

INSIGHTS



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SHAKESPEARE UNDER THE STARS

Students and Faculty Attend Princess Anne Performance

Studying the written word is not quite the same as seeing it in action.

A group of about a dozen UMES English majors and faculty members, armed with folding chairs and bug spray, made the short trip from campus to the historic [Teakle Mansion in Princess Anne](#) on September 8 to see an outdoor production of “The Taming of the Shrew.”

The presentation was part of the annual free Shakespeare tour of the [Brown Box Theater Project](#).

Each summer, the theater company stages free performances of a play by William Shakespeare in multiple venues across the Eastern Shore. This is the second time Amy Hagenrater-Gooding has invited her



Some of the UMES theater goers (L to R) Michael Lane, Nick Donchak, Valarie Spivey, Dean Cooledge, Jasmin Sellers, Trey Robinson, Kelli Green and Amy Hagenrater-Gooding.

students to join her for Shakespeare at the Teakle Mansion.

“Students read great drama and talk about great drama, but ... seeing these plays enacted allows students to see the various

interpretations that can come as a result of staging, casting, set design and location,” she said. “It provides another layer of understanding and learning.”

Founded by Kyler Taustin, an Eastern Shore native and graduate of the theater directing program at Emerson College, the Brown Box mission is to “break down barriers that separate the masses from live theater by bringing the very best in performance, design and collaboration to unconventional venues and underserved destinations.”

The company splits its time between Boston and the Delmarva peninsula. Its production of “The Taming of the Shrew” played seven dates in New England before traveling south to perform at 13 different locations on the Eastern Shore.

USING THE CLASSROOM AS A STAGE

Modern Drama Students Focus on the Black Arts Movement

At the start of this semester, students enrolled in ENGL 401, Modern Drama, are focusing on the [Black Arts Movement](#), but they aren’t just reading the work.

Their instructor, Will Rose, brought his conga drums to class recently, and while he and a student played the drums as accompaniment, members of the class performed monologs and read poetry from the period.

The movement, founded in Harlem in the 1960s, produced political work that was

designed to instill pride in black history and culture.

“The movement placed a great deal of importance on collective oral and performance art, and drums were a major part in the dissemination of the word,” Mr. Rose said.



(L to R) Dathen Dawkins and Mr. Rose accompany Colleen Hendrickson as she reprises her role from a UMES Drama Society production of “For Colored Girls” in a recent class session of ENGL 401.

Photo by Narasia Handy

ENGLISH EDUCATION UPDATE

Teacher Candidates Spend the Semester in the Classroom

By Barbara Seabrook

Editor's Note:

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

Photo by Robin Hoffman



One undergraduate teacher candidate and three graduate students in the UMES [master of arts in teaching program](#) (MAT) are completing their internships at local professional development schools.

Detia Hilliard, a senior majoring in English education, is a permanent substitute at [Washington High School](#) in Princess Anne teaching 10th and 12th grade English.

Denise Johnson, an MAT student who earned her bachelor's degree in English at UMES in 2009, is a permanent substitute teacher for 6th grade English Language Arts at [Somerset Intermediate School](#) in Crisfield.

Keshawn Taylor, an MAT student who earned his undergraduate degree in

English at UMES in 2012, is teaching 7th grade as a permanent substitute at [Mace's Middle School](#) in Cambridge, Maryland, in Dorchester County.

Caroline Black (MAT) is teaching 9th and 11th grade English at Washington High School with mentor teacher David Edwards.

English Ed Grad Creates a Library

Corey Haynes, who was selected as the English department's outstanding student before her graduation in 2013, is celebrating the completion of her first year in Managua, Nicaragua, as a [Peace Corps](#) volunteer.

When she observed the need for teaching resources and reading materials for students, Ms. Haynes submitted a Peace Corps grant proposal to set up a library. "We have a goal of obtaining \$4700 in donations to complete the library project, and I know we can do it," she said.

Ms. Haynes has already solicited book donations and begun setting up the books for students to read and the instructional resources and training materials for teachers.

She collected materials for the library that included not only books written in Spanish, but also books written in English, especially at the lower level because most high school students in Nicaragua are still learning English fundamentals.



Ms. Haynes (standing) in a Nicaraguan classroom

Photo provided by Ms. Haynes

Boxes of supplies for the library project have come from friends, family and teachers around the world. Some of the materials that were sent to her included posters, craft supplies, markers and book ends. "We are trying to make the library as beautiful and welcoming as possible, and the support from everyone has been phenomenal," Ms. Haynes said.

Maureen Shanley, who helps Peace Corps volunteers with shipping at [Connecticut Quest for Peace](#), offered to consolidate the donations from the U.S. and ship them to Nicaragua for the library project, which has a planned grand opening of February 2016.

