The Goizueta Foundation Awards $604,205 to AASU

The Atlanta-based Goizueta Foundation announced that it has awarded AASU a $604,205 grant to establish and support a comprehensive Hispanic/Latino recruitment and retention initiative on the campus.

It is the second grant from The Goizueta Foundation to benefit Hispanic students at AASU. In 2003, The Goizueta Foundation awarded a $500,000 grant to provide need-based scholarships to Hispanic students and to recruit and retain qualified Hispanic students. That initial grant spawned the Hispanic Outreach and Leadership at Armstrong Atlantic (HOLA) program.

“I am delighted that The Goizueta Foundation has continued its support of Armstrong Atlantic’s HOLA program,” said AASU President Thomas Z. Jones. “This program has been remarkably successful in providing post-secondary educational opportunities for our Hispanic students. We appreciate the confidence that The Goizueta Foundation has shown in Armstrong Atlantic.”

The latest grant will support a four-prong initiative that includes immediate need-based scholarship support and student retention efforts for undergraduate and graduate students, a full-time Hispanic bilingual recruiter position, and a graduate assistantship position to benefit graduate students. The grant will support undergraduate scholarships over the next four years and three years of graduate scholarships, as well as funding for a graduate assistantship, and a full-time recruiter position.

“As a result of this generous grant from The Goizueta Foundation, Armstrong Atlantic can look forward to achieving greater Hispanic enrollment and retention,” said Melody Ortiz, Hispanic recruiter and coordinator of HOLA.

AASU Moot Court Team Wins Berth in National Tournament

A team from Armstrong Atlantic State University won first place in the third annual Southeast Undergraduate Moot Court Regional competition, earning a berth in the national tournament in January 2007.

Brian Dotson and Adam Morrison, both juniors majoring in political science, defeated teams from Liberty University, Lyon College, and Patrick Henry College, a nationally recognized moot court powerhouse.

Juniors Adam Morrison (left) and Brian Dotson will represent AASU at the American Collegiate Moot Court Association’s national tournament in January 2007.
The Southeast regional qualifier hosted by AASU is one of six events nationwide leading to the January 2007 American Collegiate Moot Court Association’s national tournament. The Regent University School of Law in Virginia Beach, VA will host the event that will draw the top 64 teams from across the country.

Five other AASU teams joined Dotson and Morrison during the regional qualifier. Other team members included Megan Herbert, Jessica Vaughn, Kelley Fahy, Stephen Lambeth, Mary Melton, Melissa Williams, Veronica Golden, Gabriel Daniel, and Crystal Lang. It is only the third year for Armstrong Atlantic to field teams in moot court competition.

Dotson and Morrison defeated a team from Patrick Henry College—the school that won last year’s national championship.

John Kearnes, political science, Becky da Cruz, criminal justice, and Liz Desnoyers-Colas, art, music & theater, served as faculty coaches.

The Savannah-based law firm Hunter Maclean Exley & Dunn P.C. sponsored the event.

**NEA Grants $20,000 to AASU for The Big Read in 2007**

Armstrong Atlantic has been awarded a $20,000 grant by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) as part of The Big Read campaign in 2007. AASU is one of 72 organizations chosen nationwide to participate in the program that encourages literary reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss one book.

In 2007, that one book will be “Their Eyes Were Watching God” by the noted African-American novelist Zora Neale Hurston.

Under NEA sponsorship, The Big Read will allow AASU to extend the reach of the annual Savannah Read, a program that began three years ago under the leadership of Beth Howells, the university’s director of composition. Partnering with the Live Oak Public Library System, the Black Heritage Festival, the Jepson Center for the Arts, Savannah State University, and the Cultural Affairs Division of the City of Savannah, Armstrong Atlantic will host numerous book discussions, film presentations, staged readings, and other events related to Hurston’s novel. All events are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dick Nordquist at 921.5991 or nordqudi@mail.armstrong.edu.

**Health Careers Information Day**

The College of Health Professions will hold its annual Health Careers Information Day in the Armstrong Center’s ballroom on Thursday, February 8, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The purpose of the event is to stimulate interest in health professions careers. Participants will learn about the various professions from actual practitioners. They will also learn about the educational requirements from our own College of Health Professions faculty as well as from representatives from other regional University System of Georgia (USG), USG’s Department of Technical & Adult Education, and private institutions. This event normally attracts more than 500 area high school students. Local healthcare providers and educators will staff at least 40 display tables.

