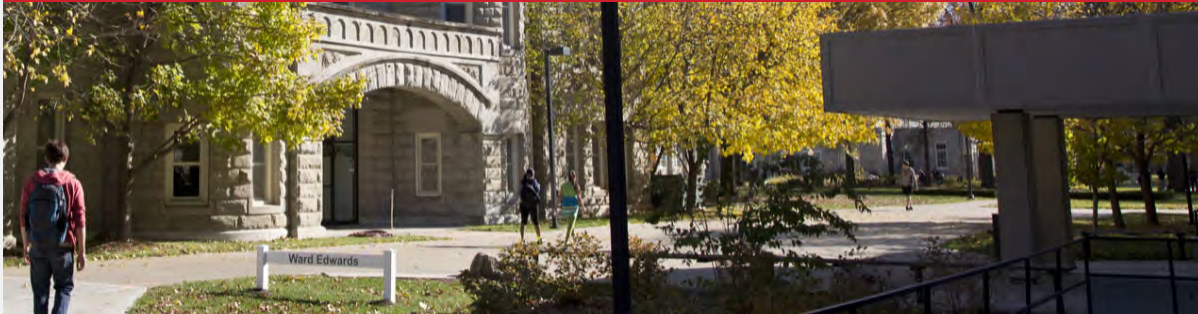


UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL MISSOURI
HARMON COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

**NEWS &
EVENTS**



SEPTEMBER 2021

Greetings from the Harmon College of Business and Professional Studies!

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The beginning of the fall semester is going well, with a substantial increase in engagement opportunities. Our faculty and staff members have been actively engaged in providing unique learning experiences, and this newsletter offers just a sample of those activities.

We appreciate your support and hope you continue collaborating with us.

Best regards,

Jose Mercado, Ph.D.

Dean, Harmon College of Business and Professional Studies

HIGHLIGHTS & NEWS



Summer Air Force Junior ROTC Flight Academy Brings High School Students to UCM in Pursuit of Private Pilot's Certification

Only a year after many of them received their driver's licenses, a group of young men and women who have been inspired and encouraged to pursue aviation careers will soon earn their Private Pilot's Certification after successfully completing an eight-week summer program at the University of Central Missouri (UCM).

The group of 10 students – most of them preparing to enter their senior year of high school – are participants in the [Air Force Junior ROTC Flight Academy, Chief of Staff Private Pilot Scholarship program](#). This initiative is part of a collective effort between the aerospace industry and the Air Force to help resolve the nation's military and civilian pilot shortage while also giving students a valuable higher education experience. The Flight Academy also addresses issues such as the need for more diversity in an industry where women currently make up less than 5-6 percent of the pool of professional pilots and minorities only 10-12 percent.

Jose Mercado, Dean of the Harmon College of Business and Professional Studies (HCBPS), said, "We are delighted to participate in the Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) University Flight Academy scholarship program. UCM has outstanding Certificated Flight Instructors and the necessary fleet of aircraft to help the high school cadets earn their Private Pilot Certificate. We are more than happy to support the initiative of the U.S. Air Force to increase aviation diversity."

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Central Missouri Police Academy Celebrates 100% Employment of Graduating Class

While fulfilling a vital need for well-prepared police officers who are now serving several area communities, the [Central Missouri Police Academy](#) (CMPA) at UCM celebrated a milestone when it graduated its 161st cadet class on June 19. All 25 members of the graduating class have found employment, making this the first time that 100 percent of the cadets were hired at the time of graduation. Additionally, all of the cadets passed their Missouri Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) test to become Class A Licensed Officers.

The pinning ceremony that took place at UCM involved representatives from more than 18 law enforcement agencies from across the state, with some agencies hiring multiple cadets. From this graduating class, the Warrensburg, Chillicothe, Independence, and Grain Valley police departments all hired multiple new officers for their cities and the Lafayette County Sheriff's Department Office hired two new deputies. Other communities or Sheriff's Departments to hire graduates of the CMPA were Carroll County Sheriff, St. Clair County Sheriff, Henry County Sheriff, Johnson County Sheriff, Grandview Police Department, Warsaw Police Department, St. Joseph Police Department, Pettis County Sheriff, Whiteman Air Force Base Security Forces, Saline County Sheriff, Lee's Summit Police Department, and Clinton Police Department.

