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Armstrong

SPRING 2013



Our Collective
IMPACT

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To recommend a student for admission to Armstrong:

Send a note to the Office of Admissions at adm-info@armstrong.edu.

For questions about admissions or to request an application:

Contact the Office of Admissions at 912.344.2503 or admissions.armstrong.edu.



Do you know a Proud Pirate Parent (P³)? Subscribe to the Armstrong parent newsletter at armstrong.edu/parents.

Armstrong magazine is produced by Marketing & Communications, with support from the Armstrong Atlantic State University Foundation.

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Let us hear from you!

We'd love your feedback on this issue, as well as what you'd like to see in upcoming issues of *Armstrong*. Please email Emily.Belford@armstrong.edu or call 912.344.2971.

 Find Armstrong at facebook.com/ArmstrongAlumni



OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT. No matter what facet of life you consider at Armstrong, I cannot think of three words that better capture the essence of what we do.

Throughout this magazine you will see real examples of the many ways that we partner, collaborate, and create opportunities that support student success and allow us to continue our proud leadership as a valuable asset to the region.

Our biannual Treasure Savannah Day of Service (featured on the cover), for example, brings out more than 700 student, faculty, staff, and alumni volunteers each year. These Armstrong faithful swarm the community on a Saturday morning and complete in just a few hours volunteer work that would otherwise take weeks. Through this endeavor alone, Armstrong has given well over 8,000 hours of service since 2010.

Our interdisciplinary healthcare outreach efforts, featured here in the asthma education story, provide opportunities for our students to work with local school nurses and schoolchildren to fill a crucial gap that has suffered from funding cuts. What's more, due to this outreach, school nurses, teachers, parents, and their communities are learning more about how to keep their children healthy.

In Point of View, a new feature, voices from an alumnus, a student, and a faculty member offer their perspective on the many ways Armstrong has helped to shape their future.

I hope you enjoy the beauty of our spring season and this issue of *Armstrong* magazine. We look forward to hearing of your successes and hope to see you on campus soon.

Warm Regards,

Linda M. Bleicken
 President

CAMPUS News



Pirates on Parade

Armstrong students, faculty, staff, and alumni came out in full force for two of Savannah's most visible events downtown under a unified theme of service, honoring both service to others and those from Armstrong who have served. More than 130 members of the Armstrong community joined the 24th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Parade in January and earned the university an award from the MLK Parade Committee. Two months later, Pirate pride was on full display at the 189th annual St. Patrick's Day parade.



The Geechee Goes Digital

Armstrong history is now online and accessible to everyone. Lane Library and the alumni office have completed the major task of digitizing every page of every volume, from the first edition in 1937 to the Southside move and beyond. To get a taste of campus life through the years, and some Savannah history to boot, visit www.armstrong.edu/alumni and click on the Geechee button.



Savannah Book Festival Comes to Armstrong

Armstrong continued its partnership with the Savannah Book Festival and gave students access to three major authors. Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and novelist Leonard Pitts spoke to more than 100 students on campus, and novelist B.A. Shapiro addressed an intimate group of writing students. Bestselling novelist David Baldacci also shared his personal writing stories and took questions at an event held in downtown Savannah exclusively for Armstrong students.



CNN Correspondent Counsels Students

Nick Valencia, CNN weekend correspondent and national desk editor, came to campus for one of the Hispanic Outreach and Leadership Armstrong's (HOLA) lunch and learn sessions. Valencia is also the president of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists Atlanta Chapter and talked to students about careers and their future.

Armstrong and Savannah Technical College Forge Criminal Justice Partnership

Armstrong and Savannah Technical College established a new partnership that ensures a seamless educational pathway for criminal justice students between the two institutions. The agreement lays the foundation for students to complete a new associate degree in criminal justice at Savannah Tech, then transfer their coursework in its entirety to Armstrong toward the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.



New Savannah Regent

Don Waters '75 has been appointed by Governor Nathan Deal to the University System of Georgia Board of Regents, representing the First District. Waters has long served on Armstrong's Foundation Board, as well as the Educational Properties Foundation Board. He is the first Regent from the Savannah area since 2000.

History Professor Publishes New Book

Assistant Professor of History Ella Howard has released a new scholarly book, *Homeless: Poverty and Place in Urban America*, published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. Focusing on New York's infamous Bowery, *Homeless* analyzes the efforts of politicians, charity administrators, social workers, urban planners, and social scientists as they grappled with the problem of homelessness.



"*Homeless* is a magnificent piece of scholarship that will undoubtedly establish Dr. Howard's national reputation as an important scholar," said Michael Price, Armstrong history department head.

UPDATE

Armstrong Liberty Center is making great strides in Hinesville under the leadership of Col. Pete Hoffman (retired). From new degree programs for returning military to opportunities for high school students, the university's commitment to Hinesville, Liberty County, and Fort Stewart is strong.

Armstrong Liberty Center is also on course to impact the region more. Armstrong is working with the City of Hinesville to develop a new expanded facility downtown. The City of Hinesville has already offered a multi-million dollar commitment and infrastructure support to the project. Once established, enrollment at the new facility is expected to more than double.

Armstrong is also working with the area's medical providers to provide health professions education programs in line with workforce needs. To that end, a county medical working group has been established that involves the local hospital, the military hospital, VA clinic, and County Development.



Treasure Savannah, Armstrong's biannual day of service, has expanded to include Armstrong Liberty Center. This spring, students, faculty, and staff worked with Keep Liberty Beautiful to landscape the historic city hall in Flemington.

ARMSTRONG LIBERTY CENTER STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Kyle SAPWELL

Kyle Sapwell '15 lives in Ludowici, Ga., and is taking core courses for his business economics major, which he will finish at the main campus in Savannah. Sapwell also serves as a VA work-study student at Armstrong Liberty Center, where he helps with admissions for veterans and returning military students. As the son of a 24-year U.S. Army veteran, he especially enjoys working with VA students at Armstrong. Sapwell considers the Armstrong Liberty Center to be a major key to his success.

"Armstrong Liberty Center is a great option," he said. "It offers small class sizes, great professors, and an excellent staff. The added bonus is that it's so close to where I live."



Armstrong Liberty Center PROGRAM INITIATIVES

The transferable Associate of Science degree has been expanded to offer tracks in the health professions.

Armstrong Liberty Center offers students a multitude of options, including online certificates and degrees in criminal justice and information technology.

With flexible schedules and a range of core offerings, Armstrong Liberty Center is the perfect choice for college-bound high school juniors and seniors looking to get a leg up with dual enrollment. The university is reaching out to students and parents at Liberty County and Long County high schools to help open the doors to college.

Armstrong Liberty Center is increasing the eligible program offerings for military spouses under the MyCAA program, which provides financial assistance to spouses of junior enlisted and officers.

Savannah

THE LIVING CLASSROOM

by EMILY BELFORD and ALLISON HERSH

Armstrong's vibrant campus provides many opportunities that enrich Savannah, from athletic events to faculty lectures and music and theatre performances. As Armstrong strives to involve and impact the community around us, our students also have access to classrooms beyond our facilities—the City of Savannah itself and our rich coastal environment. Numerous disciplines explore points beyond to enrich academic experiences. Along the way, students strengthen their connection to the city and provide the immeasurable contribution of new discoveries.

NATURE'S LAB

Students in the College of Science and Technology have a vast living laboratory around them. In our salt flats, for instance, only certain types of plant species survive, and Armstrong students get to study them firsthand. The lifecycle of organisms in these salt flats and salt marshes is also constantly changing, and students' up-to-the-minute research can help document the area's environmental history as well as hypothesize on what may lie ahead for the natural world around us.

Jay Hodgson, assistant professor of biology, takes students along on his search to find out how our local ecosystems have changed. Hodgson and his student researchers analyze diatoms, a type of algae that can take thousands of years to dissolve after their death and preservation in lake, river, or ocean sediment.

Currently, Hodgson and undergraduate biology students have been analyzing estuary sediment samples from Skidaway State Park. Back in the lab on campus, they identify the diatoms under the microscope, document each layer, and create a master database for the samples.

"My students have mastered the process of identifying different types of diatoms under the microscope," he said. "They're getting the kind of hands-on research experience most students only get in graduate school."

This process will eventually help Hodgson and his students know more about Savannah's environment and landscape. That, in turn, will help forecast what changes may lie ahead, which is a great benefit to scientists in the area.