WORD PLAY: Word Plexers

Working on these brain-plexing puzzles can improve your problem solving skills. What word or saying is depicted in each item?

Example: go it it it it

Answer: Go for it!

1. cotaxme

2. A chance N

3. you the past

4. long
do

5. AALLL

Answers on Page 5.

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

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ALL SPORTS, ALL THE TIME

Earl Holland, who graduated with a UMES English degree in 2005 and spent much of the last decade as a reporter for [The Daily Times](#) in nearby Salisbury, recently accepted a new job at [The News Journal](#) in New Castle, Delaware.



Mr. Holland

Photo by Brice Stump

Mr. Holland is the paper's sports producer; he is in charge of the Journal's online sports content and participates in planning for the sports section of the daily print publication.

While a UMES student, Mr. Holland served as general manager of Hawk Radio, the student-managed radio station, and was also a member of the UMES Honda All-Star Academic Team.

BEST TWITTER FEED?

Justin Stewart, Class of 2010, will find out soon if he wins a social media contest in Washington, D.C.



Mr. Stewart

Photo provided by Mr. Stewart

Mr. Stewart is one of the nominees in a "Best of Gay D.C." competition sponsored by the [Washington Blade](#). Four other finalists join Mr. Stewart in the category of best local [Twitter](#) feed. Winners will be announced on October 22.

When he isn't tweeting at [@jnstewart15](#), Mr. Stewart is a segment producer and guest booker for the morning news program at [WJLA TV](#), the ABC affiliate for the Washington, D.C. area.

WELCOME FRESHMEN!

Members of the Class of 2019 were officially welcomed to campus by an educator who earned his UMES English degree back in 1996.



Dr. Hughes at the convocation

Photo by Jim Glovier

Lorenzo Hughes was the featured speaker at the freshmen convocation held September 17.

Dr. Hughes was the first person in his immediate family to attend college. After graduation he launched a career as a classroom teacher but quickly moved into school administration. He serves now as assistant superintendent for instruction for [Dorchester County \(Maryland\) Public Schools](#).

ART AND FILM COLLIDE

Creative Faculty Member is Published in British Magazine

Faculty member Joe Davis has combined his expertise in graphic art and his love of classic horror films to produce cover art and posters for a British publisher.



Mr. Davis

Most of the work has appeared in [We Belong Dead: The Classic Age of Horror & Fantasy Films](#)

published by Hemlock Books Limited of London. The magazine takes its name from the classic line spoken by Boris Karloff's monster in the 1935 film "[The Bride of Frankenstein](#)."

Mr. Davis has developed a style of montage that features dozens of digital pictures carefully crafted in tribute to an actor, fictional character or film genre. He inserts other artifacts and images that

provide tiny surprise packages for the carefully observant film aficionado.

Published works include, among others, a poster that celebrates the silent film era and inside cover art for an issue dedicated to the films created by [Hammer Studios](#).

Mr. Davis is currently working on multiple pages of interior artwork for a book by the same publisher to be released later this year.

A member of the Department of English and Modern Languages faculty since 1993, Mr. Davis has taught computer graphics, photojournalism, and introductory and advanced film courses.



Mr. Davis's homage to the many roles of the late legendary actor Sir Christopher Lee

LITERARY LUMINARIES ASSEMBLE

Faculty Member Travels to D.C. for National Book Festival

By Carole Champagne

Editor's Note:

Dr. Champagne teaches Spanish language courses online and in the classroom.



"I cannot live without books," the theme of the recent [2015 National Book Festival](#), confirms the power of the written word. Thomas Jefferson did not anticipate that his collection of six thousand volumes would multiply into millions of print and billions of digital resources when he spoke these words two centuries ago. Contemporary iterations of books inspired thousands of literary pilgrims to Washington, DC for the festival.

My annual pilgrimages to the National Book Festival always lead to conversations with internationally acclaimed authors. Last year, [Billy Collins](#), my favorite contemporary poet, sat near me and chatted while we listened to [Paul Auster](#), a brilliant multi-genre author and director. I was fortunate



Book Festival photos by Dr. Champagne

to have seen [E.L. Doctorow](#) before his passing.