For more information, contact Marilyn Buck at 927.5254 or buckmari@mail.armstrong.edu.
New Feature coming in February

Starting with the February issue, e-Armstrong will begin carrying an “AASU in the News” column that will bring you a monthly sample of the top AASU stories appearing in the local and regional media.

The feature will not be inclusive of everything, but simply present, in an abbreviated manner, the top stories that appear in print, radio, and television. Academic, fine arts, faculty, staff, student, and alumni interviews, athletics, and events will all be part of the mix.

To give you a taste of what’s to come, we compiled a short list of the top stories that ran between August and mid-November. Each entry includes the date, a very brief description of the story, and the media organization(s) that carried it. This list appears immediately following the Events section.

Like it? Dislike it? Need more detail on a particular story? Contact Francisco Duque in the Office of University Relations at 961.3173 or duquefra@mail.armstrong.edu.

Top Teen Program Update

Since AASU began its sponsorship of WTOC-TV’s Top Teen Program in October, seven teens have been honored. These teenagers were recognized for providing leadership and serving as positive role models through academic, artistic, and athletic achievements and for community service. Thus far, the students have come from Savannah Arts Academy, Jenkins High School, Benedictine Military School, Beach High School, and Bradwell Institute.

Each Thursday during the 5:30 p.m. newscast, a story will air on a top teen from one of the 20 counties within WTOC’s market area. The story will be repeated during its Friday morning news show. The honorees receive a framed certificate and a letter from President Jones along with information about AASU. The university will be recognized during each weekly segment and through ongoing promotion of the program on the station and WTOC’s website.

To be eligible, teens must be between the ages of 13 and 17 and be nominated through the submission of a completed form by a third party nominator. To nominate a teen for this honor, complete a nomination form online at wtoc.com or call the station at 234.1111 to request a form. For more information, contact Patricia Reese at 927.5222 or reesepat@mail.armstrong.edu.

Welcome Aboard

La’Ren Brique, Nursing
Jennifer O’Dell, Computer and Information Services

Kudos

Phi Kappa Phi
The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at Armstrong Atlantic held its second initiation ceremony on November 12 at the Armstrong Center, inducting 107 new members.

In addition, the chapter welcomed several Armstrong Atlantic faculty into its fold and bestowed membership honors on one Armstrong Atlantic alumnus and a distinguished member of the Savannah community. Stephen S. Green was inducted as a Distinguished Member of the Armstrong Atlantic Chapter, an honor bestowed only after approval from the society’s national board of directors. President Thomas Z. Jones praised Green for his dedication to the promotion of higher education and cited his many contributions to both AASU and the Savannah community.
Armstrong Atlantic alumnus Richard D. Edwards also received special recognition at the ceremony: Chapter President Camille Stern presented his membership honors, noting that Edwards has earned distinction as an outstanding Armstrong Atlantic alumnus whose achievements also reflect the society's motto: “Let the love of learning rule humanity.”

The following faculty members were also invited into the organization: Jewell Anderson, Charles W. Belin, Jr., Sherri Lynn Cunningham, June Hopkins, Michael Patrick Mahan, and Linda Jeanne Tuck.

For more information on Phi Kappa Phi, call 800.804.9880 or visit www.PhiKappaPhi.org.


Patricia Coberly, special and adult education, and Steve Jones, graduate student in adult education, were invited to present, “Preparing Adult Educators for a World of Diversity,” at the American Association of Adult and Continuing Educators conference in November in Milwaukee.

Chris Baker, languages, literature & philosophy, was appointed to a three-year term to the governing council of the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference at its annual meeting in October held in Salt Lake City.

David Brown, art, music & theatre, served as the guest conductor for the Georgia Music Educator’s Association District I Senior Honor Choir in October. The event brought nearly 300 high school students from southern Georgia to Armstrong Atlantic for two days of rehearsal culminating in a final concert performance.

In November, Brown conducted Savannah’s barbershop chorus, the Thirteenth Colony Sound, in its annual show, “Gold Fever,” seen by nearly 700 people on two nights.

Jose de Arimateia da Cruz, political science, was invited to give a talk on the November 7 U.S. elections and its foreign policy ramifications at the Graduate Program on International Relations at the Universidade Federal Fluminense, Niteroi, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in late November.

Elwin Tilson, radiologic sciences, Gary Sayed, Drew University, and Wendy Rowan, Thomas Jefferson University, received the Best Poster Award for research on, “An Evaluation of FDG PET/CT Dual Time Point Technique in Patients with Pulmonary Nodules” at the World Nuclear Medicine conference in Seoul, South Korea in November.

