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A USMH PUBLICATION FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND THE COMMUNITY

>> SUMMER 2009

USMH Awards 10 Students \$2,500 Scholarships

“It humbles me to be awarded this. It makes you want to do more,” said **Oliver Daley**, a University of Maryland, College Park, graduate engineering student attending classes at the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH). Daley and nine other students, who were the first recipients of the USMH Scholarship Fund, were honored in June at an awards ceremony held at USMH. Each student received a \$2,500 scholarship for the 2009-2010 academic year.

At the awards reception, **Dr. David Warner**, USMH executive director, and **Gaye McGovern**, USMH advisory board chair, congratulated each recipient and presented the students with free tickets to the Elizabethtowne Feaste and Frolic scholarship fundraiser dinner to be held on September 12. The scholarship funds were raised from the Feaste and Frolic fundraiser held in the fall of 2008, and similar funds will be raised from

the fundraiser this September.

“I know a lot of people donated their time and money to go into the scholarships,” said Daley. **Joanna Hose**, a scholarship recipient and Frostburg State University (FSU) early childhood/elementary education student at USMH, echoed Daley’s sentiments. “It is nice to know that people contributed their funds so that these scholarships can be created,” she said.

Scholarship winner **Tiffany Adams**, who is an FSU student in the master of business program at USMH, said, “This scholarship has given me the opportunity to continue my education in graduate school. I was going to take one class and spread it out for a longer period of time to make it affordable. Now, I can take three classes this semester and complete my degree faster. It allows me to pursue my dream.”

FSU sociology student and scholarship recipient, **Sherry Beer**, said attending Hagerstown Community College and



The 2009 USMH Scholarship Fund recipients pose for a group photo. Left to right: Gaye McGovern, Tiffany Adams, Cassandra Coffman, Sherry Beer, Julie Eckenrode, Oliver Daley, Joanna Hose, Wayne Keefer, Shannon Sturtz, and Dr. David Warner.

transferring to USMH has made her education possible. “I’m a single mom, and I wouldn’t have been able to work full-time and travel to get my education.”

Wayne Keefer, an FSU business administration student who is taking classes at USMH, concurred with Beer. “I love USMH. I think it is awesome that you can get a good education from different universities without traveling. And the teachers have valuable real-world experience.”

Both Beer and Keefer said the scholarships would help them pursue their education in the coming year. “It will allow

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HAGERSTOWN

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YOU'RE READY. WE'RE HERE.



USMH Scholarship Fundraiser Important Demonstration of Community Support for Higher Education

by Gaye McGovern, USMH Advisory Board Chair

Our current challenging economy shines a spotlight on the importance of a college education or certification in a trade or computer skill after high school. To be successful in today's world, we need a good education. And for our region to compete successfully for financially strong employers, we need to offer potential employees who are committed to lifelong learning. Earnings for people with bachelor's degrees are currently twice those of people with a high school diploma.

Furthermore, unemployment rates reported in May 2009 were 4.8 percent for people with bachelor's degrees and above, 7.7 percent for those with associate degrees, 10 percent for people with high school diplomas and 15.5 percent for those with less than a high school diploma.

As Washington County citizens, we need to do all we can to increase access and provide affordability for people who want a college education. Scholarships are an essential part of the solution. Students attending the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH) regional higher education center may qualify for state and federal financial aid, but still not have enough support to give up work hours to attend college. The USMH Scholarship Fund, a fund of the University System of Maryland Foundation (USMF) is part of the solution. On June 25, the first-ever USMH Scholarship Awards were given to 10 deserving students attending programs at USMH. Each student received a \$2,500 scholarship to help further their education. See page 4 for an article about the scholarship winners.

The scholarship funds were raised from the Elizabethtowne Feaste and Frolic fundraiser held in the fall of 2008. Similar scholarships will be awarded in the spring of 2010 from funds raised at the next fundraiser in September. In addition to the scholarship funds described above, a separate scholarship fundraising effort was held as part of the Waltersdorf-Henson Challenge Grant. The first awards from that scholarship project will be made in the spring of 2011.

The Elizabethtowne Feaste and Frolic fundraiser acquired its Renaissance theme since many have said the location of USMH in downtown Hagerstown marked the beginning of the economic renaissance in this area. Since it was announced in 1999 that the USMH center would be sited in downtown Hagerstown, \$19,904,233 in government dollars (not including the \$13.5 million for USMH) and \$17,853,000 in private developer dollars have been invested in the two block radius around Public Square which surrounds the USMH regional higher education center.

We are looking forward to raising further funds to support USMH students. Please consider joining us on September 12, 2009, for the third-annual Elizabethtowne Feaste and Frolic. The event will start at 6 pm with a reception outside the Academy Theater in downtown Hagerstown.

Members of the Hagerstown Community College Chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism will provide costumed reenactors to entertain and interact with guests. After dinner, from 7pm to 8 pm, the Maryland Shakespeare Players from the University of Maryland at College Park will provide comedic Shakespearean skits for everyone's enjoyment.

This event is an important demonstration of community support for the higher education programs offered at USMH. To register, please complete the form on page 7. ●

USMH Honors 139 Graduates at Celebration

In May, the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH) honored 139 graduates from its partnering institutions at the 2009 Graduation Celebration. The Hollywood-themed event featured a music revue of Academy-Award-winning songs, and graduates posed for caricature artists who drew the students in a red-carpet setting.

The event was held in the USMH Lobby starting with a cocktail hour followed by an hors d'oeuvre reception and awards program. **Edward Marfut**, a Frostburg State University master of arts in teaching graduate, and **Jamie Dryden**, a Towson University nursing student, delivered the student speeches.

Fall 2008 and spring 2009 graduates from Frostburg State University (FSU), Salisbury University (SU), Towson University (TU), and University of Maryland University College (UMUC) were honored at the event.

Academic achievement awards were presented to: Mary Beck, a SU bachelor's of science in social work graduate; Joann Doherty and Kathy Rabon, TU master's of science in nursing graduates; and Rhonda Smith, a UMUC bachelor's in accounting graduate.

Student leadership and service awards were presented to: Maura David, a TU master's of science in nursing graduate; Edward Marfut, a FSU master of arts in teaching graduate; and Kathy Rabon.

"This spring the first group of social work students from Salisbury University graduated, as well as the first class of early childhood/elementary education students from Frostburg State University. In addition, the first cohort of master's in nursing students from Towson University graduated. We were honored last night to recognize these graduates and the graduates of all the programs from our partnering institutions," said Dr. David Warner, USMH executive director.

Dr. Warner continued, "Many of the graduates will use their degrees to start careers in the Hagerstown area in the critical workforce shortage fields of nursing, teaching, and social work." ●



Above: The first group of FSU Early Childhood Education graduates pose after receiving their celebratory gift.

Below: The Towson B.S. in Nursing graduates gather for a group photo.



Above: A graduate sits to have her caricature drawn by artist Angie Jordan.

Right: Students mingle and enjoy hors d'oeuvres at the reception.



USMH

Staff Listing

We're Here to Assist You
Monday through Thursday,
8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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Scholarship Winners Honored at Reception

continued from cover

me to take more classes than I originally planned," said Beer.

Keefer explained he would be going part-time to complete his bachelor's degree and also going part-time to start his master's degree. "It is hard to find financial aid for part undergraduate and part graduate. This scholarship came at a great time for me," he said.

Last fall, the USMH Advisory Board approved the guidelines and application to be used for the scholarships. To qualify, a student had to be currently enrolled or starting in a program at USMH. They also had to be a U.S. citizen with a B or better grade point average, and must have attained junior-level or higher academic status. As part of the application, students submitted an official transcript, a letter of recommendation, and a short essay about their educational goals and service to others. The applications were reviewed by scholarship committee members who determined the awardees.

"USMH is extremely pleased to be honoring these outstanding students with well-deserved scholarship funds. The funds were graciously raised through community support for our institution," said Dr. Warner.

He continued, "I would like to thank everyone who contributed to raising these funds. It is because of this support that these students will receive tuition assistance for their coursework. With these funds, we are investing in our community's future. Congratulations to all the winners." ●

USMH Scholarship Recipients

- ◆ Tiffany Adams, FSU, Master of Business Administration program
- ◆ Sherry Beer, FSU, Bachelor's in Sociology program
- ◆ Travis Brown, UMUC, Bachelor's in Criminal Justice program
- ◆ Cassandra Coffman, Salisbury University, Bachelor's in Social Work program
- ◆ Oliver Daley, UMCP, Master of Engineering in Systems Engineering program
- ◆ Lorrie Dunn, Salisbury University, Master in Social Work program
- ◆ Julie Eckenrode, FSU, Masters of Arts in Teaching program
- ◆ Joanna Hose, FSU, Bachelor's in Early Childhood/Elementary program
- ◆ Wayne Keefer, FSU, Bachelor's in Business Administration
- ◆ Shannon Sturtz, FSU, Master in Education with a concentration in special education program

