



# 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.

**August 2018**

## Academic Success

**Dr. Delene Volkert**, Ed.D. director and assistant professor, and **Dr. Lisa Robinson**, associate professor in the University of West Georgia Tanner Health System School of Nursing (THSSON), had manuscripts accepted into a special edition of **Nursing Education Perspectives**.

**Dr. Mary Bishop**, associate professor in the THSSON, has been appointed to the **Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC)** by the National Board of Commissioners.

**LaDonia Patterson**, clinical assistant professor in the THSSON, was appointed to the **American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Group**.

**Dr. Lisa Osbeck**, professor in the College of Social Sciences (COSS), was awarded the 2018 **Joseph P. Gittler Award** from the American Psychological Foundation.



**Dr. Danilo Baylon**, professor in the College of Education (COE), received the **Distinguished International Service in Educational Communications and Technology Award** from the Association for Educational Communications & Technology (AECT). The award is given in recognition of outstanding and continuous contributions to the field of educational communications and technology and dedication and involvement to the International Division and AECT at large.

**Leanne DeFoor, Esq.**, senior lecturer in the Richards College of Business (RCOB), presented her paper, titled "**Biobank Sleuths – Legal Issues Abound when the Search for Long-Lost Relatives Reveals a Killer in the Family,**" this summer at the International Conference on Business, Education, Social Sciences, and Technology in Oslo, Norway. Her paper highlighted the use of genealogy DNA biobank data to catch criminals.

The COE **instructional technology degree** was ranked 20th for most affordable online master's program in educational technology by **Best Value Schools**.

### **Partnership Success**

**Dr. Kathleen Barrett**, lecturer in the COSS, has been named the president of **Carrollton League of Women Voters**. As a century-old civic engagement and women's leadership organization, the league's chief officer is an important role, and Dr. Barrett's skills will provide excellent continuing leadership in mobilizing Carroll County voters.

The COE's Master's Degree in Education in **Early Childhood Education** has been ranked as one of the best online programs (29th) by **TheBestSchools.org**.

**Dr. Lama Farran**, associate professor and program coordinator of communication sciences and disorders in the COE, was a featured speaker at the annual **Governor's Summit on Early Language and Literacy**. Farran discussed the factors that influence a child's development and addressed how to impact the child as a whole.



## Student Success

**Adam Pullen**, a graduate of the COSM/COE UTeach Program, and current physics teacher at The Westminster Schools, won the **PhysTEC Local Teacher of the Year Award**. The award recognizes outstanding high school physics teachers who are bringing their love of physics to a whole new generation, encouraging higher enrollments, supporting extracurricular activities, and actively participating in both the physics and physics education communities.

In May, WOLF Internet Radio submitted 21 different audio submissions to the **College Broadcasters Inc (CBI) 2018 National Student Production Awards**. WOLF was selected as a finalist in two categories. **Bode Brooks**, current COSS student, won for Best News Reporting Audio. **McKenzie Benefield**, also a current COSS student, was awarded the Best DJ Audio Award.

**Kevante Drew**, COE SLP student and NSSLHA President, has been selected for the **American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Minority Student Leader Program**. This is the third year in a row that a UWG student has been selected for this worthy program.

**Neely Byers**, a COE student and media specialist for North Whitfield Middle School, received the **Literacy for Learning, Living and Leading grant** from the Georgia Department of Education, totaling \$15,000.



## Operational Success

**Dr. Heather Bono**, lecturer, and **Dr. William Smith**, chair and professor in the (RCOB), recently had their article, “**The Impact of the Carrollton GreenBelt on Residential Housing Prices: A Spatial Approach**,” accepted for publication in the Coastal Business Journal. **Dr. Lisa Gezon**, professor and chair of the department in the COSS, and **Macy Walker**, RCOB alumna, were co-authors.

**Students, faculty and staff from COSS** participated in the sixth annual **Event for Impact: Serving Humanity and Doing Public Good Service Day**, going out to serve several community-based projects and organizations. One ever-popular stop for students – the Carroll County Animal Shelter – benefited from the event, as well as Impact West Georgia, Communities in Schools, the Veteran’s Memorial Park, Keep Carroll Beautiful, the Kindness Rocks Project and the Peace at Home Project

Share your story and tell us your own Point of Pride. For more information visit

[www.westga.edu/ucm/points-of-pride.php](http://www.westga.edu/ucm/points-of-pride.php)

