The University of Maryland Eastern Shore is pleased to announce Dr. Bryant C. Mitchell is a recipient of a $30,000 IBM Faculty Award. The IBM program is intended to foster collaboration between researchers at leading universities worldwide and those in IBM research, development and services organizations; and to promote courseware and curriculum innovation to stimulate growth in disciplines and geographies strategic to IBM.

Faculty Awards are cash awards granted annually. The maximum grant to any one recipient is $40,000. IBM Faculty Awards are not contracts, and no intellectual property rights are stipulated as part of a Faculty Award. The company strongly encourages all work be placed in the public domain. To qualify for this internationally competitive award, the nominee must be a full-time professor at an accredited university with a Ph.D. or MBA program in the

 Modifications to UMES’ business and technology curriculum over the past two years have given 17 students job opportunities with such Fortune 500 companies as IBM, Fidelity Investments and The Depository and Trust Clearing Corporation.

Eight have accepted offers from those employers with entry-level jobs paying an average salary of $71,000, according to John Thompson, a consultant specializing in information technology instruction. Another nine students have worked as interns with those companies earning $18-to-$24 an hour, he said.

More importantly, those nine undergraduates now have hands-on experience, giving them an edge in a restructured job market when they eventually graduate.

This new employment frontier for UMES graduates is the result of an exclusive initiative between IBM and the university promoted by President Thelma B. Thompson.

“I’m very appreciative of what UMES has done to help prepare me for my new job” with IBM, senior Dorian Thomas said.

Under the direction of Don Resnik, program manager for IBM's Academic Initiative “System z,” the computer company partnered with UMES faculty to retool and expand business and computer science courses. IBM also provides guest lecturers, such as technical professionals Paul Wojciak, Richard Prewitt and executive Michael Browne, at no cost to the university.

“This allows IBM engineers the opportunity to engage directly with students as the informational events are held . . . and individual relationships are created and fostered,” said Browne, a distinguished engineer and master inventor. “This builds a different learning experience on campus.”

While IBM looks to hundreds of colleges for computer-savvy graduates, the company’s relationship with UMES is unique.

“We want our students to possess the skills needed to not only compete

continued on page 3

continued on page 8
UMES anticipates record-breaking spring commencement

Spring graduation exercises at UMES will be Friday, May 20, in the William P. Hytche Athletic Center. Tickets are required for admission.

The 124th annual ceremony begins at 10 a.m. University officials advise guests to arrive by 9:30 a.m. and to take their seats because the doors will close at 9:45 a.m.

The UMES registrar’s office projects 409 students are degree candidates, including 61 who anticipate receiving master’s degrees and 10 who have finished work on their doctorates.

The university will award honorary degrees to Annapolis businessman Maurice B. Tosé and cosmetics executive Gloria Mayfield Banks, a motivational speaker who also will deliver the traditional commencement address.

Banks, who lives in Baltimore, is one of Mary Kay Inc.’s top saleswomen. She also travels widely conducting workshops, where she shares insights on “People Building” strategies for success in business and in life.

Banks is a graduate of Howard University and received her Master of Business Administration degree from Harvard University.

Gloria Banks

Walgreens, the nation’s largest drugstore chain, recently presented the University of Maryland Eastern Shore School of Pharmacy and Health Professions with a $10,000 gift.

A portion of the funds will provide a Walgreens Diversity Scholarship to a student whose efforts “raised awareness in diversity and community outreach,” Walgreens Delaware South Pharmacy Supervisor Don Holst said. Remaining funds will support programs at the university to positively impact enrollment and retention of students of diverse talents and backgrounds.

“We recognize the significant contribution the university makes in fostering the educational development of future pharmacy leaders,” Holst said.

Tomé, a U.S. Naval Academy graduate, is president and chief executive officer of TeleCommunications Systems Inc., an engineering and technology company he founded in 1987 that has more than 100 patents, including the industry-revolutionizing Short Message System text messaging application available on most cell phones.

President Thelma B. Thompson also will award UMES Presidential medals to two other guests, who are part of this year’s graduation program.

