Homecoming 2009 had Something for Everyone

From alumni re-unions to concerts, carnival games and a bunch of male strippers, Homecoming 2009 had something for everyone.

Alumni from 1937-1959 packed the Johnny Harris Restaurant for the annual Golden Grads Reunion.

Music ensembles were center stage for the re-opening of the newly-remodeled Fine Arts Auditorium.

Sold-out performances of the barely there musical, The Full Monty, entertained Savannah’s theatre lovers.

This year, students enjoyed first-time events such as a carnival and Greek-O-Rama (pictured) and a dance complete with a Homecoming Queen and her court.

A homecoming slideshow link will be arriving in your mailbox soon.

March 2009
AASU Graduate Named Savannah-Chatham County Teacher of the Year

As Daniel Peter Snope ’03, was retiring from the 160th Special Operations Aviation (Airborne) at Hunter Army Airfield, he turned to AASU to begin a second career. A few years later, as a mathematics teacher at Savannah Arts Academy, he was named the Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools’ 2010 Teacher of the Year.

The late Christopher Schuberth, former administrator of the AASU Troops to Teachers program, counseled Snope as he left the military and convinced him to enter the field of teaching. Snope went on to graduate with a Master of Middle Grades Education.

Jane Barnard, an associate professor of mathematics at AASU, and one of Snope’s mentors, nominated him for Teacher of the Year. She cited his experience with many different types of learners and his experiences conducting professional development workshops for in-service teachers as qualifications for the award.

Snope told the Savannah Morning News, “We have a chance to affect both positive and negative change in any given student’s life, and who’s to tell what the future repercussions might be?”

For more information on Snope and the Teacher of the Year program go to http://savannahnow.com/node/668043.

3 Days to Focus on Scholarships

This year’s 3 Days for AASU campaign will focus heavily on raising funds in the business community for scholarships, according to Suzanne Ansley, campaign coordinator.

The campaign will run March 31 to April 2 with past chairmen and other volunteer business leaders soliciting contributions peer to peer. Michael F. Kemp, senior vice president and regional trust manager for Synovus Trust Company, N.A. returns from last year’s successful campaign, once again, as co-chair. His co-chair this year is Ann Purcell, a former Georgia state representative, with Radiation Therapy Associates, PC.

The 3 Days for AASU committee is hoping for a tremendous response from the business community in support of AASU students. A victory celebration will be held on Friday, April 3 at 10 a.m. in the Burnett Hall lobby. All employees are invited to attend.

For more information, contact Ansley at 344.2870 or Suzanne.Ansley@armstrong.edu.
Almost every day, educators, researchers and journalist are discovering (or rediscovering) that the key to successful education in the early years begins in the home. How to make that happen has been the pursuit of one early childhood education assistant professor. Elizabeth Crawford has been recognized by the state of Georgia for recruiting parents at home to their children's education team.

As Crawford reviewed decades of research on parental involvement, she found that involvement in the home could have a more powerful effect than a parent's school involvement. In spring 2008, she developed a partnership between the Department of Education, GeorgiaStandards.org., education majors in the AASU Contemporary Social Issues of the Family course and their mentor teachers to produce materials that would foster an improved educational climate on the home front.

Based on requirements of the Georgia Performance Standards, this team began to develop take-home materials that prepared parents to support their children's school learning at home. “Our students originate and develop the materials,” Crawford explained, “and the teachers review them and send them home.”

These materials do not require any prior knowledge or expense on the part of the parents. Instead, they are designed to encourage dialogue between parent and child. Crawford says, “There is no grading. No right answers. Learning can happen anywhere: while doing laundry, making dinner, or taking a walk.”

The Georgia Department of Education (DOE) has recognized Crawford’s work as a good teaching practice. The DOE sent a video production crew to the Armstrong Atlantic campus to record some of the techniques developed by Crawford and her student and to capture their enthusiasm. The results may be seen at www.doe.k12.ga.us/it.aspx?PageReq=TSITVideo.

Alumnus and Election Polling Expert to Speak

Clyde Tucker, the senior survey methodologist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and 1971 Armstrong State College graduate will speak on “Election Projections: How We Got Here and Where We’re Heading” on Thursday, March 26, at 7 p.m. in University Hall 156. Phi Kappa Phi is sponsoring his lecture.

