

MICUA *Matters*

The newsletter of the Maryland Independent College and University Association



MICUA Hosts Successful Independent Higher Education Day

Governor Wes Moore proclaimed February 22, 2023 "Independent Higher Education Day in the State of Maryland" in recognition of the successful partnership between the State of Maryland and its independent colleges and universities.

In celebration of Independent Higher Education Day, 75 MICUA students and campus leaders participated in 102 virtual and in-person meetings and an in-person luncheon at the Calvert House in Annapolis, Maryland. The event included welcoming remarks from Dr. Marylou Yam, President of Notre Dame of Maryland University and Chair of the MICUA Board of Trustees.

MICUA president Matt Power provided a presentation on Maryland's legislature, and Dr. Mileah Kromer, Associate Professor and Director of the Sara T. Hughes Center for Politics at Goucher College, shared information about the 2022 elections with the students.

After the presentations, virtual and in-person meetings with elected officials took place to thank them for their strong support of the MICUA students and schools. During the luncheon, the MICUA Board of Trustees honored Senator Craig Zucker, Chair of the Capital Budget Subcommittee of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, with the prestigious 2023 MICUA Presidents' Award.



Historic State Leadership Wins Coupled with Historical Support for Independent Higher Education

The 2023 Legislative Session began with historic leadership wins such as the election of the first Black Governor, Wes Moore, the first Indian-American Lt. Governor, Aruna Miller, the first female Comptroller, Brooke Lierman, and the first Black Attorney General, Anthony Brown. Simultaneously, it was a full return to an in-person convening after three years since the Covid pandemic. MICUA followed over 200 bills and held meetings with Presidents, House and Senate members, and the Executive Branch legislative staff.

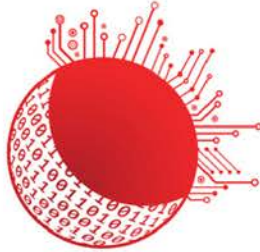
MICUA secured full funding of the Sellinger Program at \$137 million and exceeded funding for capital projects requests by achieving \$14.25 million as follows: \$1.75 million for Capitol Technology University; \$5 million for Johns Hopkins University; \$5.25 million Loyola University Maryland, and \$2.25 million for Washington College. Thankfully, the General Assembly recognized the burden created by inflation with increased construction and renovation costs for capital requests.

A summary of the high-priority bills that passed and could impact MICUA institutions include:

- **Prohibition on Transcript Withholding** [HB 384](#) | [SB 248](#) – prohibits institutions of higher education from withholding a transcript or taking other punitive measures when a student owes a debt to the institution.
- **SERVE Act** [HB 546](#) | [SB 551](#) – reestablishes the Maryland Corps Program and appropriates funds within the Department of Service and Civic Innovation (DSCI) to provide service placements to recent high school graduates and other individuals. Provides program participants with completion awards that can be applied towards postsecondary education.
- **Cannabis Reform** [HB 556](#) | [SB 516](#) – reforms the use of cannabis in the State and permits registered academic researchers of cannabis employed at institutions of higher education to purchase medical cannabis for research purposes.
- **Access to Mental Health Advisory Committee** [HB 573](#) | [SB 263](#) – establishes the Access to Mental Health Advisory Committee within the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC). The committee must provide a single report of its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2023.
- **Scholarship for Surviving Spouses of Service Members** [HB 629](#) | [SB 886](#) – expands the eligibility of the Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program to include surviving spouses of a member of the armed forces who died as a result of military service, suffered a permanent disability, or was declared a prisoner of war or missing in action.
- **Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Program Report Extensions** [HB 809](#) | [SB 334](#) – extends the due date for the disparity study to September 30, 2024, and delays the deadline to July 1, 2025, for the Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) to establish policies and guidelines for the development of MBE contract goals for capital projects that receive State funding of greater than \$3 million.
- **Appointment of MHEC Secretary and Student Financial Aid** [HB 923](#) – alters the selection process for the Secretary of MHEC and alters the eligibility requirements for the Guaranteed Access (GA) Grant embodied in the Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Awards (EEA) program, and requires institutions of higher education to notify awardees rather than MHEC. Directs MHEC to develop the regulations in consultation with the Segmental Advisory Committee and the Financial Assistance Advisory Committee.
- **Maryland Educator Shortage Reduction Act of 2023** [HB 1219](#) – establishes the Teacher Development and Retention Program as a pilot program to encourage college students to pursue teaching careers, alters the qualifications of the Teaching Fellows for the Maryland scholarship program and modifies the goals for recruitment and retention of teachers in preparatory programs.
- **Fair Wage Act** [SB 555](#) – increases the State's minimum wage for all employers to \$15/hour beginning January 1, 2024, without being tied to the consumer price index.

