November was a colorful month at Armstrong Atlantic. International Week kicked off with festivities in the International Garden. Students served up their favorite traditional dishes and showed off their native folk dances (above left). Later in the week, the Tripoli Steel Band brought their island rhythms to the campus (above right).

Julie Otsuka, author of *When the Emperor Was Divine*, read from her book and brought the Common Read to a close. All entering freshman were required to read Otsuka’s book as part of the First Year Experience. The book has been the topic of many class discussions.

Representatives of the Cherokee Nation in North Carolina returned to Armstrong Atlantic for a presentation of Native American folklore.
AT&T grant to help at-risk students

The AASU Foundation has been awarded a $75,000 grant from the AT&T Foundation, the philanthropic arm of AT&T, to support “Let the Games Begin,” a two-year outreach program designed to help 60 at-risk high school students in Chatham County develop introductory computer programming skills.

The pilot program is a collaborative project involving the College of Education, the AASU Educational Technology Center (ETC) and Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools’ Woodville-Tompkins Technical and Career Institute. The project will engage students transitioning from ninth to 10th grade. Participating students will attend a four-day camp prior to the beginning of the school term, during the summer or winter break, to introduce them to the program. In addition, they will attend classes two Saturdays per month during each school term.

“Let the Games Begin” will teach introductory computer programming using Alice, free educational software provided by Carnegie Mellon University and used to teach programming in a 3D environment. The software is designed to be the first exposure to programming for students, allowing them to learn the fundamental concepts as they create animated movies and simple video games.

Phone-A-Thon tops $28,000

The annual, four-week Phone-A-Thon campaign raised $28,160 this year among alumni givers. This improves upon last year's total of $24,749.

Beth Crovatt, alumni coordinator, said, “This money is essential for the day-to-day operation of our university and helps pave the way to opportunities through scholarships, enhanced teaching tools and growth of our academic programs.”

Student athletes and members of six Greek societies each spent two weeks making calls. Greeks included Alpha Sigma Tau, Zeta Phi Beta, Delta Sigma Theta, Kappa Sigma, Phi Mu Alpha and Sigma Sigma Sigma. The winner of the $500 prize for raising the most pledges during Greek Week was Delta Sigma Theta with 57 total pledges.
75th anniversary needs memories of alumni-employees

Help celebrate the 75th anniversary of AASU by sharing your memories of life on campus when you were a student here. Think about your most interesting times and write them down at www.armstrong.edu/departments/alumni/alumni_75_memories.

This Pirate chicken was popular in 1982.

Rape Aggression Defense hits Armstrong

University Police Sergeant Joe Peny and Officer Erica Coreno conducted the inaugural Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) class at Armstrong in September. RAD is a nine or 12 hour class that teaches self-defense options to women.

Peny and Coreno received their nationally recognized certification last year. Assisting Peny and Coreno were Major Laura McCullough, Corporal Matt Ogburn, and Officer Tracy Atkinson from the Georgia Southern University Police Department. In October, Peny and Coreno traveled to Georgia Southern University to assist them in their fall class.

The RAD system is a comprehensive course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training. RAD provides women with the knowledge to make educated decisions about resistance and instills confidence. The class is offered only to female students, faculty and staff and is free of charge. Additional classes will be scheduled for the spring semester.

Since the course is free, contributions to the Rape Aggression Defense Foundation are appreciated. For more information, contact Peny or Coreno at 344.3333.

AASU in the community

Each month, eArmstrong spotlights university involvement in the community. To include your community activities, send information to AASU.news@armstrong.edu.

Several groups of AASU students participated in the Tybee Island Beautification Beach Sweep in September. One student, Victoria Langston, said that her group, representing One Life Campus Ministry, was responsible for cleaning the parking lot near the pier and picking up trash along the street entrance of the North Beach parking area. Her group worked about an hour and a half.
Calendar
*For more information on all art, music & theatre events call 344.2801 from noon to 3 p.m., weekdays.*

December 1
The Savannah Winds will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. General admission is $14.*

December 2-3
The 21st annual faculty and student Christmas Pottery Sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Fine Arts Hall, Room 102. Professor John Jensen and select students create hand-crafted pottery and ceramics ranging from fine art to functional items for this sale. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Noel Lemmen Ceramics Collection. Lemmen is the immediate former professor of ceramics at AASU for whom a scholarship fund and permanent art collection has been established.*

December 4
Fall 2009 Senior Graduation Art Exhibition at 5:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Gallery. Admission is free. *

December 5
20th annual Winterfest Invitational High School Honor Band and AASU Wind Ensemble in concert at 7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. Admission is free. *

December 9
Navigate for students planning to enroll in spring 2010. Check-in at 2 p.m.; start time at 3 p.m. in the Armstrong Center. The program will end at 7:30 p.m.