In semesters to come, Armstrong faculty and students will examine more and more of Savannah's natural resources. Biology interim department head Jennifer Zettler is especially looking forward to an upcoming entomology course that will give students the chance to research the natural history of the ubiquitous sand gnat. Perhaps our Armstrong researchers will discover the benefits of sand gnats, something that everyone in Savannah would like to know.

LIVING HISTORY

History students at Armstrong have long benefitted from the area's rich heritage. With historic sites like the Landmark Historic District, Pin Point, and Bonaventure Cemetery, students do not have to go far to travel through time. Two Armstrong professors, however, have taken this opportunity one step further and created an interdisciplinary approach to studying the city.

Assistant Professor of History Allison Belzer and Associate Professor of English Beth Howells formed an academic learning community in fall 2012 by combining honors-level English and history courses. The learning community, "Places and Cultures," approaches history not with a when-and-who approach but rather with a where-and-how perspective. The course requires students to develop projects that examine the place and culture of the historical sites they have been studying. The final outcome is a narrative of a specific moment in Savannah history that not only draws from objects, maps, and primary sources, but also includes a personal connection to that moment in history and how it relates to our world today.

"We use Savannah as a text," said Howells, "and look at how history gets told and what that means."



found themselves immersed in Savannah's natural and historical wonders to provide a community service. Two groups of students have been creating smart phone apps that will impact both residents and tourists of the Hostess City.

“THEY'RE GETTING THE KIND OF HANDS-ON RESEARCH EXPERIENCE MOST STUDENTS ONLY GET IN GRADUATE SCHOOL.”

For honors student Paige Harris, the assignment casts a new light on today's tourist section of River Street where the slave trade was once active. The only sign of that dark history today is the African-American monument, which helped her tell her story.

"In my personal prologue, I talk about how it connected to me," she explained. "I was taken aback that this monument tells a story of slaves being on a ship, and now you can go there and buy candy."

"The project is a great way to make history come alive in an articulate way through Savannah," added Belzer.

TECH IN THE FIELD

While information technology may not be the first discipline that comes to mind when thinking about fieldwork, some of Armstrong's tech majors have

Under the guidance of professor Kam Lau, information technology majors Susanne Hall, Margarita Smith, Quentin Wallace, and Jennica Evans have forged a partnership with





Savannah Tree Foundation to create a GPS app of Forsyth Park's trees. Most Savannahians know Forsyth Park, but few know that it is in fact an arboretum maintained by the city of Savannah Park and Tree Department. Being a nonprofit, the Savannah Tree Foundation does not have resources at hand to develop all of the beneficial tools they would like. So, Armstrong computer scientists stepped in, and the result is an interactive guide to the natural richness of one of the city's gems.

"This was a great opportunity for students to work with a public sector project using the technology skills from their program," said Karen Jenkins, executive director of Savannah Tree Foundation. "I have been really impressed. They have great ideas, are prepared, enthusiastic, and engaged."

"Computer science and the preservation of trees are definitely two different topics," explained Hall, "but while working on this project I found myself using the skills that I learned in class and adapting them to the preservation of trees."

Another group of students have created the Digging Savannah archaeology app. As part of the university's semester-long public archaeology program, the app will allow users to sit in a square downtown and learn what's under their feet. While our many historical markers can tell us what happened on a certain site, very little exists to tell us what happened beneath it. The hope is that the app will raise awareness of the area's archaeological richness and help future preservation efforts.

"This project has taught me that Armstrong is a large part of Savannah's community," added Hall. "We need the community's support to advance our education, and Armstrong students can offer creative endeavors and services to the community in return."

Above and below ground, Armstrong's information technology students have opened up new avenues of exploration.

“ WE NEED THE COMMUNITY'S SUPPORT TO ADVANCE OUR EDUCATION, AND ARMSTRONG STUDENTS CAN OFFER CREATIVE ENDEAVORS AND SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY IN RETURN. ”

ARMSTRONG TRADITIONS

As we prepare to conclude another academic year, our thoughts turn to recollecting the quintessential Armstrong traditions that the entire campus community looks forward to year in and year out.



BEACH BASH



**Collegiate
100 Ball**

**Latino
Heritage Week**



Open Mic Night



ALUMNI ART EXHIBITION



CELEBRATE ARMSTRONG



MASQUERS

**Growing
Dreams
Gala**



POINT of VIEW



{ STUDENT }

Nicholas J. Godfrey '13
Bachelor of Arts
in English

A Community of Scholars

I grew up just north of nowhere. You know, the places pictured in Georgia calendars: the mountains, woods, and barns made out of fallen trees. My family was poor enough. Scattered and poor. Enough so that I sometimes found amusement as a boy in yelling at the kid who sounded just like me on the other side of the wooded hill. It was my echo, of course, but when you need to be entertained, you believe anything and start having fun with it.

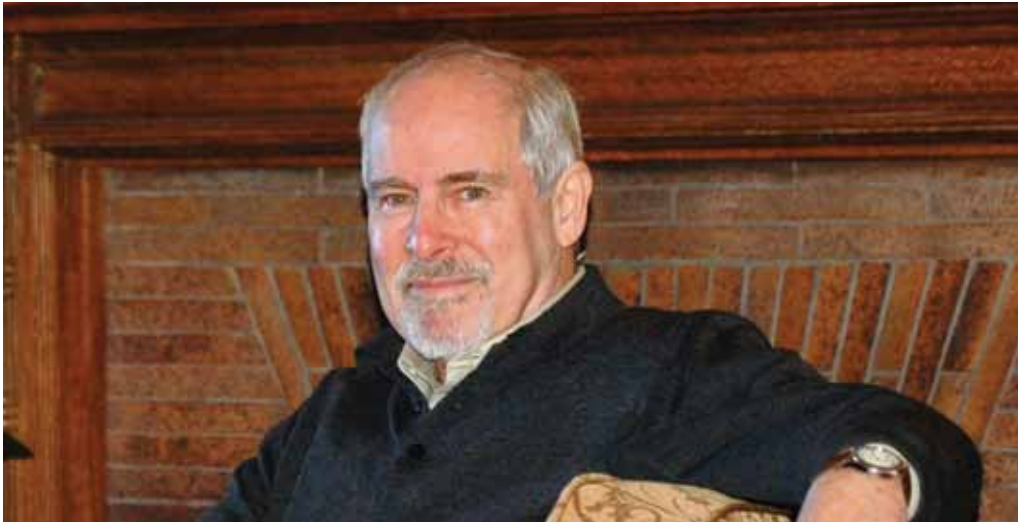
So it's probably hard to believe a person like me would value something like community. And although I do enjoy the blissfulness of solitude, I like nothing more than to take my hat and coat off, walk into a professor's office, sit down, and be a scholar with another scholar for a few hours. It's the kind of shooting the breeze that's getting harder to find in the world.

Henry David Thoreau talked about the importance of walking a whole lot, but I'm just as fine with a good sit. And I mean a sit with the right people—welcoming, warming, intelligent people, who treat you as an equal and are willing to hear what you think—and even better, what you think about what they think.

The structure of the Armstrong campus itself is built in a way that immediately gives a communal sort of vibe, inward facing buildings around squares of fountains and beautifully kept lawns, plants, and flowers. Although I can't speak for every department, I can say that in the Languages, Literature, and Philosophy department you will find the kind of sitting and talking and community I've mentioned.

I couldn't see myself ever wanting to stay in a place for very long where my teachers felt so far above me that all I was allowed to do was listen. I'm a fan of Socratic dialogue, and I've learned more this way than any other. And I can say that I've entered many discussions with my professors over the years where I was the fool and realized how wrong I was by the end, but never once was I made the fool or felt foolish for engaging in the discussion to begin with.

To me, being a part of a community of thinkers is what going to the university is all about, but what's more important is being an equal part of that community. Socrates tells us to spend our time reading in order to "gain easily what others have labored hard for." I think this is true and can be expanded to include dialogue as well. And I can say it has been nice to be at a place like Armstrong where this is demonstrated and carried out so well.



My Bankable Liberal Arts Degree from Armstrong

Liberal arts studies are under attack on campuses, sometimes with justification, as they don't always translate easily into jobs. But in my case, my bachelor's in history from Armstrong produced an excellent career return on my educational investment.

Why, you might ask, would the courses I took in European and Asian history benefit me? Or my philosophy, political science, or literature courses? Maybe you could see where my American history classes would be of some use. Truth is, over the past four decades, almost everything I learned has been of very practical value throughout several career changes.

