

Compass

Winter 2004

Armstrong State University

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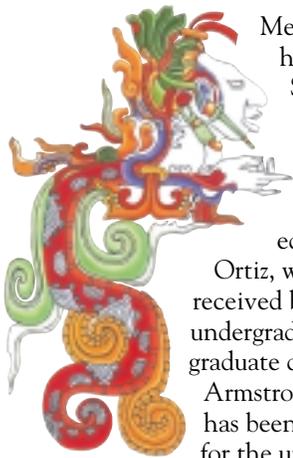
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A quarterly publication of Armstrong Atlantic State University

HOLA – Reaching out to the Hispanic Community



Melody Ortiz has a mission. She wants Hispanic students to receive a college education.

Ortiz, who has received both an undergraduate and a graduate degree from Armstrong Atlantic, has been a recruiter for the university for more than two years. She has witnessed the struggle that some Hispanic students have negotiating the financial aid maze to find funding to attend college.

Seeing this need, Ortiz approached the university administration with an idea. She suggested that the university apply for a grant from The Goizueta Foundation, a foundation that awards funding to assist organizations that “empower individuals and families through educational opportunities to improve the quality of their lives.” The funds would be used to provide scholarships for at-risk Hispanic students and to recruit and retain qualified Hispanic students. The university liked the idea and the grant application process began.

In May 2003, AASU received the news that it had received the grant. The Goizueta Foundation grant provides support for a fulltime Hispanic recruiter/advisor. Following a nationwide search, Ortiz was hired to fill the position.

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Learning to lead

Learn Today. Lead Tomorrow.
At Armstrong Atlantic that is far more than a marketing slogan. It’s a way of life.

In 2002, President Thomas Z. Jones charged a faculty task force with developing a plan on how to infuse the values of leadership into the curriculum.

In the fall of 2003, the group’s first year of research culminated in a faculty forum on leadership. Professors from three universities made presentations on how leadership is taught at their institutions.

Carmen Foster, executive director of leadership education at the University of Richmond’s Jepson School of Leadership Studies, talked about educating community leaders and bringing alumni back to the campus for leadership training.

Patrick Devine of the RTM Center for Leadership, Ethics and Character at

Kennesaw State University described undergraduate courses in an interdisciplinary program.

A third approach, detailed by Suzanne Martin, director of leadership education at Samford University in Birmingham, AL, involves a campus coordinator working with faculty members and facilitating community outreach activities.

The three visitors observed that AASU already benefitted from faculty enthusiasm and the support of the administration and the community.

Three community members, all members of the AASU Foundation Board of Trustees, spoke to the faculty underscoring the importance of leadership education. Messages were delivered by Ray Gaster ’72, president of Gaster Lumber

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Compass Point keeping track with enrollment surge



Participants in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the University Health Clinic were (left-right) Joseph A. Buck, AASU vice president for student affairs; Ray Gaster, president of Gaster Lumber & Hardware and president of the AASU Foundation; AASU President Thomas Z. Jones; Robert A. Colvin, president and CEO of Memorial Health; and Bill Mills, president and CEO of University Housing Services.

See story on page 2

Photo courtesy of Jeremy Windus, The Inkwell

Learning to lead *(continued from page 1)*

& Hardware; Steve Green, president and CEO of Stephen Green Properties; and Cliff McCurry '68, president of Hilb, Rogal & Hamilton Company.

Sara Connor, dean of enrollment services and graduate studies, said, "This is the first time foundation board members have addressed the faculty directly. The faculty was impressed that these prominent community members were taking such a strong interest in the leadership initiative."

Following the forum, Anne Thompson, an associate professor of physical therapy and a member of the task force, said, "I've had people come up to me and say, 'I'd like to be on the task force.' People never volunteer to be on another committee."

Connor and Thompson agree there is no difference between developing

leadership and a good liberal arts education. When a graduate and a potential employer sit down for that first job interview, they can both identify with a good grounding in leadership values.

The task force has been working toward defining the traits of a leader. Their short list includes good communication, analytical, and critical thinking skills, ethics, and a personal value that service is a form of leadership.

Connor emphasizes the importance of this last trait. "The speaker at the podium may be an obvious leader," Connor said, "but someone who is stuffing envelopes in a back room of the church is a 'quiet or servant leader'."

The task force is currently divided into three groups. One will make recommendations that the AASU

tactical plan contain the action steps needed to accomplish the infusing of leadership values throughout the curriculum.

A second group will make recommendations on changes to the university's mission and strategic plan that reflect a culture of leadership.

