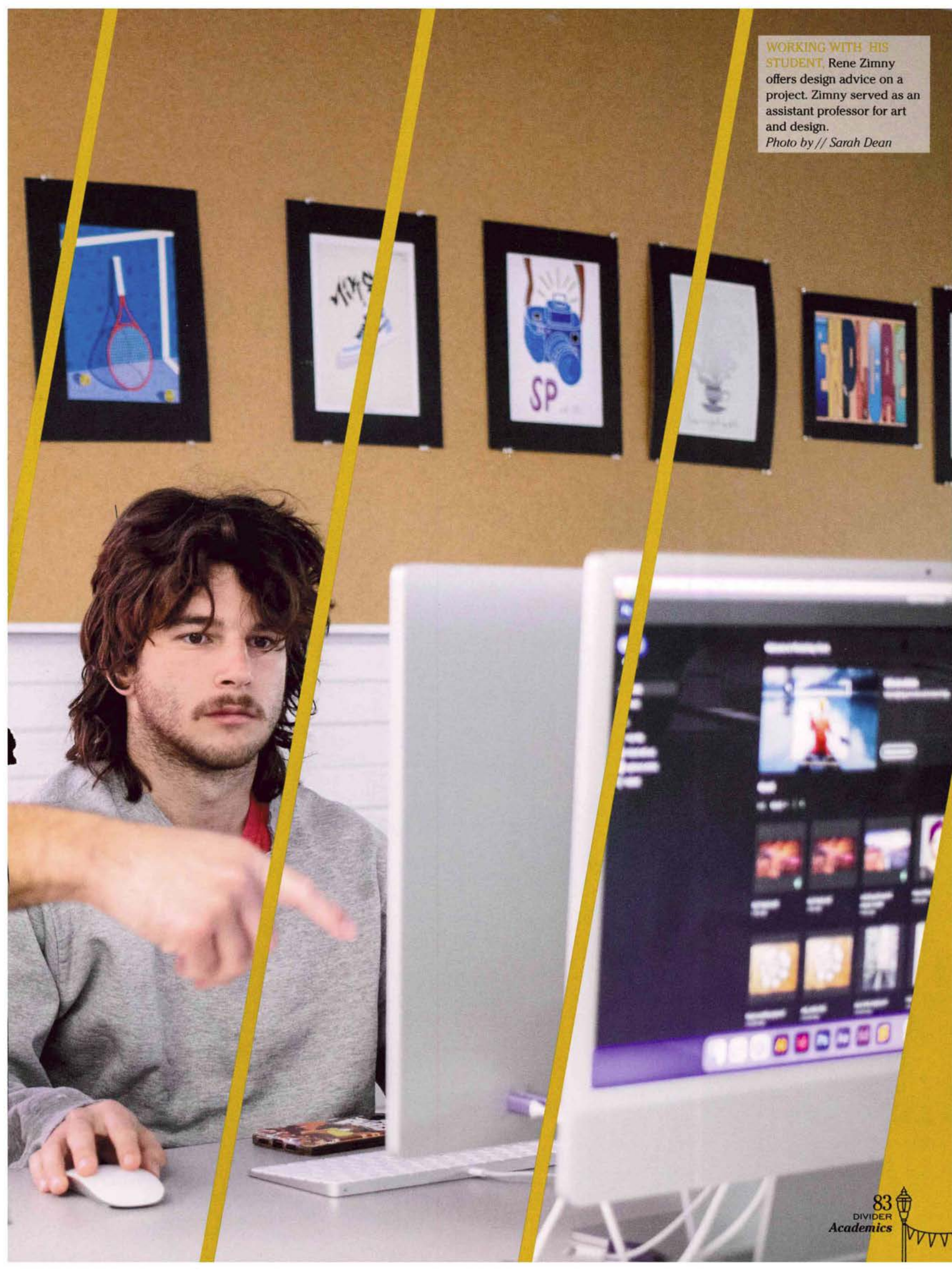


Students were recognized for outstanding work in their fields of study. The campus community celebrated academic excellence on Scholars Day. New degree programs were added to extend growth opportunities, both on the undergraduate and graduate levels. Ouachita was in its **GOLDEN** age of learning.

ACADEMICS



WORKING WITH HIS STUDENT, Rene Zimny offers design advice on a project. Zimny served as an assistant professor for art and design.
Photo by // Sarah Dean





THE GOLDEN HOUR

The Dr. Jack's Product Development Team organized a coffee tasting event for students, faculty and staff to give feedback on potential coffee flavors for their online store when it's launched. There were various coffee flavors and snacks for people to try. The survey asked about favorite flavors and if people preferred to buy coffee in the form of beans, grounds or Keurig cups.

Photo by // Coleman Callan



Coffee Tasting
Photo Courtesy by // Coleman Callan



JOHAN ERIKSSON address students in his Managing the Family Business class. The class was part of the Entrepreneurship program.

Photo by // Sarah Dean

AS SENIOR WES Guerra listens to his professor, senior Connor Bjerke takes notes. The accounting majors were students in the Auditing class.

Photo by // Sarah Dean



WORKING WITH HER classmates, senior Jillian Woodruff holds a bicycle for senior Mary Charles West.

The girls were working on the bicycle during a Business Plan Development learning activity.

Photo by // Meghann Bledsoe



The Hickingbotham School of Business was a place where students grew academically and strengthened their skill sets. Brian McKinney served both as the dean of the school and as a legal counsel to the University. McKinney expressed how in his position, he initially worried he would lose classroom interaction with students, but he found that he could interact with them in a whole new way. One of his favorite things about the school was the faculty he worked with.

"We've got some people who have been here a long time, and they bring some great stability," said McKinney. "We've just hired a few new people in the last couple years that brought a lot of life into our program."

McKinney also stated that the school did a good job of intersecting business theory in the classroom and real-world business. The speaker series formerly known as First Friday was re-branded as 323. This was in reference to the Bible verse Colossians 3:23, which says to work from your heart for the Lord, and is also the time set on the clock outside of the school's building. The series involved speakers from different backgrounds in business to speak and share with students. Another recent change in the department included the placement of a stock ticker. Students could see stock data and in the morning a daily Bible verse.

Johan Eriksson, visiting professor and director of the entrepreneurship program, shared about the endeavors of the Dr. Jack's coffee house business. The business had over 30 students involved in the project.

"We're trying to figure out how to stand up our own retail side, like our own website and different things

like that," said Eriksson. "One of our goals is to figure out how to use this business for good."

The Dr. Jack's coffee team embarked on its first mission trip to Honduras. Through the raising of funds from the entrepreneurship program, students, and generous donors, the team had the opportunity to spend their spring break building homes for those in need as well as helping with church services and street evangelism.

The Ary Student Investment Fund was founded in 2000 by Eddie Ary. Every year, a student investment team of 12 of the best senior finance majors at Ouachita

were placed in charge of a stock portfolio. It grew from about \$15,000 to \$2 million.

For Wes Guerra, a senior finance and accounting double major, the Ary Student Investment Fund was a beneficial way to gain real world experience in business. As the portfolio manager, Guerra oversaw the team, ran the weekly meetings, and provided leadership. In addition, he was in charge of making the quarterly report, which showed the heaviest weighted holdings.

"I've learned a lot of applicable skills and knowledge

that I know I'm going to be able to use once I start working," Guerra said. "I've heard that the students who come out of Ouachita, especially in the business program, are generally more prepared for work after college than students at other schools."

Ouachita students won top honors in the Arkansas Governor's Cup Collegiate Business Plan Competition, with Jillian Woodruff and Madison Melcher taking top honors in the Small Business Division.

By // Sarah Dean

"One of our goals is to figure out how to use this business for good"

STUDENTS GAIN AN *Advantage*

Professors combine theory and real-world experiences

PHONE IN HAND, senior Julia Shands shows photos of senior Jentry Lantzsch and senior Madison Melcher while standing next to Dean Bryan McKinney and senior Heather Brown. The team of girls won the 2022 New Venture Challenge, raising \$4442 for the entrepreneurship program.

Photo by // Levi Dade

In the Pruet School of Christian Studies, one would find several students called to serve God in their daily lives. However, not every person included in the major had a set path following graduation. Senior Hannah Tullos from Paris, Texas, entered the program this exact way, without a set intention for after college.

"My call to ministry is still being gradually realized, but ultimately, I just want to be in a place where I am fully equipped with the knowledge necessary to be useful to people spiritually and be in a place that the Lord can use me however He feels," Tullos said.

Education for Christian studies majors included traditional classes and mentoring. Sophomore Natalie Carozza from Arkadelphia talked about the importance of both.

"I take a lot of Biblical Studies classes that give me the foundation of theology that I need to serve the Lord, but it also includes getting to be mentored by my professors who show me how to best prepare me for ministry," Carozza said.

Professors cared deeply about their students and created personal relationships with them, rather than simply teaching them. Dean of the Pruet School of Christian Studies, Dr. Jeremy Greer, emphasized this important aspect of educating students.

"The kind of education that we do is not just informative but transformative, and I think our students are formed into more faithful, more responsible followers of Christ and leaders in His kingdom's work," Greer said.

Professors like Dr. Greer within the program

were also known for their love and care for students.

"They truly care about your well-being, your spiritual-being, mental health, physical health, and all of those things," Tullos said.

Teaching within the program also fostered an open-mind approach to learning about the Bible. Students were encouraged to take different perspectives on religions, cultures, and their own beliefs.

"I took a World Religions class, which exposed me to all different types of religions," said Tullos. "It has shown me other ways of thinking about scripture and different interpretations of certain passages."

Along with her new viewpoints developed through the program, Tullos found a new love for Christianity.

"My time in the Christian studies department has given me a bigger view of God, but also a more intimate view as well," Tullos said.

For Carozza, the program had also grown her relationship with the Christian faith.

