

# INSIGHTS

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

  
UMES  
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## A NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT ON UMES

### English Major Earns Tom Joyner Foundation’s “Hercules” Scholarship

Joshua Dacres, a senior English major from New York City, deserves our congratulations. Mr. Dacres was named a [Hercules Scholar](#) by the Tom Joyner Foundation.



Mr. Dacres

The \$1,500 award was announced on Mr. Joyner’s radio program on Thursday, September 13. The popular radio host named the scholarship for his father, the late Hercules Joyner, who according to foundation literature “had a passion for education.”

Hercules Scholars must have demonstrated leadership skills,

Photo by Jim Glover

began early. When Mr. Dacres was a

participated in community service and maintained an excellent academic record.

Mr. Dacres’s GPA is a perfect 4.0. He has successfully balanced a rigorous class schedule with the responsibilities of a Division I track and field athlete.

His commitment to community service

sixth-grader, his mother took him along as a volunteer on a church mission to assist children in the 9th Ward in New Orleans, Louisiana. Following that first trip, he returned three times in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to help victims recover and rebuild.

The announcement of Mr. Dacres’s scholarship was part of the Joyner Foundation’s monthlong spotlight on our campus in September. Mr. Joyner selects a historically black college-of-the-month to alert his listeners to the significant accomplishments of the nation’s HBCUs and to encourage the audience to donate to the selected institution.

## HERE’S SOMETHING NEW

### Students Get the Chance to Learn Japanese



The English department’s [Foreign Language Instructional Center](#) has added another option for UMES students. FLIC rolled out Japanese 101 for the first time this semester.

Ten students have enrolled in the inaugural presentation of Japanese instruction, taught by FLIC Director Phillip Broussard. It meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 6 p.m.

“Japanese is considered one of the top ten most spoken languages in the world and is spoken by over 128 million people,” Mr. Broussard said. “Several students have expressed an interest in

travelling to Japan and becoming fluent in Japanese.”

The U.S. government categorizes Japanese as a “critical” language. It’s one of a number of non-Western European languages considered critical to U.S. national security.

UMES students now have the opportunity to study three of those critical languages: Japanese, Chinese and Arabic, as well as the more traditional options of Spanish and French.



Dustin Adams practices one of three Japanese alphabets he’s learning in JAPN 101.

Photo by Phillip Broussard

## DON’T FORGET!

The Office of Career Services and the UMES School of Pharmacy will present the Fall Career, Graduate and Professional School Fair on Thursday, October 4, in the SSC Ballroom from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

# “PLEASE PRAY FOR US...”

## English Faculty Member Creates Orphanage in South Africa

The children served by [Hope International Orphanage](#) in Mpumalanga, South Africa, have new tanks to supply safe, clean water. They also have a new kitchen.



They are grateful to English faculty member Jennifer Keane-Dawes. She founded the orphanage in 2015 and serves as its CEO.

Dr. Keane-Dawes first visited Mpumalanga as a chaperone for the [Bridge Education Abroad Institute](#) and was moved to help.



Dr. Keane-Dawes

“There are thousands of orphans in the area. Their parents died in

Photo by Jim Glover

the AIDS epidemic,” she said.

When she returned home, she established Hope International as an official non-profit organization and created a board of directors.

“We solicit contributions in response to needs identified by the local community. We provide food, blankets, shoes and tanks to supply clean water to hundreds of orphans and caregivers in the area.”

One of her requests went to [Random Acts](#), a charity run by [Misha Collins](#), star of the television series “Supernatural.” The organization responded with funding for Hope’s new kitchen.

Since there is no dedicated source of sustained funding, Dr. Keane-Dawes has this message for those who visit [Hope International’s website](#): We continue to move forward, trusting God for His provision at every turn. Please pray for us.



Children draw water (above); early kitchen construction (left); Kitchen nears completion (below).



Photos provided by Dr. Keane-Dawes



## FIRST LOOK FAIR

[Hawk Radio](#) and [Discover UMES](#), the university’s two student media organizations, were active participants in the recent First Look Fair. It’s an opportunity for student clubs to showcase their groups and recruit new members.



Discover UMES reporter Christopher Ingram interviews J. Michael Harpe, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs.

Photo by Leon Lewis

## THEATER OUTDOORS Annual Live Shakespeare Production

The Boston-based [Brown Box Theater Project](#) staged its production of Shakespeare’s “As You Like It” on the grounds of the historic [Teackle Mansion](#) in downtown Princess Anne on Wednesday, September 12.

Included in the audience were about twenty students enrolled in Department Chair Dean Cooledge’s Introduction to Theater and Acting I classes.

