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Sonya Brown (left), Jeanette Lovett, Tonya Wright (SSU), TaNika Roberts, Megan Ganser and Dr. Kalenda Eaton. Not pictured: Patrina Lingard.

AASU, SSU Students Heading to Ghana

(June 24, 2010) A group of students from Armstrong Atlantic State University and [Savannah State University](#) are heading to Ghana in early July in the first trip to this nation in Western Africa organized by both AASU's and SSU's offices of international education.

The trip, the result of ongoing collaboration between SSU and AASU, will take half a dozen students to Accra, the capital city, and to the University of Ghana where they will be taught by Dr. Kalenda Eaton, AASU assistant professor of African American literature in the [Department of Languages, Literature & Philosophy](#). During their stay in Ghana, students will also hear lectures on African history and take language and dance classes from instructors there. The trip includes volunteer service in local community centers, as well as visits to rural villages and the seaport that served as a shipping off point of Africans en route to slave markets in the Americas.

“The students will also spend time visiting different areas, talking to community leaders and learning about African history and culture,” said Emmanuel M. Naniuzeyi, SSU associate professor of political science and director of the International Education Center.

Savannah State has organized study abroad trips to Ghana since 2002. This year is the first time that an Armstrong faculty member will lead students in the overseas learning adventure to the country. The trip takes place from July 6-27.

“This is an exciting opportunity for students to be able to participate in a study abroad program that will open up their eyes to Africa and afford them a better understanding of another culture said Eaton, who will, along with the students, maintain a [blog](#) of the trip accessible from the [Armstrong homepage](#).

Mary C. Wyatt, Savannah State University vice president for academic affairs agreed. “I am in full support of this program not only because of the great collaboration between Armstrong and Savannah State, but also because of the wonderful opportunity that this trip will provide students,” she said. “They will gain new perspectives on world cultures that will help them to enhance their academic preparation.”

The trip is one example of several collaborations between Armstrong and Savannah State. In recent months, James Anderson, AASU director of [International Education](#), collaborated with Naniuzeyi for the 2010 Harvard Model United Nations conference that sent several students to the international event in Taiwan.

AASU and SSU also work together to offer students at both institutions the opportunity to hear

from guest faculty lecturers being hosted by either campus. International Week, organized on each campus one week apart in November to celebrate international culture and education, is also an example of both universities working together.

“One of our goals is to encourage students at both Armstrong and Savannah State to take advantage of programs that result from collaborative projects being developed by our institutions,” said Anderson.



A University System of Georgia Institution

11935 Abercorn Street

Savannah, Georgia 31419

800.633.2349 | 912.344.2576

admissions.info@armstrong.edu

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