

eARMSTRONG

A newsletter for Armstrong Atlantic State University faculty & staff

AUGUST 2006

AASU To Focus on Customer Service Initiative

President Thomas Z. Jones, following the lead of Gov. Sonny Perdue, has designated Chief Information Officer John McGuthry to oversee a Customer Service Initiative on the campus. The initiative is being implemented at all state agencies, including all 35 Georgia public colleges and universities, under the leadership of University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis, Jr.

Armstrong Atlantic officials will focus initially on assessing how well the university provides financial aid services to its students. The effort, already underway, will present a clearer picture to officials of financial aid services, providing them with data to use for improvement of these services.

“A student’s interaction with the Office of Financial Aid is an integral part of his or her university experience,” said McGuthry. “It is imperative that our customer service in the area of financial aid be exceptional.”

McGuthry, who has been at Armstrong Atlantic since 2005, has assembled a team of frontline employees from various departments to assess the functions and services of the Financial Aid Office and come up with recommendations by December 2006.



Dan Harrell Promoted

Dan Harrell has been promoted to assistant vice president for business and finance. He joined the AASU family in 1986. Harrell earned his undergraduate degree in accounting from Florida State University and his MBA from Georgia State University. He joined the University System of Georgia staff as an internal auditor in 1977 and held positions at both JC Penney and Emory University.

AASU Gets ICAPP Grant

The College of Health Professions has received an Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP) grant to help meet the growing demand for healthcare professionals in the region. The grant will fund additional teaching staff in Armstrong Atlantic’s respiratory therapy program.

The latest grant involves \$65,000 in ICAPP funds and includes funding from the Coastal Georgia Health Partnership. That partnership is made up of Savannah’s two hospital-operating health systems, Memorial Health and St. Joseph’s/Candler, and the Southeast Regional Medical Center in Brunswick.

“There are shortages in every field in health care in all the specialties,” said Barry S. Eckert, dean of the College of Health Professions. “Demand for services will continue to increase at the same time that health providers approach retirement age.”

The new funds address shortages in the healthcare field by financing additional faculty, which makes more classes, and ultimately more graduates, possible. The College of Health Professions has already used ICAPP grants to expand its offerings in nursing, medical technology, ultrasound, and nuclear medicine programs.

ICAPP is the economic development arm of the University System of Georgia. It matches grant funding with funds from area industry to finance its program, focusing on high tech programs initially and later expanding into addressing the shortage of healthcare professionals.

Alumni Trip

Join the alumni vacation trip to historic, scenic England, Scotland, and Wales this October. Spend 10 wonderful days hosted by one of the nation’s leading travel companies, Collette Tours. For further information, contact Patty Parker, director of alumni relations, at parkerpa@mail.armstrong.edu or call her at 921.2343.

Mark Your Calendar for Jamboree 2006

This year’s Jamboree will usher in the new academic year with a progressive dinner party. The campus-wide gastronomic safari will be held on Thursday, August 10, from 5 to 8 p.m. Begin your evening with hors d’oeuvres in the newly remodeled Lane Library. Then, it’s off to the salad bar at the new student recreation center. Enjoy the main course in the atrium of University Hall. Top off your evening with dessert in the eye-popping new Armstrong Center for Continuing Education and Community Engagement.

You are welcome to bring an adult guest. Attire is campus casual. RSVP to Shelley Merrick at 921.5955 or merricsh@mail.armstrong.edu.

Savannah Families Step Up

On July 20, Trish Coberly, special and adult education, facilitated the second of three scheduled Savannah Families Step Up training workshops at St. Mary’s Community Center in Cuyler-Brownville. Workshop participants serve as partners to one of 25 impoverished families. They learn to understand their needs and help them move toward economic self-sufficiency. Volunteers meet with families and focus on housing, transportation, health care, education/workforce development, dependent care, and asset building. Additionally, Step Up works on community indicators to determine how our community measures up and sets community-wide goals to make improvements for those in poverty. This effort includes learning from the 25 families and other communities and focusing on the key issues in Savannah.

Representatives from over 70 local business, industries, and organizations are involved in Savannah Step Up. Savannah Mayor Otis Johnson and City Manager Michael Brown were instrumental in the creation of this initiative. To find out more, visit www.stepupsavannah.org.

Staff Textbook Scholarship

The Staff Advisory Council will award scholarships from the newly created Staff Textbook Scholarship Fund. The council is now accepting applications for fall semester 2006. The council will select scholarship recipients at its meeting on August 2. Completed scholarship forms should be sent to Peggy Williams, Solms Hall 211A. For more information or to obtain an application form, contact Peggy Williams at 921.5991.

Welcome Aboard

Lindsey Blount, Information Technology
Francisco Duque, University Relations
Steven Franklin, Athletics
Yingxia Gao, Computer Information Services
Trenetria Gregory, Plant Operations
William Harris, Educational Technology Training Center
Daniel Hinely, Athletics
Amy Howard, Mailroom
Anne Montgomery, Graduate Studies
Jamie Mullins, Office of Student Success
Jonathan Norman, Computer Information Services
Thompson Simpson, Bookstore
Jeremy Woods, Central Supply

Events

August 1

Last day of classes (Session D)

August 5

Savannah Art Association Workshop, sponsored by art, music & theatre, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Fine Arts Annex 001

August 7

CHAOS, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

August 9

Department Heads return to campus

Academic Council Meeting, 10-11:30 a.m., University Hall 158

Executive Committee Meeting, 1:30-3:30 p.m., University Hall 282

August 10

University Meeting, 10-11 a.m., Fine Arts Auditorium

Faculty Meeting, 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Armstrong Center

Academic Assistance Registration, 1-6 p.m.