"I think because of the Christian Studies program, I already feel so prepared to do what the Lord has called me to do," said Carozza. "It has really sanctified me and made me more like Jesus, which I am so thankful for."

Carozza recommended the program for anyone to consider, even if they were not called to the ministry.

"The program prepares you well for life," said Carozza., "You get a much better picture of who the Lord really is."

By // Hayden Wylie

"The kind of education we do is not just informative, but transformative."

CALLED TO *Ministry*

Students grow spiritually and academically

SHARING WITH fellow classmates, senior Mason Campbell (right) discusses his Life in Romans class with senior Wade Wilson (middle) and sophomore Hudson Herring (left). The class met in Berry Chapel rather than a traditional classroom.

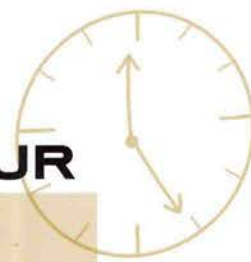
Photo By // Levi Dade





Dr. Scott Duvall
Photo By // Sarah Dean

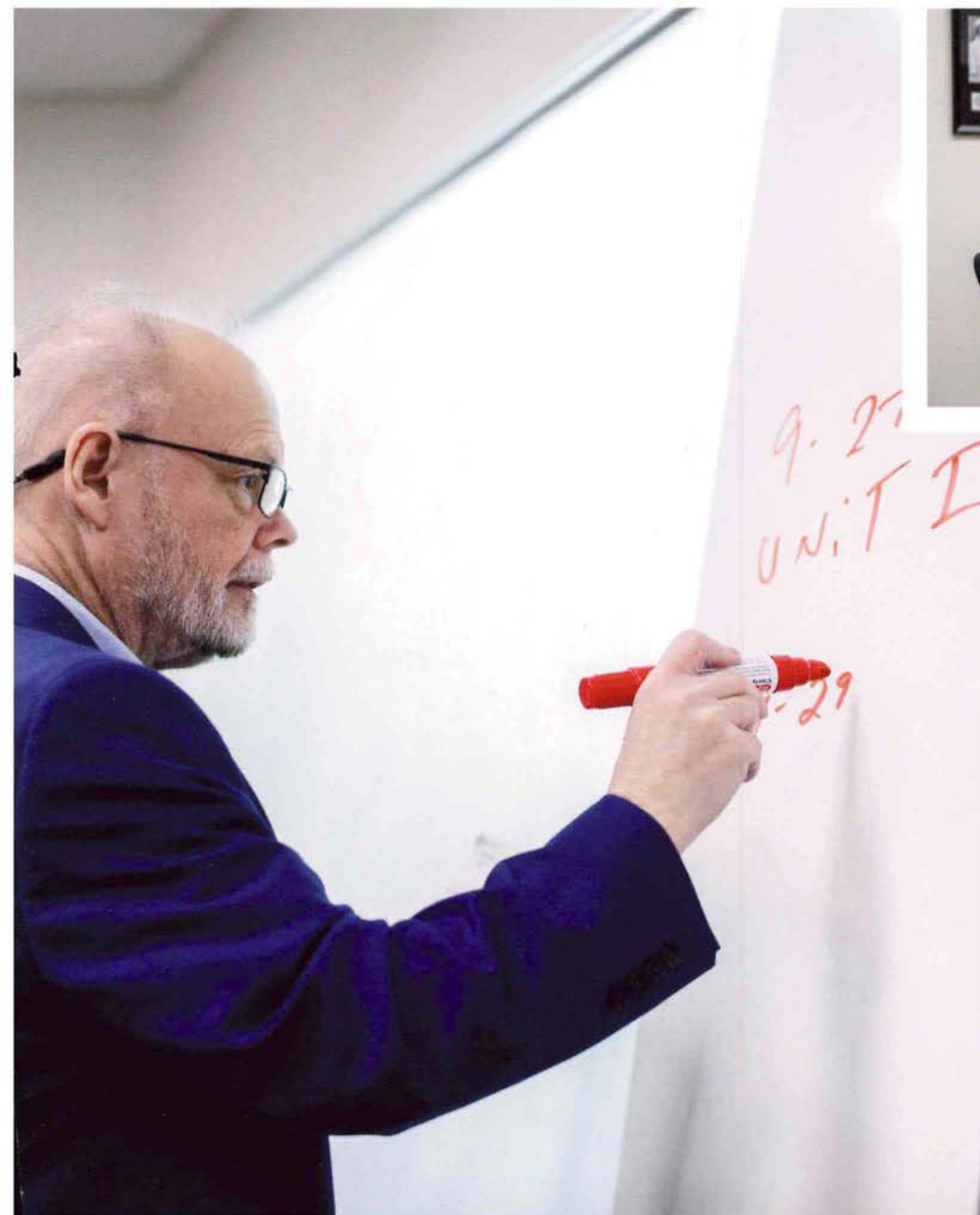
THE GOLDEN HOUR



Spiritual Formation was a staple class for Ouachita students. The purpose of the introductory class was to teach students the process of allowing the Holy Spirit to transform them into the image of Christ. The class used group discussions, readings, and a workbook to accomplish this goal of transformation.



Photo by // Levi Dade



LISTENING TO Dr. Matt Douglass, sophomore Mallorie Carozza (left) take notes during Issues in Science and Religion. Mallorie was a Christian Studies major. Photo By // Levi Dade

STUDENTS LISTEN to senior Allie Grace Graves during a presentation in Ministry to Women. The class was offered to students every other year during the fall semester. Photo By // Meghann Bledsoe

AS HE WRITES ON THE board, Dr. Marvin Pate captures the focus of his students. Dr. Pate taught the Christian Theology class. Photo By // Levi Dade



THE GOLDEN HOUR

In the Physiology of Exercise class, the students worked in the lab to measure the normal resting heart rate of a patient on the ECG (Electrocardiogram). They did this by placing two electrodes on the person's wrist and one on their ankle. The purpose was to identify the electrical activity of their heartbeat by looking at the different waves. The waves included the P wave, QRS Complex and the T wave.

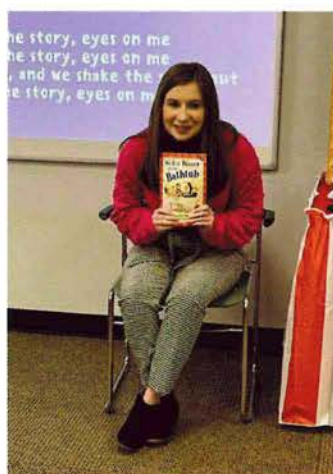
Photo by // Emma Mayes



Instructor Hallie Wallace
Photo By // Levi Dade



IN MIDDLE School Methods class, Dr. Rachel Poole lectures on unique methods of teaching. The course also focused on classroom management.
Photo by // Natalie Moore



WITH ENTHUSIASM, sophomore Katelyn Hartsell introduces a book to the class. Hartsell planned to teach elementary school students.
Photo by // Sarah Dean

INSTRUCTOR DAWSON PRITCHARD uses a skeleton as he lectures to his Wellness class. Classes often featured visual representations to aid students with course material comprehension.
Photo by // Sarah Dean



Education and Kinesiology were two of many departments that continually grew. They were improving their programs in many ways that helped their students. The dean of the Huckabee School of Education, Dr. Jeff Root, worked with students in both fields who were progressing toward graduation.

Dr. Kathy Collins, chair of the Department of Education, loved teaching and nurturing her students as they prepared to be classroom teachers. "I love getting to watch the students from freshman year to senior year and see their progress and how they've grown and changed," said Dr. Collins.

The education faculty worked with students through a process that included many hours of classroom observations in the Arkadelphia Public Schools, courses in pedagogy and the subject matter they would teach, national tests required for a teaching license, and, of course, a semester of student teaching.

For those who wished to continue their education, the department offered a master's degree in curriculum and instruction. The program's first graduates completed the program in December.

Likewise, the Department of Kinesiology spent the year planning a master's degree set to debut in the fall of 2023. Growth is a common denominator of the two departments.

Root attributed the growth in both departments to quality faculty and dedicated students. "Our number of teacher education students grew during years when other universities struggled

with enrollment, and kinesiology also is growing quickly," he said.

Cali Mendonca was a kinesiology major who was involved in athletics her entire life and knew that she wanted to work as a doctor in the sports world somehow.

"I was someone that would always get hurt in my sport and know that I want to be able to help the people that are like me," Mendonca said. Her favorite thing about the major was the professors. She was the student who would sit at the front of the class and make sure she paid attention because she knew that these people would be her mentors for the rest of the time she had here. She tried to make as many connections with them as possible for that reason.

"I struggled with some of the classes, but I was trying hard in all of them," said Mendonca. "If the professors see you putting in the work and trying your hardest, they will always see your potential."

One thing that really stood out to her about this major was the Kinesiology Club. They traveled

together to conferences and were able to see other research projects and learn from those. She also mentioned how it brought a lot of friendships between the students. They all helped each other grow as individuals, and in their classes.

"One thing that stuck out to me was something that Dr. DeWitt told me, 'The harder it is now, the better the reward in the end,' said Mendonca. "When I graduate, I'll feel so much relief because I just did all the work and am finally finished."

By // Rosalyn Decker

"The harder it is now, the better the reward in the end."