When I left Armstrong, I went to the University of Georgia and got a Master of Arts in Mass Communications, launching a political and economic journalism career which took me from reporting in Georgia and the Carolinas to Washington, D.C., and eventually throughout the U.S., Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. One of the main reasons I kept getting such assignments is because I learned something about these far-flung lands at Armstrong. It strengthened my understanding of domestic and international dynamics.

Beginning to see a pattern? It gets better.

When I went to work at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, I was required to meet with foreign officials and produce international reports which had at least a little influence over how the American business community sized up trade situations.

As a White House and congressional correspondent covering would-be candidates, my political science and American history knowledge enriched my writing and gave me an edge over my colleagues who only had journalism degrees. Several editors praised me for my "perspective" and promoted me over others. That's because I understood such things as the dangers of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff or why socialism is a slippery slope to communism in the Third World.

When I left Washington to start my marketing agency in San Francisco, several of the first major accounts I secured were Chinese, Japanese, and other Pacific Rim firms. I was able to swap stories about the Manchu Dynasty in China and Lord Robert Clive's rule in India with my clients. Do you think my understanding of their histories helped me win and retain their respect? Did the fact that I know that Arabs love green and Japanese red influence our successful creative designs for them? In working with Scots, did it help that I knew their bitter struggle with England?

My Armstrong history degree has meant even more to me. You see, I learned that history is the story of *everything*. It's all about how politics are mostly influenced by economics. How ideologies arise from the cauldron of events even more than pondering abstract concepts. Everything is built upon everything that came before it. History is all knowledge. And the people who study it understand these complex interactions and have a much better chance of predicting what's ahead in any theatre of operations.

And that's why I've always proudly told my Ivy League employees and associates over the years, "I went to Armstrong, a small school in Georgia where my professors took a lot of time helping me understand the way the world works."

{ ALUMNUS }

Henry Eason '71
B.A. in History
Founder and
Managing Partner
Eason Communications,
San Francisco, Calif.

POINT of VIEW



{ FACULTY }

Christine Moore '06, '07
Instructor
Respiratory Therapy

From Student to Faculty to Armstrong Parent

Armstrong has given me pride. Pride in myself, pride in my daughter who attends Armstrong, pride in my field, and pride in higher education.

When I started Armstrong as a high school dropout I did not fully understand what I would end up gaining above and beyond a college degree. Not only was I able to earn a bachelor's with honors in respiratory therapy, but I also earned a degree from an institution that is well thought of among health professionals. Regional hospitals know an Armstrong graduate will be able to think critically and care for patients. Unfortunately, health problems prevented me from working full-time in a hospital. But Armstrong opened another door for me. Upon my graduation, the respiratory therapy department received a new grant that funded an instructor position for a recent graduate. I was able almost immediately to join the College of Health Professions faculty with that position.

I later went on to earn a master's in adult education from Armstrong and gained a strong foundation in pedagogy and andragogy that has served me well in my teaching career. At the prodding of department head Doug Masini and Rhonda Bevis, director of clinical education and respiratory therapy professor, I went on to get a Doctorate of Health Sciences in August 2012.

Armstrong's faculty and staff have helped me become a productive citizen of Chatham County. I am now working to help pass on my pride for Armstrong to others, especially my students, along with the assurance that higher education can and will change your life.

In May 2013, I will stand proudly on the stage at our commencement ceremonies and present my daughter with her degree in fine arts. I will do so with the knowledge that Armstrong helped me change my family dynamic from a family where dropping out of high school is acceptable to a family where your first degree is the new norm, and that's only the beginning.

Twelve years later I am still at Armstrong. I am a proud alumna, faculty member, and parent of a student.

We welcome Point of View stories from Armstrong alumni. If you are interested in submitting, please contact the editor at Emily.Belford@armstrong.edu.

SPRING INTO SERVICE by EMILY BELFORD

Armstrong hits the road to impact communities beyond Savannah.

This spring, Armstrong launched its first alternative spring break. Instead of hitting the beach or lounging around mom and dad's, a group of Armstrong students and Chris Nowicki '08, director of orientation, civic engagement, and student union, hit the road to help others.

The group headed down to Biloxi, Miss., where they volunteered with a number of local organizations that needed help. They worked at the Moore Community House, a Head Start facility that also offers women instruction for construction jobs. The students also teamed up with the Department of Natural Resources and built oyster baskets out of chicken wire that will be used to control erosion and revive the local oyster population, which is still suffering after Katrina and the Gulf oil spill.

"It's important to try to connect students to other communities," explained Nowicki. "These trips give them the opportunity to see other areas and learn about the challenges and struggles there as well."

One of the service projects in particular made a serious impact on everyone. The Armstrong volunteers traveled to nearby Hattiesburg, which had only weeks before been ravaged by a large tornado. What they saw was astonishing, but they didn't just have a windshield tour. These Pirates got out and helped the community. They cleaned debris from yards and even did some roof repair on a damaged building.

So, what compels an Armstrong student to dedicate her spring break to volunteering before the crush of final projects and exams?

"I didn't want to focus on myself for spring break," said Cherish Davis, a graduate student in the Master of Arts in Teaching program. "I wanted to serve."

Erin McGillen, a freshman English major who could have spent her first spring break doing what thousands of other college students do, didn't want to fritter away her time, either. "I wanted to feel productive and feel good about the break," she said. "I would do this a million times over."

The Biloxi trip was not the first time Armstrong students left their comfort zone to help others. Last summer, Nowicki led the first international service trip and took a group of students to Belize. This summer, he's doing the same thing in Costa Rica and hopes to expand the alternative spring break options in years to come.

"Armstrong values community and helping others," he said. "We have students from all over the world, so we should serve all over the world."



Treasure SAVANNAH

In March, Armstrong celebrated its sixth Treasure Savannah Day of Service, with more than 300 students, faculty, and staff members volunteering throughout the city. For the spring Treasure event, Armstrong teamed up with the City of Savannah and Keep Savannah Beautiful for the Great Savannah Cleanup, kicking off a large-scale cleanup effort.

EDUARDO DANIEL AMADOR '14

Cuernavaca, Mexico
NURSING

Eduardo Daniel Amador will never forget his first day of biology class at Armstrong.

Overwhelmed by the material, he thought college might be too difficult for him. "I called a friend, and she told me to talk to my professor and ask for advice," he recalled. "That's what I did, and I found my professor was very supportive. I don't think I would have had the same support from my professor if I was in a bigger school."

He ended up making an A in Biology and realized Armstrong was the perfect place for him to pursue his dream of earning a college education.

Amador grew up in Mexico, where his father went bankrupt, lost his bee farm, and went into debt. The family eventually moved to Hilton Head Island, S.C., where Amador attended high school. After high school, he took a few college classes to get his GPA up and entered Armstrong with a scholarship from The Goizueta Foundation, which offers financial assistance to help Latino students earn college degrees.

Amador is well on his way to becoming the first person in his family to earn a college degree. After graduation, he plans to work in a hospital or a clinic. His dream is to earn a master's degree, become a nurse practitioner, and open a clinic specializing in prenatal care for low-income individuals.



JARED WAGENAAR '13

Cape Town, South Africa

CHEMISTRY

STEPHANIE CANONICO-MAY '13

Abingdon, Va.

CHEMISTRY

Stephanie Canonico-May and Jared Wagenaar represented Armstrong at the American Chemical Society's International-Domestic Student Summit in Raleigh, N.C. in November 2012. The Summit is designed to bring international and U.S. students together to discuss issues international students face when studying in the United States. Only 18 students from across the country were selected to attend.

The two chemistry majors have been conducting lab research with professor John Stone, studying the efficiency of gold conversion in the process of making gold nanorods. The gold nanorods can be applied to targeted breast cancer therapeutic treatments.

"The chemistry program at Armstrong is very rigorous," said Wagenaar, who is also a proud member of Armstrong's golf team. "It prepares you well for whatever field you choose to go into."

Canonico-May balances a full course load with raising her three children and hopes to attend graduate school in materials chemistry. "Armstrong offers the best of both worlds," she said. "It's small enough to provide individual attention, but big enough to offer a high-quality chemistry program. Armstrong is definitely helping me achieve my goals."

**JOHN
MEYERS '14**

New York,
N.Y.

*MIDDLE GRADES
EDUCATION*

John and Lakuinta Meyers both worked at a youth detention center in Darien, Ga., for a number of years and saw firsthand what happens when a young person goes down the wrong path in life. The two decided to return to college to pursue degrees in middle education—Lakuinta with a focus on language, art, and social sciences, and John with a focus on math.

