

# eArmstrong

May 2010

Armstrong Atlantic State University

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# eARMSTRONG

A newsletter for Armstrong Atlantic State University faculty & staff

## Ribbon-Cutting Held for Student Union

A ribbon-cutting and open house were held April 23 for the new \$24.3 million Student Center. The 60,180 square-foot building is fully financed by students. The SGA voted in 2007 to approve a \$90 fee per semester to fund the facility. AASU President Linda M. Bleicken joined Vice President for Student Affairs Vicki McNeil; Don Waters, president of the AASU Educational Properties Foundation, Inc.; Student Government Association President Zerik Samples and other representatives from the student body, faculty and staff for the occasion. The celebration included the burial of a 50-year time capsule as part of Armstrong's 75th anniversary in 2010.

*Pictured above (left to right): Don Waters, president of the AASU Educational Properties Foundation, Inc. and CEO of Brasseler USA; AASU President Linda M. Bleicken; SGA President Zerik Samples; and former AASU President Thomas Z. Jones.*



MAY 2010

## Have your name included in Armstrong's history book

Janet Stone, AASU professor of history emerita, will publish later this year a book on the history of Armstrong, *From the Mansion to the University*. The 400-page hardcover book was researched over several years and includes material starting with the founding of the college in 1935 to the day that current president Linda M. Bleicken took office in 2009. Thanks to archival assistance of Lane Library's Caroline Hopkinson, the book will also include images of Armstrong across the decades. Stone, who joined Armstrong in 1975, worked under three presidents and one interim president. She retired in 2007.

"The book is not just about the institutional history, but it dips down into personal lives and lots of Savannah history," said Stone.

Donors of \$75 or more will see their names listed in a special donor section in the book and receive a complimentary signed copy of the book. Those giving \$250 or more will be recognized in a larger typeface and will receive a personalized signed copy of the book. Donors of \$500 or more will be appropriately recognized in the book, receive a personalized signed copy of the book and will be invited to attend a private Pre-release Publication Party.

Please contact Suzanne Ansley at 344.2870 or [Suzanne.Ansley@armstrong.edu](mailto:Suzanne.Ansley@armstrong.edu) to make your donation to receive a personalized copy of the book. Donations must be received no later than June 1, 2010 for names to be listed in the book.

## 3 Days for AASU Raises \$700,000

The seventh annual 3 Days for AASU campaign came to a close April 2 after John Helmken, CEO and president of Savannah Bank and chair of the AASU Foundation Board, presented a check for \$695,909 to President Linda M. Bleicken.

Helmken announced following presentation of the check that Savannah Bank would increase its gift to raise the total to \$700,000.

Helmken thanked other supporters of 3 Days for AASU, including Danny Pinyan, CEO of Pinyan Co., who was the first CEO to present a check to the first annual campaign; Jerry Barton, president of Sea Island Bank and former chair of 3 Days for AASU; and Irving Victor who has been a strong supporter of Armstrong over many years.

The 2010 campaign got off to an exciting start Tuesday when Memorial Health announced a gift of \$235,000 during the kickoff breakfast in the Armstrong Center. Mary Chatman, Memorial Health senior vice president and chief nursing officer, presented the check to AASU President Linda M. Bleicken, Shelley Conroy, dean of the College of Health Professions, and Helen Taggart, interim head of nursing.

The Memorial funds will provide AASU senior nursing students additional opportunities, including a summer externship course at Memorial and full scholarships for their senior year of study at AASU.

Last year, the 3 Days for AASU campaign raised \$429,638.

Serving as this year's campaign honorary co-chairs are Y. Allen Beall, Class of '48; J. Cliff McCurry, Class of '68; and Kaitlen Fulp, Class of '08 and '11.

For more information about 3 Days for AASU, contact Suzanne Ansley at 912.344.2870.



# AASU to Award Honorary Degree to Frank Barragan



Frank Barragan



Arthur M. Gignilliat, Jr.

AASU will award an Honorary Doctor of Letters to Frank Barragan during the university’s spring commencement ceremony at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 8 in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Arena.

Arthur M. Gignilliat, Jr., AASU Class of 1953 and former chair of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, will deliver the commencement address. Gignilliat has served in the Georgia House of Representatives and on the University

System of Georgia Foundation Board of Directors. He spent 40 years with Savannah Electric & Power before retiring as CEO.

Approximately 675 degree candidates will be on hand. President Linda M. Bleicken and senior members of the university administration will confer the degrees. Roman M. Cibirka, vice president for instruction and associate provost for academic affairs at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG), will confer the AASU-MCG Doctor of Therapy Degrees.

## Leadership Awards Presented

The 2010 Leadership Awards ceremony was held April 28. Faculty and staff were honored for their outstanding contributions to their profession, the university and community. A luncheon to honor recent retirees was held prior to the awards ceremony.