DEDICATION TO *Learning*

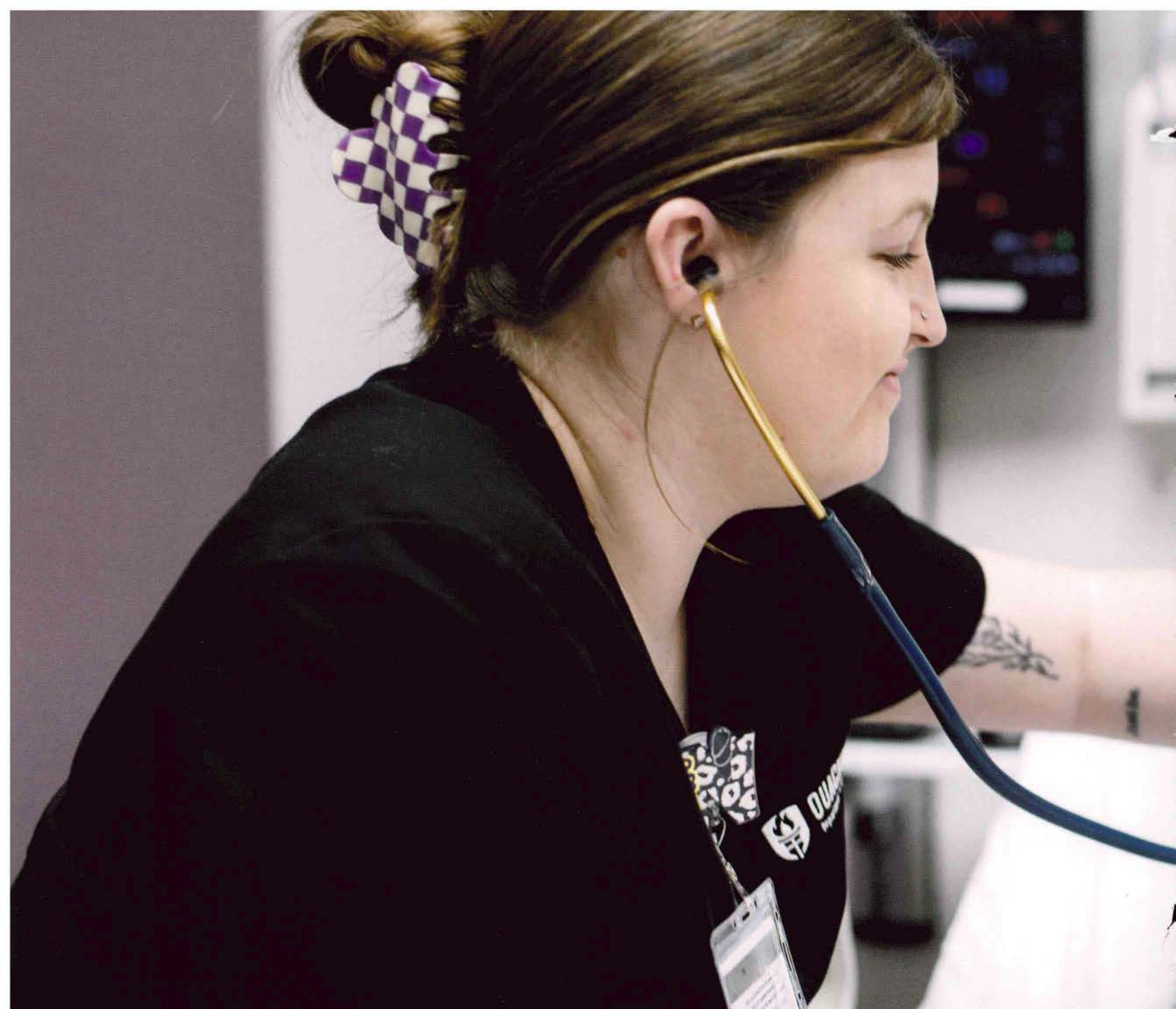
Professors advise and mentor students



SENIOR REBEKAH VAN NAMEN reads to her class. The class would practice reading to each other while learning how to grasp the attention of others.

Photo by // Sarah Dean





SETTING THE STAGE

The stage had been set, the actors given their roles, and students ready to go to work... in a hospital. The past year was the first year for nursing students to be able to hone their skills in the brand new simulation lab, funded by the Blue & You Foundation. Dr. Megan Foshee, the coordinator for the simulation lab, described the experience as a "healthcare theater."

"I'm creating a scene, staging something, whether it be Romeo and Juliet or a patient that's got asthma or a patient in labor. I'm creating this scenario," Foshee said. "I've got to have an identity, background, and costume makeup (moulage) for the patient. If they have a wound, then I create a wound. They

have their own chart, a history, so to me it is so similar to theater, but for healthcare. The simulators were able to talk back and respond, so it was a lot of improv."

The lab acted as a stage, replicating the look and feel of an actual hospital with simulation dolls as its actors. Adding to the adventure, students lovingly named two of the simulators after Ouachita faculty, President Ben Sells and Dr. Tim Knight. Dolls like Ben and Tim played their roles well, as they were able to express the same emotions and medical occurrences as an actual person. They could cry, speak, give birth, turn blue, and even seize when programmed to do so.

Perfecting a play requires many takes. This

was the same case on the healthcare stage. As part of the learning process, things would go awry, but that was part of the appeal for students like Kaleigh Thomas, a junior nursing major from Benton.

"I really like the sim lab because it gives you a low risk environment to make mistakes," said Thomas. "Some of the simulations we did last semester were very applicable to our clinical site last semester, so it was nice to be in a situation one day that we might be in the very next and have gotten a little preparation the day before." One of the central aspects of a simulation lab was for students to receive hands-on experience and become comfortable in an environment as

Paloma Moreno
Photo By // Levi Dade



Emily Watson
Photo By // Levi Dade



Landen Hill
Photo By // Levi Dade



ISABELLE HOLEYFIELD checks on the simulation patient. Holeyfield was part of the first on-campus nursing cohort.
Photo By // Levi Dade

unpredictable as a hospital.

"It helps with their clinical judgment," Foshee said. "We can stand there in front of them as educators and lecture and say this what you need to know all day until they're blue in the face, and this can happen across campus as well. But when they go in and actually apply what we're telling them, they see a patient whether it's real or what we make in the lab. They see." The hope of educators in the nursing program was that students would remember their experiences in the lab and be able to apply them to any situation they face, quickly recognizing cues regardless of setting.

A play would not be without its cast mates,

just as a clinical or surgical team would not be without its various members. In order to best solve a problem, students must work together, utilizing one another's knowledge and on-the-fly thinking to recognize the issue, throw out ideas, strategize, and save the patient. Junior nursing major Isabelle Holeyfield from Searcy enjoyed seeing different methods in action.

"You get to watch the other groups interact with the patient," Holeyfield said. "The other group knows what they're to be looking for, so you get to see how they try to figure it out. It's fun to see how they would do it because you know how you would plan it out." With each plan of action comes a link in students'

minds with what they have learned in their classes.

"I always enjoy when they [students] are struggling and then something happens and they get it and the patient starts to get better, and you can see that light bulb go off," Foshee said. "They come after the simulation and we talk about it, and they start to make those connections which is what the simulator's there for."

Having practiced in the healthcare theater, prepared students were able to take their roles into the real world, transforming into the real life heroes that combat evil viruses and medical mysteries: nurses.

By // Ellie Bennett

The School of Fine Arts Division of Music had a lasting impact on the students involved. Because of the unique program, students were able to have one-of-a-kind opportunities. Junior music industry and psychology double major Meredith Medford from Bryant reminisced on one particular event that students within her major were able to create for other students to enjoy, Tiger City Limits.

“We knew that we wanted to perform in front of the whole school, so we came up with the set list, the order of songs, who got to sing what, and what instruments we needed,” Medford said. Medford also mentioned that opportunities experienced within the School of Fine Arts had specific effects on each student who participated in them. The lessons learned from the experiences depended on how much work a student was willing to put into whatever program they were part of.

“I really believe that Ouachita is what you make out of it, and your degree is what you put into it. It’s all about taking opportunities,” Medford said.

Along with these physical experiences came new ways to learn about students’ subject of focus. Senior musical theatre major Erin Bagley from White Oak, Texas, spoke of the obstacle she was able to overcome while participating in new opportunities for her major.

“It’s definitely prepared me to learn how to talk to people better, have more confidence in myself and trust my abilities as a performer. It has pushed me out of my comfort zone completely. I am very much an introvert, and as a performer, you cannot be that. So, having a good support system around you while pushing yourself to the limit has

been beneficial.” Bagley said. Bagley participated in one competition available to all vocal music students, the Mary Shambarger Competition for Singers. She placed third for the music theatre category (2022), and second for the arias from opera category (2023). The competition featured students performing a selection from the specific category chosen for that year. “Ouachita holds a competition each year and donates money to those who place. It’s a way that Mary Shambarger is still making differences in Ouachita’s students’ lives. I love it mostly because you get to see the music students sing songs you might never really get to hear them sing otherwise,” Bagley said.

Fun and educational experiences like these were not limited to upperclassmen. Freshman worship studies major Ali Gordon particularly enjoyed that she was able to participate in amazing opportunities so early in her college career.

“Everyone that’s in our major was able to put on two worship nights, one in JPAC and one in Berry chapel. That was cool, getting to choose the songs and lead music with different people in my major,” Gordon said.

Closeness between peers was also a by-product of these wonderful opportunities that music students could experience.

“I have a really close group of friends that I never thought that I would have been a part of. We perform together, but we spend a lot of time helping each other through all of our work. It’s really special for us to come together and make music,” Medford said.

By // Hayden Wylie

“It’s all about taking opportunities.”