T. Jan Wiseman, executive director of the Greater Salisbury Committee, a group of lower Delmarva Peninsula civic and community leaders, will receive the honor in recognition of his support for UMES during Thompson’s tenure.

John T. Steele of Springfield, Va., an agriculture economist by training, will receive the other Presidential Medal. He has worked the past eight years as a consultant to the U.S. Agency for International Development in Washington on solving hunger problems in Africa, particularly in southern Sudan, where UMES also has a field representative tackling the same challenges.

In keeping with tradition, international students who attend UMES wearing attire from their native lands will participate in the university’s “Parade of International Flags.” The UMES Concert Choir and Wind Ensemble also will perform.

Somerset Hall awarded LEED Gold Certification

A six-decade-old former dormitory now housing a pharmacy school is UMES’ most energy efficient building.

The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) awarded its prestigious Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification to UMES for its renovation of Somerset Hall. The neo-Georgian style building, which underwent a $7.2 million renovation, is one of the few certified projects on Maryland’s Eastern Shore to achieve this recognition.

“Gold certification received on the renovation of this aging building is a rare accomplishment in this era of budget constraints and commitment to sustainability and climate change initiatives,” said Dr. Maurice Ngwaba, director of facilities planning, design and construction at the university.

“This award is a thing of pride for UMES’ leadership and for the University System of Maryland.”

According to the USGBC, the LEED “green building” rating system is a third-party certification program and a nationally accepted benchmark for design construction and operation of high-performance environmentally friendly buildings.

President Thelma B. Thompson approved renovations to Somerset Hall in September 2009. Ngwaba; Dr. Ronnie Holden, vice president of administrative affairs; and Dr. Nicholas Blanchard, dean of the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions; oversaw the project until its completion in July 2010.

Grimm + Parker Architects and Holder Construction Co. served as the construction management team.
UMES and EPA sign MOU

The Environmental Protection Agency’s solid waste and emergency response office will be working closely with UMES students, faculty and staff under a newly signed agreement that pledges cooperation in working toward providing internship and research opportunities, guest speakers, student mentoring and help with curriculum development. President Thelma B. Thompson (seated) was joined at the May 3 signing ceremony by Theresa V. Queenan, director of UMES’ career services and cooperative education, and EPA human resource officials Loren Danforth, Lora Culver and Connie Dennis Andrews.

UMES hosts Thurgood Marshall College Fund guests

Executives from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) met with President Thelma B. Thompson to discuss current initiatives and future possibilities within the collaborative relationship. Along with a campus tour, they attended a luncheon hosted by UMES representatives and a group of students, who are Thurgood Marshall Honor Scholars. Pictured from left are Jeremy Alexander, director of Government Affairs, TMCF; Thompson; Willie Meaux, vice president, Government Affairs; Donna Green, manager, Government Affairs Operations; all of TMCF. Thompson was recently selected as the recipient of the TMCF 2011 Education Leadership Award. The annual award is the highest individual award presented to a president of a public HBCU, who has demonstrated outstanding business, academic and visionary leadership.

Presidential search committee named

UMES alumnus Alfonso N. Cornish, vice president for education and development and chief learning officer for Norton Healthcare, will serve as chairman of the presidential search and screening committee. Cornish and 10 others were appointed by William E. Kirwan, chancellor of the University System of Maryland.

Other committee members are:
- Bill Chapin, professor of computer science; incoming chair of Faculty Assembly
- Cheryl Collier-Mills, assistant vice president, enrollment management
- Rena Finney, program administrative specialist, Frederick Douglass Library
- Leslie Holt, student, class of 2011
- Patrice Jackson, assistant professor of pharmacy
- Lombuso Khoza, assistant professor of human ecology
- Dianna Rogers-Ford, president, UMES National Alumni Association
- Dave Spinner, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice
- Jesse T. Williams Sr., chair, UMES Board of Visitors
- Mark Williams, associate professor of mathematics; chair of Faculty Assembly; incoming chair of the University Senate
- Liaison to the USM governing board, C. Thomas McMillen, USM Regent and CEO, Homeland Security Corporation
- Liaison to the Office of the USM Chancellor, Anne J. Moultrie, USM associate vice president for communications
- Staff to the committee: Alverta Polk, administrative assistant II, School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences

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Dr. Thelma B. Thompson announced in March that she will retire on Aug. 15 as UMES president. She is in her ninth year as president.
Graduate School hosts research symposium

UMES’ School of Graduate Studies was recent host to its second annual Regional Research Symposium, a forum to highlight and award the efforts of researchers and facilitate discussion and networking.

