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AASU Student Chosen for National Fellowship

(March 12, 2010) Brittany Pesak, a current student in the Master of Health Services Administration (MHSA) program at Armstrong Atlantic State University (AASU), has accepted a post-graduate administrative fellowship with the Veterans Affairs Sunshine Healthcare Network Office in St. Petersburg, Florida.

The office, part of the VISN 8 Network, oversees eight tertiary medical centers, eight specialty outpatient clinics, 36 community-based primary care clinics and eight nursing homes. The VISN 8 Network office is responsible for managing the provision of health care services to over 500,000 veterans throughout South Georgia, Florida and the Caribbean.

The one-year fellowship, beginning in June 2010, will provide Pesak the opportunity to participate in healthcare management at the regional and front-line level. The fellowship will consist of rotations through the Bay Pines VA Medical Center, in addition to rotations through the VA Central Office in Washington, D.C. After completion of the assigned rotations, Pesak will focus on the identification and completion of several projects in areas of interest to her.

Pesak is originally from Calhoun, Georgia and graduated with a Bachelor of Health Science from Armstrong Atlantic in 2007. She is currently working full-time at St. Joseph's/Candler Medical Group Management.

"Brittany has been with us now for almost six years, through both undergraduate and graduate education, and it has been a pleasure to watch her grow personally and professionally during that time," said Dr. Joey Crosby, graduate coordinator for the MHSA program. "Her real world experience in medical practice management and exemplary academic performance in the MHSA program resulted in her getting a number of fellowship interviews and more than one fellowship offer during this cycle. We are quite proud of her."