



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.

January 2016

Student Success

Seven UWG students have been awarded Wolves Abroad Grants to participate in education abroad programs this year. The program aims to increase access that will enrich experiential learning opportunities for students. This year's grant, which ranges from \$1,500 to \$3,000, will help students study in Europe, North Africa, and Central and South America. 2016 awardees are political science majors **Sarah Clanton** and **Khalid Sharif**, anthropology major **Sydney O'Brien**, art major **McKinley Shunn**, English majors **Abigail Smith** and **Tiana Young**, and nursing major **Machaelah Ward**.

Stephen Pruitt, who received his master's in secondary science education in 1996, has been hired as Kentucky's new educational commissioner.

University of West Georgia chemistry students **Michael Stevens** and **Taylor Payne** have been accepted to medical school to start in fall 2016. Michael will attend Mercer University School of Medicine in Atlanta, and Taylor will attend the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta.

Academic Success

College of Arts and Humanities professors **Dr. Patrick Erben** and **Dr. Rebecca Harrison** were awarded summer fellowships at the prestigious Transnational American Studies Institute at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, for summer 2016. Dr. Erben will be the Early American fellow, and Dr. Harrison will be the Southern Studies fellow.



Professor and Chair of Criminology **David Jenks** is the 2016 recipient of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Outstanding Mentor Award. The award honors outstanding mentors who, during the course of their career, have made a significant contribution to the professional development of graduate students and junior faculty members in criminal justice. The award will be presented at the upcoming ACJS meeting in Denver, CO.

UWG's Director of Career Services **Keri Burns** was quoted in a recent U.S. News & World Report article titled 10 Experts Share the Best Career Advice They Ever Received. The article included career advice from CEOs, authors, and founders throughout the U.S.

Partnership Success

Dr. Frank Stonier, a College of Education professor, was selected to represent UWG as a nominee for the Board of Regents Outstanding Online Teaching Award.

College of Education Professor **Dr. Danilo Baylen** received the President's Service Recognition Award from the Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT). The award is given to members of the AECT in recognition of their significant service to the International Division.

Bridgette Stewart has been appointed to the National Wellness Institute's (NWI) Council on Wellness Continuing Education. The NWI Council on Wellness Continuing Education (CWCE) assists in setting standards for NWI educational programs and certifications and explores continuing education opportunities in wellness. The CWCE serves as an advisory function to NWI staff for reviewing standards, participating in strategic planning and maintaining high quality certification and education programs for NWI members and certification holders.

Dr. Judy Butler, a College of Education (COE) faculty member, created two new scholarships for COE. The Dr. Judy D. Butler Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund will assist UWG students majoring in secondary education, and the Dr. Judy D. Butler Outstanding Mentor of Cooperating Teacher Award Fund will benefit educators working to mentor COE students.

Operational Success

The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education has upgraded the **University of West Georgia's** classification to R3 research universities. The classification, released on Feb. 1, places UWG among a higher class of institutions for its research work.

The **College of Education's** online Doctoral Education program was ranked sixth by GoGrad.org. in their annual ranking of the Best Online Doctoral Programs. GoGrad.org is a leading resource for online graduate-level education.



Share your own story and tell us your own Point of Pride. For more information visit www.westga.edu/ucm/1792.php.