“I have a passion for teaching adolescents,” John said. “I really like that transitional age when students are open to learning.”

They are also both recipients of funding from the Armstrong Commitment Fund, which helps cover additional costs of books, school supplies, and gas for their commute to campus. “The Commitment Fund has made a big difference,”

Lakuinta said. “It helps me come to school and have the materials I need to be successful.”

Thanks to the Commitment Fund, they can both stay focused on their studies and also provide support to each other along the way.

“I think this is part of our educational journey,” reflected Lakuinta.

“We have taken classes together, and it’s been a great experience. I can’t wait until we walk across the stage together.”

Lakuinta Meyers '14

Hinesville, Ga.

MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION

**WILLIAM
McLAUGHLIN '12**
Cheyenne, Wy.
HISTORY

U.S. Army veteran William McLaughlin came to Armstrong to study history. While here, he became immersed in that subject, working hands-on with professor Barbara Fertig at Pin Point, a historic African-American community near Savannah. He conducted and transcribed interviews with residents for an upcoming book, so the story and culture of the place will not be lost.

"I picked Armstrong after getting out of the military because it has a strong history program," he explained. "My wife is stationed at Fort Stewart, so Armstrong's proximity to Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield was a plus."

McLaughlin also took advantage of Armstrong's online course offerings and completed an international relations class online.

"Armstrong is an outstanding environment for soldiers to go into the academic world," he said. "There are so many soldiers, spouses, and veterans on campus. It's a very supportive environment."

McLaughlin plans to apply to law school at the University of Wyoming and become an environmental lawyer in his home state.

LEADERS OF THE PACK

Armstrong's Student Leaders Get Prepared to Take on the World

by LAUREN GEIGER '13 and EMILY BELFORD

Students at Armstrong are assuming an increasingly important role on campus and in the community. As academic programs and student organizations grow, Pirates are finding more opportunities to lead in ways that also allow them to cultivate who they are and what they are learning.

NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS

Armstrong's population of Hispanic/Latino students is growing and on pace to expand exponentially in the coming years. Many of Armstrong's Latino students are the first generation in their families to go to college, and the university is dedicated to helping them succeed both on campus and when they start their careers. HOLA also emphasizes the importance of civic responsibility through community service.

"It makes a big difference for a higher education institution like Armstrong to step up and offer support to emerging populations like Hispanic Americans," said Melody Rodriguez ('00, '03), founder and director of HOLA.

"My involvement in HOLA has been something I can look back on and be proud of because of the amazing opportunities it has given me to grow as a leader," explained Stephanie Molina, a junior criminal justice major and current president of HOLA. "I was a leader in high school but being a leader in college has helped my skills evolve to a more professional level."

In spring 2013, HOLA's service to the community was an opportunity to impact the annals of American history for generations to come. Through a partnership with public radio's StoryCorps program, which preserves

oral histories of Americans from all backgrounds, HOLA established a temporary recording studio for Latinos in the area to share their American experience. All of the stories are archived in the Library of Congress, and that has allowed HOLA to take its outreach mission one step further and give the Latino community a voice in the national historic record.

VISION AND EXCELLENCE

"Leadership is essentially about influence," said Arthur Jones IV, a sophomore nursing major and member of the new organization Men of Vision and Excellence (MOVE).

In 2012, Armstrong received a grant from the University System of Georgia's African-American Male Initiative to fund MOVE. Additional support has also come in from the Walmart Foundation, with funding from Walmart store #635, located at 6000 Ogeechee Road in Savannah. The core of the group consists of five peer "MOVE MENTORS" and two graduate assistants, who organize social events, guest speakers, and workshops and teach the necessary skills to be successful as leaders and students.

In the fall, the MOVErs took part in six empowerment sessions and attended the Black Male Leadership Summit at Georgia Southern. They are also participating in resume writing workshops and other pre-professional programs.

"It's a sharing experience," explained freshman physical therapy major Vancci Celestin. "It's also a blueprint for making the right decisions."

All the members of MOVE share enthusiasm for the success of the program



and the effect it has on everyone involved. Errik Ejike, a master of public health student and one of the two graduate assistants, said, "The programming strengthens the confidence in mentors and students, which is necessary to be a good leader. We can help show the mentees the ropes, and we can also push them to work harder if we know they are slacking."



What makes MOVE really special, however, is that students are leading students.

EMERGING LEADERS

For a number of years, many freshmen and sophomores have been able to take the next step in their college life as leaders through the Nick Mamalakis Emerging Leaders program. Named in honor of Nicholas Mamalakis, former university supporter and active community member, and made possible by the generosity of Cliff McCurry '68 and Kathy McCurry, this nine-week program helps many students with the transition from high school to college life and provides them with opportunities for self-discovery. The core of the program is community service.

"In high school, I was battalion commander over 250 people, so of course I thought I knew all I needed to know as a leader," said Karen Hopkins, a freshman criminal justice major. "But in reality, the Emerging Leader program opened my eyes to things I never knew about myself and those around me."

Emerging Leaders are taught skills that are necessary to be successful in leadership positions and get help developing those skills so they can better market themselves after graduation.

"I learned how to communicate better with other student leaders to strengthen the Armstrong community," explained Nicholas Jackson, a sophomore radiologic sciences major. "There was a significant amount of growth in my leadership, my communication skills, my ethical awareness, and most importantly, my ability to see my greater potential as a human being."

"These are 'game changing' programs for students to take advantage of," said Keith Betts, vice president of student affairs, "especially because employers are increasingly looking to hire individuals who are self-starters and have leadership attributes. MOVE, HOLA, and the Nick Mamalakis Emerging Leader program have a proven track record of being transformative for our students."



PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Armstrong's leadership programs are not just for undergraduates. Graduate students also have the opportunity to hone their professional leadership abilities and gain a leg up on their careers through the master's and certificate programs in Professional Communication and Leadership. The coursework focuses on writing and other communication strategies and incorporates a curriculum that allows students to lead a team project in a corporate-like setting.

In fall 2012, Deborah Reese's flex term business communications course embarked on a group project that gave students a taste of the success that comes out of good leadership. The project, Give the Gift of Warmth, involved a full-scale community service effort that had to be pulled off in three weeks. With assignments dedicated to every kind of targeted writing, from social media to letters of solicitation and oral presentations set up like client meetings, the class partnered with Union Mission on a coat drive, just in time for the holidays.

"We treated our class meetings as business meetings," explained Reese, "and if the communication is there, the project is going to be successful."

Using all of their networking capabilities, including radio and print announcements to build their audience and enhance their effort, the class of 14 collected over 1,500 coats for Union Mission—three times the goal they set. Not only did those students experience the outcome of proper business leadership, but the community did as well, along with 1,500 individuals who were able to stay warm thanks to the program.

If you are interested in donating to MOVE, the Nick Mamalakis Emerging Leaders, or HOLA, please contact the Office of Advancement at 912.344.2541 or advancement@armstrong.edu.

INTERPROFESSIONAL **IMPACT** by EMILY BELFORD

Respiratory therapy and nursing collaborate to help school nurses

An interdisciplinary group of faculty members from the College of Health Professions have gotten together to make their collective impact on the health of school kids across the region.

Asthma is a significant problem in Georgia, especially south Georgia. Respiratory therapy professor and department head Douglas Masini,

asthma. The two of them together provided the perfect interdisciplinary partners for Masini—Behringer’s background is public health with a special certification in healthy homes, and Warnock is a board-certified clinical nurse specialist and was a school nurse herself for ten years, giving her an easy entry into the public school systems in the area.

help parents form support groups and branch those out in the community,” added Warnock. “We want to be able to keep a lifeline to the school nurses we collaborate with, so we can include them in new initiatives.”

The project has reached nurses in Chatham, Bryan, and Effingham county schools, and the goal is to include more. Fortunately, the program has benefitted from outside funding that will help sustain it. Funds from the University System of Georgia’s Complete College Georgia program went towards innovative equipment that allows students to conduct hands-on simulations in the respiratory therapy department. Armstrong also secured grant money from the Walmart Foundation, with funding from Walmart store #4556, located at 14030 Abercorn Street in Savannah, to help expand the program.

Armstrong students, however, have really kept the collaboration going. The interdisciplinary curriculum they practice on campus serves them well in the field.