A third group is developing recommendations for criteria to be used in identifying university leaders at all levels — faculty, staff, administrators, students, and graduates — for recognition.

Now halfway through its second year, the task force is considering its end game. Connor said, "The task force will be very focused this year and then will disband with its work being absorbed and carried on by the standing committees already in existence on the campus."

Compass Point

And then there were more than 6,600.

AASU has experienced its largest single year growth jump in the past four (see chart). From 6,026 in the fall of 2002, the enrollment has exploded to 6,653 in the fall of 2003.

"The university has experienced a 10 percent increase in enrollment over last year," said President Thomas Z. Jones. "The expansion of Compass Point and increased student services are helping keep pace with this surge in enrollment."

The president is referring to the opening of phase two of Compass Point, the university's student residence community.

In addition to four new buildings that almost double the number of student

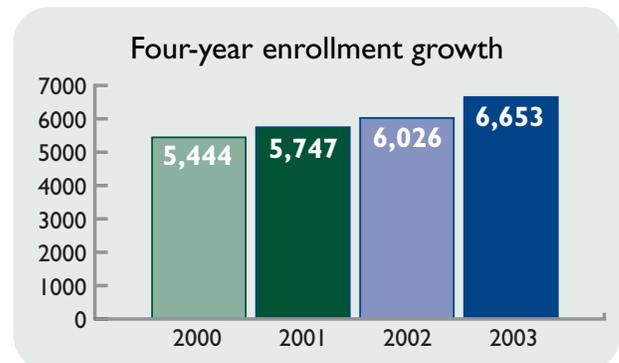
residents to 560, phase two includes a facility — Student Affairs@Compass Point — housing the University Health Clinic, Career Services, and The Counseling Center.

For the first time, AASU can offer students a more convenient place to seek treatment for their illnesses. The health clinic is managed by Memorial Health University Medical Center (MHUMC)

Robert A. Colvin, MHUMC president and CEO of Memorial Health, said, "Memorial Health is dedicated to the health and well-being of everyone in our community, and we are pleased

to be a part of this partnership with Armstrong Atlantic State University to provide health care to the university's student population."

The University Health Clinic offers medical services for students, faculty, and staff from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Physical exams, pap smears and pelvic exams, immunizations, treatment of minor injuries, HIV and STD testing, and



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Science in Savannah: launch pad for new maritime center

AASU held its sixth Science in Savannah symposium with impressive results.

During the two-day conference, state leaders announced the creation of the Maritime Logistics Innovation Center (MLIC), a unique partnership between the Georgia Ports Authority and the University System of Georgia. The center will address maritime logistics and security issues of national and international importance.

Researchers from Armstrong Atlantic State University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, and Georgia Southern University will work directly with the ports authority to develop innovative new technologies for the efficient, secure movement of freight.



Photo courtesy of Georgia Ports Authority

“This is the first relationship of its kind in the country,” said Doug Marchand, Georgia Ports Authority executive director. “Ultimately, this center will provide global thought leadership on maritime logistics and security and provide a forum for the demonstration of best practices for both industries.”

All the technologies developed in the MLIC, both hardware and software, will be evaluated and potentially

implemented by the Georgia Ports Authority. Research will focus on increasing security and productivity at the nation’s ports and all points of entry.

“Long term, the work of this center will have broad and long-lasting impact not only for the nation, but for the world,” said Chip White, MLIC executive director. “This marks a new chapter in Georgia’s leadership in transportation and logistics.”

The MLIC will offer logistics and security companies the opportunity to take advantage of the intellectual capital being developed by becoming members of the center. Wayne Hodges, cofounder of the Advanced Technology Development Center, said he also expects the center’s commercialization efforts to result in the creation of new companies based on the research done there.

“The commercialization of this research will create the newest and best ways to move freight around the world,” said Hodges. “By creating this strong foundation, new companies will be established, new jobs created, and our state will become a world leader.”

The Science in Savannah Symposium, held August 18-19, served as a needs assessment for the creation of MLIC. Leaders from the freight, logistics, government, technology, and academic sectors worked on a blueprint for the center’s scope of work.

The MLIC is part of the Georgia Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism’s (GDITT) strategy that includes the development of centers of excellence in the areas of aerospace, biosciences, digital media, logistics, medical technology, and transaction processing. The objectives of the strategy are to grow long-term economic opportunities for Georgians, build the state’s homegrown industries, and attract new companies.