The event was “a marked improvement on the first,” said Dr. Jennifer Keane-Dawes, dean of the university’s School of Graduate Studies. The inaugural year was a local event focusing on the student and faculty researchers at UMES, while this year involved participants from abroad and from other University System of Maryland schools.

Graduate deans from Salisbury University, the University of the West Indies, Bowie State and Morgan State joined UMES deans in a roundtable discussion on graduate education and representatives from the University of the West Indies and the U.S. Department of the Navy explored opportunities for scholarly partnerships with the university. Plenary speakers were McMahan Gray, senior research scientist, National Energy Technology Laboratory, and Dr. Victor A. Fishman, a leading researcher at the Applied Research Laboratory and senior research scientist, National Energy Technology Laboratory, and Dr. Victor A. Fishman, a leading researcher at the Applied Research Laboratory.

Commenting on the 38 oral and 25 poster presentations that the symposium attracted, Keane-Dawes said, “The quality of the research continues to be remarkable.”

The Joseph M. Okoh award for Excellence in Research was presented to the top graduate student submissions. (At left). It was the first year of the award. Okoh served as chair of the Graduate Council’s Research Committee and is a chemistry professor and chair of Department of Natural Sciences at UMES. He retires at the close of the spring semester after almost 29 years of service to the university. In honor of his contributions to teaching, research and service, he was presented with the Graduate School’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

Undergraduate student Nana Yaw Osei-Owusu was awarded first place for her oral presentation, “Identification of a Glutathione Transferase Super Family gene in Leishmania Tarentolae.”

Faculty research awards were also presented. Dr. Lakeisha Harris, coordinator, Master’s in Rehabilitation Counseling, took first in the faculty oral presentation. Her paper was titled “Vocational Rehabilitation and Corrections: Achieving successful employment outcomes for persons with disabilities and criminal history.” The first place award for the faculty poster presentation went to Dr. Dennis Klima of the Physical Therapy Program. His presentation was on “Higher Level Balance Examination Among Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury.”

Dean of Graduate School appointed to councils

Dr. Jennifer Keane-Dawes, dean of the UMES Graduate School, was recently appointed to two significant councils serving graduate schools across the nation.

Keane-Dawes was appointed by the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) to serve for two years on a six-member committee to address master’s-related issues facing students. The committee will also provide suggestions to the CGS for topics to be presented at sessions during its annual meeting in Arizona in December. According to Keane-Dawes, CGS’ mission is to improve graduate education to ensure intellectual discovery accomplished through advocacy, innovative research and the development of best practices.

Keane-Dawes has served since February as vice president of the Council of Historically Black Graduate Schools. The group assists member organizations in increasing enrollment, retention and graduation of African-American students in graduate programs to prepare them to become future faculty and leaders.

“These appointments will allow our graduate school—an affordable and distinctive school in Maryland—to play a lead role in the advancement of graduate education at the national and international level and to remain current in the implementation of best practices.” Keane-Dawes said.

Exercise Science undergraduate to present research

Lynsey Hayes, a December 2010 graduate, is the first author of a research project from the Department of Exercise Science at UMES to be selected to present her research at a national meeting. Titled, “A Physiologic Profile of Elite Collegiate Female Bowers,” the research represents a collaboration between the Department of Exercise Science under the mentorship of the department’s chair, Dr. James Heimdal, and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics under co-author Art Johnstone, the university’s strength and conditioning coach. Bowling Head Coach Sharon Brummell supported the research team. According to Heimdal, Hayes is one of a handful of undergraduates to present their work at the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM). Most presenters are faculty or graduate students. The ACSM annual meeting takes place May 31-June 4 in Denver, Colo.
Graduate School recognizes faculty

Five faculty members at UMES were presented with citations for their contributions to graduate studies at the university.

