

INSIGHTS

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


UMES
October 2019
Volume 34 Issue 2

OUR 16th PRESIDENT IS INAUGURATED *The Department of English & Modern Languages Joins in the Celebration*

September 13 marked both the official inauguration of [Heidi Anderson](#) as the university's 16th president and the institution's 133rd anniversary of its founding.

Traditional Founder's Week activities included the [summer commencement ceremony](#) on Thursday, but Friday and Saturday focused on Dr. Anderson.

The [inauguration ceremony](#) on Friday and the scholarship gala the following evening were well attended by current members of the UMES English department and by a number of English alumni, some who traveled great distances to offer their congratulations.

Photos by Jim Glovier, Janay McIntosh and Bill Robinson



President Anderson and her husband Leon Roberts



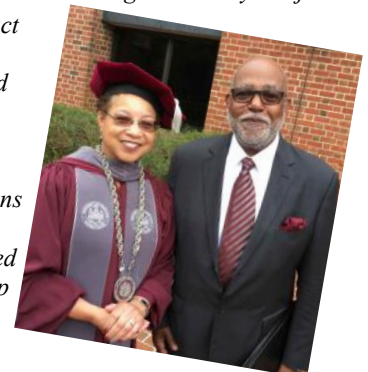
(Above) Adjunct English instructors and local TV personalities Kimberly Holmes-Wiggins and Nicole Webb co-hosted the scholarship gala.



Department Chair Dean Cooledge and Kelly Tsujioka



(Right) English faculty members Terry Kundell and Carole Champagne pose with Provost Nancy Niemi prior to the inauguration.



English Class of '78 grad Horatio "Bill" Jones came from Charlotte, North Carolina to celebrate our new president.

LEADERSHIP MARYLAND VISITS UMES *A Tour Highlight: English Department's Media Facilities*

UMES President Heidi Anderson and her counterpart at nearby Salisbury University, Charles Wight, are part of the 2019 class of [Leadership Maryland](#), a group designed to nurture and connect state leaders. On September 18, the two presidents invited their colleagues to tour their campuses. The English department's digital media program was one of two academic areas they visited during their tour of the UMES campus.



(Left) Members of Leadership Maryland pose in front of Hawk Radio, the student radio station supervised by the English department's digital media staff, during their recent tour of the university's Engineering and Aviation Sciences Complex. Photo by Jim Glovier

WRITING ABOUT WRITERS CENSORSHIP? NO THANKS.

Faculty Member is Editor and Contributor

English faculty member Cynthia Cravens has a book project underway.

Recently accepted for publication by academic publisher [Lexington Books](#), Dr. Cravens' volume "Geniuses, Addicts, and Scribbling Women" collects twelve scholarly essays written by accomplished faculty including her UMES colleague Amy Hagenrater-Gooding and Dr. Cravens herself.



Dr. Cravens
Photo by Jim Glovier

Each essay focuses on a different fictional character who is struggling to find success as a writer.

Dr. Cravens writes about two African American novels from the 1920s that portray writers, artists, intellectuals and actors living—and trying to "make it"—during the Harlem Renaissance.

Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding examines two television series, "[The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel](#)" and "[I Love Dick](#)," which both present female heroines pursuing creative careers in male-dominated fields.

Other characters and topics in the collection will include Superman's paramour [Lois Lane](#), [Karen Page](#) from the Daredevil comic series, the online persona of [Chuck Palahniuk](#), and women writing about the portrayal of female writers in supernatural fiction.

The book is scheduled to go to press in June 2020.

Adjunct composition instructor and [Devil's Party Press](#)

(DPP) publisher Dianne Pearce sees her literary press's most recent collection of poetry and short stories as a statement against censorship.

The title of the anthology makes that clear.

"[What Sort of Fuckery Is This?](#)" includes over 50 original, obscenity-themed works. Its title is loosely based on [a lyric from a song](#) by the late Amy Winehouse.

DPP is headquartered in Milton, Delaware. The contributors to the anthology are from all over the world.



Cover art courtesy of Devil's Party Press

"BIRD BOX" ANALYSIS

A new collection published by [Rowman and Littlefield](#), titled "Race, Gender, and Apocalypse: Essays on Bird Box," will feature a chapter by faculty member Amy Hagenrater-Gooding.