### Faculty Awards

Distinguished Faculty Service to the Academic Discipline: David Wheeler

Distinguished Faculty Service to the Community: Jason Tatlock

Distinguished Faculty Service to the University: Steve Jodis

Brockmeier Award: Bryan Riemann

The H. Dean Propst Award: Dorothee Mertz-Weigel

### Staff Awards

Volunteer Service to the Community Award: Lottie Scott, Adult Academic Support Services

Spirit of Armstrong Award: Jill Phongsas, Marketing & Communications

Staff Member of the Year Award: Diane Sellers, College of Liberal Arts

### Retirees

Thomas Z. Jones, President’s Office  
10 years of service

Deborah Lamb, Radiologic Sciences  
16 years of service

Barry Ostrow, University Relations  
10 years of service

Nancy A. White, History  
16 years of service

Richard Cebula, Economics  
11 years of service

Patricia Ann Williams, Continuing Education  
22 years of service

Diane Sellers, College of Liberal Arts  
11 years of service

Carolyn G. Smith, Mathematics  
31 years of service

Kyle Smith, Continuing Education  
11 years of service

Alphonso Small, Plant Operations  
33 years of service

Dalton N. Tisdale, Central Supply & Receiving  
13 years of service

Francis M. Thorne, III, Biology  
45 years of service



## Employees Recognized for Years of Service

### 10 Years

Judith Alexander  
Hassan Aziz  
Charles Belin  
Michael Butler  
Theresa Davis  
Cynthia DeVoe  
Mary Ellen Donatelli  
Gregory Geller  
Richard Horah  
Melissa Jackson  
Susan Kirk  
Y. Daniel Liang  
Nancy Luke  
John Mitchell  
Delana Nivens  
Benjamin Page  
Linda Tuck

### 15 Years

Ellen Blossman  
Donna Brooks  
Joseph Crosby  
Bruce Habersham  
Kevin Hampton  
Jackie King  
Bette Jo Krapf  
Janet McPipkin  
Erik Nordenhaug  
David Roberts  
Richard Wallace

### 20 Years

Julia Dubus  
Rachel Green  
Karen Hollinger  
Stephen Jodis  
William Kelso  
Timothy McMillan  
Cynthia Sanders  
James Smith  
Mary Judith Wasden  
Janice Zeigler

### 25 Years

James Anderson  
John Jensen  
Linda Jensen  
Edwin Richardson  
Gloria Strickland

### 30 Years

Frank Clancy

## Calendar

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

### Through May 9

The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents its Spring 2010 Senior Graduation Art Exhibition at Savannah Mall, Suite 1116. 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-8 p.m. Saturdays, and noon-6 p.m. Sundays. Admission is free.

### May 3

Last day of classes

### May 3 & 5

The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre will hold auditions for its Summer Theater productions, beginning at 6 p.m. in AASU's Jenkins Hall Theater. Auditions are open to the public. Production dates are in June and July.

### May 5-11

Final exams

### May 6-8

NCAA Division II Men's & Women's Tennis Southeast Regional at Bacon Park  
Men's matches: 10 a.m. Women's matches: 2 p.m. each day

### May 7

Department of Military Science Army ROTC Commissioning Ceremony, 2 p.m.,  
Armstrong Center Ballroom A. For more information call 344.2573.

### May 8

Commencement ceremonies will be held at 10 a.m. in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Arena of the Savannah Civic Center.

### May 10

The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre and the Savannah Friends of Music present the Armstrong Atlantic Youth Orchestra Program in concert at 6:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium. The Armstrong Atlantic Youth Orchestra, Atlantic Chamber Orchestra, Lyric Strings Ensembles I & II, and Debut Strings all perform. General admission is \$6.

## Kudos

**Hassan Aziz** (medical technology) wrote three book chapters in the textbook *Clinical Laboratory Microbiology: A Practical Approach*, published by Pearson Education.

Aziz was the keynote speaker at the Annual Meeting for the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science for Mississippi and Louisiana. The meeting was held in Biloxi, MS. Later, Aziz was invited to speak on biofilm infections at the ASCLS-TN Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN and at the Carolina Clinical Connections in Asheville, NC.

**Pamela Magliulo** (registrar's office) presented a session, "Military 101," at the Board of Regents' Tuition Classification Workshop at Macon State College in April. The workshop is held once a year for all admissions, registrar and financial aid officers in the University System of Georgia.

The **Department of Nursing** was well represented at the February 2010 conference for Georgia Association for Nursing Education. Carole Massey presented "Monkeying Around with the Monkey-Reconceptualizing Methods for Collecting Graduate Follow-Up Data." Pamela Mahan, Sylvia Fields, Jeff Harris and Paula Tillman presented "Measuring Empathy in Baccalaureate Nursing Students and Their Clinical Mentors." Helen Taggart, Paula Tillman and Sherry Warnock presented "Embracing Diversity: Are We There Yet?"