**The Distinguished Scholar Award: Dr. Paulinus Chigbu**, professor and director of the LMRCSC in the Department of Natural Sciences, has received $18.5 million in funding from various agencies as principal investigator for research and student training in his 15 years at the university. He has a career total of more than $24 million in grants.

Chigbu was instrumental in forming the CREST Center for the integrated study of coastal ecosystem processes and dynamics in the Mid-Atlantic region. It was funded by the National Science Foundation.

“Research will be conducted there that will enhance our understanding of the effects of human activities and climate variability on various components of the Maryland Coastal Bays ecosystems,” Chigbu said.

He is also collaborating with several Research 1 universities including the Virginia Institute of Marine Science; University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Horn Point Lab; and Morgan State University.

Through the LMRCSC and the CREST Center at UMES, collaborations have been made with more than 10 research universities and with NOAA scientists at the National Marine Fisheries Service labs. These collaborations have resulted in the development of courses in NOAA mission-critical areas at UMES and have created opportunities for graduate students to conduct research at NOAA labs under the supervision of their scientists.

**Mentor Award: Dr. Karen Verbeke**, professor and chair of the Department of Education and director of Teacher Education at UMES, has mentored hundreds of students at all levels. Since 1993, she has served as the Coordinator of Special Education Programs, where 250 students have earned their bachelor’s degree and 50 students have earned their master’s degree.

The caliber of the department’s students speaks to Verbeke’s leadership. Former students have gone on to earn graduate degrees and be employed as teachers, administrators, consultants and university faculty. A handful have become Nationally Board Certified Special Education Teachers, including Holly Swain Hatton, the first nationally certified special education teacher on the Shore. A dozen have earned the title of teachers of the year in their schools and 35 have been named Teachers of Promise through the Maryland program that Verbeke supports.

Verbeke directs 12 undergraduate and five graduate programs at UMES. Under her leadership as the accreditation coordinator, the Professional Education Unit at the university earned national accreditation in 2004 and was reaccredited in 2009 with four commendations and an exemplary Institutional Report.

Verbeke, who has been at UMES since fall 1990, has also been successful in garnering nearly $4 million from 86 grants from national and state agencies, including the National Security Agency and the Maryland State Department of Education.

**Mentor Award: Dr. Eric May**, a research associate professor in the Department of Natural Sciences, lists his undergraduate advisee files as “over 200 and growing.” He has also mentored numerous master’s and doctoral graduates, who have been employed at universities and state and national agencies such as NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Park Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, Maryland Coastal Bays Program and others.

“Each (student) is unique, each has their own gifts and each has been a joy,” May said.

During his 29 years at UMES, May has been vital to the growth of the Department of Natural Sciences. He was instrumental in establishing the LMRCSC by securing a $12.5 million grant from the NOAA Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions. Over the past 10 years, May in cooperation with researchers from UMES and other institutions and agencies, has garnered nearly $20 million in grants.

**Research Award: Dr. Arthur L. Allen**, associate professor in the Department of Agriculture, Food and Resources Sciences and associate research director for the UMES Agricultural Experiment Station, has secured grants totaling $6 million, over $4 million as principal investigator, since joining UMES 14 years ago.

Allen is an expert in the field of water quality and nutrient management. He was instrumental in establishing a unique collaborative partnership with USDA/ARS scientists at Penn State University in 1999, which has made UMES a leader among small college and universities in this area of research leading to improvement of the health of the Chesapeake Bay. Some of the results from this partnership are “The Gypsum Curtain,” “The Subsurfer,” “The Ditch Project,” and “The Domoic Acid Project.”

“UMES has the best-equipped research facility in this area of research among all 1890 Land-Grant Universities,” Arthur said.

In 2008, Allen was awarded The 1890 Land-Grant Association of Extension Administrators and Association of Research Directors Integrated Research Award. He later hosted the SERI-17 group of internationally recognized research scientists who toured the UMES-USDA/ARS jointly developed water quality and nutrient management facility located on the UMES farm.