The importance of election projections in the American political system became dramatically apparent in the 2000 presidential election. Although election projections have been a staple of election night broadcasts for 50 years, interest increased in the aftermath of the incorrect calls in Florida in 2000. Tucker will revisit election night in both 2000 and 2004. He will follow up with a brief history of projecting elections over the half-century prior to the 2000 election. He’ll conclude with some thoughts on experiences from the 2008 presidential election season and speculation about the future of election projections.
Tucker began his career as the assistant manager of CBS News Polls, where he worked on the design and analysis of exit polls. Since 1984, he has served as a statistical consultant on national election decision desks for television networks. He managed the decision teams for Voter News Service from 1994 to 2002. In 2004, 2006 and 2008, he headed the decision desk for CNN.

At Armstrong Atlantic, Tucker majored in political science. He graduated summa cum laude and received the prestigious Silver A Award. He also holds an M.S. in statistics and a Ph.D. in political science, both from the University of Georgia.

**Literary Program Postponed**

“All Soul of a People: Writing America's Story,” originally scheduled to run during March, had to be postponed due to the unavailability of its namesake documentary. The program, including the documentary, will run later in the year.

**Calendar**

**March 2**
Last day of classes (Session 2)

**March 3**
Final exams (Session 2)

**March 4**
Mid-term (Session 1)
Final exams (Session 2)

**March 5**
AASU Spring Career Fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Student Recreation Center
For information contact the Career Services Department at 344.2563 or visit the career fair link at [http://sa.armstrong.edu/careerservices/careerfairs.html](http://sa.armstrong.edu/careerservices/careerfairs.html).

**March 5-6**
The AASU Masquers present the first of three original plays chosen for production in its second annual Coastal Empire New Play Festival at 7:30 p.m. in University Hall 157. Admission is free and open to the public. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays for more information.

**March 6**
Faculty Forum at noon

The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents Mickey Lozano, flute, and Ryan Burd, percussion, in graduation recital at 2:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. Admission is free. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays for more information.

**March 7**
George Davies (physical therapy) will speak on his experiences at the Olympics/Paralympics in Beijing at the Savannah Society of Radiologic Technologists, meeting in Science Center 1107 at 8 a.m. For more information contact Sharon Gilliard-Smith at 344.2986.

**March 9**
Final grades due 9 a.m. (Session 2)
Registration (Session 3)
Faculty Senate meeting at noon
March 10
First day of class (Session 3)

The Savannah Winds, community wind symphony in residence at AASU, performs in concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. Festive marches, patriotic favorite, and art music are all possibilities when the band hits the stage. General admission is $14. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays for ticketing information.

March 11
Weight Training Seminars at 10 a.m. in the Student Recreation Center

March 12
GMEA District Band Festival at 5:30 p.m.
French Dinner and Movie Night at 6:30 p.m.

March 12-15
The Masquers presents *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, Martin McDonagh’s Olivier Award winning dark comedy. Audience discretion is strongly advised. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. in the Jenkins Hall Black Box Theater. General admission is $10. Discounts are available to military, seniors, alumni members, AASU faculty and staff, students and children. AASU students presenting valid AASU I.D. will be admitted free. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays for ticketing information. Connect Savannah is the print sponsor of the Masquers.

March 13
GMEA District Band Festival 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

March 15
Departmental textbook submissions for fall term due

March 16-21
Spring break for students

March 19-20
GMEA District Choral Festival 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

March 23 to April 9
The Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents the annual AASU Student Juried Art Exhibition in the Fine Arts Gallery. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays. Admission is free. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays for more information.

Wellness Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the cafeteria

March 24
Weight training seminar in the Student Recreation Center at noon

March 25
The Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents an art gallery reception for the AASU Student Juried Art Exhibition at noon in the Fine Arts Gallery. Admission is free. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays more for information.

University Curriculum Committee, 3 p.m.
March 26-27
The Masquers presents the second of three original plays chosen for production in its second annual Coastal Empire New Play Festival at 7:30 p.m. in Ashmore Hall Auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays for more information.

March 27
CST Computing Quiz Bowl, 1 p.m.

March 28
CST Computing Quiz Bowl, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Department of Art, Music & Theatre's popular Outdoor Art Show and Children's Festival returns from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Fine Arts Hall Courtyard. The festival features arts activities for the entire family including kids' art, music, theatre and dance activities. The artwork of faculty, students and alumni will be available for purchase. Admission is free. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays for information.

March 30-31
Advance advisement by appointment (Summer/Fall 09)

March 30
The Gender & Women's Studies Program presents “Making it Happen: Women, Grassroots, and Change” at 4:30 p.m. in University Hall 156. This Women's History Month program features a roundtable with representatives from Safe Shelter, Rape Crisis Center, Planned Parenthood and Working Woman in Need.