**Greg S. Wimer** (health & physical education) co-authored a presentation, "Handgrip Training Enhances Vascular Function at Rest but not During Exercise," at the American College of Sports Medicine Southeast Region meetings in February.

**Jose de Arimateia da Cruz** (political science) delivered an invited talk at Georgia Southern University on "Global Trends in Latin America and Africa" on April 8.

da Cruz delivered a paper, "The Chinese in Latin America: Winners and Losers," at the National Social Science Association Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV in March.

**Berhane Temelso**, a postdoctoral associate of George Shields, gave a talk, "Benchmark Quality Structures and Energies for Small Water Clusters," at the spring national meeting of the American Chemical Society held in San Francisco, CA in March. The work was done in collaboration with undergraduate student Kaye A. Archer '10.

**Eric Werner** (chemistry & physics) presented a talk, "Macrocyclic lanthanide complexes for luminescence applications," at the spring American Chemical Society National Meeting in San Francisco, CA. The presentation was coauthored with AASU undergraduate students **Alexandra Duncan** and **Misti Gurley**, and 2009 summer STEP student **Chelsea McBride**. Duncan and Gurley also attended the meeting, and each presented a poster of their research.

**Edward Davis** (middle grades & secondary education) presented "Pivo, A Czech National Heritage" at the International Symposium on the Czech Republic and Hungary, April 9 at AASU.

**Brenda Logan** (middle & secondary education) will present "Addressing Diversity: What do we Really Know about Differentiated Instruction?" in Athens, Greece at the 12th Annual International Conference on Education, May 22-27.

**Felix Hamza-Lup** (computer science) and master's student **Jonathan Norman** published the article "Challenges in the Deployment of Visuo-Haptic Virtual Environments on the Internet" at the IEEE International Conference on Computer and Network Technology, April 23-25 in Bangkok, Thailand. Hamza-Lup represented AASU's

Information Computing and Engineering Department and the Creative Coast IT Connection at the SEPG North America 2010 conference, organized by Carnegie Mellon's Software Engineering Institute, in Savannah, Georgia, in March. He served on the program committee of the International Conference on Mobile, Hybrid, and On-line Learning, held in February in St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles. He serves on the program committee of the 24th British Computer Society Human Computer Interaction conference held at the University of Abertay Dundee, Scotland in September 2010.

**Bill Baird** and **Leon Jaynes** (chemistry & physics) published an article, "Low-voltage polyphasic circuits," in the *American Journal of Physics*.

**Maya Clark** (communication sciences & disorders) served as a reviewer for the *Journal of Speech Language and Hearing Research (JSLHR)*. *JSLHR* is a peer-reviewed journal published by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and disseminates research in the area of language and linguistic theory.

Clark is also currently supervising a service learning project at St. Mary's Community Center where graduate students in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders are providing parent training to low-income families in the Cuyler-Brownsville neighborhood. The service learning workshops are designed to assist families in facilitating strong language and literacy skills with toddler and pre-kindergarten children.

**April Garrity** (communication sciences & disorders) presented "Incorporating Service-Learning into the Graduate Curriculum: A Case Study" at the annual convention of the Georgia Speech Language Hearing Association (GSHA) in Duluth in March. Data for this presentation was gathered through another service learning project that CSDS students participate in, Communication Help for Adults after Stroke (CHATS), which is in conjunction with the Savannah Speech and Hearing Center. This ongoing project was funded by an AASU Teaching and Learning Grant awarded to Garrity in 2009.

**Brittany Mallard, Rachel Crout, Jessica McCune, Holly Hales and Wilnethia Williams**, students majoring in communication sciences and disorders, were selected to serve as session moderators during the GSHA conference.

**Brad Sturz** (psychology) and a colleague presented "Spatial pattern learning and transposition" at the meeting of the Comparative Cognition Conference, Melbourne Beach, FL in March.

Sturz and a colleague presented "Encoding of relative enclosure size in a dynamic three-dimensional virtual environment by humans" at the conference.

Sturz and colleagues also presented "Orientation in trapezoid-shaped enclosures: Determination of geometric features controlling spatial choice" at a meeting during the conference.

Sturz and students **Paul Cooke, Stephanie Diemer, Caroline Eastman, Martha Forloines, Rebecca Hattaway** and **Sebastin Krzywanski** presented a poster, "Encoding of variability of landmark-based spatial information," at a meeting during the conference.

**Jonathan Roberts** (psychology) and student **M. Kessler** presented "Greeks and Honors: Two Different Worlds, More Than One Common Interest" at the annual meeting of the Southern Regional Honors Council, Greenville, SC in March.

