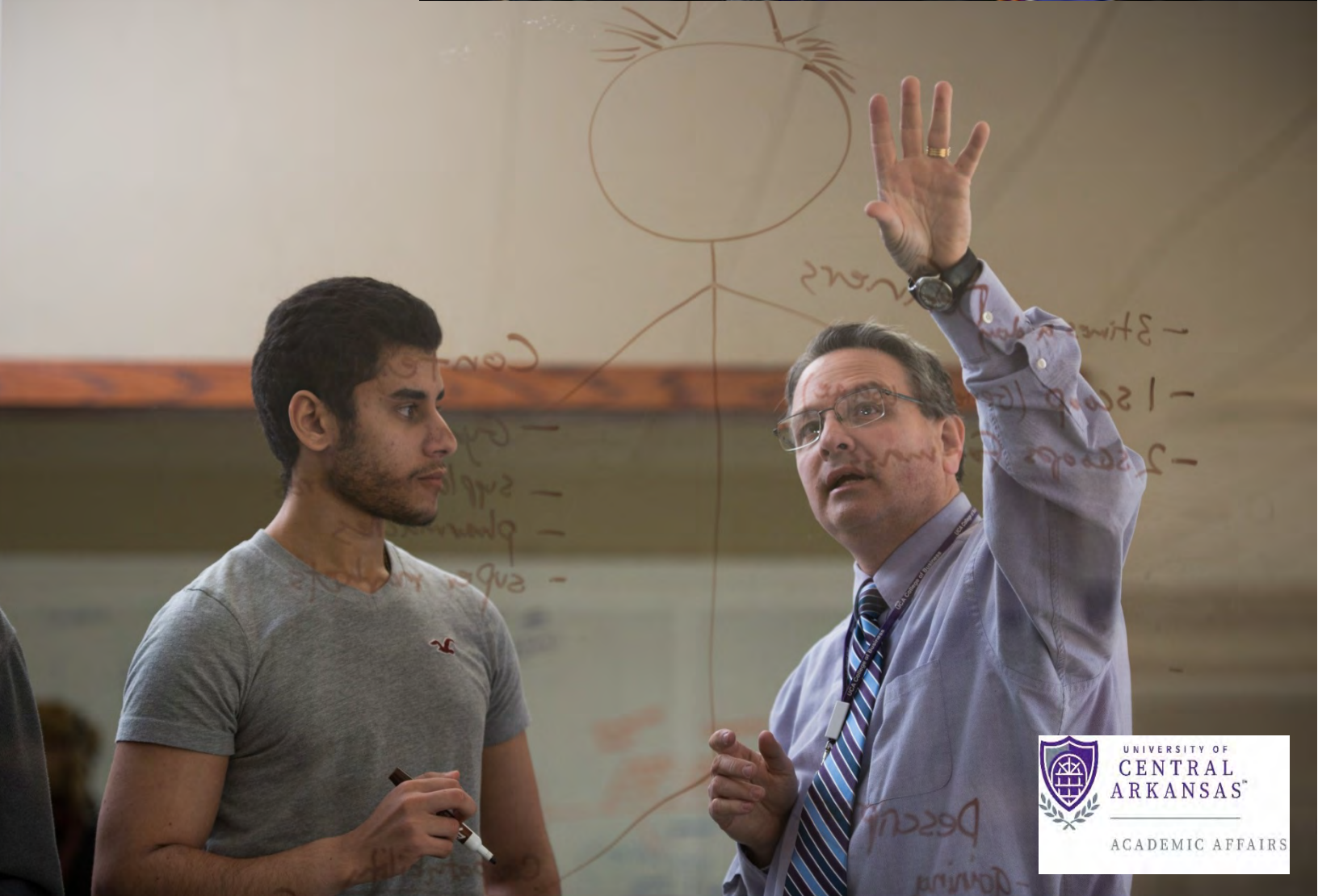


Great Happenings

in Academics

July 2016



A Word from our Provost

Dear Colleagues,

It never ceases to amaze me how talented and successful our students are at the University of Central Arkansas. In this issue of Great Happenings you will learn about some of their successes including scholarship awards and internships that they have received. You will also see some of the continuing list of awards and accolades given to our outstanding faculty.