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2021 Harmon College PIECES Core Value Awards

The Harmon College PIECES Core Value Awards were presented during the first college meeting of this academic year. The **Professionalism and Integrity Award**, in recognition of outstanding faculty and staff members who demonstrated service to the University or profession that exemplifies trust, respect and integrity, was presented to **Professor Benecia Carmack** and **Gwena Basinger**. The **Innovation and Application Award**, in recognition for exceptional contributions to the Harmon College by alumni and external partners, was presented to the **BKD, LLP Accounting Firm (Kaylan Vrana)**, **Harris, Harris & Sommer, LLC (Doug Harris and Adam Sommer)**, **Johnson County (MO) Emergency Management Agency (Cassidy Poteet)**, **Association of the United States Army - Kansas City, RISE Community Services (Bree Henderson)**, **Warrensburg Main Street (Jill Purvis)**, **Truman Medical Center Lakewood (Kelly Dooley)**, **Elizabeth “Liz” Kostas**, and **Warrensburg Adventure Club (Casey Conklin)**. The **Excellence Award**, in recognition of outstanding faculty members who have substantial contributions in the areas of teaching, scholarly activity, and professionally related service, was presented to **Dr. Bonnie Slavych**. The **Community Award**, in recognition of an outstanding faculty or staff member who has demonstrated exemplary professional cooperation and service above self, was presented to **Kim Stewart**. The **Engagement Award**, in recognition of outstanding scholarship by a faculty member, was presented to **Dr. Charlie Schwepker**. The **Student Focus Award**, in recognition of outstanding teaching, was presented to **Dr. Angela Collins** and **Tony Gasaway**.



***Fortune* Ranks UCM Among the Nation's Top Online MBA Institutions**

Fortune Education an adjunct publication of *Fortune* magazine designed to provide helpful informational resources to students pursuing higher education, has ranked UCM as having one of the nation's best online Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs. After being launched earlier this year, *Fortune Education* ranked the degree offered in HCBPS among the nation's top 100 programs, while also being the highest-ranked online MBA program in the state of Missouri.

To conduct the ranking, *Fortune Education* employed a methodology that compared institutions by several different factors. These factors included program score, a score calculated by combining data from a 29-question survey sent to universities, the average undergraduate GPA and average GMAT scores of incoming students, student retention rates; graduation rates, and student body size.

This score was combined with other factors such as alumni presence at a c-level (executive) on the Fortune 1000, brand score calculated in a similar way to commercial brands, and prestige score. These factors combined contributed to the UCM program's placement as 69th on the list of 100 best programs. *Fortune Education* also noted high retention rates and the economical cost for college credit for those enrolled in UCM's online MBA programs.

UCM's MBA program is accredited by AACSB International. This makes UCM one of only six Missouri universities to have both business and accounting accreditations through AACSB. As part of HCBPS, students can expect a program that strives for excellence, engagement, innovation, and integrity.

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UCM First in U.S. to Offer MBA in Airport Management, Beginning in Fall 2021

Continuing a long tradition of educating students in the aviation field, UCM this fall became the first AACSB-accredited institution worldwide to offer an MBA in Airport Management.

According to **Andy Multer**, assistant professor of aviation and graduate coordinator, this program is “designed for students working at airports with the goal of becoming managers and professionals at their airport and those who wish to become professionals in the airport management industry.”

The only public university in Missouri to own and operate its own training and community-use airport, UCM has a long history of preparing pilots. This new program is for those who are interested in the business side of aviation.

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Marriage and Family Therapy Internship Placements

The Marriage and Family Therapy option of the Human Development and Family Science graduate program have established internship placements with Dismas House of Kansas City in Kansas City, Missouri and Synergy Services in Parkville, Missouri.

CFD Program Ranked Third!

The Child and Family Development Program was ranked third among the top 50 Child Development Degree Programs in the United States by Intelligent.com.

