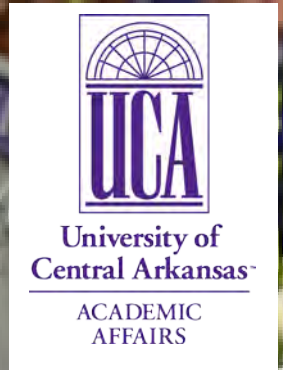


Great Happenings in Academics March 2016



A Word from our Provost

Dear Colleagues,

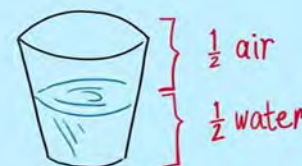
I am excited to share with you our first edition of *Great Happenings in Academics*. Through this newsletter, the Office of the Provost will celebrate the achievements and creative works of our outstanding faculty, staff, and students. For example, in this edition, you can read about the Dream Wall added in the Academic Advising Center, view artwork *A Dream of Life After the Pound* created by Dean Terry Wright, and learn a bit about our new Director of Assessment, Dr. Camille Shepherd.

Please let us know of key happenings in your area that you would like to be featured in a future edition by calling or emailing Suzanne Massey at 450-3126 or SMassey@uca.edu.

Sincerely,



Steven W. Runge
Executive Vice President and Provost



**technically,
the glass is always
full.**

"Do you see difficulty behind every opportunity, or opportunity behind every difficulty?"



Grants & Awards

Dr. Dustin Morris from the Department of Health Sciences was recently awarded the MRC (Minority Research Center) grant from UAPB to address the use of alternative smoking devices among Arkansas minority youth and young adults. The one year award of \$9,500 will be used to complete a pilot study using secondary data to determine the current prevalence, behavioral intent, and perceived health risks minority youth and young adults exhibit regarding use of the alternative smoking devices.

History Student Kylee Cole received a \$2,750 SURF grant to perform research on East African Slavery: Clove Plantation Culture on Zanzibar.

Ms. Lisa Christman, math instructor for University College, received grant funding of \$2,300 from the URC to conduct research titled "Development and Implementation of Algebraic/Chemistry Online Tutorial." Christman will complete research with Dr. Faith Yarberry from the Department of Chemistry.

Counseling Psychology doctoral student, Kendra Anderson, has been awarded the Diversity Research Award from the American Psychological Association Division 41 for her dissertation research, "African American Male Inmates and Racial and Ethnic Identity: Risk and Protective Factors."

Dr. Alicia Cotabish and Dr. Debbie Daley from the College of Education received \$5,000 for the 2016 AGATE Grant for GT Student Enrichment Opportunities during the annual AGATE Conference in Hot Springs. Cotabish and Daley will partner with Kimberly Clark Corporation to engage students in real-world investigative engineering experiences.

Who's New & Who's Who



Welcome to Dr. Camille Shepherd, recently hired as the UCA Director of Assessment. Shepherd graduated from East Central University (Oklahoma) with a BA in History and completed her Master of Arts in History and Archaeology at The University of Winchester (United Kingdom). She then went on to pursue her PhD in Archaeology at The University of Southampton (UK). She previously taught undergraduate and graduate level courses in history and archaeology and worked as the Research Officer in the University of Winchester's Learning and Teaching Development Unit. She is a recognized fellow of the Higher Education Academy in the UK. Past projects have included TESTA (Transforming the Experience of Students Through Assessment) and a follow-on project called FASTECH (Feedback and Assessment for Students with Technology). In 2014 she worked on a British Council funded assessment project with two universities in India and launched and coordinated Winchester's "Student Fellow Scheme" which engaged undergraduate students in educational development research as well as interdisciplinary research with academic staff. Most recently she served as assessment specialist at Midwestern State University in Texas where she was responsible for overseeing the institution's annual assessment process, core curriculum assessment and assessment of high impact practices.

Dr. Shepherd's office is in Wingo Hall, suite 215.

Announcements

Becky Bogoslavsky, from the University College department, has been working with various offices on campus to create an Autism Support Program that includes a compilation of services for students who are on the Autism Spectrum Disorder. Information about applying for this program will be communicated to parents of incoming freshman this spring. One component of the program is a designated section of the University Studies (UNIV 1100) in the fall for ASD students who would like additional support their first semester at UCA.

Lyndsey Rich, a graduate of the UCA Athletic Training Program, was recently featured on THV as part of a story on the Sports Medicine Program at Cabot High School. The clip can be viewed at <http://www.thv11.com/media/cinematic/video/78711930/sports-medicine-program-at-cabot-high-school-a-success/>

Dr. Amy Baldwin and Dr. Amanda Martin, both from the University College department, officially earned their doctorates last November. Amy earned an Ed.D. in higher education administration from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Amanda earned her Ph.D. in history from Kansas State University.

Study Abroad programs reported that UCA student Christopher Nooner, received a \$3,500 Benjamin A. Gilman scholarship and will go abroad with the Chinese Language Immersion in Shanghai this summer.

Achievements & Recognition

Dr. Michael Kithninji, Assistant Professor of History, recently coedited two books for publisher Palgrave Macmillan.

Keith Pachlhofer, with the University College department, was voted President-Elect for the Arkansas Association of Developmental Education. He is organizing and hosting the 2016 ArkADE conference at Brewer-Hegeman this fall.

The College of Education will be featured in the upcoming online publication of the Best Online Master's in School Counseling Programs of 2016. BestColleges.com says UCAs program stands out among the top 20 in the nation.

School Psychology doctoral students, Michael Watson and Lenora Nunnley, with Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Joan Simon, recently had their research published on "SLD identification: A Survey of Methods used by School Psychologists" in *Learning Disabilities: A Multi-disciplinary Journal*.

