FSU @ USMH MAT Mentors

As part of the curriculum for the Frostburg State University (FSU) Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program, students are required to participate in a community service learning project. This year, program coordinator and instructor Dr. Jamey Tober-Nystrom connected her students with Angie St. Clair, Director of Programs for Washington County Diversion Mentoring Program.

The Lead4Life, Inc. Mentoring Program began as a blank canvas in January of 2012. Since that time 22 youths, ages 8-18, and volunteers have been matched. These mentees are from the Washington County Diversion Program and have either received a first-time non-violent charge or their parents voluntarily enrolled their families in the Child In Need of Supervision (CINS) program. All the mentees in the program want to have a mentor. They want continued on page 4

Community Supports Scholarship Drive

The recently held Elizabethtowne Feaste and Frolic was a great success. The weather was beautiful, the food was authentic, the actors were entertaining, and most importantly, the scholarship funds were raised!

Although enjoyable, the true purpose of the evening is to continue to support students’ higher educational goals. Gaye McGovern, USMH Scholarship Chairperson, states, “Financial need is one of the main reasons that people drop out of college during their freshman or sophomore years. By supporting the USMH Scholarship Fund, local citizens, local businesses and local community leaders are providing the necessary hand-up to people who want to complete their college education but could not otherwise afford to do so.”

This well-attended event was sponsored by 20 area businesses and individual...
This current issue of our newsletter features information on the service activities of our students in the Hagerstown community. In that spirit, I think it appropriate to talk a little about our recent scholarship fundraiser, the Elizabethtowne Feaste and Frolic.

Our cash proceeds were greater than last year, which will permit us to again award ten $2,500 scholarships to deserving, local students next fall, plus add to our endowment.

This was a wonderful event held in the courtyard beside the campus building in early October. We were blessed with good weather, a large crowd, excellent food, and terrific entertainment. Queen Elizabeth I of England presided and dubbed one new knight and new lady of the college. These were Sir Brien Poffenberger and Lady Mary Baykan, both energetic supporters of USMH.

Besides being good fun, the event was a financial success. Our cash proceeds were greater than last year, which will permit us to again award ten $2,500 scholarships to deserving, local students next fall, plus add to our endowment.

This brings me back to the topic of service. This event was a success because of the commitment of many people to make it such. Included are staff members like Erin Harman and Jamie Bushong. Also important were Advisory Board members Gaye McGovern and Frank Erck, plus volunteers Mary Anne Burke, Francine Donachie, Jay Frantz and Pat Wishard. And we owe a debt of gratitude to our honored “royalty,” Sir Brien and Dame Mary.

A lot of people worked very hard to make sure the evening was fun and had value. I’m very proud of this effort. It took us years of work to have the UM System locate our facility here, and now our citizens are generously volunteering to make sure it stays here and thrives.

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Interested parties can submit editorial content to Jamie Bushong at jbushong@hagerstown.usmd.edu.
Community Support

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Donors. Each sponsorship ranged from $250 to close to $5,000. Sponsorships coupled with ticket sales raised a total of $30,000, exceeding last year’s efforts.

Support also came from community leaders, Washington County Free Library Director Mary Baykan and Hagerstown Washington County Chamber of Commerce President Brien Poffenberger. Both were “knighted” for their continued support of USMH. “I was honored to be asked to participate and thrilled that the event was so successful. The Feaste and Frolic event is really all about opportunity—opportunity for students who might not otherwise have the access they need to achieve their educational goals,” said Brien. As Mary notes, “I have been a strong supporter of USMH since its beginning. The library is part of the educational and economic fabric of our county. The Library Board and its staff recognize how important higher education is to the economic health of our community. For communities to attract good paying jobs there has to be a strong academic presence. USMH is a strong partner with HCC [Hagerstown Community College], the BOE [Washington County Board of Education], and the library in providing our citizens the opportunity to get the education they need to improve the quality of life for themselves and their families.”

The percentage of Washington County residents with a bachelor’s degree or higher ranks 19th out of 24 counties in Maryland. The US Bureau of Labor & Statistics reports people with a bachelor’s degree are nearly twice as likely to be employed as people with a high school diploma. “The reality is that our county needs an educated workforce to attract employers. And present as well as future local employers need resources to provide additional education to their employees. USMH is an important local resource for higher education, and a key to the future economic success of our area. We have an excellent public school system and HCC leads the way in so many areas of study. Now, local people can build on those experiences and complete or update their higher education,” said McGovern.

USMH has awarded more than $130,000 in scholarship funds from the Magnolia Foundation Scholarship Fund to benefit the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown, established through the Community Foundation of Washington County to meet the Waltersdorf-Henson Endowment Challenge Campaign and fundraisers such as the Feaste and Frolic. Next spring, new scholarships will be granted to students.