December 8-14
Final examinations

December 11
Department of Military Science Army ROTC fall commissioning ceremony and reception at 2 p.m. in the Armstrong Center, Ballroom A. For more information call 344.2573.

December 12
Registration for Spring 2010
Commencement

December 15
Men’s Basketball vs. Allen at 7 p.m.

December 18
Women’s Basketball vs. Edward Waters at 6 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. Mount Olive at 8 p.m.

December 19
Women’s Basketball vs. Tampa at 6 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. Lenoir-Rhyne at 8 p.m.

December 23-January 4
Winter Break
December 23
Furlough day

December 29
Men’s Basketball vs. Voorhees at 7 p.m.

December 30
Men’s Basketball vs. Wingate at 7 p.m.

January 4
Furlough day

January 6
Women’s Basketball vs. Allen at 6 p.m.

January 6
Navigate for students planning to enroll in spring 2010. Check-in at 2 p.m.; start time at 3 p.m. in the Armstrong Center. The program will end at 7:30 p.m.

January 9
Women’s Basketball vs. USC Aiken at 1:30 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. USC Aiken at 3:30 p.m.

January 11
First day of class

January 13
Women’s Basketball vs. Augusta St. at 5:30 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. Augusta St. at 7:30 p.m.

January 16
Women’s Basketball vs. GCSU at 1:30 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. GCSU at 3:30 p.m.

January 18
Martin Luther King Holiday
Women’s Basketball vs. Montevallo at 5:30 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. Montevallo at 7:30 p.m.

January 30
Women’s Basketball vs. North Georgia at 1:30 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. North Georgia at 3:30 p.m.

Kudos
Annette Wilson (middle & secondary education) participated as a reviewer in the Office of Head Start’s discretionary grants review process in Washington, DC as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. She reviewed grants worth nearly $1.2 billion to support Early Head Start. Wilson also served as a peer reviewer for proposals for the National Youth at Risk conference to be held in Savannah in February.

She presented “Coming to Light: Bringing Communities Together in a School Environment by Way of School Practice,” “ Culturally Competent” and “Participants, and Respect for Culture and Family” at the annual conference of the Georgia Association of Teacher Educators on Jekyll Island. Wilson published “Teaching First-Generation College Students” in Innovation Abstracts.

Eric Werner (chemistry & physics) co-authored “Effect of a Mesitylene-Based Ligand Cap on the Relaxometric Properties of Hydroxypyridonate Gd(III) MRI Contrast Agents” in Contrast Media & Molecular Imaging.

Elizabeth Crawford (early childhood education) and Nancy Luke (special & adult education) spoke at the National Peace Corps Coverdell World Wise Schools’ Conference on Global Issues in the Classroom, Educating for a Flattened World, in Washington D.C. They presented information about their school-based, curriculum development project focused on global awareness and international education.

Several current and former biology faculty, an alumnus and three undergraduate students attended the 95th Annual American Society of Microbiology Southeastern Branch Conference in Savannah last month. The following posters and oral presentations were presented at the meeting:

“The Inability of Pathogenic and Non-athogenic Strains of Escherichia coli to Survive in Coast Beach Sand,” was a poster presentation by Jennifer Zettler, Mario Muscarella ’08 and former faculty member Judy Awong-Taylor.

“Does the presence of fire ants affect the community composition of ammonia-oxidizing Bacteria and ammonia-oxidizing Archaea?,” a poster presentation by Jennifer Zettler, J.A. McGarvey and Jennifer Brofft and student Warren Crabb, won second place for undergraduate poster presentations.

“The Investigation of Sea Turtle Immunity using a cDNA Library,” an oral presentation by Traci Ness, and a student, Eric Bradley, won third place for undergraduate oral presentations.

