This is an exciting time to be associated with LMU-DCOM. With the completion of the new Math and Science building, not only do we have a state-of-the-art anatomy facility, but also a 4,700 square foot research suite. A number of faculty who have come here to be a part of LMU-DCOM originally had to put their research careers on hold because of a lack of adequate research space. This is no longer the case. The basic molecular science faculty are beginning to turn their attention to research questions and beginning to do experiments to find answers to some very interesting biomedical problems. Let me give you a brief outline of the types of research our faculty are either currently doing experiments on or are in the planning stages of their project development.

**Dr. Chip Colle**, professor of microbiology and assistant dean of academic affairs/basic medical sciences, is developing Bonnethead shark cell lines in order to understand the basic components of the shark immune system.

**Dr. Adam Gromley**, assistant professor of molecular/cellular biology, is studying the molecular mechanisms by which the centrosome regulates cell division, and how disruption of these processes contributes to carcinogenesis and stem cell dysfunction.

**Dr. Zeynep Gromley**, assistant professor of biochemistry, is interested in the biochemical and kinetic mechanisms by which ubiquitin and ubiquitin-like proteins are conjugated to their target proteins; and also, the consequences of the ubiquitination of target proteins in the regulation of cellular mechanisms, specifically in the context of cell cycle control.

**Dr. Melissa Henderson**, assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, studies the V-ATPase complex responsible for acidification of vesicles in the cell, using the nematode, Caenorhabditis elegans.
Research Takes Root at LMU-D.COM continued

**Dr. Fruzsina Johnson**, assistant professor of physiology, is looking into the mechanism and potential treatment options of transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI) after trauma.

**Dr. Robert Johnson**, chair of physiology and pharmacology and associate professor of physiology, is tailoring designer protoporphyrins for solubility and photosensitivity in clinical applications.

**Dr. Stan Kunigelis**, professor of physiology and director of the Math and Sciences Imaging Center, is interested in ultra-structural analysis of zooplankton morphology, development and diversity as indices of estuarine health.

While on the more clinical side:

**Dr. Paul Wood**, professor of pharmacology, is working on a number of projects involved in identifying plasma, urine and/or salivary biomarkers of disease using state-of-the-art mass spectral analysis.

Two LMU-D.COM faculty members, **Dr. Steve Miller**, associate professor of OMM/family medicine and chair of family medicine, and Wood, are undertaking a study of plasma and saliva from patients with low back pain (LBP) to define biomarkers of the transition from acute LBP to chronic LBP and the effects of osteopathic manipulation therapy (OMT) on these biomarkers in chronic LBP patients.
Dr. Natalie Shirley, assistant professor of anatomy, is presently the co-principle investigator on a grant for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to design a computer program that will reconstruct whole skeletal elements from fragmentary remains in order to facilitate the determination of age, sex, ethnicity and height as a first step in the positive identification process of human remains. The program will also be able to account for a minimum number of individuals in mass disasters and mass grave scenarios. She is also collaborating with researchers in Columbia focusing on developing population-specific parameters for developing a biological profile from skeletal remains which will facilitate identifications in forensic casework and in the ongoing effort to identify victims of human rights abuses in Colombia. Lastly, in collaboration with Wood, they have applied research and development grant from NIJ to investigate biochemical markers of decomposition and their effectiveness in determining the postmortem interval.

The Lincoln Memorial University Debusk College of Medicine (LMU-DCOM) is located on the LMU Campus in Harrogate, TN. LMU-DCOM is an integral part of LMU’s values-based learning community. The school was opened for the inaugural class August 7, 2007 and graduated the first class on May 14, 2011. LMU was chartered in 1897 as a living legacy to the 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. The school follows that legacy with the mission to serve the underserved of rural Appalachia through educational opportunities.
From left: Ms. Sittle Aisha B. Macabago together with Prof. Stephenson, Dr. Rollins, Dr. Rojas and Buaya (5th from left) during field collection in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Below Drs. Rollins and Stephenson can be seen conducting previous field research.

