“Topping Off” Marks Construction Progress
On June 18, the final roof beam was raised and set in place for the Student Union Building. As general construction progressed, an autographed beam (right) was the focal point of the topping off ceremony. Stealing the show was the construction crew’s three-year-old mascot, Arcadian Eaton (left), son of Choate Construction’s project manager, Ulysses Eaton.

Windward Commons Breaks Ground
A groundbreaking ceremony for Windward Commons, the new freshmen residence hall, was held June 23. Participating in the groundbreaking were (l-r) Bill Kelso, assistant vice president for student affairs, AASU; Stewart Aiken, principle architect, HADP Architecture, Inc.; Dalton Ward, financial advisor, Educational Properties Foundation, Inc.; David Faircloth, director of plant operations, AASU; Corey Reedy, director of housing & residence life, AASU; Vicki McNeil, vice president of student affairs, AASU; Danny Pinyan, Jr., president, Pinyan Company; Bob Mills, executive vice president, University Housing Services, Inc.; Joe Dusek, vice president, Hardin Construction; Thomas Z. Jones, president, AASU; and Charles Poropatic, vice president and architect, HADP Architecture, Inc.
Incoming freshmen are doing research projects on campus this summer under the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program (STEP)

**NSF $1 Million Grant Supports Undergraduate Research**

A five-year, $1 million grant awarded to AASU will allow entering freshmen to begin conducting scientific research in the university’s laboratories this summer, weeks before they step foot in a classroom for fall classes.

The grant, from the National Science Foundation’s Division of Undergraduate Education Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program (STEP), will support the establishment of learning communities focusing on undergraduate research for students with a desire to pursue careers in science and mathematics, and who demonstrate a strong aptitude in those fields.

The grant establishes unique freshmen experiences each year for up to 20 incoming undergraduate students. They will perform undergraduate research and obtain intensive new skills in applied mathematics over two summers. These students will participate in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) freshmen-year learning communities, which facilitate student retention and success as majors in the College of Science and Technology.

The first group of incoming freshman students arrived on campus June 15 for a five-week program of full-time research. The students joined 33 current AASU students already conducting summer research, many of whom will mentor the incoming freshmen researchers. Twenty-two AASU faculty members from the College of Science and Technology will provide close mentoring and guidance. Social activities and a one-week math tutorial at the end of the summer are part of the program.

The freshmen will work directly with faculty members and their undergraduate research students.

George Shields, dean of the College of Science and Technology, is principal investigator of the grant. Sabrina Hessinger (mathematics) and Delana Nivens, (chemistry) are co-principal investigators of the grant.

For further information, contact Nivens at 344.2964 or visit [www.cst.armstrong.edu/step](http://www.cst.armstrong.edu/step).
College of Ed Faculty Member, Retirees, Busy in Belize

With suitcases stuffed with teaching materials and children’s books, Susan White, Joyce Bergin, Bettye Anne Battiste, and Nancy Hepting flew to Belize in Central America at the end of May. They were off to provide four days of intensive teacher in-service training to pre-school teachers and their supervisors.

By invitation of the Belize Ministry of Education and funded by donations and a grant from the Huston Charitable Trust, Bergin (special education), Battiste (retired early childhood education), Hepting (speech and language pathologist and former AASU faculty member) and White (retired special education) lent their expertise during four days of workshops designed to help pre-school teachers support children as they transition from pre-K to kindergarten and on to first grade. Thirty-one teachers and early childhood supervisors participated in the workshops that drew rave reviews from the participants. Workshop topics ranged from brain development to language stimulation and from supervision strategies to assessment.

In return, the educators were treated to rich cultural experiences such as Garifuna dances, Mayan greetings, Kriol music, and Mestizo songs. At the end of the workshop, each Belizean participant left with a stack of books and teaching materials to share with other teachers in her school. The educators returned with lighter suitcases but with heads full of ideas for more work through their Partners in Teaching Program.

Calendar

July 1
Final Exams (Session C)

July 1-2
Advance Advisement/Registration by appointment for fall 2009
Advance Web registration (fall 2009)

July 3
Independence Day observed (university closed)

July 6-10
Advance Advisement/Registration by appointment for fall 2009
Advance Web registration (fall 2009)

July 6
First day of class (Session D)

July 7
Final grades due at 9 a.m. (Session C)

July 9
Mid-Term (Session B)

July 11
The Navigate Freshmen Orientation Session will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Check-in is in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

July 13-17
Advance Web Registration (fall 2009)
July 14
Last day of class (Session R)

July 15-16
Final exams (Session R)

July 17
Mid-Term (Session D)

July 21
The Navigate Transfer/Nontraditional Student Orientation Session will be held from 3 to 8 p.m. Check-in is in University Hall.