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STUDENT FOCUS



Leadership Missouri Visit

On August 19, 2021, HCBPS received a visit from the Leadership Missouri program. The Leadership Missouri program, sponsored by the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, aims to identify current and emerging leaders throughout the state, enhance their leadership skills, and deepen their knowledge of the state's opportunities and challenges.

A group of 25 leaders toured the Skyhaven Airport and had an opportunity to talk to the Student Managed Investment Fund students in the Donn G. Forbes Center.



Accountancy Student Selected to be a PCAOB Scholar

Ilyjah Lawson, a junior in the Accountancy program, was selected by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) to be a PCAOB Scholar and received a \$10,000 scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year. The PCAOB Scholars Program is aimed at supporting the next generation of auditors.



HDFS Orientation

The Human Development and Family Science graduate program hosted an orientation for students pursuing their Master of Science degree, Human Development and Family Science, or Marriage and Family Therapy specialization areas, on Monday, August 16.

Dr. Joyce Chang, Dr. Jaimee Hartenstein, Dr. Adriatik Likcani, Dr. Ryan Peterson, Tim Welch, Jean Nuernberger, Chair of the School of Human Services, and **Jose Mercado,** HCBPS Dean, attended the event.

Speech-Language Pathology Student Receives Reid Hemphill Outstanding Graduate Student Scholarship

Meredith Burns, a graduate student in speech-language pathology, received the Reid Hemphill Outstanding Graduate Student Scholarship. This was a college-wide competition, and Burns was one of four students chosen for the award across the university. The scholarship was based on outstanding performance in both academics and scholarly research.

2021 Missouri Speech Language & Hearing Convention

Numerous students and faculty members participated in the annual Missouri Speech Language and Hearing Convention in May of 2021. **Kim Stewart** organized and implemented several sessions, including the NSSLHA Share Session with UCM students **Austin Covey, Jenna Weyrauch, and Makaley Woehr,** along with the School Services Update with Janet Deppe and Pat Jones. **Stewart** was also involved as an MSHA Executive Board member in the Ask MSHA and MSHA Breakout sessions.

Dr. Bonnie Slavych mentored three student presentations: “Exercise-Induced Laryngeal Obstruction” - **Maren Tuttle**; “PENS as an Adjunct Modality for Dysphagia Treatment in Parkinson’s” - **Emily Rothchild**; and “Expiratory Muscle Strength Training and the SLP” - **Derek Nugent**.

UCM National Student Speech Language & Hearing Association (NSSLHA)

Congratulations to the 2021-2022 UCM NSSLHA Executive Board: **Jenna Weyrauch**, President; **Madalyn Hibdon**, Vice President; **Alison Randol**, Secretary; **Anna Jaeger**, Treasurer; **Danielle Brooks** and **Natalie Miller**, Social Co-Chairs; **Haley Barnes**, Historian; **Brianna Shuler** and **Emily Steele**, Philanthropic and Diversity Liaisons Co-Chairs; **Elyse Abrahamson**, Graduate Faculty Representative; **Kelsie Nelson**, Undergraduate Faculty Representative; **Kim Stewart**, Advisor; **Anna Campbell**, Co-Advisor.

The annual UCM NSSLHA Awards Banquet was held virtually this year on April 26, 2021, and was well attended by students, faculty, and administrators. Thank you to our amazing guest speaker, **Katie Threlkeld**, M.S., CCC-SLP, who is completing her Ph.D. at the University of Missouri.

UCM NSSLHA is excited to announce receipt of the National NSSLHA Gold Chapter awarded in 2020 and, most recently, 2021. We have also received the MSHA Gold Chapter Award in 2020 and 2021.

We conducted two highly successful philanthropic events during 2020-2021 thanks to the generosity of our members through donations to the Campus Cupboard and the Survival House.

A huge thank you to **Carmen Rathert**, M.S. CCC-SLP, COM®, Chatterbox Speech Therapy, LLC, and **Jessi Frencken**, MPT, owner of Child's Play Therapy, LLC, for the March UCM NSSLHA meeting hosting us at their new facility Pediatric Place in Knob Noster. It is a beautiful facility offering Speech-Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Orofacial Myology, Dyslexia Therapy, Social Language Groups, and other services.