EXCELLENT Competition

Students learn and grow through opportunities

CARLOS FELLER teaches Music Theory to a group of engaged students. All music majors were required to take theory classes.
Photo By // Meaghann Bledsoe



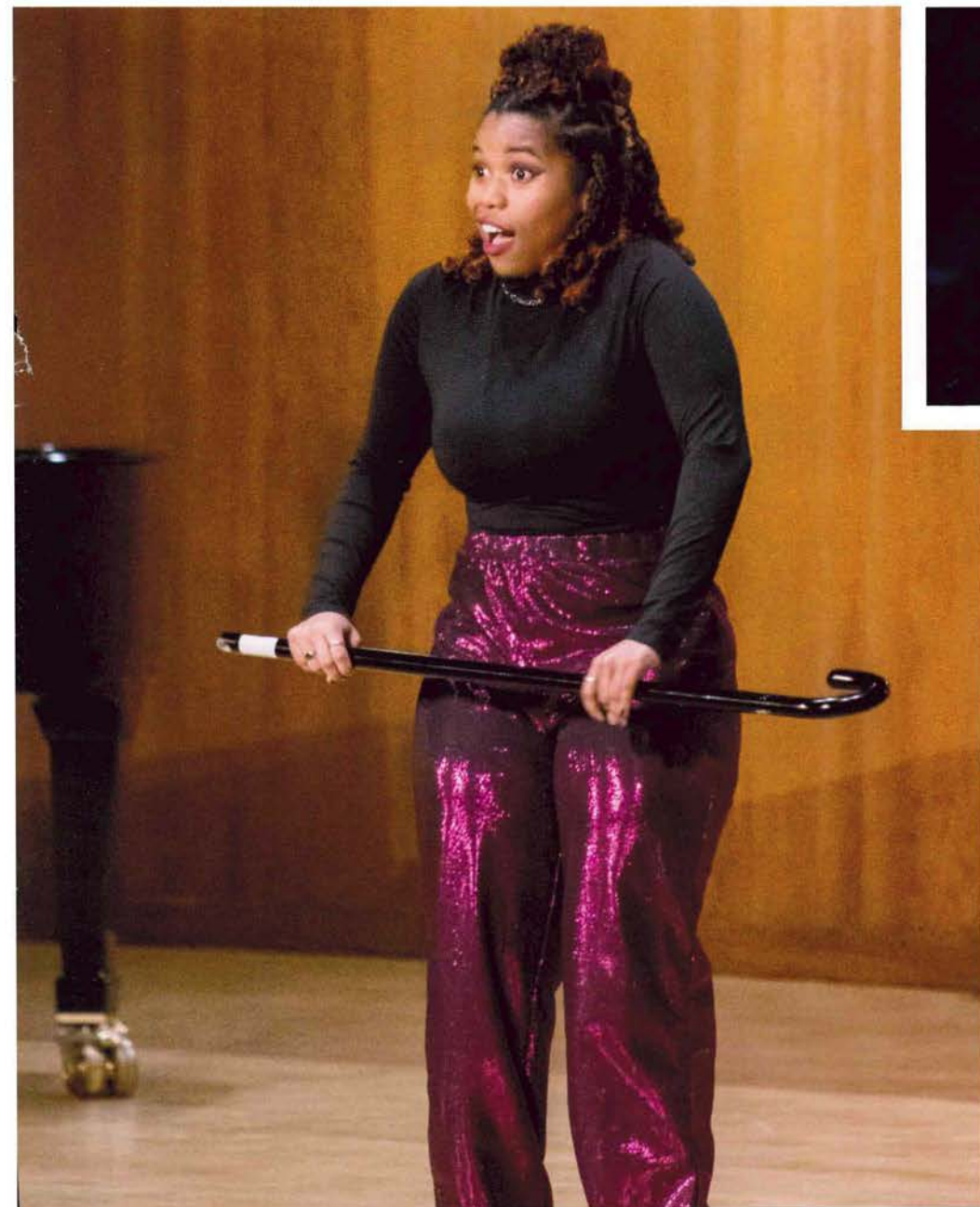


Festival of Christmas
Photo By // Levi Dade

THE GOLDEN HOUR



The Festival of Christmas was a tradition on campus. The holiday season was marked by sweaters, dancing, and singing all wrapped up and tied with a bow on the JPAC stage. The Ouachita Singers sang at the concert and were led by Dr. Joshua Brow. This event was not just for students, faculty and staff. The program was a season highlight for Ouachita's extended community.
Photo by // Levi Dade



LEXI PECK performs at a Wind Ensemble concert. Instrumental music majors were required to be in at least one large ensemble per semester.
Photo By // Broc Ingold

WORKING HARD, students Blair Yager and Allie May practice piano scales. Dr. Mary Chung taught the Piano I class.
Photo By // Sarah Dean

SOPHOMORE AMAYA Hardin preforms in her recital. She chose to sing "A Little Girl from Little Rock" from "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes."
Photo By // Sarah Dean

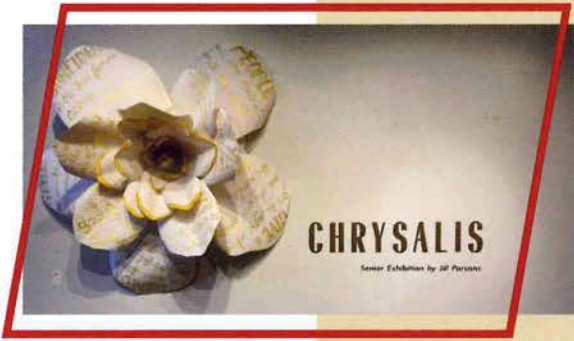


THE GOLDEN HOUR

Jill Parsons, a senior graphic design and communications and media double major, titled her senior exhibition, "Chrysalis." The exhibit was about understanding the transformative

process of the identity people possess from the moment of conception that God ordained them with. This correlates with the design of the chrysalis itself that a caterpillar experiences to become a butterfly.

Photo by // Kelsey Bester



Senior Exhibition
Photo by // Kelsey Bester



STUDENTS IN DRAWING I work on terracotta portraits. The class focused on drawing techniques using different mediums.

Photo by // Natalie Moore

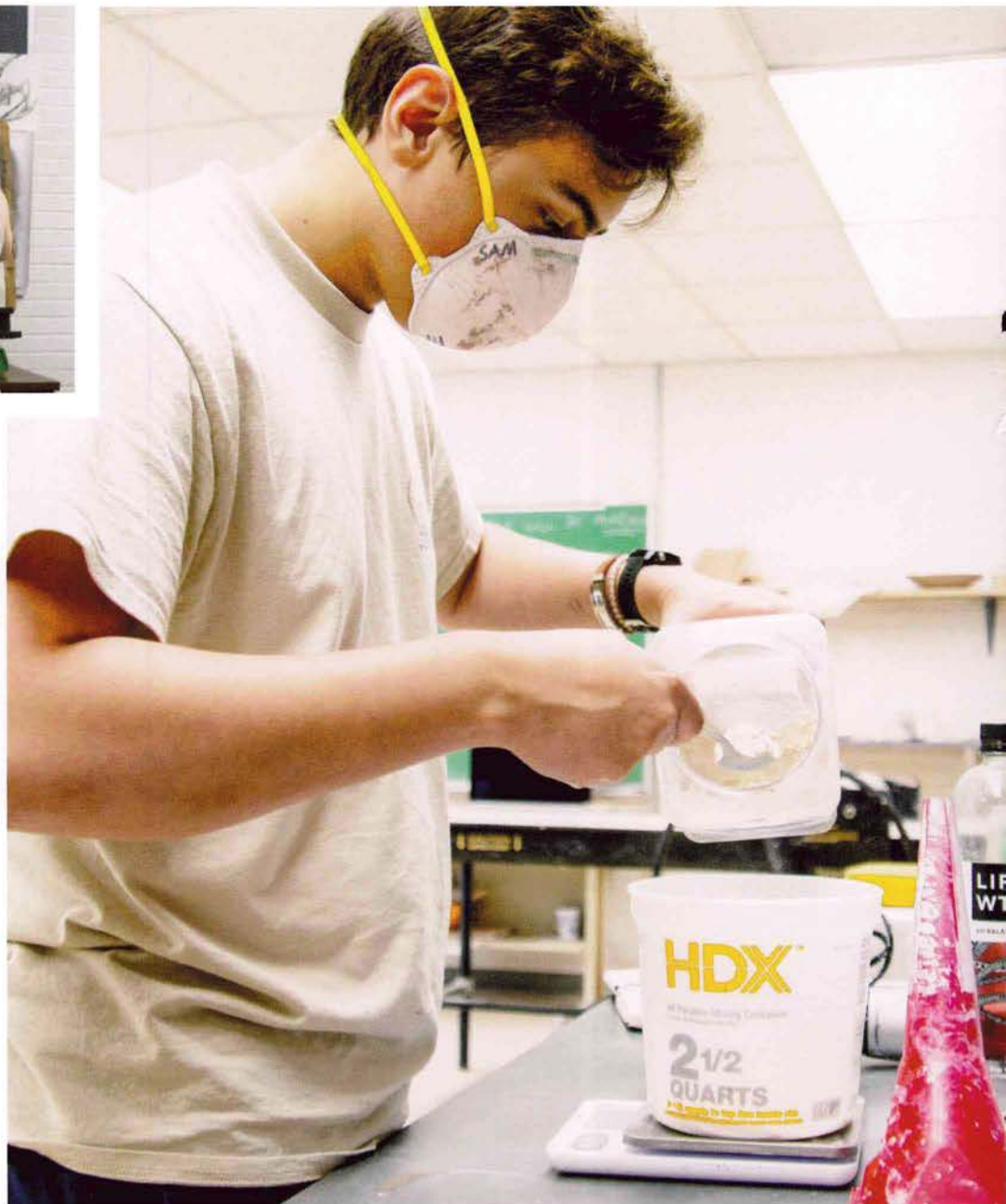
STUDENTS PRACTICE their performance skills in an acting class. This prepared them to be stage ready.

Photo by // Ashlyn Holt



FRESHMAN SAM SEXTON mixes together a glaze in Ceramics 2. This was a wheel throwing pottery class where they made cups, bowls and lidded pots.

Photo by // Emma Mayes



Upon first glance, it may seem that the arts and theater lack a familial feel and are quite individualistic fields. However, this was not the case. Sophomore graphic design and Christian foundations double major Mallorie Warner from Benton loved the friendships and connections she made in the art department.

