



The very reason a university is called a university is because of the academia. No school would be successful without hardworking professors, staff and students. The seven schools within Ouachita Baptist University showed an amazing diversity among the student body and faculty. Students on campus juggled academics and social life in and out of the classroom. Playing games, eating out with friends and hanging out by Degrade Lake all had to wait until papers were written, tests studied for and projects finished. Professors spent much of their time preparing lessons, grading work and meeting with students and other faculty outside of class time. Their patience and willingness to serve the student body and their peers gave the university value and showed their commitment to

#speaknow



Students prepare for a class in the new Mac lab on the second floor of Lile Hall. In the move from Mabee to Lile Hall in the summer, mass communications students and professors gained two new Mac labs, a new high definition TV studio and a Newsroom for publications staffs.

photo by: Nicole McPhate

ACADEMICS

Broadening Horizons

*a personal connection
with the world around us*

"The world is a book, those who don't travel read only a page." - Anonymous

"I've come away from this study abroad adventure with more stories and new experiences than I ever imagined," said Ellen Flint, a sophomore history and Spanish major from Arlington, Texas. "In one semester, I visited ten countries, swam in the Mediterranean, biked to the North Sea, picnicked next to the Eiffel Tower and even had the view of a castle from my bedroom window."

Opportunities to travel were opportunities to expand one's understanding of the world, of life and of self. International education opportunities expanded that learning even further. Students at Ouachita were encouraged and challenged to become difference makers in the world, but no difference would be made unless the world was reached - the horizon expanded.

Ouachita offered many locations for international education, as well as several other international summer trips and missions programs. Eighty-six students went on the offered summer trips to 12 different locations. Nine students studied abroad in the fall semester and 20 students studied abroad in the spring. Seven of those students were participants in the missions Hands-On program.

"I never thought that, at 21, I would be visiting three of my top ten countries to visit before I die," said Ryleigh Salmon, a senior mass communications major from Henderson, Texas, who participated in the European Study Tour. "I got to experience things that I'll remember for as long as I live. And I did all this with a great group of people who I now consider to be friends. It truly was the trip of my lifetime."

Studying abroad allowed students to take things they had learned in class and apply that to living and learning internationally.

"I loved being so immersed in the Spanish language. The things I learned in class I was able to apply immediately in the market, on the bus, with my host family, etc.," Flint said. "I didn't realize until arriving in Spain how daunting it would be to live in a country with very different customs, with a language I didn't know and among people with completely different world views."

"Going on the Greece biblical studies tour, I knew that it would change my faith; it would deepen it," said Grant Novak, a junior Christian studies major from Bossier City, La. "It's one thing to sit in a classroom and hear about these places, but it's a whole other thing to go to these cities where people like Paul actually walked. You connect with it more; it makes it more personal."

The amazing thing about these travel opportunities was that students were almost guaranteed to learn about more than one place and culture.

"We were in classes with Chinese, Russians, French, Japanese, and other Americans, which expanded my knowledge of more countries and cultures than just Spain," Flint said.

"One of my favorite parts of the trip was the 8-hour layover we had in Amsterdam. Not only did we get to see Greece and Turkey but also Western Europe," Novak said.

Students who took these international opportunities agreed that it exceeded their expectations, grew them in ways unimagined, and allowed them to encourage other students to make their own experience, take the opportunity to expand their education, their skills, their knowledge and themselves through an international travel experience.

"Whether it's EST, studying abroad for a semester or doing a foreign mission trip, it's something that everyone should experience," Salmon said. "I think here in America, we have this complex of thinking of ourselves as, not only the best, but the greatest, and we miss out on opportunities to broaden our horizons." #HealerPrayers

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Grant Novak





Juniors Victoria Samuelson, who studied in Austria, and Bethany Peevy, who studied in Spain, visit each other in Austria. Students who studied abroad often took trips to see each other in their different study abroad countries. **photo courtesy of: Victoria Samuelson**



Juniors Ellen Eubanks and Melanie Spearman visit the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland. These cliffs are the same ones featured in the films "The Princess Bride" and "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince." **photo courtesy of: Ellen Eubanks**

Junior Jacob Tinklenberg, friend Katie Schmidt, and juniors Ellen Eubanks and Anna English take a picture in front of the famous Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. While these students studied in Liverpool, chances to travel to other countries were easily available. **photo courtesy of: Ellen Eubanks**



Left: Students on the summer trip to Costa Rica get ready to go surfing. Many study abroad opportunities happened for shorter periods of time in the summer. **photo courtesy of: Ryan Strebeck**

Right: Junior Katelyn Barber stands in front of the Chateau Chamboard in France. The Chateau is one of the most recognizable chateaux in the world because of its French Renaissance architecture. **photo courtesy of: Katelyn Barber**

Freshman Caylie Gillum signs the Covenant on Academic Honor at the ceremony held in JPAC. All new students were required to sign this Covenant which was based on an honor system stating that students would take their academic work seriously. **photo by: Tyler Rosenthal**



Seniors Jessica Lamb and Sam Cummins measure the velocity and acceleration of a rolling car in their Physical Science lab. Labs were a requirement with each CORE science class. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**



Sophomore David Winkler and freshman Jean Benecyo use a caliper to measure body mass index in Wellness class. Wellness was a required class in which students learned about healthy living. **photo by: Kristen Barnard**



*Left: Dr. Johnny Wink hands out papers to students in his Senior Seminar class. Every senior was required to take a Senior Seminar class pertaining to their own school. **photo by: Nicole McPhate***

*Right: Dr. Scott Haynes, dean of students, speaks with new students during OBU Experience. New students were required to take the class Thursdays at 10 a.m. **photo by: Tyler Rosenthal***





Christ-Centered

*combining a deep love
of Christ and education*

CORE

CORE, Ouachita's general education program, has been a major part of the liberal arts education that makes Ouachita unique. But after 13 years of preparing students for life after college, the CORE program was due for an update. The 55-hour required curriculum underwent revision by the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee. Dr. Stan Poole, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, said the update began in 2010.

"Several things came together to give momentum to the efforts to revise the CORE program. In 2010-11, the university conducted a comprehensive self-study as part of our accreditation review. As part of that process, faculty identified some concerns about the CORE curriculum. We also considered feedback from students through the CORE Senior Seminar Survey and the annual Student Satisfaction Survey. All of this together led us to the decision to review the CORE program as one of the initiatives in our university strategic plan," Poole said.

Changing a school's general education plan has been no easy task, as Dr. Poole went on to say that the revision was a campus-wide effort. "Over the last year, the faculty worked in groups to generate ideas and suggestions for restructuring the CORE curriculum," said Poole. "The Interdisciplinary Studies Committee has taken the various ideas and shaped them into some specific plans for a revised curriculum."

Dr. Deborah Root served as the Humanities representative for the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee and said that the groups really challenged its members to come up with creative ideas.

"One of the important things we're doing is taking a closer look at the goals of the educational experience at OBU and how the CORE requirements help meet those goals," Root said.

The process began with a series of focus groups. "We started last spring, and invited the faculty to join 'design' teams that were really asked to think outside of the box," Root said. "In February we met with each school at Ouachita to refine ideas and proposals for the new CORE."

Students had mixed feelings for the redesign of the CORE program, as they were conflicted with excitement for the new direction, yet almost nostalgic for the classes that built their foundation at OBU.

Bradley Lindsey, a senior music major from Halsville, Texas, said he was excited to hear the changes to the program. "After spending my time at Ouachita with the CORE program, I am excited to see where the new CORE will go," Lindsey said. "There is always room for improvement and I'm glad Ouachita is always striving to be the best."

While students enjoyed the current CORE requirements, they were open change. "I've enjoyed my CORE classes," said Zach Parker, a freshman political science major from Shreveport, La. "Although I think the current curriculum is working well, I am interested to see what changes and additions the new curriculum will bring." The new CORE was approved by the faculty in April and will take affect Fall 2014.

With a Christ-centered liberal arts education, Ouachita was always changing and improving. A deep love for Christ and education among the students, faculty and staff was a constant that remained at a university dedicated to preparing students for the future.

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Bradley Lindsey

Faith in Action

taking a scholastic major to a personal level

Context determines meaning. The Pruet School of Christian Studies aimed to be the right context for students to learn, grow, labor and love in Christ.

