

Georgia Southern University

Georgia Southern Commons

Compass (2002-2010)

Armstrong News & Featured Publications

Summer 2003

Compass

Armstrong State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/armstrong-compass>

Recommended Citation

Armstrong State University, "Compass" (2003). *Compass (2002-2010)*. 3.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/armstrong-compass/3>

This magazine is brought to you for free and open access by the Armstrong News & Featured Publications at Georgia Southern Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Compass (2002-2010) by an authorized administrator of Georgia Southern Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.

compass

summer 2 0 0 3

A quarterly publication of Armstrong Atlantic State University

Armstrong Atlantic an active partner in regional cancer alliance

At age fifty-eight, Charles Robbins, a farmer in Coffee County, had never had a screening for prostate cancer. Rose Bradley, a sixty-two year old waitress in Savannah, has yet to have her first mammogram. While fictional cases, their real life counterparts are far too numerous for Barry Eckert, Ph.D. Eckert is dean of the Armstrong Atlantic College of Health Professions and a member of the board of directors of the Southeast Georgia Cancer Alliance, Inc. (SGCA)

“It’s an important goal of the alliance to get underserved people into the healthcare system so they will have better outcomes,” Eckert said.

James Repella, former dean of AASU’s College of Health Professions and now president of the Southeast Georgia Cancer Alliance, agreed and said, “We want to move top level care into the regional hospitals in the outlying cities.”

The alliance is one of eight public-private consortiums around the state vying for a piece of the funding created by the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement between the tobacco industry and the fifty states. To date, only Grady Health System in Atlanta has been funded by the Georgia Cancer Coalition (GCC) from that landmark case.

Making progress

In a positive development, the Southeast Georgia Cancer Coalition was named in May 2003, as one of three Regional Programs of Excellence (RPE). Russell



Barry S. Eckert, dean of the College of Health Professions, visits the medical technology laboratory

Toal, GCC president, said “With the active participation of all critical parties within a region, the RPE should be able to achieve successes that would not have been possible for any community, discipline, or entity working alone.”

SGCA’s Repella said, “I’d like the public to think of the alliance as a laboratory and information resource for physicians, professors, and graduate students.”

In one recent development toward this end, Repella reports that the alliance is working with the American Cancer Society on field testing an “e-tool.” He

explains this is a sophisticated method of keeping track of cancer-related data of interest to many in the healthcare professions and academia.

The Southeast Georgia Cancer Alliance covers a region stretching from Savannah to the Florida line and west to Vidalia and Douglas. It is comprised of virtually all the hospitals, health districts, universities, private, community, and technical colleges in the area. Also in the diverse mix are a variety of health clinics, hospices, and many community organizations including such varied groups as cancer survivors and fire fighters.

Improving information

“A major thrust of the alliance’s proposal,” Eckert explained, “is improving the fundamental level of cancer information available to all the people in southeast Georgia.”

This will be accomplished at the grass roots level by training a corps of community health promoters. Trained largely by the institutions of higher education, this cadre will spread the word on the availability of education, screening, and prevention.

continued on page 8

Elderhostel brings the region alive for visitors

Alexandra Lenzen's first experience with Elderhostel occurred in Egypt. While on an excursion to Luxor, terrorists attacked and killed sixty-two tourists at a site close to where Lenzen's class was visiting.

Several Elderhostel trips later, the Casselberry, FL resident and her traveling companion, Jacque French of nearby Maitland, FL, found themselves poring over a plan for one of Savannah's historic squares. It was Wednesday in the commons building at Compass Point, AASU's student residence community, and the two women had already visited Beaufort and sites along the Liberty Trail south of Savannah. In these timorous times, not a terrorist in site.

"You need to see the whole picture to see the history of Savannah," French said. Impressed by the richness of the city, she noted, "The professors have been marvelous."

The two were veteran Elderhostel travelers having visited between them

such varied locales as Cairo and San Antonio, the Ocala National Forest and Independence, MO. They were in Savannah savoring one of almost three dozen programs designed largely to showcase the local area with titles such as Savannah's Historical Splendor, Moon River Music Magic, From Sea to Swamp, and Birds of Coastal Georgia.