"I love that I can cheer on and celebrate my peers' accomplishments, but we can also respectfully critique each other and learn from each other," said Warner. "I love the professors and their effort to know us and equip us. We really do have a family on the second floor of Moses-Provine, and I could not be more thankful for the people that I get to know and grow with."

Not only have students been able to grow closer together, they have been able to grow closer with God, glorifying Him in the work they produce. Junior theater arts major Kinder Hinrichs from Harrison participated in many productions through the theater department, but his favorite was "Godspell" in which the story of the gospel of Matthew was retold.

"The show [Godspell] is heavily based within the Christian faith and getting to share that message was very inspiring," said Hinrichs. "It is also in the community we form here, I truly feel close to everyone in the show and that has helped me in my relationship with God." In addition, Dr. Ryan Lewis, who served as the interim dean of the School of Fine Arts, felt that students of the department were able to glorify God by focusing on and fostering the blessing of creativity.

"Indeed, Genesis says that God was the original Creator, so we must be good stewards of our art forms

and share them with others," said Lewis. "For art is inherently good and can be a blessing to God, to artists, and one another." Hinrichs was inspired by personal growth, as well as spiritual.

"I look back at who I was freshman year and who I am now," said Hinrichs. "I have grown and learned so much. It always hits hardest when I have a conversation with someone about a past show I did at Ouachita, and they don't know who I am talking about. In little ways everyone I have interacted with has made me the person I am today." Equipped with newfound personal and spiritual growth through their time in the applied arts programs, both Warner and Hinrichs felt that they had received opportunities and experiences that would benefit them after they turn their tassels.

"The department has done a fantastic job getting me ready for the real world, even with the turnover in our faculty," Hinrichs said. "I have been able to learn from them what working as a professional actor is. With their help I have become more of a well-rounded actor and found ways to put my best foot

forward."

Dr. Lewis found the applied arts to be a highly influential and God-glorifying aspect of the Ouachita journey.

"Art and theater provide students with the opportunity to create and to provide others the opportunity to see and engage the world and people around them in new ways," Lewis said. "This power to potentially impact human minds and hearts for God's good is astounding to me and such a blessing."

By // Ellie Bennett

"Art and theatre provide students with the opportunity to create..."

CREATING *Impactful* EXPERIENCES

Students provide others the opportunity to think deeply



ABBY BURLISON listens to her professor explain a project in Costuming class. The class met in the costume shop in Verser.

Photo by // Natalie Moore



The School of Humanities was all about human connection and creation. Through the Communications Department and the Language and Literature Department, the goal of helping students acquire knowledge and skills was always there. The sense of pride from Dr. Rebecca Jones, a professor in the Communications Department, was evident.

"It's very exciting to see students go through the complexity of college life and see the change that they experience from the young freshman to graduating senior," said Jones. "I become so proud of what the students accomplish and love seeing how they are going to enter the world after Ouachita."

In January, Dr. Jones and Dr. Stan Poole, professor of Language and Literature, accompanied students to the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

"During that week we participate in viewing Sundance films which often set the tone for cultural conversations," said Jones. "The films that make it into Sundance are there because they tell important stories about things that are happening in the world."

Co-curricular activities were offered to students and provided hands-on experience. Nine students were honored for their academic and creative work published in the award-winning literary magazine "Assayers 31." The bilingual publication included translations by Spanish majors. Students also had the opportunity to work with the Ouachitonian,

The Signal, photography, video production, OSDN and the Office of Communications and Marketing.

Wyatt Ashlock, a senior double major in theater arts and communications and media from Royse City, Texas, served as the student director for the Ouachita Sports Digital Network and a practicum staff writer for The Signal. Ashlock got to learn from the best and had opportunities to practice writing and video production.

"I chose to focus on Communications and Media because I love telling stories through film, video, and writing," said Ashlock. "Communication is the best way to grow my talent and skill."

Ashlock was also part of a group of students who had the opportunity to travel to New York City for the College Media Association conference. Students got to meet new people, hear from other schools' media departments, and make connections with potential places of employment.

Freshman biology major from Mabelvale, Luke Wood, shared why he enjoyed being a part of the Language and Literature Department at Ouachita.

"Spanish is a beautiful language wrapped in a beautiful culture and it's worth exploring," said Wood. "The School of Humanities enables me to communicate better and has added a desire to speak Spanish to people I could potentially treat one day."

The School of Humanities was full of passionate faculty and students who found joy in growing, learning, and teaching. By // Madi Darr

"Communications is the best way to grow my talent and skill."

BECOMING *Storytellers*

Growing through unique learning experiences

LISTENING INTENTLY, the students in Fundamentals of Public Speaking prepare small group presentations. The students gave and received feedback to improve their skills.
Photo By // Sarah Dean





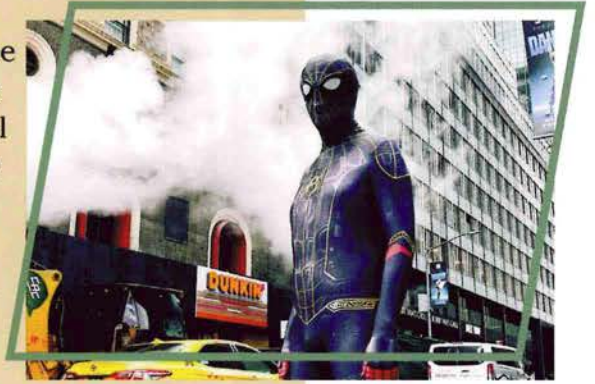
OSDN livestream
Photo By // Levi Dade

THE GOLDEN HOUR



Senior Wyatt Ashlock traveled with a group of Communications and Media students to New York City for the College Media conference. While in the big apple, Ashlock took the opportunity to have some fun. Because of his special interest in writing reviews of super hero movies, Ashlock dressed up as Spider Man and visited Times Square.

Photo by // Jill Parsons



TAKING NOTES from her textbook, junior Emilee Webb prepares for English Composition 2. Webb was an English and political science major.
Photo By // Emma Mayes

GIVING THEIR PITCH, Mia Paladini and Jillian Woodruff make a presentation to representatives of the Arkansas Heart Hospital. The AD-PR Campaigns class worked on the semester-long project for the hospital.
Photo By // Sarah Dean

DR. JERUSA CARVAJAL lectures to her Cultural Conversations class. Dr. Carvajal taught elementary, intermediate and upper-level Spanish courses.
Photo By // Broc Ingold



THE GOLDEN HOUR

The state-of-the-art Whisenhunt Nursing Education Center was built and dedicated over the past year. This building houses the new on-campus nursing program, allowing students to complete a bachelor of science in nursing at Ouachita. Included in the building are simulation rooms. The simulations allow students to gain hands-on experience in a hospital setting. *Photo by // Levi Dade*



Nursing Building Dedication
Photo Courtesy of // Sarah Dean



INSTRUMENT IN hand, Anna Claire Newman conducts an experiment in the Genetics Lab. The lab experience allowed for hands-on research. *Photo by // Levi Dade*



TO BEGIN CLASS, Dr. Ruth Plymale outlines the day's goals for her Microbiology students. The class studied bacteria and featured course-based research. *Photo by // Sarah Dean*

ANNIKA JOSTAD fills a beaker in Chemistry Lab. Labs were an important part of the research component in the sciences. *Photo by // Levi Dade*



T

The School of Natural Sciences was the largest school on campus. One of the things that came with large schools was the difficulty to connect with peers and professors. However, Ouachita found a way to still be able to foster close connections between faculty and students. Junior biology major Mikayla Long particularly liked the family atmosphere created within the school.

"I definitely love the close knit relationship. The biology department loves their students. Anytime I see one of my professors on campus, we always stop and have a conversation," Long said. "Ouachita was the best place for me because the professors had such a one-on-one relationship with their students and truly cared. I came from a small high school, so I definitely wanted that wherever I went to school. The School of Natural Sciences was just the place for me."

One of the reasons Long chose the School of Natural sciences was because of the close relationships that they offered. It was important to her that she felt cared for while studying biology.

Along with the relationships also came preparation for life beyond graduation. Sophomore chemistry and biology major Kensley Flynn noted how she felt well prepared because of the extensive labs and research offered.

"I'm going to be a part of our Patterson Research this summer, and I'm going to be able to gain some undergraduate research experience through my Organic Chemistry classes this year. Being able to have those experiences and being

able to take that into my future and just find a new love within my field is great," Flynn said.

These unique experiences were not limited to certain majors within the School of Natural Sciences. Junior nursing major Jacob Holt recounted an experience that he and other nursing majors were exposed to help them outside of the classroom setting.

"Some of the faculty and staff helped a group of us get our CNA license to work in the hospital and

nursing home setting to grow our clinical experience that we have to have for actually going into the nursing profession to understand how the nursing environment works," Holt said. Holt also enjoyed the overall environment, people, and the expertise his professors held within the School of Natural Sciences.

"I like the friends that I have encountered through my degree. The clinicals being able to be hands on for our learning and also applying that knowledge to

the clinical setting was a great perk. Also, our professors have a total of 150 combined years of nursing practice, so they're pretty good in their field, and they know a lot," Holt said.

Despite the differences among majors in the School of Natural Sciences, students took advantage of the close-knit community created among themselves. No matter their interests, backgrounds, nor futures, they enjoyed the relationships easily created within their departments.

By // Hayden Wylie

"The School of Natural Sciences was just the place for me."

Learning IN COMMUNITY

Practical experiences provide learning opportunities



SUMMARIZING HER findings, sophomore Heidi Mathes writes in her notebook. Mathes was completing work in her Genetics Lab.