Whether students were studying theology or preparing for a semester of mission work abroad, they were finding the encouragement and equipment they needed through Pruet's courses, professors and opportunities.

Sarah Cate, a junior missions major from Inez, Texas, said Pruet is helping prepare her for her future as a missionary. "There have been many opportunities that the PSCS has given me," Cate said. "I think one of the best opportunities was being able to go and serve in South Asia through the Hands-On program. Not only did this experience stretch me and allow me to grow in my relationship with the Lord, but it also gave me the opportunity to see what it is like living in a different culture."

Dr. Ray Franklin, associate professor of Christian missions, confirmed that Cate's story is shared by many students studying missions. "More Ouachita graduates serve on the mission field than any other Southern Baptist university except Baylor," Franklin said. "Four students have just returned from a Hands-On semester of missionary service abroad. Two of our students are doing Hands-On this semester."

Other opportunities have also been established by Pruet students and professors. Some of these students started a fundraising campaign through the Arkansas Rice Depot to adopt an Arkadelphia school for the Food for Kids program. These students collected donations in order to fund the program for an entire year.

The Food for Kids program was a ministry that collected food to pack into kids' backpacks in order to send food home with students. Some students aren't always guaranteed a meal after they leave school each day, and this affects their school performance and overall attitude.

In addition to these opportunities, the professors made the Pruet School of Christian Studies both effective and appreciated.

"I think one of the best parts of being a student in the PSCS is being able to learn alongside some great professors. These professors have really taught me how to study the Word and how to live a more gospel-centered life," Cate said. "They have taken the best interest in their students and I truly appreciate that."

"The best part of Pruet is definitely the professors," said Sarah Davis, a senior Christian studies and theatre major from Bedford, Texas. "They don't just invest in your education, they invest in your life."

The Pruet faculty invested in the lives of their students and offered encouragement no matter their background, calling, or gender.

"It's incredible to me how supportive all of the staff at Pruet are of the women who plan to go into ministry," Davis said. "Pruet makes a conscious effort to encourage women training in ministry through their teachings by personally investing in us, especially through the Pruet Sisterhood. The purpose of the Sisterhood is to bridge the gap for women in ministry and encourage them. Even though a woman in ministry may experience discouragement when she graduates from Pruet, she will never experience it here. That is a huge blessing that you won't find at every university."

The professors in Pruet always said context determines meaning. Many of their students would agree that because of Pruet's genuine concern for their students and desire to equip them with knowledge and experience, that makes Pruet the right context for them in their preparation for meaningful futures. #PruetProud

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Sarah Cate





Students and faculty on the Biblical Studies Trip walk down the streets in Ephesus in Turkey where Paul and John the Apostle likely walked. The group traveled to places such as Athens and Corinth to look at the life of Paul, the churches of Rome, and the history of the church. **photo courtesy of: Dr. Danny Hays**



Junior Elise Holman and senior Christopher Mazon take notes in Dr. Marvin Pate's Christian Theology class. The class looked at basic doctrine, differing philosophies, and differing theories about Biblical issues, such as anthropology and creation. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**

Junior Kyle Fischer and senior Adam Gosnell take a quiz in their New Testament Greek Readings class. Students took turns presenting their translations of the Sermon on the Mount to the class in their second semester of Readings. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**



Left: Junior Krista Fauber speaks with a representative from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary on the annual Seminary Day. The day was designed to give students a better understanding of evangelical seminaries. **photo by: Kristen Barnard**

Right: Junior Colby Harper speaks with the president of Ouachita, Dr. Rex Horne, during his Advanced Christian Ministry class. The class, taught by Dr. Horne, exposed the students to different speakers representing different ministries. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**

Sophomore Jackson Carter sits down with Arkadelphia High School head football coach J.R. Eldridge to record "The J.R. Eldridge Show." The show was a weekly football coach's show for Arkadelphia High School. **photo by: Nicole McPhate**



Dr. Rex Horne delivers a speech at the Life Hall rededication ceremony held in September. Life Hall was renovated to house the School of Humanities. **photo by: Jason Pullano**

Dr. Deborah Root showcases examples of newspapers to her Publication Design class. The focus of the class was to learn elements of design and to apply them to print media. **photo by: Nicole McPhate**



Left: Dr. Amy Sonheim talks through "Book Thief" with her Composition II class. The first semester of Composition was more grammar-based, while the second semester was focused on understanding literature. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**

Right: Senior Rebecca Gray delivers a speech to her fellow classmates in Fundamentals of Public Speaking. The class provided an outlet for students to practice speech writing and delivery. **photo by: Nicole McPhate**





Hands-On Learning

*learning from experience
at home and abroad*

Two departments, seven degrees and more than 170 student majors all converged into one building when the School of Humanities moved into a renovated Life Hall last summer. Students studying English, communications, or foreign languages were now found within close proximity of each other. After years of being spread throughout various buildings, the move brought a new sense of excitement to professors and students alike.

"There is a greater sense of ambition," said Dr. Jeff Root, dean of the School of Humanities. "With the new equipment, students are being more ambitious. They are doing things and inventing things for the first time, and that's what we want. The collegiality of this group of faculty has also grown; there is nothing like physical proximity."

The Department of English and Foreign Languages offered a major and minor in Spanish, as well as several classes in French, German, Japanese and Russian. Something the department was very proud of was the study abroad options. This gave students the ability to spend varying amounts of time in a Spanish-speaking country. By being completely immersed in the language and culture, students gained a much deeper understanding of this foreign tongue than they would have in a classroom. Students are also able to earn several hours of Spanish credit through the program.

"I was able to study abroad to Costa Rica, where I got to spend a month taking classes and traveling the country," said Aaron Butler, a senior Spanish major from Mablevale. "It was such an amazing experience. I currently plan on going to Spain this summer."

From CORE classes to more specific classes for majors, the Department of English and Foreign Languages covered a wide range of writing and literature topics reaching students campus wide. With its tight-knit community and beloved professors, the English area became home to several students.

"I think English professors are often stereotyped as being the most peculiar and eclectic of instructors," said Ben Fryer, a senior English major Murfreesboro, Tenn. "I can't disagree. But all of them have a real passion and knowledge for their field. Each of my professors have been very different from the other, but all of them have been the same in their kindness and a real desire to pass on what they know."

The Rogers Department of Communications benefitted greatly from the remodeled Life Hall. Two new Mac labs, along with a new publications newsroom and video production studio, have vastly increased the department's technology access. These changes brought great improvement to one of the department's most successful areas: hands-on experience. Through practicum credit and work-study, mass communications students were able to gain real-life skills by working on one of the many publications staffs.

"In my time here I've had the opportunity to write news stories for The Signal, press releases for the News Bureau and intern for a semester at First Baptist Church here in Arkadelphia," said Mary Castleman, a senior church media production major from Batesville. "I think an OBU humanities education prepares you for the workplace through all the work you do outside the classroom. We don't just learn about writing, photography, video and online media - we DO those things on a regular basis."

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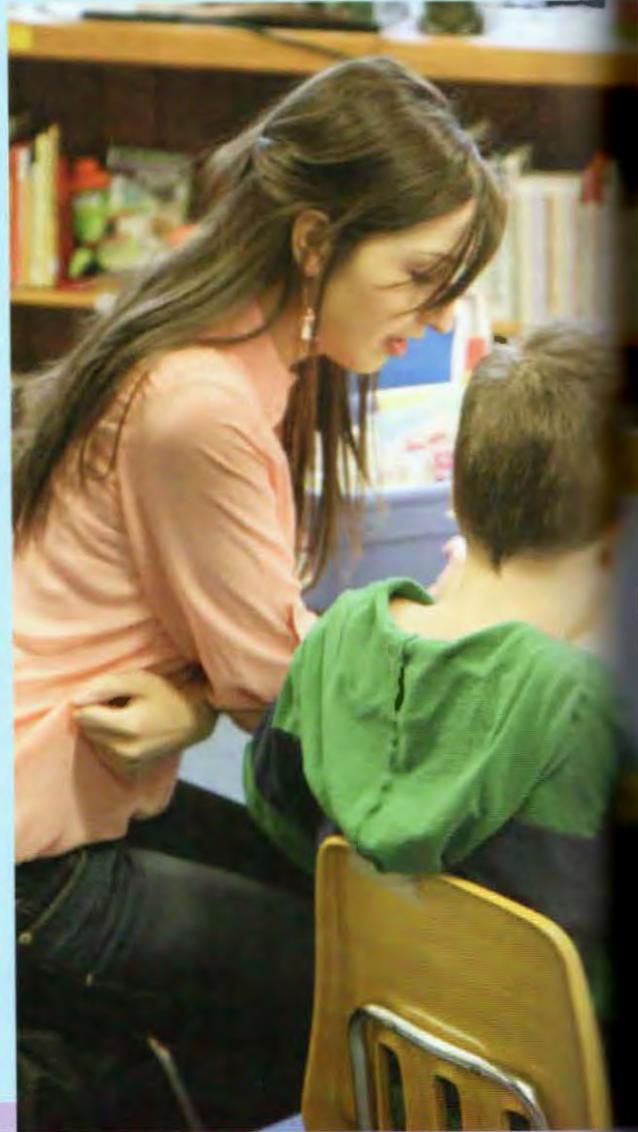
Mary Castleman