This day, the class was being taught about Savannah Streets and Squares with gusto by Rachel Perkins. Her audience of about fifty responded in good humored chorus to the questions she fired at them. They were obviously proud of the dozens of historic details they had accumulated during the past two days.

Each year, Armstrong Atlantic's Elderhostel program presents sixty



Rachel Perkins (right) assists Elderhostel participants in making historic Savannah squares models.

weeklong programs on campus, at Madison Square, on Tybee Island, in Beaufort, SC, and at other sites on Savannah's south side. Groups of twenty to forty attend each session.

According to Diana Gascho, director of Elderhostel, 1,060 adults participated in programs between January and June 2003. Some ninety-five percent of participants come from outside the state of Georgia and some have come from as far away as Great Britain and Canada.



President Thomas Z. Jones (left) congratulates Irving Victor, M.D. at the re-dedication of Victor Hall. The renovation of Victor Hall was completed this spring and its re-dedication held on April 11. Originally dedicated in 1969, Victor Hall was named for Dr. Victor's late wife, Terry. Mrs. Victor was one of the founders of the Savannah Visitors' Service and coauthored a book for tourists, *Sojourn in Savannah*, which many consider the most definitive book on the subject.

The reinvorated building now serves as the gateway to the university for all new and reentering students.

Profile in Leadership — William L. Megathlin

Bill Megathlin briefly stretches his lanky frame behind his office desk, pulling his trademark suspenders taut for a moment, then leans forward, making his visitor feel at home. The assistant to the president for strategic initiatives is uncomfortable talking about his leadership skills but not averse to giving a bit of background information.

A native of Miami, Megathlin earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina. He went on for a master's degree and a doctorate in counseling at the University of Georgia.

His doctoral dissertation focused on training correctional officers at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary in basic communication skills to better influence inmate behavior. The study, funded by a grant from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, demonstrated such a positive effect on officers and inmates alike that the training method was adopted by other federal and state institutions.

Megathlin launched his academic career at Mississippi State University as an assistant professor of counselor education. During his tenure at MSU, he also worked as a consultant with state and federal criminal justice agencies.

Though he enjoyed preparing college students to become effective counselors, his heart was in corrections and law enforcement. So when he was offered a position in the highly regarded Department of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University, he and his wife Carol were off to Huntsville, Texas.

In 1971, Megathlin's brother John, suffered a serious head injury in an automobile accident outside Metter. So severe were his injuries that he was rushed to Memorial Hospital in Savannah. Bill and Carol drove through the night to Savannah after hearing of the accident. They spent a few days visiting John in the hospital. John eventually made a complete recovery and the Megathlins spent some time exploring Savannah. They were intrigued.

While in the city, Megathlin visited Armstrong State College. He discovered that a new criminal justice program was in the process of being established under the leadership of Jim Witt. A few letters, phone calls, and an interview later, Megathlin was hired as one of two new professors in the fledgling program. Several years later, when Witt took a sabbatical, Megathlin was tapped to serve as interim chairman of the department.

"In those days," Megathlin recalls, "there were large numbers of students pursuing criminal justice degrees, and local and state agencies were hungering for involvement with the university and for the opportunity to work with students and faculty. They were anxious to reach out to

academics to help them address some of their challenges. That was very attractive.

"It was a great time for me professionally. Career-wise, I got more involved with administrative responsibilities."

When former president Robert A. Burnett arrived, he combined the departments of criminal justice and political science into the Department of Government under Megathlin.

"Bob Burnett was good for the university and for me," Megathlin said. "He was one of those people involved in the business of administration who makes it a team effort. Over the years, I've been fortunate to work with people who make me look good."

When former vice-president Frank A. Butler created a division of academic and enrollment services, he named Megathlin as dean to spearhead the reorganization.

Contacted at his Atlanta office, Butler, now vice chancellor of the University System of Georgia's Office of Academics, Faculty, and Student Affairs said, "We were able to create a good climate for student enrollment thanks to Bill. He was a major part of the ideacreating cadre."

Butler gives Megathlin much of the credit for increasing the college's enrollment past the 3,000 mark in the late '80s. "He doesn't make things take forever," Butler said. "He cuts to the chase and gets results."