We know that this newsletter contains only a sampling of the impressive accomplishments of our academic community, and we want to continue to spread the word about our activities. Please keep sending noteworthy items to Suzanne Massey at 450-3126 or SMassey@uca.edu.

Sincerely,



Steven W. Runge

Executive Vice President and Provost





Grants & Awards

Luke Sandin, a student in the Mental Health Counseling program, has been awarded the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries (NAJA) Scholarship. Begun in 1962, the NAJA Scholarship Program has awarded more than 530 grants totaling over \$1million for graduate study in fields that address the special needs of children and youth. This grant helps fund graduate expenses for students planning to work directly with children and youth in fields such as mental health counseling, speech pathology, and special education.

Psychology and Counseling student Lindsay Hobson received a \$1,500 Psi Chi Undergraduate Research grant for her project titled "Memory for Missing Parts of Witnessed Events."

The School of Nursing recently announced the award of four scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students for the 2016-17 academic year. Lauren Hirsh received the Clara M. Forsberg Nursing Scholarship, Amanda Manley received the Suzanne Harvey Graduate Nursing Scholarship, Kayhla Williamson received the Lauretta Koenigseder Nursing Scholarship and Rachel NeSmith received the Betty Martin Nursing Scholarship.

Karrie Butler, a recent graduate of the UCA Athletic Training program, was awarded the National Athletic Trainers' Association Gail Weldon Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship provides \$2,300 for graduate education.

Kim Gentry, a fourth year doctoral student in the school psychology program, is the recipient of the UCA Foundation's Charles and Nadine Baum Scholarship for the 2016-17 school year.

Dreams do come true

Imagine working at Disneyworld: a place where dreams come true for millions of people every year; a place that exceeds all standards of innovation and technology; a place of inspiration and hope for the future. That dream became a reality this past semester for recent UCA graduate Tenley DeLong who was selected to be a paid intern through the Disney College program.



Each year over 15,000 college students from around the globe compete for the highly selective program, and only about 3,000 are chosen as paid interns for "roles" (not jobs) at one of the Disney parks. The program offers internships, with paid housing, for either a four-month semester or for the summer season. College credits are also available with some internships. While at Disneyworld in Orlando, DeLong worked in the Food & Beverage division in the Magic Kingdom. She can't say enough good things about her once-in-a-lifetime experience at Disney: "It was amazing to be a part of it all. I have such a great respect for the Disney Company. They taught me so much about customer service and how to connect with people. They're skills that will help me wherever I go in life. And I made so many new friends. I just loved it." DeLong indicated that she is now part of the Disney Alumni Association and will receive numerous benefits as a member. Information on Disney College internships may be found at www.disneycareers.com.

Announcements

Art Professor Donna Pinckley was selected for First Place and will exhibit work in the 2016 Soho Photo Gallery in the TriBeCa district of Manhattan, July 6-23. Three photos, part of her *Sticks and Stones* series, will be among the 40 works selected for display at the 2016 Soho Photo Gallery National Competition and exhibition. Elisabeth Blondi juried the exhibit, selecting 40 works from over 1,500 submitted by 196 artists. Blondi is a curator and critic who served as the photo editor for *The New Yorker* for fifteen years.

University College Communication Lecturer Adriian Gardner is attending the Edward Coleman Leadership Institute through the STAND Foundation. Gardner will also be in Washington, DC this summer working at the National Association of Black Journalists High School Workshop (NABJ JSHOP). He will serve as a faculty member and as the co-curriculum director.

