

INSIGHTS



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TOURING PARIS IN WINTER

UMES Students and Faculty Member Travel to France

Six UMES students, accompanied by English and Modern Languages faculty member Susan Cooledge, recently traveled to Europe to participate in the "History of Paris" course, a short-term study abroad program organized and taught jointly with Salisbury University.

The UMES group included Brittany Anderson, Cherece Armwood, Jaleesa Bowles, Raeya Disney, Cherish McMillan, and Nicole Ouzts.

Prior to departure, the students researched and documented information pertaining to targeted historical periods and sites,



(L to R) Dr. Cooledge, Nicole Ouzts, Brittany Anderson, Cherish McMillan, Jaleesa Bowles, Raeya Disney, and Cherece Armwood

Photo by Arlene White

which provided an enlightened framework for the two-week winter term experience.

Dr. Cooledge and S.U. professor Arlene White have escorted a combined group of UMES and SU students on six trips to France. They conduct their course by visiting historic sites and world class museums. Several students on this trip noted that the history of Gallo-Roman times to modern-day Paris truly came alive for them as they visited archeological sites, gothic churches, Versailles, museums of all types, as well as must-see attractions like the Eiffel Tower.

"During the exit interviews, one student remarked that she has a new outlook for people who come to our country and struggle with the English language," Dr. Cooledge said. "A meaningful shift in thinking toward an appreciation of others in the world is one of the many benefits that can result from a short or long-term study abroad endeavor."

Like last year, the Paris landscape was enhanced with a rare blanket of snow, sometimes forcing students to make more than one café stop for hot chocolate and/or warm crepes.

Drs. Cooledge and White plan another trip to France in January 2011. The one-credit course is open to all majors and is taught in English.

For more information, contact Dr. Cooledge at slcooledge@umes.edu.

WHY NOT SUMMER IN SPAIN?

UMES Faculty Member Explores Options for Study Abroad

A representative of [study abroad opportunities in Spain](#) will travel to UMES this month at the invitation of English and Modern Languages faculty member Carole Champagne.

On Wednesday, February 10, Patrizia D'Adamo Roldan will visit UMES Spanish language classes to discuss program options. There will also be an information meeting for other interested students at 3 p.m. that day.

A room for the general interest meeting will be announced soon.

Dr. Champagne will travel to Spain to inspect facilities and meet with instructors in March. She describes the opportunities for UMES students as both "highly-rated and competitively-priced."



Dr. Champagne

Students who earn academic credit during summer study in Spain can use those credits to meet the UMES general education humanities requirement. English majors can use the credits to satisfy a portion of the foreign language credits required to earn an English degree.

For more information, contact Dr. Champagne at cachampagne@umes.edu.

LOOK WHO'S BACK!

A familiar face has returned to Wilson Hall, although it may take a moment to recognize her.



Ms. Anderson

Since the end of the spring 2009 semester, faculty member Mignon Anderson has been out on sick leave. She had both knees replaced in successive orthopedic surgeries. The “new” knees may not be obvious, but another change during her absence certainly is. Ms. Anderson, who for years wore her waist-length hair in Native American-style braids, is now sporting a new, closely cropped hairstyle.

“I’m glad to be back in the classroom,” she said. “I’m especially glad to see all the students and colleagues that I’ve missed.”

FUNDRAISING CONTINUES

A recent bake sale is helping the UMES gospel choir inch closer to its goal of traveling to Las Vegas, Nevada in March. The group, for whom English faculty member Della Dameron-Johnson serves as advisor, has been invited to perform in a “Collegiate Gospel Spotlight” at a board meeting of the Gospel Music Workshop of America.

“In order for this event to become a reality, we need financial support,” Dr. Dameron-Johnson said.



Dr. Dameron-Johnson (L) and gospel choir members sell homemade cakes and cookies in the Student Services Center

CHARITY QUILT RAFFLE

Adjunct Instructor Helps Animal Sanctuaries

When Emily Shepherd isn’t teaching composition classes as an adjunct instructor in the English department, she’s known as Sister Mary Winifred, an Episcopal nun who manages [Ascension Hermitage and Sanctuary](#) in Upper Fairmont near Princess Anne.



Ms. Shepherd

Part of her mission is to rescue and care for abandoned animals. She hopes her friends and colleagues will consider participating in a charity fundraiser that will benefit that mission.

She’s selling raffle tickets on a handmade quilt that features portraits of rescued animals from all fifty states. “One outstanding feature on the quilt is on the

Maryland square,” Ms. Shepherd said. “Our very own beagle, Gracie, was chosen to represent all rescue animals in Maryland!”

The 5’x8’ quilt was hand-painted and quilted by Mary Ann Mayne, the founder of an animal sanctuary in North Carolina.



Quilt features portraits of rescued animals

Photo provided by Ms. Shepherd

Tickets are \$2 each or six for \$10. To purchase tickets or for more information about the raffle, contact Ms. Shepherd at sistermw@bwave.com.

SHARING HAWK PRIDE


High school students and their parents met with members of the English honor society and several English faculty members, including Department Chair Betty Taylor-Thompson, at a December recruitment fair.

Director of Admissions Tyrone Young said parents commented positively on the “family-like atmosphere” on our campus.



Over 400 students have already been accepted for the fall 2010 freshman class. The next recruitment event is scheduled for February 15.



English honor society member Justin Stewart (L) talks to a high school student interested in majoring in English at UMES



SPANISH LANGUAGE STUDENTS ENJOY THEIR ANNUAL HOLIDAY FIESTA

TEACHING INTERNSHIPS

What the Final Semester Holds for English Education Majors

America's future depends on excellent classroom teachers, and UMES is doing its part to prepare first-class educators. UMES English Education majors are required to demonstrate English content knowledge and the ability to use a variety of effective teaching techniques before they graduate.