“The spillover of MLIC will be new business lines for member companies and the creation of entrepreneurial operations,” said Glenn Cornell, GDITT commissioner. “GDITT anticipates our partnership with the center will lead to increased job creation and company recruitment for the state.”

The program is lead by GDITT’s Office of Science and Technology and focuses on boosting economic development opportunities in Georgia’s mid-sized cities — Columbus, Augusta, Macon, and Savannah. MLIC is the first innovation center to be created.



Senior golfer Thomas Whittaker.

A season of champions

- Seven of AASU's eight intercollegiate athletics teams advanced to the NCAA Championships in 2002-03, the best ratio among Division II schools in the nation.
- Nine AASU student-athletes earned Division II All-America honors in 2002-03.
- AASU volleyball captured the school's first-ever Peach Belt Conference (PBC) tournament title in 2002.
- AASU women's basketball captured the school's first-ever PBC title, PBC Tournament title, and NCAA Championships berth.
- AASU had three student-athletes earn PBC Player of the Year honors: Tishay Lewis (women's basketball), Zsafia Golopencza (women's tennis) and Katya Eronina (softball).
- AASU baseball captured its third PBC title and finished second in NCAA Division II in pitching with a 2.71 earned-run average.
- Softball player Katya Eronina led NCAA Division II in earned-run average with a minuscule 0.36 ERA.
- AASU accumulated the most points (297) ever in the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Director's Cup all-sports competition, ranking third in the country in points per sport with 37.1, behind only Grand Valley State and BYU-Hawaii.

Golf team in full swing

On March 22, 2000, Eddie Aenchbacher, AASU's athletic director, announced the reinstatement of the men's golf program. Dormant since the 1987-88 season — when the Pirate athletic department dropped the program in a return to NCAA Division II status — the first three years of the "New Era" of Pirate Golf has been an exciting one for the school.

Head coach Michael Butler, a former Division II (DII) All-America golfer at Jacksonville State University and a Savannah native, was tabbed to start the program after its 13-year hiatus and immediately brought in top-notch talent to get the Pirates out of the clubhouse and onto the course.

In 2001-02 — the second year of competition — the Pirates captured their first tournament title (Flagler Collegiate, November 2001) and earned the school's first NCAA Championships berth, where they finished fourth in the NCAA DII Southeast Regional. Freshman golfer Nick Cowper won the individual region title and became AASU's first golfer to advance to the DII National Championships since Tom Carlyle in 1975, finishing 52nd in the individual field.

The next year, the Pirates quickly ascended to the status of one of the nation's elite squads, earning a high ranking of No. 9 in the Golf Coaches' Association of America (GCAA) DII poll and finishing no less than third in seven straight tournaments, including capturing the prestigious Southeastern Collegiate tournament (Valdosta, April 2003). AASU returned to the NCAA Championships, finishing third in the NCAA DII Southeast Regional, and again Nick Cowper advanced to the DII National Championships, this time finishing seventh out of 102 players.

Cowper earned All-America honors from the GCAA and, after two outstanding seasons, made the decision to turn professional. He won more than \$6,500 on the National Golfers Associa-

tion Hooters Tour's West Coast Series this summer and competed this fall in Florida.

So how does a program that has seen such a rapid rise to prominence in three short years expect to fare in 2003-04?

Start with senior Thomas Whittaker. As a freshman he was the 2001 Peach Belt Conference (PBC) Tournament champion. Whittaker enters his final season as one of only two golfers still playing from the Pirates' inaugural 2000-2001 campaign. An All-PBC selection in 2003, Whittaker has shown he will be leading by example, finishing third in the Pirates' first tournament of this season at the AFLAC Cougar Invitational in September.

Three talented juniors, Ashley Loyd (North Shore/Pfeiffer Intercollegiate medalist in October 2002), Jonathan Cox, and Savannah native Christopher Epperson, will also be counted on for solid play this season. Epperson transferred to AASU from Mercer University last season and finished in the top 20 in his final seven tournaments of the year.

A new addition to the squad in 2003-04 is sophomore Tripp Coggins, another Savannahian who returns home from Augusta State to begin play for the Pirates this year.

Finally, freshman Jason Fober of Columbus, GA is an accomplished junior golfer who will add to the talented Pirates squad this year.

With so many goals already accomplished in three short years, what's left for the Pirates to do?

AASU is still searching for its elusive first PBC title, after tying for second in 2002. Also, the Pirates are still looking for their first berth in the NCAA National Championships. With a deep team and a preseason ranking of No. 9 in the 2003 GCAA DII poll, the Pirates are well on their way to new heights.

