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St. Patrick’s Day 2010
The Pirate ship “Armstrong Atlantic” made waves during the 2010 Savannah St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Captained by Linda Bleicken, president and CEP (chief executive pirate) with the assistant of “The Parrot,” (a.k.a. Carl Bleicken), the student-built ship navigated the parade route drawing cheers and applause from the crowd along the way.

The two-masted schooner wannabe sailed down Savannah’s streets standing 14 feet tall, weighing in at 900 pounds and measuring nearly 10 feet across. A small army of cannonball-hurling leprechauns, of the papier-mâché kind, served as deck hands during the voyage.

The vessel was the result of the dedication and hard work of AASU engineering students Lonnie McGee, Mark Hodges and Luke Lander. Wayne Johnson, professor of engineering, served as chief engineering consultant; Chris McCarthy, instructional technology support specialist, was project manager. Jill Phongsa, graphic designer and Pirate ship volunteer extraordinaire, provided artistic direction for the project.
Pirates Face Off Against Tigers

The AASU Pirates baseball squad will face the Savannah State University Tigers for the first time since 1999, when the Pirates swept the Tigers in two back-to-back games. The April 13 showdown at Grayson Stadium will be the first time the teams face off since the Tigers moved to NCAA Division I. The game was organized to help celebrate AASU’s 75th anniversary in 2010.

Students, faculty and staff are invited. Concession stands will be open and the $5 ticket includes admission to the Sand Gnats game at 7:05 p.m. later that day.
students **Brittny Hargrove**, soprano, and **Melissa Flummerfelt**, soprano, winning top honors in the state. Hargrove placed first in the category Senior Women Music Theater and Flummerfelt placed first in the category Upper Level Women; both young women received cash awards and performed in the prestigious Winner’s Recital which concludes the two day competition. Hargrove and Flummerfelt are the voice students of Schultz and were accompanied by Richter, AASU instructor of piano.

### 3 Days for AASU Victory Celebration

A victory celebration for the seventh annual 3 Days for AASU campaign will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, April 2 in Jenkins Hall. The campaign raises financial support from businesses throughout the region to fund academic scholarships and critical university programs. During the campaign kickoff breakfast, Memorial Health presented a check for $235,000 to AASU nursing. Serving as this year’s campaign honorary co-chairs were Y. Allen Beall ’48, J. Cliff McCurry ’68 and Kaitlen Fulp ’08 and ’11. Students, faculty and staff are invited. For more information about the campaign, contact Suzanne Ansley, annual fund coordinator, at 912.344.2870.

### Second Annual Francophone Film Festival

AASU’s second annual Francophone Film Festival runs April 1-3. All films will be screened in the Fine Arts Auditorium. The event, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored through the Tournées Festival program, a subsidiary of FACE (The French American Cultural Exchange). The AASU French Club, the Department of Languages, Literature and Philosophy, the College of Liberal Arts and the Office of International Education all help organize the event. The schedule is as follows:

#### Thursday, April 1

*La Graine et le Mulet (The Secret of the Grain)*, 7 p.m.

An opening night reception will follow.

#### Friday, April 2

*Un Secret (A Secret)*, 6 p.m.

*Entre les murs (The Classroom)*, 8:30 p.m.

#### Saturday, April 3

*Azur et Asmar (Azur and Asmar, an animated feature film)*, 6 p.m.

*Les Amours d’Astrée et de Celadon (The Romance of Astrea and Celadon)*, 8:30 p.m.

Details can be found at [www.facecouncil.org/tournees/featuredselection.html](http://www.facecouncil.org/tournees/featuredselection.html). For more information on the Francophone Film Festival contact Dorothee Mertz-Weigel at 912.344.2804 or Dorothee.Mertz-Weigel@armstrong.edu.
“Generation NeXt” Workshop April 9
Mark Taylor, a nationally recognized educator and speaker will present “Generation NeXt Goes to College and Work,” from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Friday, April 9 in the Armstrong Center Auditorium. The workshop will focus on strategies to help those who work with or teach individuals born between 1980 and 1994, including administrators, program coordinators, department chairs, academic advisors, student affairs personnel and employee supervisors. The cost for the workshop, including all program materials and lunch, is $95. Registration deadline is April 1. For additional information, contact Donna Brooks, assistant dean of the College of Health Professions, at 912.344.2896.

Calendar

*For all art, music & theatre events call 344.2801 from noon to 3 p.m., weekdays, for information.

Through April 9
The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents the annual AASU Student Juried Art Exhibition in the AASU Fine Arts Gallery. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays. Free.

