Two Promoted to Head College of Liberal Arts

Mark R. Finlay and H. Elizabeth Howells have been promoted to lead the new College of Liberal Arts. Finlay will serve as interim dean and Howells will provide support as interim assistant dean.

Finlay joined Armstrong Atlantic in 1992 and is a professor of history. He directed the AASU Honors Program for nine years and was, most recently, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Howells joined Armstrong Atlantic in 2001 as assistant professor of literature and director of composition. She has served in a number of administrative roles, including as director of composition supervising writing courses in the core curriculum, as coordinator of the Regents’ Test administration, and as a leader on issues of student success on campus for the university system, as well as for the American Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities.

Armstrong Awarded $360,000 to Participate in the USG STEM Initiative

The university was awarded $360,000 to participate in the University System of Georgia’s (USG) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Initiative. The primary focus of this USG Initiative is to increase student success in undergraduate STEM courses and increase the number of students choosing majors in STEM and STEM teaching fields. The Armstrong Atlantic STEM Initiative will be coordinated by Sabrina Hessinger, mathematics, with support from a team of faculty who will be recruited this fall to take on additional leadership roles.

STEM implementation at AASU will involve four primary strategies: 1) integrated and creative departmental initiatives to increase and retain STEM majors, 2) coordination of a summer Academy for Future Teachers to engage rising juniors and seniors in STEM career mentoring and STEM teaching experiences, 3) an internal grant program to create K-16 professional learning communities, and 4) an internal grant program to support faculty research in the scholarship of teaching and learning. For additional information about STEM Initiative opportunities at Armstrong Atlantic, contact Sabrina Hessinger at 344.3092.
PRISM Year Six Extension Approved

Armstrong Atlantic’s PRISM Initiative has been approved by the National Science Foundation for a one year no-cost extension. This streamlined version of PRISM in its sixth year will focus fully on faculty and K-12 teacher collaborations within school-based professional learning communities. In the Southeast Region, 20 schools in which PRISM learning communities have been the most successful have been invited to participate. Faculty who’ve worked closely with these 20 schools in previous years will engage in learning community-based research projects to capture evidence of changed teaching practice and improved student learning which can be attributed to their past and continuing PRISM supported work in the schools.

RX for wellness

This year, the Student Recreation Center is prescribing a healthy dose of wellness for whatever ails you.

Nan Davis, center director, reports that an even greater emphasis on wellness is being injected into the program that is open to students, faculty and staff.

The wellness lineup includes a High Noon Walking Club and 24 group exercises classes each week. Brown Bag Lunch Seminars will explore such topics as stress management and healthy eating habits on campus. An intro to weight training is being introduced and personal training is now available. The lunchtime seminars and walking groups are free.

Healthy Eating Every Day is a 14-week course designed to develop healthy eating patterns for a lifetime. It is designed to help people improve the quality of their diets and balance calories to reach a healthy weight. Davis, a certified facilitator, will lead this class. There will be a $70 fee for the course textbook.

New sport clubs being formed this year are men’s rugby and disc golf. Plans are underway to start a men’s soccer club.

Megan Feasel has joined the center as the new assistant director for wellness. Call her at 344.3089 for more information about wellness programs.

Faculty Senate Gears Up for Fall

AASU has adopted a senate governance structure effective this fall. Officers include Kevin Hampton, art, music & theatre (president), Delana Nivens, chemistry & physics (vice president), and Jewell Anderson, library (secretary). In addition, 40 elected senators will represent each academic area. The next meeting is September 8.

Show Pride in AASU

AASU alumni and employees can show their pride in the university by sporting an AASU license plate on their cars. Go to www.externalaffairs.armstrong.edu/alumni/licenseplate.htm to see the new “3 Easy Steps” for obtaining an AASU license plate.
**OSHA Compliance Training Offered**

Professional and Continuing Education has formed the Center for Safety, Health, and Environmental Training, which will begin offering specialized training for regional employers seeking to meet Occupational Safety and Health Administration safety compliance and regulations.

For registration information and a complete schedule of courses call 912.344.2555, visit [www.ce.armstrong.edu](http://www.ce.armstrong.edu), or e-mail conted@armstrong.edu.

**Calendar**

**September 1**
Labor Day (University Closed)

**September 5**
Faculty Forum, noon-1:30 p.m.

**September 8**
Faculty Senate, noon-1:30 p.m.

**September 12**
Faculty Lecture Series - Kalenda Eaton, languages, literature & philosophy, presents “Breakout before you get Bumrushed,” in University Hall 156 at 12:10 p.m.