“We have a lot of simulations with the nursing department,” said junior respiratory therapy major Elizabeth Pierre. “If we work better with one another, we will eventually provide better healthcare to our future patients.”

Many patients forget how to use their inhaled medications and must be instructed.

“Not all healthcare workers know how to properly instruct the use of a metered-dose inhaler (MDI),” added Natalie Clinkscales, also a junior respiratory therapy major. “Asthma can go from routine to critical very quickly and can become life-threatening in a matter of seconds. Being able to premedicate can sometimes make the difference between a calm situation and an emergency situation.”

As Armstrong’s Community Asthma Education Project branches out across the region, the prognosis for the health and wellness of our public schools gets better and better.



an asthma educator-certified (AE-C), has worked closely with a number of organizations across the state that are addressing the problem, including the Environmental Protection Agency and the Georgia Asthma Coalition. Masini was looking for ways to educate local school nurses about new standards and guidelines for treating asthma, but was running into obstacles that kept him from getting into the schools.

On the other side of Ashmore Hall, nursing faculty Debra Behringer and Sherry Warnock (’75, ’80, ’03) were working on their own with the organization Mothers and Others for Clean Air, which advocates for clean environments to ease the effects of

School nurses do not have much funding for professional development, so while new standards have been introduced, the nurses have not been given the resources to learn how to implement them. Recognizing the need for collaboration and interprofessional healthcare to solve this problem, Masini, Warnock, and Behringer pooled each other’s expertise to create the Community Asthma Education Project, and their work has far-reaching impact.

“There are not a lot of certified asthma educators out there,” explained Masini. “The school nurses need the asthma education, but they also need the nursing expertise to put it into practice.”

“The school nurses also teach the teachers, the staff, and the parents, and

World Class INTERNS

Three international Armstrong students are top of the class at World Trade Center Savannah.

by EMILY BELFORD



This spring, three Armstrong students were chosen to take part in a pilot internship program with one of Savannah's most forward-thinking and global entities, World Trade Center Savannah (WTC Savannah), the international arm of the Savannah Economic Development Authority. WTC Savannah's mission is to attract international investment and create jobs for Savannah, as well as to help regional businesses expand their companies overseas. Their competitive internship program had spaces for only five interns from all of the universities in the area. Armstrong landed three.

Maria Isabella Olmos, Catherine Gallahue, and Eduardo Mares are each gaining job experience that has already allowed them to set their sights on global career options. While they are gaining valuable experience with the program, WTC Savannah is also reaping the benefits of having three international young minds making their mark on the organization.

Mares, a senior business economics major and Goizueta scholar from Mexico City, Mexico, is working in the trade services department, conducting market research for client companies and researching countries that the WTC has identified as targets for new business development in Savannah. He also assists with materials for inbound delegates from international companies, to help illustrate how a relationship with Savannah will help industries in such countries as Brazil and Mexico.

"Armstrong has taught me the theoretical application of this kind of work," said Mares, "and the internship allows me to get the hands-on experience in the field."

A Rotary scholarship brought Maria Isabella Olmos to Armstrong from Barranquilla, Colombia, and this skyrocketing sophomore majoring in international economics is soaring at Armstrong.

"I really wanted to get some business experience," explained Olmos, "and Liz Wilson at Career Services told me about the career fair and the World Trade Center internship."

Olmos is working with the programs and events department at the WTC, which brings in speakers from around the world. She helps coordinate and execute conferences, workshops, seminars, and other large-scale events, as well as assisting with target research. She's also writing articles for the organization's online publication that includes stories from all World Trade Centers across the world.

Only a few months into the internship, Olmos has already seen proof of how the opportunity opens doors. This summer, she will work as an international trade intern at World Trade Center Dublin in Ireland.

In the WTC's marketing department, senior psychology major Catherine Gallahue, from Idar-Oberstein, Germany, is testing a field that she has been interested in pursuing. In addition to assisting with marketing, communication, and event planning activities, Gallahue has been researching how the business communities in the WTC target countries communicate and how the WTC can effectively reach those communities to encourage international business networking and trade.

"I am hoping that through my internship at the World Trade Center, I will get the chance to make connections that will open the door to a world of opportunities in the future," said Gallahue. "The World Trade Center is the perfect place to make those connections."

"It's a great place to be an intern," Mares added. "They teach you something that will help you out in the future."

2012 alumni AWARDS

by CHERYL ANDERSON

Renee Hutson Connolly, Ph.D. 2012 Outstanding Alumni Service Award Winner

Since the moment she first stepped on campus in 1989, Renee Hutson Connolly '93 has been a beloved member of the Armstrong community. As a student, she served as secretary of the Student Government Association, president of the Student Honor Court, assistant editor of *Inkwell*, orientation leader for CHAOS, and cheerleading captain.

After earning her bachelor's degree in English at Armstrong, Connolly worked with the Savannah Onstage International



Music Festival and with a Georgia congressional office in D.C., but she soon returned to Armstrong to direct the Elderhostel program for three years.

Connolly left her native Savannah in 1997 and moved to Columbia, S.C., where she completed master's and doctoral degrees in educational administration at the University of South

Carolina, and where she held a variety of faculty positions.

Her love for Armstrong, however, has never wavered. When she was invited to join the Armstrong Alumni Association Board of Directors in 2008, Connolly was delighted to accept. "Saying 'yes' to serving Armstrong is one of the easiest jobs I've agreed to," she recalled.

In 2010-11, she was elected president by her fellow board members and was re-elected to a second term for 2011-12, an unprecedented honor. Connolly is credited with helping to diversify the board and with getting more young alumni to participate. She now serves as an ex officio director and remains actively engaged.

In recognition of her many years of devotion to Armstrong, the Alumni Association presented her with the 2012 Outstanding Alumni Service Award.

"Renee has been a valuable member of the Alumni Association. She guided us gracefully while continuing our growth, enthusiasm, and organization," wrote her nominator and fellow board member Andrea Mason Turner '93.

Connolly and her husband, fellow Armstrong alumnus Sean Connolly '97, live in Columbia with their daughter, Katherine.

"I was honored to be recognized by a place that has given me so much," she said. For Connolly, service is just another part of life.

Erwin "Ernie" Friedman 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award Winner

Most people are fortunate if they have one distinguished career. Ernie Friedman '50 has had two, first as an attorney, the second as a real estate developer. That is why the Alumni Association chose to honor him with the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award.

A native Savannahian, Friedman enrolled in Armstrong Junior College in the late 1940s. According to Friedman, "Armstrong was a school that opened us up to think about who we were as human beings and what our responsibilities were to the world."

With his Armstrong associate degree in hand, Friedman went on to study at the Wharton College of the University of Pennsylvania, New York University School of Law, and Emory University School of Law. Nevertheless, he credits Armstrong with providing his real education. "I learned skills at those other schools, but Armstrong had the most impact on me personally."



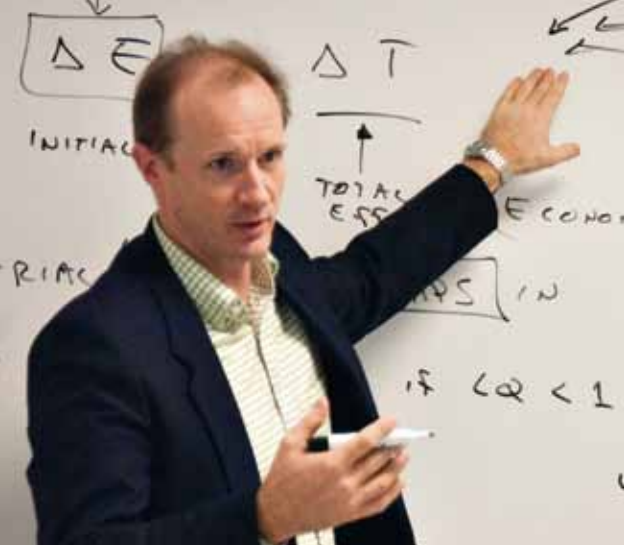
After law school, Friedman returned to Savannah, where he founded the prominent law firm of Friedman, Haslam, and Weiner (now Weiner, Shearhouse, Greenberg, and Weitz). He also served as a member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. His steady leadership as chairman of that board helped guide the system through desegregation.

In the 1980s, he and his wife, fellow Armstrong graduate Mary Weitz Friedman '51, turned their real estate hobby into a new career direction. By 1990, they co-founded the Savannah Land Company, with Mary as president and Ernie as vice president. Two decades later, past typical retirement age, he still works every day.