Jamboree 2006, 5-8 p.m.

August 11

Fall Faculty Forum, 8:30-10:30 a.m., University Hall 156. Coffee and donuts will be served from 8-8:25 a.m.

August 14

Registration begins (Sessions 1 & 2)

Department of Education Data Collection Workshop, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., University Hall 158. For more information, contact Wendy Marshall at 921.5541 or at marshawe@mail.armstrong.edu.

New Faculty Orientation (Day One), 8:15 a.m.-2 p.m., Science Center 1405

August 15

Registration ends (Sessions 1 & 2)

Department of Education Collection Workshop, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., University Hall 158

New Faculty Orientation (Day Two), 8:15 a.m.-2 p.m., Science Center 1405

August 16

First day of classes (Sessions 1 & 2)

Late registration and drop/add begins

August 18

Late registration and drop/add ends

The AASU Masquers present *Fall Video Showcase*: a series of short films produced by AASU's theatre department, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in University Hall 156. See your friends and faculty on the big screen.

August 19

Registration/first day of class (Saturday classes)

August 26

The Armstrong Atlantic Youth Orchestra auditions from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. For more information, contact Mario Incorvaia at 927.5325 or incorvma@mail.armstrong.edu.

Kudos

Bob Lessnau, biology, led a capture team to Palo Verde National Park in Costa Rica. The team included AASU biology students **Cindy Backus** and **Bethany Grubbs**. The work was in support of a long-term project for the University of Chicago that will focus on the genetics and competition among the mantled howler monkey (*Alouatta palliata*).

Hassan Aziz, medical technology, published "Influenza and the role of the medical laboratory" in the *In-Service Review in Clinical Laboratory Science*.

Delana Nivens and **Will Lynch**, chemistry & physics, have published a compilation of the undergraduate research efforts of current* and recently graduated chemistry students (**Brian Helmlly**, **Nin Dingra**, **Joyce Chow**, **Amanda Svendsen**, **Beverly Harris**, **April Meeks***, **Cassandra Dyal***, **Jodi Hadden***, and **Denis Tibah**). The paper, "Infusion of Nanotechnology in Chemistry Courses Through Laboratory Redesign and Vertical Threads," was published in the *Materials Research Society Symposium Proceedings*, Volume 931. The research was funded by the National Science Foundation.

Marsha Moore, early childhood education, and **Tom Ganser**, director of field experiences, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, represented the panel of judges for the 2006 NEA-Saturn/UAW Partnership Awards presentation at the Peabody Conference Center in Orlando in June. This is the third year Moore has served on the panel. The National Education Association, Saturn Corporation, and the United Auto Workers show appreciation for exemplary partnership efforts between local school districts and education associations in pursuit of quality education.

Moore also participated in a discussion to determine the types of policy implementation that would guide districts toward more effective induction programs for new teachers. Moore has been the Teacher Induction Program Director since its inception in 1995.

Felix Hamza-Lup, computer science, **Anand Santhanam** and **Jannick Rolland**, The College of Optics & Photonics, University of Central Florida, **Celina Imielinska**, biomedical informatics and computer science, Columbia University, **Sanford Meeks**, chief of radiophysics, Anderson Cancer Center, published “Distributed augmented reality with 3D lung dynamics – A planning tool concept,” IEEE Transactions on Information Technology in *Biomedicine*, Volume 10, issue 4, October 2006.

Hamza-Lup’s research project “3DRTT – a real-time 3D graphical simulator for an advanced radiation therapy/surgery medical system (e.g. Varian LINAC),” was selected as a Featured X3D Case Study by the Web 3D Consortium. You can read about this by clicking on the following links:

www.web3d.org/

www.web3d.org/casestudies/2006/07/d_graphical_simulator_for_radi/

Lynn Stover and **Helen Taggart**, nursing, presented papers at the national Association of Orthopaedic Nurses in Boston in May. Stover presented “Revamp, renew, and revitalize your nursing career with Covey’s 7 habits of highly successful people.” Taggart presented “Complementary and alternative modalities (CAM) and the orthopaedic patient.”

Lee Williams, external affairs, participated in the Savannah Families Step Up training workshop at the St. Mary’s Community Center in Cuyler-Brownville.

University system electronic news sources

Take advantage of the range of informational publications published online by the University System of Georgia (USG). The newest is an interactive monthly piece called *Linkages* that reports news of the university system and provides hot links to related source materials: www.usg.edu/linkages/.

During the legislative session, the USG keeps state university employees abreast of issues that affect them through the weekly *Legislative Update*: www.usg.edu/pubs/lu/.

For news of both the university system office and individual campuses, read the monthly *System Supplement*: www.edu/pubs/sys_supp/.

The submission deadline for the September issue of

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is August 15.

Please send submissions to news@mail.armstrong.edu.

For more information contact Barry Ostrow in the Office of University Relations at 927.5223 or at ostrowba@mail.armstrong.edu.