Roberts and student **Amanda Summers** presented “A Profile of Child Sexual Abuse Victims and Their Offenders” at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Chattanooga, TN in March.

Several AASU biology faculty and students gave presentations at the 71st Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists in Asheville, NC. **Eddie Barnett** and **Jonathan Brink** (students) presented the poster, “Visual and chemical cues of native and exotic fish predators do not impact larval development of southern toads.” **Alex Collier** and **Brett Larson** were co-authors. **Tiffany Burgess**, **Michelle Calvo**, **Uli Umbehr** (students) and **Kathryn Craven** presented the poster, “The effect of temperature on growth of hatchling Carolina Diamondback Terrapins (*Malaclemys terrapin centrata*).” Craven presented a research poster, “Failure in Leatherback Sea Turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*) on the Georgia Coast.” **Rachel Deffendall** and **Jason Weimer** (students) and **Charles Belin** presented the poster, “Whitetail deer carrying capacity at Skidaway Island State Park, Savannah, Georgia.” **Allison Rollins** (student) gave the oral presentation, “Does a diet of native versus non-native ants affect antlion development?” Co-authors were **Carly Winters** (student), **Jennifer Zettler**, **Bil Leidersdorf** and **Greg Knofczynski** (mathematics). Winters gave the oral presentation, “Behavioral interactions between antlions (Neuroptera: Myrmeleontidae) and four species of ant (Hymenoptera: Formicidae).” Co-authors were Rollins and Zettler.

**Thomas Howard** (history) has been selected to participate in the Fulbright German Studies Seminar 2010, “The German Sozialstaat Re-Visited: A System in Turmoil.” The seminar will run from June 9-18 in Berlin and Hamburg.

## AASU in the News

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

- 3/30    Memorial Health gives \$235,000 toward 3 Days for AASU.  
WTOC-TV, WJCL/Fox and WSAV-TV  
Also, *Savannah Morning News* 3/31
- 4/1    AASU students protest proposed budget cuts.  
WTOC-TV and *Savannah Morning News*
- 4/2    Michael Toma (economics) interviewed on upbeat job forecast.  
*Savannah Morning News*
- 4/2    3 Days for AASU raises \$700,000  
WTOC-TV, WJCL/Fox and WSAV-TV  
Also, *Business in Savannah* 4/14
- 4/3    Richard Cebula (economics) published biweekly column.  
*Savannah Morning News*
- 4/4    Michael Toma (economics) and his *Economic Monitor* featured in Sunday cover story.  
*Savannah Morning News*
- 4/6    AASU to host 2010 MACAS awards.  
WJCL/Fox  
Also, WJCL/Fox 4/11
- 4/13    Richard McGrath (economics) interviewed on rising stocks and impact on Main Street.  
WTOC-TV



- 4/14 AASU students protest proposed budget cuts.  
WJCL/Fox
- 4/16 Elizabeth Wilson (career services) interviewed on helping students prepare for the job market.  
*Savannah Morning News*
- 4/18 Michael Toma and Richard McGrath (economics) published op-ed on the value of survey data in shaping public policy.  
*Savannah Morning News*
- 4/18 Chinese culture featured at AASU.  
WTOC-TV
- 4/23 Michael Toma (economics) interviewed regarding improved employment numbers.  
*Savannah Morning News*
- 4/23 AASU unveils new Student Union.  
WTOC-TV, WSAV-TV, WJCL/Fox  
Also *Savannah Morning News* 4/24, *Business in Savannah* 4/28
- 4/28 AASU Pre-physical Therapy Club donates tricycle to three-year old.  
WTOC-TV
- 4/27 Bryce Tarter's body found; friends and family mourn.  
WTOC-TV, WJCL/Fox, WSAV-TV  
Also WTOC 4/28, WCJL/Fox 4/28, WSAV-TV 4/28 and *Savannah Morning News* 4/28, 4/29 and 4/30
- 4/28 Michael Toma (economics) published a column on the recovering economy and the importance of good customer service.  
*Business in Savannah*
- 4/29 Navy ROTC presents awards to SSU and AASU cadets.  
WTOC-TV

## University System of Georgia Electronic News

For news of both the university system office and individual campuses, read the monthly *System Supplement*: [www.usg.edu/pubs/sys\\_supp/](http://www.usg.edu/pubs/sys_supp/).

**The submission deadline for the June issue of**

***e*ARMSTRONG**  
**is May 17.**

**Please send submissions to [AASU.news@armstrong.edu](mailto:AASU.news@armstrong.edu).**

*For more information contact Francisco Duque in Marketing & Communications at 344.2971 or [Francisco.Duque@armstrong.edu](mailto:Francisco.Duque@armstrong.edu).*