“There’s no substitute for the experience of live theater,” Dr. Cooledge said. “We’re really fortunate that Brown Box travels to the Eastern Shore every year, and the fact that the Princess Anne production is free makes it all the more accessible to our students.”



The Brown Box Theater Project performs in the backyard of the Teackle Mansion.

Photo by Carrie Samus

This year marked the company’s eighth annual free outdoor Shakespeare tour.

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. UMES prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. Inquiries regarding the application of federal laws and non-discrimination policies to university programs and activities may be referred to the Office of Equity & Compliance/Title IX Coordinator by telephone at (410) 651-7848 or by email at [titleix@umes.edu](mailto:titleix@umes.edu).



## TRAUMA & LEARNING

Adjunct composition instructor Bill Cecil presented at the [Mid-Atlantic Conference on College Composition & Communication](#) held recently at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia.



*Mr. Cecil*

*Photo by Bill Brophy*

Mr. Cecil's session was titled "Teaching & Learning in the Trauma-Informed Classroom." He explored the effects of traumatic life events on the learning process and offered researched-based techniques to build trust, create safe learning environments, and instill a sense of academic success among students of all backgrounds, but particularly first generation college students.

## WELL REPRESENTED

English professor Terry Smith attended the 45<sup>th</sup> [Phi Kappa Phi](#) Biennial Convention held recently in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This year's theme was "Keep Calm and Carry on Excellence."



As part of her final duties as one of the organization's regional vice presidents, Dr. Smith chaired the meeting of the Northeast Region. During that session, members chose another UMES professor to succeed her. Ray Davis will represent the Northeast region for the next two years.



*Drs. Davis and Smith*

*Photo by Jami Prince*

## A PROVOST'S FELLOW

Faculty member Cynthia Cravens has been appointed the Provost's Fellow in Faculty Development to plan and implement programs for existing faculty and new instructors.



*Dr. Cravens*

*Photo by Jim Glovier*

She will work closely with the university's soon to-be-hired director of faculty development.

"Our first priority is to develop a program to assist with advising and retention," she said.

Dr. Cravens will continue to teach English courses this semester, but she will also manage a learning community of new faculty.

## ACADEMIC MILESTONE

Faculty member Melissa Green-Moore has entered the final phase of her doctoral degree program. She has completed her course work and now begins the arduous process of writing her dissertation.



*Ms. Green-Moore*

*Photo by Jim Glovier*

At the completion of that process, Ms. Green-Moore will earn a Ph.D. in [Literature and Criticism](#) from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Ms. Green-Moore has taught poetry, creative writing and literature in the Department of English and Modern Languages for nearly 20 years.

She is currently one of three fulltime English faculty members in the process of earning terminal degrees.

## BUSINESS SUCCESS

Adjunct composition instructor Dianne Pearce is also a publisher, and she has something to celebrate. Her company, [Devil's Party Press](#), is releasing its first full-length work.



*Ms. Pearce*

*Photo by Bill Cecil*

David Dutton's novel "[One of the Madding Crowd](#)" will be released at an event scheduled for November 2 at the library in Milton, Delaware. The author will read portions of his book and will sign copies.

Ms. Pearce's publishing venture is just a year old. "I started last fall to publish the works of, primarily, unpublished writers with the caveat that said writers must be older than 40 years old," she said.

## ASSIGNMENT: BE KIND

Students in an honors seminar taught by English faculty member Amy Hagenrater-Gooding will get a lesson in kindness this month.



*Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding*

"They are learning the importance of practicing random acts of kindness," she said. To that end, she has invited a guest speaker who created a local organization called [Wicomico Grows Kindness](#).

Grace Foxwell Murdoch is a retired public school teacher who has made spreading kindness her personal mission. Her remarks are scheduled for Wednesday, October 3, at noon in EASC 1088. The campus community is welcome to attend.

## OPEN FOR BUSINESS

An experienced staff of peer tutors is ready to help at the [UMES Writing Center](#). The center is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Students are able to [check the availability of tutors and schedule their appointments](#) online.

Tutors will assist with writing assignments in any discipline at any stage of the writing process.



Fall 2018 tutors (L to R) Sean Hayden, Kia Proctor, Dani Cerritos, Tatianna Carpenter, Jessica Clatterback and Sarah Jones

## HAPPY ENDINGS

Zoe Sonnier, an honors student, earned her UMES English degree a semester early in 2017 with a perfect 4.0 GPA. She didn't plan then to be a classroom teacher, but it turns out, she loves it!