Over time, new functions were added to the academic and enrollment division that didn't always form a neat fit, but Megathlin found ways to make them work. In the process, he was in position to influence many aspects of the growing university.

With the arrival of President Thomas Z. Jones, Megathlin again found himself in the middle of reorganization. To help move his vision for the university forward, Jones asked Megathlin to become his assistant for strategic initiatives.

In his new role, Megathlin can often be found in Atlanta, making AASU's case to legislators and regents for buildings





Getting down to business. The Former Business School Re-Connection brought together alumni and faculty who were part of the former AASU business school. The event was held on the sky bridge of the Science Center. (l-r) Joseph V. Adams, former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Robert E. Lee Morgan, former business professor; and Bly E. Jones '69.



The old run around. Dozens of runners participated in the popular 5k run.

Homecoming 2003

ArmstrongFest

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing. A golfer enjoys the annual AASU golf tournament.

There was a new look to Homecoming 2003 this year. ArmstrongFest, a weeklong kaleidoscope of more than two dozen events, started building on the traditional homecoming events until it had something for everyone. There were plays, an alumni art show, concerts, a celebration of '70s rock and roll, lectures, an international night on the quad, and athletic events for both players and fans. Preparations are already underway to make ArmstrongFest even bigger and better in April 2004.



Dynamic duo. The popular singing team of Bucky and Barry entertained at the traditional post golf tournament party.



Olé. The award-winning Rumba Club from Miami brought Latin rhythms to the university quad. Hundreds of students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community friends gathered for an evening of dancing and international dining.



Ready for our close-up. *Lily the Felon's Daughter*, brought down the dinner theater with laughter in the Masquers' hilarious melodrama.



There will be a test after the walk. Professor Janet Stone guides alumni on a nostalgic tour of the historic district, home to the original Armstrong Junior College.

Cool down. The historic tour was topped off by a festive picnic lunch in Madison Square. Mary Burnett, wife of former AASU President Robert A. Burnett, helps serve lunch to alums.



class notes

'30s

Herbert S. Traub '37 was selected as the 2003 Distinguished Alumnus by the alumni association at its annual meeting. *See story on page eight.*

'40s

Willie Kate Purvis Martin '45 and her husband John S. Martin are enjoying their grandchildren and retired life in Statesboro. Kate, who retired from teaching biology, chemistry, and physics after thirty years, has fond memories of working as a lab assistant for Foreman Hawes at Armstrong Junior College.

Young Allen Beall, Sr. '48 was presented the 2003 Outstanding Alumnus Service Award by the alumni association at its annual meeting. *See story on page eight.*

Lawrence "Pete" Conneff '48 was selected as the 2003 Grand Marshal for the 2003 St. Patricks Day Parade in Savannah.

'60s

H. Michael Mahany '69 was named one of five new directors on the AASU Alumni Association Board at the annual meeting.

Richard D. Sanders '69 was named one of five new directors on the AASU Alumni Association Board at the annual meeting.

'70s

Commander Diana L. Meehan '72, a Navy chaplain since 1987, has been serving at Marine headquarters in Washington DC, since September 11, 2001. On her first day on the job, the plane which struck the Pentagon flew about 100 feet above her office before hitting its target. In April, CDR Meehan has accepted a new assignment as command chaplain, Marine

Aircraft Group 13 out of Yuma, AZ. Her initial contact with the MAG13 unit was aboard a command carrier in the Persian Gulf.

Jerry L. McNair '77 passed the CPA exam and has joined Charles D. Bragg, CPA as a staff accountant.

Patricia Singleton Reese '78 was elected president of the Propeller Club of Savannah.

John T. Maddox (Tom) '79 is pastor of Bethel Brick United Methodist Church, the oldest Methodist Church in Georgia with a continual congregation. His church serves the small communities near Sylvania of McBride, Harmony, and Bethel Brick. Tom and his wife Regina have three children — a son and two daughters — and several grandchildren. A copy of his recent book, *Patterns of Kindness*, was donated to Lane Library.