Kudos
Three College of Education graduates have been named 2008 Master Teachers. They are Margaret Nicole Davis, Effingham County; Teshewanda Shuman, Effingham County; and Oatanisha Renee Dawson, Glynn County. The Master Teacher designation, awarded by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, recognizes Georgia's best teachers, identifying them as educators who have positively influenced student achievement in the classroom.

George Shields (College of Science and Technology) coauthored “Antiestrogenic and Anticancer Activities of Peptides Derived from the Active Site of Alpha-Fetoprotein” in the Journal of Peptide Science.

Lorrie Hoffman (mathematics) coauthored “On Improving School Climate: Reducing Reliance on Rewards and Punishment” in the this month's issue of International Journal of Whole School.

Richard Wallace (chemistry & physics) presented “Recent Experiments Involving ‘Veinte Cohol’: A Short Cycle Banana For Fruit Production In Non-tropical Environments” last month at the Southern Region American Society for Horticultural Science 69th Annual Meeting in Atlanta. Coauthors included Suzy Carpenter (chemistry & physics).

Wallace also presented “Growing Bananas In Non-tropical Climates” to Zion senior citizens at the Zion Lutheran Church in Marlow, GA.

Julianna Williams (counseling center) co-presented “Initiating Sexual Assault Prevention Interventions on College Campuses” during the Georgia College Counseling Association conference at St. Simons Island.
Brad Sturz (psychology) has coauthored two papers: “Evidence against integration of spatial maps on humans: Generality across real and virtual environments” published in *Animal Cognition* and “Dissociation of past and present experience in problem solving using a virtual environment” published in *CyberPsychology and Behavior*.

Richard Cebula (economics) has coauthored “Expected Migration Impacts of the Healthy Wisconsin Program” in the *Wisconsin Policy Research Institute Report*.


Toma presented “The U.S. and Savannah Economy, and the Regional Housing Market” to the staff of Meaver/Mouchet Inc, commercial developers and to the Savannah area chapter of the Appraisal Institute.

Randall Reese (art, music & theatre) performed with the Georgia Association of Jazz Educators Directors Band in the session “New Music For High School and Middle School Jazz Bands” at the in-service conference of the Georgia Music Educators Association in Savannah.

Gloria Strickland and Elwin Tilson (both radiologic sciences) presented four continuing education sessions for radiology personnel at St. Joseph’s and Candler hospitals. The sessions related to radiation protection and digital imaging systems.

Six nursing faculty members made presentations last month at the Georgia Association for Nursing Education Annual Conference at St. Simon’s Island. Topics included “Project Success: Accomplishments in Nursing Education Innovations” presented by Marilyn O’Mallon, Gratchen Roberson and Helen Taggart; “Imperial Sugar Explosion—Lessons Learned” by Susan Sammons; “Career Path Development for Novice Nursing Educators” by Camille Payne; and “Tutorials for Nursing Student Retention: Lessons Learned” by Carolyn Jackson, Taggart, O’Mallon and Roberson.

Daniel R. Hinely (athletics) was elected treasurer of the Georgia Athletic Trainers Association (GATA). As treasurer, he will serve on GATA’s executive board.

Edward N. Davis (middle & secondary education) presented “If You Teach Them, They Will Learn; Effective Strategies for Teaching Middle Grades Learners” at the Georgia Council for Teachers of English annual conference on Jekyll Island and at the Georgia Middle School Association state conference in Savannah.

Regina Rahimi (middle & secondary education) and Patricia Zaldivar, middle grades education major, presented “Success for ESL Students in English Language Arts” at the Georgia Council of Teachers of English annual conference on Jekyll Island.

Megan Feasel (recreation center) won the inaugural Critz Tybee Run Half Marathon in February.

Deborah Jamieson (art, music & theatre) will present “The Alhambra: Multiple Perspectives” this month at the 13th Georgia Consortium for International Studies.

Felix Hamza-Lup (computer science) will be a co-presenter of “Interactive 3D User Interfaces for Neuroanatomy Exploration” at the 5th International Conference on Web Information Systems and Technologies, in Lisboa, Portugal. The conference focuses on state-of-the-art web interfaces and applications bringing together researchers from Europe, the U.S. and Asia.
Jim Anderson (international education) served as one of the reviewers for proposals submitted for presentation at the 12th Annual Conference on the Americas sponsored by the University System of Georgia and the Americas Council at Georgia Perimeter College last month.

Richard McGrath (economics) completed his term as president-elect of the Academy of Economics and Finance (AEF) by organizing the organization’s 36th annual meeting last month in Pensacola Beach, FL. In addition to his duties as program chair, McGrath also handled all of the local arrangements and filled in for the AEF president who was unable to attend. At the close of the meeting McGrath was elevated to the academy presidency.