Friedman says Armstrong made him a lifelong student, and his wife emphasizes that he has taught that to his children and grandchildren too.

"Erwin Friedman was and is one of Savannah's most distinguished citizens," wrote his nominator, fellow alumnus W. Ray Persons '75. "In my humble opinion, Erwin Friedman is long overdue for recognition by his alma mater. There is no one more deserving of this award."

Friedman was deeply moved by the honor. "All that Mary and I have been involved with in service to the community has been a byproduct of the education we received at Armstrong."



ECONOMIC IMPACT

By ALLISON HERSH

Armstrong's economics department conducts important research that offers insight into the local community

The ongoing research conducted by Armstrong's economics department has real-life applications extending far beyond the boundaries of the university's campus.

Economics professor Michael Toma, director of Armstrong's Center for Regional Analysis, spearheads the *Coastal Empire Economic Monitor*, which analyzes economic trends and offers short-term economic forecasts for Savannah's Metropolitan Statistical Area.

"It's an outreach effort that provides an informational tool to the community at large."

The quarterly report measures the heartbeat of the local economy, based on the analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the City of Savannah, Georgia Power, Chatham County, Bryan County, and Effingham County.

"The *Economic Monitor* provides comprehensive information to individuals in the business, nonprofit, and government sector who have an interest in the local economy," he explained. "It's an outreach effort that provides an informational tool to the community at large."

A well-respected report offering insight into the latest economic trends in the Coastal Empire, the *Economic Monitor* earns high-profile coverage in local media and has been released quarterly since 2000.

Armstrong also plays a key role as a partner for the Community Indicators database and report, developing a common set of social, health, and economic data for local organizations to turn to as a resource. The university joined forces with

the City of Savannah, Chatham County, and the United Way of the Coastal Empire in 2010, and continues to compile information relating to education, health and wellness, transportation, the environment, and a host of other categories.

"It's a warehouse of data everyone can draw from in order to monitor important public policy issues in Chatham County," Toma said of the Community Indicators project. "The idea is to provide a commonly accepted set of data that may be used to

enhance the decision-making processes of public, nonprofit, and private organizations deploying the community's resources to address various issues in the region."

The Community Indicators project has grown to include 12 partner members in a broadly representative coalition, providing data that enables organizations like the United Way of the Coastal Empire to determine how best to allocate funding to address urgent needs in the community. The project also provides data that may be used, along with other sources of information, to assess the impact of a nonprofit's current allocations.

"The data provided through the coalition helps to confirm or deny that we are making an impact on the community through our funded programs," said Tara Jennings, vice president of community investments for the United Way of the Coastal Empire. "This coalition allows us to reduce administrative cost as organizations pool funds to support one community-wide project. It also allows us to have the same measurement tools,

using the same data sets, and therefore supports one single, consistent message to the community."

Armstrong's Economics students enjoy the opportunity to get hands-on experience by researching economic data for the *Economic Monitor* and the Community Indicators Coalition. Leia Pittman, a 2012 business economics graduate who currently works as the economic research manager at Savannah Economic Development Authority, learned more than just facts and figures



when she served as a research assistant for Armstrong's Center for Regional Analysis.

"I learned a lot and got to network with top government officials, business leaders, and local entrepreneurs," she said. "It gave me great experience. Plus, I definitely have a deeper understanding of how Savannah works by knowing the demographics about the people who live here and the nitty gritty statistics about housing, transportation, and labor trends."

GEORGE DAVIES

Professor of Rehabilitation Sciences

Bryan Riemann and George Davies are taking an interdisciplinary approach to health sciences and physical therapy that puts Armstrong's Biodynamics and Human Performance Center at the center of innovations in both fields.

Graduate students in sports medicine and physical therapy are working together to improve how physical injury and recovery can be tracked and evaluated. Shoulder injuries, for example, are very difficult to treat, because it is hard to measure what the bone and muscle can handle.

The interdisciplinary approach, however, doesn't stop there. These Armstrong faculty and students are trying to solve this problem. Riemann and Davies have brought in Armstrong engineering professors Wayne Johnson and Thomas Murphy and their students to help them. The three programs are developing a glove prototype that will measure when an object makes contact with a patient and

BRYAN RIEMANN

Associate Professor of Sports Medicine

when it is released. The result will be a tool that will be able to measure adaptations to muscle power and muscle strain increase. No such affordable, accessible device currently exists.

"My students will test the model, see how good it is, and investigate the underlying biomechanics," explained Riemann. "Once we have that established, we'll turn to the PT students to do an intervention, and that will become one of our outcome measures."

"It's a progression of looking at something from the basic science level to the clinical applications of it, then taking it to the next step—performance enhancement or strength and conditioning," added Davies. "We can also apply it to rehab. If someone has an injury, can we make safe progressions in their rehabilitation program, and this is one way to quantify that."





ANNE KATZ

Assistant Professor of Childhood and Exceptional Student Education

In her first year at Armstrong, Anne Katz has taken on the second phase of the College of Education's SPARC-funded Teens for Literacy program. This in-school reading program at East Broad Street School empowers student leaders to inspire their classmates to strengthen their literacy skills. The program has expanded under Katz. East Broad students are now producing their own school newspaper, complete with study tips, teacher interviews, and the "Ask Dotty" advice column. As the editors note in the East Broad Times, the paper serves as an outlet for students to tell their classmates why reading is important. Katz also guided the Teens for Literacy student leaders to write and produce a play focusing on ways that we incorporate reading and writing in our everyday lives. The students performed the play vignettes in March for the East Broad school community.

Katz's work at East Broad is expanding even beyond the vibrant Teens for Literacy program. She received a grant from the Georgia Reading Association to implement a family literacy workshop this spring as part of the school's Early Learning College Initiative.

Katz is also collaborating with Armstrong Master of Education student Junea Goldwire to study writing strategies in social studies classes at Windsor Forest elementary school.

"We are analyzing how to help students use writing to deepen their understanding of the content and to enhance their critical thinking skills," Katz said. "With that information, we will examine how informational reading and writing can be fused across the curriculum in an authentic manner."



JOSHUA WILLIAMS

Assistant Professor of Psychology

Joshua Williams, a developmental psychologist, researches behavior in two significantly different stages of human life. With the help of Armstrong psychology students, he studies physical development in infants, to establish how they learn perceptual motor skills—reaching, crawling, and walking. Williams and three undergraduate researchers observe what kind of experiences infants capitalize on to help them learn to use those motor skills.

“I tell my students that I’m a curiosity researcher,” explained Williams. “I want to understand infant behavior because that’s the time of the rawest form of learning that we can get.”

On the other side of the spectrum, Williams is working with fellow Armstrong assistant professor Nancy McCarley to investigate active learning among college students and specifically how they best retain information. With more student researchers, the team is testing interactive techniques for students and trying to determine the impact of different strategies and timing of note-taking on college-level learning. A presentation about a novel interactive learning technique and its results was presented at the Southeastern Psychological Association meeting in spring 2013 and was co-authored by two Armstrong students, James Parker and Raven Barnes, along with Williams and McCarley.

NICHOLAS MANGEE

Assistant Professor of Economics

Nicholas Mangee brings the cutting edge of economic thought to the Armstrong classroom. A research associate with the Institute of New Economic Thinking (INET), he received a research grant from Armstrong in summer 2012 to travel to Copenhagen and research his theories on stock market fluctuations and macroeconomics. Mangee is one of an elite group of economists who practice Imperfect Knowledge Economics (IKE) by applying a unique psychology variable to predict markets.

INET followed up with an invitation for him to speak at the prestigious INET 2013 Plenary Conference in Hong Kong in early April. There, he joined top international economists in their attempt to try to solve the world's economic challenges through new modes of thought.

"We need to allow for political events, changes in policy, and other unpredictable factors that cause changes in financial markets and the way investors think about the future," he explained. "To be able to allow for this non-routine change, we need new models. IKE is being recognized as a much more appropriate way to view the world, its complexities, and explain how markets actually function."





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Savannah Winds

Celebrating 35 Years

On March 5, the Savannah Winds threw itself a 35th birthday concert. To commemorate the milestone, former Winds conductors Stephen Brandon (1973-84), Michael Campbell (1984-89), and James Anderson (1990-92, 96-97) joined current music director Mark Johnson at the podium. The concert also included tributes to former conductors Ed Caughran (1992-93) and William Keith (1993-95).

