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Winter 2002

### Compass

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# compass

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A quarterly publication of Armstrong Atlantic State University

## AASU key to four economic development grants

AASU's Office of Economic Development has worked with the colleges of Arts and Sciences and Health Professions and the School of Computing to develop four Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP) Advantage projects in the disciplines of electrical engineering, nursing, medical technology, and computer programming.

ICAPP is part of the university system's economic development program which helps employers meet immediate workforce needs.

### VeriSign

In September, Armstrong Atlantic State University and Georgia Southern University teamed with VeriSign, Inc. to create a \$2.4 million program that will help VeriSign meet its expansion needs at its location in Savannah and will prepare forty Georgians to enter the workforce as JAVA programmers.

"JAVA programmers are in short supply nationwide, especially in Savannah," said S. Hart Williford, general manager and senior vice president of Savannah-based VeriSign Telecommunication Services Wireless Solutions. "We tried to find JAVA programmers but they are in high demand and low supply in the marketplace. ICAPP makes it possible for us to meet customer demand, sustain our growth, and create new jobs in Georgia."

### Healthcare Partners

In July, two ICAPP initiatives totaling \$262,100 focused on preparing more nurses and medical technologists to enter the workforce.



Responding to a local critical need for registered nurses, AASU joined with Memorial Health University Medical Center (MHUMC) and St. Joseph's/Candler to deliver an accelerated baccalaureate degree in nursing. The program will enable nursing students to complete their degrees in two years.

The ICAPP Advantage medical technology initiative allows AASU's College of Health Professions to ensure a statewide delivery of education services to increase the number of medical technologists in Georgia. AASU is partnered with MHUMC in Savannah, Archbold Medical Center in Thomasville, and Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany.

### Gulfstream

Armstrong Atlantic's first ICAPP project was developed in 2001 in a collaboration with Georgia

Southern, Savannah State University, and Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation to bring an electrical engineering degree to Savannah through the Georgia Tech Regional Engineering Program (GTREP). GTREP allows students to complete a Georgia Tech baccalaureate degree in electrical, computer, or civil engineering without ever leaving Savannah.

## Student residential community opens, second phase rising

In September, Armstrong Atlantic celebrated the grand opening of its new student residential community — Compass Point.

A few weeks later, ground was broken for phase two which will include four additional buildings with 276 beds, a health clinic, and student services offices. The second phase will be completed in time for the fall 2003 semester.

“The new student facility visibly concentrates students from out-of-town and around the world on the campus for the first time,” said Thomas Z. Jones, president of Armstrong Atlantic. “Compass Point gives visitors and students a sense that AASU is both a commuter institution and a residential community.”

Compass Point is the first student residential community built on the campus of the university in its sixty-six year history. Two

hundred eighty-eight students live in the four residence buildings completed in phase one. Each building features two- and four-bedroom apartments.

A community clubhouse provides a computer lab, laundry facility, vending machines, game tables, meeting rooms, and four television sets with DVD and VCR access.

A live oak tree was planted at the residence complex as part of the grand opening celebration. The tree was given to the university by Hunter, Maclean, Exley, and Dunn, PC, to beautify the surrounding grounds. Law firm partner Drew Ernst and his wife, Kathy, are alumni of Armstrong Atlantic. Their daughter, Elizabeth, is a resident of Compass Point.



Making presentations at the September ceremony were Jones; Joseph A. Buck, vice president of student affairs; Martin NeSmith, member of the Board of Regents; and William H. Mills, Jr., president and chief executive officer of University Housing Services. Special guests included Robert A. Burnett, AASU president emeritus; Stephen S. Green, AASU Foundation Board president; Patrick Burk, AASU Alumni Association president; and Scott Scheidt, AASU Student Government Association president.

## U.S. Deputy Attorney General keynotes cyber security conference



*Deputy U.S. Attorney General Larry Thompson (right) makes a point to AASU President Thomas Z. Jones.*

Examining the critical role of cyber security was the focus of Regional Approach to Cyber Security, AASU's fifth Science in Savannah Symposium, held in September.

The university joined with the U.S. Attorney's Office-Southern District of Georgia to conduct the symposium. U.S. Deputy Attorney General Larry D. Thompson gave the keynote address.

Thompson told his audience, “In a world in which everything from telecommunications, to financial systems, to pipelines, dams, and power grids is controlled by networked computers, cyberspace is a critical front in our national defense — and one in which cooperation is crucial.”

The U.S. Justice Department's number two man outlined the work of four agencies — the National Infrastructure Protection Center, the 24/7 Law Enforcement Network, the FBI Cyberdivision, and the Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section — that are investigating and prosecuting attacks on the nation's computer infrastructure whether they be terrorism, theft, or sheer vandalism.