Profile in Leadership — Jarrett Walsh

If there is any such thing as a Renaissance student, then his name is Jarrett Walsh '03. With a double major in chemistry and applied mathematics, and active as a student leader, photographer, and sometimes actor, he's done it all.

"Jarrett has been one of the most accomplished students in the history of the Honors Program, and in the history of AASU itself," said Mark Finlay, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and faculty advisor to the Honors Program.

Walsh, a native of Hardeeville, SC, had his first contact with AASU during the summer of 1997. At the age of 15, between his sophomore and junior years, he took courses in anatomy and human physiology. Since then, he has acquired honors degrees in both chemistry and applied mathematics, performed in several theater productions, and had some of his photography selected for a juried art show.

A member of the 2003 *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*, his lengthy résumé includes many academic awards and

honors including selection of his research for AASU's 2001 and 2002 *Excellence in Research and Scholarship* exhibitions.

Walsh has served the university in many ways, including as a student ambassador, CHAOS (new student orientation) leader, and as a tutor in both of his majors.

Joseph Buck, vice president for student affairs, said, "Jarrett is a superb example of servant leadership. His sense of purpose, coupled with his warm and caring personality, make him an outstanding young leader. He approaches every situation thinking of the help he can give to others instead of what he will gain from the situation. Jarrett is truly one of the best and brightest that AASU has ever produced."

Of his leadership experience, Walsh said, "I was amazed at the diversity of leadership opportunities available at Armstrong! Although I never was involved in what is seen as the 'big leadership roles' of Student Government Association and Senate. I found my niche in the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society,

CHAOS, the Ambassadors and the Honors Program. Those who want to develop their leadership skills have more than enough opportunities to do so."

The Golden A Award is a recognition for outstanding contributions in both academics and service. In 2003, he became the first student to win the prestigious award since 1997.



A well-rounded ambassador for AASU, he has conducted chemistry research in Austria, and mathematics research in New Zealand. Walsh recalls, "Each experience gave me the opportunity to work with brilliant professors who not only taught me something about their specialties, but encouraged me to learn about the culture of the country I was in."

He has also participated in community service projects with his church in Haiti and Romania.

In June 2003, Walsh began an M.D./Ph.D. program at the Medical University of South Carolina, one of only nine students selected for this program.

"I wondered how difficult it would be making the transition to graduate school," Walsh said. "My research experiences as an undergrad significantly helped me during my summer research rotation in a cancer immunology lab. Starting classes this fall, I felt overwhelmed at first. But then I realized everyone else did as well. The first few weeks were a major readjustment period for everyone. Now, I realize just how well I was prepared to learn by Armstrong."



Jarrett Walsh receives the Georgia Academic Recognition Day Award from President Thomas Z. Jones. The framed documents are state Senate and House resolutions recognizing one graduating student from each of the state universities.

class notes

'50s

James E. McAleer '54 hosted a book signing recently to promote his new book, *Out of Savannah: Dog Company, USMCR*. The book contains more than 50 stories and photos of the Savannah Reserve Company, 10th Infantry Battalion, that was called up during the Korean War.

'60s

Frank Rossiter '60 was a candidate for mayor of Savannah during the fall 2003 elections. Rossiter retired from his medical practice to concentrate on the campaign.



Photo courtesy of The Herald

Otis Johnson '64 was elected mayor of Savannah in a November run off election. In January 2003, he was the third person to announce his candidacy.

Ron E. Ginsberg '65 has been honored by the State Bar of Georgia with the Bench and Bar Professionalism Award. This award is given for demonstration of the highest professional conduct and professionalism while on the bench.

Patrick John King '68 is director of teaching and learning with technology at Texas Tech Health Sciences School of Pharmacy. He is responsible for helping faculty in their course design and delivery, and for converting all classroom courses to WebCT.

'70s

Richard "Dicky" Mopper '70 was a candidate for mayor of Savannah during the fall 2003 elections. Mopper owns Mopper-Stapen Realtors which specializes in downtown properties and homes in the historic district.

Terry Dockery '72 is a business psychologist, speaker, and writer. He works with

companies ranging from small to Fortune 500, focusing on areas of selection, executive coaching, team building, and strategic planning.

Keith N. Johnson '72 earned a liberal arts degree at New York City Community College and is now in Miami where he attends the Miami Dade Community College.

Mava Byrd '76 has been named director of the Savannah Visitor Information Center.

Mary B. McLendon '78 is a Navy captain assigned to the largest communication center in the world in Hawaii.