The Savannah Winds community winds symphony was born from Armstrong's long tradition of music education. In 1977, then-director Stephen Brandon invited members of the community to join the preexisting college band and expand its instrumentation, and the Savannah Winds was born. Brandon brought in talented high school musicians, members of the now-defunct Savannah Symphony Orchestra, and Fort Stewart band musicians to form the full concert band. This community partnership has flourished and now involves some 100 members.

Every year, the Savannah Winds George Welch Scholarship is given to one or more students who are majoring in music and have played with the concert band for at least a full season. The Savannah Winds Board of Directors is currently working on a new endowed scholarship that will be also be awarded to Armstrong music majors when scholarship target funds are met.

To donate to the Savannah Winds George Welch Scholarship, please contact the Office of Advancement at 912.344.2541 or advancement@armstrong.edu.



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Pictured above:

1. The Geechee deemed 1974 "a year of growth" for the college band, whose numbers rose to 30. The First Annual Pops Concert was held in the Memorial College Center cafeteria, a year before the Fine Arts Center opened.
2. Stephen Brandon in 1983.
3. The Savannah Winds in practice in 1983.
- 4-5. In 1992, under James Anderson (4) and Ed Caughran (5), the Savannah Winds played its first solo-billed performance, without sharing a program with the college band. Also in 1992, the Winds played the first Patriotic Concert, to connect with the community and honor military veterans and those in active service. The tradition continues today and is a cornerstone in Savannah's Independence Day celebrations.
6. The Savannah Winds on stage in 1994, under conductor William Keith.
7. The Savannah Winds today, under the direction of Mark Johnson.

PIRATE'S TREASURE

Our Pirates excel both on and off the field. When students choose Armstrong to become student-athletes, they are also making the choice to pursue academic excellence. As an NCAA Division II (DII) university, Armstrong embraces the DII schools' philosophy that nurtures champions, scholars, and good citizens. Student success and community involvement are part and parcel to on-field performance.

In late February, the Armstrong athletic department honored student-athletes for their outstanding academic performance during the fall semester. Over half of Pirate athletes achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher in the fall. Thirteen Pirates were honored for a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Armstrong Pirates volunteered more than 1,500 hours of community service last year, and they are on pace to match if not top that amount for 2012-13. Our student-athletes have raised money for scholarships, organized a Dig Pink volleyball cancer awareness fundraiser, volunteered at retirement communities, and coordinated multiple canned food drives, among many other activities.



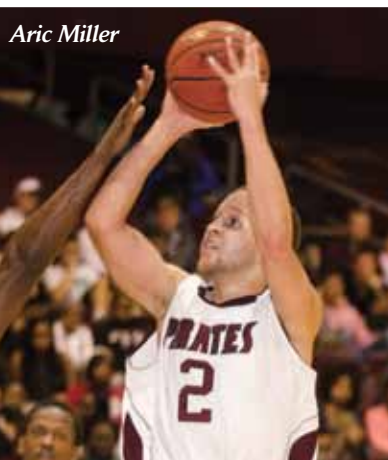
Student-athletes were honored for their outstanding academic performance during the Fall semester (top photo). The women's soccer team held workshops for children at Hess Elementary School (bottom).

BASKETBALL RECAP

Men's basketball finished 15-12, 11-8 in the PBC, and third in the East Division. They advanced to the PBC Tournament for the first time since 2009-10.

Women's basketball won five straight games at the end of the regular season to earn its way into the PBC tournament, making its first berth in the league tournament since 2008-09. Their five-game winning streak was the longest for the Pirates since 2002-03.

Women's basketball also collected a 69-67 overtime win over No. 5 ranked USC Aiken on February 9, and in the process recorded a win over the highest-ranked opponent ever in Armstrong women's basketball history.



Standout Stars

ARIC MILLER smashed basketball records in the 2012-13 season. This psychology major from Stone Mountain, Ga., broke the Alumni Arena scoring record with 39 points in a win over University of South Carolina-Aiken. He also moved into Armstrong's top ten single-season scoring list when the Pirates clinched a berth into the Peach Belt Conference (PBC) championships at Francis Marion. Miller finished the regular season with first-team All-PBC honors for leading the league in scoring. In March, he was the first Pirate to compete in the 2013 NCAA Reese's Division II College All-Star game at Freedom Hall in Louisville, Ky., which took place during the Elite Eight.

BRIANA MCFARLAND has played Pirate basketball since her freshman year. This senior radiologic sciences major from Dallas, Ga., is a two-time PBC All-academic team member who helped the women's basketball team return to the PBC championships. McFarland received the Pirate Award at Armstrong's Women in Sports luncheon in March.

CLASS *notes*

'70s

Michael Joyner, Sr. '70 is the Chapter Administrator of the Georgia Chapter of the American Public Works Association. He is the co-founder, in conjunction with the Carl Vinson Institute at UGA, of the Chapter Certificate of Public Works Management training program. He currently serves on two committees on the national level with APWA. His daughter, Katherine, is a graduate from Armstrong and is currently director of corporate relations for Dulany Industries in Savannah, Ga. His son, Michael, spent two years at Armstrong prior to graduating from Georgia Tech, and is an electrical engineer in Georgia Power's Power Services Division in Savannah, Ga.

Emily J. DeLoach Sulver '72 and husband James Sulver, moved back to Georgia from Mississippi and are now living in the Metro Atlanta area.

William W. Scarborough '75, '77 will enter the Columbus School of Law in fall 2013. He will attend the evening program and work full-time during the day at the United

States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), where he has been employed for the last 20 years. Scarborough is an associate chief accountant in the enforcement division and specializes in financial fraud investigations. He has a Master of Professional Accountancy degree and a Master of Taxation degree from Georgia State University, as well as five professional certifications, including certified public accountant. He also recently received a "Special Act" award from the SEC for his work in connection with financial fraud investigation.

Margaret Ruth Neese '78 received a Ph.D. in nursing in 2012 from Barry University in Miami Shores, Fla. Her research interest is lesbian healthcare, especially how they negotiate their healthcare in a hospital setting.

Elaine Googe Pierce '75 retired in 2011 after a 30-year career in social work. She now lives in Savannah and works part-time for Lutheran Services of Georgia as their resource patient recruiter. Pierce feels fortunate to be one of the graduates of the social work degree program that existed at Armstrong while she was enrolled.

'90s

Jill (Sharon) Rogers '90 is vice president of agriculture and animal health practice at Market Probe, a global market research and consulting organization. She oversees the development, execution, and management of strategic marketing research for agriculture and animal health clients in North America. Prior to joining Market Probe, Rogers managed a full-service custom firm specializing in agri-business and animal health marketing research on both a national and international scale.

Arnold Cooper Lamb '90 and Fritz Sheldon were married on December 1, 2010 in Burlington, Vt. They are now Cooper A. Lambdrake and Frederick C. Lambdrake and reside in San Francisco, Calif. After 20 years with Ecology and Environment, Inc. as a Gulf Coast regional quality assurance manager, Cooper opened with Fritz Luminati Lending, Inc., a mortgage lending company in Miami Beach, which won numerous awards. In July 2011, after closing Luminati Lending, Inc., Cooper earned a Certified Master of Business Administration (CMBA) degree.

Joseph Keith Purvis '92 redeployed from Afghanistan in April 2012, moved from Fort Hood, Tex. to Fort Jackson, S.C. and took command of the 4th Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment. The Arrowhead Battalion is a Training Support Battalion that provides high quality training support with the right amount of resources to facilitate soldier development. In December 2012, he also passed 20 years of active service in the U.S. Army.

James R. Gauthier '98 returned to work at Dartmouth College, where he accepted a position as a major gift officer at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. His wife **Kristi M. Seay Gauthier '01** is continuing her work as an elementary school teacher in Braintree, Vt. They reside in central Vermont,

and have two sons, Hunter (10) and Mason (8). They returned to Savannah this summer and proudly noted all the changes and growth at their alma mater. Go Pirates!

Dennis Charles Shippy '99 and wife **Connie Sue Shippy '99** have retired and are now enjoying time for themselves and their grandchildren.

'00s

Jeanine Newton-Riner '01 successfully completed her comps at Georgia Southern University in pursuit of an Ed.D. in Curriculum Theory.

Frances Delano Rabon '03 married **Dale Rabon '03** at the Walt Disney World Resort, June 5, 2006. Their son, Layne Vincent, was born on November 28, 2011. Frances is employed as a microbiologist at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, Ohio.