April 1-3
The Second Annual Francophone Film Festival will be April 1-3 in the Fine Arts Auditorium. See page 3 for details.

April 2
Men’s and Women’s Tennis vs. Lander, 4 p.m. @ Bacon Park

April 3
Men’s & Women’s Tennis vs. North Georgia, 3 p.m. @ Bacon Park

April 6
The AASU Jazz Ensemble performs at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. General admission is $6.

April 7
Men’s & Women’s Tennis vs. Flagler, 11 a.m. @ Bacon Park
Softball vs. GCSU, 2 p.m. The game celebrates “National Student-Athlete Day.”

April 8-11
The Masquers theatre troupe presents The Secrets of A Soccer Mom, by Kathleen Clark. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. in AASU Jenkins Hall Black Box Theater. Limited seating; obtain tickets in advance. General admission is $10. Discounts available to military, seniors, alumni association members and students/children. AASU staff, faculty, and students presenting valid AASU PirateCard will be admitted free of charge. Connect Savannah is the print sponsor of the Masquers.

April 11
Softball vs. Lander, 1 p.m.

April 13
Baseball vs. Savannah State, 2 p.m. @ Grayson Stadium

The AASU Percussion Ensemble and Jazz Combo perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. General admission is $6.
April 16
The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents Anthony Sanchez, piano, in graduation recital at 2:30 p.m. in Fine Arts Auditorium. Free.

Baseball vs. USC Aiken, 3 p.m.

April 17
Baseball vs. USC Aiken, 1 p.m. (doubleheader)

April 19-30
The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents an exhibition of artwork by the graduating senior art education majors in the AASU Fine Arts Gallery. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays. Free. A reception will be held on April 30 at 5:30 p.m. in the gallery.

April 20
Baseball vs. Augusta State, 3:30 p.m.

The AASU Wind Ensemble performs at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. General admission is $6.

April 21
The AASU Staff Advisory Council will again sponsor a spring service project to help collect donations for our local Union Mission. The council is asking for donations of assorted personal care toiletry items for men, women and children. Also diapers, training pants, socks and towels are greatly appreciated. As the weather turns warm, shelters will need bug spray, umbrellas and bottled water. These items will be collected at the Staff Advisory Council's General Assembly Meeting on April 21 at 3 p.m. in UH 156.

Annual Awards Convocation
7 p.m., Armstrong Center Ballroom

April 23
Department of Military Science Army ROTC Annual Awards Recognition Ceremony. 2 p.m., Armstrong Center, Meeting Suite 24. For more information call 344.2573.

The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents Leah Hannon, piano, and Ashley Adams, soprano, in graduation recital at 2:30 p.m. in Fine Arts Auditorium. Free.

The Hispanic Outreach & Leadership at Armstrong Program and the AASU Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity host the 2nd Annual Scholarship Fundraiser at 7:30 p.m. in the Armstrong Center Ballroom. The evening features live salsa and merengue beats from Kachimbo Band, hors d’oeuvres and dancing until midnight. Formal attire. Pre-sale tickets are $35 per guest ($20 with a student ID). Tickets are $40 after April 20.

April 23 to May 9
The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents “The Works,” its Spring 2010 Senior Graduation Art Exhibition, at Savannah Mall, Suite 1116, next to children’s soft play. Graduating bachelor of fine arts and bachelor of arts degree candidates display their artwork produced for this capstone project. Exhibition hours are 2-8 p.m., weekdays; noon to 8 p.m., Saturdays; and noon to 6 p.m., Sundays. Free. A reception will be held on April 23 at 5:30 p.m. at the Savannah Mall.
April 24
Savannah’s March for Babies will take place in Daffin Park beginning at 9 a.m. AASU is participating in the march to help raise funds for premature babies in our community. To participate on the AASU team or for more information, go to www.marchforbabies.org/team/t1369090.

April 25
The Coastal Jazz Association, the City of Savannah Department of Cultural Affairs, and AASU sponsor the Savannah Jazz Orchestra in the annual Duke Ellington Birthday Concert at 5 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. Free.

April 26
AASU Jazz Combos perform a short campus program at 12:10 p.m. in the AASU Memorial Center Complex (MCC) cafeteria. Free.

April 27
Baseball vs. Erskine, 3 p.m.

The Armstrong Atlantic State University Singers and University Chorale perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. General admission is $6.