We were excited to begin the 2021-2022 school year hosting an outdoor picnic for our annual Meet and Greet on August 17. We have many informative virtual professional development webinars and fun, interactive meetings planned for the 2021-22 academic year.

Marriage & Family Therapy Students Selected

for Minority Fellowship Program

Makayla Black and **Janelle Barrett**, students in the Marriage and Family Therapy specialization of the Human Development and Family Science graduate program, have been selected as candidates for the Minority Fellowship Program through the AAMFT Research Foundation. Makayla and Janelle will receive the following benefits from the Minority Fellowship Program: AAMFT training opportunities and enrichment experiences, significant educational stipend, travel support to MFP Training Events, and travel support to the AAMFT Annual Conference.

2021 National Council on Family Relations Conference

Julianna Holiguin, a second-year Marriage and Family Therapy student, along with **Dr. Jaimee Hartenstein** will be presenting “Representation of Disability in Children’s Literature” at the 2021 National Council on Family Relations Conference in November.



*Pictured: (From left) alumnus **Joe Spencer**, Crossroads; PRSSA President **Ashleigh Horn**; PRSSA Secretary **Brooke Snider**; PRSSA member **Chris Pouncil**; PRSSA Advisor **Tom Heapes**; PRSSA VP **Michael Lewis**; alumna **Celeste Burks**, Saint Luke’s Health Systems; alumna and PRSSA Professional Advisor **Cara Mahon**, Associated Wholesale Grocers.*

2021 PRSSA Coffee with Pros

The Robert Kendall Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America sponsored “Coffee with Pros” on April 22, opening the door to let its members spend time with engaged UCM PR and Strategic Communication alumni. Rooftop coffee at the KC-based Messenger Coffee Company + Bakery was a great way to catch up and make new connections.

2021 Missouri Safety Center Awards

The Missouri Safety Center was excited to announce the first recipients of our Golden Unicorn Award. Nominations were submitted by work colleagues for those individuals who best represent the Strategic Planning Themes for the Missouri Safety Center, including:

- Staff, Service, Knowledge
- Growth
- First-Class Reputation
- Self-Sustaining
- Expertise
- Expanding Our Horizons



Angela Ford, Office Professional at the Central Missouri Police Academy, and **Mindy Sergeant**, Enforcement Coordinator, were the first recipients of the “coveted” award and received their Golden Unicorn Statues at our MSC Staff Meeting on May 7. Congratulations to Angela and Mindy and all those who were nominated.

FACULTY, STAFF, AND RESEARCH

Homeland Security National Training Program Continuing Training Grants

Dr. Dianna Bryant is a Subject Matter Expert (SME) for the Homeland Security National Training Program Continuing Training Grants. These grants will provide \$6,000,000 in funding this year via cooperative agreements to partners to develop and deliver training to prepare communities to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and natural, human-made, and technological hazards.

Dr. Bryant will be an integral part of the competitive selection process, reviewing and rating applications in the Tribal and Rural Preparedness focus area.

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Communication Disorders Faculty News

Two faculty members of the UCM Communication Disorders program received college awards. **Kim Stewart**, in recognition for professional cooperation and service above self, received the 2021 Core Value Community Award. **Dr. Bonnie Slavych**, in recognition for excellent in teaching, scholarship and service, received the 2021 Core Value Excellence Award.

Deb Galley officially retired in May 2021. Galley began her faculty position in 1997 as a member of the audiology faculty, teaching graduate and undergrad courses and providing clinical supervision for audiology students. After the phasing out of the graduate audiology program, Galley shifted emphasis to training speech-pathologist students, including the role of Director of Clinical Services. Galley played a crucial role in all aspects of the program. She and her husband have plans for a very active retirement. The faculty and students wish her the best for a healthy and happy future!

Dr. Bonnie Slavych presented a paper in the spring Council of Academic Programs in Communication Disorders (CAPSCSD) annual meeting in April 2021. This was a virtual presentation and the title of the paper was “Enhancing student engagement in the remote learning environment.” [Conference session]. Dr. Slavych also published a paper titled “Patient-reported outcome measures in voice: An updated readability analysis” with colleagues J. Stefu and R. Zraick in the *Journal of Voice*.

