Instruction in English (25 field experience hours) and EDCI 428

Communication & Collaboration in Special Ed (15 field experience hours).

The PDS placement during the fall semester of the senior year will be the first placement for Internship II in the spring.

Teacher candidates will begin Internship II having not only an established professional relationship with their mentor teacher but also a familiarity with the mentor teacher's classroom procedures and the policies of the PDS.

The 80 days of internship during the spring and final semester before graduation will be completed in two different public school locations. The first placement occurs in a PDS middle school; the second in a PDS high school.

**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](mailto:mlbuerkle@umes.edu).**