Jeffrey R. Traeger '79 is senior vice president and partner at Hardin Construction Company, LLC in Atlanta. Hardom is one of the largest general contractors in the Southeast. He, his wife Tricia, and their two children, reside in the Atlanta area.

'80s

Pamela Leysath O'Quinn '80 was named one of five new directors on the AASU Alumni Association Board at the annual meeting.

Jeffrey C. Golden '81 is working as a defense contractor for Northrop Grumman at Langley AFB.

Dean Fagerstrom '82 was named one of five new directors on the AASU Alumni Association Board at the annual meeting.

Gary A. Smiley '89 has been appointed sales business manager at Gulfstream Aerospace.

'90s

Dana Boyd '92 was named one of five new directors on the AASU Alumni Association Board at the annual.

Jennifer Grimshaw Wright '94 has temporarily put her career on hold as she devotes herself to raising Maggie 7, Drew 3, and Suzy 2. Jennifer and her husband, Major Webster Wright, live at the National Training Center in Ft. Irwin, CA. Not content to be idle too long, she is taking classes in her spare time, pursuing a dual master's in management and human resources development.

Rita Arnold Faircloth '95, '98 was named 2003 Teacher of the Year at Richmond Hill Middle School.

Kathryn Haines Fernandez '95 lost her husband George in the Iraq war in April 2003. Their only child, William, was born November 2001.

Andrea Messer Madison '96, '00 has been promoted to probation officer II at the Chatham County Juvenile Court.

Gene Dyer '97 graduated from the University of Dayton School of Law in May 2002 and passed the Arizona State Bar.

John Auston Henry '97 earned a law degree from John Marshal School of Law in Atlanta. He is the local government services coordinator for the Coastal Georgia Regional Development Center in Brunswick acting as liaison between nine counties, state and federal agencies. His responsibility includes developing regional work programs and comprehensive economic development strategies.

Beverly Suzanne Kent '97 is employed at Memorial Health University Medical Center as an oncology registered nurse.

Linda Holliday Foskey '98 is a roving branch manager for Darby State Bank in Garden City. She also serves as the youth director for Ash Street Baptist Church.

Kendall Arnsdorff Herring '98 is employed by AIG in Atlanta.

Marcy Rae Thomas '98 is a teacher at South Effingham Middle School.

Rebecca J. Wilson '98, '00 is working toward a Ph.D. in education.

Michael T. Marchman '99 has been working in the Cobb County Sheriff's office for the past three years. After completing his criminal justice degree, he entered the Police Academy, graduating at the top of his class.

'00s

Eric Michael Homansky '00 is a teacher at Palmer Middle School in Kennesaw, GA.

Brianne C. Kersey '00 works as a standards surveyor for the Child Care Licensing Agency in Atlanta, where she is responsible for inspecting daycare centers for the state of Georgia.

Ying Ge Andrews '01 is completing her graduate degree in computer science at Fordham University in New York City this year.

Richie Jervis '01 is pursuing his master's in music education at the University of Georgia.

Donald R. Newman, Jr. '01 is working as an independent contractor monitoring mental health, developmental disabilities, and addictive diseases for the state of Georgia. He plans to enroll for his master's degree soon.

Deborah A. Dubinsky '02 is teaching sixth grade math at Snelson Golden Middle School in Hinesville.

Carrie A. Sneed '02 is working and living in Washington, DC, where she is with a democratic research marketing firm. Her plans include graduate school at American University and open auditions at the local theaters.

Kimberly Ann Staley '02 is an insurance agent for Cranman & Company Insurance.

engagements

Janet Michelle Wells '97 to Brent Bazemore, March 15, 2003

Anna Rourke Koncul '02 to Dr. Jason Shane Speir, September 27, 2003

Wendy E. Myers '02 to Waymond D. Gary in August 2003

Stacy Camille Sims '02 to Michael Keith Daniel, October 25, 2003

Kimberly Ann Staley '02 to H. George Meyers, July 7, 2003

Karen Lyn Weir '02 to Kirk V. Smith IV, July 19, 2003

Sarah Downing Martin Wilson '02 to Christopher James Goethe in 2003

marriages

David Tyler '74 to Dania Blissett Hucks, April 12, 2003

Kevin Devon Holmes '84 to Nicole Elisa Samuel, April 19, 2003

Mark E. Weeks '86 to Jodi Anne Young, June 28, 2003

Larry Sammons '92 to Susan Sanders '03, May 20, 2003

Christopher John Sheldahl '94 to Angela Mara Giddings, May 3, 2003

Jennifer Lynn Teeple '94 to Gary K. Mountjoy II, May 10, 2003

Megan Elizabeth Schreck '95 to James Douglas Hulitt, November 9, 2002.