Frank Katz, information technology, presented “Campus-Wide Spyware and Virus Removal as a Method of Teaching Information Security,” at Kennesaw State University’s 2006 Information Security Curriculum Development Conference in September. The paper that this presentation was based on was published in the Digital Library of the Association for Computing Machinery.

Rachel Bongini, senior undergraduate student in chemistry, has been awarded a travel grant to present her research, “Designing and Testing Peptides with Aluminum Specificity,” with Kelly Elkins, chemistry & physics, at the Seventh Keele Meeting on Aluminum to be held in Mexico in February 2007. Elkins will also be presenting at the meeting.
Elkins presented a poster in the environmental poster session at the 58th Southeast Regional American Chemical Society (SERMACS) 2006 meeting in November with Matthew Dickerson, undergraduate student.

Will Lynch and Delana Nivens, chemistry and physics, and student Jodi Hadden, presented “Reducing sugars as the bioreduction agents for the preparation of metal nanoparticles from plant extracts,” at the SERMACS meeting. Also at the meeting, Lynch, Nivens, Elkins, and students Jessica Miller, Andy Waller, and Derek Baudoin presented “Isolation and Analysis of Humic and Fulvic Acids from Savannah, GA Marsh Soils.” Nivens, along with faculty summer research collaborative students Cassandra Dyal and Jessica Moore, also presented “Development of functional magnetic nanoparticles for environmental sensors.” Lynch and student Ramonda Parsaei presented “Cobalt-59 NMR as an accurate probe to investigate outer sphere interactions in cobalt complexes.” Parsaei’s poster won a top 10 prize for undergraduate student posters at the SERMACS meeting. Also, Lynch organized a symposium, “Bioinorganic Modeling,” with eight speakers from around the southeast as well as three inorganic chemistry sessions with 32 speakers at the meeting.


Mary Ann Sullivan, special & adult education, presented “What’s That You Say?” at the English as a Second Language conference in October. The presentation dealt with accent reduction.

Christopher Hendricks, history, had his book, The Backcountry Towns of Colonial Virginia, published by the University of Tennessee Press at the Southern Historical Association meeting in Birmingham in November.

Mark Finlay, history, presented “Whatever Happened to Society?: Power, Systemization, and Industrial Espionage in an American Steel Mill,” at the North American Labor History Conference in Detroit, MI.

Joan Schwartz, early childhood education, serves on the board of the Georgia Association of Teacher Educators (GATE) as the university representative to the National Assembly of the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE). She was a member of the conference committee for the fall conference of GATE in Atlanta in October. Schwartz served as a panelist and led a discussion about the documentary “Mad Hot Ballroom.” The session focused on the interactions of fifth grade students as they prepared for a competition of ballroom dancing over a period of ten weeks in three New York elementary schools.

Schwartz, and Maryellen Cosgrove, Gainesville State College, presented “P-16 Learning Communities as Advocates for all Students’ Learning” at the 53rd Annual Conference of the Southeastern Regional Association of Teacher Educators in Baltimore in November.

Ashraf Saad, computer science, served as General Chair of the 11th Online World Conference on Soft Computing in Industrial Applications (WSC11) from September 18 through October 6. WSC11 is a peer-refereed conference that provides an online forum for researchers in soft computing and computational intelligence from around the world to publish their work and the latest advances in the field. Details about the conference can be found on the conference web site, located at www.cs.armstrong.edu/wsc11.
The Department of Mathematics sponsored its 23rd annual middle school mathematics bowl held on campus in November. Ten local schools competed. The team awards were:

1st place — Savannah Christian, coached by Beth Lynah and Cheri Acree
2nd place — Savannah Country Day, coached by Aubrey Brawner
3rd place — DeRenne Middle School, coached by Patricia Darrow
4th place — West Chatham Middle School, coached by Mary Lou Collins

Individual awards were:

1st place — Will Brawer, Savannah Country Day
2nd place — Jimmy Brawner, Savannah Country Day
3rd place — Hunter Bowman, Savannah Country Day

Sungkon Chang, mathematics, delivered a talk, “Quadratic twists of elliptic curves with small 2-Selmer rank,” at the American Mathematical Society Sectional meetings at the University of Arkansas in November. His work was partially supported by an AASU Research & Scholarship Grant.