**Research Advisor Award: Dr. Anthony Nyame**, professor in the Department of Natural Sciences, has served as the research advisor for doctoral students including Nelum Dorabawila, who recently defended her thesis, “Immunity to Schistosomiasis: Structure, Expression and Immunogenicity of Schistosoma Mansoni Glycan Epitope Recognized By The Monoclonal Antibody F2D2.”

“She has made a breakthrough in the effort at identifying a parasite molecule suitable for the specific serodiagnosis of infections—a goal that has engaged the attention of researchers in the field for many years,” Nyame said.

According to Nyame, a manuscript on the finding is being prepared for publication. Plans have also been made with Dr. Patricia Wilkins, the associate director of the Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Ga., to use the molecule in field studies to validate its efficacy.

In his career, seven years of which have been at UMES, Nyame has made many scholarly presentations and has been awarded numerous honors. He has also been part of several external scientific collaborations with researchers from the Department of Biochemistry at Emory University, the School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University and the Washington University School of Medicine.
Lady Hawks bowling team honored at championship rally

Accompanied by the steady drum of the Thunderin’ Hawks Pep Band, UMES’ cheerleading squad waved their pom-poms for the “nation’s best collegiate bowling team” – the Lady Hawks.

“It’s so very exciting, I don’t even know how to put it into words,” said Paula Vilas, one of seven team members who made history this season by winning two national championships, the NCAA and the USBC Collegiate title, for UMES.

Vilas pumped up more than 100 students, staff and faculty at the championship rally with her entrance into the William P. Hytche Athletic Center. Raising her arms in the air, the 22-year-old UMES junior did a cartwheel in between a long line of cheerleaders.

“It feels really great getting so much support,” said Vilas, a native of Argentina.

The event featured the presentation of several proclamations from local and state government officials. President Thelma B. Thompson was on hand to personally congratulate team members and Coach Sharon Brummell, who was lauded for her emphasize on “athleticism and academics.”

Athletics Director Keith Davidson shared with the audience the significance of the occasion. No school in college bowling history has ever won two national titles in the same year. UMES is also the first HBCU to own two DI NCAA titles.

The rally concluded with the unveiling of the three championship banners from this season: the MEAC title, the NCAA championship and the USBC Collegiate title.

On the count of three, the Lady Hawks Bowling Team tugged at ropes to reveal the banners, which simultaneously released a cloud of glitter onto the gymnasium floor.

“Hawk Walk” promotes fitness

Over 175 faculty, staff, students and members of the community participated in the first “President’s Challenge Hawk Walk,” a 2.5-mile-walk on Saturday, April 30. The event began at the William P. Hytche Athletic Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony by President Thelma B. Thompson and ended at the University Terrace dorm.

Students in the Exercise Science Club, who staged the inaugural “President’s Challenge Hawk Walk” fitness day event on campus, were recognized in a ceremony two days later by Princess Anne Town Commissioners. Beatrice Nelson, (center) lecturer in the Departments of Exercise Science and Athletics, accepts a certificate of appreciation from Town Commissioner Garland Hayward (center right). Students pictured from left are Alissah Battle-Reed; Jeffery Locklear; Ashanti Hunter; Mystee Edmonds; Samantha Pitt; Richard Warren, president of the UMES Exercise Science Club; and Brittany Sample. The Town of Princess Anne has proclaimed every April 30 as the “Town of Princess Anne Fitness Day,” said Nelson.

Southern Sudan’s transition kicks off lecture series

John Marks, whose international relief and development career spans more than 30 years, was the inaugural speaker for a 2011 lecture series. Marks, a UMES staff member who has been a senior Sudan advisor for more than 16 years, spoke on the topic, “Southern Sudan’s Transition from Civil War to Independence: Contributions of USAID Programs and UMES/USDA Staff.”

He works under an agreement with the USDA, and is assigned to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In that role, he participated in efforts resulting in a peaceful referendum held in Sudan earlier this year, according to Dr. Emmanuel T. Acquah, executive director of UMES’ International Development Programs, sponsor of the lecture.