Dr. Susan Gatto, Associate Professor of Nursing, has been selected to participate in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Leadership for Academic Nursing Program (LANP). This competitive fellowship is designed to further develop and enhance leadership skills in new and emerging executive administrators in baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs. The year-long LANP program starts with a 5-day seminar in Annapolis, MD addressing important executive leadership topics and provides numerous assessment experiences.

Dr. Lisa VanHoose, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, has had a symposium accepted for presentation at the American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections meeting which will be held in San Antonio, TX, in February 2017.

Achievements & Recognition

Dr. Leah Lowe, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, was recently notified by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties that she passed the Board examination in Pediatric Physical Therapy and is now a Certified Pediatric Specialist.

Dr. Stephanie Vanderslice, Professor of Creative Writing, gave an invited speech at the New School in New York City this past spring. She has also been named national chair of the Creative Writing Studies Organization. Her latest book, *Studying Creative Writing - Successfully*, was published May 16.

The School of Nursing received accreditation for their DNP degree program and postMaster's nurse practitioner certificate program from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The accreditation is for 5 years, the longest possible from CCNE for initial accreditation.

An article by Counseling Psychology doctoral student Cory Cobb and his advisor, Dr. Doug Xie, has been accepted for publication in *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*. The article is titled "Discrimination and Depression among Unauthorized Latinos in the U.S."

Dr. Amy Baldwin, Director of University College, has been nominated as an external reviewer for the National Resources Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition's premier grant program, the Paul P. Fidler Research Grant. The Center annually awards the Paul P. Fidler Research Grant, which is designed to encourage the development and dissemination of knowledge that has the potential to improve the experiences of college students in transition.

Fulbright Scholar Heading to China

Things typically slow down a bit for faculty during the summer, but for Dr. Jesse Butler, Associate Professor of Philosophy, things are in high gear as he prepares to depart in August for Guangzhou, China, where he (and his family) will live for 10 months while he teaches at Jinan University.

After a lengthy application process, Dr. Butler received the exciting news in April that he was a recipient of the prestigious Core Fulbright Scholar award, which provides opportunities for U.S. scholars to pursue research and teach in more than 125 countries. Dr. Butler will be teaching American culture and history through views pertaining to self-knowledge in philosophy and literature.

When asked why he selected China, Dr. Butler indicated his interest in cross-cultural comparative philosophy and recent participation in the Asian Studies Development Program through the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, where he attended an intensive three week program titled, "Infusing Chinese and Japanese Religion, Art and Politics into the Undergraduate Curriculum." As an analytic philosopher with expertise in epistemology, Dr. Butler is fascinated with "the rich philosophical reflections on human nature and knowledge that is found throughout the history of China, especially Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism." He is particularly interested in exploring their diverse conceptions of self, identity, and human existence.

In between his online teaching responsibilities and learning to speak Chinese, Dr. Butler and his wife Julie have been busy preparing to move out of their house so it can be leased during their absence. They are also planning to home school their two children (ages 8 and 13) while in China and have been busy developing a unique curriculum that engages the children in Chinese culture.

Conservation conversation leads to third internship

Marie Desrochers, B.A. in Art: Art History Emphasis with minors in Honors Interdisciplinary Studies and Chemistry (anticipated graduation August 2016), has been selected for the Andrew W. Mellon Conservation Internship Program at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). Four undergraduate students or recent graduates from all over the country are selected each year for the paid internship program, in which they are mentored and supervised by the Museum's Conservator of Objects. The NMAAHC is the Smithsonian's 19th museum, opening on the National Mall this September 2016. Ms. Desrochers will be interning at the NMAAHC for 16 weeks from November 2016 through February 2017. This marks the third internship in conservation for Ms. Desrochers. Last summer she completed internships at the Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and at the Archives of American Art.

This summer she is participating in an undergraduate research program called Baltimore SCIART through the University of Maryland at the Baltimore County Chemistry Department and Walters Art Museum. She is working with a team of college students to investigate different available techniques for cleaning gilded silver artifacts and art objects at the Walters Art Museum.



Photography by Steve Runge



Inside of White (2015)