They do that during a fifteen-week, twelve-credit-hour teaching internship, completed during the last semester of their senior year. UMES students intern at certain select schools in the surrounding counties of Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester, and Caroline.

Before his graduation last December, English Education major Michael Guy successfully completed his teaching internship. Mr. Guy spent the first seven weeks at the high school level (EDCI 480) working with a mentor teacher, Clint Sterling, at Crisfield High School. For the last eight weeks of his teaching internship, Mr. Guy was placed in a middle school (EDCI 490) for seventh grade language arts instruction with mentor teacher Cindy Lloyd at Somerset Intermediate School.

During a teaching internship, the student receives plenty of feedback and constructive criticism. A minimum of three formal observation-evaluations from both the mentor teacher and the UMES supervisor for each of the two placements is required.

The field placement is not a new experience for the teacher candidate; UMES education majors are required to spend twenty-five

hours observing a classroom teacher during the methods of teaching course (EDCI 425B) that precedes the internship.

[Barbara Seabrook](#), an associate professor in the English department and Coordinator of English Education, teaches the methods course and serves as the University's supervisor for the UMES English Education teaching interns. "Interns are evaluated on their performance in the classroom and on their interaction with the mentor teacher, other public school personnel, and the University supervisor," Dr. Seabrook said.

The rating scale for teaching interns is: 4, exceptional, outstanding; 3, competent, proficient; 2, beginning, basic; 1, unsatisfactory; NO, not observed; NA, not applicable. The rating scale is used to assign a letter grade for the midterm and final assessments for each of the two placements. Among other criteria, teaching interns are evaluated on their ability to write lesson plans that are age appropriate, to adapt teaching methods to meet the needs of all students, and to

integrate technology into classroom instruction.

Teaching interns are required through lesson planning and delivery to meet [seven state-mandated teacher technology standards](#).

They must be able to access information efficiently and effectively; use technology to communicate in a variety of formats; understand the legal, social, and ethical issues related to technology use; design and implement technology-supported

instruction that promotes understanding and collaboration; appreciate the issues surrounding the use of assistive technology to enhance student learning; and continue to demonstrate professional growth in the use of technology.

The English Education program at UMES prepares graduates to teach at either the middle or high school level; certification from the Maryland State Department of Education enables English Education graduates to teach English/Language Arts in grades seven through twelve.



Intern Michael Guy (L) with mentor teacher Cindy Lloyd using technology (Promethean ActivBoard/Flip Chart) to co-teach language arts

Photo by Barbara Seabrook

CONGRATULATIONS DECEMBER '09 ENGLISH GRADUATES!



NEW MEMBERS INDUCTED

The UMES Drama Society, advised by English faculty member Della Dameron-Johnson, welcomed eight new student members during a recent induction ceremony. Each has participated in at least two drama society productions. The new members include Charles Evans, Galen Kane, Cherish McMillan, Bruce Moore, Teknesha Robinson, Tiffany Salmon, and Cordario Worrell.



*Drama society members in costume at their recent induction ceremony
Photo by Clifford Parke*

TV STUDENTS VISIT STUDIO

Students enrolled in ENGL 238, TV Production and Programming, visited a commercial television studio with their instructor Renee Green and department staff member Eric Hammond recently. The group toured the digital “newsplex” at [WBOC TV](#), the CBS affiliate in Salisbury. They also watched the production of a live newscast during their visit.



*UMES students in the WBOC newsplex
Photo by Charles Paparella*

D.C. TEACHER PLANS TRIP

J. D. DiMattio, a media teacher at Ballou Senior High School in Washington D.C., toured the English department and met with faculty and staff members in January. He was interested in learning more about the department’s telecommunications program because he believes it may be a good fit for some of his students. Dr. Mattio plans to return to UMES with a group of Ballou students this spring.



Graphics instructor Joseph Davis (L) shows Dr. DiMattio the new computers in the department’s computer graphics lab

A PERFECT RECORD

Congratulations are in order for Robin Hoffman, a UMES English alumnus and a former department staff member. He completed a Master of Science degree in instructional media design from Wilkes University in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania in December. What is particularly noteworthy is Mr. Hoffman graduated with a 4.0 grade point average and a perfect score on his thesis, entitled “Enhancing Online Courses Through Interactive Activities and Collaboration.” Mr. Hoffman is employed in instructional technology at Salisbury University.



Mr. Hoffman

AWARD CEREMONY

Six English department faculty members were recognized at President Thompson’s annual service awards ceremony held in the Student Services Center theater at the conclusion of the fall semester.

Nydia Gregory and David Johnson have completed five years of fulltime service; Carole Champagne and Bonni Miller finished ten years of service; Ron Webster was one of thirteen staff members acknowledged as a 2009 retiree.

There was a special presentation during the ceremony to mark the passing of former English department chair and faculty member Chester Hedgepeth. The audience watched a photo montage of Dr. Hedgepeth created by English department staff member Eric Hammond.

VIDEO DRAWS ATTENTION

A video produced by senior English major Justin Stewart is attracting national attention.

Mr. Stewart, a member of the UMES chapter of [Sigma Tau Delta](#), a national English honor society, created a video about the UMES 2009 induction ceremony.

National representatives of Sigma Tau Delta were so impressed with the production that they’ve posted it on the organization’s website. They also told the group’s advisor, faculty member Dean Cooledge, that other campus chapters planned to screen Mr. Stewart’s video at recruitment meetings.

[Click here to view Mr. Stewart’s video.](#)

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