



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!

November 2018

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- **Dr. Beheruz Sethna**, professor in the Richards College of Business, has been selected as the UWG nominee for the **USG Hall of Fame Teaching Award**.
- **Six faculty members** have been named **USG Chancellor's Learning Scholars**. The Chancellor's Learning Scholars are representatives from each institution in the University System of Georgia who facilitate Faculty Learning Communities on their campuses. Faculty members named were Dr. Amy Irby-Shasanmi, assistant professor of sociology in College of Social Sciences (COSS); Denise Morris, clinical assistant professor, Tanner Health System School of Nursing (THSSON); Dr. Keith Pacholl, professor of history, College of Arts and Humanities (COAH); Dr. Veena Paliwal, assistant professor of mathematics, College of Science and Mathematics (COSM); Dr. Jeannie Pridmore, associate professor of management, Richards College of Business; and Dr. Glaucio Scremin, associate professor of sport management, College of Education (COE).
- **Dr. Pauline Gagnon, dean of COAH**, moderated a successful panel presentation at the **33rd annual Interdisciplinary Conference in the Humanities**. The panel included Dr. Meg Pearson (English); Dr. Tim Schroer (history); Dr. Robert Kilpatrick (foreign languages); and Dr. Walter Riker (philosophy). In addition, the three recipients of the 2018-19 COAH Graduate Studies Fellowship for Underrepresented Minority Students (Daiyann Hutson - English; Heather Rodriguez - history; and Deni Harling - music) attended the presentation.
- **UWG** has launched a program that provides a **pathway for education paraprofessionals to obtain their bachelor degrees while keeping their jobs**. The Early Childhood/Special Education General Curriculum delivers teacher dual certification in pre-K through fifth grade general education and pre-K through fifth grade general special education.



OPERATIONAL SUCCESS

- **UWG** reached another **record-breaking student enrollment** with 13,733 students for fall 2018. Enrollment for the university increased 1.6 percent from last year's 13,520 students. This is the eighth consecutive year UWG has reached record enrollment, growing from 11,283 students in fall 2010 – a 21.7 percent increase over the last seven years.
- **UWG** recently received a **silver rating from the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) program**, which measures the sustainability performance of colleges and universities. The program, created by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), allows participants to submit data to earn a bronze, silver, gold or platinum rating based on factors like academics, engagement and operations of the university.
- **Kim Holder and the Center for Economic Education & Financial Literacy (CEEFL)** received a \$20,000 grant from the **SunTrust Foundation** to assist with the development of a financial resources library (videos and materials) for students and teachers in local communities.
- **COE at UWG** has been recognized as a **Bronze-Level School of Distinction by BestColleges.com**, a leading provider of college planning resources and higher education research. This award recognizes colleges and universities who have dedicated themselves to developing quality online higher education programs.
- **UWG** was recently named to **GreatValueColleges' ranking of the 30 Most Affordable Online Bachelor's Degree Programs for 2019**. UWG, which ranked 23rd, was chosen not only for the low-cost degree program offerings but also for the overall excellence of the school's reputation. In addition, the programs' comprehensive core curriculum, and the institution's outstanding faculty set UWG apart from the crowd, the website states.
- **Duane Theobald**, director of the University Writing Center, was elected **president of the Georgia Tutoring Association**.
- **Marty Davis**, director of the Department of Continuing Education, passed the **National Certified Program Planner** exam given by Learning Resource Network (LERN), a leading international organization in course programming.



STUDENT SUCCESS

- **Aletha Watts**, a student in the master's degree in nursing program in the THSSON, was awarded the **2018 March of Dimes Nurse of the Year Award in Hospice and Palliative Care**.
- **Justin Lindsey**, a current student enrolled in the Ed.D. in School Improvement program in COE, was named the **Teacher of the Year at Calhoun Middle School**. Lindsey is also the founder of the Calhoun Autism Network and was the 2017-18 Educator of the Year at Northwest Georgia Healthcare Partnership's North Georgia Autism Conference.



- **WOLF Internet Radio** placed first and second in the categories of Best DJ Audio and Best News Reporting Audio, respectively, at the **College Broadcasters Inc. 2018 National Student Production Awards** in Seattle. The award was given to COSS students McKenzie Benefield and news director Bode Brooks.

PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS

- UWG Theatre alumnus **Jared LeClaire** created many of the visual effects for the 2018 feature film "**First Man**." LeClaire was responsible for designing, building, coding and operating the media server system that ran a giant curved LED wall in front of which many of the film's action scenes were shot.
- **Ashley Copeland**, a COSS alumna, received the **PRSA Phoenix Award** for her work in internal communication at Piedmont Hospital. Copeland was also awarded the International Association of Business Communicators' Bronze Award for her revenue cycle communication program at Piedmont Hospital.

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