IBM does not accept unsolicited requests or proposals for Faculty Awards. Candidates must be nominated by an IBM employee with common interests who will serve as a liaison for the collaboration.

Recipients may be nominated for an award renewal, and renewal nominations engage in the same competition as first-time nominations.

Dr. Mitchell has been re-nominated for another award to continue supporting his work with the UMES/IBM Enterprise Computing Education Initiative. The initial award enabled him to help 16 UMES students secure internships and full-time employment with IBM and its business partners during the 2010-11 academic year.
agriculture faculty and students receive research awards

by Suzanne Street, agriculture communication specialist, School of Agricultural & Natural Sciences

Several UMES researchers won awards at the Association of Research Directors Research Symposium held in Atlanta earlier this month. Dr. Anugrah Shaw, Xavier Henry and Mark Gooden were recognized among some 700 faculty, staff, researchers and students representing the 1890 Land-Grant Universities (17) and Tuskegee.

Guided by the theme, “1890 Research: Sustainable Solutions for Current and Emerging Issues,” more than 300 undergraduate and graduate students competed in oral and poster competitions.

Xavier Henry, a professional pilot via the UMES Aviation Sciences program and a graduate student specializing in food and agricultural science, won first out of 26 in the graduate student oral presentation. A part of the Sustainable Plant and Animal Production Systems category, his research is titled “Using Variable Rate Seeding to Maximize Corn Yield and Profit on a Field with Management Zones.”

Mark Gooden, a student in the Food Science and Technology Ph.D. Program, placed third in the graduate poster presentation for Sustainable Plant and Animal Production Systems. His research is titled “Effect of Garlic and Papaya Seed on Fecal Egg Counts in Sheep and Goats.” Gooden returned to the university after earning a Master of Science degree in poultry science in 1996. He previously taught in an agricultural college in Jamaica.

Dr. Anugrah Shaw, professor and textile technologist in the Department of Human Ecology, is internationally-known for her extensive research in protective clothing for pesticide applicators. Spanning more than two decades, her studies are the basis of a comprehensive database that includes more than 130 fabrics that were evaluated at UMES. She has worked to help establish the standardization of test methods, the development of performance specifications, and studies related to the development and evaluation of personal protective equipment for hot climates. She was presented the Excellence in Multistate Research Award for her research.

Having as its motto “Progress through Research and Service,” ARD brings together the administrators of the 1890 Research Programs to conduct regional research projects and initiatives. ARD collectively promotes the training of young researchers as well as the research goals of their institutions in a way that benefits their states, their regions and their nations. ARD members serve on state, regional and international bodies.

As members of the UMES Agricultural Experiment Station, Henry, Gooden and Shaw work to further the goals of the university. The aim of the UMES Agricultural Experiment Station is to provide enhanced knowledge and technology to improve the viability and sustainability of agriculture and food systems; enhance the quality of natural resources and the environment; and to serve communities, families and consumers.

For more information concerning the research being conducted at UMES, visit www.umes.edu/aes.

department chair awarded for service to Technology Education

Dr. Leon Copeland, professor and chair of the Department of Technology at UMES, is the recipient of the 2011 Career and Technology Education Outstanding Postsecondary Distinguished Service Award of Excellence.

The Maryland State Department of Education Division of Career and College Readiness presented the award to Copeland, who “has been a guiding light in the preparation of career and technology education teachers in the state for over three decades.”

Copeland is credited with designing and implementing innovative courses in response to Maryland’s high school graduation requirement in Technology Education. As co-director of the Technology Education Leadership Project, Copeland served as a catalyst in creating a professional development model for the delivery of Technology Education instruction. Copeland also leads the only university department in the state with an approved Technology Education Teacher Certification Program.

Copeland is a frequent presenter at conferences of the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association and has authored many articles for professional journals. In addition, he has served on various boards and advisory committees.

He retires from UMES this semester after 34 years of service.

Walgreens / continued from page 2

UMES’ School of Pharmacy is among some 110 pharmacy schools across the country receiving the funds—part of a $1 million annual commitment from Walgreens.