**September 15-October 3**
The Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents its 2008 Faculty Art Exhibition in the AASU 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 information.

**September 16**
PeopleSoft V8 Training - General Ledger Users, 9 a.m.-noon

**September 17**
Administrative Council Meeting in University Hall, 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

The Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents an art gallery reception for its 2008 Faculty Art Exhibition at noon in the Fine Arts Gallery. Admission is free. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays, for information.

**September 18**
The Department of Art, Music & Theatre celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with a special dance and music recital by Argentine performers “Tami Tango Trio” at 2:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium (alternate location: Fine Arts 206). Admission is free. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays, for information.

**September 18-21**
The Masquers present Michael Frayn’s *Copenhagen*. The play won the 2000 Tony Award for Best Broadway Play, Outer Circle Critics Award for Outstanding Broadway Play, and New York Drama Critic’s Award for Best Foreign Play. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. in the Jenkins Black Box Theater. General admission is $10. Discounts available to military, seniors, alumni members, and students/children. AASU staff, faculty, and students presenting valid AASU I.D. will be admitted free of charge. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays, for ticketing information.
September 24
AASU Study Abroad Fair, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., MCC University Dining Room

September 25-28
The Masquers present William Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. (3 p.m. on September 28) in Jenkins Theater. General admission: $10. Discounts available to military, seniors, alumni members, and students/children. AASU staff, faculty, and students presenting valid AASU I.D. will be admitted free of charge. Call 344.2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays, for ticketing information.

September 29
Latino Heritage Week event, 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Kudos

Eight Sworn in as Police Officers
Eight members of the AASU Police Department were sworn in last month. They were Lt. Dwain Whitehead, Sergeants John Bennett, Salvador Ortega, and Joseph Peny. Also, Officers Brandon Baxter, Erica Coreno, Santonio Johnson, and Sean Mahaney. Bennett, Ortega, and Peny also received promotions in rank.

Joy Reed, computer science, has received an extension research grant for 2008-09 from the Office of Naval Research (ONR) for $78,000. This is added to previous ONR grants dating from 2003 for a total of $496,000. Her work deals with mathematical methods for establishing the correctness of computing systems.

Tony Morris, languages, literature & philosophy, had three poems published in the fall 2008 issue of *The Connecticut Review*. Morris was also a featured reader at the 2008 Decatur Book Festival, and a guest reader at the Maslow Foundation Reading Series at Wilkes University.

In June, Trish Coberly, adult & continuing education, and graduate students enrolled in the Adult Education and Community Leadership program, visited the men’s medium security Federal Correctional Center in Estill, SC. The volunteers spent the day providing mock interviews followed by performance feedback for inmates scheduled for release in the next six months.

George Shields, College of Science and Technology, published “Thermodynamics of the Hydroxyl Radical Addition to Isoprene” in the *Journal of Physical Chemistry A* in July. Co-authors were Marco Allodi, student research assistant, and Karl Kirschner, Max-Planck-Institut für molekulare Physiologie, Dortmund, Germany.

Shields also published “Ramachandra-Type Plots for Glycosidic Linkages: Examples from Molecular Dynamic Simulations Using the Glycam06 Force Field” in the *Journal of Computational Chemistry* in August. Co-authors were Amanda Salisburg, Ashley Deline, and Katrina Lexa, student research assistants, and Kirschner.

Shields hosted the 7th annual MERCURY (Molecular Education and Research Consortium in Undergraduate computational chemistRY) conference on computational chemistry in Clinton, NY, in early August. Approximately 60 undergraduate researchers presented posters of their work for the 35 faculty and six keynote speakers in attendance.
Three AASU graduates have received Georgia Power’s New Teacher Assistance Grants. They are Sarah Trawick, Billy Lee, and Kurt Browning. All are 2008 graduates.

Kate Farley, library, presented “Combating Plagiarism: Partnering with Faculty to Fight Academic Crime” at the Georgia GOLD/GALILEO Library Conference in Athens, GA.

José de Arimatéia da Cruz, criminal justice, social & political science, has published, with several co-authors, Business and Society: The Next Phase of Latin American Development (Pearson Custom Publishing, 2008). The book includes articles by Michael Hall, history, and Becky K. da Cruz, criminal justice, social & political science.