Benjamin Allison Fraker '96 to Kathleen Anne Andronikos, February 22, 2003

Christy Jean Cummings '97 to Joseph F. Sedlacek II, June 7, 2003

Beverly Suzanne Kent '97 to Brooks Cail, May 17, 2003

Elizabeth K. Grant '98 to David Edward Flick, March 29, 2003

Kendall Arnsdorff Herring '98 to James Wade Gunter, April 19, 2003

Marcy Rae Thomas '98 to Jason Everett Rowe, April 12, 2003

Barry Dunham '99 to Sara Owens, May 24, 2003

Michael T. Marchman '99 to Tiffany Morrow, September 7, 2002

Ellen MarcheLe Harris '00 to Edward Spaulding Wilson III, March 29, 2003

Ursula Alena Caldwell '01 to Gene Richard Carden, December 21, 2002

Richard "Richie" Wayne Jervis, Jr. '01 to Kelly Lynn Parker, June 28, 2003

Thomas L. Wirht '01 to Laura Lee Potts, April 17, 2003 in Anghiari, Italy

Rhonda Anderson '02 to Khaleel Jamal Cook, January 11, 2003

Karen A. Boatright '02 to James Ashley Sather, April 12, 2003

births

Andrea Messer Madison '96, '00 and husband, Lawrence: Samuel Lawrence, December 29, 2001

Ying Ge Andrews '01 and husband, **Tim Andrews '01**: Robert Ge, March 4, 2003

Merilee Brigdon Cox '01 and husband, Steven: Susanna Rose Cox, February 26, 2003

in memoriam

Geneva Hodges Banks '39, April 25, 2003

Rev. John Saxon Wolfe '40, January 2000
Charlotte Guest Cook '44, November 23, 2002

Frances James Miller '69, April 30, 2003
Jerry G. Norton '72, October 16, 2002
Gilbert Keith Jenkins '73, April 7, 2003
Mildred G. Gregorie '75, February 10, 2003

Julie Anne Harman '80, December 16, 2002

Albert Hughes Berry III '80, March 30, 2003

Capt. Edward Jason Korn '99, April 3, 2003 while serving in the Iraq war

Earl Martin Tanner '02, December 10, 2002

William Minor Dabney, former Armstrong Junior College faculty member, May 10, 2000 in Albuquerque



Orson Beecher, a former faculty member, died May 28 in Savannah. Beecher was part of

the original faculty that moved from the downtown campus to present site. During his many years of service he wore many hats: professor of modern European history — and, on occasion, French and Spanish — history department head, dean of students, and even registrar. Orson Beecher was eighty-eight.



Nessmith named development director

Clint R. Nessmith has been named director of development at Armstrong Atlantic State University. In his new position, Nessmith will be responsible for supervising the university's fundraising activities, including planning and conducting a comprehensive program of annual giving, major gifts, and planned giving.

Nessmith said, "I will work diligently to improve AASU's development capacity by way of community and university outreach, expanding the annual fund, and improved alumni relations."

Prior to joining AASU, Nessmith directed fundraising campaigns and feasibility studies throughout the U.S. as a partner in Capital Funding Strategies, Inc. He also served as project manager for the Forward Atlanta Campaign of the Metro-Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

A native of Savannah, Nessmith graduated from Georgia Southern University with a bachelor of science in political science.

Regional cancer alliance *(continued from page 1)*

When an individual tests positive for cancer, the community healthcare promoters will make a referral to a nurse navigator or social worker who will put the patient in touch with the appropriate medical services or Medicaid if needed.