July 23
Final grades due at 9 a.m. (Sessions R)

July 24
Last day of class (Session A)

July 27-28
Final exams (Session A)

July 30
Last day of class (Session B)

July 31
Last day of class (Session D)
Final grades due at 9 a.m. (Session A)
The Navigate Freshmen Orientation Session will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Check-in is in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

Kudos
Three College of Health Professions programs are featured on the Allied Health in Action web pages of the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions website. Two stories appear, one on dental hygiene and one on a combined activity of the cardiac interventional program and respiratory therapy. To see them, go to www.asahp.org/GR-ALL.htm.

Deborah Jamieson (art, music & theatre) is participating in the “Painting with Light: Stained Glass Workshop” at the 2009 ANC Summer Institutes session this month at the Glencairn Museum in Bryn Athyn, PA.

Lorrie Hoffman (mathematics) was awarded a National Science Foundation-Association for Women in Mathematics travel grant to fund her trip to the Joint Statistical Meetings in Washington, DC next month. She has been invited to chair a session sponsored by the American Statistical Association (ASA) section on statistical education. She will also talk about her research with Greg Knofczynski in a talk scheduled for the Nonparametric Models session sponsored by the ASA Biometrics section.

Mirari Elcoro (psychology) and co-authors presented two papers, “Effects of Delay of Reinforcement on Temporal Control” and “Effects of Response-Reinforcer Dependency on Variable and Fixed-Interval Responding,” at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis in Phoenix.

Junseob Moon (criminal justice) was a guest speaker at the Federal Correctional Institution in Estill, SC on the occasion of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Moon received the Award of Excellence for continuing service and commitment to the institution.

**AASU in the News**

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

6/1 $1 million NSF STEP Grant awarded to College of Science and Technology American Association of State Colleges and Universities newsletter Also, WJCL/Fox 6/2; Savannah Daily News 6/3

6/4 Richard Cebula (economics) writes about bank bailouts and regulations Savannah Morning News

6/5 Jim Anderson (international education) leads group of local educators to Eastern Europe Savannah Daily News

6/8 Philip Schretter keeps AASU in bloom. Savannah Morning News

6/11 Andy Carter, AASU’s new athletic director, is interviewed. WTOC-TV’s Mid Morning Live

6/15 AASU Alumni Awards honor alumni who have made their mark WTOC-TV

6/17 Richard McGrath (economics) interviewed regarding delay in state tax returns Coastal Courier

6/18 AASU hosts Student Union topping off ceremony WTOC-TV Also, WJCL/Fox 6/18; WSAV-TV 6/19

6/18 Richard Cebula (economics) writes about healthcare reform Savannah Morning News

6/22 Bill Daugherty (political science) interviewed regarding Iran post-election protests WSAV-TV

6/23 AASU breaks ground on Windward Commons, a new freshmen residence hall WTOC-TV Also, WJCL/Fox 6/23

6/24 AASU faculty receive leadership awards Savannah Morning News
Two construction projects under way at AASU: Student Union and Windward Commons
Savannah Daily News

AASU Annual Patriotic Concert kicks off early Independence Day celebration
Savannah Morning News
Also, WJCL 6/28

Unrestricted AASU Foundation Funds Monthly Report

The Office of External Affairs reports the expenditure of unrestricted AASU Foundation funds requested by administration, faculty, staff and community partners for various programs and projects that qualify for such support. Due to the extraordinary economic times many unrestricted expenditures have been eliminated and are expected to be permanent reductions. Expenditures listed below involved encumbered fund obligations prior to the need to redirect unrestricted funds to scholarship commitments.

May 2009

Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce
Ex-officio membership, CEO Council
2009 annual meeting
At the request of the president

$660.00

Recognition items related to presentation of honorary doctorate on
May 8, 2009 to Philip Solomons, Sr.
At the request of the president
Friedman’s Fine Art
Partners in recognition

$103.92
$344.41

Reimbursement for presidential candidate dinner
Costs shared at the request of David Carson, vice president of business & finance

$244.53

Indulge Catering at AASU
President’s breakfast
Refreshments for visit by Chancellor Davis

$129.85
$37.00

First City Club
Organizational monthly dues
At the request of the Office of the President

$119.00

Ramelle's Flowers
Floral arrangement for donor
At the request of the Office of Advancement

$116.35

Total

$1,755.06
University System Electronic News Sources
Take advantage of the range of informational publications published online by the University System of Georgia (USG).

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

- Value Added–USG Serves Georgia focuses on how the university system and its campuses are serving Georgia and local communities. To read this monthly publication, go to: www.usg.edu/pubs/value/.

The submission deadline for the August issue of eARMSTRONG is July 15.

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

For more information contact Barry Ostrow in Marketing & Communications at 344.2876.