Richard J. Cebula, economics, and his student Holly Meads, have published “The Electoral College System, Political Party Dominance, and Voter Turnout, with Evidence from the 2004 Presidential Election,” in the Atlantic Economic Journal. In addition, Cebula has been appointed co-editor of the Open Economics Journal.

Kalenda Eaton, languages, literature & philosophy, presented “Moving Pictures With Sound: Diaspora, Spirituality, and Languages in Helen Oyeyemi’s ‘The Opposite House’ and Erna Brodber’s ‘Louisiana’” at the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars conference in St. George’s, Grenada.

Beth Howells, languages, literature & philosophy, presented “Re-Presenting the Rhetoric of Retention and the Work of First-Year Composition: Learning to Revise as a WPA” at the Writing Program Administrators Annual Conference in Denver in July 2008.

Allison Belzer, history, presented a paper, “The Ephemeral Feminine? The Transformation of the New Woman from World War I to Fascism in Italy,” at the 14th Berkshire Conference on Women, held at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

Barbara Fertig, history, won a fellowship from the Gerald E. and Corrine L. Parsons Fund for Ethnography at the Library of Congress to support her summer research on the African-American communities of the Georgia Low Country.


Richard Wallace, chemistry and physics, presented “Edible and Ornamental Banana Research In Georgia” at the Finnish Museum of Natural History at the University of Helsinki.

Becky K. da Cruz and José de Arimatéia da Cruz, both criminal justice & social and political science, published “Age-Graded Attachment Theory: Conduct Disorder and Juvenile Delinquency” in the *National Social Science Journal*.


**CORRECTION**

In the August issue of *eArmstrong*, Richard Wallace (chemistry & physics) was incorrectly listed as the mentor for students competing in the International Chemistry Olympiad in Budapest. Will Lynch (chemistry & physics) was their mentor.

**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 which qualify for such support. Unrestricted funds are those given to the foundation to enable the university to support worthy academic, student and community programs and projects for which state funds cannot be used. They are also used to supplement existing state funding to the university and to assist the university in raising additional money. Unrestricted funds are raised chiefly from the annual campaign, in particular the 3 Days for AASU fund drive in April, faculty/staff campaign in August, and the alumni phonathon in October and November.

*President’s Annual Retreat* $1,903.00  
Foundation payment of non-reimbursable charges at the request of President Jones

*Advertising Specialty Services* $1,983.00  
Logo items for donor recognition, at the request of the Office of Advancement

*Rotary Club of Skidaway Island* $185.00  
Annual dues for Zaphon Wilson

*Aramark Campus Services* $151.00  
Luncheon and training for Staff Advisory Council, at the request of Rebecca Carroll

*Aramark Campus Services* $150.00  
Refreshments for meeting of university police, at the request of Chief Conroy

*Rotary Club of Richmond Hill* $52.00  
Dues for John McGuthry
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 University Relations at 961.3173, or Francisco.Duque@armstrong.edu.

8/3 Brenda Forbis is new director of marketing and communications. *Business Report & Journal*

8/4 Peter Mellen, theater, interviewed about his reading choices for the summer. *Savannah Morning News*

8/3 Greg Anderson, director of academic orientation, is quoted in article about college planning. *Savannah Morning News*

8/3 The BOR is accepting bids for 23 acres of AASU property that went on the market. *Business Report & Journal*

8/3 AASU selects internal auditor. *Business Report & Journal*

8/8 Ossabest, a project funded by a $1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation, is training teachers and students in Savannah-Chatham schools. *WTOC-TV*  
Also, WTOC-TV 8/9, WJCL-TV 8/6

8/10 Armstrong Center for Professional and Continuing Education to begin offering OSHA compliance training to area employers. *Savannah Morning News*

8/11 Mark R. Finlay and H. Elizabeth Howells will leads the new College of Liberal Studies. *Business Report & Journal*

8/15 AASU alum makes Olympic debut. *Savannah Morning News*  
Also Savannah Morning News 8/17

8/16 AASU students move into residence halls in anticipation of the start of fall classes. *WTOC-TV*  
Also WJCL-TV 8/16

8/17 AASU’s Masquers among local theater companies that are growing. *Savannah Morning News*

8/18 Patricia Buby Wachholz is named dean of the College of Education. *Savannah Morning News*

8/18 Ashraf Saad writes about Ossabest, a project funded by a $1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation. *Business Report & Journal*
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_suppl/](http://www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_suppl/).
- 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 October issue of eArmstrong is September 15.

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.