Thank you to our Feaste and Frolic Community Sponsors

Dukes and Duchessess
State Farm Insurance Companies Foundation
Tom Breidenstein, Sharon Elbin, Dwight Guyton, Gaye McGovern Insurance Agency, Inc., Larry Michaels, Tim Panther, Steve Swayne

Bowman Hospitality
Bulls & Bears, Holiday Inn Express, Homewood Suites

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Anonymous
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RidgeRunner Publishing

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Minnich Funeral Home
Roostervane Florist
John Schnebly
The Columbia Bank
Washington County Free Library
CHIEF WCPS
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.

Mark Halsey
Executive Director
mchalsey@hagerstown.usmd.edu
240-527-2727

Jamie Bushong
Coordinator of External Relations &
Student Services
jbushong@hagerstown.usmd.edu
240-527-2722

Tamara Doleman
Office Clerk
tdoleman@hagerstown.usmd.edu
240-527-2062

Erin Harman
Director of Advancement & Outreach
eharman@hagerstown.usmd.edu
240-527-2728

Lisa McCulloh
Executive Administrative Assistant
lmculloh@hagerstown.usmd.edu
240-527-2729

Mark Rini-Stevens
Maintenance Mechanic
mrstevens@hagerstown.usmd.edu
240-527-2763

Scott Thomas
IT Specialist
scthomas@hagerstown.usmd.edu
240-527-2758

Vichuda Wachs
Office Clerk
vwachs@hagerstown.usmd.edu
240-527-2061

**MAT mentors**

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To have dependable people who are fun, exposing them to new ideas and interest.

Through an extensive process of interviews and questionnaires, St. Clair matches mentors with at-risk youths. A one-year contract of participation is then signed by both the mentor and the student. Tobery-Nystrom and St.Clair thought this would be an especially successful project because of the large number of male MAT students this year, and the high number of male students that were in need of mentoring. MAT students Jason Bowers, Don Jack, Mark Koontz, Ed McClain, Tim Stout, Scott Wildeson, and Neil Wrona are participating in the program. Stout stated, “The idea is to give the students a well-rounded perspective of what manhood looks like.”

As part of the contract, which began September 1, all participants must agree to several requirements. They must meet at least one time each week for at least one hour, and the entire group meets one time each month for school tutoring.

In this group, students range in age from nine to 15. Most students are in middle school, but there are also high school participants as well as a homeschooled student. Because the mentoring program is a part of the Department of Juvenile Services, the first goal is to keep these students out of court. “Our responsibility is to act as positive role models,” notes mentor Jack.

During their weekly meetings, the mentors usually will pick up their students from their homes. Although this contract is fairly new, the seven pairings have participated in a variety of activities. They’ve played baseball together, played Xbox and gone to sports activities. Jack took his student trick-or-treating. Bowers’ student is interested in the Humane Society. Bowers has since arranged for his student to shadow staff at the Humane Society, and even observe surgery.

The mentors have seen positive signs. Wildeson mentioned his student loves government and asked to stay in class longer to work. And Bowers stated, “I must be doing something right if he wants to communicate with me outside of our meeting.”

Throughout the year-long contract timeframe there will be success measures. According to Koontz, “There will be quantitative and qualitative research to see if the program is working.” Parents of the students will participate in questionnaires, and the schools will communicate the number of school referrals received, or if an in-school suspension has been invoked.

Ultimately, Koontz thought this experience would make him a better teacher as his student “can help me understand how to reach students.”
Coppin State University (CSU) offers the only accredited baccalaureate Health Information Management (HIM) program in the state of Maryland. With the support of area businesses, and the desire to have the program from area students, USMH has partnered with CSU to bring the HIM to Hagerstown.

HIM is the practice of acquiring, analyzing, and protecting digital and traditional medical information vital to providing quality patient care. HIM professionals on a staff ensure an organization has the right information on hand when and where it is needed while maintaining the highest standards of data integrity, confidentiality and security.

Mona Calhoun, with more than 25 years of experience in the HIM profession, developed and is the chairperson of the CSU HIM program. The first class at Coppin was offered in 2007. CSU graduates have successfully found positions in many healthcare facilities as well as non-traditional settings such as record storage and federal jobs.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics sites health information technicians as one of the 20 fastest growing occupations in the United States. HIM was named the #4 top major in a recent US News and World Report article. Graduates can expect to earn starting salaries between $30,000 and $50,000; by five years one can earn upwards of $75,000.

Carolyn Eberly, Assistant Professor for the CSU at USMH program, has taught in the allied health field for nearly a decade. She has her master's in healthcare administration and is a registered health information technician. “Bringing technology into the medical field has been the biggest change over the past years. HIM has been needed in our area for a long time,” Eberly stated. She’s excited to see the program grow locally.

Perspective students may visit www.coppin.edu/HIM to learn more about the HIM program at USMH. Or you may contact Eberly directly at ceberly@coppin.edu.