Photo by // Levi Dade

The students who walked the halls of Jones Science Center were some of Ouachita's most driven individuals. Students experienced late nights in the lab, memorized information that filled the whiteboard top to bottom and had many research opportunities throughout the semester. Math, physics, computer science, and engineering majors as well, learned the significance of creative thinking in addition to developing a fondness for their desired field throughout their time in the classroom.

"Mathematics was such a beautiful subject," said Brock Bivens, a junior applied mathematics major from Little Rock, "From the problem solving skills to the individual relationships with the professors, being a math major allowed me to connect with a wide variety of students both mathematically and socially."

Bivens did his directed study with Dr. Debra Coventry over fostering geometric thinking. When he wasn't working on his directed study or writing his mathematical and historical significance of the four color theorem thesis under Dr. Sykes, Bivens was found helping stressed students as he was a Calculus II supplementary instructor.

As the mathematicians prepared to tackle undergraduate mathematical competitions, the world of all things physics began pushing for an accredited program to be started. Professors have worked hard for this dream to become reality as this program was quite beneficial for current as well as future students.

"I will never forget all of the late nights spent in the physics lounge with some of my closest classmates as we tried to figure out some crazy

math problem," said Josh Wallace, senior engineering physics major from Arkadelphia. "Some of my favorite memories in this department come down to the times we all got to spend together doing random things before or after class."

Wallace spent many of his college days with fellow classmates in labs or studying through the night. His dedication would soon pay off as he planned to pursue a career in process engineering after he graduated. He enjoyed his time in the physics department, and even learned some cornhole skills from Dr. Kevin Cornelius along the way. The entire class would often team up against their beloved instructor, but still managed to lose.

An exciting addition to the operation that is Jones Science Center is the up-and-coming engineering program. Dr. Norm Pumphrey, along with Dr. Kevin Cornelius and Dr. Angela Douglass, set out to start this program, and desired to add it to Ouachita's prestigious list of majors. This dream team spent hours upon hours mapping out classes, figuring out the logistics, and doing research to build this program from the ground up.

"Dr. Cornelius and Dr. Douglas had laid the foundation over the last three years before I came as we started to develop the curriculum," said Dr. Pumphrey. "Over the course of my time at Ouachita, getting to interact with the students had been a favorite part."

From math competitions to cornhole games to taking a break from physics problems, Jones Science Center was a special place on Ouachita's campus. The engineering program would only add to the magic as this new major was added to the curriculum.

By // Rose Robinson

"Mathematics was such a beautiful subject."

NEW SKILLS TO *Learn*

Engineering program is added to the School of Natural Sciences

EXPLAINING A CONCEPT, professor Darin Buscher engages his students in Calculus I. Discussion was welcomed in the class to fully understand the material presented. Photo By // Sarah Dean





Students working on laptops
Photo By // Levi Dade

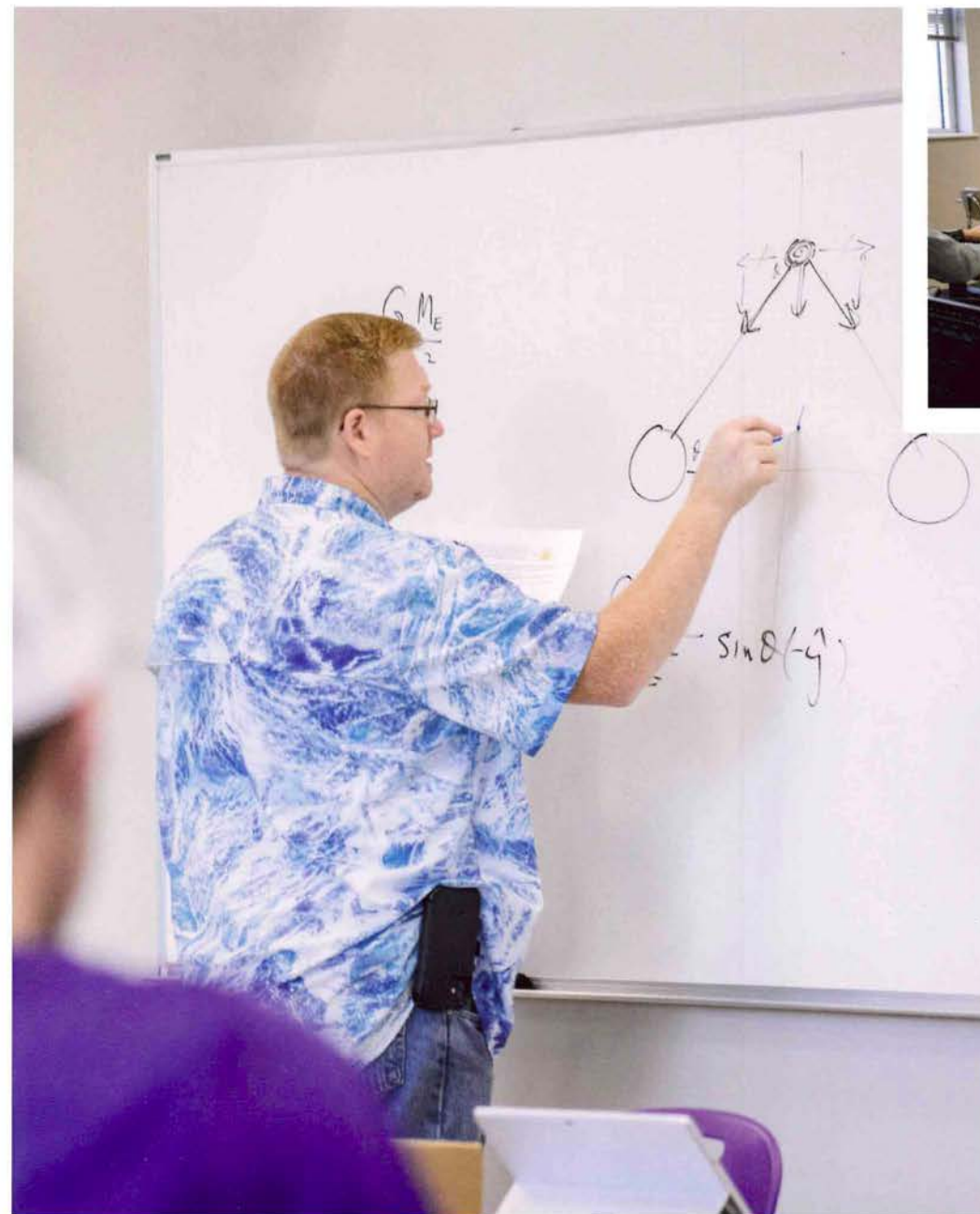
THE GOLDEN HOUR



Ouachita began the process of launching a new engineering program this past year. The bachelor of science in engineering will officially launch in the fall of 2023.

Part of this new program was developing a 4,400-square-foot engineering lab.

Photo by // Levi Dade



STUDENTS WORK on their computers in Internet Development. Students often had time to not only listen to lectures in class but also do assignments and receive help if needed from the professor.
Photo By // Sarah Dean

DR. KEVIN CORNELIUS explains that an object being pulled gravitationally by two similar objects will follow a path that is along the vertical line through the midpoint between them. Cornelius was teaching the University Physics I class.
Photo By // Sarah Dean

AS HE POINTS AT the projected screen, Dr. Jeff Matocha explains a topic to his students in Internet Development. Students analyzed the different methods of how Internet applications are created.
Photo By // Sarah Dean



THE GOLDEN HOUR

Ouachita had seven students who participated in the Midwest Model United Nations in St. Louis.

Four students represented Sweden, and three students represented Indonesia. They received numerous awards for their excellent performance. Multiple students received awards for their position papers. The students representing Sweden, Caroline Derby, Noah Sanders, Kathryn Totty, and Emilee Webb, were recognized as a distinguished delegation. Dr. Kevin Brennan led the group.

Photo by // Emma Mayes



Model United Nations
Photo Courtesy of // Emilee Webb



CHLOE JAMORE participates in a class discussion. The course was part of the Public History curriculum.
Photo by // Natalie Moore



ENGAGING HIS students in History of American Women, Dr. Casey Motl shares his lecture. Dr. Motl served as Dean of the Sutton School of Social Sciences.
Photo by // Emma Mayes

DR. DOUG REED converses with students while returning papers. Reed taught Constitutional Law, among other political sciences courses.
Photo by // Sarah Dean



With a changing world comes changes to the Sutton School of Social Sciences. The introduction of the criminal justice program allowed students to study and attend classes outside of the original history, political science, psychology, social justice, and sociology courses offered at Ouachita. Through the new criminal justice practicum, internship opportunities, and hand-on learning brought into the Sutton School for Social Sciences, Ouachita prepared students for the world after Ouachita. I

In the Sutton School of Social Sciences, students studied how people behave and function as a part of society. Dean of the Sutton School of Social Sciences, Dr. Casey Motl, discussed how the new criminal justice program was part of this.

"The criminal justice program is designed to use some balance between theory and criminology, which is a subfield of sociology. That studies why people choose to break the law and how we can both respond to that as a community and also prevent it as well," Motl said. "That means you know you have environmental factors, you have historical factors, you have cultural factors, there are psychological dispositions even tell somebody to be more comfortable with lawbreaking, the severity of different things, and some criminology looks at all of that and just basically studies this broader field of criminal behavior."

Throughout the year, criminology students have been given hands-on opportunities to apply what they were being taught in the classroom.

Dean Motl said, "A cohort of students had the opportunity to go through the criminal justice practicum experience, which is all hands-on training. It is administered by our campus Police Department and students learn how to execute a traffic stop, how

to render medical assistance, basic and advanced marksmanship. It is entirely practical skill building, largely for those folks who are looking to go into uniform law enforcement."

However, the criminal justice program was not the only area of the Sutton School for Social Sciences that experienced an exciting change. This school year was used by the department of psychology to do some large-scale planning for a new dual major and master's programs.

