



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!

February 2019

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- Dr. Lok Lew Yan Voon, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics (COSM) and professor of physics, published a paper titled “Model Calculation of the Piezoelectric Coefficient of Hexagonal 2D Materials” in the February 2019 issue of “Advanced Theory and Simulations.” The publication is a result of work performed during a two-week stay at the Beijing Institute of Nanoenergy and Nanosystems.
- A new book written by College of Arts and Humanities (COAH) associate professor of English Dr. Laura Miller – titled “Print, the Principia, and the Dissemination of Newtonian Science” was released to rave reviews.
- Dr. Matthew Hild of the Department of History in COAH recently published his monograph, “Arkansas’s Gilded Age: The Rise, Decline, and Legacy of Populism and Working-Class Protest.” He also saw the publication of a history of Georgia Tech he co-authored with David Morton and a volume he co-edited, “Reconsidering Southern Labor History: Race, Class, and Power.”
- Casey McGuire, associate professor and foundations coordinator of sculpture in COAH, had a solo exhibition titled “Silent Spring” at Jacksonville University in the Alexander Brest Gallery. This installation contained constructed narratives informed by the housing crisis and her notions of the “American dream.”



ACADEMIC SUCCESS - CONTINUED

- Tangela Large '10, currently an assistant professor of theatre in COAH, recently directed the regional premiere of "Four Little Girls: Birmingham 1963" at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. She is also a dialect coach for an upcoming HBO film starring Ben Mendelsohn and for the FOX television series "Star."
- Dr. Lama Farran, associate professor and program coordinator for the College of Education (COE) Speech-Language Pathology program, has been invited to serve on the Dyslexia Endorsement Task Force with the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. The goal will be to engage with other educators, school systems, and agencies to develop standards for universities to offer this type of endorsement for their students.

STUDENT SUCCESS

- Dr. Rebecca Harrison, English professor in COAH, and several of her graduate students were part of a featured plenary session she chaired at the February International Welty Conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Their session was called "Teaching Welty in the High School

Classroom: A Student/Teacher Roundtable," and the students featured were Paisley Sloan Burklow, Morgan Murphy, Susie Chestnut Sewell, Abigail Smith and Arielle Vaughan.

- Harrison also had a group of her students working on Eudora Welty's "The Robber Bridegroom" accepted to present as a panel at this year's National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR). The students – Summer Rand, Chyna Gowan, Kaley Smith and Sonora Lanham – were chosen



from more than 4,000 submissions.

- Two students from Harrison's Approaches to Teaching American Literature class will be giving talks on their work with multimodals in the classroom at the international Society of Early Americanists conference in Eugene, Oregon. Students Christina Paige Goodwin and Polly Haugen presented "Early American Literature in High Schools: A Roundtable on Teacher Training."
- Silas Brown, a COE doctoral student and principal at Jones Elementary School in Bremen, has received two grants to expand materials for science and technology curriculum at the school. The first was provided by Carroll EMC to purchase a new 3D printer, with the second provided by the Bremen Educational Foundation to purchase a BB-8 robot.

STUDENT SUCCESS - CONTINUED

- English major Dylan Reber in COAH will present a paper at the annual meeting of the Robert Penn Warren Circle in April. According to Dr. Randy Hendricks, professor of English, Reber will be the third undergraduate student to present at this international conference in the 30 years of its existence.
- Four COE speech-language pathology students were successes at the annual Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference this year in Athens. For the Research Poster Competition, UWG placed in two of the three top spots. Nyasha Climpson and Staci Ocha took first place, while Brittany Sloan and Katie Brewer won third place. As undergraduate students, they were competing against fellow undergraduates and graduate students.



PARTNERSHIP AND OPERATIONAL SUCCESS

- COE's Dr. Lara Willox, the principal investigator, and co-PI, Dr. Logan Arrington, have received a grant from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement, totaling \$71,121. These funds will be used to create two weeklong professional development sessions for elementary teachers, emphasizing design thinking. They will also host two STEM summer camps for K-5 students.
- Theatre alumna Candice McLellan '16 plays Minnie in "The Octoroon" at Actor's Express in midtown Atlanta and will portray Mrs. Muntgens in the world premiere of the musical "Men with Money" at the Aurora Theatre in Lawrenceville, Georgia.
- COE has partnered with Fulton County Schools to provide paid teacher internships to help meet the growing needs of the Fulton County School system and to train our future educator graduates. To date, COE students have received a total of \$18,000 in disbursements, with another round occurring in March 2019.
- The Responsible Sexuality Committee's 2019 production of "The Vagina Monologues" raised more than \$500 and 51 packages of feminine hygiene products for the Carroll County Emergency Shelter.

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