This year, I saw astronaut [Buzz Aldrin](#) and news anchor [Tom Brokaw](#) several times. The international phenomenon [David Baldacci](#) related a hilarious visit to Italy; he was unexpectedly welcomed by dignitaries and long-lost relatives upon his arrival. [Walter Isaacson](#) participated in two sessions related to his biography, "Steve Jobs," upon which the Fassbender film adaptation is based, and "The Innovators: How a Group of Hackers,



Journalist Tom Brokaw is interviewed about his memoir, "A Lucky Life"

Geniuses, and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution," inspired by his daughter's research of female scientists. Multiple Pulitzer-Prize winner [Rick Atkinson](#) discussed his "Liberation Trilogy" and

current research for a Revolutionary War trilogy. While Atkinson's stellar scholarship inspired me above all authors

this year, my daughter's perennial anticipation and ebullience inspire me to venture hundreds of miles to meet authors and share in the excitement of the written word. Authors who vocalize (and artists who draw) their creations enhance the communal experience of the written

word. She met literary heroes, including [Neil Gaimon](#), [Diana Gabaldon](#) and [Brian Selznick](#) during past festivals. This year Arielle was delighted to converse at length with [Stephan Pastis](#)

while he signed "Pearls Before Swine" collections. Arielle will meet John and Hank Green, [The Vlog Brothers](#), at a Minneapolis conference in October.

We cannot live without books.

MEET THE FALL 2015 UMES WRITING CENTER TUTORS



(L to R) Top row: Bryan Matthews, Social Studies Education; Lance Morris, English; Liz Ranger, English & History. Second row: Dr. Terry Smith, Director; Sean Hayden, Biology; Jonathan Wheeler, Computer Science; Brandon Hudson, Computer Science. Third row: Jon'mel Davenport, English; Olivia Coleman, Aviation Science; Zoe Sonnier, English Education; Alisa Fornwald, Sociology. Bottom row: Jessica Land, English; Mariah Dennis, Biology; Colleen Hendrickson, English & Telecommunications; Roxanne Sudendorf, Special Education.

Parlez-Vous Français?

The Answer is: Mais Oui!

Congratulations are in order for faculty member Melissa Moore.

She learned in September that she passed her foreign language competency exam, a requirement of her [doctoral degree program in literature and criticism](#) at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

It turns out undergraduate students aren't the only ones who worry about test taking. Ms. Moore was graded on her knowledge of French which she studied for only two

years in high school.

"I am super proud of myself, because it was super tough," she said.

Ms. Green and her colleague, composition instructor Sandy Johnston, are both currently pursuing doctoral degrees at I. U. P.



Ms. Moore

PRODUCTION TEAMS

This semester, the [Discover UMES](#) crew has divided into production teams, each led by a senior English major. Tahja Cropper, Courtney Milligan and Danielle Jackson, veterans of the campus video production unit, are each working with a team of students who are interested in gathering career-related media experience.



(L to R) Danielle Jackson, Malachi Johnson, Melissa Witherspoon, Tahja Cropper, Jazmine Riley, Courtney Milligan, Myles Banks, Omari Carter, Paul Hines, Maya Speaks, and Nyribia Darden-Wright Not pictured: Nadja Cox

Photo by Jim Glover

MEDICAL SPANISH

[The Foreign Language Instructional Center](#)

will hold a Spanish language training session for community healthcare professionals October 16 and 17 in its new state-of-the-art classroom located in Room 0106 of the [Frederick Douglass Library](#). The classes will be taught by a native-speaking instructor, and content will be specifically geared toward facilitating communication related to medical care.

The cost to participate is \$119 per person.



TEXTBOOK COSTS

Faculty member Bonni Miller will experiment next semester with the use of open source materials as part of the [MOST Initiative](#).

The Maryland Open Source Textbook Initiative is striving to get the cost of textbooks down to under \$40 per class. The initiative began in 2013 as a collaborative effort between the USM Student Council and the USM Center for Academic Innovation.

“Since 1978, textbook prices have risen 812%,” Ms. Miller said. “I think that students feel encouraged that the University System also sees text book prices as a crisis. They feel that we are working together to make education more affordable for them.”

A MOST workshop to provide information to other professors will be held at UMES on October 9.



Ms. Miller

CELEBRATE CULTURE

Faculty member Mignon Anderson, a woman of both African and Native American heritage, invites the campus community to attend the [22nd Fall Accohannock Annual Native American Indian Heritage Festival & Powwow](#), October 17 and 18. The event will be held at the Accohannocks' Bending Water Park in Marion, Maryland.

Visitors will enjoy dancers in tribal dress. There will also be food and traditional handcrafted products on sale.



Ms. Anderson

PEACE IN THE PARK

Language professor Carole Champagne hosted a table for [Bienvenidos, a Delmarva Outreach Network](#), to welcome Hispanic visitors to the annual [Peace in the Park](#) celebration held September 19 in Salisbury, Maryland.

[Salisbury Mayor Jim Ireton](#) dedicated the Peace Pole with the phrase “May Peace Prevail On Earth” in eight languages.



UMES music faculty and students perform the closing concert next to the Peace Pole. Photo by Carole Champagne

SAVE THE DATE:

THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S NEXT STUDENT SYMPOSIUM WILL BE

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 3

WORD PLAY ANSWERS FROM PAGE TWO:

1. Income Tax
2. An Inside Chance
3. Put the Past Behind You
4. Long Overdue
5. All in All

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