"I argue that the most exciting thing that we've been working on is we were developing a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling. This is a

program that will allow graduates to become licensed counselors or licensed therapists, and this allows our students to do so on our own campus," Dean Motl said.

Dr. Allyson Phillips, an assistant professor of psychology, said, "We have partnered with the Pruet School of Christian Studies and their Community Family Services major, and they have a tract within that program that is specifically for those that are interested in graduate school. So, this dual major is a graduate and professional track looking towards counseling."

Classes for years to come will be able to enjoy the exciting changes that this year has brought to the students of Ouachita, allowing new career paths to be formed. As the Sutton School of Social Sciences experienced change, students were excited for the future. Seth Lybrand, a senior political science major from Little Rock, reflected on his time at Ouachita and his hopes for the future as he prepares to graduate.

"I am excited to see the future of the school of social sciences. It will be exciting to hear how it changes after I graduate," said Lybrand.

By // Katy Beth Dunn

*"It is
entirely
practical
skill
building."*

PREPARING FOR THE *Future*

Hands-on, practical experiences provide learning opportunities



STARTING CLASS
on the right foot, Noah Sanders reads over course material. The World Politics class was taught by Dr. Kevin Brennan.

Photo by // Sarah Dean



The School of Interdisciplinary Studies was a vital part of life at the University. It impacted students by encouraging the exploration of subjects outside of their own interests, cultivating communication skills, and introducing a variety of topics to them. It took a variety of classes to expand students' own knowledge and broaden their worldview. Despite his department having a firm foundation, the School of Interdisciplinary Studies experienced something new every year. The most recent shift was a change of the Dean of the school

Dr. Stan Poole worked with Ouachita for 20 years. He served as the Dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies for 19 years before stepping down from that position to return to the classroom in the spring semester. Dr. Poole felt ready for a change and looked forward to interacting with students in class again. To prepare for regular classroom teaching once more, Dr. Poole took a sabbatical. He spent that time reconnecting to his field of study, reading various books, and preparing syllabi. Reflecting on his time as Dean, Dr. Poole said that he enjoyed working with the faculty from all disciplines and getting to know each departments' own way of thinking and analyzing different issues.

"That's the same thing about a liberal arts education because you are exposed to all these different disciplines. You know you have to take courses in all the different fields. I know students aren't always excited about that, but it's actually cultivating in them a much broader mindset; something that allows them to draw on lots of different ways of thinking instead of just one way of

thinking," said Dr. Poole.

Dr. Justin Hardin succeeded Dr. Poole as the Dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies. He stated that the goal of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies was to equip students to be image bearers of Christ in the world. In his first year as Dean, Dr. Hardin enjoyed learning of all the things going on in the lives of students and faculty within the CORE. Dr. Hardin focused on getting to know his new role by paying attention to the values of the school, the traditions, and what can be improved.

"One of the things I'm learning is how beautifully the CORE serves Ouachita's liberal arts tradition," said Dr. Hardin, "I love that our OBU Connections course, for example, creates space for faculty and students to reflect on what the term 'liberal arts' means and how it fits into our mission."

Anna Hudson, a junior elementary education major from Charleston appreciated how the CORE taught her how to work hard, value all the disciplines in different areas of content, and gave her an extensive view of things outside of her major and of the world. Hudson credited her education for giving her a view of academics beyond her major. Her Spanish courses allowed her to become more acquainted with the language, and as a result Hudson felt better prepared to serve any of her future students that speak the language.

"It helps us see value in the different aspects of academics, how to relate to people and learn more about God's creation," said Hudson.

By // Sarah Dean

"It helps us see the value in the different aspects of academics,"

Developing **ACADEMIC VARIETY**

Students gain an understanding of many topics and subjects

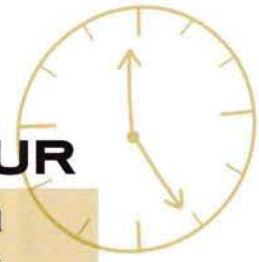
SMILING BRIGHTLY, freshman Ella Marie Davis takes notes during her U.S. History Since 1877 class. Dr. Chris Mortenson offered the course to students during the spring semester. Photo By // Natalie Moore





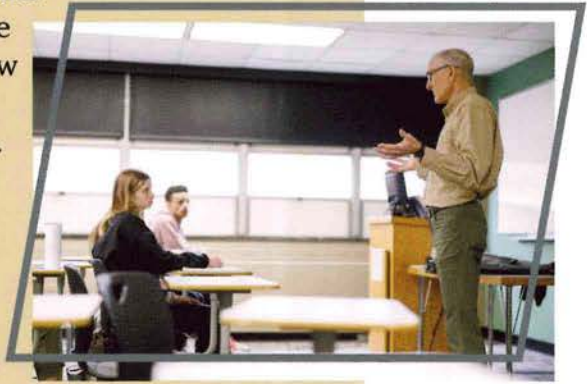
Dr. Hal Bass
Photo By // Ashlyn Holt

THE GOLDEN HOUR



OBU connections was a core class that all students at Ouachita took. The goal of the class was to get students adjusted to college life and to teach them how to make the most of their time on campus. It also highlighted Christ-centered education and why that was important at Ouachita.

Photo by // Levi Dade



IN DEEP FOCUS, Kenzie Cresswell and Alyssa Rye ponder the lecture in the World Literature Class. The class was required of all students.
Photo By // Sarah Dean

WITH HIS HANDS, Dr. Chris Mortenson describes a concept in his U.S. History Since 1877 class. The course was a menu option in the flexible core.
Photo By // Natalie Moore

INTRIGUED BY THE IPAD, Katie Dabrowski follows Donnie Copeland's finger. Students were able to take Copeland's OBU Connections Chemistry and Art class during the fall semester.
Photo By // Levi Dade



THE GOLDEN HOUR

While studying abroad at Liverpool Hope University, Jenna Biggers had some exciting visitors. Her close friends, Meg Atchison, Jentry Lantzsch and Caroline Johnson used their fall break to travel to Europe to visit her. The group traveled to multiple cities including Liverpool, Paris, London, Manchester, and Chester. Trying local cuisine and visiting historical sights made for a memorable trip for the group.

Photo courtesy of // Jenna Biggers



Jenna Biggers
Photo courtesy of // Jenna Biggers



HIKING THROUGH Isreal, Josh York visits Mt. Arbel. York went with a group of biblical studies students.

Photo courtesy of // Josh York



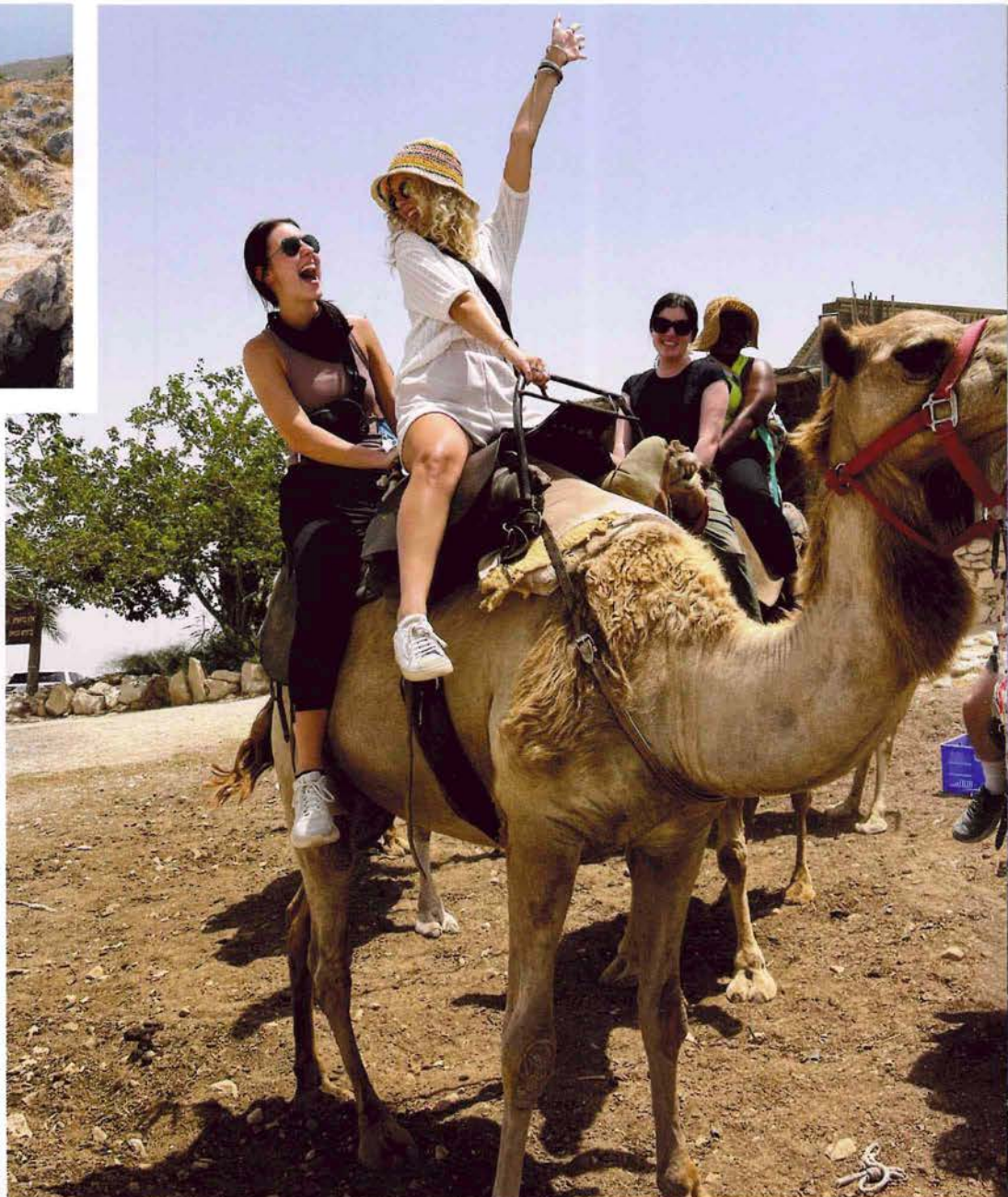
NATALIE HELMS and Kaleigh Thomas visit "The Thinker" statue. They went to Paris, France, on the European Study Tour.