"[Bird Box](#)," a popular 2018 film based on a sci-fi novel by Josh Malerman, spins a tale of violence and self destruction.

Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding focuses on the concept of a monstrous mother and the fear of monstrous children in an essay titled "Mo-(ns)th(st)er Within/Mo-(ns)th(st)er Without: 'Bird Box' and Maternal Fear." The book will be published next spring.



Dr. Hagenrater-Gooding
Photo by Jim Glovier

DREAM IT-ACHIEVE IT English Faculty Look for Grant Opportunities

UMES Writing Center director Terry Kundell and public speaking coordinator Gabriela Vlahovici-Jones attended "[Dream It -- Achieve It: Federal Cultural Funding Opportunities for HBCUs](#)" held in Washington, D.C, September 10-11.

The two day workshop, a part of the [2019 National HBCU Week Conference](#), included presentations by representatives from the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the U.S. Department of Education.

The pair was exploring grant opportunities for the UMES School of Education, Social Sciences, and The Arts.

"On the second day, we were given a private tour of the National Museum for African American History and Culture, and then we were offered individual



(L to R) Drs. Vlahovici-Jones and Kundell

Photo provided by Dr. Kundell

conversations with program officers from the federal agencies," Dr. Kundell said. "We discussed grant ideas for UMES with the representatives from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. It was a very valuable experience."

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NEXT STOP: GRAD SCHOOL

Tatianna Carpenter earned her UMES English degree with a minor in digital media, magna cum laude, in May.

She'll head to graduate school in January at Johns Hopkins University.

Ms. Carpenter will earn a master of arts in government, part of the university's Krieger School of Arts and Sciences Advanced Academic Programs. The government coursework is headquartered at the Hopkins campus in Washington, D.C., but Ms. Carpenter reports many of her courses can be taken online.



Ms. Carpenter

Photo by Jim Glovier

FAMILIAR TERRITORY

Damisha Brown, Class of 2016, thought her career path led to broadcast journalism, but she took a left turn that brought her back home.

Ms. Brown began a new job as a paraeducator last month. She works one-on-one with a student at Harry O. Eisenberg Elementary School in the Colonial School District.

That's the district in New Castle, Delaware, where Ms. Brown earned her high school diploma. She reports that many of her colleagues were once her teachers.



Ms. Brown

Photo by her principal, David Distler

GREAT JOB? CHECK ✓

Juwan Richardson has found an opportunity to combine his UMES English major and digital media minor with his longtime interest in business.

The May graduate is now a marketing specialist at a real estate company, the Wilson Homes Group of Keller Williams Legacy, in his hometown of Baltimore.

Mr. Richardson develops social media content, writes radio ads, plans community events, creates flyers, records videos and pitches news coverage of his employer's charitable events.



Mr. Richardson

Photo by Jim Glovier

FIRST LOOK FAIR

Dozens of students expressed interest in the student media organizations supervised by the English department during the recent UMES First Look Fair. The event features recruitment tables representing the wide variety of student organizations on campus.



(L to R) Shakuria Davis and Tyra Oliver

Photo by Leon Lewis

FALL THEATER PRODUCTION

Rehearsals are underway for the fall production in the Wilson Hall Black Box Theatre.



Tysheira Spruill and Charles Brown will star in "Fireflies" under the direction of Department Chair Dean Cooledge.

The play is a civil rights-era drama, the second in a trilogy written by Donja R. Love. The plot centers on a preacher and his wife whose marriage is in crisis.

The play will be staged November 15-17.

Students will be admitted free but, because of the theater's limited seating, reservations are required. Tickets will be available at umestickets.com.

WRITING CENTER OPEN

The UMES Writing Center, under the direction of English faculty member Terry Kundell, is already busy helping students. This semester appointments with a tutor can be booked directly from the Apps section of the "My UMES" portal page.



Fall 19 writing tutors (L to R): Nik Mejia, Cita Christian, Ciani Wells, Bri Carroway, Jessie Clatterbuck, Dani Cerritos and Christian Ferguson
Photo by Dr. Kundell

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 Sandy Johnston. 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.