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Child & Family Development Faculty News

The CFD Program welcomed **Tim Welch** this fall. Welch is a Visiting Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy/Child and Family Development. He is currently completing his doctorate in Couple and Family Therapy from Michigan State University. He earned his master’s degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Oklahoma State University. His research interests include change processes in empirically supported couple and family therapy treatments and identifying factors that promote resilience to adverse childhood experiences. He has experience working with individuals, couples and families in multiple treatment settings including a residential

treatment center, in-home family therapy, a nonprofit community agency and in private practice. He is trained in Emotionally Focused Couple Therapy (EFT) and Internal Family Systems (IFS).

Drs. Joyce Chang and **Jaimee Hartenstein** had a proposal accepted for the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference titled “The Tale of Two Teaching Modalities.” The conference will take place in November.

Dr. Maxine Notice has the following publications:

Dinkel, D., Harsh Caspari, J., Fok, L., Notice, M., Johnson, D. J., Watanabe-Galloway, S., Emerson, M. (2021). A qualitative exploration of the feasibility of incorporating depression apps into integrated primary care clinics. *Translational Behavioral Medicine, 11*(9), 1708–1716.

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Tchouankam, T., Estabrooks, P., Cloyd, A., Notice, M., Teel-Williams, M., Smolsky, A., Burnett, P., Alexis, G., Conley, T., Partridge, Ej., Hogan, P., Thorpe, R., & King, K. M. (2021). Recruiting low-income African American men in mental health research: A community-based participatory research feasibility study. *American Journal of Men's Health*.

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Choices in Relationships, a book co-authored by Knox, Schacht, and Chang, was awarded by SAGE Publications and identified as the Breakthrough Book of 2020 in the U.S. college division. **Dr. Joyce Chang** is a faculty member in the Child and Family Development Program.

Criminal Justice Faculty Publication

Collins, A. & Menard, S. (2021). Anomie and adult crime. *Journal of Developmental and Life-Course Criminology*, 1 - 29. Online first.

ALUMNI, ADVISORY, AND GIVING



UCM Board Joins CMPA in Celebration of 50th Anniversary

Prior to its plenary session, on August 19, members of the UCM Board of Governors joined CMPA's leadership, faculty, cadets, and alumni in celebrating its [50th anniversary](#).

The ceremony, by invitation only, took place at the academy, located at 200 Ming St., Warrensburg. It included participation and remarks from Board President **Stephen Abney**, University President **Roger Best**, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs **Phil Bridgmon**, Senior Director of the Missouri Safety Center **Joanne Kurt-Hilditch**, former Academy Director **Mike Wiggins**, and current Academy Director **Tim Lowry**. UCM Executive Director for Governmental Relations **David Pearce** also participated, presenting a Missouri House Resolution from Representative Dan Houx and a Senate Resolution from Senator Denny Hoskins.

Three cadets from the current class, **Lt. Hanna Sawyer**, Warrensburg; **Class Commander Ethan Douglas**, Independence; and **Class Captain Aubrey Gutherie**, who is also a member of the Whiteman Air Force Base security team, recognized five individuals who graduated from the CMPA and died in the line of duty. These officers included Mike Mosher, who died while attempting to arrest a hit-and-run suspect in Overland Park, Kansas, in 2020, and Clinton police officers Gary Lee Michael, Jr., and Christopher Ryan Morton, who died in 2018 of gunshot wounds they sustained after responding to a 911 call at a Clinton residence. Also included were Miller County Deputy Sheriff Sandra Belle Wilson, who was shot and killed in 1991 in California, Missouri, while participating in a day-long search for a suspect, and Cass County Deputy Sheriff Kevin M. Mayse, who died in 1995, four days after sustaining injuries in a vehicle crash that occurred during a pursuit.

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Innovative Public Relations Endowment

Innovative Public Relations, the Public Relations and Strategic Communication program's student-run agency, received a \$25,000 endowment in the spring of 2021. The endowment will support IPR specialists' professional development activities and opportunities.



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