April 29-30
The Masquers theatre troupe presents full stage productions of the winning entries of the 2010 Coastal Empire New Play Festival. Hundreds of international submissions have been received, but only three winning plays will be chosen. See the energetic premieres from the pens of today’s most promising playwrights. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. in AASU’s Jenkins Hall Theater. General admission is $10. Discounts available to military, seniors, alumni association members and students/children. AASU staff, faculty and students presenting valid AASU PirateCard will be admitted free of charge. Connect Savannah is the print sponsor of the Masquers.

April 30
The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents Ryan Burd, percussion, in senior recital at 2:30 p.m. in Fine Arts Auditorium. Free.

Kudos
The Department of Nursing in March hosted the Memorial Medical Explorer Post students for a special Exploring event focusing on nursing careers. Thirty-two high school juniors and seniors representing seven local public high schools participated in a series of four different hands-on activities with various simulators, including the laparoscopic surgery simulator. Explorers were able to practice basic skills on patient simulators that exhibit pulse, blood pressure and even talk.

Jose de Arimateia da Cruz (political science) and Adriana Oliveira, International Communications, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil presented “The Election of Barack Obama: Bringing the People Back into Government Again,” at the 13th Annual Conference on the Americas, sponsored by The Americas Council and hosted by Georgia Perimeter College, February 12 & 13.

da Cruz was a guest speaker at the Skidaway Community Institute, Skidaway Island, on the topic “United States Security Policy: Strategic Threats and Alternative Responses,” on February 25.

da Cruz published “State Terror and International Human Rights in Latin America,” a review essay in the National Social Science Journal.
Becky da Cruz (criminal justice, social & political science) presented “Georgia's Two Strikes Provision: A Quantitative Analysis of Prosecutorial Discretion” and was a round table discussant for “Legal Issues in Problem-Solving Courts: A Review of Recent Cases” at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences’ annual meeting in San Diego, CA in February.

Christopher Baker (languages, literature & philosophy) published “Bone Lace and Donne’s ‘bracelet of bright haire about the bone’” in The John Donne Journal.

Vicki McNeil (student affairs) had a story selected for inclusion in More Stories of Inspiration: 51 Uplifting Tales of Courage, Humor, Healing and Learning in Student Affairs. The book, which captures the joys and challenges of working on campus and reinforces the significance of student affairs work, was edited by Sarah M. Marshall and published by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

Michael Toma (economics) was re-appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the Coastal Georgia Greenway non-profit organization dedicated to the development of pedestrian and cycling trails in the region. He serves the organization as treasurer.

Toma presented “An Analysis of Pull Factors and Local Sales Taxation in Georgia Counties,” coauthored with Yassaman Saadatmand (economics) and Alexis Brewer (economics graduate), at the International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines Conference in Orlando, FL.

Toma also presented “Savannah Economic Outlook: 2010” to the Candler/St. Joseph Clinical Services department for its leadership training seminar.

Kaye Archer, a senior physics and mathematics double major, won the Most Outstanding Undergraduate Poster Award at the 50th Sanibel Symposium on Quantum Theory, St. Simons Island, in early March. Her poster, “Accurate Predictions of the Structure and Energies of Water Decamers,” displayed the results of research she had completed while working with George Shields and Berhane Temelso (both science & technology).

Shields and a former undergraduate student published “Atmospheric Implications for Formation of Clusters of Ammonium and 1−10 Water Molecules” in the Journal of Physical Chemistry A.

Shields and Delana Nivens (chemistry, STEP director) attended the NSF Sponsored STEP Grantees Meeting March 3-5. They presented a poster, “Bridging the Gap: Using Research and Learning Communities to Increase STEM Majors at AASU: Year 1 Progress,” which detailed the one-year accomplishments of the STEP program at AASU. Shields was a featured panelist at the breakout session “Early Undergraduate Research and Internships.” The NSF-STEP program at AASU, funded in 2009, provides up to $1 million over five years to engage science, engineering and math majors in undergraduate research and learning communities during their freshman and sophomore years at AASU.

Sabrina Hessinger (math) is also a Co-PI on the project.


Azita Bahrami (information technology) co-authored “A Neural Network for Discovery of Record Layouts” for the proceedings of the 2009 International Conference on WWW/Internet, November, Rome, Italy.


Bahrami serves as program committee member of the following international conferences:
- The 2010 International Conference on Computer Supported Education, March, Lisbon, Portugal
- The 5th International Conference on e-Learning, June, Pawden, Malaysia
- The 2010 International Conference on Internet Computing, July, Las Vegas
- The 2010 International Conference on Frontiers in Education: Computer Science and Computer Engineering, July, Las Vegas
- The 2010 International Conference on Semantic Web and Web Services, July, Las Vegas
- The 2010 International Conference on Foundations of Computer Science, July, Las Vegas

Bahrami has served as reviewer of research papers submitted to the following international conferences:
- The 2010 International Conference on Web Information Systems and Technologies, March, Lisbon, Portugal
- The 2010 International Conference on Information Technology: New Generation, April, Las Vegas
- The 5th International Conference on e-Learning, June, Pawden, Malaysia

Bahrami is serving as the E-Learning Track Chair for the 2010 International Conference on Information Technology: New Generation, April, Las Vegas.