Running through the primary purpose of her tutoring session, Tayler Koller reads through the Rigby Reader book "Flying" with her student. America Reads tutors received books every semester they give to their students to keep. *photo by: Nicole McPhate*

Adding some playtime into her teaching, sophomore Sarah Talley and her student practice their writing skills in Play-Doh. America Reads tutors worked with first graders from Perritt Primary School. *photo by: Nicole McPhate*



Senior Jordan Snook gets hands on with his lesson on skip counting and multiplying. America Counts volunteers tutored one child three times per week for 30 minutes a day. *photo by: Kristen Barnard*



Making his lesson a little more interactive, junior Clay McKinney uses a whiteboard while working with his student on a lesson in "counting by tens." America Counts tutors worked with third graders at Central Elementary. *photo by: Tayler Koller*

Junior Sarah Liz Carter runs through a workbook math lesson with her student. Many students, like Carter, were not on work study with America Counts, but were volunteers, giving their time to tutor elementary students. *photo by: Kristen Barnard*



America Reads Counts

#Mauri Sparks

As the teacher reviews the lesson, one child in the back of the room struggles to understand what he is learning. The teacher has been on the same lesson for a few days now, but nothing has clicked yet and he knows what will happen: by the time he barely starts to grasp the concept, his teacher will move on and he will again be lost. This persists until one day he sees an older student come into the classroom and hears her call his name. He isn't exactly sure what happens until she tells him that she is going to be his tutor for a little while. As the pair start to move through a lesson the child previously was unable to grasp, suddenly he understands, only because he was able to sit one-on-one with his tutor. She praises him for how fast he learned. This child now has a new confidence inside because this America Counts tutor volunteered of her time to help him explain the teacher's lesson.

Many students on campus love helping those in the community, but there is a far greater need outside of campus of which students are not constantly aware. Many programs at Ouachita help outside of campus. One such opportunity through the Elrod Center is the America Reads/America Counts program. Reads students work with first graders at Perritt Primary while Counts tutors work with third graders at Central Elementary. Some of the children who qualify for tutoring at schools in Arkadelphia need a constant figure in their lives, and college students are a way for them to count on someone older than them as they're learning about reading and math. The students connected with this program learn there are other ways to work with children than becoming a teacher, and the impact on these children is immeasurable.

"If anything, a setback is I only get to tutor one student," said Sarah Liz Carter, a junior math major from El Dorado. "I would love to tutor another one, but because I'm a volunteer I can only tutor one. For me

"It is very rewarding to see the students' grades improve and to see them get excited about their test or homework...They begin to take pride in their work, which is one of the best things we could ever teach them."

Seth Wilson

just the fact that I'm not getting anything from this is a reward. I just love doing it. There's nothing that is making me do it, just the desire. It doesn't feel like a job to me. It gets me away from the

busyness of school and to 30 or 45 minutes with someone that I love or that loves me." Volunteers tutor one child for 30 minutes, three times per week while work study students tutor two children. One common misconception of the program is that a student must be an education major to volunteer. The program takes students from all majors who have a love for children. There is a great need for tutors, and many kids who are qualifying for the program have to be turned away due to a lack of workers and volunteers.

"Although I don't plan on being a teacher or working at a school, this job has definitely taught me responsibility," said Clay McKinney, a junior management and finance major from Hughes Springs, Texas. "I am not only responsible to tutor weekly and attend meetings, but I am also responsible for helping teach these students. This can be a little intimidating, but so worth it."

Every teacher works differently with their tutors, but they are all appreciative of this initiative of the Elrod Center to help kids in their struggles with reading or math. They know that this one-on-one time with

the child can sometimes be much more beneficial to them than learning in a classroom setting.

"I've had very positive experiences with the teachers, the librarian, and the principal at Perritt Primary," said MyLisa Speer, a senior speech pathology major from Texarkana, Texas. "They have always been more than willing to accommodate for us because we're on the same page when it comes to these kids. Besides the extra bit of help, they know that most of the kids need a good role model and someone to love on them and encourage them, so they welcome us with open arms."

Many times, the kids in the program only need a boost of self-confidence, and once they realize they are able to do the work required by their teachers, they feel more enabled to move on to harder subjects or reading levels.

"It is very rewarding to see the students' grades improve and to see them get excited about their test or homework assignment. They begin to take pride in their work, which is one of the best things we could ever teach them," said Seth Wilson, a junior biology major from Hot Springs. "The greatest part of my job is just seeing them grow from shy, struggling students into hardworking, successful students who look forward to math now instead of hating it."

There may be times throughout the year when tutors struggle with the reason they have this job, but they remember their kid needs a consistent role model in their lives, someone who will encourage them to succeed and congratulate them on their success, however small.

"One of the things that keeps pulling on me is when I get tired I always think about Cameron, because he doesn't have a very good home life," said Rebecca Sanchez, a sophomore middle school education major from Romance. "So that 30 minutes we spend together is really important to him, because he's getting one-on-one time. And that encourages me to keep going and to find more ways to serve and to volunteer."

A big part of the America Reads/America Counts program is their book distribution. With a grant from United Way, the Elrod Center buys books for tutors to give to their kids. Reads tutors receive books every semester, and Counts only in the spring. Every tutor chooses 10 books to give to their kids throughout the semester, and for some of these kids, these are the only books they have at home.

"They get super excited because they don't usually get books at home, so it's like a treat every time," said Whitley Martin, a senior early childhood education major with middle school endorsement from Batesville. "It just motivates them to want to read that book because they want to take it home and read it to their family. So that's another way to motivate them, because they don't want to take a book home and not be able to tell their parents what it's about. We're also supposed to save at least half of them to give at Christmas, so it's like a gift from OBU."

The academic benefit of this program can be seen as the students show progress in their graded work and through the tutors' journals and weekly reports. But there is a far greater impact on these children than only grades.

"Clearly there is an academic benefit to this program for the kids that we work with, but there is an intangible that you can't really pin down," said Leigh Anne McKinney, coordinator of public school initiatives in the Elrod Center. "Just having somebody that is consistent and regularly there for them is huge. For some of these kids, we might be their most constant source, so there is a benefit that far outreaches just the academic side."

The Great Adventure

striving for excellence in the world of education

The Huckabee School of Education took prospective students on "The Great Adventure" with a school-wide lip dub. During the fall semester, the school made its very own lip dub to advertise the many different facets of their school. The entire video was shot and edited by student Reece Franklin, a senior Church Media major from Arkadelphia. Students from all three departments, education, kinesiology and leisure studies, took part in the promotional video.

The Huckabee School of Education desired for the lip dub to not only get current students involved, but also to get prospective students interested in learning about all the school had to offer.

"It excellently showcased our departments energy and excitement, as well as our readiness to try anything new and keep up with the modern world," said Caitlyn Johnson, a sophomore early childhood education major from Winnsboro, Texas, who played a main role in the lip dub.

Aside from advancing through new advertising, the faculty also made decisions to further students' education through new technology. The school continued to update classrooms with technology such as smart boards for each department. The newest faculty member of the Huckabee School of Education, Rachel Pool, helped to spur the movement of technological growth.