'80s

Jesse Irene Pennington '81, a major with the Chatham County Police Department, was one of the top five candidates for chief of the department.

Catherine Kostilnik '82, '89, is living in LaGrange, GA and works for LaGrange College. Her son is a recent graduate of Georgia Southern University.

Mary Mangan Nichols '82 has been promoted to assistant executive director for the Kicklighter Resource Center. The center is a nonprofit agency in Savannah serving children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Paula Morris '83 has recently been named assistant vice president in charge of lending and small business loans for the First Chatham Bank in Pooler.

James Mark Lowman '84 has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. Lowman, with 18 years of military service, is assigned to the U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort McPherson in Atlanta.

Connie Ward '85 is director of the Mediation Center in Savannah. She has been married for 15 years, and has two sons.

Phil Sumner '87 has been promoted to district manager of Derst Baking Company. He will manage the company's distribution depots located in Statesboro, Hinesville, and Glennville.

Robert Craig Vickery '87 is the import sales manager for Senator Lines' Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Gulf regions.

Kathleen Collins '88 is the director of sales at Courtyard Marriott in the Savannah Historic District.

Michael West '89 was recently named the New Hire Programs lead for the Lexis-Nexis Corporation in Dayton, OH. In this capacity, he is responsible for developing and implementing training programs for newly-hired salespeople. He and his wife, Sheri, and their two daughters — Hannah, three and Madeline, one — live in Miamisburg, OH.

'90s

Robert Ashman '90 designed and illustrated a coloring book, *The Dangers of Drinking*, as part of a community service project. The book will be used to educate children on alcohol abuse.

Diane Ricks O'Brien '91 is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Musical Arts in vocal performance from Shenandoah University in Virginia.

Terri Kelly '92 was recently profiled by the Liberty County public schools for her successful teaching techniques. Kelly is a second grade teacher at Liberty Elementary School where she is a reading and math specialist in the Early Intervention Program. She has been teaching for eight years.

Dana Danielson '93, see '00s.

Patricia A. Richardson '93 is a senior market analyst in trade development at the Georgia Ports Authority. She was recently recognized as one of the top women in international trade in the September 2003 issue of *Journal of Commerce Week*.

Kenneth Strickland '94 is employed by Fuji Photo Film in Greenwood, SC as a supervisor of the base emulsion research and development laboratory.

Tammy Weaver Wabshall '94 has moved to Suffolk, VA with her husband, John, and their one-year-old daughter, Sophia.

Victoria Funston '96 was recognized by the Liberty County Board of Education for excellent teaching skills. She has the responsibility for integrating computer technology into the regular curriculum at Joseph Martin Elementary School, where she has taught for seven years.

Angelisa Savage-Bryant '96 has recently been promoted to assistant branch manager of the Victory Drive National Bank of Commerce (NBC). She is also a licensed investment and insurance specialist for NBC.

Cristen West Younts '97 was promoted to director of ISP operations at Advanced Internet Technologies in Fayetteville, NC.

Melissa Cooper '98 is a program director at Childcare Resource and Referral Agency of Coastal Georgia.

Kornelia Flack '98 was honored by the Liberty County Board of Education for her outstanding teaching skills. Kornelia has been teaching first grade in Liberty County for the past five years.

William (Clay) Porter II '98 received his law degree from John Marshall Law School, passed the bar in 2001, and now works for Spiva, Lewis, Owens, & Mulherin in Savannah. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two children, Aislinn and William.

James Gauthier '98 is a risk manager for Dartmouth College in Vermont. He and wife **Kristi Seay Gauthier '00** have a 19-month old son, Hunter James.

Jennifer Wu '98 is the luxury suite liaison for the Carolina Panthers. She is also the dance team coach for Queens University of Charlotte and serves on the area leadership team for Phi Mu Fraternity for Women.

Kelley Boyd Crane '99 and her husband, Mike, moved to South Korea, where he is stationed with the military for 10 months. To celebrate their two-year anniversary in October, they took a trip to Thailand. Kelley is a free-lance artist.

Vanessa Horry '99 is teaching first grade at Gadsden Elementary School in Savannah.

Michael Albert Weeks '99 is in the Ph.D. program at the University of South Carolina, where he is pursuing a degree in public health administration.

'00s

Jillian Spates Favors '00 is a naval petty officer third class, based in Norfolk, VA. She is assigned to the destroyer USS Stump cruising the Caribbean and coast of South America.

Kristi Seay Gauthier '00 See '90s.