To view the full 2023 MICUA bill list, [click here](#).

MICUA looks forward to a collaborative effort with public institutions of higher education and historically black colleges and universities to propose strategies to support quality and effective academic programming for all students.



TechQuinox

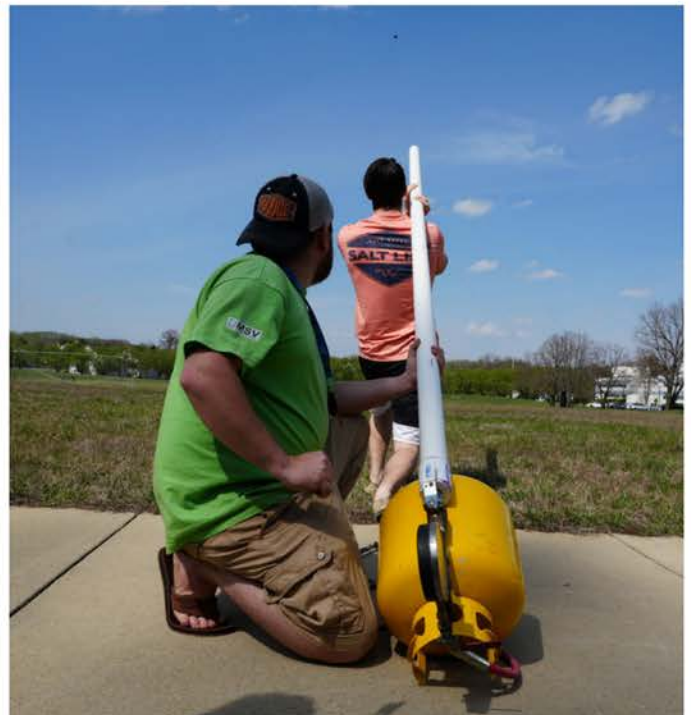
Capitol Technology University is thrilled to announce its first **TechQuinox** fall festival scheduled for Saturday, September 23, 2023 on the official day of the autumnal equinox. This event will celebrate all things STEM and gather the Capitol community alumni and donors in exploring the world of technology and everything it has to offer.

There will be a HUGE lineup of STEM-focused, autumn-themed activities planned, along with food and merchandise vendors, as well as prizes, scholarships, and sponsorship opportunities that will make this an event to remember!

Activities will include: "The Great Pumpkin" Laser Carving Contest & Auction, Pneumatic Apple Cannon Contest, RFID Treasure Hunt, Chargers Fire Raffle, Drone Drop, and more! Food truck vendors will be on site with a delectable assortment of snacks, drinks, and meals for purchase, in addition to local vendors selling crafts and official TechQuinox merchandise.

Student volunteers are currently leading teams for each of the planned activities under the guidance of faculty and alumni mentors and are headlong into the development and implementation process for the day's events. Sponsorship opportunities for the event are available, as well as other ways to get involved. For more information on becoming a sponsor, vendor, or volunteer, email captechalumni@captechu.edu.

Follow CapTechU on [Facebook](#) for updates on this exciting event and help us spread the word! Ticket sales will open soon. Mark your calendars to be part of the first TechQuinox at Capitol Tech!