Greg Wimer (health and physical education) and Bryan Riemann (health sciences) co-authored “Carbohydrate-electrolyte supplementation does not enhance cognitive function or skill performance in male high school basketball players” that was presented in February at the American College of Sports Medicine Southeast Regional Chapter meeting.

The 31st Annual Mathematics Tournament was held on January 31 for high school students from across Georgia and South Carolina. The competition is coordinated by Paul Hadavas (mathematics) with written and oral examinations proctored mainly by mathematics professors with some other faculty in the College of Science & Technology participating. Sixteen schools and over 150 students were on campus for the challenge.

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, we have eliminated many unrestricted expenditures, e.g. golf tournaments, rotary dues for all but the president, campus social events, etc.) and we fully expect these to be permanent reductions. Expenditures listed below involved funds for which we had encumbered an obligation prior to our realization of the need to redirect unrestricted funds to scholarship commitments. We are hopeful that the economy will not dampen our donors' enthusiasm during the annual fund campaign, 3 Days for AASU, scheduled for March 31-April 3, 2009.

January 2009
Armstrong Atlantic State University Bookstore  1,070.00
Retirements Gifts
At the request of the vice president of external affairs
The Print Shop  599.00
Holiday cards
At the request of the President's Office
Advertising Specialty Services  526.65
Donor recognition decals
At the request of advancement
Laser Light Engraving  455.00
Volunteer recognition for trustee service
At the request of AASU Foundation Board Chair Ann Purcell
Hunter Maclean  440.50
Foundation legal consultation
At the request of the vice president of external affairs
Aramark Campus Services
Construction manual meeting
At the request of Bill Megathlin

MLK Observance Day
Sponsorship
At the request of Michael Snowden

First City Club
December and January dues
At the request of President Jones

Ramelle’s Florist
In sympathy (three arrangements)
At the request of the vice president of external affairs

Melwood Spring Water Company and Coca Cola Bottling
Supplies for Burnett Hall
At the request of the President’s Office

The Chatham Club
Lunch meeting
At the request of President Jones

Savannah Chamber of Commerce
Economic Outlook Luncheon (individual tickets)
At the request of the vice president of external affairs

Indulge Catering at AASU
Business luncheon
At the request of President Jones

Indulge Catering at AASU
Scholarship announcement for cyber security
At the request of the vice president of external affairs

**AASU in the News**

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

2/1 Michael Toma (economics) interviewed on the economic downturn and its impact on the region
*Georgia Trend* magazine

2/6 AASU alumnus Daniel Snope named 2010 Savannah-Chatham Teacher of the Year
*WTOC*
Also, *Savannah Morning News* 2/7

2/10 Richard Cebula (economics) interviewed regarding likely impact of the stimulus package
*WTOC-TV*

2/12 Georgia Sen. Seth Harp’s proposal to merge Savannah State and AASU is discussed
*Time* magazine
2/9  Michael Toma (economics) interviewed regarding regional economy, stimulus bill and TARP
Adventure Radio

2/15  Michael Toma (economics) quoted in story about the impact of the growth of the 3rd ID on the regional economy
Savannah Morning News

2/16  Student quoted in story regarding the proposal by state Sen. Seth Harp
Savannah Morning News

2/16  Michael Toma (economics) interviewed regarding tax refunds
Coastal Courier

2/13  Camille Payne (nursing) interviewed in story regarding AASU nursing program and nursing as a recession-proof career
WTOC-TV

2/18  Wayne Willcox is the new chief of the AASU Police Department
WTOC-TV, Savannah Morning News

2/19  Hassan Aziz (medical technology) profiled.
Advance for Medical Laboratories Professionals magazine

2/23  Fine Arts Auditorium opens after extensive refurbishing
Savannah Morning News

2/23  Sabrina Hessinger (mathematics) and George Shields (College of Science & Technology) coauthor an article on science and math education
Business Report & Journal

2/24  Carol Andrews and Bill Dawers (both languages, literature & philosophy) interviewed in a story about a Savannah appearance of Flannery O'Connor biographer Brad Gooch
Savannah Morning News

2/26  Richard Cebula (economics) debuts a bi-weekly column
Savannah Morning News

2/26  Richard Cebula (economics) quoted in front-page article about local reaction to President Obama’s speech
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).

- 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/).
- 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/](http://www.usg.edu/pubs/value/).
- Linkages reports news of the university system and provides hot links to related source materials: [www.usg.edu/linkages/](http://www.usg.edu/linkages/).
The submission deadline for the April issue of eARMSTRONG is March 16.

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

For more information contact Barry Ostrow in the Office of University Relations at 344.2876 or Barry.Ostrow@armstrong.edu.