UCA ranked #8 in the 2016 Top Master's in Healthcare Administration list of the 50 Best Graduate Nursing School in America. Programs had to be CCNE-accredited and were ranked based on flexibility, active faculty, tuition and fees.





Sharing Hopes & Dreams

This fall, the Academic Advising Center took a creative approach to student engagement. In the hallway of Harrin Hall, their staff created an expansive, 30 ft. long interactive chalkboard wall with the prompt “What is Your Dream?” at its center. “We really wanted to create a dynamic focal point in the Advising Center that would encourage students and inspire them to achieve their goals,” explained advisor Garth Clayborn. As students walked down the hallway to the Registrar’s office and to their advising appointments, they were encouraged to “leave their mark” by adding their own hopes and dreams to the chalkboard wall. Students loved getting to express themselves in chalk, often coming back multiple times to add new dreams to the wall. Over the course of the semester, as more and more students participated, the wall became a place to visit to become inspired by one another’s dreams.



Students writes their dreams on the wall just outside the Academic Advising Center in Harrin Hall.

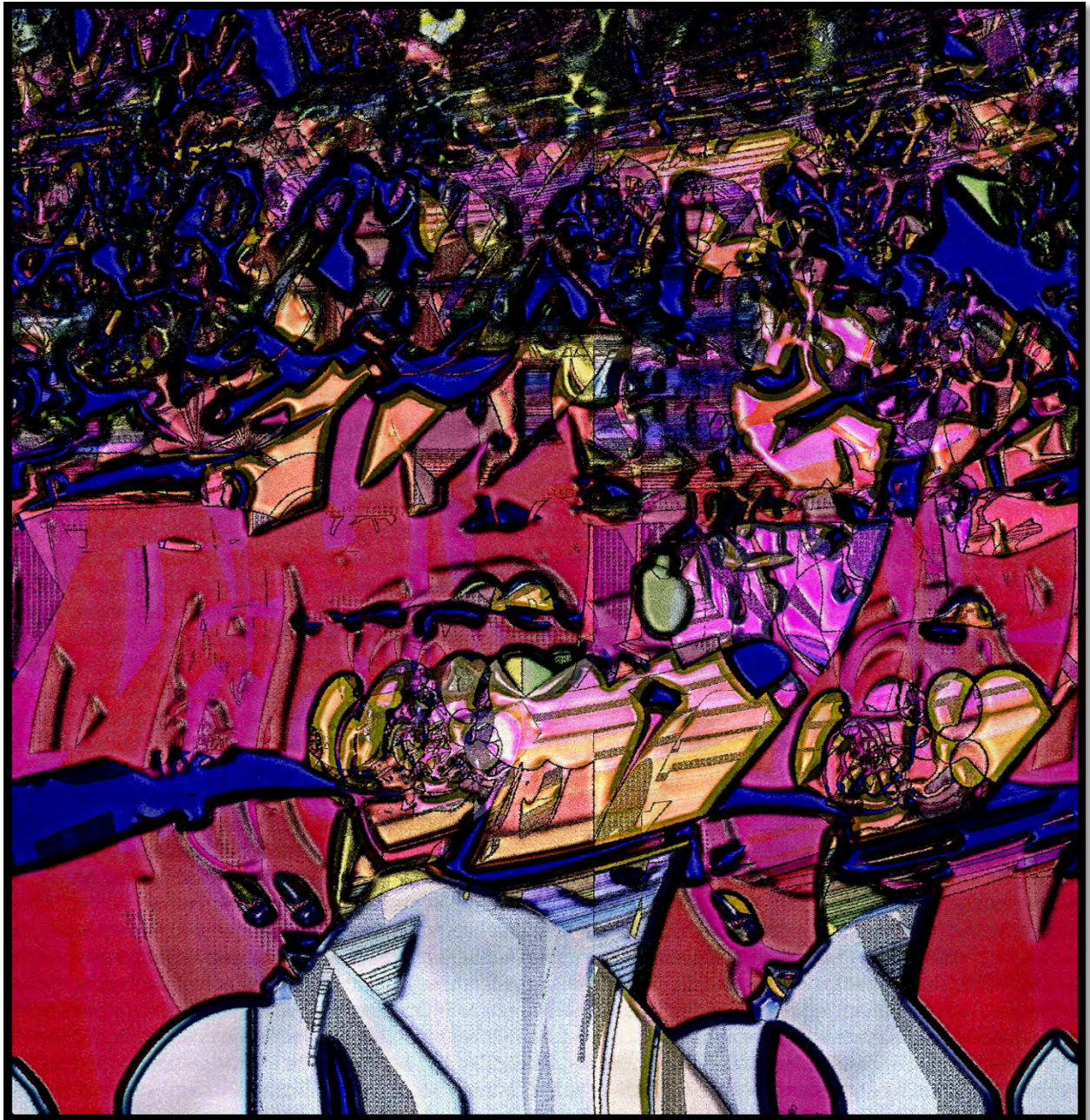
Service Learning in Action

Dr. Kimberly Little, Director of Public History Internships, and students from American Environmental History class, are learning techniques of carding, spinning, weaving, knitting, and crocheting wool and will demonstrate these historic skills and assist with sheep shearing at the Faulkner County Museum on April 2, when the museum hosts a “Sheep to Shawl” competition.



Since competitors will be focused on producing their shawls from scratch, students will be available to teach visitors about the techniques that competitors are using. History students from the Senior Research Seminar are producing instructional booklets on the techniques.

Original artwork by Dean Terry Wright



A Dream of Life After the Pound (2004)