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Foundation Grant Provides New Broadcasting Opportunities for UCM Students

WARRENSBURG, Mo. (Nov. 20, 2014) — University of Central Missouri digital media production student, Daniel Barnett, is learning how to create ideas on the spot and “go with the flow” as a radio host, thanks to the UCM Foundation. Utilizing two Foundation Opportunity Grants, faculty members, Stephen Price and Joe Moore, have expanded their students’ experience in television and radio by upgrading audio equipment in the Martin Building recording studio and by providing students more on-air time in front of the camera.

With their first opportunity grant, Price purchased speakers, microphones, headphones and an audio snake. The equipment was used by 60 students in the spring 2014 semester, resulting in three student-produced radio shows, which gave them hands-on practice with industry standard equipment.
Twelve of those students, instructed by Moore, created the radio talk show, Campus Chatter, where students talk about sports, campus events and hot topics. Barnett was a host for the show in Spring 2014.

“Being a host, I learned the importance of communicating effectively and thinking quickly on my feet,” said Barnett of Harrisonville, Mo. “The things I learned working with Campus Chatter really helped me prepare for my internship.” Barnett currently works for the radio station, 1450 KOKO, broadcasting sports commentary.

Through an additional grant he received this fall, Moore purchased iPads to launch his Collaboration in Journalism Education, a new program that gives 15 UCM students experience working directly with high school students to help them develop journalism content.

Each week local high school students develop news packages and submit them to UCM students who then edit and schedule the footage to be used for the sports preview show, Midwest Missouri Gridiron. UCM students are in charge of producing and hosting the show.

The UCM Foundation Opportunity Grants were established two years ago in support of faculty and staff who have ideas but insufficient funding for entrepreneurial projects that strengthen the university’s learning environment and students’ academic experience. The nonprofit arm of the university, the UCM Foundation was established in 1979 to advance the university’s mission, making a college degree more affordable, accessible and beneficial. To find out more about the Opportunity Grant program and other grant-funded projects, visit www.ucmo.edu/opportunity.

Caption: Broadcasting students producing Campus Chatter, pictured from left; Melissa Conger, Daniel Barnett, and Marlin Copeland.

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