"She got us into doing the lip dub, and she also teaches the technical early childhood class," said Korey Byrd, a junior early childhood education major from Houston, Texas. "That allows us to be able to use smart boards and other things. So she's been into that movement of getting us to use technology in order to teach."

Another great asset of the department of education was the continuation of their spring trip to the UK, which they call The Global Glimpse. Through The Global Glimpse, students were able to understand education while being immersed in a totally different culture. "The Global Glimpse provides our students with the opportunity to see the impact of culture and education in a new setting," said Dr. Merribeth Brunning, dean of the Huckabee School of Education.

Just as displayed in the lip dub, the school of education provided both opportunity and community. There were new emphases added to the curriculum for kinesiology and leisure studies majors: pre-professional as well as recreation and sports ministry.

"What we found out when we did a survey of the campus was over 200 of our students in the summer work in summer sports or Christian camps. We found that it might be a great thing to do a recreation and sports ministry program because we are seeing more of these ministers in the churches," said Dr. Mike Reynolds, chair of the kinesiology and leisure studies department.

"Our students are really wanting to do experiential education," Reynolds said. "Kinesiology and leisure studies is a hands-on major. In our department we want to build on that... They have an 'I can do' attitude."

During the fall semester, the department of kinesiology and leisure studies honored students through awarding them membership into Phi Epsilon Kappa, the department's national honors fraternity. Students who were selected for joining the fraternity were those who had achieved at least a 3.0 grade average as well as 12 hours in the kinesiology department. The fraternity was limited to mainly juniors and seniors because of a 58 hour overall requirement.

The school of education held its students to a standard of excellence and adaptability. By travelling as far as the United Kingdom, expanding student resources for kinesiology and leisure studies and embarking on "The Great Adventure," the Huckabee School of Education truly strove to create an environment for students to be difference makers in the classroom and the world.

#TheAdventure

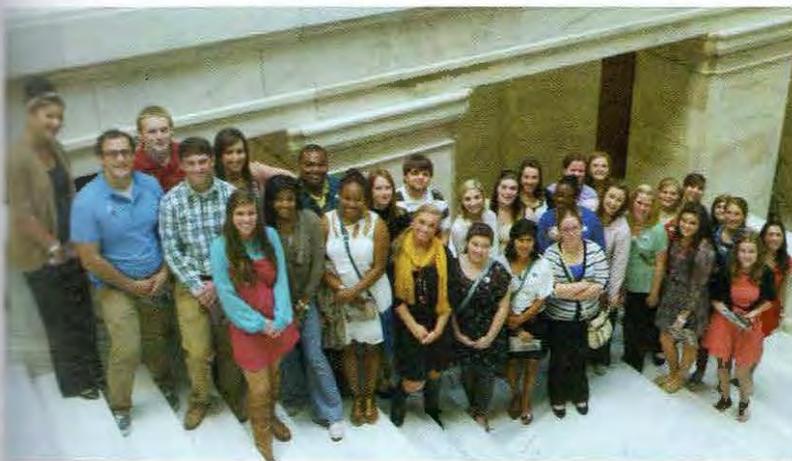
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Dr. Mike Reynolds





At the bluff, a group of Ouachita students teach elementary children from nearby schools about how to use a compass and leave no trace. Their field trip was for the purpose of place based education, or education in the environment the students are learning about as a way to get them out of their seats. **photo courtesy of: Mike Reynolds**



Freshmen enrolled in the Freshman Seminar class pose in front of the Capitol on their field trip held in the fall. The students also visited the William J. Clinton Presidential Library and Museum to reflect on the role of government in education. **photo by: Grace Finley**

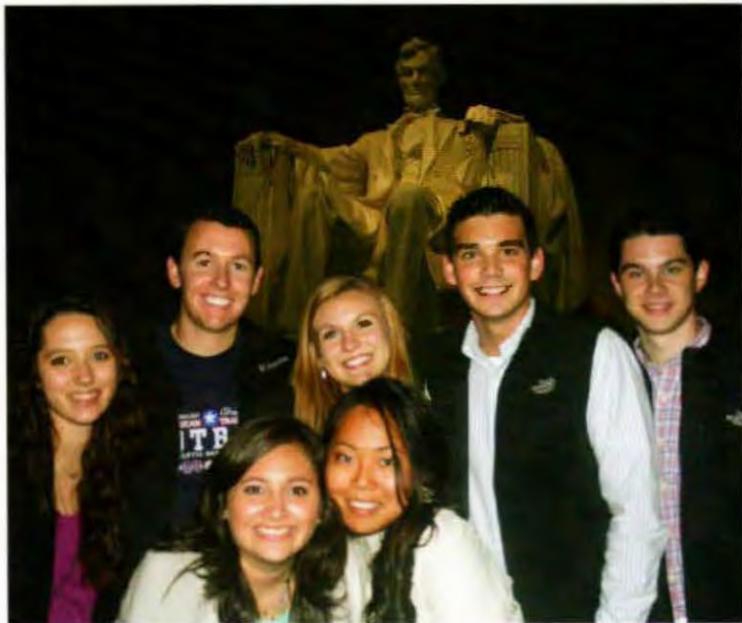
Education students pose in front of a telephone booth in London on The Global Glimpse Study Aboard program. The Global Glimpse gave students an opportunity to understand education from a different perspective: being immersed in a completely different culture. **photo courtesy of: Kathy Collins**



Left: Seniors Anja DeWitt and Julian LaDay play hula hoop with children from Central Primary. Kinesiology majors periodically coordinated recess for a class in local elementary schools. **photo courtesy of: Mike Reynolds**

Right: Karla Neathery and Karen Stout, who both work for the Benton school district, speak to students at the "Third Thursdays For Teachers at Ten" series. The speakers who came to campus represented various school districts. **photo by: Grace Finley**

Jason Cantwell, a senior kinesiology major from Frisco, Texas, shows off his entry in the business plan competition - a prototype of a camera that could be used to record soccer games for scouts. The business, "E-Scout," placed second in the competition. **photo by: Jessica Stewart**



Members of ENACTUS pose in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. on September 29. The group attended its annual training conference and toured the city. **photo courtesy of: Jim Files**

Austin and Ashton Samuelson speak to a group of business majors about their business "Pitza 42" in Conway. The Samuelsons spoke at "First Fridays," a monthly series featuring Ouachita graduate business professionals. **photo by: Jason Pullano**



Left: President Rex Home speaks at the "First Fridays" series. Dr. Horne was actively involved with academic endeavors on campus, speaking in various classrooms and teaching classes.

photo by: Kristen Barnard

Right: Freshman business majors attend the "Freshman Leadership Experience" at Camp Winnamocka. At the outing, they participated in team-building activities and had dinner with the business faculty. **photo courtesy of: Jim Rothwell**





Growing the Dream

*expanding the minds
and forming leaders*

Growth is something that defines and encourages. The Hickingbotham School of Business celebrated its 20th year since being established. The 20th year was representative of a dream formed about 24 years ago to create opportunities and connections for all students through adding a school of business to Ouachita's community. The anniversary was celebrated on the school's annual Business Administration Day.

The growth of the School of Business stretched beyond the hallways of the university. In January, Enactus (formerly SIFE) traveled to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to put their knowledge into action. The team's mission was to expand upon work that began two years ago when they first traveled to Tegucigalpa. Through partnering with World Gospel Outreach, the School of Business worked to offer small business start-up training, provided efficient materials for crop harvesting and laid the foundation to eventually allow the profit from the coffee sold to serve children in an orphanage in Tegucigalpa.

"If we can sell so many pounds of coffee at OBU, that's so many orphans that can be served," said Bryan McKinney, dean of the Hickingbotham School of Business. Although the School of Business began its investment two years ago, the trip in January 2013 provided a unique opportunity.

Dean Bryan McKinney; Vice President for Administrative Services Brett Powell; project leader Justin Young, a junior business major from Springdale; president of Enactus Judith Brizuela, a senior business major from San Pedro Sula, Honduras; and Claudia Brizuela, a freshman business administration major from San Pedro Sula, Honduras, helped to teach small business start up training to business owners in Tegucigalpa's community. Dr. Chris Brune, assistant professor of finance, prepared materials such as Power-Point presentations to aid the students.

