ACM@UCO Students in England for First Study Exchange

Nine students from the Academy of Contemporary Music at the University of Central Oklahoma (ACM@UCO) recently arrived in Guildford, England to study this spring semester at the original Academy of Contemporary Music. This is the first group of ACM@UCO students to participate in the newly formed exchange program with the original ACM, which was signed by UCO President Don Betz, Ph.D., and Julia Leggett, CEO of the ACM in Guildford, this past May. While in Guildford, the students will take courses from experts in the British contemporary music industry in music psychology, intellectual property, future marketing and on the topic of the music record industry.

ROTC Cadet Receives National Scholarship

Central ROTC cadet, battalion commander and senior nursing student Casey Strong is one of five recipients of the U.S. Army’s F. Edward Hebert Health Services Professional Scholarship for students pursuing careers as nurse practitioners. Strong will commission as a second lieutenant in May 2014 and immediately enroll in a nurse practitioner program specializing in the mental health field. The scholarship includes all tuition, as well as books, equipment, most fees and a monthly stipend.

Former US Ambassador, Iran Hostage Visits UCO

Central hosted a presentation and question-and-answer session with former U.S. ambassador John W. Limbert, Ph.D., who was one of 52 American hostages held for 444 days beginning in November 1979 in Tehran, Iran, during the country’s Islamic Revolution. Limbert’s “Iran and America: Endless Enemies?” presentation examined both the history and future of U.S.-Iran relations. “As world events and conversations continue to center on the Middle East, it is imperative that we engage with the academic and diplomatic communities that have firsthand knowledge of the complex issues and realities of the region,” said Jarrett Jobe, Ph.D., executive director of UCO’s Leadership Central, on Limbert’s visit.

Design Chair Moderates Middle East Symposium

Ruki Ravikumar, M.F.A., chair of the Department of Design at Central, advanced the global position of design by facilitating and moderating the Middle East Design Educators Association’s first symposium in Doha, Qatar, in November. The association serves as an inspirational and informational platform that enables educators and practitioners in the Middle East to internationally share ideas, methods, challenges and opportunities, ensuring they have a voice and presence in the global conversation on design education.

Paralympic Medalist USA Sitting Volleyball Hosts Mongolian Team

The Olympic spirit is alive on the UCO campus as the U.S. Women’s sitting volleyball program welcomed the new Mongolian women’s team for a series of training clinics. The U.S. women’s team is currently gearing up for the 2014 WOVD World Championships this July in Poland. Central is an official U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Training Site and is the host training site for Men’s and Women’s Sitting Volleyball. Athletes can train for Olympic volleyball and any Paralympic sport at the university. Currently, Central hosts resident athletes in the Paralympic sports of sitting volleyball, archery, track and field and powerlifting and the Olympic sport of taekwondo.