Excavation & Education

The Old Laurel Cemetery in the Belair-Edison neighborhood of Baltimore City was established in the 1850s as a non-denomination African American burial site; but after years of neglect, the cemetery was razed in the 1960s to make room for a strip mall. Even though more than 400 bodies were relocated to the Laurel Cemetery in Carroll County before demolition, it was believed that grave markers and human remains could still lay buried on the site.

Last summer, UB students from the Archaeological Research Methods course set up an excavation site in a grassy area near the shopping center to search for evidence of the cemetery to answer the question of what might still remain of the cemetery. In addition to basic tools like trowels, buckets, sifters, tape measurers, brushes, and dust pans, high-tech equipment like ground penetrating radar and GPS were used to carry on the research. Students did find some remnants of the cemetery at the location. Assistant Professor Dr. Ronald Castanzo, who led the dig and his students have verified that human burials still exist at the site.

This experiential course is a part of the Environmental Sustainability and Human Ecology Program and was supported through gifts from alumni and friends to the Fund for Excellence.

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Why I’m grateful...

As I quickly approach my 50th birthday, becoming a student at UB has given me an opportunity to fulfill a lifelong dream I had long ago given up.

As a former U.S. Navy spouse, “keeping the home fires burning” and handling my career responsibilities left little time to continue my education. When my circumstances changed allowing me the time to return to school, scholarship assistance was the only way to make those dreams come true. While completing my Associate’s Degree, I kept my eye on the prize—being accepted to UB, where older and returning students are warmly welcomed and an integral part of the community.

I could never adequately express my deep gratitude to all in the UB community who have helped me to get here, and whose kindness and generosity allow me to continue my studies. My hope is that in the future I can help others to accomplish their dreams, as you have helped me to fulfill mine.

MARGUERITE STEIMLY
Government and Public Policy student, anticipated graduation 2019
Merrick School of Business

The Merrick School of Business is excited to announce the renovation and creation of the Student Business Incubator (SBI). The SBI is designed to foster the entrepreneurial spirit of those UB students interested in developing and growing new business enterprises. The incubator will focus on collaboration, peer learning and mentoring and will house a mix of start-ups, early-stage, and established businesses, as well as the elite Entrepreneurship Fellows.

The SBI, which is part of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, was made possible by a generous gift from John F. Ripley, B.S. ’79, as well as gifts made in memory of Mr. Edward Attman. The SBI will be open in fall 2016.

School of Law

On April 15, the Center for Law of Intellectual Property and Technology (CLiPT) held its annual conference at the John and Frances Angelos Law Center.

Professors from UB and other universities, judges, lawyers, government officials, and copyright owners from corporations such as Google and Disney, met to examine both the challenges facing different parts of the copyright system and possible solutions.

The CLiPT was established in 2015 with seed money provided through Fund for Excellence grants to promote research, education and legal practice in three intertwined areas: intellectual property law, legal issues stemming from the use of cutting-edge technologies and the use of technology to understand the law.

Youth in Baltimore

A University of Baltimore classroom not in Baltimore? The Universities at Shady Grove (USG) is an academic alliance of nine University System of Maryland institutes: Bowie State, Salisbury, Towson, University of Maryland Baltimore County, University of Maryland College Park, University of Maryland Baltimore, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, University of Maryland University College, and, of course, UB.

The Rockville location gives working professionals from around the DC metro area access to an amazing UB learning experience. Two undergraduate and six graduate degrees are offered in a wide variety of subjects such as Health Systems Management, Simulation and Digital Entertainment, Public Administration, Publications Design, and Forensic Science.

Campus Communications

Yale Gordon College of Arts and Sciences

Award-winning writer Ann Patchett gave a one hour talk to UB students, faculty, staff and community members on April 20 as part of the M.J.A. Reading Series. The event, hosted by UB’s Klein Family School of Communications Design and supported entirely by a generous gift from Michael F. Klein, B.A. ’76, gave attendees the opportunity to hear how and why Patchett became a writer, along with the inspirations for her various works and writing processes. An audience Q&A, book signing and reception followed. This up-close and personal opportunity with Patchett gave our students valuable insight as they pursue creative writing and publishing arts at UB. Thank you, Mr. Klein for making this wonderful event possible.

College of Public Affairs

The brainchild of College of Public Affairs Dean Roger Hartley, the Student Professional Development Fund was established to expand the number of off-campus learning opportunities available to CPA students. Supported by various college funds and generous donations from the CPA Advisory Council, students who are endorsed by a faculty member are eligible to apply for grants of up to $500 per year. Since its launch in August 2015, more than 20 students have participated in conferences and events such as the Amnesty International’s Annual General Meeting in Miami, Amnesty International’s Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference in Baltimore, the Academy of Criminal Justice Science’s Annual Meeting in Denver, and the Social Enterprise Conference at Harvard University.

Best wishes to our new alumni!