“We take pride in the diversity within our company and our community,” Walgreens Delaware South District Manager Craig Clarke said. The program presents an opportunity to promote this within schools of pharmacy.

Clarke said the company is excited about its collaboration with UMES and “looks forward to the first year of graduates.”

The unique three-year Doctor of Pharmacy Program (Pharm.D.) began in August 2010 with an initial enrollment of 63 students, Dr. Nicholas Blanchard, dean of the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions at UMES, said. The program is expected to grow to 180 students by the third year.

“Walgreens has demonstrated a commitment to pharmacy education across the country and we are very appreciative of its support of our new pharmacy program,” Blanchard said. The UMES/Walgreens partnership benefits both organizations. UMES pharmacy students were placed among 15 Walgreens sites for internship experiences this year, he said.

Walgreens distributes funds from its Diversity Program annually. “These gifts will allow our students the opportunity to continue their dream of one day becoming a pharmacist,” Paul Butler, major gifts officer, UMES, said.
Education department recognizes donors

A “Scholarship Celebration” was held recently to honor the recipients of the Department of Education teacher/counselor education scholarships for the academic year and to show appreciation to the donors for their generosity.

“I taught for 41 years,” Melvin Hill said. “I saw the need for dedicated teachers and thought this scholarship (the Melvin Hill Scholarship) might help.”

“My father (Richard A. Hazel) felt the future of education is in the success of the next generation,” Morgan Hazel said. “He wanted to help build our community (through his philanthropy) for years to come.”

“If it wasn’t for ‘The Village,’ I would not have made it,” Dr. H. DeWayne Whittington said. “As long as I have the energy, I want to help students achieve everything they want.”

Scholarship donors (center) pictured from left are Dr. H. DeWayne Whittington, Morgan Hazel and Melvin Hill. Students, from left, surrounding them are Chelsea Logan, English education; Kristen Anderson, special education; Samantha Dobson, school counseling master’s program; Feysitan Okulate, school counseling master’s program; Katie Townsend, special education; Sean Case, school counseling master’s program; Talisa Moore, music education; and Dennis Senkbeil, music education.

Administrative Professionals honored

President Thelma B. Thompson was host to the Administrative Professionals Breakfast on Wednesday, April 27. Approximately 60 administrative professionals at UMES attended. The event featured music, door prizes and breakfast served by university supervisors. Pictured from left are nominees for the inaugural Peer Award, Vernia Fletcher, Patricia Chase and Clarice Corbett, all executive administrative assistants at UMES (Fletcher a level II, and Chase and Corbett both level I’s). Chase was named the winner by way of electronic voting by her peers.

High School Art Show sponsors Dennis Williams, Princess Anne town commissioner, (left) and Dr. Veronique Dirikre, director of development at UMES, (right) present Alli Stancil of Pocomoke High School with an award for her submission in a contest held recently in the Arts and Technology building at UMES. Stancil, along with Parkside High School students Katie Engberg and Moon Choi (not pictured), were each awarded $100 in art supplies. The competition was open to high schoolers in the Tri-County area currently enrolled in art classes.

PGM students volunteer for park clean-up

Princess Anne town commissioners Joey Gardner and Dennis Williams thanked volunteers Brandon Laigle and Erik Carlson of the Professional Golf Management Program who spearheaded a project to give Manokin Park a spring cleaning.

BROWNE / continued from cover

knowledge into the hands of a college, where it could benefit students.

At his own expense, Browne travels the 320 miles from his Staatsburg, N.Y., home to Princess Anne to meet and interact with students in formal and informal settings.

“I’ve been very impressed with the students,” Browne said. So impressed, in fact, that in December 2010 he made a $5,000 donation. IBM matched it to set up a $10,000 fund.

Business professor Bryant Mitchell, a lynchpin in the IBM-UMES partnership, oversees dispersal of Browne’s donation, which is to be used for tuition, books or room and board.

Browne sees his gift as an investment in the next generation of engineers that he’s hoping to recruit to replace him someday.

“The students here are hard-working. I appreciate people willing to work hard,” Browne said.