Letty Shearer, AASU's director of economic development, said “The symposium has been a virtual launching pad for discussions with government agencies, other universities, and corporations on how the momentum of the conference can be expanded to various joint efforts.”

Speakers explored the latest techniques and strategies needed to deter, react to, and investigate cyber crimes. Topics included on-line crime, identity theft, corporate and homeland security, cyber threats, encryption, and other tools of terrorism.



## Golden Graduates gather

In September, the Alumni Association hosted a reunion weekend for alumni who completed college fifty years ago or more. Dubbed the "Golden Graduates," this group of alumni represents the classes of 1937 through 1952. The class of 1953 will be inducted in 2003.

Weekend events included a reception at the Georgia Historical Society and a tour of the downtown Savannah buildings that originally belonged to Armstrong Junior College. Also included was a luncheon at the Westin Savannah Harbor Resort, a tour of the Armstrong Atlantic State University campus followed by a dinner, and a farewell brunch at the DeSoto Hilton.



*Friends enjoying the Friday evening reception at the Georgia Historical Society (left to right): Louise Mayhew '37, Walton Amos '37, Kelly Cohen, wife of A.J. Cohen '41, and Pauline Powers' 37.*



*It was a special moment for Tricia Parker, an AASU freshman, when she met Mary Sheehan Oetgen, a member of the 1937 graduating class of Armstrong Junior College.*

## Golden grads hit the road

On October 17, three old friends and classmates from 1937 made the drive to Hilton Head to have lunch with another classmate, Marian "Cassie" Sanders Turner.

Pauline Cargill Powers, Margaret Egloff Heidt, and Grace Bounds Dubus, all graduates of Armstrong Junior College's first graduating class, visited with Turner who was unable to attend the recent reunion of Golden Graduates because of surgery.

Life Care Center, where she is recovering from surgery, made arrangements to take her out for lunch at a nearby cafe.

Along for the trip were Gail Brown Rountree '84, '98, Helen Heidt Marshall '64, '98, and Patty Bridges Parker '92, '95.



*Lunch bunch. Standing (l to r) Patty Parker, Helen Marshall, Gail Rountree. Sitting (l to r) Marian Sanders Turner, Grace Bounds Dubus, Margaret Egloff Heidt, and Pauline Cargill Powers.*

# class notes

## '30s

**Alva Lines '37** and his wife Mildred are retired and living in Atlanta.

**Robert McCuen '37**, a member of the first graduating class of Armstrong Junior College (AJC) and past president of the alumni association, presented his AJC class ring to the alumni association's archives. It is being housed in the Minis Room of the Lane Library along with other artifacts of historical importance to the university.

**Wilder M. Blitch '39** is retired and living in Hickory, NC.

*Compass would like to hear more from the classes of '37, '38, and '39.*

## '40s

**Herbie Griffin '42** was a delegate to the American Red Cross National Convention in Phoenix. He has been on the local board for more than twenty years.

## '50s

**Barbara Anderson '59** recently joined Speros in Savannah as a communications consultant.

## '60s

**Sandra B. Jones '65, '98** has been named a member of the AASU Alumni Association Board of Directors. She fills a recently vacated seat on the board. Jones has worked in the Human Resources Department of the City of Savannah for more than thirty years.

## '70s

**Royce Sizemore '73** retired from Atlanta Gas Light after twenty-six years as a manager. He and his wife of forty-one

years, Edna, are retired and living in Valdosta, GA. They have two children and five grandchildren.

**Gary Cartee '74** was appointed the Derst Baking Company's regional sales manager for Georgia.

**Debra Franklin Cannon '76** is director of the Cecil B. Day School of Hospitality in the Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University where she is a tenured associate professor. Cannon earned a Ph.D. in human resources from Georgia State.

**Nancy Parker Rentz '78** has been elected a member of the AASU Alumni Association Board of Directors. She recently returned to the university to pursue a degree in information technology. Her husband, Randy Rentz, is active with the Pirates Booster Club.

## '80s

**Valerie Dunham '82** was appointed chief of staff of the 165th Airlift Wing of the Georgia Air National Guard.

**Gail Brown Rountree '84, '98** has returned to AASU full time to pursue a master's in adult education. She is working as a graduate assistant in the Office of External Affairs.

**Margaret Brockland-Nease '85** was elected secretary to the board of directors for 2002-03 at Benson's Resume and Writing Service in Savannah.

**Tina M. Grile '88** has been elected to serve as a member of the AASU Alumni Association Board of Directors. She is employed as a director of the dental assisting program at Savannah Technical College.