Although McKinney and Powell took the trip, they allowed the students to teach a majority of the material. They saw the opportunity as one for the students to really test their knowledge and hopefully gain experience that they would not normally be able to gain in the classroom.

"I was thankful for the opportunity to put to good use the skills and knowledge I've gained in the School of Business," Judith Brizuela said. "In the future we hope to be able to expand the seminars to other small business owners in Honduras. It is encouraging to know that there is great potential for this partnership and what a difference it can make in Honduran lives as they try to support their families."

Students were able to grow their knowledge of the real world hands-on. "There was a specific moment when I was sitting in Honduras, looking over the entire city," said Young. "I realized how my business education from Ouachita has the potential to affect an entire city. My eyes have been opened to how much our business talents can be used to advance the Gospel. My experiences have given me a completely new outlook on my future."

Aside from the bold voyage, the School of Business offered opportunities for hands-on experience on campus through programs such as the Business Plan Competition, involvement through Enactus, trips planned for business majors to meet real professionals and much more.

"It is so exciting to ponder the life-changing impact that graduates of the Hickingbotham School of Business have had over the previous 20 years. Likewise, it's exciting to imagine the influence that current and future generations of Hickingbotham School of Business students will have," said McKinney. "Bring on the next 20 years!"

"I realized how my business education from Ouachita has the potential to affect an entire city. My eyes have been opened to how much our business talents can be used to advance the Gospel."

Justin Young

A New Challenge

honing skills and taking every opportunity given

For students in the School of Fine Arts, Division of Music, every year was a new experience. Every year was a challenge of new repertoire, new showcases, and sometimes, new faculty. For Dr. Robert Kolt, visiting assistant professor of music, his first year with the school was a welcoming one.

"Since my time at Ouachita I have come to appreciate the truly unique atmosphere and character of the university and the people who study and work here," Kolt said. "The music students constantly amaze me with their intellectual curiosity and performance abilities. My colleagues on the music faculty are all genuinely kind, supportive individuals who never fail to help each other, and the students, in any way they can. In short, teaching at Ouachita is a true privilege."

Every year was full of opportunities for both vocal and instrumental ensembles. For the vocal ensembles, many productions took place, including the opera "Hansel and Gretel" by Engelbert Humperdinck in the fall; the annual shows from Ouachita Singers, Women's Chorus and Ouachita Sounds; the musical, "Hello Dolly!" held in the spring; and the annual Christmas show, "Festival of Christmas," which encompassed the entire School of Fine Arts and was held in JPAC.

For instrumental ensembles, the opportunities to play were just as numerous. The Marching Band performed at six home football games, five Tiger Tunes performances, four pep rallies, and two performances in the Clark County community, including the Clark County Fair Parade and the Christmas Parade. The Jazz Band and Wind Ensemble held their annual fall and spring shows, and many of the smaller ensembles performed numerous concerts on and off campus. A new band was formed this year called the "Tiger Steel" band, which was a new steel drum band under the direction of Dr. Ryan Lewis. The ensembles performed in a concert titled "Prism" in April.

The Jazz Combo also had a unique experience, traveling to Liverpool Hope University in Liverpool, United Kingdom, where they presented concerts, master classes and lectures.

"Going to Liverpool was my first time out of the country," said Michael Curtis, a senior music major from Wylie, Texas. "It was awesome to spend a week traveling and playing with a group of awesome guys in a completely new culture. One of our favorite things to do was after we got done playing a night gig, we would hang out with the locals and talk about anything and everything. Simply talking with those folks from literally the other side of the world was incredible."

On March 8, a concert was held in tribute to Dr. Francis McBeth, a former Ouachita professor of theory and composition and a composer himself. He had a very extensive career in composition, writing literature for wind ensembles that became very popular with college and high school bands across the country. The concert was performed by the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, an ensemble for which McBeth himself once served as conductor.

"As a wind ensemble clinician, Dr. McBeth brought humor, music historical facts and insights into the rehearsal," said Dr. Gary Gerber, professor of music and director of choral activities. "He was an interesting and fascinating musician that had a gift of not only music, but a personality to connect to student musicians."

Every year brought about new challenges and opportunities for students in the Division of Music, and every year brought new ways for them to hone their skills.

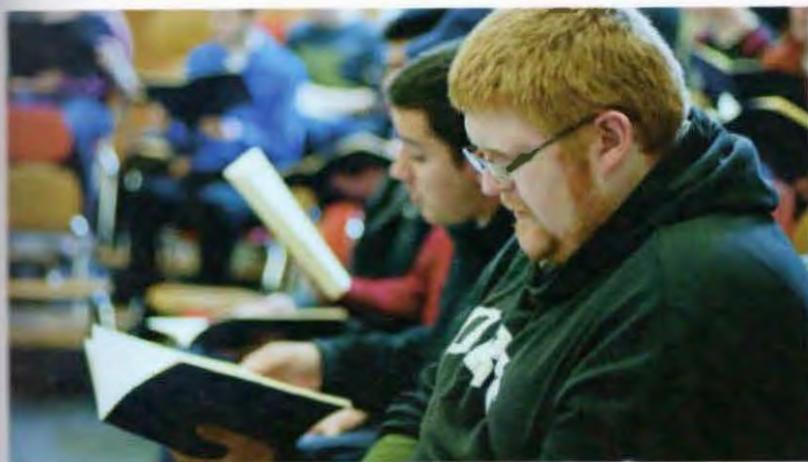
"The music students constantly amaze me with their intellectual curiosity and performance abilities. My colleagues on the music faculty are all genuinely kind, supportive individuals who never fail to help each other, and the students."

Dr. Robert Kolt





Dr. Gary Gerber conducts the Ouachita Singers in their annual Chapel performance. Members of Ouachita Singers were chosen by audition and did various performances on and off campus. **photo by: Tyler Rosenthal**



Sophomore Josh Wayne looks through his music "Requiem" by John Rutter during a Concert Choir rehearsal. Concert Choir was an open choir, allowing anyone to be involved without an audition, whether or not they were a music major. **photo by: Tyler Rosenthal**

Senior Bradley Lindsey practices with the Saxophone Ensemble in the McBeth Recital Hall. In addition to the Saxophone Ensemble, other smaller, instrumental ensembles were also offered for students, including the clarinet and percussion ensembles. **photo by: Tyler Rosenthal**



Left: Senior Michael Curtis and Dr. Craig Hamilton play at the Christmas Jazz Band Combo concert at Dr. Jack's Coffeehouse. The Jazz Band Combo played on campus throughout the year and also traveled to Liverpool in the fall. **photo by: Jason Pullano**

Right: Members of Women's Chorus sing during Lessons and Carols, an annual Christmas-themed concert. Women's Chorus was an auditioned ensemble that held various concerts on campus. **photo by: Jason Pullano**

Junior DeCarl Jones rehearses with fellow students for the spring musical "Hello, Dolly!" The musical was held in JPAC and encompassed both the Division of Music and the Department of Theatre Arts. **photo by: Nicole McPhate**



Sophomore Aly Smith works on a color wheel in Design II. In the class, students focused on color theory, learning how to mix colors and obtain different shades and hues of color. **photo by: Nicole McPhate**

Senior Sam Dunham "opens up" his clay body into a bowl in Ceramics II. The Department of Visual Arts offered many different classes, including ceramics, sculpture, graphic design, print making and art history. **photo by: Nicole McPhate**



Left: Junior Jordan Miller puts on her make-up for her role in the production of "The Crane Wife." The theatre department held a variety of productions during the year, giving students many opportunities to participate. **photo by: Nicole McPhate**

Right: Junior Stephanie Chontos works with water colors on an assignment. Students' work was often featured in the Hammons Art Gallery as part of competitions and showcases. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**





Applying the Craft

*taking a passion and
turning it into a career*

Made up of a diverse and talented group of students, the Division of Applied Arts offered a program in which the students could be involved in a creative, and challenging atmosphere, allowing them to exhibit their personal expression at the highest level. The program was dedicated to encouraging students to "explore the Arts as an integral part of the Christian liberal arts education," as stated in their mission statement. The program was home to the Department of Visual Arts and the Department of Theatre Arts.