Ying Ge Andrews '01 graduated from Fordham University in May 2003 with her master's in computer science. She is employed as a computer application support specialist for the Westchester County Department of Transportation.

Carrie Chapman '01 and **Dana Danielson '93**, collaborated to produce a fourth-grade children's activity booklet, *Myrtles Coastal Adventure*. Chapman illustrated the booklet. Danielson was responsible for the text, layout, and photos. The booklet was commissioned by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to be used at Spring Fest in Brunswick.

Randolph Walburg '01 is in the Navy and attending Troy State University. He practices medicine and minor surgery at Branch Medical Clinic in Albany, GA.

H. Tina Jaya '02, an occupational therapist at St. Joseph's/Candler, recently earned her certification in hand therapy from the Hand Therapy Certification Commission.

Gary "Christopher" Lamb '02 works as a part-time, substitute teacher at Benedictine Military School, a house parent at St. Mary's dorm for children, and is continuing work towards his master's degree at AASU.

Lisa J. Moses '02 is an eighth grade language arts teacher at Mandarin Middle School in Jacksonville, FL.

Luciana Spracher '02 recently signed copies of her new book, *Lost Savannah*, at Barnes and Noble. Her book depicts the city's development, growth and subsequent crumbling until the preservation movement finally slowed the destruction. Spracher compiled photographs of Savannah across two centuries.

Terry Breunig '03 is a DNA analyst for the Bode Technology Group in Springfield VA, the largest private forensic DNA laboratory in the U.S.

Cassie Davis '03 is a reading teacher in grades six through eight at Pierce County Middle School.

Emily Downey '03 is a kindergarten teacher in Douglas County, GA.

David B. Raines '03 is enrolled in law school at Mississippi College.

Dawn Davis Sapp '03 teaches second grade at Blackshear Elementary School.

engagements

Jeffery L. Conner '95 to wed Michelle Padgett on May 08, 2004

Jennifer Anne Ferraro '00 to wed Jason Payne Ball on February 7, 2004

Katie Elaine Daiss '03 to wed Jeremy Michael Stenmark on May 29, 2004

Shane T. Sanders '03 to wed Amanda Tipton on April 3, 2004

marriages

Timothy Jay Haeussler '83 to Lisa Simons Hodgson, February 22, 2003

Joseph Christopher Magee '86 to Sheila Rae Gann, June 21, 2003

Mary Kirkland Sutlive '90 to Stephen Michael Holbrook, April 12, 2003

Mary Leann Spradley '91 to Matt Wayne O'Quinn, June 21, 2003

Ashley Nicole Guillou '92 to Grant Carlton, June 7, 2003

Clayton Maxwell Hostetter '92 to Kenley Corish, September 27, 2003

Sandra K. Wynn '92 to David L. Poppell, Jr., May 31, 2003

Nicole Monique Allen '93 to Roosevelt Paul Maske, March 29, 2003

Joel Chumley '94 to Suzanne Brant, June 26, 2003

Alison Peggy Clark '94 to David William Sturm, June 8, 2003

Christina Kay Johansen '94 to Gary Ross Wiggin, December 6, 2003.

Jonathan C. Anderson '95 to Erin A. Ball, June 28, 2003

Jennifer Harriet Garrison '95 to Charles Michael Coleman, May 3, 2003

Amber Michael Kicklighter '96 to Joel Christian Martin, May 10, 2003

Steven Donald Stepson '96 to Sharon Elizabeth Juby, March 29, 2003

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

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class notes

(continued from page 7)

Adriane Gray '97 to
Stephen Arthur Coward
'02, September 27, 2003
Stefano Magliulo '98 to
Pamela Ann George,
October 19, 2002
Sherri Lynn Strickland '98
to Ernest Guy
Cunningham, May 25,
2003
Kelley Boyd '99 to Mike
Crane, October 2001
Tamika Rena Jackson '00
to Thomas Marcus Verdree,
April 26, 2003
Laura L. Moreland '00 to
Howard LeGrande Hodges,
June 7, 2003
Barbara Lynn Taylor '00 to
Daniel Christopher
Johnson, July 19, 2003