Evelyn Dandy, early childhood education, Kam Lau, information technology, and Lorrie Hoffman, mathematics, jointly presented “Participant-Identified Success Attributes of A Teacher Preparatory Program for High Poverty Schools” at the 31st Annual Georgia Educational Research Association conference in Savannah in October.

Jonnie Chandler, school of computing, reports that Team Jeremy raised nearly $10,000 for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, a charity organization that provides scholarships to the children of fallen soldiers. Family members and friends of Captain Jeremy Chandler, son of Jonnie Chandler, joined some 34,000 runners in October in the Marine Corps Marathon running on behalf of the fallen Special Forces soldiers.

Captain Chandler, an Army Special Forces officer with the 3rd Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, NC, was killed in Afghanistan, August 2005.


Avistine Cook ’06, a sixth-grade teacher at Snelson-Golden Middle, was awarded a $1,000 Teacher Assistance Grant from Georgia Power that can be used to buy supplies for the classroom.
Cook was among 15 of Georgia’s best and brightest new teachers who received the grant. The teacher nominations were submitted to Georgia Power by 15 Georgia public colleges and universities that have schools of education.

**Events**

**December 1**
Honors Advisory Committee meeting, 1 p.m., Solms Hall 103

AASU Masquers present *Dramarama*, an entertaining evening of comic and dramatic one-act plays produced by the fall semester directing class, 7:30 p.m., Jenkins Black Box Theater. Audience discretion is advised. Not recommended for children.

Art, music & theatre presents the Fall 2006 AASU Senior Graduation Art Exhibition, 6 p.m., Fine Arts Gallery

**December 2**
Last day of classes (Saturday classes)

67th annual William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., University Hall 104, 105, 106, and 109. For more information, contact James Brawner at 921.2058 or brawneja@mail.armstrong.edu.

Art, music & theatre presents the Winterfest Honor Band concert, 7 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium

**December 3**
Art, music & theatre presents the AASU Community Christmas Sing, 7:30 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium

**December 4**
Executive Committee meeting, noon, University Hall 282

**December 5**
Open enrollment meeting on flexible spending accounts, 1-3 p.m., University Dining Room

Women’s Basketball vs. Lenoir-Rhyne College, 6 p.m., Alumni Arena

**December 6**
Last day of classes (Sessions 1 & 3)

18th annual Faculty and Student Christmas Pottery Sale sponsored by art, music & theatre, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Fine Arts Hall 102

Open enrollment meeting on flexible spending accounts, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., University Dining Room

AASU Gospel Choir rehearsal, 6 p.m., Fine Arts Hall 202
December 7
18th annual Faculty and Student Christmas Pottery Sale sponsored by art, music & theatre, 9 a.m-6 p.m., Fine Arts Hall 102

December 8
Final exams (Saturday classes)

December 9
Graduation
– College of Arts and Sciences and School of Computing, 10 a.m., Alumni Arena
– College of Health Professions and College of Education, 1 p.m., Alumni Arena
For more information, contact Student Affairs at 927.5271.

December 12
Graduate Council meeting, 2:30 p.m., Burnett Hall Board Room

December 13
Open enrollment meeting on flexible spending accounts, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., University Dining Room

December 14
Faculty/Staff Holiday Luncheon, noon, Memorial College Center cafeteria

December 15
Open enrollment meeting on flexible spending accounts, 1-3 p.m., University Dining Room

December 15-16 Chatham Orthopaedic Holiday Classic
– December 15
Women's Basketball vs. Lander University (non-conference), 6 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men's Basketball vs. Eckerd College, 8 p.m., Alumni Arena
– December 16
Women's Basketball vs. Fayetteville State University, 6 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men's Basketball vs. Lenoir-Rhyne College, 8 p.m., Alumni Arena

December 19
Council of Deans meeting, 10:30 a.m., TBA
Women's Basketball vs. Florida Technical College, 2 p.m., Alumni Arena

December 20
Academic assistance registration, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

December 25-29
University closed for holidays

December 29-30 AASU Hosts 2006 New Year Basketball Tournament
– December 29
Georgia College & State University vs. Ferris State University, 4 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men's Basketball vs. Southern Arkansas University, 6 p.m., Alumni Arena
– December 30
Georgia College & State University vs. Southern Arkansas University, 2 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men's Basketball vs. Ferris State University, 4 p.m., Alumni Arena

January 1
Holiday – New Year’s Day
January 3
Women's Basketball vs. Georgia College & State University, 5:30 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men's Basketball vs. Georgia College & State University, 7:30 p.m., Alumni Arena

January 4
Registration begins (Sessions 1 & 2)
CHAOS orientation, 10 a.m., University Hall 156

January 5
Registration ends (Sessions 1 & 2)

January 6
Savannah Fibers Guild's meeting and workshop sponsored by art, music & theatre, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., location TBA. For more information, contact Mario Incorvaia at 927.5325 or incorvma@mail.armstrong.edu.