The Department of Visual Arts, located on the second floor of Moses-Provine, offered degree paths of art education, graphic design, and studio art. Students who decided to pursue one of these degree paths were able to display their talents regularly in the Hammons Art Gallery, which also held exhibits by local and professional artists. Graphic design students had access to the digital media lab where they could display their artistic talents. Throughout the year, the Department of Visual Arts hosted a variety of events, such as the Small Works on Paper Exhibit, the Faculty Exhibit, the Travelling Exhibit and other guest artist exhibits. The department provided an environment devoted to enabling creative and critical thinking skills, artistic expression and spiritual growth within a Christian, liberal arts-based environment.

The professors were very helpful and thoroughly enjoyed their classes. Lauren Scarbrough, a freshman graphic design and mass communications major from Fayetteville, said, "In high school I went to a math and science focused school, so I was a bit apprehensive about coming into the art program and felt as if I may not be prepared. However, the faculty in the art department were so helpful and really eased my transition through their personable and clear teaching."

The Department of Theatre Arts was home to a dedicated group of students, who through this program, were able to receive instruction that enhanced their talents and prepared them for their careers in the future. The degree plans available included theatre arts, musical theatre, and theatre arts and speech communication education. The theatre program presented three main stage dramatic productions each year and an annual musical theatre production. Students at the senior level had the opportunity to direct a production under faculty supervision.

Jillian Kaniss, a junior psychology and theatre major from Texarkana, Texas, said, "I really enjoy how supportive the professors are and how willing they are to help the students with anything, theatre or not. I've really benefited from being in this program because I've learned how to manage my time well and work well with many different people." The goal of the Department of Theatre Arts was to reach out to the community by using their talents to display a historical form of art in a new and unique way.

The Division of Applied Arts combined an extensive curriculum with caring and attentive professors that made the students' experience at Ouachita unbelievable. After graduation, it was obvious that students felt well-prepared, as their talents and abilities had been enhanced over the four years they spent in this extensive program. #PushLovers

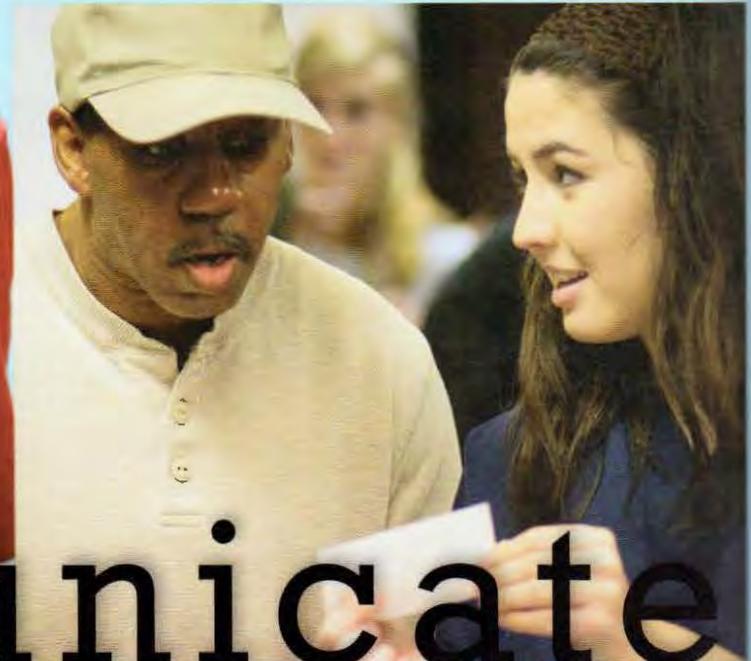
"I really enjoy how supportive the professors are and how willing they are to help the students with anything, theatre or not. I've really benefited from being in this program because I've learned how to... work well with many different people."

Jillian Kaniss



Senior Sara Strassmeyer works with a woman from the Group Living program on a fun, Thanksgiving-themed craft - a pinecone turkey. The objective of crafts like this was to give the clients something they could take away from the session while also incorporating some fun. *photo courtesy of: Savannah Motzko*

Senior Abby Rayfield works with a man from the Group Living program on a "smooth speech" activity, which emphasizes speaking slowly and clearly. Group Living clinicians had 30-minute individual therapy sessions with their clients. *photo courtesy of: Savannah Motzko*



Communicate

Elise Holman

The double glass doors of Moses-Provine swing open. The masonry attempts to muffle their voices, but nothing can stop the excitement from seeping through the classroom walls. The student clinicians of the Communication Disorders and Sciences program finish setting up their craft stations and collect their clipboards and file folders. With genuine smiles emblazoned upon their faces, they hurry out to meet their clients. Group Living has arrived.

The Group Living clients are adults from Arkadelphia who are living with some sort of mental handicap. Dr. Nancy Hardman, one of only two speech pathology professors at Ouachita, explained that the therapy for these clients is not a result of their cognitive ability. "It is because they stutter, or they have hearing loss or they need to work on language [or] social skills. Some of them want to be able to work in the Honeycomb, so we go through the language skills and the articulation, like teaching them how to ask people in a polite way and to be clear with their speech... We do a lot of role play with them trying to help them be a lot more independent through their speech and language skills... It is not [because] of their cognitive ability, it is giving them independence, and that's what we all want. If we can't communicate then we really can't do anything," Hardman said.

Clients and clinicians alike make their way into the classroom. Smiling and anxious to begin, they head to their designated stations where they work on goals that each clinician has outlined for the day, along with a craft.

The CMDS students at Ouachita are given a unique opportunity that is not available anywhere else in the state. Beginning their junior year, after completing 25 hours of observation (observing other students perform therapy), they are given their own clients and get their first taste of what it will be like to be a speech pathologist. This practicum at the undergraduate level is only offered at Ouachita. The students not only get to learn in the classroom from two seasoned professionals, but they also get hands-on experience that most other students will not encounter until graduate school.

"That's the selling point [of our program]...They don't realize right now that it's taking away the worry about practicum that other students have when they get to grad school. They will go to grad school and sit beside students who have never done therapy before," said Associate Professor Carol Morgan, the second member of the duo that reigns on the first floor of Moses-Provine. "I don't understand how you can go four years in an undergraduate program and never do therapy and know that's what you want to do. Because we have had students before who change their major after sitting one session across the table from a little child... she came to me that next week and said 'Don't hate me, but I don't want to do this.'," Morgan added.

Dr. Hardman also believes that this is the major benefit that CMDS receive at Ouachita. Dr. Hardman noted that other grad students, "...have a year degree and go off to a year of grad school and all of the sudden realize they can't do this. This is not what I want to do. I don't like this; I just can't do it. They lose a lot of money a lot of time." That is not the case for students at Ouachita, however. They know what they are getting into and that they love it.

The practicum component not only prepares the students, but also helps them grow so much more than if program were absent. "I think our practicum component allows you to hone your basic skills, and I think it really makes it applicable to what you are doing in class you apply to your clients," said Hardman. "It makes more sense than just telling them, 'yes you need to know it for the test;' It's a lot more than that. And I think the practicum component causes our clinicians to grow so much more than if program were absent."

The benefit of this experience and how it will positively build their future is not lost on the student clinicians. "I know in searching around at different grad schools a lot of them only require about 60 hours of practicum completion, but here at OBU seniors in the CMDS program graduate they are well over 150 hours of practicum. So I feel like we are just more comfortable approaching therapy and knowledge because of this experience and [know] how to teach and how to work with clients," said Stephanie (Deen) Simpson, a senior CMDS major. "Talking to the people that have graduated from here, they have said that they are the best in the class because Carol and Nancy have prepared them so much," added Sara Strassmeyer, another senior CMDS major.

This knowledge that the students are applying daily, is coming from the professors who have over 60 years of combined experience as speech pathologists. Dr. Hardman and Professor Morgan each spend 12 to 14 hours a day teaching and performing their own therapy. "They have so much knowledge and their own experiences and talking to them I learn so much," said Strassmeyer. "They are so passionate about what they do and they are very wise...and I admire them so much," added Simpson. Savannah Motzko, a junior CMDS major also said, "They are the best of my professors—they're my practicum supervisors, my advisors, my mentors. They are some of the smartest, most experienced SLPs I have ever met."

The program, though, does not solely benefit the students. "Page one of the 'Purpose Driven Life,'" said Dr. Hardman, "it's not all about you." The clinicians' experiences will prove invaluable to their futures, but more importantly they are providing a service. It is actually a ministry, probably the most recognized ministry on campus. Many people may hold the misconception that speech therapy is only for kids that cannot pronounce their letters or words correctly.