marriages

Mary Christine Forbes '01
to John David William,
May 10, 2003
**Charles Wimberly Parker,
Jr. '02** to Jaime Carroll
Parker, August 9, 2003
Kimberly Diane Smith '02
to Travis O. Barnard, June
14, 2003
Rachel Suzanne Tolley '02
to Lyle Jackson Wood '02,
August 15, 2003
Allison Lara Williby '02 to
Walter Mckay Scott, Jr.
'02, August 2, 2003
Summer Charise Deloach
'03 to William Francis
Mobley January 17, 2003
Jennifer Beth Gardner '03
to Jeffrey Douglas Faith,
June 14, 2003
Christopher Daniel
Heddleson '03 to Elizabeth
Brook Biddifrod, September
13, 2003
Stacy Michelle Roby '03 to
Benjamin Screven Wells
IV, November 8, 2003
Erin Michelle Smith '03 to
Nicholas Wade Cummings
on July 12, 2003
Jessica Jane Stanulus '03 to
Jeffrey Allen Graham, Jr.,
July 26, 2003

births

Andra O. Harris '90 and
wife Lydia: Gabrielle
Brigitte, August 24, 2003
Cynthia W. Stavely '94 and
husband Christopher:
Shelby Nicole, 2002
Heather Whitley Jones '97:
Tyler, January 28, 2000 and
Amber Leigh, April 17,
2003
Kiley Jay Wynne '02 and
his wife Erika: Annamarie
Elizabeth, August 17, 2003

in memoriam

Martha H. Mayberry '38,
August 18, 2003
**Thomas Edmond "Buck"
Stevens '39,** June 3, 2003
**Elizabeth McCreery "Nan"
Campbell '40,** June 3, 2003
Margaret F. Braziel '40,
June 19, 2003
**Madalyne Julia Manson
Barefield '42,** August 30,
2003
Michael J. Gannam '43,
June 10, 2003
Edward Henry Lee '48,
August 19, 2003
**Major Louis Reisman, Sr.
'48,** August 3, 2003
**Clementine Martin Alger
'50,** April 26, 2003
Mary Ryan O'Brien '51,
May 10, 2003
**Walter Charlton Carson
'59,** August 19, 2003
Dorothy Lee Williams '70,
May 19, 2003
**Corona Elizabeth Smith-
Harrigan '74,** June 24,
2003
**Lt. Colonel David T.
Wiggers '75,** July 14, 2003
Robert "Bob" Harley '78,
May 19, 2003
**William Walton "Walt"
Carter '91,** September 23,
2003
**Virginia "Ginger" Ingram
Hampton '97,** June 27,
2002

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

David R. Graham, Jr. —

From bedside to boardroom

David R. Graham, Jr. has taken an unusual road to success in the world of banking.



He graduated from Armstrong State College in 1993 with a degree in nursing. After graduation he worked for three years at St. Joseph's Hospital.

In 1966, a family member suggested that he return to school to learn about the business world. While at Mercer University working on his master's, he did a required internship with a bank in Macon. That permanently whetted his appetite for banking.

He chuckles when asked about the "big change" in his career, but explains, "Nursing and banking are both people businesses."

For the last five years he has been a driving force at Darby Bank and Trust Company in Savannah. He is a senior vice president at the bank and is also Darby's city president for Savannah, where his duties include managing the Savannah/Chatham County operations.

"Armstrong State College gave me a good foundation on which to build my life," Graham said. "As a student, I really appreciated the personal service that the instructors provided. I have tried to emulate that in my career at the bank."

Graham is excited about the direction that Armstrong Atlantic has taken. "It is great to see Armstrong Atlantic State University growing its enrollment and expanding its programs. I feel confident that the quality education that AASU provides will continue to draw people to campus."

His advice to current AASU students is to "Always gather as much knowledge and experience as possible, and keep your options open. You can never predict what direction you will go in life. I would have never guessed as a freshman in the nursing program that I would end up being a banker."

Graham and his wife, Amy, have two children: Meg, who is five and Mac who is two.

Helping Others: A Life's Mission for J.B. and Mary Ann McDowell

Mary Ann and J.B. McDowell are busy people. Much of their activity revolves around their five children and nine grandchildren. They also are active in the life of their community of Chester, SC. Mrs. McDowell is deacon at her church and a member of several other community service organizations. Mr. McDowell has also refused to ease into retirement. Despite the responsibilities of being county manager for Chester County for over 20 years, and chairman of the Catawba Regional Planning Council for over 27 years, he has found time to serve as an elder at his church, president of the Rotary Club, and commander of his local American Legion. Mr. McDowell is widely respected and recognized throughout the state of South Carolina for his leadership and accomplishments. The common thread running through all of these many activities, however, is the genuine desire to make life better for others.

Fortunately for Armstrong Atlantic, the McDowells have chosen to extend their dedication to service beyond the borders of South Carolina. Mary Ann McDowell graduated from Armstrong Junior College in 1942. She continued her education at the University of Georgia, but the pleasant memories of Armstrong lingered. She returned to the college again in the 1970s to receive a degree, *cum laude*, in education.