Women's Basketball vs. North Georgia College & State University, 2 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men's Basketball vs. North Georgia College & State University, 4 p.m., Alumni Arena

January 8
First day of classes (Sessions 1 & 2)
Late registration & drop/add begins
Executive Committee meeting, noon, University Hall 282
Art, music & theatre presents pianist David Watkins in a guest artist recital, 7:30 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium

January 9
Graduate Council meeting, 2:30 p.m., Burnett Hall Board Room

January 10
Late registration & drop/add ends

January 12
Faculty Forum, noon, Solms Hall 110

January 13
Registration/first day of class (Saturday classes)

January 15
Holiday – Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 16
Council of Deans meeting, 10:30 a.m., TBA. For more information, contact Phyllis Panhorst at 927.5262 or panhorph@mail.armstrong.edu.

January 17
University Curriculum Committee meeting, 3 p.m., University Hall 282

Women's Basketball vs. Augusta State University, 5:30 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men's Basketball vs. Augusta State University, 7:30 p.m., Alumni Arena
January 19
Scholarship of Teaching Round Table meeting, noon, Solms 110

January 20
Art, music & theatre hosts the Georgia Music Teachers Association 2007 Music Fair and Recital event, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium. For more information, contact Mario Incorvaia at 927.5325 or incorvma@mail.armstrong.edu.

January 21
Art, music & theatre presents pianist, Denine LeBlanc, in a guest artist recital, 3 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium

January 22
Faculty meeting, 12:10 p.m., University Hall 156

January 23
Academic Council meeting, 2:30 p.m. University Hall 157

January 24
Women’s Basketball vs. Clayton State University, 5:30 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men’s Basketball vs. Clayton State University, 7:30 p.m., Alumni Arena

January 25-27
The AASU Masquers present “New Voices,” an entertaining evening of original scripts including comic tales and dramatic stories, at 7:30 p.m. in the Jenkins Theater Black Box Theater. Admission is free, but seating is limited. Advance ticketing is highly recommended. Audience discretion is advised. Not recommended for children. Call 927.5381 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays, for information.

January 27
Women’s Basketball vs. University of North Carolina at Pembroke, 5:30 p.m., Alumni Arena
Men’s Basketball vs. University of North Carolina at Pembroke, 7:30 p.m., Alumni Arena

AASU In the News
8/1 College of Health Professions receives $165,000 ICAPP grant.
   -Savannah Morning News. Also: Savannah Tribune, 8/2

8/7 Ellen V. Whitford appointed vice president and dean of faculty.
   -Business Report and Journal. Also: Savannah Morning News, 8/11; Savannah Magazine, 11/2

8/13 AASU students settle into new residence hall.
   -Savannah Morning News

8/14 Ellen V. Whitford interviewed about AASU growth, including Armstrong Center and new clinics in Savannah Mall.
   -Savannah Morning News

9/6 AASU’s The Masquers mark 70 years of bringing fine theatre to Savannah.
   -Connect Savannah

9/6 Judy Awong-Taylor receives a 2006 Board of Regents’ Award for Excellence in Teaching.
   -Savannah Morning News. Also: Savannah Tribune, 9/13; Savannah Morning News, 9/14
9/16 European Union Ambassador John Bruton speaks at AASU.

9/22 Armstrong Center opens.
- Southside News, WTOC, WJCL, and WSAV. Also: Savannah Morning News, 9/23; Georgia Public Radio, 9/22; Business Report and Journal, 10/2; Savannah Tribune, 10/4

10/17 AASU students reflect on their four-day trip to Perlington, Mississippi, to help Hurricane Katrina victims.
-WTOC

10/19 Celebrate AASU Day
- Savannah Morning News. Also: Savannah Morning News, 10/18; Connect Savannah, 10/11; La Voz Latina, 11/1; WJCL and WTOC, 10/18

10/20 ProLogic, Inc. and AASU enter into partnership.

10/31 AASU’s women’s soccer team reaches finals of Peach Belt Conference Tournament.
- Savannah Morning News

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/.

There will be no issue of eArmstrong in January.
The submission deadline for the February issue of eArmstrong is January 16.

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

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