Ph.D. in Nursing Added
Armstrong Atlantic will play a role in tackling the statewide nursing shortage and will also expand access to doctoral programs in Savannah as part of a new $5 million statewide initiative approved in April by the University System of Georgia. The university will be one of four institutions working with Georgia State University in an initiative that will allow Ph.D. candidates to take the Georgia State doctoral degree fully online. The new program will support an AASU faculty member to serve as mentor and facilitator for two Ph.D. candidates.

3 Days for AASU Exceeds Goal
The third annual 3 Days for AASU campaign raised $210,468 from the business community. The results were announced April 7 in a victory celebration at Burnett Hall. The campaign involved alumni and volunteers calling on area businesses to recruit financial backing for the university’s annual fund. Janice Woods, vice president of First Chatham Bank, was named outstanding volunteer of this year’s campaign, which was chaired by Vernice Rackett, membership director at Savannah Quarters Country Club, and co-chaired by Padgett Mixon, vice president of Wachovia Wealth Management.

AASU a State Leader in Charitable Giving
Armstrong Atlantic was one of nine institutions in the University System of Georgia to be recognized by the Georgia Merit System for employee participation in the annual State Charitable Contributions Program.

The university received the Governor’s Cup for having the highest contribution per employee in institutions with 501 to 1,000 employees. This is the fourth time in six years that AASU has been so honored. Joe Buck heads up the Armstrong Atlantic drive each year.

Overall, university system employees contributed $1.2 million to designated charities during the 2005-2006 campaign.
June Hopkins to Head History Department

June Hopkins, a member of the Armstrong Atlantic faculty since 1998, has been named head of the Department of History. She had filled that position on an interim basis since last summer. She is a widely published academician whose research focus is U.S. history. She earned a Ph.D. in history from Georgetown University. Her master’s degree is from the University of California at Northridge, and she did her undergraduate work at the University of California–Berkeley. In addition, she holds an M.P.A. from Pace University.

Staff Advisory Council Helps S.A.F.E. Shelter

The Staff Advisory Council’s events committee staged its first community project this spring, collecting sample-size toiletry items for S.A.F.E. Shelter. The project resulted in 302 complete toiletry packets for the shelter to distribute to incoming women, many of whom have left abusive situations without any personal supplies. The drive also netted the group six boxes of larger-size products for use by S.A.F.E. Shelter clients.

Taggart Wins Alumni Award

Savannah attorney Tom Taggart was honored with this year’s Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Armstrong Atlantic Alumni Association. Taggart, a former state legislator, has practiced law in Savannah since 1972.

In addition, the group announced its new slate of officers. Dodie Gay ’83, president; Spencer Hoynes ’70, president-elect; Kevin Fitzmaurice ’99, ’02, vice president; Sandra Jones ’64, ’98, treasurer/recording secretary; and Patty Parker ’92, ’95, corresponding secretary.

ODK, National Leadership Honor Society Induction

Twenty-one Armstrong Atlantic students, along with President Jones and five other members of the university’s administration and faculty, were inducted as charter members of the university’s Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) circle, the national leadership honor society, in a ceremony on the AASU campus in April.

With the launch of Armstrong Atlantic’s ODK circle, future members will be selected through a combination of nominations and self-application. Membership is open to undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty, staff, administration, and alumni. For more information about membership requirements, and to see the list of charter members, go to www.urelations.armstrong.edu/2005-2006.html.

MACAS Honors Students

More than 460 ethnic minority students were honored for their academic achievements on April 9 when Armstrong Atlantic State University held its annual Minority Academic Achievement Scholars (MACAS) awards ceremony. A complete list of honorees can be found at www.urelations.armstrong.edu/2005-2006.html.
AASU Welcomes Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Armstrong Atlantic initiated its first membership class in Phi Kappa Phi in ceremonies on campus in April.

Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society. The group was founded in 1897 at the University of Maine. Membership is by invitation only, with criteria limiting invitations to the top 7.5 percent of second semester juniors and the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students.

ArmstrongFest ’06 5K Walk/Run

As part of ArmstrongFest ’06, a free 5K walk/run was held on campus. All 93 participants received a free t-shirt. The lead runners were:

1st place – Chris Batt, community friend
2nd place – Steven Chafee, student
3rd place – Cowetta Sirmars, community friend

Welcome Aboard

Betty Darby, University Relations
Vanessa Martinez, Financial Aid

Events

May 1
Last day of classes (Sessions 1 & 3)

May 3
Final exams begin (Sessions 1 & 3)

May 5
Art Gallery Reception, Spring 2006 Art Education Exhibition hosted by Art, Music & Theatre, 6 p.m., Fine Arts Gallery

May 5-18
Art Exhibition, Spring 2006 Art Education Exhibition, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, Fine Arts Gallery

May 6
Graduation, 10 a.m., Savannah Civic Center

May 9
Final exams end (Sessions 1 & 3)

May 16
Academic assistance registration, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

May 19
Educational Workshop for area schools, 9 a.m., hosted by HOLA, Fine Arts Auditorium

Concert by Los Llaneros, 8 p.m., hosted by HOLA, Fine Arts Auditorium

May 29
Memorial Day Holiday
May 31
Registration Sessions (Sessions A-D)
CHAOS, 10-11 a.m.

Kudos

José de Arimatéia da Cruz, criminal justice, social & political science, and Margaret Kelly-Listermann, Georgia Perimeter College's Dunwoody Campus, have published an article, "Incorporated and African Perspective in a Traditional Political Science Introductory Course," in the National Social Science 2006 Volume 26 #1: 14-22. www.nssa.us/26_1/26-1%20DaCruzIncorporating.htm.