Goucher College Launches New Campus Master Plan

Goucher College has launched its new Campus Master Plan (CMP), which envisions the future of the 287-acre campus over the next 15 years and proposes a more student-centered, accessible, and sustainable vision for Goucher. Leading up to Goucher's 150th anniversary in 2035, this new plan considers the evolving needs of students, faculty, staff, and the surrounding community. The plan is the first comprehensive assessment of Goucher's campus in almost 30 years.

Goucher engaged Boston-based campus planning and design firm Sasaki to help create the new campus plan. Sasaki was retained to lead Goucher's second campus master plan in 1957 and refined many of the natural environmental elements that comprise Goucher's bucolic campus landscape. Over a year, Sasaki worked with Goucher students, faculty, staff, alumnae/i, and the Board of Trustees to create a plan that supports Goucher's growth as a leading liberal arts college.



“This is an important moment in the College’s legacy of innovative campus planning and furthers our commitment to sustainability and accessibility on our campus,” said Kent Devereaux, Goucher College president. “Planning is essential for future success as we prepare to adapt to a complex world that includes technologies and practices not yet created. Three decades ago, the internet was not widely available when the last plan was put forth. We must create a foundation and envision a future for our students to thrive.”

Creating a new CMP is integrated into Goucher's strategic plan, *Cultivating Global Changemakers*, and prioritizes sustainability and accessibility throughout. The plan's vision reinforces existing campus districts, bolsters the campus life corridor, creates a campus heart focused on engagement, integrates sports and recreation into campus structure, and creates a healthy, sustainable, and resilient campus.

Hood College Launches 'Hood Advantage Program' for Students in Maryland

Hood College has launched the *Hood Advantage Program*, a need-based financial aid award for high-achieving Maryland-based students that fully covers the cost of tuition.

Hood Advantage presents a significant investment in making higher education more accessible to students in Maryland. After federal grants and scholarships, *Hood Advantage* will cover remaining tuition for qualifying students each year for up to four years.

“By ensuring access to a Hood education for Maryland’s most deserving students, we know this program will change lives,” said President Andrea Chapdelaine, Ph.D.

To qualify, students must: be a full-time resident of the State of Maryland, live in a household with an adjusted gross income of \$50,000 or less, display consistent high achievement throughout their high school career and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually.

Starting fall 2023, all eligible students who both apply to Hood and submit a FAFSA for the 2023-24 academic year will automatically be considered for the *Hood Advantage Program*.

“Many people may think a small, private institution such as Hood can be expensive,” said Vice President for Enrollment Management Bill Brown. “But our goal is to make a Hood College education even more accessible to all students of promise. By dedicating funds to covering tuition costs, this program is doing just that.”



Johns Hopkins Symposium, Exhibit Explore Baltimore's Black Food Scene



The symposium coincided with an exhibit, “Black Foodways: A Culinary Diaspora,” featuring historic and contemporary cookbooks from the W. Paul and Rosalyn L. Coates Global African Cookbook Collection, Tipton-Martin’s private collection, and Johns Hopkins’ special collections library. The exhibit was on display until April 17 on the main level of Johns Hopkins Eisenhower Library.

“When looking at diasporic communities, it’s important to maintain cultural connections through cooking and using cookbooks so that people can continue to engage with their native culture’s communities regardless of where they are,” said Tonika Berkley, an Africana archivist at Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries.

On February 9 and 10, Johns Hopkins University’s Center for Africana Studies held “A Taste of Black Freedom: Black Foodways in Baltimore and Beyond,” a symposium that explored the history and politics of Black food in Baltimore.

The event was held at Scott-Bates Commons on the University’s Homewood campus. It featured sessions on the culture of Black cafes in Baltimore, food and land sovereignty, the history and policy of Black foodways, and the importance of Black cookbooks.

“What Black people are producing here in Baltimore around Black foodways deserves attention, whether it’s restaurants and recipes, or political action to address food inequality in the city,” said Minkah Makalani, Director of the Center for Africana Studies. “I think this symposium provided a unique opportunity to capture what’s going on in the city while also providing general recognition of the critical importance of foodways for Black people and Black life historically in the United States.”