**Tina H. Bonifacio '89, '97** finished her M.B.A. in May 2001 and has joined the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce as the new vice-president of workforce and economic development.

## '90s

**Deborah Bement '91, '96** was named 2002 Teacher of the Year by Heard's Ferry Elementary School in Fulton County, GA.

**John Muntzer '91** is a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps, stationed in Cherry Point, NC. He is a platoon commander involved in contingency, peacekeeping, and humanitarian missions in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Central America.

**John Dickens '92** has established a private clinical psychology practice in Ellijay, GA. He completed his Ph.D. in child psychology at Union Institute and University in Cincinnati, OH. He and his wife, Yvette, have two children, Alexandria five, and John fifteen months.

**Valencia Dickson Legette '92** returned to AASU in Fall 2002 to work on her master's in nursing.

**Frances Petrasek Prudhomme '92** operates her own daycare center for preschoolers in Colorado. In addition to the academic curriculum, she is teaching her charges southern manners and charm.

**Nicholas Mueller '93** and his wife **Tracy Barrenbrugge Mueller '93** are the owner-operators of Chef Nick Mueller and Company in Savannah. The catering business has done so well that Tracy put her nursing career on hold to join forces with Nick.

**Vanessa S. O'Neal '94** has started her own business, In-Tegral Executive Search and Consulting Firm, Inc. in Savannah. She is also the author of a book *Grant Me the Money! The Practical Guide to Successful Grant Writing Practice*.

**Russell E. Zittrauer '94** has been elected a member of the AASU Alumni Association Board of Directors. He is a sales representative for the First Horizon Pharmaceutical Corporation.

**Joan Lee '95** was recently hired by Southern Residential Lending in Savannah as a loan officer.

**Douglas Andrews '97** is enrolled in a clinical internship program at the University of Georgia in pursuit of his Ph.D. in sports medicine.

**Lisa Brown Ollis '97** is working for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation as a forensic chemist.

**Michael Godbee '97** was recently promoted to assistant vice president at the First Union National Bank Medical Arts branch.

**Norma Encarnacion '98** is working as a traveling nurse. For one six month assignment, she was living among the Amish in Ohio. She is currently based in San Diego, CA.

**Heather Blalock Crookstone '99** is working as a full-time lab instructor in the medical technology program at AASU and part-time at Memorial Health University Medical Center.

**Kimby Kennedy Brooks '99** is a math teacher at Jasper County (SC) High School.

## '00s

**Nancy Warren Crosby '00** is a high school teacher for at-risk students in Maryland. She is completing coursework which would certify her to teach social studies in that state.

**Tomain Murphy '00** and his wife, Reeshella, are working in the radiology department at the St. Vincent's Comprehensive Cancer Center in New York City.

**Scott A. Regan '01** was recently promoted from senior vice president to executive vice president at Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah.

**Sarah L. Vondenkamp '01**, now an airman first class, recently graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX.

**Arlene M. Bommarito '02** is substitute teaching in the Burnet County Independent School District near Austin, TX while continuing to pursue an advanced degree in history, anthropology, and archeology.

**Adrienne Garbe '02** has been named executive director of Med-Bank Foundation in Savannah.

**Heidi Long '02** is a first grade teacher at Hancock Day School in Savannah.

**Tania Sammons '02** has been named the new curator of the Andrew Low House in Savannah.

## marriages

**Karen Leigh Knight '94** to Timothy Ward Smith, October 12, 2002

**Jennifer L. Payne '95** to Michael A. Miller, June 26, 2001

**Lisa Brown '97** to Robert Ollis, June 1, 2001

**Dionne Lewis '97** to Robert Holmes, March 31, 2001

**Neil White, Jr. '98** to Janet S. Griner, April 28, 2001

**Heather Danyelle Blalock '99** to Douglas John Crookston, Oct. 22, 2002

**Tiffany Amber Gay '99** to Marcus Alfred Hursey, June 22, 2002

**Kimby Kennedy '99** to Brent B. Brooks, July 6, 2002

**Kristen Moore '99** to David Goodwin, June 9, 2001

**Rachael C. DeGive '00** to Jason E. Lee, April 28, 2001

**Jamie Marie Oliphant '00** to Kyle Wayne Weaver, October 6, 2001

**Crystal L. White '00** to Charles R. Ethridge, April 14, 2001

**Tory L. Gwaltney '01** to Zad Tomberlin, May 25, 2002

**Angie Michelle Rahn '01** to Mitchell Molpus, July 20, 2002

**Regina Anne Dedge '02** to **Oliver Stephen Eady IV '98**, November 2, 2002

**Leah Marie Ulmer '02** to Adam Paul Swagert, September 28, 2002

**April Susanne Varn '02** to James Patrick Brunson, November 30, 2002

**Mary Rebecca Warbington '02** to Timothy Paul Wells, June 22, 2002

## births

**John Muntzer '91** and Evelina: Polina Renee, November 6, 2001.

**Nancy Warren Crosby '00**: Aaron Cole, June 2000 and Zoe Caroline Crosby, May 2002.

## anniversaries

**Roy and Gene Sims** celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on August 29, 2002. Both are retired faculty members.