"Developing trust is of primary importance," says Tricia Richardson, R.N., health promotion coordinator at J.C. Lewis Health Center of Union Mission in Savannah. "It's a grass roots effort to provide place based service."

"Different designs will be used in the urban community," Richardson noted, "whether it be in a church or a community service center. We will need to provide a consistent presence."

Richardson said, "We need to have the universities and schools working together to support this effort." She credits AASU's Eckert with doing much of the work to affect this cooperation.

William Hoskins, M.D., director of the Curtis and Elizabeth Anderson Cancer Institute, said the successful education of the community healthcare promoters, through the curricula being developed by the universities, is an important part of the alliance's approach to cancer care.

"I don't think there is any question but that all the universities are vitally important to the success of the Southeast Georgia Cancer Coalition," Hoskins said. "Armstrong Atlantic has been a major player through Barry Eckert being such an active contributor."

The universities' agenda

The institutions of higher learning have a three-part agenda:

- Work closely with local health departments to train the community health promoters.

- Improve the healthcare workforce by providing appropriate numbers of skilled professionals in radiography and imaging, oncology nursing, therapies, medical technology, and other needed specialties.
- Coordinate cancer research in the region.

Armstrong Atlantic has already made great strides during the last year to prepare more nurses and medical technologists to meet workforce needs in southeast Georgia. Two areas of special interest to AASU's public health program are epidemiology and removing barriers to patient care access.

There is activity at the other area universities as well. Georgia Southern University has recruited Karl Peace, Ph.D., one of the country's leading biostatisticians, to develop its center for biostatistics. Repella pointed out that "The social work program at Savannah State University will be invaluable to our grass roots efforts." In addition, basic genetics research will be announced soon by another alliance member.

Repella expects the universities will develop the educational programs needed to provide future tissue bank workers and tumor registrars.

Armstrong Atlantic's Eckert, who chairs the alliance's research committee and sits on its education committee, said, "We in southeast Georgia stand to benefit from the improvement in care that will come out of this effort. Right now data on the advanced stages of cancer found in new patients is discouraging. When people are diagnosed earlier, and the staging data are better, we will know we're winning the war on this dread disease."

Daring to Make a Difference: Dorothy Alice Liles — 1925-2002

Dorothy Alice Liles was a quiet and frail, but determined lady whose overwhelming generosity has left a lasting legacy for Armstrong Atlantic that will benefit students for years to come.

Suffering from a serious blood disorder, she was not expected to survive childhood. The doctors, however, did not take into account her indomitable spirit. Despite her lifelong illness, she persevered in her education and earned not only a bachelor's degree, but a master's degree as well. She became a reading specialist and shared her love of learning and reading with countless children throughout a thirty-year teaching career on Long Island, NY.

Upon her retirement, Liles moved to Savannah to be close to her sister, Landings resident Ruth Slugg. Not content to spend her time in a rocking chair, Liles stayed busy. She wholeheartedly embraced her new community. Even though quite ill, she was "full of grit and determination," Slugg said. She became involved in the American Association for University Women and joined the local Sierra Club. She also undertook the enormous task of serving as chair of the selection committee for Habitat

for Humanity. She was responsible for interviewing and recommending prospective candidates for habitat projects. According to her sister, Dorothy Liles was a "doer." "She wanted to go where the need was," Slugg proudly explained.

As a lifelong teacher, however, the importance of education was close to her heart. She was a lifelong learner and audited a history class and a computer science class at AASU in 1996.

It was her "vision of excellence through education", according to Slugg, that prompted her to establish an endowed scholarship at Armstrong Atlantic in memory of her parents, Beatrice and Bert Liles. The Liles endowment provides for two scholarships: one to a junior or senior majoring in art or music; and the other to a female junior or senior majoring in math or science. She specifically limited the math/science scholarship to a female student because she wanted to encourage more young women to enter these traditionally male dominated fields.

Liles named the Armstrong Atlantic State University Foundation as the beneficiary of a \$100,000 bequest in



Dorothy Alice Liles reads to her niece, Nora Loneragan

her will and the scholarships were funded upon her death in March 2002. According to her sister, Liles' fondest wish was to "just be normal like everyone else."