Loyola partners With York Road Partnership to Launch Façade Improvement Project

Loyola University Maryland's York Road Initiative and partners celebrated one of the first *York Road Façade Improvement Project* honorees as Family Food Market owner Khawar Jamil (pictured second from right) received an award of \$7,500 to enhance his storefront.

Baltimore City Councilman Mark Conway (pictured third from right) presented the award in front of Jamil's store in September 2022, and the façade was completed in November 2022.

The *York Road Façade Improvement Project* supports commercial-fronting businesses in making exterior storefront improvements.

The awards are part of the York Road Partnership's efforts and made possible through funding from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

The façade of Jamil's Family Food Market, located on the 5400 block of York Road in Baltimore, has been transformed with a mural designed in partnership with artist Iandry Randriamandroso and the Neighborhood Design Center.

"I tell everyone that the project will help their business because a new façade will encourage more people to come into their store," Jamil says.

The Façade Project launched in spring 2020 with an award to senior services housing community Epiphany House for repainting and adding lighting. "This program helped us continue to preserve affordable housing units as well as make the York Road corridor safe for those living in our community," says Nichole Doye Battle, chief executive officer of Govans Ecumenical Development Corporation (GEDCO), the lead applicant to secure the DHCD funding.

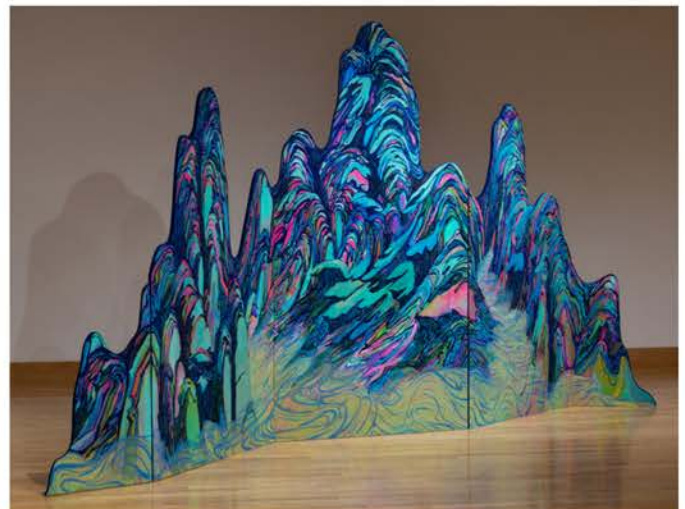
The façade improvement work is part of a larger effort to establish a Business Improvement District on the York Corridor.

"It's important to Loyola as an anchor institution to support the community in making a stronger commercial district," says Gia Grier McGinnis, Dr.PH., executive director for Loyola's Center for Community, Service, and Justice. "A thriving commercial corridor benefits the broader community by bringing people together."



Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and the Curatorial Practice MFA (CP) Practicum class announced *Just a Drop*, an exhibition on view in MICA's Meyerhoff Gallery from February 10th to March 3rd, 2023. Through a wide range of objects and materials — including sculptures, illustrations, protest banners, textiles, glass art, videos and a large-scale newly-commissioned mural — the 13 artists highlighted in this show revealed how water sustains life and shapes human destinies. *Just a Drop* opened on Friday, February 10th with a public reception featuring a live storytelling performance by Griot Grandmother Edna.

Inspired by the September 2022 boil water advisory in West Baltimore, the five MICA students organizing *Just a Drop* dove deeply into the history of our most precious resource. For a period of five days, residents of Baltimore were urged to boil tap water prior to consumption due to the detection of E. coli bacteria in water samples. For this exhibition, the students brought together a diverse group of artists, activists and storytellers to describe people's relationships to water via culture, ritual and conservation. With personal, collective and mythical imagery and stories, the featured artists invited viewers to reconsider the element that makes up 60% of their bodies and covers more than 70% of the planet's surface.



