

# POINTS OF PRIDE



At the University of West Georgia, we are in the business of transforming lives, and we are focused on success. With so many advancements at UWG, our campus is constantly brimming with excitement. Through the Points of Pride, we celebrate these achievements and examine our success through the four major Strategic Imperatives of our Strategic Plan – Student Success, Academic Success, Partnership Success and Operational Success. Congratulations to all those who have strived for excellence and have achieved it!

## APRIL 2020

### STUDENT SUCCESS

- The **Spring 2020 Virtual Commencement** represented the **largest-ever single class of graduates from UWG**, with 1,415 degrees being conferred. The name of each individual who earned a degree was called during the ceremony, which was held in the UWG Coliseum while following the appropriate social distancing guidelines.
- At this year's **Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference**, students of the **College of Education's (COE) speech-language pathology program** took second place in the Knowledge Bowl and tied for most paper and poster submissions. They also took first and second place in the student research poster contest.
- Four UWG international students have been awarded scholarships based on merit and personal accomplishments. **Brian Kamau**, **Sreekanth Gopi** and **Deborah Wawerua** each received the

Sylvia Shortt International Student Scholarship. **Faith Umeh** received the Carrollton Junior Women's Scholarship.



- **Hayley Harmon**, an undergraduate student majoring in elementary education in the COE, presented her study, **"Reflections on Engagement and Leadership Practices of Preservice Teachers in a Mixed-Reality Environment,"** in February at the Georgia State Capitol.

## STUDENT SUCCESS (CONTINUED)

- **Carlie Sandefur**, a student in COE's Master of Education in Speech-Language Pathology program, presented her study, "**Collaborations between Early Childhood and Speech-Language Pathologists for Using Targeted Visual Interactions,**" in February at the Georgia American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention 2020.

## ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- **Dr. Andrea Smith**, an assistant professor in COE, was selected to be a **Governor's Teaching Fellow** for the 2020-2021 academic year. Smith was one of two faculty who were nominated to apply for the prestigious fellowship.
- **Dr. Jeannie Pridmore**, associate professor in the Richards College of Business, is recognized for her leadership as president of the southern chapter of the Association of Information Systems, which won the **2019 Outstanding Community Chapter of the Year**.
- **Camille Reid**, COE academic adviser, has been selected for the **2020-2022 Class of Emerging Leaders for NACADA**, The Global Community for Academic Advising.
- A manuscript written by Tanner Health System School of Nursing (THSSON) professors **Drs. Sally Richter, Amy Yarbrough, and Susan Welch**, "**The Value of the Doctorate of Education,**" has been accepted for publication in Nurse Educator.



- **Dr. Peter Stoepker**, assistant professor for health and physical education within COE, was invited to join the **Data and Research Work Group** from Active Schools, one of the nation's top organizations related to physical activity promotion.

Assistant Professor of Marketing **Dr. Agnieszka Chwialkowska's** article titled, "**The Influence of Cultural Values on Pro-environmental Behavior,**" was recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Cleaner Production.

- Richards College of Business

- **Dr. Danilo Baylen**, professor of instructional technology and school library media in COE, was recently awarded the **International Visual Literacy Association's James G. Sucey Distinguished Service Award** at the 51st annual conference held in Belgium.

## PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS

- **Dr. Erin Horkey**, alumna of THSSON's Doctorate of Education in Nursing Education program, will be recognized for honorable mention among all articles published in the journal Nursing Education Perspectives for her article, "**Reasonable Academic Accommodation Implementation in Clinical Nursing Education.**"
- COE alumnus and current doctoral student **John Garner's** eighth grade Georgia history club has been chosen as a **National History Club Chapter of the Year.**
- **Central High School** has been ranked as **one of the Best High Schools in the country by U.S. News & World Report.** Many COE alumni teach at Central, along with many current COE students who are placed there for field experience.
- COE alumna **Holly Brown** has been selected as the **Clayton County Public Schools' 2020 Media Specialist of the Year.** She will represent the county at the state level for the title of Georgia School Library Media Specialist of the Year.



## OPERATIONAL SUCCESS

- **UWG's 2020 International Festival** wrapped a successful collaboration between International Student Admissions and Programs, Center for Diversity and Inclusion, Student Government Association, Student Activities Council, and more than 90 student volunteers. More than 500 students swiped-in to the Campus Center during the four-hour event held in March.

Share your story and tell us your own Point of Pride.  
For more information and to submit, visit [westga.edu/ucm/points-of-pride](https://westga.edu/ucm/points-of-pride)