Seniors MyLisa Speer and Hope Phillips help pack shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. photo courtesy of: Mary Whisenhunt

Seniors Sara Strassmeyer and Mary Whisenhunt man the CMDS table at Homecoming. photo courtesy of: Mary Whisenhunt

more than that. The clinicians do work with preschool and school aged children, but the clinic also offers therapy to senior citizens, stroke patients, Group Living students and faculty members, all free of charge. There are people outside of Ouachita who seek therapy at the clinic that pay a fee, but the cost of therapy at Ouachita is equivalent to what it would cost for one month of therapy elsewhere.

Dr. Hardman, Mrs. Morgan, and the student clinicians are giving these clients a chance to participate in society and they are doing it for nothing in return. "We have students that sitting with these kids in therapy, who knows what their lives are like. I get on my stump and preach to my students all of the time; they'll say 'mom's in jail; they'll say daddy beat mom last night; they'll say their dog was thrown out in the yard...'" said Morgan. "Our students will say... 'I'm gonna go on a mission trip,' and 'Sneeze you are sneezing every time you go to work because someone in your class has a cold. That's your mission, to help them not see it because they're afraid.' We are not here to separate miscommunication from daily walk. It is much clearer than when you're talking about their communication and you can't fix it, but you can be there as a role model or as a support person as you are working on their 's' sound or whatever else we are supposed to be doing that is a mission."

"It is rewarding working with any client because you are helping them to be able to communicate with their friends and family, or just communicate in general...we can't fathom that because we do it every day..."

Sara Strassmeyer

Dr. Hardman and Mrs. Morgan work hard with their kids and it is a glorious moment for all when they break through. "When something finally "clicks" with a kid...everything is different. I don't know how else to describe it. I can't tell you how many times I've been changing my major" because I often feel like I'm spinning my wheels, so I'm not sure. But when I see something "click" with a kid, I'm reminded of why I'm here and why I want to do this for the rest of my life, because I'm not just here for the kid who gets excited. When the kid sees my excitement, and realizes that I'm excited about something, they get excited too—they're proud of themselves and I'm proud of them, and that just motivates them to continue working even when it's absolutely wonderful," said Motzko.

"It is rewarding working with any client because you are helping them to be able to communicate with their friends and family, or just communicate in general...if you think about not being able to communicate with someone, we can't fathom that because we do it every day, but helping them be able to do that is rewarding," said Strassmeyer.

But these clinicians do not quickly receive the fruits of their labor, if ever. "J.D. Patterson has a saying...it basically means if you need immediate gratification it's not gonna happen in speech pathology, so it's the plant trees under whose shade you will never sit... So it's kinda like that kindergarten or preschool teacher that taught you how to do your letters so you can write now; it's really not those of us who teach at the college level who are really doing much, it is that pre-k and kindergarten teacher," said Hardman. Though the students may never see the final results of their work with these clients, it seems as though those small victories in therapy, and just knowing that they have helped in some way is enough for them.

The therapy not only blesses the clients, but the clinicians as well. "I have really enjoyed Group Living therapy this semester. They are just a joy to work with. They are so happy all of the time and they come willing to work. They are happy to be there and they just brighten up your day," said Simpson.

The Group Living clients move from station to station, working on their goals. They are making a turkey out of pine cones and paper feathers. Each new station earns a new feather, and on the feathers they glue pictures of the things they are thankful for. "I am thankful for friends," declared a man with Downs Syndrome.

The next table over, directly across the aisle, Mary Whisenhunt works with her two clients. Josh, a hearing impaired man wearing a camouflage Arkansas Razorback hat is listening intently. He counts his syllables and blows. Mary's face lights up and his recognition of her delight is immediate. He throws his fists in the air and yells, "WooHoo!" in victory. They high-five and the feelings of accomplishment and joy swell every heart in the room.

Service is not supposed to be about recognition and reward here on earth. It is about the genuine giving of your time and love to another. "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40. That is what the Speechies do. They serve those in need, to help them and encourage them to live a fuller and happier life. The Speechies slow down, stopping to help those handicapped by communication and pacing them to finish the race. It is a true representation of what Christ has called us to do as Christians. As Dr. Hardman said, "Every day is a mission. Every day you have a chance [to impact someone's life]."

Going Deeper

taking a look inside the heart of the sciences

Having completed the School of Natural Sciences' second year of the three-year agreement with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the school was very high on the HHMI inquiry based lab methods.

The school discussed how they might begin to apply for several grants which would extend this opportunity to all freshman biology labs. Branching off from this program were also possibilities that the methodology conducted in these labs could be introduced into CORE science labs.

"Essentially, the HHMI award gave us the money to do something we could NOT afford to do on our own and now we see the potential to move in a more cutting edge direction," said Dean Tim Knight. "The two years we've completed have already paid off because several of those students now have opportunities they would not have had otherwise."

In April, 11 students presented their independent research projects at the American Chemical Society national meeting which was held in New Orleans. Three of those students earned Chemistry Ambassador "Speak Simply" awards during the Undergraduate Research Poster Session. The students, Ryan James, a senior biology from Benton, Hollyn McCarty, a senior chemistry and biology major from Texarkana, and Kelsey Willis, a junior chemistry and biology major from Redfield, were judged on their ability to talk about their research to a non-scientist.

"I had the opportunity to go to New Orleans with the chemistry department," said Cara Cox, a junior biology major from Benton. "It was an awesome opportunity to be able to present my research at the national level. Anyone who does research with the chemistry department gets to go to the national conference. I am thankful for the science department always opening new doors for their students."

The speech pathology students were busy with class and clinics, but also found time work with Arkadelphia Group Living clients to model clothes from the Beehive store downtown. The attire ranged from casual to athletic to wedding wear. This was the seventh year for the fashion show, and the Speechies helped clients with hair and makeup, staging, directing models, taking tickets, handing out door prizes and setting up refreshments.

"The fashion show was a highlight of the spring. The Group Living organization, Speechies and involved members of the community partnered so well to produce a wonderful event," said Laura Grace Shaddox, a communication sciences and disorders major from North Little Rock. "You couldn't leave the event without a smile on your face."

Each summer, one dietetics and nutrition major was selected to work with Dr. Detri Brech, professor of dietetics, on her research project titled: Comparison of the Pre- and Post-Assessments of Height, Weight, BMI and Nutrition Knowledge of Children Participating in a Nutrition/Physical Activity Program to Children in a Control Group. Amberly Green, a senior dietetics and nutrition major from Batesville, worked alongside Dr. Brech with the aim to decrease the prevalence of childhood obesity in Arkadelphia by educating students in nutrition and physical activity.

"I gained a love for teaching from my summer research in dietetics," Amberly said. "Dr. Brech allowed me to be a part of a much larger picture than only one summer. I was sixth in a line of dietetic students who have worked alongside her. I admire her persistence with these children. Instilling a passion for health among children who live in a society run by oversized cheeseburgers and 20 ounce milkshakes is hard. I loved finding ways to make the learning hands-on. I brought in restaurant menus, food models, jump ropes, and beach balls. I had a great summer with Dr. Brech; it was an honor to work alongside her." *#SalmonyBride*

"It was an awesome opportunity to be able to present my research at the national level. Anyone who does research with the chemistry department gets to go to the national conference. I am thankful for the science department always opening new doors for their students."