For the many people whose lives she touched, and continues to touch through her scholarships, it's fortunate that she was not like everyone else at all — she was remarkable. She dared to make a difference.

William L. Megathlin *(continued from page 3)*

such as University Hall, Science Center, the future academic building, and the planned renovation of the Lane Library.

Forrest Lott, principal in Lott + Barber Architects, has worked with Megathlin on the construction of University Hall and the Science Center, as well as on the refurbishing of Solms and Hawes halls. "One of the things about Bill," Lott said, "is that he recognizes the skills and abilities of each of the team members and relies on them to do their part. He doesn't try to be the architect... That gets everyone pulling in the right direction."

Lott was impressed by Megathlin's professionalism. "Whenever there was an issue related to any of the projects we worked with him on, he made it go away instantly," the architect said.

Megathlin also serves as the link to Georgia's leadership structure. "It is important that the state's leaders know what Armstrong Atlantic is all about," he explained. "To his credit, the president has made that a high priority for the university."

State Senator Eric Johnson has known Megathlin for fifteen years and has worked with him in the legislature on

educational issues affecting AASU and the First District. Mention the educator and words like "gentleman" and "integrity" immediately slip into the legislator's conversation. Johnson summed up his observations by saying, "When Bill asks for something, you know it's important and you know it's been prioritized. He always knows what is reasonable and possible."

Megathlin doesn't talk much about his personal leadership style, but he did volunteer this: "You have to make things happen and not just wait for them to happen. That's probably the key to leadership."

AASU honors outstanding alumni

The 2002 AASU Alumni Association Awards were given out as part of the university's homecoming celebration, ArmstrongFest. Young Allen Beall '48 received the Outstanding Alumnus Award and Herb Traub '37 received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The awards were established in 1988 by the AASU Alumni Association Board of Directors to honor its high achieving members.

The Outstanding Alumnus Service Award was given to Beall in recognition of his significant contributions to the growth and development of the university. Beall served three terms as president of the alumni association from 1969-1972. His community involvement includes service on the boards of Goodwill Industries, American Red Cross, Lion's Club, Savannah Jaycees, Chatham Nursing Homes Affiliates, United Way of Savannah, Savannah Volunteer Guards, and the Savannah/Emory Alumni Association. The award recognizes a graduate who demonstrated dedication to the support of the institution and the alumni association.

Beall retired from Savannah Electric and Power Company in 1989 follow-

ing thirty-seven years of service. He also retired as a Lt. Colonel from the Air Force Army Reserves after serving in the Southwest Pacific from 1943 to 1946. All five of his children graduated from AASU and his granddaughter, Jennifer, is currently enrolled in the pre-pharmacy program.

The Distinguished Alumnus award was awarded to Herb Traub '37 whose distinguished professional expertise and community involvement has brought honor to the university. The award is given to a person whose substantial record of accomplishment has received considerable recognition in the community. Traub has been a long-time member of the Downtown Rotary Club of Savannah and has served on the boards of Lucas Theater for the Arts, City Lights Theatre, Rotary Club, Emmaus House, City Market Art Center Projects, and both the AASU foundation and alumni boards. He was served as president of the alumni board from 1941-42 and again from 1943-44.

Traub has received numerous awards from community organizations including Outstanding Young Man of the Year (The Savannah Jaycees); The J.C.Penney Golden Rule Award



Young Allen Beall, Irving Victor, and Herb Traub (l-r) at the annual alumni awards presentation.

in Arts & Humanities; The Chamber of Commerce Order of the Griffon for Community Service; and The Ivy Award of Distinction by *Restaurants & Institutions Magazine*. His contributions to the tourism and hospitality industry were so significant that an award named in his honor is given annually by the Savannah Hospitality Association. He was featured by the *Savannah Morning News* as one of the people over sixty whose efforts are making our community a better place to live. Traub owned several well known area restaurants, including the world-famous Pirate's House, and is recognized as the father of tourism in Savannah.

Compass written and designed in the Office of University Relations



Office of External Affairs
Armstrong Atlantic State University
11935 Abercorn Street
Savannah, Georgia 31419-1997
www.armstrong.edu

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAVANNAH, GA
PERMIT NO. 380

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED