**Stories posted to the Online Newsroom for Wayne’s report to Board members**

[The ‘next big invention’ — the engineering of a Williams Honors Scholar](http://uakron.edu/im/news/the-next-big-invention-the-engineering-of-a-williams-honors-scholar/), March 16

At UA, Jade Reese finds a collaborative environment in which to learn and use her newfound engineering expertise to help others.

[Trial advocacy team advances to national finals after regional win](http://uakron.edu/im/news/trial-advocacy-team-advances-to-national-finals-after-regional-win/), March 12

For the third year in a row, and for the fourth time in the last five years, our School of Law is the regional champion at the American Association for Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition. The team is headed to the national competition in Raleigh, N.C., in April. The team is coached by law alumni.

[Streamlined transport system a winner for athletes](http://uakron.edu/im/news/streamlined-transport-system-a-winner-for-athletes/), March 12

Now in use is a portable storage device designed and built by students on the Engineering Service Design Team that makes it easy to organize and transport wheelchairs for Adaptive Sports Program of Ohio team members.

[Ocius Technologies, UA and Case Western Team receives $1.5M research grant from DARPA](http://uakron.edu/im/news/ocius-technologies-ua-and-case-western-team-receives-1-5m-research-grant-from-darpa/), March 5

This award from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency will fund research to explore how computationally intensive engineering and physics problems can be more rapidly solved using new types of analog computers. The research team includes Ocius Technologies LLC, our Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Case Western Reserve University.

[New certificate offers social media expertise](http://uakron.edu/im/news/new-certificate-offers-social-media-expertise/), Feb. 28

The School of Communication now offers a 12-credit Professional Social Media Certificate to address the ever-increasing demand for social media expertise in public relations, communication and related career fields.

[Partnership between UA and R.G. Drage Career Technical Center facilitates Early College Program](http://uakron.edu/im/news/partnership-between-ua-and-r-g-drage-career-technical-center-facilitates-early-college-program/), Feb. 28

This new Early College Program, “Zip to an Associate Degree,” will use the successful award-winning model seen in the collaboration between our College of Applied Science and Technology and Akron Public Schools.

[‘Unclass’ to explore vast and eclectic postcard collection](http://uakron.edu/im/news/unclass-to-explore-vast-and-eclectic-postcard-collection/), Feb. 22

More than 200,000 postcards that have been donated by nationally renowned psychologist David P. Campbell to our Drs. Nicholas and Dorothy Cummings Center for the History of Psychology are being digitally cataloged by students in an unclass developed by faculty from the center’s Institute for Human Science and Culture and the Department of English, in collaboration with our Experiential Learning Center for Entrepreneurship and Civic Engagement Center.

[Video: Mission work in Haiti moved minds and souls](http://uakron.edu/im/news/video-mission-work-in-haiti-moved-minds-and-souls/), Feb. 21

A video created by several members of University Communications and Marketing highlights the trip taken by 11 students and one UA staff member to Ouanaminthe, Haiti. [Watch the story of their trip](http://www.uakron.edu/im/news/video-mission-work-in-haiti-moved-minds-and-souls) and learn more about the student organization, Zips for Haiti, and its mission to sell enough coffee to bring a Haitian student to UA.

[Williams Honors Scholar explores world of opportunities](http://uakron.edu/im/news/williams-honors-scholar-explores-world-of-opportunities/), Feb. 21

**Kristina Aiad-Toss,** a philosophy, political science and economics (PPE) major, has a resume that includes stints as a diplomat to United Nations’ agencies in Rome, a legislative assistant in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, an intern at the Ohio Environmental Council, and various positions on campus and in the community.

[School of Law named a top school in the nation for trial advocacy](http://uakron.edu/im/news/school-of-law-named-a-top-school-in-the-nation-for-trial-advocacy/), Feb. 19

The School of Law has again been named a “top law school for Trial Advocacy” in the winter 2018 issue of The National Jurist’s preLaw Magazine. It is one of only two Ohio law schools to earn this honor.

[Speech and Debate Team triumphs for third straight year](http://uakron.edu/im/news/speech-and-debate-team-triumphs-for-third-straight-year/), Feb. 19

Our Speech and Debate Team took top honors at the Ohio Forensic Association State Championship Tournament.

[UA student drops out, rebounds with Experiential Learning Center](http://uakron.edu/im/news/ua-student-drops-out-rebounds-with-experiential-learning-center/), Feb. 15

EbaNee Bond, a mechanical engineering major, finds her stride, thanks to the opportunities she found through the EXL Center.

[Researcher and NASA work to help spacecraft avoid floating debris](http://uakron.edu/im/news/researcher-and-nasa-work-to-help-spacecraft-avoid-floating-debris/), Feb. 8

Electrical and computer engineering professor Dr. Jin Wei Kocsi isthe recipient of a three-year, $330,000 Early Career Faculty grant from NASA.

[Cupid and culture: Researcher compares Western and Eastern attitudes on romantic gifts](http://uakron.edu/im/news/cupid-and-culture-researcher-compares-western-and-eastern-attitudes-on-romantic-gifts/), Feb. 7

**Dr. Sydney Chinchanachokchai**, an assistant professor of marketing, gives important insights to gift-giving ahead of Valentine’s Day.

[UA begins training next generation of crime fighters](http://uakron.edu/im/news/ua-begins-training-next-generation-of-crime-fighters/), Feb. 5

A growing need for well-trained analysts and for individuals well prepared to prevent crime, provide services to crime victims and rehabilitate offenders led to the creation of two new bachelor’s degrees — a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Intelligence Analysis, and a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice. Students will train to tackle those issues and more as the next generation of professionals in the fields of criminology, criminal justice and beyond.

[A casket full of life: David Giffels muses on mortality in new book](http://uakron.edu/im/news/a-casket-full-of-life-david-giffels-muses-on-mortality-in-new-book/), Jan. 31

The associate professor of English has a new book — “Furnishing Eternity: A Father, a Son, a Coffin, and a Measure of Life.” It is a poignant meditation on aging and mortality, friendship, and the bond of a father and son.

[One of the largest technology transfer agreements in UA history signed with 21MedTech](http://uakron.edu/im/news/one-of-the-largest-technology-transfer-agreements-in-ua-history-signed-with-21medtech/), Jan. 30

Two degradable polymer platforms, developed for regenerative medicine and 3D printing, have been exclusively licensed by 21MedTech from the University of Akron Research Foundation. The technologies originate from the laboratory of **Dr. Matthew Becker,** the W. Gerald Austen Endowed Chair of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering here.

[International reaccreditation affirms business college’s elite status](http://uakron.edu/im/news/international-reaccreditation-affirms-business-college-s-elite-status/), Jan. 26

After rigorous review, our College of Business Administration has been reaccredited in both business and accounting by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International.

['Five-Star Fridays' to be devoted to career-development activities](http://uakron.edu/im/news/five-star-fridays-to-be-devoted-to-career-development-activities/), Jan. 24

Beginning this fall, UA will have a new class scheule intended to give as many students as possible opportunities each Friday to participate in cooperative education, gain practical work experience, and engage in internships, co-curricular activities, research, lab work, community service, advising, tutoring and more without worrying about scheduling conflicts.

[Discovering a little-understood cell in mice that opens a world of color](http://uakron.edu/im/news/discovering-a-little-understood-cell-in-mice-that-opens-a-world-of-color/), Jan. 11

**Dr. Jordan Renna**is part of a team of scientists that has discovered that color vision in mice is far more complex than originally thought. Their findings could aid in developing treatments for human vision disorders and diseases.

[School of Law announces new Summer Start program](http://uakron.edu/im/news/school-of-law-announces-new-summer-start-program/), Jan. 5

An innovative new program designed to make the first year of law school more flexible and accessible for both traditional and nontraditional students will allow entering J.D. students to begin their studies in late May, rather than having to wait until August.