Photo courtesy of // Natalie Helms

KAYDEN JOHNSON and scarlet bates laugh while riding a camel.

They were visiting Qumran National Park in Jerusalem, Israel.

Photo Courtesy of // Scarlet Bates



Ouachita was known for striving to cultivate a community with a shared love of learning as well as gaining new experiences. The study abroad program did just this. Studying abroad allowed students to gain new knowledge and experience a new culture. This was the first time since Covid hit in 2020 that students could study abroad.

Jenna Biggers, a biology major from Russellville who graduated in December 2022, studied in Liverpool, England, in the fall semester.

"I chose the UK because of it being an English speaking country and not too far out of my comfort zone because I had been to London before," Biggers said. Biggers was not the only one who got to study abroad this year. John Peyton, a senior biomedical sciences major with a minor in chemistry and international studies, studied abroad in Fukuoka, Japan, for the entirety of his senior year.

"Studying abroad was one of the original requirements for the biomedical sciences program, and it was one of the reasons I chose to come to Ouachita and chose this major," Peyton said. "No biomed had chosen the Japan summer option before I had decided that's where I wanted to go. But because of Covid the opportunity was suspended. It was still something I wanted to do before graduating, so I held out hope and prayed that it would become available again before I graduated. I hope to go to medical school, and as a doctor I want to be able to use Japanese even if it is not something I will use often. I think the ability to speak more than English is beneficial in every work place, especially in medicine. This experience has opened my eyes to its importance and also to the enjoyment of learning and using a new language," Peyton said. There are many different study abroad opportunities offered at

Ouachita, and one of those is the European Study Tour. Natalie Helms, a senior psychology and biology major, went on the European Study Tour where she visited Italy, France, and England over the course of three weeks.

"I chose to study abroad because I have always wanted to travel and many of the places we visited had always been on my bucket list. Travel really broadens a person's horizons, and I wanted to take that opportunity in college," Helms said. "I was hesitant to spend an entire semester in another country because I didn't want to miss out on campus life, so when I heard about EST, it seemed like the perfect solution to studying abroad and not missing any campus life." Helms learned to find the beauty in everything while she traveled abroad and she also learned to love the art that surrounded her. Ultimately visiting another country had a big impact on her life.

"I came into college wanting to learn more and become better prepared for life after college," Helms said. "I think I have accomplished those two goals in my four years at Ouachita and going on the European Study Tour helped me in both. I learned more about art and

the cultures of other countries, and I think traveling broadened my perspective on life and better prepared me for life after. I highly recommend the European Study Tour to everyone."

Josh York, a senior Christian studies major attended the biblical studies Israel trip during the summer of 2022.

"I went on the 14-day biblical studies trip to Israel," York said. "Going to Israel and seeing so many biblical sites has always been a dream. I wanted to experience the places that I read about in the Bible."

By // Jane Ellen Dial

"Travel really broadens a person's horizons,"

THE RETURN OF *Exploration*

Students participate in Study Abroad for the first time since 2020



JOHN ELLIS PEYTON (left) attends a harvest festival. Peyton spent the fall and spring semester in Japan. Photo courtesy of // John Ellis Peyton



Graduate programs offered at small schools were unique, but the programs offered at Ouachita were especially distinctive. One notable program was the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis. Director of the program, Dr. Julyse Horr, was ready for the new opportunities that students were able to experience.

"They are able to get paid while they're getting their required hours to become a BCBA," said Horr. "A lot of people have to pay to get their hours, but our students have the ability to get paid while getting their hours." As there was a national shortage of BCBA's, the program set out to help the shortage by being the first degree program of its kind in the state.

"There is a huge need for behavior analysts in the state," said Horr. "The main reason our program was created was to fill that void and create more behavior analysts in the state of Arkansas."

Dr. Monica Hardin, associate vice president for Ouachita's graduate programs, also noted a significant quality.

"We entered that space as the only M.S. in ABA in the state and one of very few faith-based programs nationwide," Hardin said.

The Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetic Internship was another notable graduate program offered. Holly Kyzer, director of the program, described the strategic process that students partook in.

"We have a one-stop-shop for students interested in nutrition dietetics to complete their bachelor's degree and their master's degree in this dietetic internship all within five years," Kyzer said. "And then they are ready to sit for the exam, pass it, and go off into the workforce."

Though students had the ability to complete the program quite quickly, it did not hinder their ability to gain experience in the field. Dietetic intern Shelby Roberts liked the wide variety of rotations available.

"They have 22 different rotations, so you get a really good feel for which direction you could take your career," said Roberts. "I like that we have so many rotations, because I know what I'm strong at and what I'm not so strong at."

A challenging task following the degree program was passing the national registered dietitian exam, but they offered exam prep once a week.

"The RD exam is very difficult to pass, but we do exam prep weekly," Roberts said. "It

gives us the tools we need to study."

Anna Polo, another Dietetic Intern, emphasized the wonderful community and friendships created within the program, making the university stand out in the best way.

"You get to see the same people every single day, and they're so personable," said Polo. "The professors get to know everybody so well."

By // Hayden Wylie

"There is a huge need for behavior analysts in the state"



Filling A GREAT NEED

Graduate students prepare for rewarding careers

PRACTICING HER SKILLS,
Shelby Roberts checks Karrington Gordon's blood pressure. They were practicing taking vital signs during an inservice.
Photo By // Holly Kyzer





Ouachita Online
Photo By // Sarah Dean

THE GOLDEN HOUR



Ouachita Online provided students with the ability to receive a degree from Ouachita completely online. Some of these undergraduate degrees were Christian studies, interdisciplinary studies, and organizational leadership.

Photo by // Sarah Dean



WHILE WINCING, Shelby Roberts receives a Dexcom glucose monitor on her arm given by Anna Polo. Students learned how to apply a Dexcom during a blood sugar monitoring inservice. Photo By // Holly Kyzer

WITH FOCUS, Dr. Parnell helps Erica Graddie learn how to insert an NG feeding tube. This was learned during the feeding tube inservice. Photo By // Holly Kyzer

BENT OVER THE GARDEN, Paige Chelette plants produce at the Arkansas Heart Hospital. The garden encouraged healthy living and eating for its patients. Photo By // Holly Kyzer



THE GOLDEN HOUR

A team of finance majors managed the ARY Student Investment Fund, a \$2 million stock

portfolio. Senior finance students Wes Guerra, Connor Bjerke, Jacob Smith, Emilio Garcia, Colton Schrader, Nati Abeje, David Stankovic, Heather Brown, Rebekah Chandler, Madi Draper, Jessica Johnson and Jacob Bowman presented a review of the ARY Fund on Scholars Day.

Photo by // Levi Dade



Wesley Guerra
Photo by // Sarah Dean



FRESHMAN GENEVIEVE Jackson sings "Promise Me This" at Scholars Day. She was accompanied by Susan Monroe. *Photo by // Sarah Dean*



DR. BARBARA PEMBERTON speaks to students in Berry Chapel. She was the director of the Honors Program. *Photo by // Sarah Dean*

AS SHE POINTS TO HER poster board, Brooklyn Baker shares her research over gluten-free flour alternatives with Dr. Tim Hayes. She planned to attend the OBU dietetic internship program after graduation.

Photo by // Levi Dade



Academic excellence was a common achievement for students on campus and was celebrated through the creation of Scholars Day. Its main goal was to allow people to experience all achievements within the Ouachita community. Alpha Tau led the event, which represented the academic achievements of the Ouachita student body. Dr. Barbara Pemberton, director of the Honors Program, emphasized the importance of Scholars Day for not only those within the Honors Program but for all who wanted to participate.

"Oh, we want everyone to participate. That is the fun of it. It gives students an opportunity to showcase the work that they have done. And it makes good preparation for other professional presentations," Pemberton said.

This specific Scholars Day had a great impact on the community, as never-seen-before works were showcased along with a record-breaking attendance rate.

"This year, we had the largest attendance I believe we have ever had. We even have some interesting things to see this year. It was different because we had a few things we'd never had before. For example, the Spanish class wrote

poetry in Spanish, and they had a round table reading. Other people came and sat in and were able to listen to the Spanish poetry as well," Pemberton said.

Along with these interesting presentations, musical performances were also featured. Sophomore biology and music major Andrew

Pierce from Benton had the honor of performing a piano piece with Dr. Mary Chung, assistant professor of music.

"I played on the Scholars Day recital. It was a concerto. My professor, Dr. Chung, and I played it together," Pierce said.

Senior Christian studies major Mason Campbell from Hinton, West Virginia, was able to share his senior thesis that he had been working on since his junior year.

"I would meet with my thesis director, put a lot of hours and a lot of work into my thesis, but never really talked about it with anybody," he said.

Not only was Campbell able to share his thesis with others,

he was also able to go into more depth about his research. "I was able to focus more on questions like 'Why is this important?' 'Why did I choose this for my thesis?' Being able to share that with so many people was just a great experience," Campbell said.

By // Hayden Wylie

"It gives students an opportunity to showcase the work that they have done."

PASSION FOR *Excellence*

Students share their work with faculty, staff and peers



PRESENTING HER THESIS, Izzy Baughn discusses factors that influence female electoral success. Baughn was a double major in political science and communications.

Photo by // Levi Dade