**Marilyn Steadman Tullis '51** and **Henry Tullis '68** celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on July 19, 2002.

**John D. Porzio '52** and his wife recently celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

## in memoriam

**Carolyn Oliver Graves '37**, September 11, 1997

**Georgia Otto Moore '37**, 2000

**Lt. General John N. McLaughlin '39**, August 8, 2002

**Louise Hadsell Bunger '40**, October 26, 1999

**William I. Graham '40** August 7, 2002

**Elizabeth Solana Weeks '40**, September 6, 2002

**Rachel Jones Kozlak '42**, May 18, 2002

**Baldwin (Buddy) Kahn '46**, October 15, 2002

**Madelyn Feinberg Wolson '52**, October 2, 2001

**Julius Kenneth (Jack) Moody, Jr. '71**, May 29, 2002

**John L. Bradley '74**, August 12, 2002

**Guy M. Renew '80**, August 15, 2002

Keep in touch with  
your alumni office:

888.437.AASU

[www.armstrong.edu](http://www.armstrong.edu)





Homecoming is now  
a weeklong festival!  
**ArmstrongFest 2003**  
March 24-30

**Monday, March 24**

AASU Alumni Invitational  
Art Show  
Fine Arts Gallery  
9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.  
(open all week)

Faculty vs. Student Quiz Bowl  
Memorial College Center  
NOON

**Tuesday, March 25**

Staff Appreciation Luncheon  
11:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.

Faculty/Staff/Student  
Variety Show  
Fine Arts Auditorium  
7:30 P.M.

**Wednesday, March 26**

Faculty Lecture Series  
In Vino Chemia, Jim Byrd,  
associate professor of chemistry  
University Hall 156  
12:15 P.M.

**Thursday, March 27**

Business School  
Re-Connection

An International Night  
on the Quad  
6:00-10:00 P.M.

Masquers Production  
Jenkins Hall Theater  
7:30 P.M.

**Friday, March 28**

AASU High School  
One Act Play Festival  
Fine Arts Auditorium  
9:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M.

Annual Homecoming Golf  
Tournament  
Southbridge Golf Club  
NOON

College of Health Professions  
Continuing Education  
Program  
Legal Issues in the  
Health Professions

Post Tournament Reception  
Southbridge Club House  
6:00 P.M.

Alumni Artists' Reception  
Fine Arts Gallery  
6:00 P.M.

Chamber Light  
An evening of Latin, jazz, and  
popular music featuring the  
AASU music faculty  
Fine Arts Auditorium  
7:30 P.M.

Masquers Production  
Jenkins Hall Theater  
7:30 P.M.



**Saturday, March 29**

Fun Run/Walk  
Sports Center  
9:00 A.M.

AASU High School  
One Act Play Festival  
Fine Arts Auditorium  
9:00 A.M.-7:00 P.M.

Men's Tennis vs. Lander  
2:00 P.M.

Masquers Production  
Jenkins Hall Theater  
7:30 P.M.



Open House  
University Hall  
10:30 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Baseball vs. USC-Aiken  
(double header)  
NOON

Downtown Lunch/  
History Walk  
NOON

Graduate Student Barbecue  
Shearouse Plaza  
1:00-4:00 P.M.

**Sunday, March 30**

Baseball vs. USC-Aiken  
1:00 P.M.

Masquers Production  
Jenkins Hall Theater  
3:00 P.M.

*This schedule is  
subject to change.  
Circle the dates  
and watch for  
more information.*

## Profile in Leadership — Raymond Greenlaw

The slim foreigner, clad in running shoes and shorts, jogged easily up a hill in a small village outside Guilin, China. He could only imagine what the villagers were thinking by the bemused looks on their faces.

Each morning on his recent trip to China, Ray Greenlaw took an early morning fifteen mile run. Even in the thin air of Tibet, while others in his group lay in their hotel rooms gulping from oxygen tanks, he would stride across the rugged Himalayan landscape.