Becky da Cruz, criminal justice, social & political science, presented, “How to develop an undergraduate moot court program” in March to the scholars in the Mitchell McConnell Center at the University of Louisville as part of their political leadership forum.

Bill Deaver, languages, literature & philosophy, and Ana Torres made presentations at the V Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica in Lima, Peru in March. Deaver presented “El retablo de las maravillas: mensajes crípticos para un pueblo invisible.” Torres presented “El bolero como fenómeno social en La última noche que pasé contigo.” In April they also took a group of Sigma Delta Pi Hispanic Honor Society students to hear Peruvian author Mario Vargas Llosa, the Ellman Distinguished Lecturer at Emory University, give a talk on Spanish philosopher Ortega y Gasset.

Tom Cooksey, languages, literature & philosophy, attended the annual conference of the American Comparative Literature Association in March, at Princeton University. He delivered his paper, “Human Aspects: A Wittgensteinian Reading of the Beast Fable,” part of a three day seminar “stream” on “The Animal Other in Literature, the Arts, and Culture.” Cooksey's book, Masterpieces of Philosophical Literature, was published by Greenwood Press.

Richard Wallace, chemistry & physics, is co-principal investigator on a grant funded by the United States Department of Agriculture. The project is “Educating the Educators,” and is a joint project between Wallace and faculty from Fort Valley State University, Clemson University, University of Rhode Island, Karmanos Cancer Institute at Wayne State University and a plant tissue culture company (Kitchen Culture Kits, Inc.). The total budget of the grant is $300,000.

Brent Fiske and Kelly Elkins, chemistry & physics, presented posters at the American Chemical Society (ACS) National meeting in Atlanta in March. Elkins and Matthew Dickerson, biology major and chemistry minor student, presented “Flourescence spectroscopy study of Suwannee River fulvic acid complexation with A1(III) and comparative metal ions.”

Jenny Wheeler, chemistry post-bac student, and Elkins, presented “Understanding the specificity of risperidone binding to catecholamine receptors.”

Jeremy Hammond, chemistry student, and Feske delivered “Steroselective, biocatalytic reductions of b-keto nitriles using engineered E. coli.”

Suzy Carpenter, chemistry & physics, and Wallace, presented “Student Resource CD for Organic Chemistry” at the ACS meeting in Atlanta in March. They also published “A Quick and Easy Simplification of Benzocaine’s NMR Spectrum” in the April issue of the Journal of Chemical Education (Volume 83, p. 637).
Cathy MacGowan, chemistry & physics, presented a poster and participated in a symposium in the Chemical Education Division of the ACS spring national meeting in Atlanta. Her symposium talk was “Lessons Learned: Insights on Organizing and Running a Successful Departmental Community Outreach Program,” and the poster presentation was “Melding Chemistry with Geology: Across-disciplinary Program of Study for Middle/Secondary Grade Educators.”

Delana Nivens, chemistry & physics, was invited to speak at the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Symposium at the Material Research Society's spring national meeting in San Francisco in April. Her paper, “Infusion of Nanotechnology in Chemistry Courses Through Laboratory Designed Vertical Threads” included co-authors Will Lynch and 10 undergraduate students.

Carolyn Smith, mathematics, spoke on “Searching for the Algebra Lighthouse – Then and Now” at the 30th annual University System of the Georgia Learning Support Conference on St. Simons Island in April. She addressed the differences in profiles and utilization of teaching aids between learning support math students at Armstrong Atlantic, comparing today's students to the 1983-84 cohort.

Donna Bryant, mathematics, won the singles championship in the Ladies division of the Banana Open Tennis Tournament in March at Bacon Park in Savannah.

Tim McMillan and Sean Eastman, mathematics, attended the Southeastern Mathematics Association of America/Southeastern Atlantic Section of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics at Auburn University on March 31 and April 1. Accompanying them were three mathematics majors.

Ron Collins, Liberty Center, has received a special citation saluting his work with the Hinesville Military Affairs Committee. That panel, created by Hinesville Mayor Thomas J. Ratcliffe, Jr., works on behalf of local military interests. Major General William Webster, commanding general at Fort Stewart, presented the citation to Collins.

Anne Hanné, medical technology and respiratory therapy, had her first article, “This Land is Your Land,” published in The Skinnie in January 2006.

Lottie Scott, adult academic services, will serve on the University System of Georgia Learning Support Program Executive Board. She will serve in this capacity from summer 2006 through spring 2009.

Jane McHaney, dean, College of Education, presented “Setting a Course for Impacting a Statewide Teacher Assessment System” at the national Professional Development School conference in Orlando in March.

Patrick Brennan, special and adult education, has been named president of the Georgia Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). The CEC is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. His elected term runs through 2006.

Catherine Gilbert, nursing, gave a lecture on “Prince Edward Island: More than Anne of Green Gables,” as part of the Robert Ingram Strozier Faculty Lecture Series in April.

Brian Culp, health & physical education, presented “Preparing Qualitative Studies for Urban Physical Education Environments” and “Sharing the Dream of Equitable Physical Education: A Plea for Responsible Pedagogy in PETE” at the 2006 convent of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance in Salt Lake City.
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/.

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 June issue of eARMSTRONG is May 15.

Please send submissions to news@mail.armstrong.edu

For more information contact Patricia Reese in the Office of University Relations at 927.5222 or at reesepat@mail.armstrong.edu.