

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!

MARCH 2020

STUDENT SUCCESS

- **Greg Burel**, a current master's of public administration student in the College of Social Sciences (COSS), has been featured in several [news articles](#) and [interviews](#), as well as [a briefing](#) for the National Academy of Public Administration regarding the current state of the **Strategic National Stockpile** of medical supplies.
- **Katahj Copley**, a music major in the College of Arts and Humanities (COAH) was commissioned in August to compose a fanfare for the UWG Wind Ensemble's performance at the **College Band Directors National Association Southern Division Conference** in late February. The fanfare can be heard [here](#). Copley was also asked to participate as the only student composer at the Composer's Forum held the same day.
- **Bhavin Patel**, a political science major in COSS, has been elected president of the **College Democrats of Georgia**.



- **Nine Richards College of Business students in the American Marketing Association (AMA)** recently traveled to **AMA's annual conference** in New Orleans accompanied by Lecturer Ken Hilderhoff. UWG's AMA chapter was awarded for Social Networking along with Penn State and the University of Wisconsin. Three students also made it to the semifinals in the "Perfect Pitch" competition with one receiving an honorable mention in the finals. The group also tied for second in the T-shirt design competition.

STUDENT SUCCESS (CONTINUED)

- Although the **Scholars' Day** event was canceled due to COVID-19, **UWG Honors College and the Office of Undergraduate Research** still honored participating students by placing the accepted research presentations' abstracts online [here](#) and recognizing the Honors Convocation award recipients virtually [here](#).

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- **The Professional Counseling and Supervision program online Ed.D.**, housed in the College of Education (COE), has been recognized by **OnlineCollegePlan.com**. Read more about this ranking on their website at [onlinecollegeplan.com](https://www.onlinecollegeplan.com).
- **The Tanner Health System School of Nursing (THSSON)** was ranked No. 48 for **Accredited Online Nursing Degree Programs and Schools** by Learn.org. UWG was selected based on academic and career resources, quality of education, and faculty. Read more about this ranking at [Learn.org](https://www.learn.org).
- **Dr. Lok C. Lew Yan Voon**, professor of physics in the College of Science and Mathematics (COSM), has been invited to give a lecture related to his pioneering research on silicene during the **19th International Symposium on Silicon Chemistry**. He is one of only three U.S.-based faculty invited to speak at this biennial international conference.



- **Dr. Ellie Towhidi**, assistant professor in the Richards College of Business, was accepted for publication in the Journal of Computer Information Systems for her paper, titled "**Trust Decision-Making in Online Social Communities: A Network-Based Model.**"

• **Dr. Chelsea Morris**, assistant professor for early childhood special education in the COE, was awarded **\$7,998 by the Children's Trust**, subcontracted from the University of Miami, to continue measuring the impact of the Pyramid Model, a framework for professional development to improve social-emotional skills and prevent behavior challenges in early childhood.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS (CONTINUED)

- THSSON Associate Dean and Associate Professor **Dr. Susan Welch's** article titled "**Caring and Esthetics: An Argument for a Nursing Ontology and Epistemology**" has been accepted for publication in the International Journal for Human Caring.
- Richards College of Business academic advisor **Toyosi Pius** was named **Advisor of the Semester** by UWG Professional Association of Academic Advisors.
- **Dr. Cliff Chestnutt**, assistant professor for mathematics education in COE, was recently accepted as a **STaR Fellow**. The Service, Teaching, and Research (STaR) Program is a competitive fellowship sponsored by the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators and is an induction program for early career mathematics educators working at institutions of higher education.
- **Dr. Agnieszka Chwialkowska**, assistant professor in the Richards College of Business, was recently accepted to the poster presentation at the American Marketing Association's summer conference for her paper titled "**Network Embeddedness: The Key Indicator of Competitive Advantage Among Technology Firms.**"



PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS

- **Dr. Matt Townsley**, a graduate of the school improvement doctoral program in COE, released his new book, "**Making Grades Matter.**" The book lays out a path for middle and high schools to use standards-based grading over traditional letter grades.
- **Akiebia Hicks**, a graduate of the MPA program in COSS, received a **National Parks Service Grant** for the "Oral History Collection Related to Establishment of Freedom Riders National Monument, Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument, and Reconstruction Era National Monument." This allows her to extend work that she did as an employee of the Park Service in Anniston, Alabama.
- **Tyler Dunn**, a graduate of the COE Health and Physical Education program in 2002, has been named the new principal at **Harris County High School**.

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