A few years ago, the McDowells approached the university's development office with the idea of establishing a scholarship in memory of Mrs. McDowell's parents, Lucille and Leroy Suddath. The result was the Suddath Honors



Scholarship. The Office of Financial Aid has awarded this scholarship for two years. The first recipient of the scholarship, Lauren Mason, graduated with honors from Armstrong Atlantic in May and is currently working on a post graduate degree at Michigan State University.

Last year, the McDowells graciously decided to endow another scholarship, the Mary Ann and J.B. McDowell Honors Leadership Scholarship. Recently, they added another major gift to this endowment; guaranteeing that adequate funds will be available to help deserving students continue their education. This scholarship provides support for students enrolled in the Honors Program at the university. Senior Jessica Sheffer received the first McDowell scholarship this fall. She plans to pursue a career as a Spanish teacher.

“J.B. and Mary Ann McDowell are wonderful supporters of Armstrong Atlantic State University,” observed President Thomas Z. Jones. “Their scholarship support is having a profound impact in allowing today's students to realize their goals. The university is truly indebted to them, and thankful for their support.”

On a recent visit to the campus, when asked what motivated their overwhelming generosity to Armstrong Atlantic, Mrs. McDowell said, “Once you reach a certain age and have educated your children, you want to start thinking about doing for others.” Generations of Armstrong Atlantic students will be exceedingly grateful that they did.

HOLA – Reaching out to the Hispanic Community *(continued from page 1)*

She immediately set to work organizing the program so that she would be ready to start in the fall. She prepared a budget, targeted her recruiting areas, sought out the first scholarship recipients, and developed goals and strategies for her first year. The HOLA program — Hispanic Outreach and Leadership at Armstrong Atlantic — was born.

HOLA recruits Hispanic students and provides on-campus academic and social support services to them. It will also teach the community about educational opportunities available to

Hispanic students. Five Goizueta Foundation Scholars have already been selected and arrived on campus in August to begin classes.

The first HOLA activity in September was a stunning success. Over 40 faculty, staff, and students attended a lunch of Cuban chicken, black beans, and rice, to meet, mingle, and learn more about HOLA. Ortiz's agenda includes monthly “Lunch and Learn” sessions where students and faculty can explore a variety of topics. Events have included a presentation on “Top Ten Hispanic Artists,” an “El Dia de

los Muertos” (Day of the Dead) picnic in historic Colonial Cemetery, and a Mexican cooking class at Compass Point during International Week.

In July, Ortiz held an orientation for the students and families receiving the first scholarships. At that meeting, which she conducted in both Spanish and English, she told the assembled group that she truly believed that this endeavor was her “life's mission.” Thanks to her dedication and perseverance, it has become a mission: possible.



The first Alumni Club meeting was held in Columbia, SC in July. (Left to right) Patty Parker, Alumni Relations; Renee Hutson Connolly '93 and Dennis A. Pruitt '72, Columbia alumni organizers; Carol Russell '71 '81 '85, Alumni Association president. Not pictured: Columbia alumni organizers: Anne Fell Patton '76, Laura Patton Rhode '93, and M. Sean Connolly '96.

To learn more about starting a club in your area,

or to become involved with an existing club, contact Patty Parker, coordinator of alumni club development in the Office of Alumni Relations.

e-mail: parkerpa@mail.armstrong.edu
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Introducing: Armstrong Clubs

The Alumni Association is sponsoring the formation of Armstrong Clubs to bring alumni and friends together to strengthen support and build excitement for the university. Area receptions have grown in popularity and fostered the idea of organized groups that would have the flexibility to set their own meeting schedules.

Since its inception in July, two clubs have already been chartered: the Armstrong Club of Columbia, SC and the Masquers Armstrong Club. Plans are underway to establish clubs in Bryan and Effingham counties, Metro Atlanta, the Islands area in Savannah, and Basketball alumni.

Compass Point (continued from page 2)

other services are provided. On Wednesdays, a Women's Clinic is offered to address the unique needs of women, who make up 70% of the university's population.

The Counseling Center, Career Services, and the PREP Program are also housed at StudentAffairs@CompassPoint.

Counselors are available by appointment for personal counseling at no cost to students.

Career Services continues to offer career counseling, topical workshops, resume assistance, and career days.

PREP, a college preparation program for middle and high school students, is a collaboration with several area middle and high schools.

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