Ed.D. Program to Begin in January 2010

Representatives from the University of Maryland, College Park's Department of Education, Higher Education and International Education (EDHI) and from the College of Education at Frostburg State University recently met at USMH with more than 60 people interested in The Maryland Program for Excellence and Leadership (MPEL) Doctoral program to be offered at USMH in January 2010.

The MPEL program has been approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) as a closed-site program for public school personnel from the three Western Maryland counties: Allegany, Garrett and Washington.

It is being offered in Hagerstown as a collaborative program between the University of Maryland, College Park and Frostburg State University. Graduates of the MPEL program will earn a doctorate in education or Ed.D. and will be prepared for major leadership positions in the field of

education. The degree will qualify graduates to apply for superintendent certification in the state of Maryland.

The program is consistent with the standards of the National Policy Board for Educational Administrators (NPBEA), the National Council for Accreditation for Teacher Education (NCATE), and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

Designed in conjunction with education leaders, including superintendents in Maryland, the program consists of formal coursework, performance assessments, a comprehensive examination, and a dissertation. The program is offered in cohorts of 25 students and is structured to enable students to complete course requirements in three years.

Interested candidates must have a master's degree and must submit an online application, which includes three letters of

recommendation, a professional statement, an analytic writing sample, and a professional résumé or curriculum vitae.

Visit www.education.umd.edu/EDHI/prstudents/howtoapply.html for an online application. Applications can be submitted starting on August 1, 2009, and the application deadline is November 1, 2009. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by December 15, 2009, and classes are scheduled to begin January 25, 2010.

Courses will be held at USMH one evening per week in the spring and fall and four nights per week in June and July.

"We are extremely pleased to have the MPEL program starting at USMH. We know area educators will benefit from this program, and it has been an honor to collaborate with UMCP and FSU to bring a doctorate in education program to Washington County," said Dr. David Warner, USMH executive director. ●

UMUC Student Receives Trooper of the Year Honor

A Maryland State Trooper completing his criminal justice degree at the University of Maryland University College at USMH, recently received The Trooper of the Year award from his supervisors at the Hagerstown Barrack.

Trooper 1st Class **Travis Brown**, who is scheduled to receive his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from UMUC in the spring of 2011, started as a cadet with the Maryland State Police and then entered the police academy in 2004. "I was interested in a career where I believed that I could help make the lives of citizens better," he said. "I was looking for a career that was fast paced and provided new tasks everyday."

To honor Trooper Brown, his supervisors presented him with a certificate and a pin to wear on his uniform at an award ceremony on May 8 at Hagerstown Community College. Other law enforcement and corrections professionals were also recognized at the ceremony.

"I am very honored to be the recipient of this award. Law enforcement is a career where you rarely are recognized for the effort that you put forth and this is a way to reward such effort," said Trooper Brown.

Trooper Brown finds "helping fellow citizens" one of the most rewarding aspects of his job. Helping people "comes in many forms," he said, including, "at the scene of a motor vehicle collision, returning recovered property that was stolen to the owner, and protecting citizens from potential threats."

Every profession has its challenges and Trooper Brown said, "One of the most challenging aspects of this job is dealing with repeat offenders, and when they don't learn from their past mistakes and continue to be a problem in society."

Trooper Brown is enrolled in CCJS352 Drugs and Crime for the summer semester, and said he "came to attend classes at USMH due to the high level of education being offered at such a

convenient location." He adds, "I am very pleased with how the criminal justice program is being run so far, and I think this degree we help give me a better understanding of my career and how it impacts other aspects of society." ●



To advertise the criminal justice program, UMUC recently created a display in the front windows of the USMH building.

For more information on the criminal justice program, contact Jana Gordon at 240-527-2711 or jgordon@umuc.edu.

FSU Student Wins AAUW Scholarship

Last fall, Frostburg State University (FSU) student **Francine Ngongang** read a special section in the USMH newsletter that made a positive impact on her education.