Cara Cox





Biology



Four students conduct an experiment in the amphitheater for Chemistry Week. Chemistry students conducted various experiments to showcase to the student body during the week. **photo by: Heather Ellis**

Junior Dawson Pritchard uses a test tube to test for a cation, or a positively charged molecule, in General Chemistry II Lab. In lab, students got a hands-on approach to the topics they learned during class, and they learned the right and wrong ways of performing a chemistry lab. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**

Sophomores Abby Emanuel and Maddie Martin and senior Courtney Puddephat work at the biology table during the Majors Fair. The biology table had microscopes with slides of different microorganisms for people to observe, making the table a little more interactive. **photo by: CJ Barnard**



Left: Freshmen Tori Pierceall and Perri Snear and sophomore Ashley Huneycutt give a presentation in the class Topics of Nutrition over eating habits in Mexico. For the project, they interviewed other students and found out what they ate in their different cultures. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**

Right: Seniors Rebecca Zandstra and Carly Oetker isolate bacterial plasmids in a lab in Genetics. The class offered opportunities to do many hands-on labs. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**

Sophomore Adam Dodd makes a blanket to donate to a children's home in the Psychology of Good and Evil class. In the class, students read articles concerning subjects such as genocide and war, and had discussions about the good or evil in the subject. **photo by: Kristen Barnard**



Students in the Urban Community class discuss a film with Dr. Elizabeth Kelly. Students learned about population growth, how people groups affect each other, and what causes a city to develop. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**



Students in History of Modern Britain listen to Professor Tom Auffenberg speak about British political groups. Having lived in Britain for a period of his life, Dr. Auffenberg offered some personal knowledge as the class learned about the country. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**



Left: Students in Psychology Testing listen during a lecture. Students were offered a hands-on approach in this class, which focused on learning how to make, and giving students a chance to make, good and reliable personality tests and other tests related to the psychology field. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**

Right: Students in Judgment and Decision-Making take notes during a lecture. This class focused on why people make the decisions they do, and why people make some decisions with no logical explanation. **photo by: Kelly Ferguson**





Going Deeper

majoring in people and the world around us

The W.H. Sutton School of Social Sciences allowed students who were pursuing careers in psychology, history, political science or sociology to develop skills which would prepare them for the work force and possibly for post-graduate studies.

Psychology students studied all aspects of human interactions, ranging from neurons and behavior, to the stages of brain development from infancy to adulthood. Each psychology major used a year of their studies to design and carry out a research project as a part of the Research Methods course. Many students also delved deeper into this program by assisting faculty members in their research in order to complete a senior-level independent project or an honors thesis.

Lindsay Henderson, a junior psychology major from Eules, Texas, said her favorite part of being in this department was that "the courses are so interactive and there is a lot of hands-on learning. The professors have helped me so much in the past three years by pointing me in the right direction and helping me plan out the next steps in my career."

In the history department, students were prepared for careers in fields such as law, government, teaching, business, social services, and religion. Many history students chose to attend graduate or professional school to further develop their skills and prepare them for their future careers. Students were able to participate in programs such as the American Historical Association, Arkansas Department of Heritage, College Republican National Committee, Midwest Model UN, Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, and Young Democrats of America.

Robert Lewis, a freshman history major from Bentonville, said he enjoyed "being able to study history much more in depth and being able to take classes that cover a specific time period or region in history."

Political science students were taught a variety of approaches in order to examine the process, systems, and political dynamics of countries and regions all over the world. Ouachita hosted the 2013 Arkansas Political Science Association annual meeting in March. Speakers from across the state came together to present research on issues related to the current world of political science.

Dr. Kevin Brennan, professor of political science, said in a press release, the event provided "a general education value for participants" because members were encouraged to interact with presenters and provide feedback on their topics.

Sociology students studied how groups and individuals interact and how change influences their interactions. Students were prepared for careers in many varied fields, such as social work, higher education, business, engineering, government, law, medicine, teaching, and administration. In this department, students could be a part of programs like the American Sociological Association, Society for Applied Sociology, and the Southwestern Social Science Association.

The sociology department experienced many changes during the year, both in faculty and facilities. The famous orange carpet was replaced and offices were re-arranged. The department welcomed Dr. David Caddell to the faculty and Dr. Elizabeth Kelly was named department chair after the retirement of Dr. Richard Mills.

Kelly led the department in making curriculum changes to improve their program and better prepare their students. Ouachita also became home to a new chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta, the international sociology honors society.

"I am really excited about having this organization for the students, especially those who want to go on to graduate school," Kelly said. "Dr. Caddell and I want to increase interest in our program by developing a brochure, increasing student engagement through "Professor Movie" nights, and taking students to sociology conferences." #FairOuachita

"The courses are so interactive and there is a lot of hands-on learning. The professors have helped me so much in the past three years by pointing me in the right direction and helping me plan out the next steps in my career."

Lindsay Henderson

Academic Showcase

celebrating excellence in academic achievements

Scholars Day was an event each spring that showcased the hard work of students within their respective fields. The day was a liberal arts fair from Ouachita's seven academic schools with over 120 presentations, performances and art exhibits involving almost 200 students.

Carl Goodson Honors Program Director Dr. Barbara Pemberton, the students of Alpha Tau who helped plan and organize Scholars Day and other faculty members on the Honors Council, including Kathy Collins, Kent Faught, Maggie Garrett, Eric Goddard, Sara Hubbard, Scott Jackson and Amy Sonheim, worked throughout the year to ensure the day's success.

"Scholars Day has two purposes," said Alex Nelson, a junior finance and management major from Frisco, Texas, and a member of Alpha Tau. "First is to celebrate the excellent academic work of students from every major and every discipline. Second is to foster a spirit of academics throughout campus."

Scholars Day began with the induction of new Alpha Tau members and for the rest of the afternoon presentations and performances occurred all over campus. In the library, students presented posters displaying data on research they had conducted. In McClellan Hall, there was even a 3D presentation of medical case studies.

Scholars Day was also where seniors presented their honors thesis. Many began working on this early in their junior and even sophomore year and spent countless hours researching, writing, creating and meeting with faculty advisors to prepare for this presentation. Scholars Day provided the means of giving recognition to those well deserving seniors who worked so hard and excelled in academics while at Ouachita.

Scholars Day also included musical performances from both vocalists and instrumentalists. Molly Salmon, a sophomore music major from Henderson, Texas, Bethany Swiontek, a senior musical theater major from Colorado Springs, Co., and Hannah Garner, a senior vocal performance major from Saginaw Mich., were a few of the chosen vocalists to perform. Instrumentalists were also chosen to perform, a few of which were the Jazz Combo featuring Bret Steed, a junior performance major from Idabel, Okla., and Brent Nessler, a junior music education major from Rowlett, Texas, as well as Courtney Stange, a sophomore piano and performance major, on piano, and Drew Ervin, a junior performance major from Springdale, on marimba.

"It's always a joy to perform, but to be asked to be a performer in the Scholars Day recital is really an honor. We had a blast just getting another opportunity to play some music," Nessler said.

"It really meant a lot to sing for Scholars Day," Salmon said. "Out of a group of students picked to represent the music department, knowing that I was one of them was a huge honor to me. I enjoyed performing and hope to do it again. I am privileged to have such great teachers and instructors who help and support me."

Scholars Day branched out of its normal audience and invited prospective Ouachita Scholars to experience this celebration of academic excellence.

"This year, we were proud to partner with the admissions department to host the first annual Honors Tiger Day," Nelson said. "We had 33 very bright prospective students come to see what it meant to be a scholar here at Ouachita. We were so excited to share that aspect of campus with them."

"My favorite part of Scholars Day is seeing the whole campus get excited about academics," Nelson said. "They see their friends presenting, and want to work towards presenting next year. It's a cycle that I love to see."

Scholars Day was not only a day to celebrate academic excellence and hard work but a day to build up the Ouachita community.

"Scholars Day has two purposes. First is to celebrate the excellent academic work of students from every major and every discipline. Second is to foster a spirit of academics throughout campus."

Alex Nelson





Sophomore Katie Theriot is presented an Alpha Chi t-shirt and certificate at the Alpha Chi Induction Ceremony on Scholars Day. The academic society is nationally known and offered students many opportunities to serve on campus. **photo by: Jason Pullano**



Junior Morgan Pitchford presents her study on the effects of caffeine for her Research Methods class. In the class, students conducted an experiment and worked on it throughout the entire year. **photo by: Heather Ellis**

Sophomore Chad Burris represents the music division on Scholars Day by singing "Last One Picked" from the musical "Whoopee Doo." Burris was among a select group of music students to perform for the Division of Music. **photo by: Heather Ellis**



Left: Dr. Randall Wight reviews a student's presentation. Presentations were held all across campus and covered a vast array of topics and majors. **photo by: Grace Finley**

Right: Senior Lindsey Fowler presents her work on the website *TrustedWills.com* in the OBU Enactus annual presentation on Scholars Day. Fowler won both the OBU and OBU/HSU business plan competitions this year. **photo by: Taylor McKinney**