Gregory Oliver Dorr '03 was selected for the Golden Key International Honor Society for finishing in the top 15 percent of his class at Strayer University with a Master in Accounting.

Alexandria Hunt Kendrick '04 an aide for Congressman Jack Kingston in Washington, D.C., is engaged to be married to Eric Douglas Snyder, director of legislative affairs for the New Jersey Department of Treasury in Trenton, N.J.

Timothy F. Nicholson '05 recently signed a contract to write a children's music appreciation text for international distribution. The music appreciation text will be distributed through English-speaking schools in India and Indonesia, and will be released in the U.S. in 2014.

Meredith L. Nesmith Ledbetter '06 transferred to the University of West Georgia (UWG) in January 2007 and graduated in May 2009 with a B.B.A. in Management. She is currently coordinator of alumni relations at UWG.

2012-13 Savannah-Chatham County
TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to the following alumni who were named Savannah-Chatham County 2012-13 Teachers of the Year:

Tiffany Gibbs, Bartlett Middle School
Dionne Hines, Bartow Elementary School
Selina Williamson, Coastal Georgia Comprehensive Academy
Wanda Hopkins, DeRenne Middle School
Kavonna Bostick, Gadsden Elementary School
Amy Crosby, Garden City Elementary School
Marti Cribbs, Georgetown K-8 School*
Jaime McGrath, Gould Elementary
Carl Muthersbaugh Jr., Groves High School
Linda Byerly, J.G. Smith Elementary School*
Russell Long, Johnson High School
Diana Daywalt, Largo-Tibet Elementary
Tina Schrambeck, Pooler Elementary
Olivia Williams, Pulaski Elementary
Monique Hazzard-Robinson, Savannah Arts Academy
Heather Moore, Shuman Elementary School
Michelle Gale, Southwest Elementary School
Lori Clark Jackson, Spencer Elementary School
Emily Williams, Thunderbolt Elementary School
Laura Sebastian-Hooks, West Chatham Middle School
Nancy Jilk, White Bluff Elementary School

* Marty Cribbs and Linda Byerly were finalists for the statewide Teacher of the Year.

Submit your class notes online at www.armstrong.edu, email alumni@armstrong.edu or call 912.344.2541.

Anna Campbell '07 and Brandon Campbell welcomed their second child in November. Anna earned her Ed.S. from Georgia Southern University in December 2012.

Erin Christian '08 received an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Georgia in 2010, where she interned with *The Georgia Review* and the UGA Press. In 2009 she was accepted into the Southern Women Writer's Conference fiction workshop, and in 2010 and 2012 she served as a fiction panelist at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference and the Southern Women Writer's Conference, respectively. She currently works as a writing consultant; a teacher with the Deep Center and Horizons Savannah; and is a freelance writer, tutor, and editor in Savannah. Her fiction was nominated for a 2013 Pushcart Prize, and she has had short stories published in several journals.

Zach B. Perkins '09 graduated from Armstrong with a B.S. in Nursing in May 2009 and passed his national boards in August of the same year. Zach was married on March 16, 2011. His daughter is nine years old and spends her time practicing karate and playing with friends when she is not at home. Zach has worked in the operating room as a circulating RN in cardiovascular surgery at St. Joseph's Hospital in Savannah since graduation. Though he still works part-time in the OR at St. Joseph's, he recently accepted the position of Heart Surgery Supervisor at Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah. Zach is very grateful for all of the blessings that have been bestowed upon him and is excited to see where life takes him and his family next.

'10s

Eric V. Bradley '10 works in a stem cell lab at GHSU, formerly known as MCG, and will soon be called Georgia Regents University in Augusta. He was recently published in the *Journal of Stem Cells*, "Regulation of Embryonic Stem Cell Pluripotency by Heat Shock Protein 90."

Jillian H. Carter '10 married **Eric V. Bradley '10** in July 2010. She is currently in graduate school.

Britney L. Compton '10 is currently attending the University of Kansas and studying for her master's in social welfare.

Erik R. Reid '10 recently accepted a promotion to business manager at Emory Healthcare under their outpatient ambulatory division, The Emory Clinic. He oversees the operations of a 35-member team that is responsible for the timely payment processing of over \$55 million in monthly receivables.

Ashley Thomas Adams '11 has relocated to the Dallas-Fort Worth area. She is pursuing her Master of Arts in Vocal Performance under the tutelage of Beverly Hoch.

Chassity L. Clark '11 is so proud of the direction Armstrong has taken. It is good to see new programs like MOVE and free smoking cessation classes, especially as a respiratory therapist.

Jennifer M. Hartley '11 has published her first book, *The Longest Years: A Testimony*. It is available only on Amazon Kindle.

Katherine V. Morrison-Davis '12 was promoted from assistant to lead teacher at Coastal Empire Montessori School in Savannah.

Thien Dang '12 worked as a digital marketing manager for a print solutions company, only to leave it three months later for a CEO apprenticeship with the Jacoby Development Group. Dang is currently working on projects for several different companies: Oxford Center, Jacoby Development, Intellimedix, Horizon Fuels, Marine Studios, and Ocean X. One of his major projects right now is developing a rehabilitative sanctuary for veterans with PTSD in Marineland, Fla. He will begin personal philanthropic endeavors in 2013 with Communities in Schools to help kids embrace leadership and personal drive.

Michael J. Tankovich '12 was offered and accepted a position with the NFL's Seattle Seahawks as their sole physical therapist.



Former Armstrong vice president for student affairs and current president of the Savannah-Chatham Board of Education, Joseph A. Buck III received the 2013 Benjamin Elijah Mays Lifetime Achievement Award, given to individuals who demonstrate a long-standing commitment to the educational needs of urban schoolchildren through school board service.

marriages

Laura E. McCreary '06, married Gregory Wozniak on September 8, 2012.

Mandi Nicole Meador Harvey '08 married Justin Harvey on May 18, 2012.

in memoriam

Eufaula Coleman Beaman '75
December 15, 1997

Betty A. Beldin '75
April 25, 2007

George Larry Bonner '73
May 24, 2012

Barbara Gross Bowen '53
December 4, 2012

Noble L. Boykin, Sr.
Armstrong College attendee,
February 9, 2013

Louise F. Brantley, '80
May 12, 1993

Thomas Ovid Burke '86
January 5, 2013

Helen Joyce Fender Carter '52
February 23, 2012

Miriam Bidez Clark '41
July 27, 2012

John H. Cochran, Jr.
Faculty Emeriti, May 30, 2012

Edisel Matthew Collier '70
December 2, 2006

Carolyn Bacon DeAngelis Compton '95
February 14, 2011

Frances Tregone Dabney '39
March 4, 2006

Benjamin Dixon '79
June 25, 2011

Herman Joseph Dixon '78
January 11, 2010

Frank Lewis Dotson '58
October 28, 2012

Elizabeth Leland Gignilliat Downs '56
November 11, 2012

Elouise Easterling '95
October 10, 2009

Glenn Myron Ebaugh '73
July 22, 2011

Gary C. Gill '81
May 13, 2010

Lee Roy Goss '92
February 17, 2013

Earl Gray Griffin, Sr. '73
July 13, 2012

Edward Javetz '42,
April 3, 2009

Nathaniel Bunny Jenkins '75
May 29, 2012

Myrtle Lou Davis Kimball '69
December 3, 2012

Swarna Krishnamurti '76
September 2, 2012

Donald Edward LaBlanc, Sr.
December 7, 2012

Joseph H. Laughlin, Jr. '40
February 10, 2010

Linda Nease Lee '57
August 29, 2007

Brenda Roberts Lovett '74
August 23, 2012

Sally McElveen Moore
Attendee '72, January 7, 2013

Marie Helmken Moyer '39
February 22, 2011

Mary Morgan Oglesby '74
July 8, 2012

Hugh Pendexter, III, 1965-1984
Professor of English Emeritus
December 14, 2012

Harold Dean Propst, 1969-1979
Professor of English and Vice
President and Dean of Faculty
Emeritus, and former Board of
Regents Chancellor
November 12, 2012

Henry Louis Rey, Sr. '58
March 12, 2011

Terry D. Roland, '01
October 3, 2012

Ethyl Rita Rosenzweig '51
July 11, 2012

Ernest Virgil Jack Sinner, Jr. '73
November 25, 2012

James R. Thornton '74
March 29, 2012

Jane H. Thrower '95
September 12, 2012

Dwayne L. Wilson '94
April 11, 2012

Martin L. Wright '93
April 11, 1993

Armstrong

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