“I was browsing through the scholarship section of the newsletter for ones that I would qualify for, and I saw the American Association of University Women (AAUW) scholarship. I immediately started gathering everything I needed for it, and created a folder so I would have all of my documentation ready on time,” she explained.

Her dedication and organization paid off. In May, Francine received the news. She had been chosen as a recipient of the AAUW Hagerstown Branch scholarship. “When I received the letter in the mail letting me know I had been selected, I was truly ecstatic,” she said.

According to the organization’s Web site, the AAUW, founded in 1881, promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

“I think what AAUW does is great and it truly gives me hope, and makes me want to get involved,” said Francine.

In the fall, Francine will take managerial economics, business writing, entrepreneurial business plan, and business policy and strategy. She said she plans to “use the award money for book expenses and the rest will go toward my tuition payment.”

“Winning the scholarship means so much to me. It gives me an opportunity to continue my studies and will help me get closer to my goals and dreams,” said Francine. “Things have not been easy and this scholarship is sort of an encouragement for me as it shows me that giving up is just not an option.”

Diane Sanford, a representative from the AAUW Hagerstown branch, said 17 scholarships were given out to students in Washington County this year based on academic criteria, volunteer work in the community and financial need. The organization raises funds for the scholarships through an annual book sale in April.

“We really wanted to support the non-traditional student in Washington County, and we wanted to select someone from USMH to show our support of the center,” said Sanford. She added that two times as many students applied for the scholarships this year than last, and that she believed it was due to a greater financial need in the current economic times.

Sanford said Francine could reapply for her scholarship next year, but that it is not an automatic renewal. Eight out of the 17 scholarships given out by the group this year were renewals.



“I am proud to be a student at USMH,” said Francine. “There is always such an aura of peace when I come into the center whether it be to attend a class, or do homework in the library. I think everyone there does a great job, and I would recommend it to my family and friends.” ●

Check-out the Fall 2009 issue of *Campus & Community* for a special scholarship insert filled with scholarship opportunities from each of USMH’s partnering institutions.

Did you know?

Did you know that the Hagerstown-Washington County Chamber of Commerce will honor faculty members in an award ceremony this fall.

On October 23, the local Chamber of Commerce will hold the second annual Academic Excellence in Higher

Education Awards at Fountainhead Country Club in Hagerstown.

Adjunct and full-time faculty members from USMH Partnering Institutions, Hagerstown Community College and Kaplan College will receive awards from their institutions and will be

given a chance to present a short speech.

In addition to honoring the faculty members, the event serves as a scholarship fundraiser with a portion of the ticket sales going to a scholarship managed by the chamber.

Elizabethtowne

Feaste and Frolic III

September 12, 2009



Contact: _____

Business: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

_____ *I would like to sponsor this event to benefit higher education at the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH)*

\$5,000 *Dukes and Duchesses* Includes 10 event tickets, reserved table, full-page ad in the program (7.75" high x 4.75" wide), visual and verbal recognition at the event, a listing in the event program, and a large-scale print thank you ad in the Herald-Mail.

\$2,500 *Lords and Ladies* Includes 6 event tickets, reserved table, 1/2 page ad in the program (Horizontal 3.75" tall x 4.75" wide or Vertical 7.75" tall x 2.25" wide), verbal recognition at the event, a listing in the event program, and a large-scale print thank you ad in the Herald-Mail.

\$1,000 *Beefeaters and Royal Guards* Includes 4 event tickets, 1/4 page ad in the program (Horizontal 1.875" tall x 4.75" wide or Vertical 3.75" tall x 2.25" wide), a listing in the event program, and a Herald-Mail thank you ad.

\$ 500 *Troubadours and Jesters* Includes 2 event tickets, a listing in the event program, and a Herald-Mail thank you ad.

***Please submit your ad in a PDF format by August 26 to Amanda Johnston, ajohnston@hagerstown.usmd.edu*

I would like to purchase _____ individual tickets at \$100 each.

_____ I can not attend but would like to support the scholarship fund with a donation.

A check payable to The University System of Maryland Foundation, Inc. for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Please invoice me for \$ _____.

Proceeds benefit the USMH Scholarship, a fund of the University System of Maryland Foundation, Inc.

Payment reserves your space at this event. Tickets will be mailed after we receive your reservation.

You will receive a receipt from the USMF noting the potential tax deductible portion of your donation. Please mail this form to USMH, 32 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Please call USMH at 240-527-2060 with any questions regarding this event.





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