This fall, Ms. Sonnier began teaching 10th and 12th grade English at [Crisfield Academy High School](#), a public high school in Somerset County, Maryland.

"So far, it's been such an amazing experience," Ms. Sonnier said. "It's definitely a lot of hard work, but seeing students start to understand the concepts at the end of the day makes it all worth it."

Ms. Sonnier says her work as a tutor in the UMES Writing Center has proven to be invaluable when it comes to connecting with her students and figuring out how to help each one individually.

Now there's another UMES degree on the horizon for Ms. Sonnier. She plans to earn her [master's degree in education](#) at her alma mater.

## WELCOME, BABY HAWK!

Christina (Taylor) Riley, Class of 2009, is one busy woman. She is a television director for [NBC Sports Washington](#), and she and her husband, Adrian, a UMES engineering graduate, recently increased their family from three to four.

Baby Natalie joined her big sister, Naomi, in late spring.

We predict the girls will be earning English degrees at UMES. Not only would they be following in their mother's footsteps, their Aunt Jasmine Taylor just graduated from UMES with an English degree last May.



Photo provided by Natalie's proud mom.

## Word Play: Creating Imaginary Definitions and Words Using the Meaning of the Word Parts

Look for the words in the list below that are homonyms and synonyms and use your creativity to determine the word or phrase that matches the meaning.

(Examples: 1 kilogram of falling figs = 1 Fig Newton Half of a large intestine = 1 Semicolon)

1. 2000 pounds of Chinese Soup = ?
2. 1 millionth of a mouthwash = ?
3. Time between slipping on a banana peel and smacking the pavement = ?
4. Weight an Evangelist carries with God = ?
5. 365.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer = ?
6. 1000 cc's of wet socks = ?
7. 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone = ?
8. 1,000,000 aches = ?
9. Basic unit of laryngitis = ?
10. Shortest distance between two jokes = ?

Answers on Page 5

Word Play is provided each month by Dr. Barbara Seabrook

## A STEP BACK IN TIME

One English faculty member took time on a recent European vacation to visit the home of a literary legend. Author Charles Dickens lived at 48 Doughty Street in Holborn, London, from 1837 to 1839. It's where he wrote "Oliver Twist," "The Pickwick Papers" and "Nicholas Nickleby." It's now a [house museum](#) which public speaking professor Jennifer Keane-Dawes toured while traveling recently with her son.



*Dr. Keane-Dawes in Mr. Dickens' kitchen*

*Photo provided by Dr. Keane-Dawes*

## GLOBAL AVAILABILITY

This summer, the [CEA-MAG Journal](#), which faculty member Terry Smith co-edits, became available in the [EBSCOhost database](#). That's an online research platform reportedly used by thousands of institutions and millions of users worldwide.

"My co-editor, David Kaloustian of Bowie State University, and I are very proud of this accomplishment since it gives our journal greater exposure and greater prominence," Dr. Smith said.

CEA-MAG Journal is the annual peer-reviewed journal of the [College English Association-Middle Atlantic Group](#). The last twelve volumes of the publication, which were previously distributed regionally, are now available around the world. Those volumes include contributions from several current members of the UMES English department including Melissa Green-Moore, Amy Hagenrater-Gooding and Gabriela Vlahovici-Jones.

UMES  
WRITING  
WORKSHOP  
SCHEDULED  
with the  
author of the  
graphic novel series  
"BLACK JACK"



Alex Simmons

Friday, October 19, 1-4 p.m.

Campus Location T.B.A.

### WORD PLAY ANSWERS:

1. Won Ton
2. One microscope
3. One Banana Second
4. One Billigram
5. One Lite Year
6. One Literhosen
7. One Rod Serling
8. One Megahurtz
9. One Hoarsepower
10. A Straight Line

## CHOOSING A CAREER

### *Internships Can Help You Decide*

Senior English major Emani Johnson is considering becoming a lawyer. Senior digital media student Ben Desta thinks he may want to pursue a career in television production.

Both have a better handle on their professional futures since they enrolled in the English department's internship course.

Ms. Johnson is currently serving as an assistant in the chambers of Patricia Broderick, an associate judge on the [Superior Court of the District of Columbia](#). Mr. Desta spent the summer on a [C-SPAN](#) video crew.

The department allows students who have completed their sophomore year and have at least a 2.7 GPA to earn up to 12 credits in internship experience.



*(Left) Ms. Johnson in her D.C. office*

*(Below) Mr. Desta sits facing a camera during the set-up for a televised congressional hearing.*

*Photos provided by the interns.*



Saturday, March 9 at  
Chesapeake College

Early Bird [registration](#) opens  
October 1

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