McDaniel College and Carroll Community College have signed a new dual admissions agreement that will offer students who transfer to McDaniel directly from Carroll a clear pathway to a bachelor's degree after completing an associate degree at Carroll.

The agreement, which goes into effect for students planning to enter McDaniel for the Fall 2023 semester, establishes a collaboration between McDaniel and Carroll that encourages Carroll students to graduate with an associate degree prior to transfer to receive guaranteed admission to McDaniel.

Students will have access to an advisor or academic dean at McDaniel for academic advising to ensure alignment with their proposed transfer program. The McDaniel advisor will collaborate with the Carroll advisor to coordinate the degree and the McDaniel transfer requirements.

President Jasken said, "McDaniel and Carroll have established a number of articulation agreements over the years, but this dual admissions agreement makes it easier for any student, regardless of major, to transfer from Carroll and complete their bachelor's degree at McDaniel."



"In addition to receiving guaranteed admission to McDaniel, I am also excited to announce the creation of a dedicated scholarship fund to be used specifically for Carroll students who are transferring to McDaniel through this dual admission agreement," said President Jasken.

Amber Chenoweth of Pikesville, 31, who is studying social work at McDaniel after graduating last spring from Carroll, told the *Carroll County Times*, "I feel like this new agreement that they have is a great idea because there are so many programs that McDaniel requires, certain genres of classes that Carroll can't fulfill."

Hope and promise drive Thunlwyn Garcia's (pictured right) quest for innovation as he nears the completion of his studies as an entrepreneurship major at Mount St. Mary's University (MSMU). The MSMU senior's aspiration to be an innovator has resulted in a journey to build his first venture, Ascent Sporting Innovations.

Garcia excels on the soccer pitch as a forward on MSMU's NCAA Division I soccer program. He and his teammate Anthony Milazzo (pictured left), a midfielder and junior biochemistry major, noticed flaws in their performance on the pitch during adverse weather conditions.

Garcia and Milazzo's creativity and innovation led to the filing of a patent for footwear technology. "When I looked for solutions on the market, I could not distinguish a perfect solution that was going to remove the pain that I was experiencing," Garcia said. "I began a journey to develop and bring to life a product that I felt could do the job."

The patent describes structurally sound inserts that can provide thermoregulation to alleviate pain. Their continued investigation revealed that this solution is much more broadly applicable than they first thought.

The inventors leveraged their mentors and contacts at MSMU, including faculty, students and alumni, to build a team that could bring this invention to the market. Through the foundational courses of an entrepreneurship major, Garcia learned the importance of having a team and worked to recruit the principal members of Ascent Sporting Innovations.

"I am so impressed by our students' innovations," Mount St. Mary's President Timothy E. Trainor said in a statement. "This is the magic of the Mount: Faculty working with students to find the intersection of their passions and talents and carving their path to living a life of significance in service to God and others."



Associate Professor Garth Patterson, Ph.D., former chair of the MSMU Science Department who is now the director of the Palmieri Center for Entrepreneurship, has become a valued mentor to the Ascent Sporting Innovations team as he helped with technical development of the product and provided guidance on filing for intellectual property protections.

"To take an idea, to mature that idea into something that clearly no one else had considered in the way they had considered it, to go through the effort of executing on that idea is exactly what we might hope we can get out of all of our students," Patterson said.

Several of the company's board members are Mount alumni, including a financial advisor and an attorney. In addition, with assistance from faculty, Garcia and Milazzo brought on four business students to conduct financial and market research.

"The potential that this product might be the genesis of something great has been my constant inspiration for this endeavor," Garcia said. "The passion for delivering hope and promise has only grown with this amazing team. I am proud to be a part of realizing our company's potential."

Ascent Sporting Innovations looks to continue to grow as the start-up venture progresses toward granting of its patent and getting solutions to market.



NOTRE DAME
OF MARYLAND
UNIVERSITY

NDMU's School of Education Secures \$1.3M in Grants to Address Teacher Shortage



Notre Dame of Maryland University's School of Education continues to play a central role in helping address teacher shortages across the state by recently securing more than \$1.3 million from three state grants.