For the third year, Dr. Adam Rollins, Assistant Professor of Biology, has led a seminar-workshop at the Mushroom Research Center (MRC) in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Rollins, along with Dr. Steven L. Stephenson, a world-renowned expert in myxomycetes from the University of Arkansas and Dr. Carlos Rojas of the University of Costa Rica, worked with graduate students on the collection, identification, and ecology of myxomycetes (slime molds) and macrofungi. This training also includes lectures and laboratory activities held at the MRC. Pictured above are the students and professors during a field collection in Chiang Mai.
News from the School of Arts and Humanities

Dr. Joe Carucci Presents at Conference

Dr. Joe Carucci, Assistant Professor of Music and Music Program Director, presented a workshop entitled “Teaching Improvisation” at the Tennessee Music Education Association Professional Development Conference on April 12, 2013 in Chattanooga. Improvisation has many functions in music education. For the educator, it can function as both a pedagogical tool and an assessment tool for musical knowledge. For students, it allows an opportunity to explore harmonic, melodic, and rhythmic concepts under very specific guidelines, while also serving as a creative outlet. “Teaching Improvisation” presented music educators with an understanding of the improvisational processes and methods to incorporate improvisation in various classroom and ensemble settings. College and public school music educators from throughout Tennessee attended the conference.

Research Fellow Publishes Article

Natalie Sweet, adjunct instructor of history and research fellow for the Abraham Lincoln Institute for Leadership and Public Policy, recently had an article accepted for publication in the Summer 2013 edition of The Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association. The article is "A Representative 'of our people': The Agency of William Slade, Leader in the African-American Community and Usher to Abraham Lincoln." In it, Sweet details how Slade was not just the man who assisted Lincoln about the White House, but how he was a respected member of the African-American community who also led the push for voting rights for African-Americans in the District of Columbia. The article was a result of research supported through a grant from the White House Historical Society and from the Abraham Lincoln Institute for Leadership and Public Policy at LMU.
In 1822 former slave William Trail successfully defended his status as a free man in Eastern Indiana. His remarkable story is detailed in “The Trials of William Trail: An African American Pursues Freedom on the Indiana Frontier” published in the Winter 2013 edition of the Indiana Historical Society Journal Traces. Written in a collaborative effort by Dr. Charles Hubbard, professor of history and Lincoln historian, and Georgia Cravey, researcher and independent scholar, the article tells of William Trail’s remarkable journey from slave to homesteader and father of seven sons on the Indiana frontier. Three of Trail’s sons went on to serve in the Union army during the Civil War and one, Benjamin, was a Sergeant Major in the United States Colored Troops. Benjamin died in the Battle of the Crater and more details of his life can be found in an upcoming book-length manuscript covering the details and contributions of William Trail and his son Benjamin to the African-American experience in America by Dr. Hubbard.

Dr. Debra Salata

Dr. Debra Salata, Assistant Professor of History, recently presented a paper May 9, 2013, at the 48th International Congress for Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI. The title of the paper was "Please, Sir, Can You Spare Some Francs? Merchant Credit and Social Relationships in Late Medieval Montpelier."

Dr. Ted Booth


Dr. Booth’s “A Switch of Language: Elizabeth I’s use of the Vernacular As a key to her early Protestantism,” Journal of Anglican Studies, volume 11, issue 01, (May 2013), pp. 100-113.

Information provided by Drs. Hubbard, Salata, and Booth
On May 21st Thomas Mackie, Director of the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum (ALLM) chaired a panel presentation entitled “Selling History to the Appalachian Public” at the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Society of Appalachian Historians. Mackie introduced the theme of the presentation and the three scholars who presented papers on the different efforts in developing public history in Appalachia. Mackie also monitored the question and answer session. Mackie was invited to chair the presentation by Dr. Brian McKnight of the University of Virginia at Wise.

The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum is located just south of Middlesboro, Kentucky, on U.S. Hwy. 25E in Harrogate, Tennessee, approximately 55 miles northeast of Knoxville. The museum is open on the major summer holidays. Otherwise the museum is closed for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day as well as on other University holidays.

Information provided by Thomas Mackie
Dr. Michael Burger’s, assistant professor graduate education, served as a reviewer for papers that were submitted to the 2013 National International Society for Technical Education (ISTE) conference. Dr. Burger was additionally selected as a reviewer for papers that will be submitted to the 2014 National American Educational Research Association (AERA) conference. Dr. Burger will also deliver a presentation at the Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administrators (CCOSA) and Oklahoma State School Boards Association (OSSBA) August conference in Oklahoma City.