Regina Rahimi (middle & secondary education) was selected to chair a session “Middle Grades Teachers: Positioning and Pedagogy,” for the Middle Level Research Special Interest Group at the 2010 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting in Denver.

Felix Hamza-Lup (computer science) served as the professional networking chair of the International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality held in Orlando. Five AASU computer science students participated including Elena Clapan, Elizabeth Murrell, Eric Davis, James LaPlant and Stephanie Jirak.

Joan Schwartz and Linda Ann McCall (both early childhood education) and Susan Cooke (College of Education) presented “Sailing to Excellence: Charting a Three Year Course to Success in Today’s Classroom” at the 56th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Regional Association of Teacher Educators last month in Louisville, KY.

The Armstrong Intramural Flag Football team Gucci was awarded the Men’s League Sportsmanship Award at the 26th annual Georgia State Flag Football Championships held at the University of Georgia. The award was voted on by tournament staff and game officials. Gucci was one of 26 men’s teams at the tournament. The team members are: Chris Jacobs, Blake Jones, Hunter Smoak, Alex Moorman, Jamaal Galloway, John Szeker, Mike Byers and Edward Williams.

Elizabeth F. Desnoyers-Colas (art, music & theatre) was elected program planner for the Feminist/ Women Division of the National Communication Association’s (NCA) 2010 conference to be held in San Francisco next November. Serving as the vice chair of that division, she will be a member of the NCA’s legislative assembly for three years.
Rachel Green and Angela Horne (both art, music & theatre) co-presented a paper, “Engaging Arts Students in Global Experiences: From in the Classroom to Across the Equator,” at the 2009 annual Southeast College Art Conference in Mobile, AL.

Hassan Aziz (medical technology), in collaboration with Randi Taylor ’08, published “Strongyloides stercoralis: a case study” in the November issue of Medical Laboratory Observer.

AASU in the News

Following are some of the top stories appearing in print and broadcast media in November. For more details on these and other stories, contact Francisco Duque in Marketing & Communications at 344.2971, or Francisco.Duque@armstrong.edu.

11/1 Jepson hosts final chapter of “Soul of a People: Writing America’s Story.” Savannah Morning News

11/2 AASU preps for 75th anniversary. WSAV-TV, WTOC-TV, WJCL/Fox-TV and Savannah Daily News Also, Savannah Tribune 11/11 and Coastal Courier 11/18.

11/4 AASU’s chorale and chamber choir perform tribute to J. Harry Persse. Savannah Morning News

11/4 AT&T awards outreach grant to AASU. Savannah Tribune

11/5 Richard Cebula (economics) published biweekly column. Savannah Morning News

11/7 AASU computer science students compete during the Southeast USA Programming Contest held on campus as part of the 34th international “Battle of the Brains.” WJCL/Fox-TV Also, Savannah Morning News 11/8

11/10 Michael Toma’s (economics) students interviewed regarding their project on proposed city ordinance to limit number of taxi licenses. WHCJ-FM (Savannah State University radio)

11/13 SGA President Tamer Amer interviewed regarding new gun range across campus. WTOC-TV

11/13 Biology Club raises funds for Goodness of Mercy Foundation during Sidewalk Art Fest. WJCL/Fox-TV Also, WTOC-TV 11/14

11/14 Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority host Heel-A-Thon in support of St. Jude Children’s Hospital. WTOC-TV

11/15 AASU graduate student Stephanie Collier uses music to inform about HIV/AIDS. WTOC-TV

11/19  Richard Cebula (economics) published biweekly column.  
Savannah Morning News

11/29  Michael Toma’s (economics) Economic Monitor report is subject of front page story in Sunday’s paper.  
Savannah Morning News

11/30  Mary Anne Brock (LLP) and freshman KC Rose were interviewed about First Year Experience.  
WTOC-TV

**University System of Georgia Electronic News**

For news of both the university system office and individual campuses, read the monthly System Supplement: [www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_supp/](http://www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_supp/).

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There will be no issue of *eArmstrong* in January 2010.

The submission deadline for the February issue of *eArmstrong* is January 15.

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

For more information contact Francisco Duque in Marketing & Communications at 344.2971 or Francisco.Duque@armstrong.edu.

Best wishes for Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year