One \$249,553 grant from the Maryland State Department of Education funds NDMU's Elevates. The program provides an innovative pathway for paraprofessionals to earn a bachelor's degree and special education certification through a degree apprenticeship – the first of its kind in Maryland.

NDMU's *Elevates* program will be implemented through partnerships with the John Ruhrah Elementary/Middle School in Baltimore and the Harbour School in Annapolis.

After completing all requirements for the 60-credit pilot initiative, participants will be required to teach in their sponsoring school system for a minimum of two years.

Participants will earn 15 credits through 144 hours of traditional coursework. The remaining 45 credits will be obtained via 2,000 hours of training through an apprenticeship, which includes a year-long internship with a mentor teacher and completion of competency-based activities and experiences.

In addition to NDMU's *Elevates* program, Notre Dame received a grant of more than \$932,000 from the Maryland State Department of Education, which will deliver professional development and a path to certification for early childhood educators in the State.

The School of Education is also providing opportunities for diverse high school students in Baltimore County to enroll in college and join the teaching profession through its new *Educator Preparation Pathway to Increase College Completion* initiative, made possible by a \$140,000 grant from the Maryland Higher Education Commission.



ST JOHN'S College

St. John's College Celebrates the Reopening of the Mitchell Art Museum

On Friday, February 17, St. John's College celebrated the reopening of the Elizabeth Myers Mitchell Art Museum. The opening ceremony featured U.S. Congressman John Sarbanes, State Senator Sarah Elfreth, Anne Arundel County Executive Stuart Pittman, Annapolis Mayor Gavin Buckley, St. John's College President Nora Demleitner, Mitchell Art Museum Director Peter Nesbett, St. John's College students, and other members of the College community.

The first exhibition, titled "The Open Museum" asks "what is it to be a museum?" Visitors were invited into an otherwise empty gallery and asked to make their mark directly on the clean, white walls. Over the course of five weeks, a cacophony of doodles, diagrams, drawings, and texts filled the space, resulting in an extended portrait of the Mitchell Art Museum's community.

The museum closed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and for the past three years has offered online programming while the surrounding space underwent renovations.

The newly renamed Mitchell Art Museum, previously known as the Mitchell Gallery, is the only art museum in Anne Arundel County accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, and one of only five to be accredited in the State of Maryland.

Admission to the museum is free and open to the public. Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays until 8 p.m.

For more information on exhibits and programming, visit sjc.edu/mitchell or follow [@sjcmitchell](https://www.facebook.com/sjcmitchell) on Facebook and Instagram.



Stevenson University Students Help Tell the Stories of Maryland's African American Military Heroes & Leaders

Shortly after Wes Moore's historic inauguration as the first African American Governor of Maryland, students and faculty from Stevenson University were busy making final preparations to bring *In Freedom's Name*—a traveling history exhibit researched, curated, and conceptually designed by Stevenson's History Program—to the State House and other government buildings in Annapolis.

Using research conducted by Stevenson students, the exhibit tells the stories of 65 African American men and women and their contributions to the military history of Maryland and the United States. The largest exhibit of its kind in the nation, *In Freedom's Name* was created in association with the Baltimore National Heritage Area, Maryland State Archives, Maryland Military Historical Society, and the Maryland Military Department.

"The project commemorates the Maryland African Americans whose work and heroism aided the expansion of freedom in the world," said Glenn T. Johnston, Ph. D., Stevenson University Archivist, Program Coordinator, History and Humanities, and Assistant Professor, History.

While in Annapolis, the exhibit will be updated and expanded. Stevenson History Program students are finalizing a new section, expected to be completed in early spring, which will feature profiles of seven additional African American service members, including Governor Wes Moore himself.

"This exhibit is important because it shares the stories of people that have historically had their voices silenced and allows new perspectives to be discovered," said Erin Saunders, one of the Stevenson students working on the exhibit's expansion.