While earning his master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Washington in Seattle, the Rhode Island native started his first book, *Limits to Parallel Computation*, a subject which would occupy much of his future publishing activity.

Already a runner, Greenlaw took up endurance cycling, regularly taking 100-mile mountain trips and once, circumnavigating Mount Rainier.

Following graduation, he accepted an assistant professorship at the University of New Hampshire, drawn by the institution and the beautiful White Mountains. On weekends, one of his graduate students introduced him to rock climbing. His runs started getting longer and longer. Several Georgia hikers he met on his runs had hiked the Appalachian Trail and that motivated his next challenge.



Attaining tenure a year early, he flew to Georgia to through-hike the 2,170-mile length of the trail which he completed in ninety-seven days. He told his wife, Laurel, "I like the South. The people are friendly and the weather is great." The seeds were planted for future changes.

As he hiked the trail, Laurel informed him he'd received a Fulbright Scholarship to study at Univeritat Politecnica de Catalunya in Barcelona, Spain.

"After three months in deep woods," Greenlaw says, "I was suddenly transplanted to a city of three million full of noise, stunning architecture, and 11:00 P.M. dinners." In this new environment, he completed his second book.

About returning to New Hampshire, Greenlaw admitted, "After a year in a Mediterranean climate, those wintery zero degree days were intolerable."



Ray Greenlaw at the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Then came the accidents. In one day, both Greenlaws totaled their cars in separate accidents on icy roads. A week later their daughter, Celeste, was injured in another icy mishap. Greenlaw exclaimed, "We've got to get out of here or we're all going to die!"

Greenlaw began teaching at AASU in 1998 and soon progressed to head of the Department of Computer Science. Building the department with a remarkable faculty and staff team, a second undergraduate degree and a master's were added. He was named regional coordinator of the statewide Yamacraw project to attract high tech industry. In 2002, the scholar, author, and adventurer became the founding dean of the newly-formed School of Computing.

As principal investigator, or working collaboratively, Greenlaw has attracted more than \$3,349,854 in grants to the university.

Today, his book count is up to twelve with translations in Italian and Chinese. He is currently working on *Graph Theory with Applications* to be published in spring 2003.

Savannah's flat terrain hasn't deterred Greenlaw from his obsessions. In 2001 he set out to climb the Seven Summits, the tallest mountains on each of the continents. To date he has conquered Elbrus in Russia, Aconcagua in Argentina, and Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. He plans to climb Australia's Kosciusko in March. On his to-do list is a thru-hike of the 2,700-mile Pacific Crest Trail and a bike ride across America.



# AASU benefits from three active NSF grants in 2002

The study of science at Armstrong Atlantic received a major boost this year thanks to three active grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

A \$91,000 grant award to the Department of Chemistry and Physics was used this spring toward the purchase of a \$215,000 high field nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer. The new equipment will allow a number of the current laboratory experiments to be more educational and informative to students, as well as making it possible to introduce a number of new experiments to the curriculum.

The equipment, similar to an MRI in medical settings, is used in teaching and research laboratories to determine the structure of molecules.

The NMR will be applied toward studies in organic and inorganic chemistry, instrumental analysis, honors general chemistry, and several upper-level chemistry courses.

The new equipment will also be used by students at Coastal Community College in Brunswick and by academically talented high school students who carry out laboratory experiments on the AASU campus.



*Richard Wallace places a sample into the new nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer.*

## Funding academic excellence in computing

In a move to increase the number of technology workers in the region and nation, the NSF awarded a \$393,200 grant to the School of Computing in October for fifty scholarships in computer technology. The scholarships will be awarded over four years to students with high academic standing and a need for financial assistance. The average annual scholarship will be \$3,000.

Support services, such as tutoring, internship programs, and career counseling, will be available for those who are awarded

scholarships. The School of Computing has successfully placed interns at local companies such as Skidaway Institute of Oceanography, VeriSign, Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, Hewlett Packard, and IBM. Scholars will attend regular meetings of the Business and Educational Technical Alliance (BETA).

## Keeping up with new technology

Thanks to a \$58,000 NSF grant in April, the School of Computing is keeping pace with the fast-growing market for handheld devices — cell phones, Smartcards, and personal digital assistants. The grant supports the creation of a new curriculum on developing software for these newer and smaller platforms.

The school is developing this curriculum as a proactive measure to prepare students for future careers in computing. The goal is to ensure that all students will be technically prepared to develop software for handheld computing devices. A new curriculum already has been integrated into two required courses and by spring 2003 it will become the basis of three new upper-level elective courses.

AASU is one of only four institutions of higher learning in the country to offer this curriculum.

*Compass written and designed by the Office of University Relations*



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