Brad Sturz (psychology) and colleagues published “Testing the translational-symmetry hypothesis of abstract-concept learning in pigeons” in Learning and Behavior.

Jane Wong (psychology) and colleagues published “Development and initial psychometric properties of the University of Texas at San Antonio Future Disposition Inventory” in the Journal of Clinical Psychology.

Michelle Butina (medical technology) presented a session, “Skills for Classroom and Meeting Presentations,” at the Clinical Laboratory Educator’s Conference in Biloxi, MS. Charlotte Bates, Hassan Aziz and Chad Guilliams (all medical technology) also attended the conference.

Aziz was invited to present at the Florida Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Meeting in Orlando. The topic of his presentation was “Introduction to Biofilms.”

Guilliams and Aziz attended the 2010 Legislative Symposium in Washington, DC. The symposium is held once a year to allow clinical laboratory professionals to meet with legislators on Capitol Hill on behalf of the clinical laboratory science profession. This year more than 150 clinical laboratory professionals were present.

All medical technology faculty members attended the 62nd Annual ASCLS-GA meeting which was held on March 26 in Savannah. At this meeting Butina and Guilliams presented a Certification Exam Review sessions for students. The meeting was organized by Guilliams.
AASU in the News

Following are some of the top stories appearing in print and broadcast media in March 2010. For more details on these and other stories, contact Francisco Duque in Marketing & Communications at 344.2971, or Francisco.Duque@armstrong.edu.

The case of student Bryce Tarter who went missing on January 31 continues to be the focus of TV and newspaper reports locally and regionally. Anyone with any information about the possible whereabouts of Bryce Tarter should contact the AASU PD at 912.344.3333.

3/2 Regents propose cuts to the University System of Georgia.  
Savannah Morning News

3/3 Liberty County could be impacted by university cuts.  
Coastal Courier

3/4 Michael Toma (economics) quoted in story about jobless claims.  
WTOC-TV

3/4 President Linda Bleicken interviewed about university cuts.  
WTOC-TV

3/5 Vigil held on campus in honor of missing student Bryce Tarter.  
WTOC-TV

3/6 Marilyn Buck (nursing professor emerita) named to the Memorial Health Board of Directors.  
Savannah Morning News

3/10 AASU Educational Technology Training Center works with teachers at local schools.  
Savannah Morning News

3/10 AASU Nursing hosts Memorial Medical Explorer Post students on campus.  
Savannah Morning News

3/11 Richard Cebula (economics) publishes biweekly column.  
Savannah Morning News

3/11 Students protest budget cuts  
WTOC-TV  
Also, WSAV-TV 3/11 and Savannah Morning News 3/12

3/11 Sarah Gremillion (biology) interviewed regarding growth patterns in mold.  
WSAV-TV

3/12 AASU students speak out on budget cuts.  
WJCL/Fox  
Also WTOC-TV 3/24

3/15 AASU students join peers at state Capitol rally against proposed cuts.  
Morris News Service

3/17 AASU celebrates 75th anniversary at St. Patrick's Day parade.  
WTOC-TV
3/23  AASU tennis coach Simon Armshaw reaches 500th win milestone.
       WJCL/Fox

3/24  AASU students in pre-dental hygiene, pre-communication sciences and
disorders and pre-respiratory therapy learn that these program may be affected by
cuts.
       WTOC-TV

3/28  3 Days for AASU kick off is 3/30.
       Savannah Morning News
       Also, 3/25 WJCL/Fox

3/29  Linda Bleicken interviewed regarding 3 Days for AASU.
       WTOC-TV’s Mid Morning Live

3/30  Op-ed calls for support of 3 Days for AASU.
       Savannah Morning News

3/30  3 Days for AASU breakfast kickoff
       WTOC-TV, WJCL/Fox and WSAV-TV

**University System of Georgia Electronic News**

For news of both the university system office and individual campuses, read the monthly

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**The submission deadline for the May issue of eARMSTRONG is April 15.**

Please send submissions to AASU.news@armstrong.edu.

For more information contact Francisco Duque in Marketing & Communications
at 344.2971 or Francisco.Duque@armstrong.edu.