Dr. Michael Burger and Dr. Lynn Stevenson-Burger met with a member of the leadership team of the UCEA Center for the Advanced Study of Technology Leadership in Education (CASTLE) (http://schooltechleadership.org/) to discuss research foci and ways in which the two programs might collaborate. Located at the University of Kentucky, the group’s stated purpose is:

“CASTLE is the nation’s only center dedicated to the technology needs of school administrators. In addition to our highly-acclaimed School Technology Leadership graduate program, we also help other university educational leadership programs prepare technology-savvy school leaders and provide numerous resources for K-12 administrators and the faculty that prepare them.”
“Courage is the commitment to begin without any guarantee of success.” – Goethe

Goethe must have been a grant writer. Truer words were never spoken. Isn’t this the way everyone feels when contemplating a narrative? How many of us have stared at the computer screen thinking, “There is not a shred of certainty that I will get any money for all this effort!”?

The encouraging word that I hear lately is that foundation giving is creeping up, slowly. It’s not back to the level of several years ago, but it is increasing. Having said that, foundations are becoming more and more selective in their giving, the competition is stiff, and many are placing a great emphasis on significant social impact.

There are ways to improve the chances of being funded. Leadership and capacity are vital to carrying out a successful program. Think of all the resources available. These include personnel, administration, technology, regional contacts, and the people involved in the program as participants. Leadership and capacity make a proposal strong.

Be clear on what exactly is measurable. Percentages always look more impressive than just numbers. An objective that is quantifiable carries a lot more weight. The story behind the numbers is important but clear and measurable objectives have to be stated.

Communicate exactly how the program or project will be made available, especially to underserved populations. This is outreach. Be clear about what the program will accomplish and how those results will be disseminated. Marketing, promotion and evaluation should all be part of the narrative and part of the budget.

After all that preparation, the project may not be funded. But once the narrative and budget are put together, it is so much easier to tweak it when the next funding opportunity rolls around.

Be of good courage. Sit down and write!
MHLF Receives a Grant from the East Tennessee Foundation

Denton Loving, Director of Prospect Research, has been awarded $6,000 over two years for the Mountain Heritage Literary Festival from the East Tennessee Foundation. The grant will be used to underwrite artist fees and honorariums paid to the professional writers and musicians who serve as festival staff and increase the amount of awards for the writing contests.

The Mountain Heritage Literary Festival (MHLF) is an annual event held on the LMU campus. Writers, musicians and artists gather at the historic Cumberland Gap in the shadow of the Appalachian Mountains to celebrate music, the written word and the visual arts in an effort to preserve Appalachian culture through the practice and examination of Appalachian literature past, present and future. The Festival is a gathering of artists, young and old, experienced and novice, bound by their Appalachian heritage.

A very important element of the Festival is the four writing contests with monetary prizes that are awarded at the Festival. The categories are Young Adult Fiction, Short Story, Poetry, and Essay. Applicants submit their writings to be judged by a professional panel. Contest entrants are often unpublished first time submitters. These awards truly encourage the indigenous talent of exceptional artists.

MHLF was founded and directed in 2006 by Loving and award-winning author Silas House, who served as LMU’s writer in residence. Loving has co-directed the Festival every year. Darnell Arnoult, current LMU writer in residence, co-directs the festival with Loving.

This year MHLF served 90 participants from East Tennessee and the tri-state region. However, writers from across the nation including New York, California, Colorado and Florida have attended.
Reminder From the LMU Institutional Review Board

Please remember that all research proposals and projects involving human subjects, must have IRB approval prior to the presentation of any information gathered during the course of the research.

Under federal policy, the IRB cannot grant retroactive IRB approval.

For more information regarding the LMU IRB, please visit http://www.lmunet.edu/curstudents/ORGSP/IRB.shtml.

As a reminder, all applications for external funding must first begin by contacting the ORGSP.

The ORGSP staff would like to thank everyone for their submissions to the newsletter!