WAU Mock Trial Team Competes at Regional Championship Tournament in Princeton

Recently the Washington Adventist University (WAU) Mock Trial team competed in its first in-person event since the start of the COVID pandemic when they participated in a regional championship tournament in Princeton, NJ. Ten students traveled to the campus of Princeton University for the event. Mock Trial tournaments at the collegiate level are sponsored by the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA).

WAU was competing in a region that included universities such as Princeton University, Johns Hopkins University, M.I.T., the U.S. Naval Academy, the University of Maryland, Iona College, Vassar College, Boston University, and Fordham University. Over the course of 3 days, the team participated in four 3-hour trials as both the plaintiff and defense in the case of *Felder v. Koller Campbell Air, LLC*, a wrongful death suit brought by a woman who lost her husband in a private plane accident. WAU went up against Iona College, Saint Rose College, a hybrid team led by students from the University of Maryland and Boston College, and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Students who participate in Mock Trial at WAU take a course each Fall called 'The American Judicial System', where they learn the ins-and-outs of the American legal system and begin preparing the AMTA case for the Spring tournaments. This year the course was taught by two practicing attorneys, Nicholas Miller and Stephen Brennwald. The attorneys also act as coaches for the Mock Trial tournaments and accompany students to the regional events.

Mock Trial is an academic simulation program offered at WAU through the Pre-Law program, which is administered through the WAU Honors College. WAU is the only Adventist university to offer Mock Trial through the American Mock Trial Association. WAU also has a unique degree partnership with the University of Baltimore School of Law that allows WAU students to begin law school before finishing their four-year degree. For more information about this program or about pre-law studies in general, please contact Dr. Jonathan Scriven, Director of the WAU Center for Law and Public Policy, at jscriven@wau.edu.



Washington College Researchers Study Impact of National Literacy Tour

Authors and teachers report children being excited about reading and writing after receiving books during visits from authors, but there is little published research to support the claim. This academic year, a Washington College research team has been collecting data from a nationwide literacy tour for a unique study on the impact that access to books has on childhood literacy.

Busload of Books is a year-long project by author/illustrator duo Matthew Swanson and Robbi Behr. They are traveling with their family in a renovated school bus to visit a Title I school serving economically disenfranchised communities in each state, plus the District of Columbia, giving away about 25,000 hardcover books along the journey.

With colleagues in the Washington College departments of education and sociology, research leader and Assistant Professor of Education Sara Clarke-De Reza designed a study to measure the impact of author visits on students and their schools.

Three Washington College students, Riley McHugh '24, Avery Castellani '24, and Brooke Thomas '26, are gaining valuable research experience conducting multiple surveys of students, teachers, and administrators at participating schools to measure both the short- and long-term impact.

"It's an amazing opportunity to get to work so closely with my professors outside of a classroom setting," Castellani said. "The benefits of building a stronger rapport with them are incredible, and I feel honored to be a part of both their classes and their research."

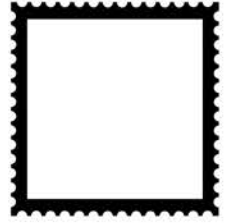
Clarke-De Reza was excited about the research because of the opportunities she saw to engage and benefit everyone involved, from the students to authors and educators, and especially the children they serve. "There are so many stories that support these types of visits, ... but there is no robust large-scale research. For me, it was a dream opportunity."

[Read more about the Busload of Books Tour.](#)



MICUA Matters
140 South Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



MICUA Matters is published by the Maryland Independent College and University Association.

MICUA Professional Staff

Matthew Power

President

Angela Sherman

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Irnande Altema

Associate Vice President of
Government and Business Affairs

Ashley Swift

Manager of Business Operations

Stephanie Thomas

Director of Communications

Pam Nussbaumer

Executive Assistant

Highlights from IHED



To be added to our newsletter mailing list, or for questions or comments, please contact MICUA's Director of Communications Stephanie Thomas at 410-269-0306 or sthomas@micua.org.