Entrepreneurial Club - hear speakers, learn about business plans, build your resume
Contact: Dr. Mattare, mmattare@frostburg.edu

Psychology Club - watch a movie then enjoy a lively discussion afterward
Contact: Dr. Masicocchi, cmmasicocchi@frostburg.edu

USMH Student Council - become a voice for the students, enjoy community service
USMH Alumni Ambassadors - continue to support USMH now that you have graduated
Contact: Jamie, jbushong@hagerstown.usmd.edu

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Reading
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Health Professions
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Nursing Education
We Asked…
Are you involved in serving the community?

“I help serve the homeless at the Hope Center. It is gratifying to see the appreciation on their faces — to realize they are just people down on their luck.”
Laurel Shoemaker, TU Nursing

“I volunteer at the Humane Society, because I love to work with animals!”
Blake Wolfe, FSU Business Administration

“I am part of the upcoming Storybook Holiday. We’re dressing up for the students. I’m also involved with Relay for Life.”
Aletha Schaffer, FSU Education

“I volunteer for Heavenly Made Soup Kitchen. It was based on a community need, no matter what season. I appreciate being a part of a kitchen open on Sundays.”
Shavawn Fowlkes, SU Social Work

“I like doing extracurricular activities and community service events. The goal for the Books for Haiti was to fill the suitcase...and we were successful!!”
Tia Taylor, TU Nursing

“I’ve been to the Dominican Republic for other service projects and feel a connection to the area. I really wanted to help organize this effort, Books for Haiti.”
Christina Mehaffie, TU Nursing

Student Council

Meetings: The 1st Tuesday of every month, 3:00 - 4:00 pm
Phone: 240-527-2710
Email: studentcouncil@hagerstown.usmd.edu
Facebook Search: USMH Student Council

Have a voice, serve and have fun...be a part of student council!

Student Council has taken on many activities this semester. Currently we are sponsoring the partner-wide Food Fight! Last year we collected close to 200 pounds of food to donate to Food Resources, Inc. Our members have enjoyed participating in the 5K run for Cedar Ridge Children’s Home, a downtown scavenger hunt, Harvest Social, a blood drive and will sponsor a family for the holidays.

If you are a current USMH student, please join us for our last meeting of the semester on Tuesday, December 4th at 3:00 pm. Later that evening, beginning at 5:00 pm, the Student Wind-down will begin. This is an opportunity to meet with instructors and get some extra group studying in before finals, while enjoying refreshments offered by local downtown restaurants.

Student Voice

By Hannah Bradley, President, USMH Student Council
We ran a 5K recently to fundraise for the Cedar Ridge Children's Home and the Boys and Girls Club.

Trisha Bair
FSU Psychology
and Danielle Donovan

Blood Drive
USMH is sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive.

Thursday, November 29
12 noon - 6:00pm

Would you like to donate?
Talk with a student council member, or call Jamie 240-527-2722

Alert Information!
Have you signed up for your USMH Alerts notification yet?
USMH has the capability to notify you of any school-related emergencies, weather closings or delays.

To register –
www.e2campus.com/my/hagerstown/ In order for activation to occur, you must follow all steps to validate your registration.

Scholarship Info.
Scholarship guides will be online in January.

Deadline to apply for most scholarships: March 15th

www.hagerstown.usmd.edu/
click “financial aid”

Library hours of operation:
Monday - Thursday - 8:30am - 9:00pm
Friday - 9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday - 9:00am - 2:00pm

Learn a second (or third) language with Rosetta Stone

Check-out the available books in the leisure library, children's books too!
Contact Participating Universities

Coppin State University
Health Information Management
Mrs. Mona Calhoun 240-527-2770 mcalhoun@coppin.edu

Frostburg State University
Psychology Program Coordinator
Dr. Christopher Masciocchi 240-527-2746 cmasciocchi@frostburg.edu
Sociology and Liberal Studies Programs Coordinator
Mr. Gary Austin 240-527-2708 gaustin@frostburg.edu
Undergraduate Business Program Coordinator
Dr. Marty Mattare 240-527-2747 mmattare@frostburg.edu
MAT Education Programs Coordinator
Dr. Jamey Tobery-Nystrom 240-527-2735 jctoberynystrom@frostburg.edu
MBA Program Coordinator
Ms. Vicki Mazer 301-687-4595 vmmazer@frostburg.edu

Salisbury University
Social Work Program Coordinator
Ms. Sally Hellane 240-527-2751 sahellane@salisbury.edu

Towson University
Nursing Programs Director
Ms. Judy Breitenbach 240-527-2726 jbreitenbach@towson.edu

University of Maryland University College
Assistant Director
Ms. Lisa Huffman 240-527-2750 lisa.huffman@umuc.edu
Academic Advisor
Ms. Jana Gordon 240-527-2711 jana.gordon@umuc.edu

University of Maryland, College Park
Engineering Program Coordinator
Mr. Paul Easterling 301-405-3017 peaster@umd.edu
Education Doctorate Program Coordinator
Dr. Helene Cohen 240-527-2060 hkcohen@umd.edu

University System of Maryland at Hagerstown
32 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740